

#### **Appendix 4 - Guidance on questions to ask potential carers of children from abroad who do not clearly have parental responsibility**

It is important that the questions are rephrased for each interview so that the interview does not become interrogatory in tone.

The questioner would also need

- to speak to child on their own **(with interpreter)** in order to establish child's own views and consistency between the child and adult's account of circumstances
- to establish carers' ID and immigration status
- **to establish any previous contact with this or other local authorities/agencies in UK and abroad.**

1. How do you know the child? Friend/relative?
2. What is your relationship and through which parent are you related to the child?
3. How long have you personally known the child/family?
4. Please give details/names about individual family members
5. Which town or city does the child in your care come from?
6. Please describe their family home/surroundings/environment
7. If you have never seen this child before – how do you know this child belongs to your relative?
8. Can you tell me why the child has come to this country?
9. Did the child have any contact with you prior to their arrival in this country?
10. Has the child stayed with anyone else, or in another area in this country, or on the way to Britain?
11. Are the child's parents alive or dead?
12. If alive, where are the child's parents?
13. Do you know why the parents sent their child to Britain and to you?
14. Did the parents ask you to look after the child and do you have anything in writing?
15. Are the parents aware that the child is with you?
16. Are you in contact with the child's parents and if so by what means?

17. Would it be possible for us to contact the child's parents?
18. Who brought the child into the country?
19. Who paid for their passage?
20. By which route/transport did they arrive?
21. Do they have any other friends or relatives in this country?
22. Are you in contact with other friends or relative, if yes please provide their details?
23. If yes, why did they not stay with them?
24. Which documentation does the child have pertaining to their identity and nationality?
25. Do you have a letter from Home Office stating that you are the carer/guardian?
26. How did the Home Office decide that you should be the guardian/carer?
27. Do you have a partner/husband/wife, if yes, is he/she happy to continue to care for this child?
28. Do you have any children? If yes what are their ages and gender?
29. How do you think caring for another child for will impact on your own family/finances?
30. Does the child have his own bedroom?
31. What responsibility are you willing to take for the child - i.e. basic essentials/ carer's role/legal responsibility?
32. How long are you able to commit yourself to this responsibility?