**Edinburgh, Lothians and Scottish Borders Child Protection Procedures - Consultation 2023**

The Edinburgh, Lothians and Scottish Borders Child Protection Procedures (2023) are for anyone who comes into contact with, or works with children, young people or families. They outline the formal processes that should be followed whenever there are concerns about risk of significant harm.

The Procedures are based on the National Guidance for Child Protection Scotland 2021, and follow its structure.  They will replace the Inter-agency Child Protection Procedures Edinburgh and the Lothians and Scottish Borders Child Protection Procedures.

The Procedures have been developed by a number of professionals from the five local authority areas, and we are now seeking to consult on a wider basis. On behalf of your local Child Protection Committee, the Lead Officer for Child Protection for your area has asked you to respond on behalf of your service/area of specialism.

Please note that the final Procedures will also include local contact details, elements of Part 4 (specific support needs and concerns) and hyperlinks to relevant legislation/National Guidance.  At this stage we are not consulting on this aspect of the Procedures.

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**NOTE: Overview of National Guidance**

*The National Guidance, at 276 pages, is structured in four parts:*

*Part 1 – the context for child protection – including a focus on support to prevent harm*

*Part 2 – Roles and responsibilities for child protection and approach to multi-agency assessment in child protection*

*Part 3 – identifying and responding to concerns about children*

*Part 4 – specific support needs and concerns, and appendices including references, sources and legislation.*

*The National Guidance also has a Practice Insights document, which provides information and resources about specific topics relating to child protection.*

**Consultation Questions**

Edinburgh, Lothians and Scottish Borders Child Protection Procedures – Your area response

**Your name**

Free text memo box

**Your e-mail contact details**

Free text memo box

**What team/service are you responding for**?

Free text memo box

**Do the Procedures provide sufficient information on when Child  Protection Procedures need to be used?**

 Choose one of the following answers

* Yes
* To some extent
* No

If you have responded To Some Extent or No, and if there are any specific gaps or suggested amendments, please include them here

Free text memo box

**Do the Procedures make it sufficiently make clear what a Child Protection concern is as well as when and how a referral should be made under Child Protection?**

 Choose one of the following answers

* Yes
* To some extent
* No

If you have responded To Some Extent or No, and if there are any specific gaps or suggested amendments, please include them here

Free text memo box

**Is the flow of the Procedures logical?**

 Choose one of the following answers

* Yes
* To some extent
* No

**Does the overall tone of the Procedures reflect the national principles around GIRFEC, UNCRC and a rights based approach, and the multi-agency nature of Child Protection?**

 Choose one of the following answers

* Yes
* To some extent
* No

If you have responded To Some Extent or No, and if there are any specific gaps or suggested amendments, please include them here

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**Are there any practices or processes that are not fully or clearly described in the procedures?**

 Choose one of the following answers

* Yes
* To some extent
* No

If so, please state which processes/practices are not fully or clearly described and suggest how the description could be improved

Free text memo box

**If you have identified any other gaps, what specifically would be beneficial to include?**

Free text memo box