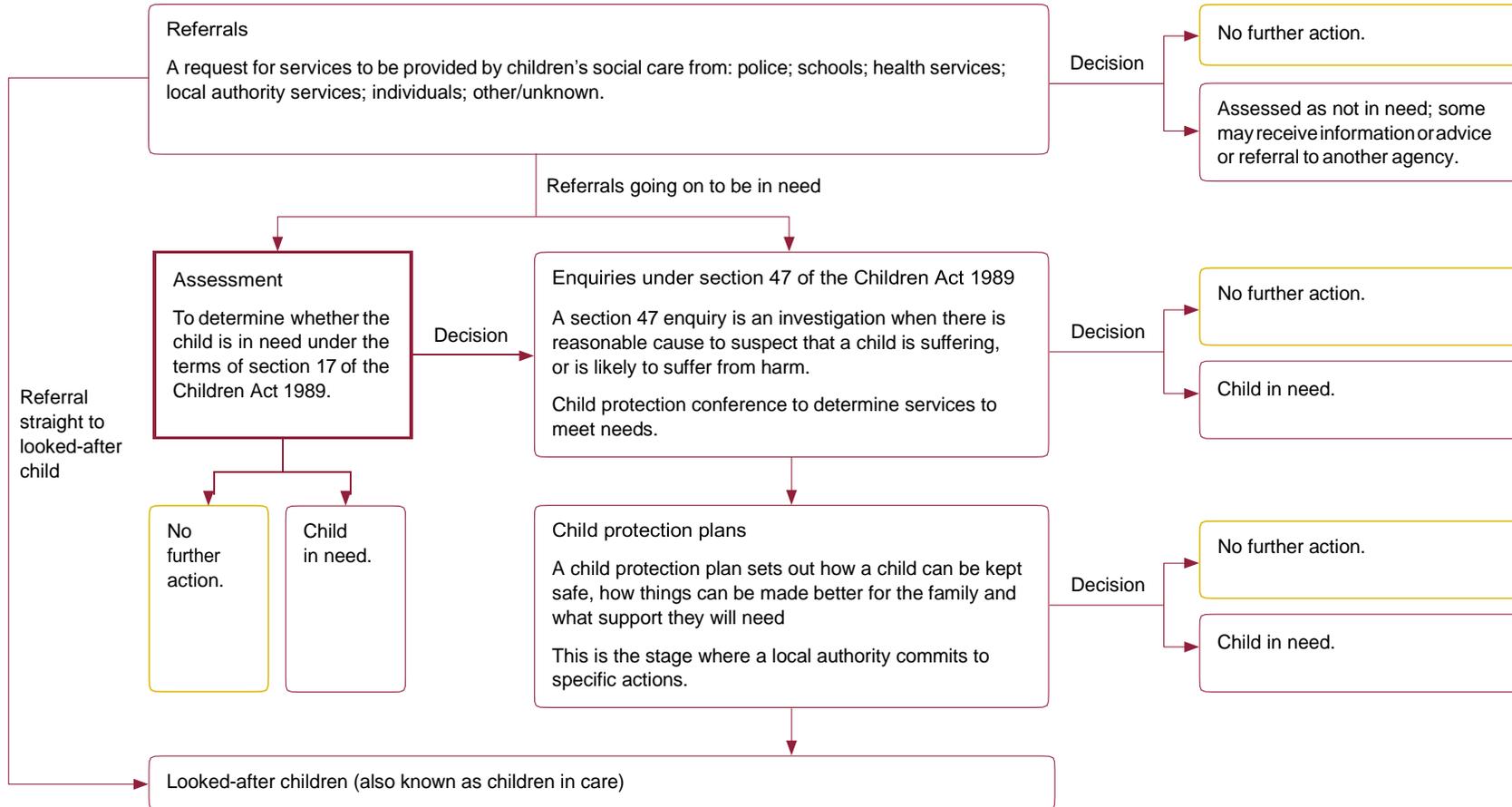


# Figure 1 Children's social care in England

Main stages of children's social care system in England



**Notes**

- 1 This diagram shows only the main stages for a child proceeding through the children's social care system. It is possible that a child will follow different paths depending on individual circumstances.
- 2 Referrals: there may be more than one referral per child across the year.
- 3 A child can have more than one assessment and more than one episode of need during this period. Practices may differ between local authorities in reaching the statutory child in need threshold and recording separate episodes.

Source: National Audit Office analysis of HM Government, *Working Together to Safeguard children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children*, July 2018