

Angus Child Protection Multi-agency Guidelines

For Professional Staff

2025



Protecting People Angus
Strategic Committee

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1. INTRODUCTION

In December 2024, the Protecting People Angus Strategic Committee (PPASC) Practice and Policy Delivery Group reviewed our local Angus Child Protection guidance against the [National Child Protection guidance](#). The conclusion was that most of our current practice was aligned with the revised 2023 National Guidance and as such the local guidance would be reviewed to ensure that it directed practitioner to this.

The National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 ([updated 2023](#)) remains the best source for wider information and guidance about the over-arching legislative and policy framework within which all child protection instructions, policies, procedures, guidelines and practice are based. 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 childcare and/or protection concerns.

There are few circumstances when Angus has additional guidance to that in the National Guidance and the multi-agency workforce should refer to this local guidance when working with cases that involve these situations.

2. SPECIFIC LOCAL PRACTICE

2.1 Local practice around Initial referral Discussions (IRD's) and Child's Protection Planning Meetings (CPPM's).

The National Guidance is that IRD's should be held before all Child Protection Planning Meetings (CPPM). In Angus our local practice is that IRD's are held in cases 'where there are concerns that a child or young person is in need of care and protection from harm, abuse or neglect, or where there is a likelihood of, or risk of significant harm, abuse or neglect'.

In Angus, a Child Protection Planning Meeting (CPPM) can take place without an IRD being held in instances where families are already allocated to social work and there are significant concerns around neglect, cumulative concerns or following a pre-birth assessment being undertaken. In these circumstances social work teams should follow their Operational Instruction for Child Protection Investigation and Child Protection Planning Meeting's.

The local rationale for this is that, in cases which are already open to social work, there is already multi-agency information sharing and planning in place to agree a referral for a Child Protection Planning Meeting CPPM without the need for an IRD.

To support families more fully understand concerns and share their views, a PREpare meeting will be offered to the family prior to a CPPM, wherever possible to do so.

3. SPECIFIC LOCAL GUIDANCE

In Angus we have specific local guidance for the following circumstances;

- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - In Angus we use the [Tayside FGM Protocol](#) and [FGM Checklist](#).

- Honour Based Violence – In Angus we use the [Tayside HBV Protocol](#) and [HBV Checklist](#).
- Forced Marriage – In Angus we use the [Tayside Forced Marriage Protocol](#) and [Forced Marriage Checklist](#).
- Unborn Baby Guidance (UBB) - In Angus we use the [Tayside multi-agency UBB guidance](#)
- Local practice around Care and Risk Management (CARM) - [Angus Care and Risk Management Planning for Children and Young People guidance](#) should be used.

In Angus CARM is used to promote the care and risk management of children and young people presenting a risk of serious **harm to self** and others. This approach is specific to Angus, the National Guidance only discusses risk to others.

- Initial Referral Discussion's - In Angus we use the [Tayside IRD Guidance](#).

All other local multi-agency child protection guidance can be found of the [Professionals section of the Protecting People Angus Website](#). This is the best place to find the most up to date local information.

If no Angus specific guidance is available, then the National Guidance should be used alongside any local single agency policies and procedures.

4. 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
- Angus Council ACCESS Line – 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.

5. THE KEEPER OF THE CHILD PROTECTION REGISTER

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