Contents

1	How to use this guide	1
	Introduction	1
	Structure of Form C	1
	Content and purpose of this guide	3
2	The context of assessment	5
	Research evidence	5
	Safeguarding	5
	The issues for family and friends carers	6
	Collaborative working	8
	Assessment timescales	9
3	Descriptive information	10
	Description and personality	10
	Identity	11
	Family history	12
	Education and employment	14
	Previous relationships	16
4	Relationships and network	18
	The couple relationship	18
	The household	20
	Wider family/significant others	22
	Support network	24
5	Parenting capacity	26
	Experience of caring for children	26
	Applicant's relationship with the child	27
	Ability to meet the needs of the child	28
	Contact and family relationships	30
6	Checks and references	32
	DBS check	32
	Local authority check/previous applications to foster or adopt	33
	Health	34
	Home and neighbourhood	36
	Income and expenditure	37
	Previous family court proceedings	38
	Personal references	39
	Other checks and references	40

42
42
43
44
46
48
48
49
50
51