

Unborn Child

Practitioners who are unsure when considering thresholds should seek specialist advice from a Health Practitioner e.g. Midwife, Health Visitor, GP, Paediatrician, Paediatric Therapist, Primary Mental Health Worker. If you have serious concerns telephone First Response.

THESE MATRICIES ARE A GUIDE ONLY TO ASSIST PRACTITIONERS IN ASSESSING THRESHOLDS

Unborn Child				
Category	Level 1 Universal	Level 1 Plus Additional	Level 2 - Targeted	Level 3 - Significant
Physical/Mental Health/ Relationships around mother	<p>Mother attending ante-natal check-ups and appointments.</p> <p>Parent/s preparing for the baby's birth</p> <p>Parent/s has support in the community.</p> <p>Parent/s are healthy.</p>	<p>Mother has missed some antenatal check-ups and appointments.</p> <p>Parental vulnerability identified e.g. young parents, parent's unduly anxious/fearful, separation of parents, pregnancy as a result of a sexual assault, unwanted pregnancy</p> <p>Family or single parent is socially isolated</p> <p>Family has poor relationships or no contact with extended family</p>	<p>Mother has missed repeated ante-natal check-ups and appointments.</p> <p>Exposure to harmful substances in utero</p> <p>One or more adult members of the family is physically or emotionally abusive to another adult member/s of the family. The perpetrator/s show limited or no commitment to changing their behaviour and little or no understanding of the impact their violence has on the child.</p> <p>Destructive relationships with</p>	<p>Significant parental needs identified that will significantly impact on the parent(s) immediate ability to care for the child at birth requiring a multi-agency plan to be in place at birth – this will include profound learning disability, significant alcohol and or drug misuse, chronic maternal stress, severe mental illness, persistent and/or serious physical violence particularly that which includes the use of weapons, relationship with adult/s who would pose a significant risk to a child's safety and whom the parent is likely to continue contact with post-birth.</p> <p>Red flags that indicate serious</p>

		<p>Partner or other person in household has identified they need support after isolated incident of Domestic Abuse, substance /alcohol abuse/mental health issues and accepts and engages with help.</p> <p>Parent is pregnant with multiple children.</p>	<p>wider family including historical and intergenerational issues</p> <p>Family is struggling to meet the needs of the unborn's sibling(s) consistently and there are concerns about the impact of another child on their ability to sustain appropriate care</p>	<p>concerns for the mother's mental health including new thoughts or acts of violent self harm, persistency expressions of incompetency as a mother, recent significant change in mental state.</p> <p>Denial of pregnancy or concealed pregnancy</p> <p>A sibling (or child in the household of either parent) has previously been removed from the household temporarily or by court order.</p> <p>There has been a previous unexpected or unexplained death of a child whilst in the care of either parent.</p> <p>One or more adult members of the family is a perpetrator of persistent and/or serious physical violence, which may also be increasing in severity, frequency or duration. The perpetrator is emotionally harming the child/ren who witness or are otherwise aware of the violence. The children may also be at risk of</p>
--	--	--	---	--

				<p>physical violence if, for example, they seek to protect the adult victim.</p> <p>Household members subject to multi agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) or multi agency risk assessment conference (MARAC) meetings.</p> <p>Other adult in the household is a person identified as presenting a risk, or potential risk, to children. This may be due to domestic abuse, violence, substance/alcohol abuse, serious mental illness (particularly involving a risk of puerperal psychosis or delusions involving the (unborn) child).</p>
--	--	--	--	---