

Child Protection

The child protection process



Child Protection

Contact Numbers

The Children & Young People's Service Referral & Assessment Team (Hornsey)

020 8489 1856/1805/1806

The Children & Young People's Service Referral & Assessment Team (Tottenham)

020 8489 5402/03/04

Emergency out of hours social work team

020 8348 3148

The Children & Young People's Service Complaints Officer

020 8489 3481

For independent advice and support you could contact The Family Rights Group on

0800 731 1696

The advice line is open on Monday to Friday between 10am and 12pm and between 1.30pm and 3.30pm

When there are concerns that a child or children may be at risk of significant harm a child protection investigation will be started.

The words 'risk of significant harm' come from the Children Act 1989, which was introduced to make sure that children's interests were better protected. Child protection investigations are usually carried out by social workers. Where there is any likelihood that a crime has been committed, the investigations will be done jointly with the police.

The first stage in any investigation is an assessment of the situation, looking at the child's needs and any support that could be put in place to remove the risk of harm. This assessment is called a 'Section 47' assessment, after Section 47 of the Children Act 1989. If the social worker still has concerns he or she will request a Child Protection Conference.

The Child Protection Conference.

Child Protection Conferences take place in order to make a judgement about whether a child is at risk of ongoing significant harm. Different professionals involved with your child and family will come to the conference, to make sure that decisions take into account all relevant information. A Child Protection Advisor, who is independent, chairs the conference and will meet you before the Conference starts to explain what the meeting is about.

Can parents attend?

Yes – parents and carers are encouraged to attend so that they have the opportunity to have their say. We recognise that going to a meeting like this can be difficult, so you could bring someone with you like a friend or a solicitor. If you really don't want to come you can participate in other ways – by talking to your social worker about your views, by writing a letter or by recording your views on tape. On rare occasions, the Chair may exclude family members if their attendance would put other people at risk.

Child Protection Plans

If the decision of the conference is that your child is in need of further protection we will develop a child protection plan to support them and reduce any risks to their wellbeing. This plan will also identify any support needs that you have. It will be agreed with you at the Child Protection Conference and you will have a copy of it.

Core Groups

To make sure that the plan is working properly the conference will also agree a group of people, including parents and carers, to meet regularly to monitor the progress being made. This group of people is called a Core Group. Its aim is to make sure that whatever has been identified within the Plan is actually happening.

Review Child Protection Conferences

Review Child Protection Conferences are held at least every six months and three months after the first Conference. The people at the Review Conference can alter the Child Protection Plan if they feel that something might work better if done in a different way. At each Conference there will be a discussion as to whether your child needs to remain on the Child Protection Register.

Access to your file

Everybody has a right to see their own file. If you wish to do so, please ask the social worker for information.

Confidentiality

All the information you give a social worker is confidential. If it is necessary for other professionals to become involved in assessing your needs we will need to share some information with them and we will ask your permission to do so. Information will always be shared if we feel your child is at risk of serious harm.

How to complain

The council has a complaints procedure. You can either pick up a leaflet from any of the Customer Services Centres or ask the social worker to give you one. If you want to complain about the Child Protection Conference itself you should fill out a leaflet called, '**Child Protection Conferences – Compliments, Comments, Complaints**'. This is available from your social worker.

If you would like this leaflet, providing information about the process for Child Protection Conferences in Haringey, in your own language please tick the box, complete and return this form to the Freepost address below.

Albanian

Nëse e doni në gjuhën tuaj këtë fletushkë që ju jep informata mbi procesin e Konferencave të Mbrojtjes së Fëmijëve në Haringey, ju lutem shëruani “✓” kutinë dhe ktheni këtë formular tek adresa e mëposhtme me Postim Falas:

Somali

Haddii aad rabto warqaddan ku sinaysa macluumaadka ku saabsan habka loo qabto kulanka ihsalinta caruurta ee Haringey, oo ku qoran luqaddaada fadlan calaamadi sariisuuqa, buuxi oo foomkan ku soo celi cinwaanka boostiiska la bixiyay ee hoose:

Kurdish

Ev tîflî, di derbarê pêvajoya ji bo Konferansên Parastina Zarokan ya li Haringeyê de, agahî dide. Hekê hun wê fîlîyê bi zimanê xwe dixwazin, ji kerema xwe qubûyê îşaret bikin, wê formê tîjî bikin û vegeîrin edîresa li jêr. Pûl hewce nake.

French

Si vous souhaitez obtenir ce dépliant qui fournit des informations sur les procédés des Conférences de Protection de l'Enfance à Haringey dans votre langue, veuillez cocher la case, compléter et renvoyer ce formulaire à l'adresse au port payé ci-dessous.

Bengali

যদি আপনি হারিংয়ে বাইল্ড প্রটেকশন কনফারেন্স সম্পর্কে আরও জানতে চান, তবে এই ফোল্ডারটি ফিরিয়ে আনুন। পূরণ করুন, তারপর এই ফর্মটি পূরণ করুন। এই ফোল্ডারটি ফিরিয়ে আনুন।

Turkish

Haringey'de Çocukları Koruma Konferansları ile ilgili bilgiler içeren bu broşürü kendi dilinizde istiyorsanız, lütfen karşılığın gerektirmediği bu formu aşağıda verilen, posta ücreti gerektirmeyen adrese gönderiniz.

Another language, please specify: _____

Please tell us if you would like a copy of this charter in any of the following formats, and send the form to the freepost address below.

In large print On disk On audio tape In Braille

Name: _____

Address: _____

Freepost RLXS-XZGT-UGRJ, Haringey Council Translation and Interpretation Services, 8th Floor, River Park House, 225 High Road, London N22 8HQ



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