

0-19 Programme Phase 1 – Prevention and Early Help Update Summer 2017

It's been a busy few months for the 0-19 Programme and change is all around. In our last update we told you that cabinet had agreed for us to re-design the prevention and early help model and how we were working with staff on the development of the new model. Here is a short newsletter to let you know about what we've been doing and the changes you might see in future.

The New Model

The new model that has been developed provides the opportunity for a shared and collective multi-disciplinary response across North East Lincolnshire, with a strong focus on meeting identified need within a locality, place based approach, with some specialisms offered across the whole local authority. Its aims are:

- To increase prevention and earlier intervention activity focussed on the prevention of;
 - domestic abuse
 - substance misuse
 - poor mental health
- Increased integration of services and reduced duplication between services
- Reduce the need for statutory social care involvement

Figure 1 below shows how the services will be re-configured so that the majority of our offer will be based in localities with only smaller more specialist teams delivering services across the whole local authority area.



Figure 1 – Thematic model for prevention and early help

Localities

Locality functions include universal and targeted interventions covering:

- Delivery of the healthy child programme and other elements of children's public health such as perinatal mental health, infant feeding, physical and emotional wellbeing
- Early years functions such as the delivery of the children's centre offer
- Delivery of universal information, advice and guidance
- Delivery of family support and parenting interventions, both group and individual for all families needing help (including those open to statutory social care)
- Support for specific vulnerabilities such as child sexual exploitation, teen pregnancy, missing, substance misuse, youth anti-social behaviour and out of court youth justice
- Delivery of integrated referral and assessment pathways (building on the family support pathway and early help assessment)
- Inclusion for children, young people and families with special educational needs and disabilities
- Delivery of a volunteer support programme
- Group work in education settings

The localities will be staffed by a mixture of staff for example; family support services, family hubs, school nursing, health visiting, youth offending services and youth services offering a broader range of support to enable individual needs to be met. This pooling and sharing of expertise will enable the needs of children and families to be met more holistically.

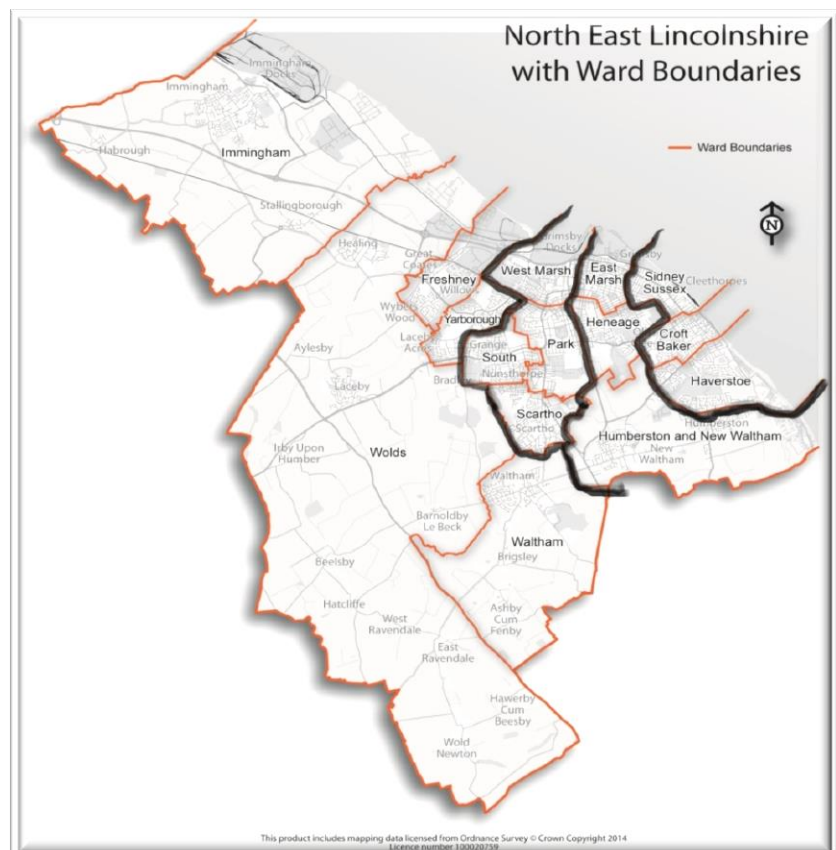
Having this skill mix based in a defined geographical area (locality) will enable staff to build relationships with the communities they serve and gain a more full understanding of the needs of local families.

The 4 locality areas are shown on the map and cover the following ward areas:

1. Croft Baker, Haverstoe and Sidney Sussex wards
2. East Marsh, Heneage and Humberston & New Waltham wards
3. Immingham, Freshney, Yarborough, Waltham and The Wolds wards
4. Park, Scartho, South and West Marsh wards

This breakdown has been designed with staff and is based on an assessment of the levels of need in each ward so that no one locality has significantly higher levels of need than another.

Each locality will continue to use the early Help Assessment and Cluster Single Assessment Meeting (CSAM) meetings to assess and allocate cases and to make sure children, young people and families get the help they need as quickly as possible.



We acknowledge that not all services can be delivered in localities as they are more specialist and have a smaller target cohort. As such we have developed 3 new teams which provide specific specialist support in key areas. These are as follows:

Strengthening Families

The strengthening families team will:

- Deliver our statutory requirements in relation to children's disability social work
- Offer Family Group Conferencing to families with children on the edge of care
- Further embed the use of signs of safety, restorative practice and outcomes based accountability
- Deliver the PAUSE programme (working with mothers who have had multiple children removed)
- Offer early help support to early help staff based in the Families First Access Point
- Further develop and refine the family support pathway
- Deliver our statutory functions in relation to education welfare
- Ensure the delivery of consistent information, advice and guidance through the Families First Information Service
- Deliver our statutory responsibilities in relation to the flexible funding entitlement for 2, 3 and 4 year old childcare

Health and Wellbeing

The Health and Wellbeing team will:

- Offer clinical and professional supervision to the health staff based in localities
- Offer named nurse safeguarding support
- Deliver palliative and health care support for children and young people with complex health needs
- Co-ordinate the delivery of vaccinations and immunisations
- Manage child health information systems
- Ensure the monitoring of clinical governance and quality across the local authority
- Include the delivery of child health administration

Young and Safe

The young and safe team will:

- Deliver the statutory youth justice function
- Deliver targeted adventurous activities (including the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme)
- Targeted street based youth engagement and diversionary activities
- Ensure that educational visits are run within education and policy guidelines
- Provide young people with information advice and guidance via a virtual resource library
- Co-ordinate the delivery of the safe relationships programme in schools
- Offer support to young carers
- Offer counselling for children and young people

Next Steps

We are currently in the process of consulting with staff on the new model and aim to implement the changes during Autumn this year. If you have any ideas, comments or questions please contact 0-19programme@nelincs.gov.uk

Families First Access Point (FFAP) Update

On the 9th January 2017, the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and the FFAP merged, bringing together the statutory and early help elements for one combined front door. The purpose of this merger is to strengthen the front door offer of Children's Social Care to ensure that children and families receive the right response at the right time.

What is the purpose of the new FFAP?

Sharing of Information and Intelligence Across the Safeguarding and Early Help Partnership to:

- Improve safeguarding and early help decision making at the point of referral
- Make the right decisions at the earliest point of contact
- Multi-agency analysis of information to identify need, harm and future harm

The unique position of the FFAP enables:

- Access to partnership intelligence in one place
- Access to partnership data bases
- Skilled practitioners to take information at the earliest stage to reduce delay (social work information gathering and decision making)
- Overview of children's safeguarding and early help across services.

What FFAP can do for you:

- Safeguarding discussions if you are worried about the safety of a child.
- Advice on accessing early help services, and what is available to meet individual needs.
- Information, advice and guidance on next steps for professionals when they are stuck of what to do next with a case
- Families First Information Service – access to a database of services, information on benefits, childcare providers and much more.

If you need to talk to someone about the worries you have about a child or young person you can contact them on 01472 326292 option 2

The Early Help Assessment

In 2015 North East Lincolnshire Council adopted Signs of Safety which is a solution focused questioning approach to support families in building and developing resilience and their own personal resources to create safety for their children. This approach is family focused and moves away from the directional style of support which historically framed the approach to family support.

To further embed the signs of safety approach we developed the Single Assessment to support this way of working and this was rolled out in Nov 2015.

In Dec 2016 we reviewed this process and re-named the assessment to an Early Help Assessment (EHA). We listened to partners views to improve the process in practice and received a lot of feedback. Some of the positives from this review were:

- Provides a clear framework for having difficult conversations
- Good way of looking at the whole family unit
- Improves integrated working across all partners

But we needed to improve:

- Training and consistency of practice
- Links into interventions that may have taken place previously
- Support to some partners to give confidence in using the process
- Understanding of the purpose of single assessment

Purpose of the Assessment

- A tool to support professionals to think through and map their concerns to be used for their own purpose
- To share information with another service i.e. Child Development Centre, so they are able to ascertain if they will need a service from them
- To request support through early help services
- To facilitate a safeguarding discussion with FFAP, when you have concerns about a child

The Early Help Assessment (EHA) is a tool which develops over time..... it is not a referral form

When you complete an EHA you will need to send it through to the FFAP@nelincs.gcsx.gov.uk

It will be screened by the FFAP team who will contact you to discuss your concerns further and ensure that the family's needs are met by the most appropriate service. The decisions that will be made are:

- You will be provided with **INFORMATION ADVICE AND GUIDANCE** on what are the recommended next steps to take with this family
- Your concerns will be deemed at a level to access **EARLY HELP SUPPORT** and your EHA will be forwarded along with any notes from your conversation to the Family Hub CSAM for discussion regarding allocation to Early Help
- The concerns raised are deemed such a worry that the family require **SOCIAL WORK ASSESSMENT** and the case will be allocated to a social worker in children services

Support for you

- North East Lincolnshire Council offers Signs of Safety training which is delivered on a monthly basis which can be accessed through our learning and development team
- Signs of safety practice development sessions are being held monthly the dates for these sessions are on the North East Lincolnshire Council website or you can contact learning development to access these. These sessions are to look at live cases and work through the signs of safety framework to support all practitioners to develop skills in this area
- The FFAP team will support you in thinking through your case
- There are skilled signs of safety practice leads in each of our teams that can support you in developing your skills
- Early Help Practitioners in Family Hubs, will support you in your thinking
- Practice guidance on how to complete the Early Help Assessment and how to use signs of safety in early help is available on our website to support your thinking