

1. How long will GIFT be involved with a child/family?

- Depending on the needs of the family, GIFT works with families for up to 12 months approx.
- GIFT aims to complete an initial assessment within 3 months of allocation. If indicated by the assessment, GIFT then seeks to implement a Treatment Plan up to 9 months approx.
- The Treatment Plan will be reviewed on a regular basis with families and professionals and adapted as required.

2. How does the GIFT timescale fit with Social Work's guidance to hold a Permanence Review after a child has been accommodated for 6 months?

- Glasgow City Council's Permanency Steering Group has agreed that when a child is involved with GIFT, a Permanence Review should still take place when a child has been accommodated for 6 months. A decision of *concurrent intervention* at this meeting will allow GIFT to continue to work on the Treatment Plan toward safe rehabilitation with parent/s, while Social Work Services begin planning for permanence (e.g. completing the Form E). This avoids delays in planning for a child.

3. How do GIFT and Social Work share information?

- GIFT requests an initial meeting with the allocated worker and team leader for each case to gain an updated understanding of the current care-plan and assessment completed so far. GIFT also asks for a copy of the most recent and relevant report(s) about a child at the point of allocation. Following this, GIFT seek signed consent from Birth Parents to GIFT involvement. Where consent is granted, GIFT seeks access to full Social Work records. Area Service Managers in Glasgow have agreed that when GIFT is involved with a child, GIFT may receive Person Details Records from Carefirst. These records are held securely and kept confidential, but information from the records may be used to address issues with parents where appropriate.
- Email communication between GIFT Glasgow City Council is not secure and this places important limits on GIFT's use of email to communicate about cases. So, for example, identifying features such as children's names cannot be used in these emails.
- We will endeavour to update you regularly about work we have undertaken or developments within the case, and would ask you to do the same.
- GIFT holds a Case Conference approximately 3 months after first meeting a family to share findings from assessment with Social Work Services and other involved agencies. This meeting is for professionals only. The aim of the Conference is to consider the needs of the family and generate a Treatment Plan if this is considered appropriate.
- GIFT meets with families to describe and discuss the outcome of assessment. A formal report of the GIFT assessment and recommendations is sent to Social Work Services and to Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA), for use at Children's Hearings. Parents receive a copy of this report, as do other involved agencies, where appropriate.

4. Will GIFT attend meetings regarding a child they are involved with?

- GIFT is keen to attend all meetings relating to the children involved with the service. GIFT can provide written updates for Children's Hearings and Permanence Reviews, on request and with sufficient notice. Please give GIFT as much notice as possible when scheduling meetings to ensure attendance.
- GIFT will write to advise SCRA of involvement with a child, and to request invitation to Children's Hearings.

5. Can GIFT help with contact?

- Social Work Services retain their current case management responsibilities, including organising and supervising family contact.
- GIFT will sometimes ask to observe a family contact session as part of our assessment.
- Given GIFT's focus on a child's relationships, GIFT clinicians are keen to discuss and share decision making with Social Work Services regarding a child's contact with birth parents, siblings or other significant people.
- Treatment sessions between a parent and a child that take place at GIFT should not be considered 'contact' due to the therapeutic nature of these sessions.

6. Can GIFT help with siblings over 5 years of age?

- GIFT is part of a research programme and, as such, is only currently able to provide a direct service to children up to the age of five when they become accommodated.
- Assessments in relation to older siblings remain the responsibility of Social Work. However, we can offer advice and guidance to assist Social Work Services to think about these children's needs. Where appropriate, GIFT will endeavour to signpost Social Work Services to other services that might be able to help with older children.
- GIFT will share information with Social Work Services gathered during the assessment and treatment. Some of this will be relevant to Social Work Services' consideration of older siblings and the family's needs overall, e.g. a parent's capacity to reflect, show insight and take responsibility for their children's experiences and the impact of these.

7. What happens when Social Work have different views from GIFT about a child?

- GIFT aims to work collaboratively with Social Work Services and other professionals, and will share views regularly during our involvement with a family.
- If difficulties or issues arise during GIFT involvement, which you feel are unresolved by communication with the allocated GIFT clinicians, please contact Julia Donaldson, Clinical Director, or Jenni Ashmeade, Associate Clinical Director, on 0141 440 6300.
- You are also welcome to contact Aileen Shaw, Service Manager for Social Work Services (South) and GIFT Liaison Manager, on 0141 276 8700. Aileen's role includes supporting communication between Social Work Services and GIFT, and familiarising GIFT with Social Work practice and procedures. Aileen routinely attends GIFT Case Case Conferences as part of her role.