

# YOUNG CARERS: DETERMINING NEEDS



*DRAFT*

*For Practitioners in  
Harrow Council, but  
adaptable for other  
audiences.*

---

*14 December 2016*

*Prepared by:  
Edward Smith*



# Who should determine Young Carer Needs?

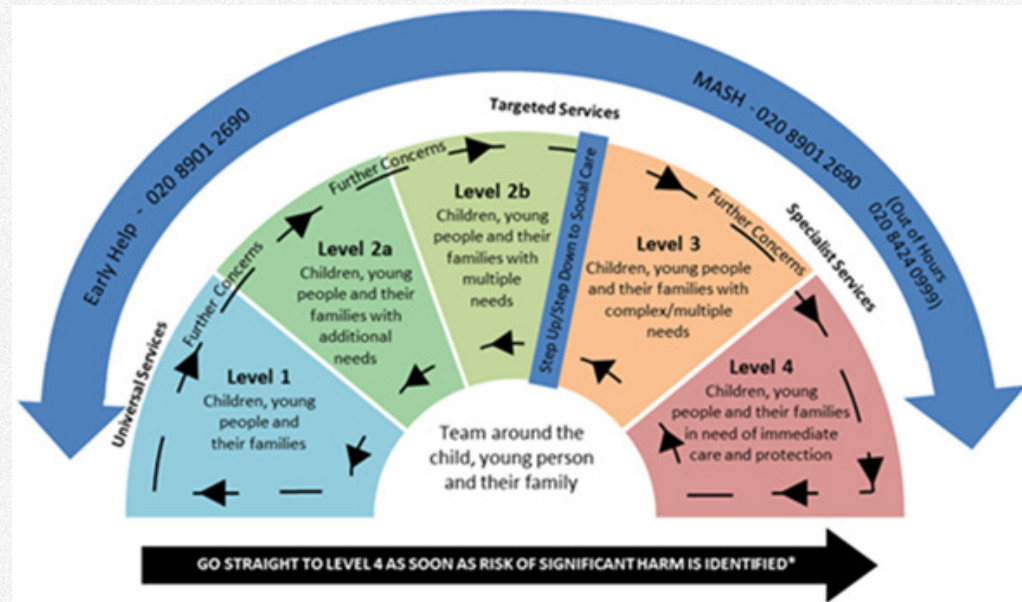


## Statutory Obligations:

A local authority **must** assess whether a young carer within their area has needs for support and, if so, what those needs are, if:

(a) It appears to the authority that the young carer may have needs for support, or

(b) the authority receive a request from the young carer or a parent of the young carer to assess the young carer's needs for support.



*Low Level Needs/ Risk: Universal Services (e.g. school) support. Early Support can signpost or refer.*

*Additional Needs/ Moderate Risk of Future Needs: Early Support to undertake 'Family Led Needs Analysis'*

*Complex or Multiple Needs (Child in Need, or Child Protection):*

*Social Work Assessment*



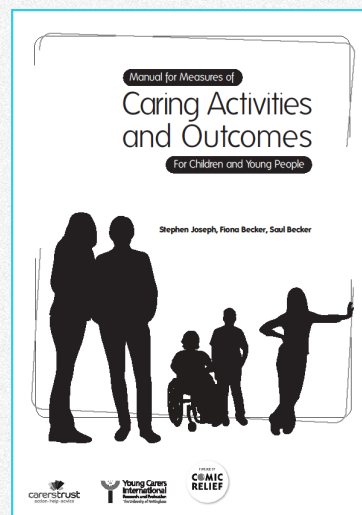
# Tools for completion by/ with Young Carer

## Location of Tools

*Caring Activities and Outcomes:*  
<http://tinyurl.com/haxoeuk>

*Do you look after or care for someone  
at home?*  
<http://tinyurl.com/hjlznz7>

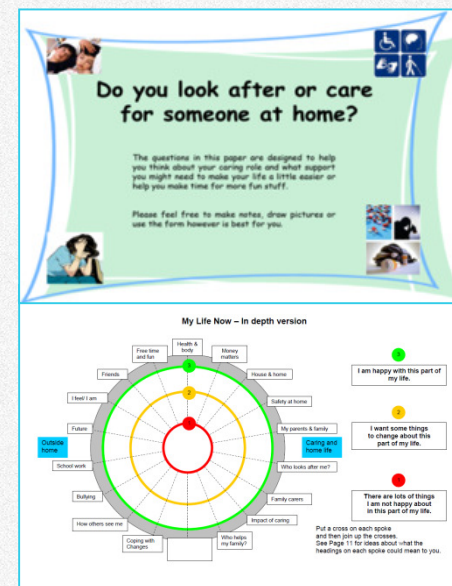
*My Life Now: Individual Assessment  
and Planning Tool for Young Carers*  
<http://tinyurl.com/gmxlv4t>



## Establishing an Overview

- Complete the 2 page version of 'The Caring Jobs I Do' with/ for each Young Carer.
- Complete the 1 page 'How Caring Affects Me' with each Young Carer

Use these as the basis of a wider conversation to establish strengths and needs.



## Having a Conversation

You may feel that using parts of these tools will help your work with the child/ young person.

Use them if you think they will help in the time you have available.

*Scan & upload all completed forms to your IT system and record key points in your write up.*





---

# Checklist for Determining Young Carer Needs

---

*Adapted from 'Young Carers (Needs Assessments) Regulations 2015'*

---

## *Before:*

- ☐ Identify an appropriate worker, having regard to the young carer's circumstances, in particular their age, sex and understanding.
- ☐ Determine if there are any ongoing or upcoming assessments of the young carer, the person cared for, or a member of the young carer's family. If so, consider whether to determine a young carer's needs as part of these, or separately.
- ☐ Provide young carer and/or their family with information about the process, to enable them to participate effectively.

## *What to cover:*

- ☐ (Consider existing assessments etc. which have been carried out in relation to the needs for support of the young carer or the person who is cared for, where appropriate).
- ☐ The amount, nature and type of care which the young carer provides (or intends to provide)
- ☐ The extent to which this care is (or will be) relied upon by the family, including the wider family, to maintain the well-being of the person cared for (or *siblings*)
- ☐ The outcomes which the young carers seeks
- ☐ Identify the young carer's friends and family, and consider how those persons can contribute to meeting the outcomes sought.

## *Who to involve:*

- ☐ Involve the young carer, their parents, and any person who the young carer or a parent requests the authority to involve.
- ☐ Persons with expertise and knowledge in relation to the young carer, where appropriate to do so

## *Professional Judgements:*

- ☐ Whether the care which the young carer provides (or intends to provide) impacts on their well-being, education or development.
- ☐ Whether the tasks which the young carer is/will be performing are excessive or inappropriate, (consider all circumstances, particularly the carer's age, sex, wishes and feelings)
- ☐ Whether any of the young carer's needs for support could be prevented by providing services to the person cared for, or another member of the carer's family.
- ☐ What the young carer's needs for support would be likely to be if the carer were relieved of part or all of the tasks the young carer performs
- ☐ Whether it is appropriate for the young carer to provide care for the person in question, in light of the young carer's needs and wishes.
- ☐ Whether the young carer is a *child in need* (S17 of Children Act 1989)
- ☐ Actions to be taken as a result;
- ☐ Arrangements for a future review (if appropriate).





---

# Plan for Change!

---

*Planning for the future can prevent needs arising & enable early support*

---

*Support can even be put in place for a child who intends to provide care in future, but is not yet a carer.*

---

Lots of Young Carers provide care and support for many years. Changes to circumstances, such as those below, can make things better or worse for a Young Carer. When determining the needs of young carers, you should:

1. *Discuss and plan for likely or high-impact changes*
2. *Emphasise that the family can ask for more help at a later date if something changes.*

---

## Family Changes

---

- Older siblings leaving the household
- Relationship breakdown and change to adult carer capacity.
- Changes to support from wider friends and family network.
- Potential for needs for care increasing in other family members (e.g. grandparents)

---

## Care Need Changes

---

- Potential for deteriorations in health
- Upcoming operations/ treatments.
- Level of variation to need for care (e.g. periods of worse mental health)

---

## Young Carer Changes

---

- Potential for increases to young carer needs from longer-term caring.
- Changes to wellbeing, behaviour and family dynamics associated with adolescence and growing up.





# Young Carers Approaching Adulthood





---

# Checklist for Transition to Adulthood

---

*The transition approach should be undertaken if a Young Carer is **likely** to be 'in need of support' as an adult.*

---

*An Adult Carer can usually be said to be in need of support if their caring role will result in a **significant impact on their welfare**, if they were not supported*

---

*Other conditions also apply as detailed here:*

[www.disabilityrightsuk.org/assessment-process-carers-under-care-act](http://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/assessment-process-carers-under-care-act)

---

## *When to start transition planning?*

**This will generally be at the point when a Young Carer's needs for care & support as an adult can be predicted reasonably confidently.**

### *Consider:*

- Young Carer's stage at school.
- whether the young person wishes to enter further/ higher education or training
- whether they wish to get a job when they become a young adult
- whether they plan to move out of their parental home
- whether the young person will have care leaver status
- the time it may take discuss transition and to plan and put in place the adult care/ support
- any relevant family circumstances
- any planned medical treatment
- avoid disruption e.g. during exams

## *Before transition planning:*

- ☐ Take into account young carer's views when determining when and how the transition process is approached.
- ☐ Provide general information about adult carer (Care Act) support.

## *Who to involve:*

- ☐ Involve relevant partners include GP, housing, education, as appropriate.

## *'Tell Us Once':*

- ☐ Children's and Adult Social Care should co-operate to ensure effective transition & a 'tell us once' approach.

## *Provide info & advice:*

- ☐ Check understanding of general information about adult carer (Care Act) support. Then provide tailored information and advice.
- ☐ General and tailored information and advice about changes to other support (e.g. welfare benefits)





---

# Checklist for Transition Planning (continued)

## Outputs and Outcomes:

- ☐ A plan to raise and fulfil the aspirations of the Young Carer, with professionals from across agencies, family, friends & the wider community working together.
- ☐ A plan for how they will achieve their goals, in relation to whichever of the following matter to YP:
  - *paid employment*
  - *good health and wellbeing*
  - *completing exams or moving to further education*
  - *independent living*
  - *family relationships*
  - *social inclusion*
  - *participation in recreation*
  - *skills in financial management*
- ☐ Whole family approach: consider what changes to other care and support packages might be needed if the Young Carer's circumstances/ caring changed.
- ☐ Help to identify a suitable higher or further education institution, where Young Carer wishes to attend one.

## What to discuss:

- ☐ Strengths & Needs of young carer
- ☐ Desired outcomes, both short and long-term, of the young carer
- ☐ Work: whether young carer works or wishes to do so
- ☐ Education or Training: whether YC is or wishes to participate in these.
- ☐ Recreation: whether young carers is or wishes to participate in this.
- ☐ Whether the young carer is able and willing to care now and after turning 18.

## Challenge Assumptions:

- ☐ Young carers may approach a conversation about preparing for adulthood with the assumption that they will need to continue caring and adjust their expectations accordingly. Conversations about their role as a carer in their adult lives, are a key opportunity to challenge such assumptions.

---

*Adapted from Care Act Statutory Guidance.*

---







# Other things to know





# Inappropriate or Excessive Caring = Child in Need

*A Young Carer with excessive or inappropriate caring responsibility should be considered a 'Child In Need'.*



## Excessive or Inappropriate Caring Responsibilities...

... are those that mean a young carer is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision of services by a local authority under this Section 17 of the Children Act.

(See also: Triangle Chart for Assessment of Children in Need)



## Inappropriate or Excessive Caring Responsibility *may* include:

- Bathing and toileting;
- Strenuous physical tasks
- Administering medication
- Maintaining the family budget
- Emotional support to the adult

**Judgements should take into account a young carer's, age, resilience, wishes and context.**





---

# The Whole Family Approach

---

*The health and wellbeing of Young Carers, Adult Carers and Persons in Need of Care are inter-related.*

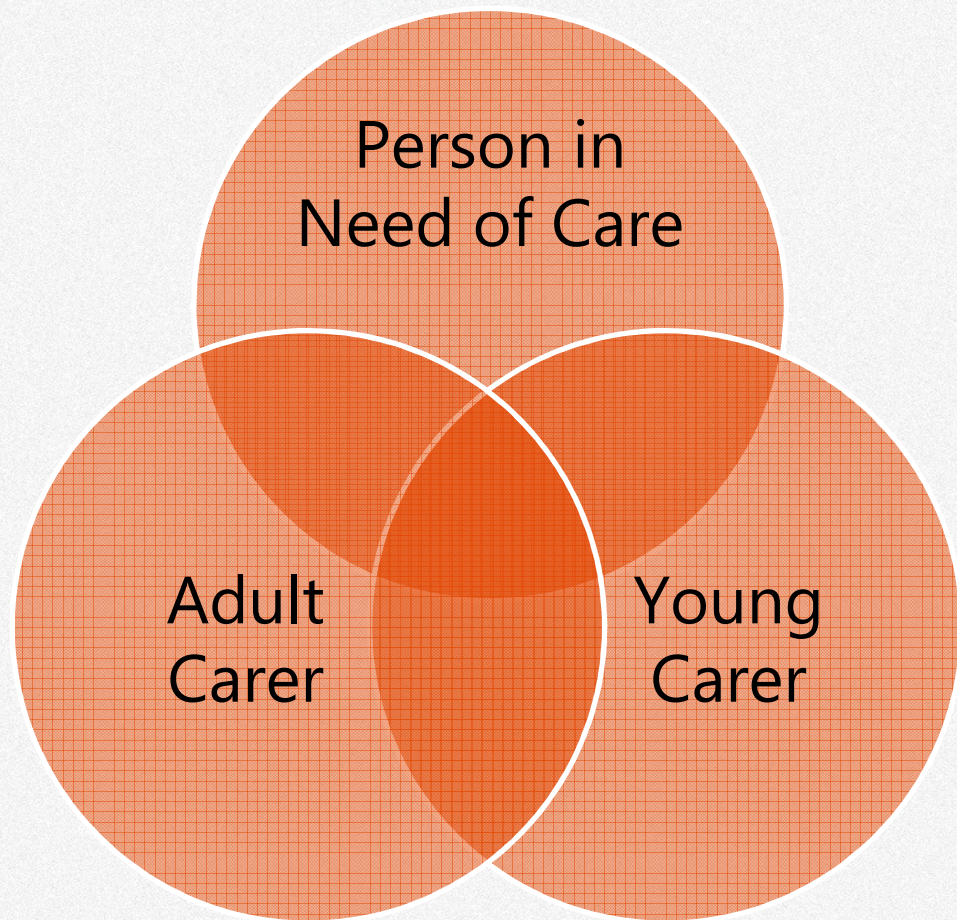
---

*Where possible, planning and reviews should be undertaken jointly, or otherwise consider the needs of everyone involved.*

---

*Children are Children First*

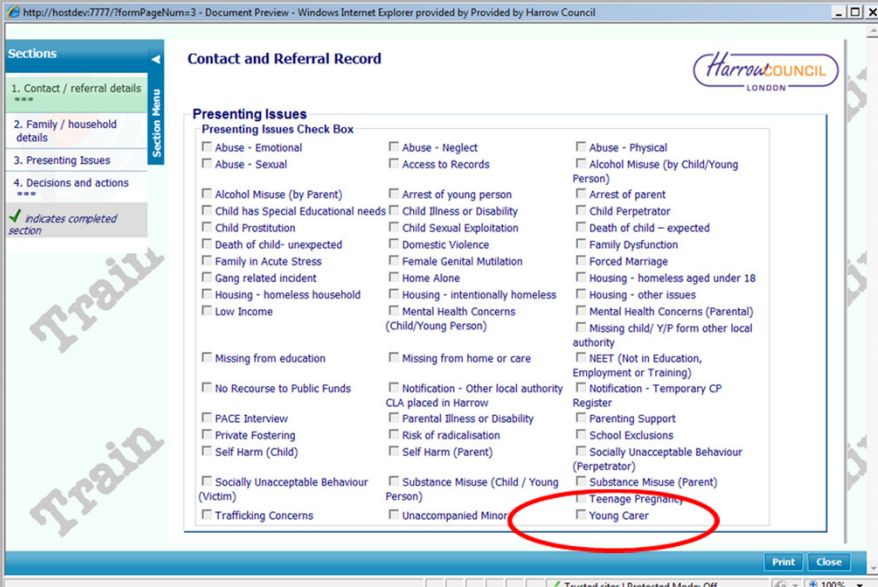
---





## Recording on FWi Tick 'Young Carer'

### Contact & Referral Form



http://hostdev77777/formPageNum=3 - Document Preview - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Harrow Council

Sections

- 1. Contact / referral details
- 2. Family / household details
- 3. Presenting Issues
- 4. Decisions and actions

Indicates completed section

#### Contact and Referral Record

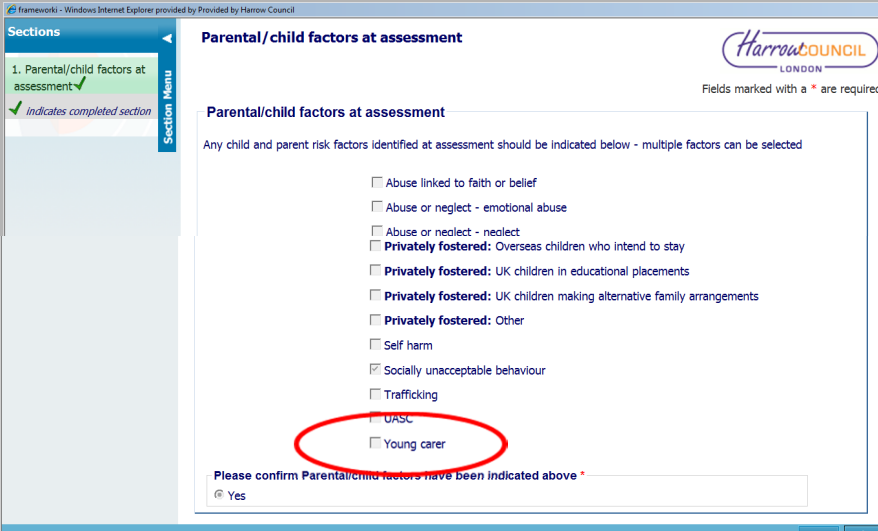
Presenting Issues Check Box

<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse - Emotional	<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse - Neglect	<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse - Physical
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse - Sexual	<input type="checkbox"/> Access to Records	<input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol Misuse (by Child/Young Person)
<input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol Misuse (by Parent)	<input type="checkbox"/> Arrest of young person	<input type="checkbox"/> Arrest of parent
<input type="checkbox"/> Child has Special Educational needs	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Illness or Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Perpetrator
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Prostitution	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Sexual Exploitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Death of child - expected
<input type="checkbox"/> Death of child - unexpected	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Dysfunction
<input type="checkbox"/> Family in Acute Stress	<input type="checkbox"/> Female Genital Mutilation	<input type="checkbox"/> Forced Marriage
<input type="checkbox"/> Gang related incident	<input type="checkbox"/> Home Alone	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing - homeless aged under 18
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing - homeless household	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing - intentionally homeless	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing - other issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Low Income	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Concerns (Child/Young Person)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Concerns (Parental)
<input type="checkbox"/> Missing from education	<input type="checkbox"/> Missing from home or care	<input type="checkbox"/> Missing child/ Y/P from other local authority
<input type="checkbox"/> No Recourse to Public Funds	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification - Other local authority	<input type="checkbox"/> NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training)
<input type="checkbox"/> PACE Interview	<input type="checkbox"/> Parental Illness or Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Notification - Temporary CP Register
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Fostering	<input type="checkbox"/> Risk of radicalisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Parenting Support
<input type="checkbox"/> Self Harm (Child)	<input type="checkbox"/> Self Harm (Parent)	<input type="checkbox"/> School Exclusions
<input type="checkbox"/> Socially Unacceptable Behaviour (Victim)	<input type="checkbox"/> Substance Misuse (Child / Young Person)	<input type="checkbox"/> Socially Unacceptable Behaviour (Perpetrator)
<input type="checkbox"/> Trafficking Concerns	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied Minor	<input type="checkbox"/> Substance Misuse (Parent)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Teenage Pregnancy
		<input type="checkbox"/> Young Carer

Print Close

Trusted sites | Protected Mode: Off

### Parental/ Child Factors at Assessment



Framework i - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Harrow Council

Sections

- 1. Parental/child factors at assessment

Indicates completed section

#### Parental/child factors at assessment

Fields marked with a \* are required

Any child and parent risk factors identified at assessment should be indicated below - multiple factors can be selected

<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse linked to faith or belief
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse or neglect - emotional abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse or neglect - neglect
<input type="checkbox"/> Privately fostered: Overseas children who intend to stay
<input type="checkbox"/> Privately fostered: UK children in educational placements
<input type="checkbox"/> Privately fostered: UK children making alternative family arrangements
<input type="checkbox"/> Privately fostered: Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Self harm
<input type="checkbox"/> Socially unacceptable behaviour
<input type="checkbox"/> Trafficking
<input type="checkbox"/> UASC
<input type="checkbox"/> Young carer

Please confirm Parental/child factors have been indicated above \*

☐ Yes

Print Close





# Recording on FWi The Young Carers Register



Amend > -- Please Select --

Print -- Please Select --

Episodes Adopted child placed in Harrow by OLA

Case Notes Banding Category

Documents Blind

Genogram Child Course

File > Child Disability

Management Children Placed with Private Foster Carers

LAC > CLA Placed by another LA

Education > CSE/MASE

Health > CWDS Transition

Legal Status Deaf

Registrations Deaf/Blind

Visits Early Help

Offences Eligible for EPB

Restrictions Eligible for Freedom Pass

Child Protection Eligible for Taxi Card

European Parking Badge

Freedom Pass - Disability

Freedom Pass - Discretionary

Harrow Notified Missing Persons

Individuals who pose a risk of harm to children

Learning Disabilities

MARAC

Mental Illness

Other Local Authority Notified Missing Person

Taxicard - 40 rides

Young Carer

Fields marked with a \* are required

Register \* Young Carer

Category

From \*  
Carer of Adult  
Carer of multiple Family Members  
Carer of Sibling

Save Cancel

Trusted sites | Protected Mode: Off 100%

