
WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2015 No. 1989

The Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015

Integrated Family Support Teams

Arrangements for referral of cases to the integrated family support teams

18.—(1) A partnership body may refer a family to an integrated family support team if it reasonably believes or suspects that—

- (a) a parent of a child in that family (or a prospective parent)—
 - (i) is dependent on alcohol or drugs,
 - (ii) is a victim of domestic violence or abuse,
 - (iii) has a history of violent or abusive behaviour, or
 - (iv) has a mental disorder; and
- (b) as a consequence of one or more of these circumstances, the child is or will be in need of care and support and either—
 - (i) the child will be unable to remain with the family if family support services are not provided,
 - (ii) where the child is looked after, the child will be unable to return to live with the family if family support services are not provided, or
 - (iii) the child is or will be at risk of abuse, neglect or other harm if family support services are not provided.

(2) A referral to an integrated family support team must be made in accordance with a referral procedure agreed by the regional partnership board.

(3) For the purposes of this regulation, “family” (*“teulu”*) includes each of the following—

- (a) a child, the parents of the child and, if the authority thinks it is appropriate, any other individual connected with the child or the parents;
- (b) individuals who are about to become parents of a child and, if the local authority thinks it appropriate, any other individual connected with the individuals who are about to become the parents of that child.

(4) A child with needs for care and support may include a looked after child.

(5) In this regulation—

“abuse” (*“cam-drin”*) includes both sexual activity without consent and unreasonable behaviour liable to cause serious psychological harm; abuse is “domestic abuse” (*“cam-drin domestig”*) if it is from an individual who is associated with the victim; and “abusive” (*“camdriniol”*) is to be interpreted accordingly;

“child with needs for care and support” (*“plentyn y mae arno anghenion am ofal a chymorth”*) means a child who the local authority has determined has needs for care and support, following an assessment under section 21 of the Act;

“looked after child” (“*plentyn sy’n derbyn gofal*”) has the same meaning as in section 74 of the Act;

“mental disorder” (“*anhwylder meddwl*”) means any disorder or disability of the mind;

“parent” (“*rhiant*”), in relation to a child, includes any individual—

- (a) who is not a parent of the child but who has parental responsibility for the child, or
- (b) who has care of the child;

“violence” (“*trais*”) means violence or threats of violence which are likely to be carried out and “violent” (“*treisgar*”) is to be interpreted accordingly; violence is “domestic violence” (“*trais domestig*”) if it is from an individual who is associated with the victim.

(6) For the purposes of the definition of “parent” (“*rhiant*”) in paragraph (4)—

- (a) “parental responsibility” (“*cyfrifoldeb rhiant*”) has the same meaning as in section 3 of the the Children Act 1989⁽¹⁾;
- (b) in determining whether an individual has care of a child, any absence of the child at a hospital, children’s home or foster placement and any other temporary absence is to be disregarded.

⁽¹⁾ 1989 c. 41.