What happens next?

On receipt of the completed referral form, a meeting will be arranged with key people in the child’s care network, and a decision made within that network about the type of intervention likely to be of most benefit to the child or young person.

How are we doing?

In order to evaluate the Beeches services, we will seek regular feedback from carers, social workers and from the children and young people with whom we have direct contact.

The feedback we receive will play a crucial part in helping us to develop the services we provide.
**Who are we?**

The Beeches is a specialist, multi-agency service comprising a range of professionals, including: Social Work Senior Practitioner, CAMHS Nurse Therapist, Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist and Clinical Psychologist.

The team provides a wide range of assessments and intervention to children and young people in foster and residential placements with private providers in Fife as well as support and training for their carers.

**Referral Criteria**

Referrals may cover a range of concerns.

Referrals can be made from infancy to 18yrs+ as long as young people remain accommodated in foster / residential placements.

Generally, children and young people referred have experienced complex trauma. Looked After & Accommodated children usually have multiple difficulties, often with no clearly recognisable psychiatric or mental disorder. However, our assessment data clearly indicates that the majority of children we see have serious attachment difficulties.

**What do we do?**

In agreement with the care network, intervention will be tailored to the individual needs of the child / young person.

In order to help children and young people recover from trauma, carers require a good understanding of what trauma related behaviour looks like and how it impacts on attachment and overall development.

The following are some of the services the Project team can offer:

- Assessing child attachment from infancy to adolescence
- Developmental assessment
- Assessing the impact of trauma from infancy to adolescence
- Range of therapeutic interventions for children & young people
- Consultation for foster carers / residential staff in relation to day to day parenting
- Solihull Training

**Making a referral**

Referrals are made by the child’s social worker, using the Therapeutic Services referral form and emailed to:

LAAC.TherapeuticServices@fife.gcsx.gov.uk

Following case allocation, invitations will be sent to the child’s current care network — comprising social workers, foster carers or residential care staff — to attend an initial assessment meeting. Additional professionals will be invited, as appropriate, depending on the specific concerns.

Enquiries may be made by any professional involved in the child’s care network. Where
the case meets criteria, the Project Organiser will then contact the child’s social worker to discuss whether a referral is appropriate. As the lead professional in the corporate parenting role, it is crucial that the Child & Family social worker is in agreement with any plan for intervention that the Beeches team may provide.