**Confidential    - to be placed on the child’s case file by the IRO/CP Chair only after resolution**

**Informal Escalation of Concern email**

***The IRO’s primary focus is to ensure effective care planning and review process for each child in order for better outcomes and to ensure that his/her wishes and feelings are given full consideration***.

(***The Care Planning Regs & the IRO Handbook***)

**IROs and Child Protection Chairs have a responsibility, supported by statutory guidance, to escalate to the ‘appropriate ‘level’ any area of concern that prevents effective planning for looked after children and children with Child Protection Plans. The Safeguarding & Independent Reviewing Service believes in immediate problem solving with team managers and social workers whenever possible. We wish to resolve issues through professional dialogue without moving to a formal Escalation of Concern (Dispute Resolution) when this can be achieved in the timescale for the child.**