

Analysing a Chronology

What known risk factors are evident?	What external factors may impact on the parent's capacity to meet their children's needs?	What impact have these risks had on the child or young person? What are the likely felt experiences?	Is there evidence of times when things have been different? How is this accounted for i.e. strengths, resilience and protective factors?	What has been tried in the past, with what success and for whom? Has it resulted in change for the child?

Questions for analysis:

1. Are there any gaps in information or further questions that need to be asked?
2. Is there anyone in the chronology who is identified as important adults to the child and could play a role in increasing safety in the future?
3. What is your current hypothesis regarding level of risk?
4. What do these events indicate about prognosis and capacity to change?
5. What support could be offered to the child and the family that might increase safety, protection and ensure children's needs are met?
6. What will need to be seen to show that this is working?

Additional questions for children who are subject of pre-proceedings or court proceedings:

1. If we do nothing and the situation remains the same, what will be the immediate (today); short-term (six months); medium-term (a year) and long-term (five years) impact?
2. Is an application to the court necessary to safeguard the child and to ensure their permanence in the future?
3. Do you think the events listed indicate 'clear blue water' in making an application to the court. i.e. is there more likelihood that an order will be secured than not? (Trowler, 2018)
4. What does this mean for what should happen next?
5. Are there any other actions that could be taken to divert the family from the court? What is the evidence for this?
6. If considering the child may need to be looked after by alternative carers, how is the child likely to respond to this? How might they experience being separated from their parents?
7. Based on the history, what further assessment and intervention should be undertaken during the Public Law Outline or proceedings to ensure the risks are reduced and decisions can be made regarding the long term care plan for the child?