

## Stage 2

This deals with the preparatory work up to the case management conference. At least 2 days prior to the CMC there will be an advocates' meeting to enable the advocates to prepare the case management template order. At the CMC the parties will identify the issues and the court will give directions to manage the case. In particular the court will consider and identify what evidence, witnesses, expert witnesses are required. At the CMC the court will also confirm the **Timetable of the child.**

## Stage 3 & Stage 4

The timetable for progressing the case will be agreed by the judge and parties involved in proceedings according to the needs of the child involved. All cases will be listed in accordance with the individual timetables. It is expected that the timetable will be less than the benchmark of 40 weeks.

### 1.8 Implementation of the PLO and Practice Direction

The President announced in February 2008 that the Public Law Outline would replace the Protocol with effect from 1/04/08. However, the PLO will not be retrospective, therefore any proceedings underway pre 1/04/08 will still be subject to the procedure set out in the Protocol.

At the time of writing this Unit the Practice Direction issued by the President has not identified the relevant parts of the Family Proceedings Rules which the Practice Direction supplements in connection with the PLO.

The Practice Direction (as available at the time of writing), is replicated below.

#### **Task 8**

Practitioners should locate the Practice Direction supporting the Public Law Outline and identify which part of the Family Proceedings Rules (FPR) the PD supplements. It is important that the PD is downloaded and saved with the practitioner's copy of the PLO. This can be found at [www.judiciary.gov.uk](http://www.judiciary.gov.uk)