

child's needs; the carer's own background and experience of being a parent and how the carer would parent the child; the carer's relationship to the birth parent and the implications of this for the child; the carer's ability to keep the child safe and to promote his health and development. This information is then considered by social work services.

Kinship carers who receive an allowance will have a social worker allocated to them who will be available to give advice and support to kinship carers on an individual basis. Kinship carers will be reviewed annually to consider any additional support needs. There are local support groups which meet regularly. These provide kinship carers with the opportunity to share experiences and to discuss issues with others in the same position. Training is also provided through this group.

Finances

To avoid financial hardship 15 Td [(exd4 (us)4 (s)4 (i)6 (s)4 (s)6 (na)n(na)n(na)n(n.))]TJ.554 0 Td 6n14 (a
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