

## CONTACT NUMBERS

Warrington Safeguarding Children Board Policy & Practice Manager	01925 457075
Service Reception Team Poll Tax House, Ryland Street Warrington	01925 444239
Out of Hours Service	01925 444400
Principal Officer (Safeguarding Children)	01925 457013
Children's Safeguarding Unit	01925 457016
Warrington Police Station	01925 652222
Police Public Protection Unit	01244 614878
Designated Nurse - Safeguarding Children	01925 643113
Designated Doctor - Safeguarding Children	01925 405712
Consultant Paediatrician or Senior Registrar	01925 635911
Senior Education Welfare Officer	01925 442928
Senior Probation Officer	01925 650613

For further information visit our website  
[www.safeguardingwarringtonchildren.org.uk](http://www.safeguardingwarringtonchildren.org.uk)

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# Warrington Safeguarding Children Board



## 'RISK TO CHILDREN' STATUS

# 'Risk to Children' status

This leaflet answers the following questions:

- Who is a 'Risk to Children'
- Who decides who is a 'Risk to Children'
- How long will the 'Risk to Children' status last
- What are the implications for families
- What happens when a person with a 'Risk to Children' status moves

## WHO HAS A 'RISK TO CHILDREN' STATUS

In March 2005 the Home Office issued guidance for all agencies to identify 'a person identified as presenting a risk or potential risk to children'. Those people who have a conviction or caution for an offence against a child may hold this status as may someone who committed an offence where a child was an intended victim but the primary offence wasn't child specific. There will also be cases where a person without a conviction may pose a risk to children.

## WHO DECIDES WHO IS A 'RISK TO CHILDREN'

The conclusion that an individual poses a 'Risk to Children' is based on assessments of risk made by Probation, Police, Health and Social Care whether individually or via the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA).

## HOW LONG WILL THE 'RISK TO CHILDREN' STATUS LAST

A 'Risk to Children' status is not necessarily for life as with the old Schedule 1 status. The 'Risk to Children' status will be reviewed on a regular basis and a person may lose this status as their level of risk to the community and children reduces.

## WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS FOR FAMILIES

When a person with a 'Risk to Children' status is having significant contact with children, either within or outside the family, the Local Authority will need to make enquiries as to whether the children may be at risk of abuse. The Local Authority has a duty to make these enquiries under the Children Act 1989

If the Local Authority and/or other Agencies feel that a child may be at risk from harm and that their parents or carers are either unable to protect them or are failing to protect them, child protection procedures will be considered.

A person with a 'Risk to Children' status may be asked to agree to a risk assessment being completed by Children's Services or through the Forensic Psychology Service. This assessment would assess the level of risk he or she may present and a risk management plan would be put in place to reduce the risk posed.

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A PERSON WITH A 'RISK TO CHILDREN' STATUS MOVES

When a person with a 'Risk to Children' status moves to another area, the Local Authority for that area will be informed.

For further information please ring:-

The Children's Safeguarding Unit  
Children's Services  
Warrington Borough Council  
Tel: 01925 457013