# **Framework for recording the condition of a home**



This tool is designed to assist practitioners to identify the home conditions that children and their families are experiencing – it should be undertaken with parents to establish areas where improvements are required and areas were a good standard is being achieved so that a clear baseline can be evidenced and tracked over time.

For children with disability who have equipment/adaptations for disabled child? Consider:

* Being used and in good repair.
* Being used but looking unclean/unhygienic.
* Being used and in poor repair/ill fitting.
* Not being used.

Photographs can be helpful to identify when a good standard is met or to record where improvements are required/record of no change. **The undertaking of a conditions of home should be recorded on LCS/EHM and noted on chronology and uploaded to Documents.**

**Date: Family: Name of Worker:**

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|  | **Level 1** | **Level 2** | **Level 3** | **Level 4** |
| **Living area/ room** | * Walls in good condition. * Carpeted or otherwise covered floor (such as vinyl or wood). Suitable for age of children in the home * Warm * Clean * Evidence of toys for age of children. * Child safety features apparent – stairgate – child locks * Safe lighting and enough ventilation. * Blinds/curtains for the windows. * If animals in the house – they are cared for and have space * Space for child play * Clean space to eat * **Alcohol and substance out of child reach in locked box** | * Decor in reasonable condition * Adequate floor covering for age of children. * Warm enough * Too much or not enough or no suitable furniture * Place to eat * Clean washing or ironing on the chairs and/or tables. * Some child safety features * If animals present - animal food or litter trays in child’s space * Some evidence of cleaning | * Broken/non-existent carpeting and floor * Some peeling paper/ paint on walls * Clutter/hording which blocks exits * Too much or not enough or no suitable furniture * No eating area for the child/ren * Few safety features * Feels cold at times * Few toys or toys unsuitable for age of the child/ren * Evidence of significant animal hairs on furniture & floor – * Animal food and /or litter tray in the room – overflowing. * Some dirty clothes on the floor or surfaces * Disordered * Smells stale (cigarette/cannabis) or smells strongly of animals * Evidence of stale food. * Many animals in the house with equipment * Empty/partially full wine/cans of alcohol left out | **As level 3 and/or:**   * Dangerous cupboards and/or furniture * Animal excrement on floors. * Stale or mouldy food evident on floors and/or surfaces * Broken chairs, broken/ missing doors, furniture too limited for all family to sit in the room. * No table or other surface for eating * No toys for age of child toys, no space for play * Broken windows, curtains rarely opened, stale smell of animals and humans, possibly including smell of urine from bedrooms or bathroom * Animals and their needs dominate the household * Child can access adult materials – video games/adult pornography * Child can access drug and alcohol substances or paraphernalia – over flowing ashtrays – strong smell of cannabis and cigarette smoke – especially of concern if children are asthmatic |

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| **Kitchen** | * Cupboards in good condition * Clean sink, floors and surfaces. * Fridge is clean * All food is in date, stored appropriately and suitable for the age of the children * Waste bins are clean and not over filled * Formula milk is stored appropriately * Animal feed bowls and litter trays are clean and do not smell * Bottle sterilising equipment is clean and visible where needed | * Decoration is old but of adequate condition * Surfaces and sink are cluttered but plates and pans are clean or about to be washed * Surfaces have some fresh stains or food remains but are generally clean * The fridge has spillages, but food is suitable for the age of the children and stored well * Cupboards are old with some broken hinges but serviceable * Formula milk is stored appropriately * Rubbish bins are full and smell stale * Animal feed bowls and litter trays are stale and there is some smell to them * Sterilising equipment is clean and visible where needed * There is a working washing machine and signs of washing taking place e.g. clothes arranged for washing | * Decoration is old and in need of repair, with peeling paper or flaking paint * Cupboards are in poor repair with damage to doors or missing doors * There is little evidence of food preparation; used formula milk bottles are to be seen unwashed and unemptied * Animal feed bowls & litter trays are stale/smell * Rubbish bins and animal litter trays are overflowing, with an obvious stale smell * Surfaces are cluttered and have old as well as fresh stains and spillage on them. * The sink is dirty and cluttered * There is little evidence of food and limited availability of food suitable for the child/ren. * The fridge is dirty – spillage and items out of date/rotten * Where needed, sterilising equipment is dirty or non-existent or the parent is seen using it inappropriately e.g. without washing hands after changing the baby's nappy. * Floors are soiled with mud or other substances (name them if possible) | * The kitchen is in very poor repair with inadequate cooking facilities * The fridge has visible dirt/mould or doesn't work. * Windows/doors may be broken * There is no sign of food for the children * The cupboards are broken. * There is a pungent smell of old rubbish and/or animal food and excreta and the floor is dirty stained with mud and other matter * There is animal excrement in the litter trays/on the floor. * Decaying/stale/mouldy food is visible on the surfaces * Surfaces are covered by other matter such as papers and/r equipment e.g. working tools or machinery * The washing machine is broken * There are piles of dirty clothes on the floor/ on the surfaces |

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| **Bedroom (S) Child** | * Decorated and warm – feel like a child’s room * Ordered and well ventilate. * Beds with clean mattresses and bedding. * Child safety features apparent. * Curtains or blinds at the windows * Clothing stored in wardrobes, cupboards and/or drawers * Toys for children are appropriate for their age. * Place to study/learn * If sharing child has own space | * Old décor but reasonable * Curtains/blinds at the window – privacy * Bedrooms are warm and well ventilated * Beds may be old but suitable for the child’s age with clean mattresses and bedding. * Children have night wear * Some safety features are present and; toys are suitable for age of child. * The room may have clothes/toys on the floor/surfaces, but these are clean. | * Walls may have peeling paper/paint with some evidence of damp or mould. * The rooms have heating at sometimes during the day/night – can be cold. * The room is poorly ventilated. Windows may be in poor repair/broken. It may not be possible to open them * Curtains/blinds may be in poor condition – no privacy, non-existent or rarely opened to ventilate the room. The room smells stale * Beds may be broken. * Mattresses and bedding are on the beds, but these are dirty, stale smell of sweat and/or urine * There may be evidence of animals, such as animal hair on the floor, or animal cages may be present in in the room * The bedroom door may be broken * There is a lack of storage space. | * There is a chaotic and disorganised environment with dirty clothes on the floors * There are no beds; there may be mattresses on the floor. * Bedding is limited; there may be coats or other materials to act as bedding, which is dirty and smelling of sweat and urine * There is no storage, or this may be overflowing with disordered clothing, toys, or other objects * There is evidence of animals using the room, animal hair, animal faeces/urine * The room is poorly ventilated with inadequate window covering – broken windows * The room may be too hot or cold, with inadequate heating source * Child can access sex toys and contraception * Child can access drug and alcohol substances or paraphernalia |

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| **Bathroom** | * Clean surfaces and floors; * Hot and cold water available. * Cleaning and medication/razors products stored safely with child locks on cupboards. * Towels present are clean Evidence of toothbrushes/toothpaste for all family members. | * Old decor but reasonable * Hot and cold water available. * Cleaning and other products stored safely with child locks on cupboards. * Old but clean toilet. * Floor and surfaces, bath and sink show some stains and need to be cleaned. * Towels are worn but clean. * Evidence of toothbrushes and toothpaste for all family | * Walls have peeling paint or paper. * Mould evident on walls. * Serviceable but soiled toilet, or serviceable toilet but broken toilet seat. * Dirty bath and sink (describe dirt if possible). * Limited hot water, cold water available. * Limited child safety features. * Towels are dirty/damp and few. * Old toothbrushes and limited/no availability of toothpaste for children or others. * Evidence that animals use the bathroom for sleeping or other purposes, e.g. litter trays, excrement on floor. * Stale smell of refuse or animal excrement. * Damage to cupboards or other equipment, e.g. doors hanging off or non-existent. * Medication and razors in the bathroom accessible for children | As level 3 and/or   * No evidence of child safety features. * No evidence of toothbrushes or toothpaste for the children. * No towels or dirty/damp towels. * Floor soiled with stains of identifiable human excreta. * Animal excrement present on floor or in bath/sink. * Broken toilet or bath or sink. * No water supply. * Strong smell of animal/human excrement. * Broken cupboards or other equipment. * Bathroom unusable by humans. * Medication and razors in the bathroom accessible for children left out for children |
| **Garden** | * The garden is well maintained with garden equipment/products safely stored. * Ponds and water butts are covered, and child safety features are * apparent. * If animals are present, there is no sign of animal faeces. | * The garden is somewhat untidy; there may be motor bikes/ cars under maintenance but there is evidence of child safety features as in Grade 1. * There are places for children to play. * Animals are present and there is evidence of animal faeces, but this is cleaned away promptly. | * The garden is overgrown. * Cars and/or other mechanical equipment are present in various states of repair. * There may be furniture in the garden such as sofas/armchairs. * Broken glass or other hazards are evident. * There is some play space for the children. * Several animals are evident as in Grade 2. * There are few child safety features. | * The hazards as described in level 3 or the family have not responded to advice to improve the situation. * Garden completely overgrown and difficult to access. * Old, broken animal cages/ evidence of animal faeces on grass or paths * Animals dominate the household. * Broken glass or other hazards accessible to children. * Access to the house is limited. * Doors to the house are difficult to open or broken. * There is no space for the children to play. * There are no child safety features |

Hoarding – use the attached images to assess level of hoarding 

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| Nature of Housing: Owned, Private Tenancy or Social Housing – name of Landlord/Agency:  Brief overview of the families current housing circumstances:   * Any issues around overcrowding. What is being done to try and address this? * Issues that are related to landlords’ responsibilities and what has been done so far to address these concerns * Structural issues that are out of families control; and impact on children such as damp, inadequate heating/ventilation * Identify any gaps in housing benefit and rent due to cost being over the local housing allowance that may impact on family’s finances. * Home unsuitable for disabled child. |
| **Additional comments and actions to TAF, CIN, CP plan:** |