

SSCB Top Tips When Making Referrals into Children's Social Care

If you think the child(ren) needs a Social Worker (child protection/child in need intervention) – please telephone the Customer Service Network on 0191 520 5560

If you don't think the child(ren) need a social worker have you considered support for the family through Strengthening Families (CAF)?

Do you ensure your concern is current – not just historic?

Do you provide evidence that you have looked at other routes or support/services prior to safeguarding (if appropriate)?

Do you provide as much information and detail as possible ie what signs and symptoms is the child(ren) presenting?



What is life like for ME?

If it is a child protection referral, do you provide evidence that the child(ren) is at risk of significant harm?

If appropriate, do you include the views of the child?

If it doesn't put the child(ren) at risk have you informed parents/carers?

If a child is potentially at risk of harm (eg alleges parent has hit him/her and has an injury) PLEASE telephone Customer Service Network on 0191 520 5560 and make them aware, rather than just completing paperwork and sending it in. Children's Services can act on verbal information to safeguard a child so long as they receive the written referral within 24 hours

If you answer NO to any of these questions WHAT are YOU going to do about it? REMEMBER safeguarding children/young people is EVERYONE'S responsibility. For more information please visit the SSCB Website on: www.sunderlandscb.com

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