What To Do
If You’re Worried A Child Is Being Abused

A FLOW CHART FOR REFERRAL

PRACTITIONER HAS CONCERNS ABOUT CHILD'S WELFARE

Practitioner discusses with manager and/or other senior colleagues as they think appropriate

Still has concerns

Practitioner refers to social services, following up in writing within 48 hours

Social worker and manager acknowledge receipt of referral and decide on next course of action within one working day

Initial assessment required

Concerns about child's immediate safety

See flow chart 3 on emergency action

No longer has concerns

No further child protection action, although may need to act to ensure services provided

Feedback to referrer on next course of action

No further social services involvement at this stage, although other action may be necessary, e.g. onward referral

See flow chart 2 on initial assessment