

*Interagency Guidelines  
For Professional Staff  
2019*



*working together to protect  
children in Angus*

## **Foreword**

It's everyone's job to make sure children are safe and protected. That means that parents, carers and all agencies who work with children both directly and indirectly have an important role to play.

This guidance is to help professional staff who may have a concern about a child. It provides guidance on action to be taken and provides useful links to other guidance and legislation designed to support children.

However we all know that it is strong relationships with families and good multi-agency partnership working that makes a difference to children and is what keeps children safe. It is within this context and culture that I know you will work together to keep children safe and protected, ensuring that children are listened to and their needs are met and responded to appropriately to prevent harm and further concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Todd', with a large, sweeping flourish at the top.

Alison Todd  
Independent Chairperson  
Angus Child Protection Committee

## INTRODUCTION

These Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines have been revised and produced in accordance with recent child protection policy, practice and legislative advances, particularly the [National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland 2014](#); and take cognisance of other emerging national child protection developments.

They aim to ensure an informed and appropriate response for children and young people about whom practitioners, in key services/agencies, in the public, private and third sectors across Angus, may have child care and/or protection concerns.

These Inter-Agency Child Protection Guidelines are therefore specifically aimed at practitioners and managers from all services/agencies who are responsible for the care and protection of children and young people across Angus. They contain the core information required by all services/agencies and complement, but do not replace, existing single service/agency child protection procedures.

Although the primary local agencies involved in the investigation of allegations of actual or suspected harm to a child are Social Work Services, Health Services and Police Scotland; all agencies and individuals involved have a shared responsibility to ensure the protection of children.

### **How to Use these Guidelines**

These Guidelines have been produced to support, reflect and translate the [National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland 2014](#) into the Angus Child Protection working context/arrangements.

These Guidelines do not replace the national guidance, nor do they replace any existing single service/agency child protection policies, procedures and/or guidelines. On the contrary, they aim to support them and provide the over-arching policy framework, within which all other child protection policies, procedures and/or guidelines should fall.

Throughout these guidelines, practitioners will find helpful electronic links for quick and easy reference to other key documents. These guidelines are available and maintained as an online electronic resource on the [Angus Child Protection Committee Website](#).

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## PART 1 THE CONTEXT FOR CHILD PROTECTION

### 1.1 Key definitions and concepts

#### 1.1.1 Who is a child?

A child can be defined differently in different legal contexts, however for this guidance; generally a child is defined as someone under the age of 18. The individual child/young person's circumstances and age will dictate what legal measures can be applied. For example, [The Adult Support and Protection \(Scotland\) Act 2007](#) can be applied to those over the age of sixteen where the criteria are met.

Where a young person between the age of 16 and 18 requires protection, services will need to consider which legislation or policy, if any, can be applied. This will depend on the young person's individual circumstances as well as on the particular legislation or policy framework. On commencement of the [Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014](#), similar to child protection interventions, all adult protection interventions for 16 and 17 year olds will be managed through the statutory single Child's Plan.

#### 1.1.2 Who are parents and carers?

A "parent" is defined as someone who is the genetic or adoptive mother or father of the child. A mother has full parental rights and responsibilities. A father has parental rights and responsibilities if he is or was married to the mother at the time of the child's conception or subsequently, or if the child's birth has been registered after 4 May 2006 and he has been registered as the father of the child on the child's birth certificate. If a child does not live with a parent, then parents have the right to maintaining regular contact with them.

A "carer" is someone other than a parent who has rights and responsibilities in respect of a child. The Children's Hearing system may deem someone as a "relevant person", giving them a number of rights, including the right to receive all relevant papers, attend Children's Hearings and challenge any decisions made.

A "kinship carer" can be a person who is related to a child or to whom a child has a pre-existing relationship. A local authority can approve a kinship carer as someone suitable to look after a child who is looked after by the local authority, under [The Looked After Child \(Scotland\) Regulations 2009](#), following an assessment of that person's suitability to care for the child.

A child cared for on an informal basis, or rather not under The Looked After Child (Scotland) Regulations 2009 is not considered as a "looked after" child and an assessment of the carer is not a legal requirement.

### 1.1.3 What is child abuse and child neglect?

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child. Someone may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting, or by failing to act to prevent, significant harm to the child. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional setting, by those known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger. Assessments will need to consider whether abuse has occurred or is likely to occur.

The [National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland 2014](#) offers some definitions of the ways in which abuse may be experienced by a child, but these are not exhaustive, as the individual circumstances of abuse will vary from child to child.

### 1.1.4 What is child protection?

Child Protection means protecting a child from child abuse or neglect. Abuse or neglect need not have taken place; it is sufficient for a risk assessment to have identified a *likelihood* or *risk* of significant harm from abuse or neglect.

### 1.1.5 What is harm and significant harm?

The concept of significant harm is a complex issue and subject to professional judgement based on a multi-agency assessment of the circumstances of the child and their family. There are no absolute criteria for judging what constitutes significant harm: sometimes, it can be a single traumatic event, a series or combination of significant events or an accumulation of concerns over a period of time which can interrupt, change or damage the child's physical and psychological development. The [Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014](#), introduces a legal duty for a wide range of public bodies and those commissioned or contracted to them to share such concerns with a child's Named Person. Through early and effective intervention and the sharing of wellbeing concerns it is hoped that crisis can be avoided in many cases.

#### Definition of significant harm

The following definitions are a helpful aid in understanding the concept of significant harm.

- 'Harm' means the ill treatment or the impairment of the health or development of the child, for example, impairment suffered as a result of seeing or hearing the ill treatment of another. In this context, 'development' can mean physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development and 'health' can mean physical or mental health.
- Whether the harm suffered, or likely to be suffered, by a child or young person is 'significant' is determined by comparing the child's health and development with what might be reasonably expected of a similar child.

When considering the immediate needs of a child or young person once a concern about their possible safety is raised, it is essential that practitioners consider the following questions:

- Is this child or young person at immediate risk?

- What is placing this child at immediate risk?
- What needs to happen to remove this risk now?

### **1.1.6 What is risk?**

As stated within the [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014](#) understanding risk is critical to child protection. From a child protection perspective, it is the risk of 'significant harm' that is central here: where concerns are raised about the potential significant harm to a child, they must be considered child protection concerns.

## **1.2 Information sharing and recording**

Sharing information is a core component of child protection activity. Practitioners must understand:

- when sharing information is appropriate
- from whom and with who should information be sought/shared
- how much information should be shared
- what to do with that information

Children and families have a right to know when information about them is being shared and where appropriate, consent should be sought, unless this would increase the risk to a child or others, or impact on any subsequent investigation.

The [National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland 2014](#) sets out general principles for sharing information for child protection.

### **1.2.1 Confidentiality and consent**

Where agencies are acting to fulfil statutory duties, it is not necessary or appropriate to seek consent, for example, when making a referral to the Children's Reporter. Making children and parents aware that information is being shared is different than seeking consent to do so.

If a child's wellbeing is considered to be at risk then relevant information must always be shared.

### **1.2.2 Recording and analysing information**

Accurate, succinct and sufficient recording keeping aids decision making. Within record keeping, a distinction should always be made between fact, hearsay and opinion. Records should include a note of:

- Date of contact with children and families
- The child's views and emotional wellbeing
- Actions and decisions and the rationale behind them



- Outcomes of any interventions
- The Child's Plan
- A Chronology

Further information and guidance in relation to chronologies can be found within the [Tayside Practitioner's Guidance: Chronologies](#).

### **1.3 Legislation relating to Child Protection**

Legislation places a variety of duties and responsibilities on services and organisations. Staff should understand the legislative framework within which they and other organisations operate and their responsibilities within this.

[The Data Protection Act 1998](#) informs the issues of confidentiality, sharing of information and disclosure of sensitive information.

All legislation within Scotland the UK should be underpinned by the principles of [The Human Rights Act 1998](#).

All childcare legislation is underpinned by [The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1998](#).

[The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) stipulates that for all disabled children to have their rights realised, they should be provided with appropriate assistance.

## **PART 2            ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CHILD PROTECTION**

### **2.1            Collective Responsibilities for Child Protection**

All agencies, professional and public bodies and services that work with adults, children and their families have a responsibility to recognise and actively consider potential risks to a child, regardless of whether the child is the main focus of their intervention. All practitioners are expected to consider the child's needs and work collaboratively with all involved with the family to improve outcomes for the child.

#### **2.1.1 Local Communities and the general public**

Local authorities and other relevant agencies should disseminate information to the general public that promotes a sense of shared responsibility and provide clear information on how to communicate concerns. Within Angus, the "See Something, Say Something" campaign highlights the use of ACCESSLine for reporting concerns, both by telephone and online.

Members of the public should be made aware by practitioners of their responsibility to pass on information regarding children at risk.

#### **2.1.2 Chief Officers' Group**

Chief Officers across Scotland are individually and collectively responsible for the leadership, direction and scrutiny of their respective child protection services and their Child Protection Committees. In Angus, the Child Protection Committee reports directly to the Chief Officers' Group.

#### **2.1.3 Child Protection Committees**

Child Protection Committees (CPC) are locally based, interagency strategic partnerships responsible for the design, development, publication, distribution, dissemination, implementation and evaluation of child protection policy and practice across all sectors within their local authority. The role of the CPC is to provide individual and collective leadership and direction for the management of child protection services across Scotland. Each CPC should have a lead officer to coordinate its activities; in Angus this is the Senior Planning Officer for Protecting People Partnerships. Resources should also be in place to deliver inter agency child protection training; this is delivered via the Workforce Development Officer in Angus. CPCs should have an overview of the training needs of all staff involved in child

protection activity. The functions of a CPC are continuous improvement, strategic planning and public information and communication.

#### **2.1.4 Police Scotland**

Whenever there is suspicion that a child has been subjected to, or is at risk of harm, the police should be informed immediately to enable appropriate enquiries to commence immediately. This will afford officers the opportunity to secure all available evidence, including the interview of relevant witnesses and, if appropriate, obtain photographs of any relevant injury.

## PART 3 IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO CONCERNS ABOUT CHILDREN

### 3.1 Identifying and Managing Risk

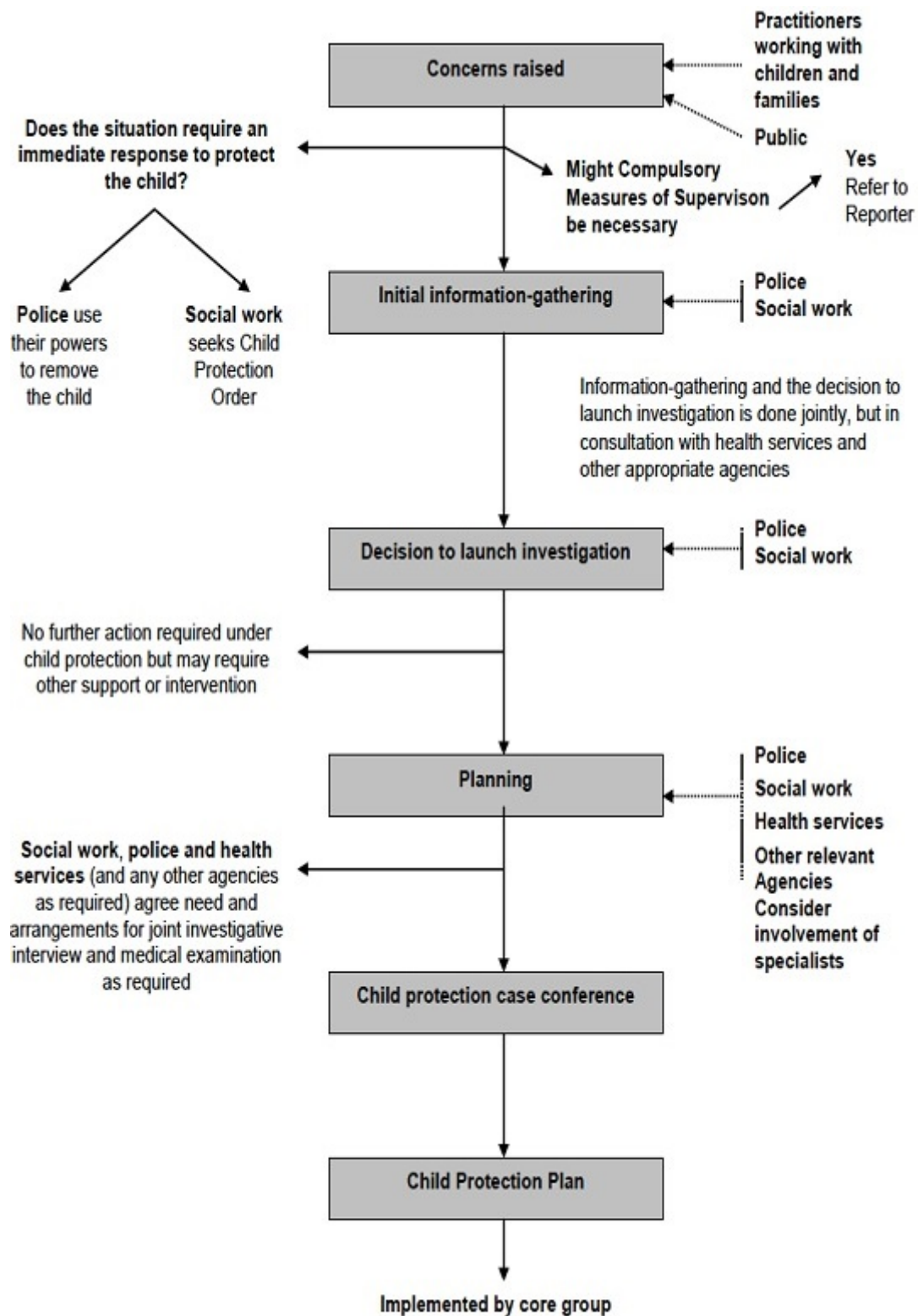
Risk is at the heart of child protection. All decisions on intervention, supports offered or compulsory measures required are dependent upon professional analysis of accurate and relevant information and robust decision making. [The National Framework to Support the Assessment of Children and Young People 2012](#) aims to support and assist all practitioners at all levels, in every agency, in these tasks.

The Getting It Right For Every Child approach stresses the importance of understanding risk and need within a framework of the child's whole world and wellbeing. When assessing risk, practitioners should be aware of the potential risk factors in the wider world of a child.

The [My World Triangle](#) can be used to identify risk factors as the first step in assessing risk. The [Resilience Matrix](#) provides a framework for assessing risk against protective factors for the individual child and [The Wellbeing Indicators](#) can help to measure progress in relation to intervention.

### 3.2 Responding to Concerns about Children

The diagram noted below, as detailed in the [National Guidance for Child Protection](#)



[Scotland 2014](#) details the process of responding to child protection

### **3.2.1 Emergency legal measures to protect children at risk**

Urgent action may sometimes be required to protect a child from actual or likely significant harm. There may be occasions where emergency legal action is required to protect a child. Any person can apply to a Sheriff for a Child Protection Order, which authorises the applicant to remove a child from circumstances in which s/he is at risk, or retain him/her in a place of safety. The local authority may apply for an Exclusion Order which requires the removal of a person suspected of harming the child from the family home. In exceptional circumstances, any person may apply to a Justice of the Peace for authorisation to remove or keep a child in a place of safety. A police constable may remove a child immediately to a place of safety where s/he believes that the conditions for making a Child Protection Order are satisfied, that it is not practicable to apply to a Sheriff and that the child requires to be removed to a place of safety to protect them from significant harm. A child can only be kept in a place of safety for 24 hours and further protective measures may require to be sought.

### **3.2.2 What is the Child Protection Register?**

All local authorities are responsible for maintaining a central register of all children and young people – including unborn children – who are the subject of an inter-agency Child Protection Plan. This is called the Child Protection Register. The Child Protection register has no legal status but provides an administrative system for alerting practitioners that there is sufficient professional concern about a child to warrant an inter-agency Child Protection Plan.

**Within Angus, the designated keeper of the Child Protection Register is the Service Leader, Child Protection & Review, Children, Families & Justice, People.** Contact details are contained in Section 5.2.

During the day enquiries of the Register can be made to the designated service manager or to the Child Protection Administrative Support at the address given in Section 5.2.

During weekdays from 5.00pm to 8.45am the next day and from 5.00pm on a Friday to 8.45am on a Monday, access may be obtained through the Social Work Out of Hours Service, Tel: 01382 307964 this service also operates during public holidays. Contact details are contained in Section 5.2.

Further information regarding the functions of the Child Protection Register and the role and function of Child Protection Case Conferences can be found within the [National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland 2014](#)

## PART 4 CHILD PROTECTIONS IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES

### Indicators of risk

This section gives additional information in dealing with specific conditions that may impact adversely on children as well as addressing operational consideration in certain circumstances.

When making judgements about the risks and needs of a child, there are a range of indicators that should trigger assessment and, where appropriate, action.

Indicators of risk should be considered not in isolation but in relation to all the relevant aspects of a child and family's circumstances. Where there are a number of risk factors in a child's life, practitioners should pay particular attention to the cumulative impact on the child.

#### 4.1 Domestic abuse

*"Domestic abuse (as gender-based abuse), can be perpetrated by partners or ex partners and can include physical abuse (assault and physical attack involving a range of behaviour), sexual abuse (acts which degrade and humiliate women and are perpetrated against their will, including rape) and mental and emotional abuse (such as threats, verbal abuse, racial abuse, withholding money and other types of controlling behaviour such as isolation from family or friends)." Scottish Executive 2002. (Although this definition is dated it remains the one that is accepted as the retained definition in Scotland).*

Children and young people living with domestic abuse are at increased risk of harm both through the impact of their experience and from being abused themselves through direct harm by the perpetrator.

The [Safe and Together](#) approach has been adopted in Angus and the principles involved correlate with the more widely known good practice principles when working with domestic abuse. To promote best practice, all professionals when working with domestic abuse, should take the approach that the cause of the risk and harm comes from the perpetrator's pattern of abuse and not the victim's failure to protect.

Young People can also experience domestic abuse in their own relationships with current and ex partners.

Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 – Section 67 Grounds/the Statement of Grounds introduced a specific ground or referral in relation to domestic abuse. This is where a child has or is likely to have a close connection with a person who has carried out domestic abuse.

#### Further information

- [Equally Safe - Scotland's Strategy for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls](#)
- [Equally Safe - A Delivery Plan for Scotland's Strategy to Prevent and Eradicate Violence Against Women and Girls 2017-21](#)
- [Domestic Abuse \(Scotland\) Act 2011](#)
- [Angus Violence Against Women Partnership](#)
- [Criminal Justice and Licensing \(Scotland\) Act 2010 \(relevant to the offence of stalking\)](#)
- [Angus Women's Aid](#)

#### **4.2 Parental problematic alcohol and drug misuse**

Practitioners working with parents and/or carers who are problematic alcohol and/or drug users must understand the potential impact of that misuse on children and [Getting Our Priorities Right: Good Practice Guidance](#) young people. One of the challenges is that problem alcohol use and/or drug misuse are often associated with a range of other circumstances that affect the family's life and the health and well-being of children and young people.

The [Angus CPC/ADP Working with Children and Families Affected by Parental Substance Misuse](#) protocol sets out the actions required to address problematic parental substance misuse issues which impact on children, and the specific roles and responsibilities of each professional agency and organisation.

Within Angus the [Alcohol and Drugs Partnership \(ADP\)](#) supports child protection and has developed a range of further information, advice and tools on alcohol and/or drug misuse which practitioners may find helpful.

#### Further information

- [Getting Our Priorities Right](#)
- [Getting Our Priorities Right – Angus](#)
- [Rights-respect-recovery Preventing Harm – Next Steps 2018](#)

#### **4.3 Disability**

Disabled children are defined as a child in need under section 93(4) of the [Children \(Scotland\) Act 1995](#).

Abuse of children and young people affected by disability is more likely to start at an earlier age and where abuse takes place, repeated and multiple abuses are common place.



When responding to concerns about a disabled child, expertise in child protection and disability should be brought together to ensure the child receives the same standard of service as a non disabled child.

Disabled children can progress into adult protection. [The Protection of Vulnerable Groups \(Scotland\) Act 2007](#) recognises the vulnerability of disabled adults. Transition to adult services can be a traumatic time for disabled children and their families. Each child/young person needs a clear transition plan that reflects the complexity of the transition.

#### Further information

- [Safeguarding Disabled Children: Practice Guidance](#) This guidance covers England and Wales, but is nevertheless valuable for practitioners working in Scotland
- [Triangle](#) is an independent organisation that works directly with children and their families but also offers training and consultancy to practitioners and agencies
- [Capability Scotland](#) is a third sector agency providing education, employment opportunities and support for disabled people.
- [Scottish Good Practice Guidelines for Supporting Parents with Learning Disabilities provides practical guidance to agencies that support people with learning disabilities who become parents.](#)
- [For Scotland's Disabled Children](#)

#### **4.4 Non engaging families**

The terms “non-engagement” and “non-compliance” are used to describe a range of deliberate behaviours and attitudes, such as:

- Failure to enable necessary contact (for example missing appointments) or refusing to allow access to the child or to the home;
- Active non-compliance with the actions set out in the Child’s Plan;
- Disguised non-compliance, where the parent/carer appears to be cooperative without actually carrying out actions or enabling them to be effective; and
- Threats of violence or other intimidation towards practitioners.

Services to children and families where parents/carers are hostile should not be withdrawn without putting other protective measures in place. Key services should be maintained for children who are at risk.

#### Further Information

- [Non-engaging Families Guidance](#)

#### **4.5 Children and young people experiencing or affected by mental health problems**

**4.5.1** Child protection is a crucial component of the service response to children and young people experience mental health problems. Children and young people experiencing such difficulties must have access to the right support and services and know that their difficulties are being taken seriously.

#### Further information

- [SCIE Report, Think child, think parent, think family](#)
- [The Mental Health of Children and Young People: A Framework for Promotion, Prevention and Care](#)
- [Working with children and Adults Who May be at Risk of Self Harm: Practice Guidance](#)

4.5.2 Many adults who experience mental health difficulties can parent effectively, however families in this situation can be more vulnerable.

#### Further information

- [Scottish Good Practice Guidelines for Supporting Parents with Learning Disabilities](#)
- [See Me](#) is Scotland's national campaign to end stigma and discrimination associated with mental health

#### **4.6 Children and young people who display harmful or problematic sexual behaviour**

Where abuse of a child or young person is reported to have been carried out by another child or young person, such behaviour should always be treated seriously and be subject to a discussion between relevant agencies that covers both the victim and the perpetrator. In all cases where a child or young person displays problematic sexual behaviour, immediate consideration should be given to whether action needs to be taken under child protection procedures, either in order to protect the victim or to tackle concerns as to what has caused the child/young person to behave in such a way.

The two key aims of addressing harmful sexual behaviour are risk management (actions taken to reduce opportunities for the harmful sexual behaviour to occur) and risk reduction (a planned programme of work aimed at helping the child or young person develop appropriate skills and insights to reduce their need to engage in harmful sexual behaviour). The [Angus Child Protection Committee Multi Agency Protocol Concerning Care and Risk Management \(CARM\) Planning for Children and Young People who Present a Serious Risk of harm](#) is concerned with children aged 12 to 18, except in exceptional circumstances where there is alleged sexually harmful behaviour and/or alleged violent behaviour.

#### **4.7 Female genital mutilation (FGM)**

Female genital mutilation is a culture specific abusive practice affecting some communities. It should always trigger child protection concerns. [Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#) makes it illegal to perform or arrange to have a female genital mutilation carried out in Scotland or abroad. Where other child protection concerns are present they should be part of the risk assessment process.

#### Further information

- [Scotland's National Action Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\) 2016 – 2020](#)

#### **4.8 Honour based violence and forced marriage**

Honour based violence is a spectrum of criminal conduct with threats and abuse at one end and honour killing at the other. Such violence can occur when perpetrators believe that a relative/community member, who may be a child, has shamed the family and/or the community by breaking their honour

##### Further information

- [Forced Marriage: A Wrong Not a Right](#)
- [Forced Marriage etc. \(Protection and Jurisdiction\) \(Scotland\) Act 2011](#)
- [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#)
- [Angus Multi Agency Protocol for Forced Marriage](#)
- [Angus Multi Agency Protocol for Honour Based Violence](#)

#### **4.9 Fabricated or induced illness**

Fabricated or induced illness in children is not a common form of child abuse; however practitioners should nevertheless be able to understand its significance. Although it can affect children of any age, fabricated and induced illness is most commonly identified in younger children.

##### Further information

- [Safeguarding children in whom illness is fabricated or induced](#)
- [Fabricated or induced illness \(FII\) by carers - a practical guide for paediatricians](#)

#### **4.10 Sudden unexpected death in infants and children**

##### Further information

- [Healthcare Improvement Scotland](#) has progressed a programme of work on SUDI
- [SUDI Scotland Toolkit - For Professionals](#)

#### **4.11 Harm outside the home or in specific circumstances**

##### **4.11.1 Ritual abuse**

Ritual abuse can be defined as organised sexual, physical, psychological abuse, which can be systematic and sustained over a long period of time.

##### Further information

- [Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry](#)

##### **4.11.2 Child trafficking**

Child trafficking typically exposes children to continuous and severe risk of significant harm. It involves the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring and/or receipt

of a child for the purposes of exploitation. This definition holds whether or not there has been any coercion or deception, as children are not considered capable of informed consent to such activity.

#### Further information

- [Human Trafficking and Exploitation \(Scotland\) Act 2015](#)
- [Child Trafficking Referral Form](#)
- [Comprehensive Human Trafficking Assessment Tool](#)
- [Scottish Guardianship Service](#)
- [Inter-Agency Guidance on Child Trafficking](#)
- [Protecting People Angus Missing, Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy 2018](#)

#### **4.11.3 Child Sexual Exploitation**

The sexual exploitation of children and young people is an often hidden form of sexual abuse, with distinctive elements of exploitation and exchange. Sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology and without the child's immediate recognition.

Child protection procedures within individual agencies should be followed when practitioners have concerns that a child is at risk of abuse through sexual exploitation. This includes circumstances where there is a lack of evidence or where there may be concerns which cannot be substantiated. It is important that practitioners do not wait for a disclosure from a young person prior to making a referral.

#### Further information

- [Sexual Offences \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#)
- [Protection of Children and Prevention of Sexual Offences \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#)
- [Guidance on Child Sexual Exploitation: A Practitioners' Resource Pack](#)

#### **4.12 Children aged fifteen who's names are on the Child Protection Register**

When there are children aged fifteen where there are concerns that they will require protection into adulthood, the Adult Support and Protection Review Officer should be invited to the next Review Child Protection Case Conference to consider a transition process.

## PART 5 FURTHER INFORMATION

### 5.1 Further reading and relevant information

- The Tayside Multi Agency Unborn Baby Protocol provides guidance and direction in relation addressing risks to unborn babies within Angus.
- Housing and Community Safety staff, in the course of their day to day work, may come across certain situations or may receive information that gives cause for concern, particularly when making home visits or dealing with applications for housing. In such instances where any child concerns arise, particularly in the course of action taken against a household (e.g. eviction action) they will make referrals to child protection services in line with their child protection procedures.

Organisations and groups involved in sporting activities should be aware of [The National Strategy for Child Protection in Sport: 10 steps to safeguard children in sport](#).

- More detailed information regarding the roles and responsibilities of medical practitioners can be found in [National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland: Guidance for Health Professionals in Scotland](#).
- [Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command \(CEOP\)](#) which is part of UK policing, provides useful information about the sexual exploitation of children and young people online CEOP acts as a hub for information and resources for preventing and responding to child internet safety issues.
- [Preventing offending: getting it right for children and young people](#)
- [Initial Referral Discussion Protocol](#)

## 5.2 How to report a concern for a child or young person in Angus

If you believe a child is at immediate risk of harm contact Police Scotland on 999.

If you are worried about a child, and think they may be a victim of neglect or abuse, you can report it [online](#)

You can also call:

- Police Scotland – 101
- NSPCC – 0808 800 5000
- ACCESSLine – 03452 777 778 and press option1 to report a concern for a child

### **Out of Hours Social Work Service**

During weekdays from 5.00pm to 8.45am the following day and from 5.00pm on a Friday to 8.45am on a Monday, access may be obtained through the Social Work Out of Hours Service, Tel: 01382 307964 this service also operates during public holidays.

### **The Keeper of the Child Protection Register**

Service Leader, Child Protection and Review, Children, Families and Justice, Angus Council

Tel: (01307) 491821

Email: [ProtectingPeopleAngus@angus.gov.uk](mailto:ProtectingPeopleAngus@angus.gov.uk)