

Kinship carer renewal assessment report

PRIVACY NOTICE

The Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs (Child Safety) is collecting the personal information on this form for the purpose of assessing your application to become approved kinship carer/s. The collection of this information is authorised by the *Child Protection Act 1999* and the *Child Protection Regulation 2011*. Your personal information will be treated in accordance with the *Information Privacy Act 2009*.

Under the *Childrens Court Rules 2016* and the *Director of Child Protection Litigation Act 2016*, Child Safety is required to provide relevant information to the Director of Child Protection Litigation (DCPL) in relation to child protection proceedings, and the DCPL has a duty to disclose documents relevant to the proceeding to each other party. Therefore, any information provided to Child Safety that may be relevant to current or future court proceedings may be provided to the parties, including the parents. This may include applications for future child protection orders for children already in your care as an approved foster or kinship carer, such as long-term child protection orders.

A copy of this report will be provided to the carer applicant/s prior to finalising the approval process and information will be provided to the foster and kinship care service.

PART 1 – PRELIMINARY INFORMATION *(To be completed by Child Safety)*

ASSESSMENT DETAILS					
Carer 1 (name)				Date of birth	
Carer 2 (name)				Date of birth	
Date of current approval				ICMS ID Number	
Expiry of current approval		Assessment start date		Assessment completion date	

ASSESSOR DETAILS			
Report compiled by			
Position and contact details			
Signature		Date	

CARER'S DETAILS <i>(Note: Refer to the 'Application for approval – Form 3 APA', Part C for additional information.)</i>		
	Carer 1	Carer 2
Relationship of the carer to the children		
Is an interpreter required for the assessment interviews?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, primary language:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, primary language:
Is the carer a Child Safety employee?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, complete the <i>Advice to regional director</i> form and where applicable, the <i>Conflict of interest declaration</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, complete the <i>Advice to regional director</i> form and where applicable, the <i>Conflict of interest declaration</i>
Email address		

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SUBJECT CHILDREN DETAILS *(Refer to the Form 3 APA, Part D for additional information.)*

Name of child (add an attachment if required)	CSSC	CSO	Current case plan Y/N - if Y attach

GENOGRAM, ECOMAP AND/OR ABORIGINAL FAMILY CIRCLE *(If updated since the previous assessment, include or attach the subject children's Genogram, ecomap and/or Aboriginal family circle.)*

CHILD SAFETY'S CONTACT WITH THE CARER

Child Safety Service Centre (CSSC) contact since previous assessment

(Note: For the preceding one or two year period, one or more Child Safety officers, or a staff member from a foster and kinship care service, will have been in regular contact with the carer to provide support to the carer and undertake case work with any children placed with the carer.)

CSSC name:		Frequency of contact:		Type of contact:	
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Placement Services Unit (PSU) contact since previous assessment (if applicable)

PSU name:		Frequency of contact:		Type of contact:	
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Comments *(Note: Only provide comments if information provided by either the CSSC or PSU is of direct relevance to the assessment.)*

STANDARD OF CARE REVIEWS OR HARM REPORTS SINCE PREVIOUS ASSESSMENT		
Date (add an attachment if required)	Brief summary of concerns	Outcome <i>(Note: Include brief information regarding how the concerns have been addressed.)</i>

PART 2 – ASSESSMENT INFORMATION *(To be completed by the assessor)*

ASSESSMENT INTERVIEWS AND CONSULTATION			
List all people interviewed for, or contacted about, this assessment (for example, the subject children, carer, children's CSO, the support worker for the carer. <i>(Note: Each carer, if an approved couple, must be interviewed at least once).</i>			
Name <i>and</i> relationship to child or carer (add an attachment if required)	Date	Location	Duration

FOSTER AND KINSHIP CARE SERVICE (FKCS) CONTACT WITH THE CARER					
FKCS contact since previous assessment (if applicable)					
FKCS name:		Frequency of contact:		Type of contact:	
Comments <i>(Note: Only provide comments if information provided by the FKCS is of direct relevance to the assessment.)</i>					

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AT THE TIME OF THE ASSESSMENT INTERVIEWS <i>(Only complete this section if there are household members who are not included on the Form 3 APA, <u>Part C</u>. Household members may include adults visiting the household in specified circumstances.)</i>		
Record adult household members not included in the Form 3 APA.		
Name (add an attachment if required)	Date of birth	Relationship to carer
Record children (excluding subject children) not included in the Form 3 APA.		
Name (add an attachment if required)	Date of birth	Relationship to carer

INTERVIEWS WITH THE SUBJECT CHILDREN

If age and developmentally appropriate, and where an interview of the subject children is undertaken, record the reported experiences of the children in the placement to date and/or any other information provided by the children.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHILDREN

Record details of any additional information obtained from the children's CSO, if applicable.

INTERVIEWS WITH THE CARER

ASSESSMENT DOMAINS

The information presented in this section should be a **summary** of your assessment based on all information gathered and should be brief (no more than a few paragraphs per topic). Where there are two carers, information on both carers should be provided under each domain heading.

The focus of the assessment is to provide:

- information about changes since the previous assessment, where applicable (a copy of the previous assessment is to be attached as supporting information)
- examples of how the carer has:
 - demonstrated their ability to meet the statement of standards
 - provided for the safety, belonging and wellbeing of the children placed with them.

Supporting evidence about the carer's suitability, provided by other persons or agencies, is also summarised and recorded under the relevant assessment domain.

All reports and interview questionnaires should be scanned and attached to ICMS and placed on the hard copy of the carer's file.

For more detail as to the information to be included under each of the domain headings below, refer to the 'Kinship carer renewal assessment report guidelines.'

(Note: The assessor is responsible for sharing observations and reflections with the carer during assessment interviews and giving them feedback about the conclusions being reached and incorporating relevant comments and feedback from the carer in the assessment report.)

1. Motivation to care for the children

Provide information about the carer's current motivation (reported and observed) to care for the children.

2. Relationship with the children

Provide information about the relationship between the carer and the children.

3. Relationship with the children's family, family dynamics and family contact

Provide information about the carer's ongoing relationship with, and expectations of, the parents and their ability to support family contact and relationships and manage family dynamics. Identify possible conflicts and stressors and include information about what supports may be required.

4. Family history

Explore whether significant aspects of the family's shared history (including the carer's childhood history) are influencing the care of the children and the placement.

5. Parenting style

Provide information about the carer's parenting style, including their compliance with the legal requirement under the *Child Protection Act 1999* that techniques for managing a child's behaviour must not include corporal punishment or punishment that humiliates, frightens or threatens a child.

6. Carers' spousal relationship

Explore the implications of the placement for the spousal relationship and provide information about identified strengths and any relationship difficulties or stressors since the previous assessment.

7. Understanding of, and attitude towards, the child protection issues and the need for the child to be placed in a care arrangement

Discuss and provide information about the carer's current understanding of how the experience of abuse and trauma has impacted, or is impacting, the children and their demonstrated ability and willingness to ensure the safety of the children since the previous assessment.

8. Carer's personal circumstances and ability to meet the specific needs of the children

Discuss and provide information about the carer's understanding of, and demonstrated capacity to meet, the specific needs of the children (including physical, emotional, developmental and cultural needs) since the previous assessment. Where applicable, include any change in personal circumstances (since the previous assessment) and whether the change has impacted on, or is likely to impact, the children and/or the placement.

Explore any changes in the immunisation status of the carer and the children in their care – including their children.

If there has been a standard of care review or harm report since the previous assessment, provide the carer with an opportunity to discuss the process.

9. Provision of regulated care services from the home.

Provide details about other regulated care services you provide from your home eg. family day care or stand-alone services.

Please provide details of the possible impacts of the provision of this service on your ability to provide quality care to children placed with you.

10. Working with Child Safety

Explore and provide information about the carer's demonstrated attitude towards working with Child Safety since the previous assessment.

11. Managing change, stress and carer support

Discuss and document how the carer has managed changes, stress and carer support issues associated with their role as a kinship carer since the previous assessment. Consider the carer's current commitments, support systems and support needs and identify current support needs associated with the placement.

(Note: Using an ecomap may assist the carer to consider and discuss these issues, particularly if an ecomap has not previously been developed with the carer)

(Note: Attach the carer's ecomap, if applicable.)

Resources required to support the care arrangement

List the resources required to support the appropriateness and ongoing stability of the care arrangement. *(Note: Pending the outcome of the application, this information will be further explored during the development of the Placement agreement between Child Safety and the carer).*

Children	
Carer	
Who will provide resources/supports	

12. Training and education

Explore and where applicable, provide information about relevant training completed since the previous assessment, or requested by, the carer, and/or information currently requested or required by the carer in order to effectively respond to the children's specific care needs.

OTHER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION *(Record any other information of relevance to the assessment of the carer, if applicable).*

STATEMENT OF STANDARDS *(Provide the carer with the 'Interview resource: Statement of Standards' and discuss examples of how they have met the Statement of Standards for the children since the previous assessment).*

Were appropriate strategies for meeting the Statement of Standards implemented by the carer?

Yes No

Comments

Were any challenges identified in relation to the carer's ability to fully meet the Statement of Standards?

Yes No

If yes, document the identified issues and comment on whether additional supports and/or resources may assist in resolving or mitigating any identified challenges.

CHANGE IN CARER CIRCUMSTANCES (Provide the carer with copies of the 'Change in carer circumstances – Form 39 CCC' and ensure that the carer understands their **ongoing** legal obligation to report the specified changes to Child Safety (as soon as possible), by completing and returning the form to the Child Safety Service Centre.)

Discuss and document whether any of the specified changes have occurred since the previous assessment and if so, whether the change/s have been reported to the CSSC through the completion of the Form 39. Provide details of any change in carer circumstances since the previous assessment and the implications of the change, if applicable, for their role as a carer.

(Note: The carer **must** complete the Form 39, if applicable. It is **not** sufficient for the carer or the assessor to verbally inform the CSSC of the specified change/s. Additional information regarding changes in carer circumstances may also be recorded in the relevant assessment domain.)

List any actions required by the assessor as a result of the change in carer circumstances, for example, new Household safety study or the completion of a Carer applicant health and wellbeing questionnaire or Medical checks.

REFEREE CHECKS

Are any concerns raised by the referees?

Yes No

If yes, record the concerns discussed with the applicant and the outcome of discussions.

MEDICAL CHECKS

Are any concerns raised by the doctor or other medical professional?

Yes No

If yes, record the concerns discussed with the carer and the outcome of discussions.

(Note: Additional information may also be recorded in the relevant assessment domain.)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION		
Mandatory information	Completed	Comment
Interviews with carer	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Personal history checks	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Household safety study	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Referee Checks	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Carer applicant health and wellbeing questionnaire	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Medical checks	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Discretionary information	Completed	Comment
Training outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

PART 3 – RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE *(To be completed by the assessor)*

ANALYSIS OF STRENGTHS AND SUPPORT NEEDS
<p>What are the strengths/benefits of the care arrangement for the children?</p> <p><i>(Note: Consider the carer's responses to the assessment domains in the context of their demonstrated ability to meet the Statement of standards since the previous assessment).</i></p>
<p>What are the vulnerabilities/risks of the care arrangement for the children?</p> <p><i>(Note: Consider the carer's responses to the assessment domains in the context of their demonstrated ability to meet the Statement of standards since the previous assessment).</i></p>
<p>What support/s could be implemented to resolve or mitigate identified vulnerabilities or risks?</p>

RECOMMENDATION AND REASONS

Are you satisfied that, in accordance with section 135 of the *Child Protection Act 1999* and section 23 of the *Child Protection Regulation 2011*, that the carer:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. is a suitable person to be an approved kinship carer, and all members of the carer's household are suitable persons to associate on a daily basis with children <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. is kin to the child <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. is able to meet the standards of care in the Statement of Standards <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. is able to help in appropriate ways towards achieving plans for the child's protection <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. the carer and each adult member of the carer's household have a current positive prescribed notice or current positive exemption notice <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6. does not pose a risk to the child's safety <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 7. is able and willing to protect the child from harm <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 8. is able and willing to care for the child in a way consistent with the principles for administering the Act <i>and</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 9. has completed any training reasonably required by the chief executive to ensure the person is able to properly care for a child. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Are you satisfied that the carer has met the following criteria for suitability/approval?

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Ability to identify personal experiences, background, current family dynamics and lifestyle, and reflect on how these are relevant to caring for a child in care. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Ability to provide a safe and stable living environment that is free from harm or risk of harm. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. Ability to provide a nurturing environment that contributes to a child's positive self-regard. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Ability to work as part of a team that includes the child, their family, Child Safety and other relevant service providers. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Do you recommend the carer for approval? (Note: You must make reference to the carer's suitability to be approved as a kinship carer in accordance with section 135 of the *Child Protection Act 1999* and section 23 of the *Child Protection Regulation 2011*.)

Yes No

Reasons for recommendation

Are conditions considered necessary for inclusion on the certificate of approval?

Yes No

Comments (Note: Include rationale for proposed conditions, if 'yes' is selected.)

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If approval is not recommended, are there steps (not previously identified) that could be taken to address concerns?

Yes No N/A

If yes, what steps would need to be taken to address the vulnerabilities identified above?

PART 4 – CARER’S SIGNATURE AND COMMENTS *(To be completed by the carer)*

CARER’S SIGNATURE AND COMMENTS *(Note: Once the Kinship Carer Renewal Assessment Report is finalised, the assessor is responsible for providing a copy of the final report to the carer before the report is forwarded to the CSSC manager for an approval decision.)*

Carer 1 (name)

I have read the assessment report and recommendation and have had the opportunity to make additional comments below.

Comments (if applicable)

Carer signature

Date

Carer 2 (name)

I have read the assessment report and recommendation and have had the opportunity to make additional comments below.

Comments (if applicable)

Carer signature

Date