

# Unintentional injuries among under-15s overview

NICE Pathways bring together all NICE guidance, quality standards and other NICE information on a specific topic.

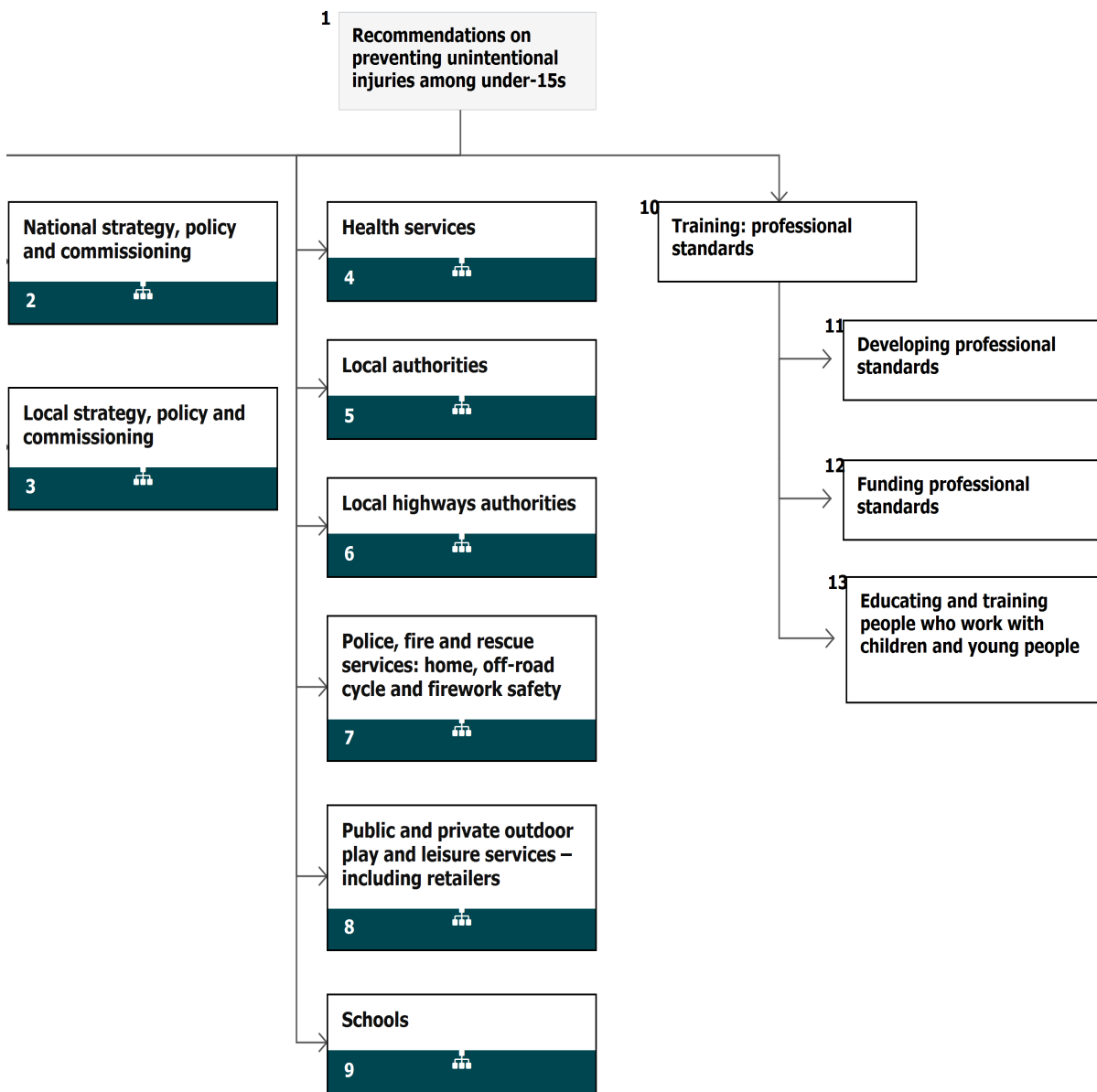
NICE Pathways are interactive and designed to be used online. They are updated regularly as new NICE guidance is published. To view the latest version of this pathway see:

<http://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/unintentional-injuries-among-under-15s>

Pathway last updated: 06 June 2017

This document contains a single pathway diagram and uses numbering to link the boxes to the associated recommendations.

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## 1 Recommendations on preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s

No additional information

## 2 National strategy, policy and commissioning

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: national strategy, policy and commissioning](#)

## 3 Local strategy, policy and commissioning

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: local strategy, policy and commissioning](#)

## 4 Health services

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: health services](#)

## 5 Local authorities

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: local authorities](#)

## 6 Local highways authorities

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: local highways authorities](#)

## 7 Police, fire and rescue services: home, off-road cycle and firework safety

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: police, fire and rescue services – home, off-road cycle and firework safety](#)

## 8 Public and private outdoor play and leisure services – including retailers

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: public and private outdoor play and leisure services - including retailers](#)

## 9 Schools

[See Unintentional injuries among under-15s / Preventing unintentional injuries among under-15s: schools](#)

## 10 Training: professional standards

Professional standards are needed to set out the knowledge and skills (or 'competencies') required for a range of injury prevention roles within and outside the NHS. Funding to develop these standards and curricula – and the provision of accessible training – is also required.

## 11 Developing professional standards

### Who should take action?

Faculty of Public Health.

Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC).

Royal colleges and professional bodies (for example, the Nursing and Midwifery Council).

Health Professions Council.

Sector skills councils.

Relevant voluntary sector organisations.

Universities.

**What action should they take?**

Develop professional standards for unintentional injury prevention. These should take into account the different roles and responsibilities of professionals working within and outside the NHS. They should also take practitioners' views into account.

Ensure all relevant organisations incorporate these standards into their professional skills development programmes.

**12 Funding professional standards**

This national recommendation has been made to support local action. The decision on whether it is taken forward – and how it is prioritised – will be determined by government and subject to statutory regulatory and cost-impact assessments.

**What action should be taken?**

The Department of Health and the Department for Education could encourage funding for educational establishments and organisations to help them develop standards for competencies in – and courses and modules on – the prevention of unintentional injuries among children and young people. The establishments and organisations involved could include:

- the Faculty of Public Health
- the Children's Workforce Development Council
- universities
- royal colleges
- organisations in the voluntary sector.

**13 Educating and training people who work with children and young people****Who should take action?**

Local authority children's services and their partnerships, including local safeguarding children boards.

Local injury prevention coordinators.

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Commissioners, managers and practitioners working in health, social care and education services.

Relevant organisations in the voluntary and private sector.

### **What action should they take?**

Provide access to appropriate education and training in how to prevent unintentional injuries for everyone who works with (or cares for and supports) children, young people and their families.

Prioritise those who work directly with children, young people and their families.

Ensure the education and training:

- supports the wider child health remit (for example, the promotion of children and young people's development)
- helps develop an understanding of the importance of preventing unintentional injuries and their consequences and the preventive measures available.

Ensure specialist education and training is monitored and evaluated to see what effect it has on practitioner performance. Revise approaches that are found to be ineffective.

a home safety assessment is the process of systematically identifying potential hazards in the home, evaluating the risks and providing information or advice on how to reduce them. Other terms commonly used to describe the same process include 'home risk assessment' and 'home safety check'. It may be carried out by a trained assessor or by parents, carers and other householders using an appropriate checklist<sup>1</sup>

### **Engineering measures**

engineering measures to reduce speed or make routes safer comprise physical features such as speed humps, chicanes or changes in traffic priority (that is, changes in the right for traffic to proceed). These may be used on single roads or across a larger area. 20 mph limits are imposed using signs at the start and end of roads covered by the limit and reminder signs at points in between (terminal and repeater signing). 20 mph zones are areas where engineering measures must be used to slow traffic

### **Home**

home refers to the inside of the dwelling itself. It does not include the garden or outbuildings

### **Home safety equipment**

home safety equipment is any device used to prevent injury in the home. This includes door guards and cupboard locks, safety gates and barriers, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, thermostatic mixing valves and window restrictors

### **Permanent safety equipment**

permanent home safety equipment is defined as a device that needs to be fitted and cannot easily be modified or removed by the householder. Examples include hard-wired or 10-year battery operated smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, thermostatic mixing valves and window restrictors

### **Surveillance**

surveillance of any health issue is defined as the: 'systematic, ongoing collection, collation and analysis of health-related information that is communicated in a timely manner to all who need to know which health problems require action in their community'. Last JM (2007) A dictionary of public health. Oxford: Oxford University Press

## Sources

Unintentional injuries: prevention strategies for under 15s (2010) NICE guideline PH29

## Your responsibility

The guidance in this pathway represents the view of NICE, which was arrived at after careful consideration of the evidence available. Those working in the NHS, local authorities, the wider public, voluntary and community sectors and the private sector should take it into account when carrying out their professional, managerial or voluntary duties. Implementation of this guidance is the responsibility of local commissioners and/or providers. Commissioners and providers are reminded that it is their responsibility to implement the guidance, in their local context, in light of their duties to avoid unlawful discrimination and to have regard to promoting equality of opportunity. Nothing in this guidance should be interpreted in a way which would be inconsistent with compliance with those duties.

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<sup>1</sup> Home safety assessment tools are available from [The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and SafeHome](#).