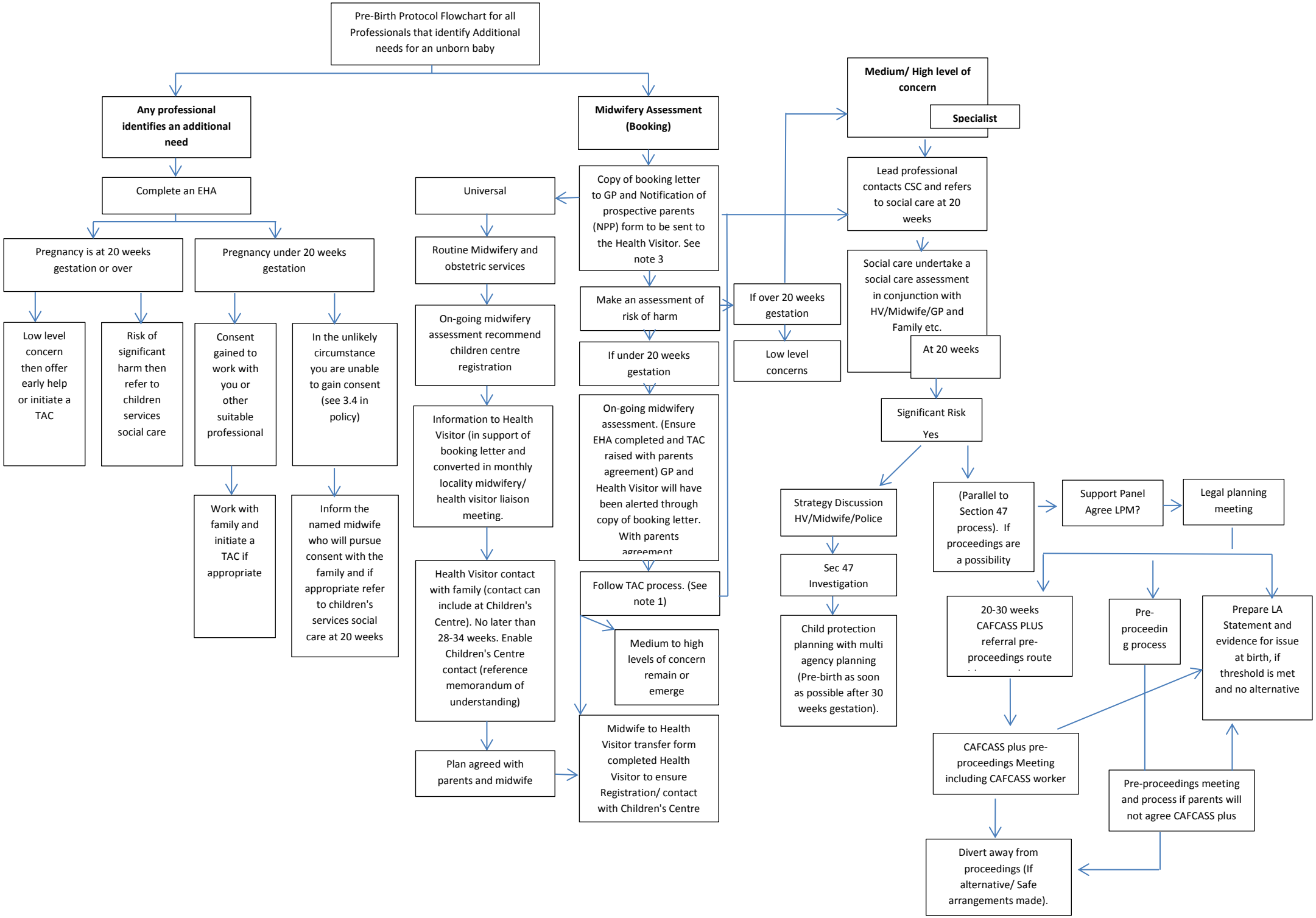
Pre-Birth Protocol Flowchart for all Professionals that identify Additional needs for an unborn baby
Any professional identifies an additional need
Complete an EHA
Pregnancy is at 20 weeks gestation or over
Pregnancy under 20 weeks gestation
Low level concern then offer early help or initiate a TAC
Risk of significant harm then refer to children services social care
Consent gained to work with you or other suitable professional
In the unlikely circumstance you are unable to gain consent (see 3.4 in policy)
Work with family and initiate a TAC if appropriate
Inform the named midwife who will pursue consent with the family and if appropriate refer to children's services social care at 20 weeks
Midwifery Assessment (Booking)
Copy of booking letter to GP and Notification of prospective parents (NPP) form to be sent to the Health Visitor. See note 3
Universal
Routine Midwifery and obstetric services
On-going midwifery assessment recommend children centre registration
Information to Health Visitor (in support of booking letter and converted in monthly locality midwifery/ health visitor liaison meeting.
Health Visitor contact with family (contact can include at Children's Centre). No later than 28-34 weeks. Enable Children's Centre contact (reference memorandum of understanding)
Plan agreed with parents and midwife
Make an assessment of risk of harm
If under 20 weeks gestation
On-going midwifery assessment. (Ensure EHA completed and TAC raised with parents agreement) GP and Health Visitor will have been alerted through copy of booking letter. With parents agreement
Follow TAC process. (See note 1)
Medium to high levels of concern remain or emerge
Midwife to Health Visitor transfer form completed Health Visitor to ensure Registration/ contact with Children's Centre
If over 20 weeks gestation
Low level concerns
Medium/ High level of concern
Specialist
Lead professional contacts CSC and refers to social care at 20 weeks
Social care undertake a social care assessment in conjunction with HV/Midwife/GP and Family etc.
At 20 weeks
Significant Risk
Yes
Strategy Discussion HV/Midwife/Police
Sec 47 Investigation
Child protection planning with multi agency planning (Pre-birth as soon as possible after 30 weeks gestation).
(Parallel to Section 47 process). If proceedings are a possibility
Support Panel Agree LPM?
Legal planning meeting
20-30 weeks CAFCASS PLUS referral pre-proceedings route
Pre-proceeding process
Prepare LA Statement and evidence for issue at birth, if threshold is met and no alternative
CAFCASS plus pre-proceedings Meeting including CAFCASS worker
Pre-proceedings meeting and process if parents will not agree CAFCASS plus
Divert away from proceedings (If alternative/ Safe arrangements made).