



Midlothian



West Lothian
Council



Lothian and Borders Police



SCOTTISH
CHILDREN'S REPORTER
ADMINISTRATION

You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats if you ask us. Please contact ITS on 0131 242 8181 and quote reference number 05709. ITS can also give information on community language translations.

تزدك هذه الكراسة بالمعلومات عن إرسال توجيهات جديدة للوكالات حول حماية الأطفال الذين يعيشون في عائلات تعاني من مشاكل المخدرات والكحول في إدنبرة ومنطقة لوذيان والتغيرات التي قد تلاحظها حين تتصل بالخدمات المحلية. للمعلومات حول ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى لغة جاليتك الرجاء الاتصال بمكتب خدمة الترجمة الفورية والتحريرية على رقم الهاتف 0131 242 8181 وذكر الإشارة رقم 05709

這小冊子告知閣下有關於在愛丁堡市及路芙茵各區進行保護生活在有毒品及酒精問題家庭兒童工作的機構而引入之新指引；以及當閣下與本區服務提供者聯繫時可能會注意到之改變。如欲查詢本文件的翻譯資訊，請電愛丁堡市議會傳譯及翻譯服務部(ITS)及說明檔案編號05709，電話：0131 242 8181。

এডিনবরা এবং লোডিয়ানে যে সকল পরিবারের মদ্যপান এবং মাদকদ্রব্য গ্রহণ করবার সমস্যা রয়েছে তাদের সাথে বসবাসরত ছেলেমেয়েদের নিরাপত্তা স্বত্বকে এই স্টিপেন্ডে সংস্থাদের জন্য নতুন নির্দেশাবলী আরম্ভ করবার ব্যাপারে তথ্য দেওয়া আছে এবং আপনি যখন স্থানীয় কার্যসেবার সাথে যোগাযোগ করেন তখন যেসব পরিবর্তন লক্ষ্য করতে পারেন সেটাও এখানে দেওয়া দেওয়া আছে। আপনার সম্প্রদায়ের ভাষায় এই দলিলপত্রের অনুবাদের ব্যাপারে তথ্য পেতে হলে ইন্টারপ্রিটেশন এ্যান্ড ট্রান্সলেশন সার্ভিস -এর সাথে 0131 242 8181 নম্বরে ফোন করে রেফারেন্স নম্বর 05709 উল্লেখ করুন।

یہ کتابچہ آپ کو ایڈنبرا اور لوڈیان میں ایجنسیوں کیلئے نشیات اور الکحل کے مسائل والے خاندانوں کے ساتھ رہنے والے بچوں کی حفاظت کے متعلق رہنما ہدایات فراہم کرتا ہے اور ان تبدیلیوں کے بارے میں بتاتا ہے جو آپ غالباً مقامی سرورسز سے رابطہ قائم کرتے وقت دیکھیں گے۔ اپنی کیونٹی میں بولی جانے والی زبان میں اس دستاویز کے ترجمے کے متعلق معلومات کیلئے برائے مہربانی انٹرپرائیٹس اینڈ ٹرانسلیٹیشن سروس (ITS) کو 0131 242 8181 پر کال کریں اور ریفرنس نمبر 05709 کا حوالہ دیں۔

Introducing new
guidelines on
protecting
children living
in families
with alcohol and
drug problems

Information for service users

August 2005

تعالی من مشاکل المخدرات والكحول توجیہات جدیدة لحماية الأطفال الذین یعیشون فی عائلات
"保護生活在有毒品及酒精問題家庭之兒童"新指引 給服務使用者的資訊
ہے سکل পরিবারের মদ্যপান এবং মাদকদ্রব্য গ্রহণ করবার সমস্যা রয়েছে তাদের
সাথে বসবাসরত ছেলেমেয়েদের নিরাপত্তার নতুন নির্দেশিকা সেবা ব্যবহারকারীদের জন্য তথা
سروس استعمال کرنے والوں کیلئے معلومات نئیات اور اطفال کے مسائل کے خاندانوں کے ساتھ رہنے والے بچوں کی حفاظت کے متعلق رہنماویات

Why have these new guidelines been produced?

There is evidence that problem drug and alcohol use¹ by parents or guardians affects (unborn) babies and children. Therefore we need to work together to ensure the welfare of (unborn) babies and children living in families with problem substance use.

These new guidelines inform all agencies and staff about what is expected of them, and how they can best work together in the interest of children. They apply to everyone who works with children and families and those that work with drug and alcohol users in Edinburgh and the Lothians.

What do the guidelines aim to achieve?

The guidelines will help to:

- ensure that children whose parents or guardians attend drug or alcohol services have their needs responded

to, and that they are protected from harm

- encourage parents to make contact with treatment and rehabilitation services and get the help they need so that they can look after their children as well as possible
- explain the ways in which pregnant women with substance use problems can be supported before, during and after the baby's birth
- ensure that all staff involved in supporting children and their parents can work together in the best way possible.

Our aim is to work together with parents to reduce risk to children.

How will this change the way staff work with you from now on?

Parents and guardians may experience a difference, because:

- you will be asked about

your responsibilities for children when you attend drug or alcohol services for the first time

- you will be asked about your drug or alcohol use when you attend services for children and families
- you will be encouraged to be open about the needs of your children as well as your own needs as a parent.

All agencies and staff will work in a different way than previously, because:

- they have an explicit shared responsibility to ensure children are safe
- they will discuss with you in an open and honest way what is expected of you as a parent, and tell you what help is available
- they will try and take action at an early stage to avoid problems developing later
- they will always discuss with you what action is to be taken in the interest of

the children

- they will share information about you and your children with other agencies if necessary – but will always inform you of this in advance
- they will help you to continue to make use of services
- they will attempt to keep families together as long as possible, but will explain in advance what the limits are and the points at which they will take compulsory action with the children, and why they are doing so.

What will all this mean in practice?

The guidelines set out the action that staff will take if they are concerned about a child whose parents misuse drugs or alcohol.

When you are seen for the first time, you will be asked whether or not you have responsibility for any children

and, if so, information about those children, and whether or not any member of the family is in contact with other agencies. There are three possible actions staff will take depending on whether they have identified:

No concerns about the child(ren)

In this case you will be encouraged to continue to make use of services for help and advice.

Some concerns about the welfare of the child

In this case they will agree a 'family support plan' with you, which will be coordinated by a 'lead professional' such as a social worker, health visitor or midwife.

The child is at risk and needs to be protected

In this case they will refer the child to Child Protection services for assessment and support.

What you need to bear in mind is that ...

We want to work with you to make sure that your children are safe and well and receive the best possible care.

We want to support you to accept help, and benefit from the services available.

If you have any concerns about the way you or your child are being treated, discuss your concerns with your caseworker and their manager in the agency. You can pursue the matter further through the agency's Complaints and Suggestions Procedure.

A copy of the full Guidelines can be obtained from any one of the agencies with whom you are in contact.

¹ 'Problem drug and alcohol use' refers to drug or alcohol use (dependent or recreational) which causes social, financial, health, or legal problems.