



Workforce Brief No.7

Support in Pregnancy Pathway

Audience

- Professionals with lead responsibilities for child protection
- Practitioners required to contribute towards child protection processes
- Senior managers across all agencies,

Moray Children Services Partnership began implementing the National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland (2021) on 15 August 2022 - Updated 2023

We would like to inform you about improvements to our child protection processes over the coming months as part of the implementation program.

1. Support in Pregnancy Pathway

On the 1st of November 2023, Moray is introducing the Support in Pregnancy Pathway .

All children and young people have the right to be cared for, protected from harm and abuse, and to grow up in a safe environment in which their rights are respected and their needs are met. A number of children in Scotland, however, are born into families that may be considered in need of support. Children at risk of harm and poor wellbeing outcomes are often identifiable before birth. The early identification and mitigation of factors which may place an infant at risk during pregnancy and/or the postnatal period are crucial.

Moray's Support in Pregnancy Pathway, which has been developed in partnership with all agencies, outlines procedures for professionals working with pregnant women and birthing people where the pregnancy may be assessed as vulnerable in terms of wellbeing or child protection concerns. It implements relevant parts of the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2021 and aligns with key principles of GIRFEC and The Promise.

The procedure walks the practitioner through practice expectations when a pregnancy is deemed to be in need of support. It starts with assessment of need and risk (led by Health), outlines the initiation of the Support in Pregnancy Pathway (SiPP) by referral to Social Work, and clarifies tasks and responsibilities around multiagency meetings (for planning and protection) up until discharge. The appendices include a flowchart summarising the process and a toolkit to support practitioners.



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Child Protection Planning Meetings

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What does this mean for staff?

All Practitioners, Senior Social Workers/Management/Child Protection Leads are expected to follow the processes outlined by the Pathway from 1st November 2023.

The full Procedure is attached to this email and will be available on the partner agencies' respective intranets (as clarified by your child protection representative).

For more information, click [here](#) to read the national guidance.

Agency specific queries can be directed to your Child Protection representative:

Education: Lynne Riddoch & Hazel Sly

Social Work: Donna Borek & Lizette Van Zyl

Police: Graeme Forbes

Health: Joanna McAulay

Or email mcpc@moray.gov.uk with your questions and feedback.



Workforce briefings for the implementation of the [National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland 2021](#) in Moray. Brought to you on behalf of the Moray Child Protection Committee.

