

Many children's social care departments have found that traditional child protection pathways are an ill-fit for responding to situations of significant extra-familial harm. This is largely because they are structured around assessment of, and intervention with, parents/carers to meet young people's needs, whereas extra-familial harm requires assessment of and intervention with contexts beyond parental influence. In 2021 we worked with three areas to pilot alternative child protection pathways (ACPs) to coordinate support for young people at risk of, or experiencing, significant extra-familial harm. Each site took a different approach to designing and delivering their ACP pathway. This infographic outlines each of the three approaches, their legal underpinnings, and some of their key features.

