A colorful bird made of triangles

Description automatically generated**Falkirk Children’s Services Planning Partnership**

**Pathway for Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children & Young People**

**The impact of Trauma**

When referring to and implementing this guidance it is important for all workers to recognise that children and young people entering the UK are often seeking asylum for a wide variety of reasons. They have often endured and experienced long, difficult and dangerous journeys to arrive here and may have experienced significant forms of violence and exploitation, often with very little food, water and sleep. Professionals who are working to support these young people should be mindful of the impact of trauma and adopt a trauma informed approach at each stage of intervention along the pathway.

**Scottish Government National Transfer Scheme**

The National Transfer Scheme was mandated by the Home Office in October 2022. For every 450 children that arrive in the UK, Scotland has an allocation of 90 children and young people.

The allocation to each Local Authority is dependent upon the percentage of the Looked After population.

There are significant challenges to undertaking preparation and planning given that allocation timescales remain highly unpredictable whilst demanding a highly responsive service. Over the course of 2024, Falkirk Children’s Services Partnership welcomed 24 young people. On this basis we would anticipate further allocations of approximately 12 children and young people each year.

Currently arrivals of children and young people are via Kent Council or The Port Authority with an initial Border Force interview taking place facilitated by an interpreter. This is a very basic interview which includes limited information around family/cultural and health needs. Most children and young people arriving in the UK, will initially be housed in hotels in and around Kent awaiting transfer to another authority.

**Current provision**

Most young people who have arrived in Falkirk to date are 30 young people (20 males /1 female), with the youngest reported as being 14 years of age.

There is a wide range of cultures, religious believes and cultural norms represented.

Due to pressures on local resources some of the young people who have been allocated to the care of Falkirk are currently placed outside the local area, across the central belt and Tayside areas.

**Notification Process**

Currently the local authority receives formal notification of allocation and mandated referral for a child or young person via Email from COSLA. This is received by the Team Manager of the Initial Response Team, Locality Manager Children’s Services, and Team Manager, Leaving Care Team. Creation of the child or young person's records on liquid logic will be actioned by the Initial Response Team.

The Local Authority is provided with 2 files for each child or young person which details limited basic Border Force interview (name, age gender) together with the information gathered at initial interview. If a child has been waiting transfer for some time, there may be additional information provided by social services.

Legally, the local authority has 10 days from receipt of notification to support a child or young person into placement. Currently, if transfer takes place within 5 days from notification, the local authority receives a payment of £5,000. This payment increases to £10,000 if placement takes place within 2 days.

**Sourcing a care Placement (finding a new home)**

Upon receipt of notification, a referral is immediately progressed to the Family Placement Team to source a suitable placement for the child or young person. It is recognised that there is currently a severe shortage of placement availability to accommodate a child at such short notice and within the legal timescales required.

Matching and placing requirements can be challenging given the limited information that is available.

The Family Placement Team will commence a search for a suitable local foster carer, residential or supported carers availability in the first instance, widening the search to include external resources if no local resources are available. The type of placement sought will be dependent on the age of the child or young person. At this point the child or young person will continue to remain housed in a hotel.

If, for any reason placing the child or young person occurs out with required timescales, a letter of non-compliance may be issued by the Home Office who also have recourse to additional, unspecified sanctions. It is therefore vital to notify COSLA of any delay and the responsible Locality Manager will then liaise with the Home Office.

Once a placement has been identified social work will attempt to gather as much information as possible. Some pictures and information of the identified placement will be sent to young person in advance in preparation for the move. If they are moving to Falkirk, they will be sent a welcome booklet about the Falkirk Area.

Social work will also send details of the placement to COSLA along with the name and contact details of who will be present on arrival i.e. The name and address of the carer and contact phone number that can be shared with the transport provider.

The child or young person then travels unaccompanied to their placement by taxi.

The child or young person remains the responsibility of the Home Office until they have arrived safely in Falkirk.

Some young people have refused to travel (i.e. being split up from peers). If refusal happens the child or young person is not forced to travel, and Falkirk does not take any further action.

A new referral will be sent by CoSLA to allow Falkirk to fulfil its obligations from the rota.

**Family Reunification**

Evidence shows that a nurturing family-based setting has numerous benefits for children’s wellbeing and development when compared to other alternative forms of care.

A child may arrive unaccompanied in the UK but provide information that they have a family member or person whom they have a pre existing relationship. Children and Families Social work should make every effort to identify the individual and make and assessment as to whether it would be in the best interest of the child to be reunited with them and the suitability of the adult. Links should be made with the kinship care team and a referral submitted to progress any kinship assessment.

Statutory duties are clearly defined in [The Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2009/210/regulation/10/made) in relation to assessing possible Kinship Care options for care experienced children.

**Age Disputes**

In many different countries and cultures, age is an unimportant feature or identifier for children and young people. Young people often arrive in the UK with no formal documentation or often potential documents are seen as unreliable. In some cases, a child or young person’s stated age and apparent age are different. Workers should be aware that young people may have been advised or coerced to lie by someone whom they have trusted. The impact of trauma and their difficult journey to the UK will have also impact on someone’s physical appearance.

**First stage a brief enquiry**

A first stage brief enquiry is an information gathering exercise involving an initial contact with a child or young person. Any first contact with a young person, should include safeguarding especially if they state they are a child in an adult provision where they are vulnerable to significant exploitation in these environments. It is also good practice to ensure that an appropriate adult is present for all brief enquiries.

* A first meeting will include discussion on potential outcomes, is young person lead by obtaining background information via an interpreter. Demeanour responses are included in the assessment. All meetings will be carried out by the same NTS worker from the throughcare and aftercare team and a social worker from IRT. Both workers will be trained in Age Assessment. This meeting will aim to take place within 48hrs of a referral for age dispute. Safeguarding and safety planning should take place to ensure that the immediate risks for the young person within their accommodation are assessed and responded to robustly and documented. At this point discussion should take place with The regional Safeguarding team by email: [zafar.mohammed@mearsgroup.co.uk](mailto:zafar.mohammed@mearsgroup.co.uk) detailing your initial assessment and safety plan for the young person claiming age dispute.
* The second visit would include gathering a timeline etc. What are their expectations of being here, and advising what children services provides. Before this meeting information will be sought from home office by contacting: [HomeOfficeAgeDisputes@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:HomeOfficeAgeDisputes@homeoffice.gov.uk).
* The third meeting is an opportunity to allow the young person to further clarify any information.

Children and young people should be given the benefit of the doubt after any assessments takes place, this means that where they claim to be a child and the brief enquiry agrees they, should be treated as one and provided with appropriate accommodation and support. The brief enquiry will be documented and saved onto LCS with the Child allocated as appropriate by the lead interviewer. Information will, then be sent from ThroughCare to the Home Office advising them of the outcome off assesment.

**Age Assessments**

Age assessment must be led by a registered social worker. The second worker can be a social work assistant. Both workers must have competed the age assessment training.

The Home office age dispute team must be contacted and asked to provide what information they hold. [HomeOfficeAgeDisputes@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:HomeOfficeAgeDisputes@homeoffice.gov.uk)

We do have an option to refer into the National Age Assessment Board (NAB) to complete an age assessment if we really need to.

If assessed by the Initial Response Team that a Child is under the age of 18 years of age, then they will continue to be Looked After and Accommodated, and the Home Office will be notified by them.

Please see **Appendix 1** for an example information sharing proforma for the home office.

[Age Assessment Practice Guidance for Scotland (migrationscotland.org.uk)](https://www.migrationscotland.org.uk/uploads/documents/Age%20Assessment%20Guidance%202018.pdf)

[The age assessment process - Coram (childrenslegalcentre.com)](https://www.childrenslegalcentre.com/resources/age-assessment/)

**UASC Under 16 years of age**

If a child under 16 years of age arrives under the National Transfer Scheme, they will be allocated to the Initial Response Team for initial assessment and then transferred to the locality team as looked after and accommodated for an allocated social worker, to ensure that the statutory requirements are met in terms of reviews etc. Children will be allocated to locality teams on a rotational basis to ensure equity of allocation.

**Young People seeking asylum through other routes**

Not all young people seeking asylum within Falkirk have come through the National Transfer Scheme. Spontaneous arrivals are young people who make their first claim to seek asylum in Falkirk. They may have been trafficked directly to Falkirk or absconded from another local authority.

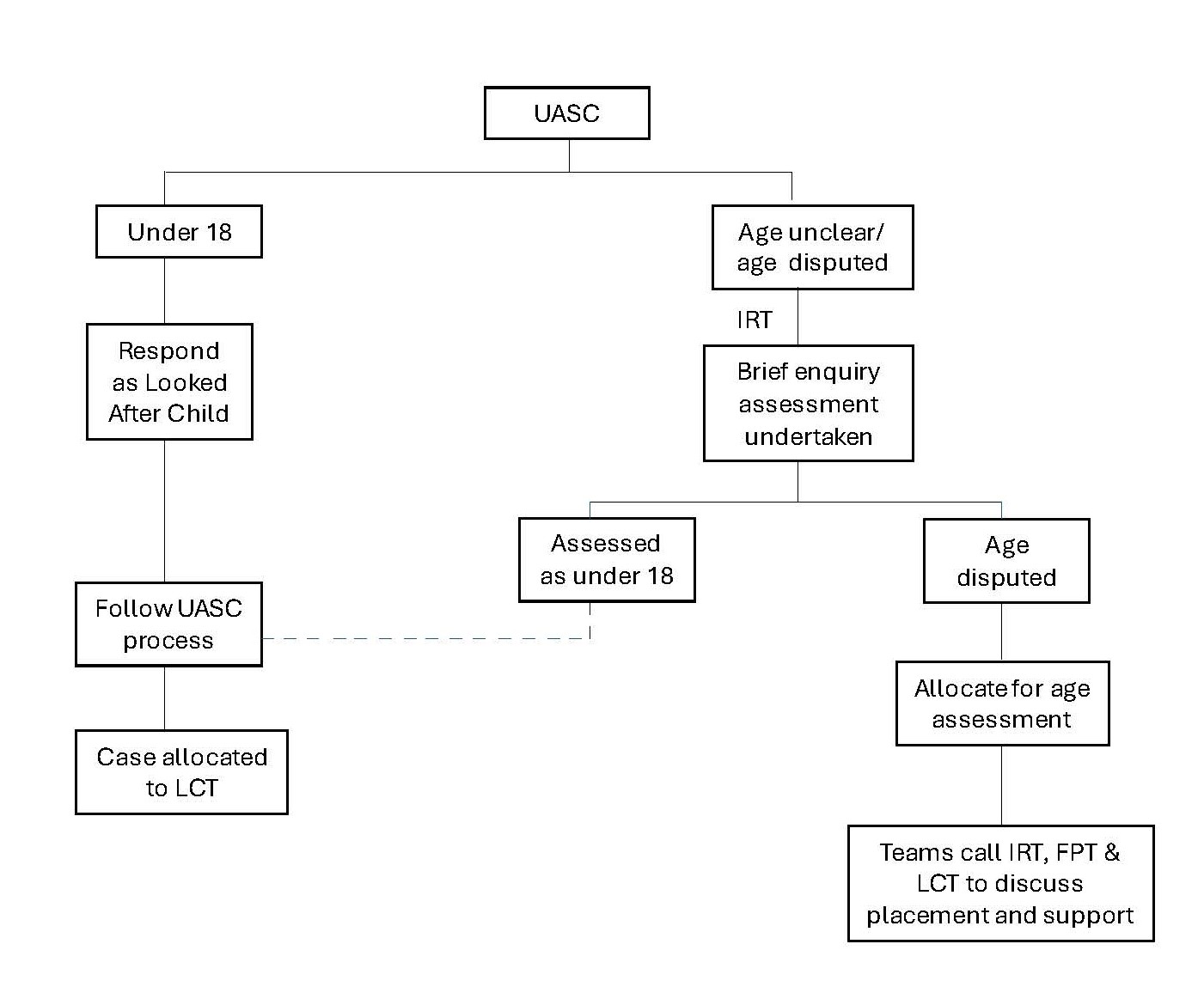
For children under 16 years of age who are spontaneous arrivals, they will be allocated to the locality team in which they present.

There are also young people who have been assessed as over 18 by the Home Office and placed in adult dispersal hotel accommodation within Falkirk, who then claim to be under 18 years of age. Even if the young person claims to be under 18 at the first meeting, the Home Office can deem them to be adults if they have no documentation. This is determined on assessing their physical appearance and demeanour. It is not a full and holistic assessment.

**It is extremely important that age assessments are only carried out where there is significant reason to doubt the claimant’s age.** The young person should be given the benefit of doubt until assessment is undertaken and provided with both accommodation and support. The Local authority can be subject to significant legal challenge for not doing so.

[S, R (on the application of) v London Borough of Croydon & Anor | [2017] EWHC 265 (Admin) | England and Wales High Court (Administrative Court) | Judgment | Law | CaseMine](https://www.casemine.com/judgement/uk/5a8ff73860d03e7f57ea9e08)

Even if the Home Office is treating someone as an adult, if a referral is made to children’s services, then the local authority must make their own decision as to the young person’s age.  Local authority can accept the Young Person’s claim of age without an age assessment following a brief enquiry. Decision to undertake an age assessment should be made on individual basis, if there is significant doubt about the young person’s age claim. The child should be supported as a child whilst the assessment is being undertaken, and it is also good practice to ensure that an appropriate adult is present for all brief enquiries.



**Support for Young People Seeking Asylum**

Support to young people will be provided via the Leaving Care Service who will arrange an initial meeting with the child or young person within 24 hours of arrival (or next working day).

The initial meeting and introductions will take place at the foster carers home or residential placement. The social work assistants will be the allocated worker (named worker) and will progress referrals to health; education etc and work with the foster carers or placement to settle the child or young person.

Allocated workers will continue to undertake placement visits to the child or young person. An Assessment of Need using the National Assessment Framework will be undertaken, recognising that each young person will require individualised support and a trauma informed response.

**Translation Services**

Currently **Global Connect** is the preferred service for use by Children’s Services (contracted for Falkirk exclusive). Interpretation support can be provided by either Teams call or telephone service.

If any issues are encountered with the provision of service these should be reported to a Service Manager in the first instance. In exceptional circumstances, alternative provision may be authorised.

If Global Connect are unable to assist the following providers may be called in the order set out below;

2nd Ranked:

Global Language Services Limited

Interpreting:

Telephone – 0141 429 3429 (24 hours)

Email – [mail@globalglasgow.com](mailto:mail@globalglasgow.com)

Translation:

Telephone 0141 465 8828

Email – [translations@globalglasgow.com](mailto:translations@globalglasgow.com)

3rd Ranked:

DA Languages Limited

DA Languages Client Implementation team:

Email: [implementations@dalanguages.co.uk](mailto:implementations@dalanguages.co.uk)

If any issues are encountered with the provision of service these should be reported to the responsible locality manager in the first instance.

**72-hour Planning Meeting – Care Experienced**

Once a child or young person has become Looked After & Accommodated under Section 25, a 72-hour planning meeting will be held.

A referral to the Guardianship Service will take place within the first week and they will assist with the young person’s Asylum application which will be progressed, and legal advice will be provided. The Guardianship Service can provide legal and befriending advice.

Referrals to GP / Dentist/ Health will be progressed.

A multi-agency Child’s Plan will be developed and subject to Review (at 3 then 6 monthly intervals) through the Looked After process.

**Child Protection/ Exploitation Concerns**

Where child protection and/or child exploitation concerns are raised an Inter-Agency Referral Discussion will take place to assess risk. If there are concerns around trafficking or exploitation, a referral will be made a referral following the IRD to the National Referral mechanism (NRM) Further information regarding Human Trafficking can be found within our FV Child Trafficking Guidance and CSE guidance.

**When to Refer to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM)**

The NRM is the UK-wide framework for identifying and supporting victims of human trafficking or modern slavery, including children subjected to sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, or trafficking.

Under Section 38 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015, professionals have a duty to notify the NRM if they have reasonable grounds to believe a child may be a victim of trafficking or exploitation.

**Referral to the NRM is required when:**

* A child is moved between locations (within or across borders) for the purpose of exploitation, including being:
  + Collected or transported to various addresses
  + Placed in hotels, flats, or vehicles by exploiters
  + Accompanied by adults who are not family or carers, with concerns about exploitation
* There is evidence or concern the child is being controlled, coerced, or manipulated for sexual activity
* The child has been found engaging in sexual activity in exchange for items or substances
* The child is recruited to exploit others or is part of a coordinated group/network
* There are indicators of modern slavery or criminal exploitation alongside CSE (e.g., County Lines)
* The child is not able to remove themselves from a situation of exploitation due to fear, threat, or grooming

**NRM Referral Process**

* All children under 18 must be referred via a First Responder agency (e.g. Police, Local Authority, Health).
* Child consent is not required for referral.
* The referral should be made at the point of concern.
* Use the NRM online portal and select child-specific pathway.
* A multi-agency approach should inform the referral and support plan

Further information on the role of first responders can be found here: [National Referral Mechanism Toolkit March 2021.pdf](https://www.migrationscotland.org.uk/uploads/National%20Referral%20Mechanism%20Toolkit%20March%202021.pdf)

**Referral to Education Service**

Where the child or young person is placed out with the Local Authority catchment area there is an expectation that they will be enrolled in a local provision.

Educational Psychology will be aware of those who are attending educational placements out with Falkirk.

Falkirk would offer enrolment within mainstream education provision, with an assessment of additional needs taking place in situ.

ASN Advisor, Education Services, is seeking to establish education links where children and young people are living out of authority.

**Forth Valley College**

Forth Valley College has full time, part time and a school link SQA courses for ESOL learners from SCQF level 3. Residency checks are required for full time and part time students on all FVC courses.

If the young person is enrolled in school, Forth Valley College can accept them onto the school link course without residency checks being required, however there is a level requirement to be accepted on this course.

FVC Full time ESOL for employability course is open for applications in October and Part Time courses are open in May. Out with these times students can only be taken on if there is capacity.

**Health Pathway**

Please see below link to a new Initial Health Assessment Request form for new NTS Young People, please complete pages 1-4 and send it to;

[***fv.womenandchildren-adoptionandfostering@nhs.scot***](mailto:fv.womenandchildren-adoptionandfostering@nhs.scot)

**CAMHS**

The pathway for referral is the same for this patient group as it would be for other patient groups i.e. there needs to be an initial referral from the general practice into the service where they will review and consider if the referral meets the required threshold.

Referrals will be prioritised based on individual needs assessment and clinical need.

**Skills Development Scotland**



Currently there is an established link between SDS and the Leaving Care Team. Referrals can be made by the social work assistant once the young person is seeking access to further education training, volunteering, and/or employment and one to one support, advice, careers information and guidance will be provided.

Careers advice is available in school and out with school in the SDS office from SDS’s professionally qualified Careers Guidance Advisers who guide and advise individuals of all routes, pathways, and opportunities available and support them to make informed and confident decisions about their future. SDS work closely with local employers, Falkirk Council Employment and Training Unit, local Jobcentres and Developing Scotland's Young Workforce co-ordinators.

It should be noted that children and young people cannot work legally whilst they are seeking asylum as this increases their risk of exploitation.

College funding status – once the young person has been granted the right to remain, they have access to funding for college placements.

**Barnardo’s Service**

Barnardo’s Scotland Welcome Service is a national service working with families seeking sanctuary in Scotland including UASC.Theservice works closely with local authority and third sector partners to ensure that the service delivery meets the emerging needs and endeavours to ensure that there is no duplication or complication. Group work can be developed and facilitated if this is thought to be required.

On referral Barnardo’s Welcome Service will work alongside partners to assess and establish any in gaps in provision, particularly around social integration, mental health and wellbeing and individual supports. The Barnardo’s service hub, Watling Lodge is an available to book to use at no cost for undertaking direct work in a safe therapeutic space.

There is an offer of group work sessions to provide social and emotional support as well as practical help and the service will provide transport for children and young people where required.

**Red Cross**

STAR (Short-Term Asylum Response) What does it offer?

Asylum support applications and appeals. The STAR project primarily prepares applications for financial support and accommodation from the Home Office and appeals to the Asylum Support Tribunal when this is refused. It also makes appropriate referrals or advocacy when the Home Office are unwilling to provide support.

Who can you refer?

* Refer if someone is:
* in need of financial support and accommodation; and
* appears to have entitlement to such support; or
* in need of support submitting an asylum support appeal.

For this purpose, provide a summary of the status of their legal case or other barriers to removal, together with evidence (such as any appeal or judicial review).

**Youth Support Service (for 16–24-year-olds*)***

Young asylum seekers arrive in Glasgow every day, often without any family support. Because they are over 18, they are considered adults and expected to live independently, adapt to a new city and navigate complex systems and processes, often while struggling to come to terms with the loss of family and the impact of traumatic experiences.

The Youth Support Service provides specialised practical and emotional support to vulnerable young people. The trained caseworkers will aim to build an environment of trust and support the young person to build a life in Glasgow, to stay safe and improve their feelings of wellbeing and resilience to the multiple challenges they face. One to one support and advocacy Practical and emotional support (including accompanying) enabling young people to:

* Access/engage with services (incl. physical/mental health, post-trauma support, homelessness, social work, destitution, legal services) and opportunities available to them (incl. education, volunteering, sports, arts, community activities)
* understand the complex systems they journey through (including legal processes, financial support and welfare systems) This can specifically include:
* accompanying to key legal and Home Office appointments
* supporting the young person to build a support network and an understanding of where they can go to get help.

Advocacy support enabling young people to:

* access their rights and entitlements.
* have their voice heard and contribute to decisions that affect their lives.

Who can you refer?

Any vulnerable young person aged 16-24 can be referred to the Youth Support Service if they are from a refugee background but the service will particularly prioritise young people who fall into one or more of the following categories.

* Vulnerable and with complex needs, lacking support from other agencies
* Exhibiting signs of having experienced trauma
* Very low knowledge of systems and processes and lack of life skills
* Age disputed young people, assessed as over-18, without age-appropriate support
* Potential survivors of trafficking
* Under 20 years old



**Guardianship Scotland: National Child Trafficking Support Service**

**Guardianship Scotland** is a specialist statutory service providing Independent Child Trafficking Guardians (ICTG) to all unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, victims of trafficking and children vulnerable to trafficking who arrive in Scotland. We deliver this in partnership with Aberlour and Scottish Refugee Council on behalf of the Scottish Government.

[Aberlour | Guardianship Scotland: National Child Trafficking Support Service](https://www.aberlour.org.uk/get-help/guardianship-scotland)

Under s11 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Scotland) Act 2015, all unaccompanied asylum seeking and trafficked children in Scotland are entitled to be referred to Guardianship Scotland. Scottish Local Authorities have a duty to refer Children and Young People as soon as reasonably practicable to the service.

**Eligibility Criteria**

 We will accept referrals for any child or young person who is:

* Under 18 years of age and
* Separated from both parents and not being cared for by an adult who in law or by custom has responsibility to do so and
* In the care of a Scottish Local Authority
* Trafficked, has indicators of trafficking or is at risk of being trafficked (this includes **ALL** unaccompanied asylum-seeking children).

Young people remain eligible for support from Guardianship Scotland until three months after they have either been granted leave to remain (Refugee Status/Humanitarian Protection) and/or have received a conclusive ground trafficking decision.

**How can we help?**

Our Guardians help children and young people to seek safety and protection and settle into a new life in Scotland. They help young people cope with being apart from their families in a strange, new country. This support can include:

Navigating the complex trafficking, asylum, welfare, criminal justice, and age assessment processes ensuring decisions are taken in the best interests of the child.

* Building trusting relationships with young people and support them to make informed decisions about their future.
* Working collaboratively with other professionals to safeguard children.
* Upholding children’s rights by listening to them and acting as advocates on their behalf.
* Providing both practical advice and emotional support

Any local authority or agency in Scotland can make a referral to Guardianship Scotland.

To refer a young person, fill out [**The Guardianship Scotland Referral Form**](https://web-backend.aberlour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/OCT_22_Scottish-Guardianship-Service-Aberlour-referral-form-1.doc) **or contact us on 0141 445 8659 or email** [guardianship@aberlour.org.uk](mailto:guardianship@aberlour.org.uk)

 Please note: We cannot accept referrals from age-disputed young people until they are in the local authority’s care. However, we can provide advice and information to supporting agencies.

***Useful Links & Contacts***

[Assessing age (accessible) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assessing-age-instruction/assessing-age-accessible)

[Unaccompanied children - Refugees and asylum seekers - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)](https://www.gov.scot/policies/refugees-and-asylum-seekers/unaccompanied-children/)

[Children and Young People - Scottish Refugee Council](https://scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/direct-support/children-and-young-people/)

[Inter-Agency Guidance For Child Trafficking - Child Trafficking Assessment National Referral Mechanism (glowscotland.org.uk)](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/public/fvpp/uploads/sites/9924/2019/08/14154312/Inter-Agency-National-Reference-Mechanism-for-Child-Trafficking.pdf)

[National Referral Mechanism Toolkit March 2021 – Forth Valley Practitioner Pages (glowscotland.org.uk)](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/fvpp/national-referral-mechanism-toolkit-march-2021/)

[Trafficking – Forth Valley Practitioner Pages (glowscotland.org.uk)](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/glowblogs/fvpp/forth-valley-public-protection/trafficking/)

[Child-Trafficking-and-CCE-Guidance.docx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fblogs.glowscotland.org.uk%2Fglowblogs%2Fpublic%2Ffvpp%2Fuploads%2Fsites%2F9924%2F2021%2F11%2F14154728%2FChild-Trafficking-and-CCE-Guidance.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

[Forth-Valley-IRD-Guidance-Final.docx (live.com)](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fblogs.glowscotland.org.uk%2Fglowblogs%2Fpublic%2Ffvpp%2Fuploads%2Fsites%2F9924%2F2023%2F09%2F18164855%2FForth-Valley-IRD-Guidance-Final.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

[Unaccompanied children seeking asylum and child trafficking - Child protection - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)](https://www.gov.scot/policies/child-protection/unaccompanied-children-seeking-asylum-and-child-trafficking/)

[Scottish Government launches New Scots Welcome Pack (spnet.local)](https://links.uk.defend.egress.com/Warning?crId=65cdec15ee1cc6240d3d7623&Domain=falkirk.gov.uk&Lang=en&Base64Url=eNoVyjEOwjAMBdATOd65ABuqxMBsGYtEuI7Fd1uOX1ifXq9KXJiRoyHDqvlUcc7pQw06yyWeHHaAF3kZ-P6zGuh0nbt9YrUoctlCu4FudtA_gB7mOlejRfTdBPk9AWyZKCg%3D&@OriginalLink=https://spi.spnet.local/policescotland/news/Pages/Scottish-Government-launches-New-Scots-Welcome-Pack.aspx)

Good practice guidance - [Age\_Assessment\_Guidance\_2015\_Final.pdf (childrenslegalcentre.com)](https://www.childrenslegalcentre.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Age_Assessment_Guidance_2015_Final.pdf)

care4calais.org

Scottish Borders Human Trafficking and Exploitation Guidance [Scottish Borders Human Trafficking and Exploitation-Aug2024.pdf](file:///C:/Users/GILLIANMILLAR/OneDrive%20-%20Falkirk%20Council/Scottish%20Borders%20Human%20Trafficking%20and%20Exploitation-Aug2024.pdf)

**Appendix 1**

**Information Sharing Proforma**

**Falkirk Council and the Home Office**

regarding

**OUTCOME OF AGE ASSESSMENT FOR**

‘ *full names and any aka’,*

country of origin *(delete grey text)*

**Claimed Date of Birth :**

**Names of Assessing Workers:**

**Date Assessment Completed:**

1. **The assessment was undertaken by** :

|  |
| --- |
| *Worker A –Status. qualifications, experience– state if differential roles assigned eg lead worker.(delete grey text)* |
| *Worker B- Status. qualifications, experience (delete grey text)* |

1. **Outline of dates of interviews, venue, who present: including interpreter and any appropriate adult**
2. **Summary of process**:

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. **All available sources of information, including other age assessments that have been taken into consideration**.

1. **Decision on age issue**

1. **How shared and opportunity provided to check or challenge information included**
2. **Assessed Date of Birth**:

1. **Date new age/DoB effective from**:
2. **Signed by both assessing workers:**
3. **Endorsement of Manager/Supervisor**:

*I am in agreement with the conclusion of the assessment and confirm that the assessment process has been lawfully conducted and complies with guidance arising from the Merton Judgement and subsequent case law.*

Name:

Status:

Signed:

Date:

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Welcome to Falkirk

A map of scotland with a location pin

Description automatically generated

A map of a road

Description automatically generated

Introduction

We know you have had a long and difficult journey before coming to live in the Falkirk, we will do our very best to support you during your time with us.

A horse statues in front of a cloudy sky

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**Legislation In Scotland**

While you are staying with us, we are supporting you under the Children (Scotland) Act 1995.

This means we are:

* Responsible for you
* You are a looked after child
* We are your corporate parent
* We will listen to your views
* We will support you to reach your potential
* We have a duty of care to you, to promote and safeguard your welfare whilst your asylum claim is processed.

The staff supporting you will work with you to help you understand what this means for you.

**Support from your team in Falkirk**

You will be provided with somewhere to live. This may be a Foster Placement, Residential Care or Supported Accommodation depending on your age and how much support you need.



You will be support you financially, depending on where you stay, your age and your status will determine how much money you receive.

 If you do not have a mobile phone, we will provide you with one. You need to take good care of your phone as we will not replace this. We will take a record of your number and your IMEI number and you will get all the staff numbers.



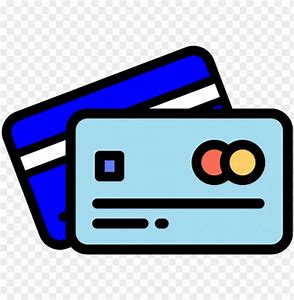
We will support you to apply for a Young Scot card. This means you can travel for free on buses in Scotland. We will take a photocopy to add to your file



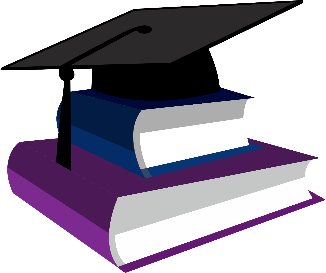
You will be given an initial health check by a nurse and then registered at a doctor surgery, dentist and optician.

A group of logos with text

Description automatically generatedThe Guardianship service will help you with the legal process and your asylum claim. You will be allocated a Guardian, who will support you to understand the process and advocate on your behalf.



We will help you set up a bank account. We need to wait till you have your Young Scot Card and ARC card to do this with you as we need it for ID.

 Your worker will discuss going to school or attending English speaking classes (ESOL) with you once you have settled in. Where appropriate we would try to purchase you a laptop to help support your education. It is important you take care of this as we will not be able to replace it.

What’s in Falkirk

A large indoor pool with people swimming

Description automatically generatedA football field with people in the stands

Description automatically generated Swimming Football Stadium

A collage of a train

Description automatically generatedBus & Train Service to all Major Cities

Public Library Shopping Centre

A library with many books on shelves

Description automatically generatedA long shot of a mall

Description automatically generated

Cinema Gyms

A group of people in a gym

Description automatically generatedA building with a sign on it

Description automatically generated

Halal Food Shops Tourist Attractions

A horse statues in front of a field

Description automatically generatedA person cutting meat with a knife

Description automatically generated

A building with glass windows

Description automatically generatedColleges & Schools

A car parked outside of a building

Description automatically generated

Other Local Services

A logo with a black background

Description automatically generated

[Home | Falkirk Islamic Centre](https://falkirkislamiccentre.org/)

https://falkirkislamiccentre.org/

6-8 Burnhead Lane,  
Falkirk  
FK1 1UG

[01324 20611018](tel:0132420611018)

[falkirkislamiccentre@gmail.com](mailto:falkirkislamiccentre@gmail.com)

A white symbol with black background

Description automatically generatedA building with glass doors

Description automatically generated

[Trinity Transforming Lives – Falkirk Trinity Church](https://falkirktrinity.org.uk/) The Church of Jesus Christ

Falkirk Trinity Church Inchkeith Place  
Manse Place Falkirk  
Falkirk FK1 1JN FK1 2PG   
Tel: 01324 611017 01324 613586  
email: [office@falkirktrinity.org.uk](mailto:office@falkirktrinity.org.uk)

Our Address & Contact Details

A blue and white logo with a crown

Description automatically generated

www.falkirk.gov.uk

Through Care After Care Team

[Unit 1 St Johns Sawmill Etna Road,](https://www.bing.com/ck/a?!&&p=15d1680a9638af26JmltdHM9MTcwODkwNTYwMCZpZ3VpZD0zZWE5ODg4Yy1hZDg2LTY0MmQtMzIxNS05YjA2YWNkZTY1NTMmaW5zaWQ9NTQ4MA&ptn=3&ver=2&hsh=3&fclid=3ea9888c-ad86-642d-3215-9b06acde6553&u=a1L21hcHM_Jm1lcGk9MTA5fn5Ub3BPZlBhZ2V-QWRkcmVzc19MaW5rJnR5PTE4JnE9TGVhdmluZyUyMENhcmUmc3M9eXBpZC5ZTjEwMzJ4MjQ4NzA4MDAzJnBwb2lzPTU2LjAwOTczMTI5MjcyNDYxXy0zLjc3ODM5MDg4NDM5OTQxNF9MZWF2aW5nJTIwQ2FyZV9ZTjEwMzJ4MjQ4NzA4MDAzfiZjcD01Ni4wMDk3MzF-LTMuNzc4MzkxJnY9MiZzVj0xJkZPUk09TVBTUlBM&ntb=1)

Falkirk

FK2 7DL

[01324 501050](tel:01324501050)