

Age Dispute Pathway

Salford
Safeguarding
Children Partnership

B SG1 form received by adult social care where there is a dispute of age as described in the 4 points in box A.

Adult social care to share the information with Children's Services (Bridge) via email and phone call on the same working day.

A Professional has reason to doubt age of individual. Including:

- Individual presenting as an adult but they report they are under 18.
- Individual presenting as an adult but professional concerned they are under 18.
- Individual presenting as a child but professional concerned they may be over 18.
- Individual presenting as a child but report they are over 18.

Warning ID documentation cannot be used as means to confirm age

Professional to contact BRIDGE by telephone to share safeguarding concerns on same working day and follow up with online referral form. All of these calls to be taken by a QSW.

** If trafficking indicators are present family NOT to be informed of referral.**

BRIDGE to undertake checks on same working day, to include, but not exclusive to: UKBA, POLICE, REFERRER.

- QSW to consider trafficking indicators and what information is informing referrer's view of age?

Warning ID documentation cannot be used as means to confirm age

NFA – concerns are unsubstantiated.

Identify to be vulnerable adult, not under 18.

BRIDGE QSW to make referral to adult social care same day.

Adult social care to follow adult pathways for safeguarding and trafficking if evidenced to be a concern.

Joint decision - No significant

reason to doubt age evidenced -

individual is an adult.

Joint decision - No significant reason to doubt age evidenced - individual is a child.

Children's Social care to complete children and families assessment.

C Bridge referral form received by Children's Services where there is a dispute of age as described in the 4 points in box A.

Continuing cause for concern.

refer for same day response from:

Adult social care

Children's Social work team (DAT, CPINT, LAC)

CST police, and Children's advocate.

Individual is seen the same day by Adult and Children's Social Care and police, spoken to alone, gather full history and circs.

Joint decision - Reason to doubt age and risk of harm evident.

Immediate/interim safeguarding action to be taken and strategy meeting to be held.

Useful links and numbers:

- The Bridge tel 0161 603 4500
- The Bridge email worriedaboutachild@salford.gov.uk
- The Bridge referral form:

https://www.salford.gov.uk/worriedaboutachild

- Greater Manchester Police non-emergency tel 101
- Adult Social Care Contact Centre tel 0161 631 4777
- Adult Social Care Contact Centre email social.services@salford.gov.uk
- Adult social care professional online referral form -

https://contactus.salford.gov.uk/?formtype=HSC_ENQ_PR

Effective challenge and escalation procedure (for professional disagreements)

 $\frac{https://safeguardingchildren.salford.gov.uk/professionals/policies-and-procedures$

Published Oct 2020

joint worked until age is established via age assessment.

Adult and children's social care to allocate workers same day— case to be

Age assessment to be completed within 10 working days.

Outcome of age outcome of age assessment is adult

Adult Social Care Pathways to be followed – vulnerable adult, trafficking, CST. nildren's Social Care Pathways to be followed – LAC, trafficking, CST.