

<p>1. Competency: <b>Five</b></p> <p>Business Awareness</p>	<p>Learning Outcome: <b>5.2</b></p> <p>Evaluate the risks, costs and benefits of alternative courses of action to the business</p>
<p>2. Evidence provided:</p> <p>a. Telephone Attendance note setting out discussion with Client regarding withdrawing a hearing from Counsel</p> <p>b. Email to Chambers withdrawing a hearing from Counsel.</p>	
<p>3. Outline how the evidence demonstrates you meet the outcome</p> <p><b>Identify alternative courses of action which may have different impacts:</b> The email sent is an email to chambers advising them that a hearing that was in Counsel's diary would now be covered by our in house solicitor advocate. This matter was discussed with my client who confirmed that they wished to instruct a particular</p> <p><b>Explain why one method is better than another:</b> This email demonstrates the considerations which will be given to using Counsel or our in-house advocate. As a local authority we are a publicly funded body and therefore we need to ensure that we do not waste public money on instructing Counsel in a matter that can be covered in house.</p>	
<p>4. Reflection and Evaluation</p> <p>I understand the need to ensure that as our budget comes from public money, that we get the best value for money.</p>	
<p>5. Completion date: 30 May 2013</p>	
<p>6. Signed (Applicant)</p>	<p>Date: 17.10.13</p>
<p>7. Signed (Supervisor)</p>	<p>Date: 17-10-13</p>

## Telephone/File Memo

From: [REDACTED]

Call in

To K [REDACTED]

Time: 10.02

RE: [REDACTED]

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Tel from Social Worker prior to the hearing in July.

Discussions regarding contact.

The main issue for her call was that she wanted to know if we can instruct TB (Counsel) from COR chambers for the next hearing as feels he is robust and knows the case from the initial hearing.

I advised her that due to recent changes within legal services, and in an effort to save costs and provide the best value service possible, we are currently only using Counsel for Final Hearings, or for very complex or contested hearings.

The Social worker agreed with me that this was not a high risk or particularly complex case. We discussed another case, where I did instruct Counsel for a particularly high risk case, with a very vulnerable mother. I advised that in this instance we had to use very experienced counsel because of the real complex issues surrounding the case, and the need for someone with specific experience with travelling families. However, with this case it will be straightforward in terms of the Review Hearing and as discussed AW who will be doing the hearing has dealt with the case previously.

I advised her that the advantage/benefits of using our in house advocate to do the advocacy on this case would be that there would be continued consistency and background knowledge of the case, as this case had actually

transferred to me from AW (solicitor advocate). I further advised that it is important that in order to not waste public money on matters that can be covered in house.

I advised her that if we instructed TB then it would more than likely be the case that he would not be available for the next hearing, as Counsel are often booked far in advance, and this could result in inconsistency and extra costs to Children's Services.

It was agreed that the best course of action would be to book and brief AW to do the hearing.

12 Units

To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: [REDACTED]

Received with thanks,

A [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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-----Original Message-----

From: K [REDACTED]  
Sent: 30 May 2012 10:22  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]  
Importance: High

Dear Sirs

RE: [REDACTED]  
Hearing: 1 June 2012 - [REDACTED]

As you will note T [REDACTED] is booked to do the Hearing on 1 June 2012.

As a result of in-house solicitor advocate availability this matter will now be covered in house. I would therefore be grateful that this matter is removed from [REDACTED] diary.

I apologise for any inconvenience caused and am grateful for your assistance in this matter.  
I would be grateful if you would please confirm receipt of this email.

Yours faithfully

K [REDACTED]  
A.Inst.L.Exec  
Legal Officer, [REDACTED] County Council PO Box [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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