

## Barnet Safeguarding Children Board

### FGM Pathways

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The BSCB has agreed two pathways in relation to FGM one for children and the other for adults where a child might be at risk either now or in the future. While the pathways cannot cater for every eventuality they provide a professional with a guide about how they should respond. The sections A to E below are referenced in the pathways and provide resources to assist.

#### **A. Risk Assessment Tool**

The [tool](#) provided by the Department of Health 'Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding' Guidance for professionals is recommended by the Board (the tool found at page 15 of the DH guidance).

#### **B. Mandatory reporting**

The Serious Crime Act 2015 introduced a legal duty for specific professional groups to report to the police any girl who has had FGM. This duty applies when a girl informs the professional that FGM has been carried out on her and/or the professional observes physical signs on the girl appearing to show that FGM has been carried out. The duty applies to all teachers and all regulated health and social care professionals in England and Wales.

Regulated health and social care professionals include all professions regulated by a body overseen by the Professional Standards Authority.

Full details of the duty can be found [here](#) on the London Safeguarding Children Board [site](#).

#### **C. Three Screening Questions**

- Would you or your partner want to perform FGM on your daughter(s)?
- Do you feel pressure from your family/community to perform FGM?
- Do you know any girl at risk of having FGM? (e.g. sister, cousin or friend)

#### **D. FGM Passport**

The Government's [leaflet](#) 'A statement opposing Female Genital Mutilation' is produced in a range of languages. It is supplied to help those at risk of suffering, perpetrating or assisting with FGM.

**PTO**



## **E. The law**

### The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003

Under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 it is an offence in England, Wales and Northern Ireland for anyone (regardless of their nationality and residence status) to:

- perform FGM in the UK
- assist the carrying out of FGM in the UK
- assist a girl to carry out FGM on herself in the UK
- and assist from the UK a non-UK person to carry out FGM outside the UK on a UK national or permanent UK resident

It is also an offence for UK nationals or permanent UK residents to:

- perform FGM on any person overseas;
- assist FGM carried out abroad by a UK national or permanent UK resident – this would cover taking a girl abroad to be subjected to FGM;
- assist a girl to perform FGM on herself outside the UK;
- and assist FGM carried out abroad by a non UK person on a girl/woman who is a UK national or permanent UK resident – this would cover taking a girl abroad to be subjected to FGM;

Even in countries where the practice is not a criminal offence.

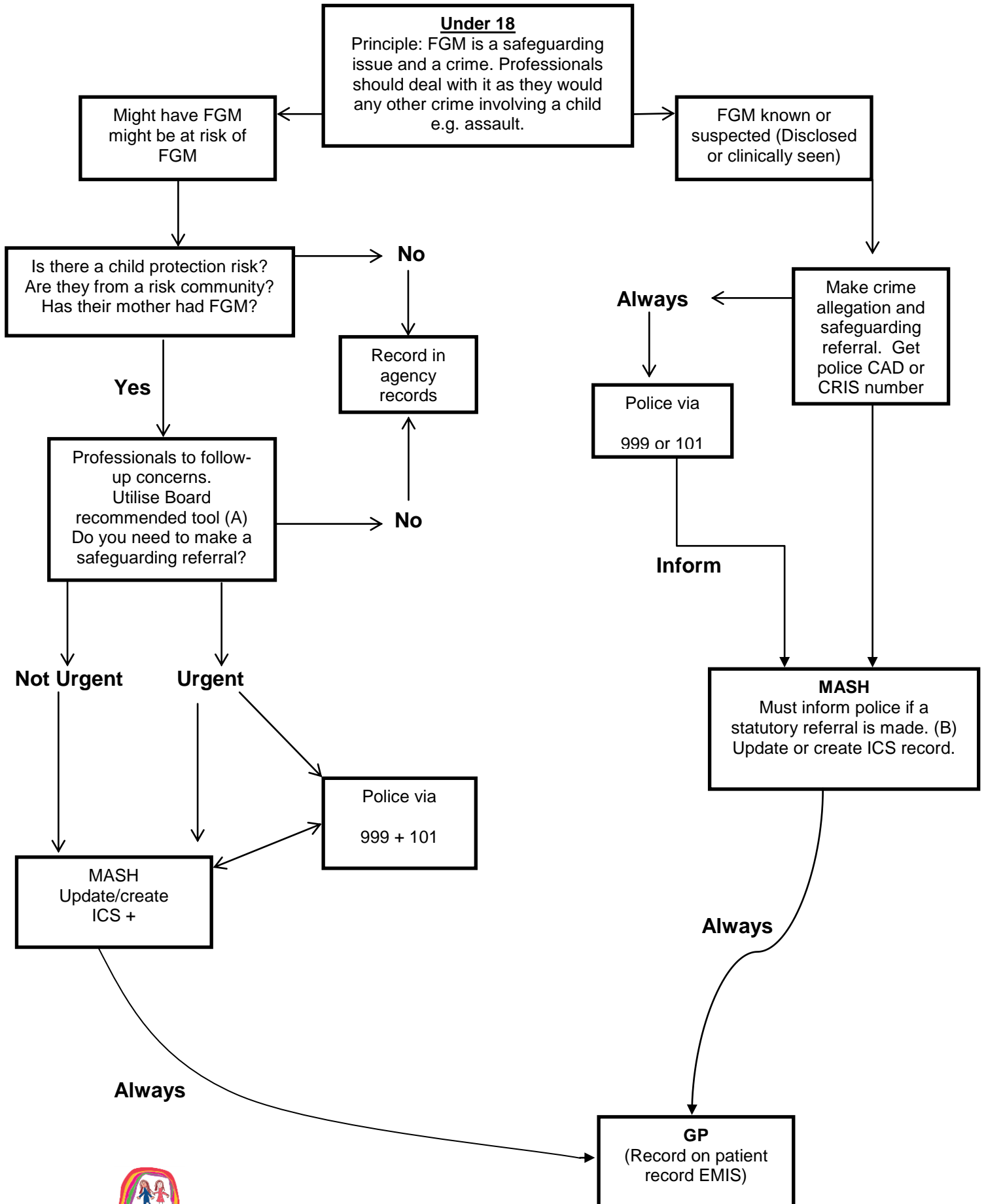
### The Serious Crime Act 2015

- Extend the reach of the extra-territorial offences in the 2003 Act to habitual (as well as permanent) UK residents
- Make parents or those responsible for caring for a child liable for failing to prevent their child being subjected to FGM
- Grant victims of FGM lifelong anonymity from the time an allegation is made; and
- Create a new FGM civil protection order (FGMPO) to protect a girl who is at risk of FGM or a girl against whom a FGM offence has been committed.
- Introduces a mandatory reporting duty requiring regulated health and social care professionals to report known cases of FGM in under 18s to the police (commencement October 2015)



1.

# FGM Pathway Under 18



# FGM Pathway Adult

