

Child Protection

Understanding referrals and assessments



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

What is a referral?

A referral is when someone asks for a child, or children, to be given social work help. It is usually made by other professionals, such as teachers or doctors, but can also be made by family members, members of the public or by children themselves.

Referrals are made to the Referral & Assessment Teams within the Children & Young People's Service in Haringey. At the moment one is based in Hornsey and the other in Tottenham. Referrals from the west of Haringey are made to Hornsey and from the east to Tottenham. All referrals are followed up.

What happens when we follow up?

We will need to visit you to check that your children are safe. This process is called making an assessment of your child's needs and it is done by listening to what you have to say.

The social worker should:

- tell you their name and contact number, and which team they work in
- explain what will happen next
- ask for your consent to gather information, unless they feel your child is at risk of serious harm
- send you a copy of what you agreed and explain how you can see what is written on your file
- tell you how you can make a complaint

Different kinds of assessments

There are four different kinds of assessment that we use to find out what kind of services you need.

Common Assessment

A new common assessment framework will be introduced by 2008, which for some families will be the first kind of assessment of your needs that you experience. However, if a referral related to child protection is made your child will by-pass this stage and receive an initial assessment.

Initial Assessment

This is usually the kind of assessment that is done when a social worker first visits you. It is completed within 7 working days and it helps us to decide what kind of action we need to take. Sometimes additional services can be requested to help you as a result of the initial assessment and sometimes we will need more information.

Core Assessment

The core assessment is the way that we get more information about your situation. This assessment is longer and more detailed. It also involves talking to more people who are involved with you and your family. It should take 35 working days to complete. Once it is finished a plan is drawn up with you, explaining what help is needed and who will provide it. The child protection process is only initiated if it is felt that your child is at risk of serious harm.

Section 47 Assessments

Where there is a serious risk of significant harm to your child we will carry out what is known as a 'Section 47' assessment. 'Section 47' refers to part of the Children Act 1989, which introduced the idea of significant harm. See our leaflet 'The Child Protection Process' for more information.

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 would like this leaflet, providing information to help you understand Child Protection referrals and assessments, 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 për t'ju ndihmuar së kuptuar referimet dhe vlerësimet e Mbrojtjes së Fëmijës, ju lutem shkruani në kullinë dhe ktheni këtë formular tek adresa e mëposhtme më Postim Falas.

Somali

Haddii aad rabto warqaddan ku siinaysa macluumaadka kaa caawinaya sidii aad u fahmi lahayd gudbinta ku saabsan ilaalinta caruurta iyo qiimaynta, oo ku qoran laqaddasada fadlan caalamadii sanduuqa. Buuxi oo foomkan ku soo celi cinwaanka boostisa la badiyay ee hoosa.

Kurdish

Ev lîflet agahî dide, ji bo ku ew ji we re bibe alîkar, ku hun ji hewalekirin û nirxandinên Perastina Zarokan, fêm bikin. Haka hun wê lîfletê bi zimanê xwe dixwazin, ji kerema xwe guşyê îşaretî bikin, wê formê lîfî bikin û wegerînin adresa li jêr. Pûl hewce nake.

French

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

Bengali

এই ডকুমেন্টটি কীভাবে প্রক্রিয়াকরণ করা হবে এবং এটি শিশুদের সুরক্ষা বিষয়ে কীভাবে সাহায্য করবে, তা জানতে আপনি এই ফর্মটি পূরণ করে আমাদের কাছে ফেরত পাঠান।

Turkish

Çocukları Koruma amaçlı sevk ve değerlendirilmeleri anlamınıza yardımcı olacak bilgiler içeren bu broşürü kendi dilinizde istiyorsanız, lütfen kararı işaretleyip bu formu aşağıda verilen, posta ücretli gerektirmeyen adrese gönderebilirsiniz.

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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