



Developing excellence
in response to FGM



Project workers will:

- complement social work provision
- provide high quality support and sustainable change for girls and families affected by FGM, through group and community work
- ensure that families can access local support networks
- hold regular stakeholder events within local communities to enable community organisations to inform and support the delivery of the Centre's vision.

3. Consultancy and Practice Development

The Centre provides practice development and training that will raise awareness about FGM, the law and statutory responsibilities and:

- support participants to improve their practice regarding FGM
- facilitate the development of best practice in organisations through a holistic multi-disciplinary approach to tackling FGM
- provide organisations with bespoke advice and support.

Consultancy is also available for professionals from a network of specialists within their own field.

4. Knowledge Hub

The interactive Knowledge Hub will provide access to quality-assured national and international data, information and resources regarding FGM, as well as:

- resources tailored to the needs of frontline professionals to enable them to develop appropriate responses within their local communities
- quality assured materials developed based on real-time learning
- an interactive platform, giving professionals access to advice by leading consultants
- forums for professionals
- a regular newsletter with up-to-date information on policy developments, resources and learning in the field.

For more information about any aspect of the Centre's work, please contact the National FGM Centre.

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 Believe in
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Barnardo's

The National FGM Centre

Background

The National FGM Centre is a partnership between Barnardo's and the Local Government Association (LGA) to achieve a systems change in the provision of services for girls and women affected by female genital mutilation (FGM). Funded initially by the Department of Education as part of its Children's Social Care Innovation Programme, the Centre works closely with key partners from Local Authorities, Health, Education, Police, and the voluntary sector to achieve its vision and aims.

The Centre's Vision

The vision of the National FGM Centre is to end new cases of FGM for women and girls living in England within the next 15 years, in partnership with statutory agencies, government departments and grassroots organisations.

The Centre's Aims

The Centre will develop a model of social work delivery which will result in a systems change in the way that services are provided to girls and women affected by FGM, aiming to:

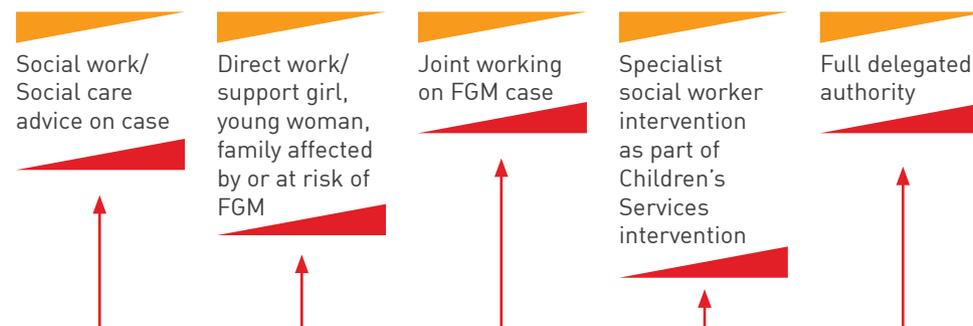
1. **Prevent** new cases, by building effective strategies for the identification and support of at risk girls and creating changes in community attitudes.
2. **Protect** girls and women, through proactive safeguarding and effective prosecutions.
3. **Support** those who have been affected by FGM, providing long-term holistic support for women and girls.
4. **Partner** with stakeholders to deliver solutions, bring together experience and learning on what works for tackling FGM.

The Centre Model

The Centre provides direct services to pilot local authorities in the first instance, combining social work services and community outreach, and share this learning nationally through a knowledge hub, consultancy, practice development and training, conferences and workshops. It is the link between these different activities which gives the Centre its transformative power:



1. Social Work Provision



The continuum of intervention shown above outlines the support available to local authorities. This will be delivered by qualified and experienced social workers and project workers employed, managed and supported by Barnardo's. The interventions will range from consultation for professionals on FGM through to full delegated authority on behalf of the local authority. The continuum includes both direct work with local authority social workers and joint working on cases.

2. Community Outreach

Community outreach is designed to change attitudes and behaviours in affected communities as it is difficult for families to stop the practice if social expectations and community attitudes which support FGM remain unchanged.