



Safeguarding and Integrated Working Inner and Outer South Area Committees



Background

- New Children and Young People's Plan key priorities on:
 - Safeguarding
 - Enabling integrated working
- New national Ofsted inspection framework for children's services and schools – much stronger emphasis on Safeguarding and Integrated Working
- Unannounced inspection July 21/22 2009 Identified areas for priority action -
 1. Response to child protection referrals does not meet statutory guidance and does not ensure that children are adequately safeguarded
 2. During the initial reading of records, children were identified as having been left at potential risk of serious harm
 3. Inconsistent assessments by Children and Young People's Social Care
 4. Inconsistent referrals from agencies



What we have done or we are doing now to respond to the unannounced inspection

- Review of 1600 child abuse and neglect cases since 1st April 2009 now complete- learning from this has highlighted the need for further action by universal and preventative services in cases that were designated 'NFA' (No Further Action)
- Revised S47 guidance issued 6th August 2009 and transmitted this through Children and Young People's Social Care and further threshold guidance for all services has been developed
- New leadership team - Jackie Wilson (Chief Officer), Sal Tariq, Ros Cheetham and Gail Faulkner (Heads of Service Delivery Fieldwork) to quality assure and risk assess our local response.
- Management of field work services strengthened
- There is local deployment of existing resource to triage referrals at the contact centre seen as 'NFA' and ensure that they are passed to the appropriate services



What we've done or are doing to respond to the unannounced inspection

- Better arrangements being put in place locally to drive and support integrated working – **wedge Children's Services Leadership Team**
- Developing **Lead Professionals** – someone who will 'hold the ring' for a child or young person through a Common Assessment Framework
- The roles of central staff are remodelled to improve local integration – **Integrated Service Leaders**
- Bringing teams together when cases are not progressing or improving outcomes using the - **Intervention Panels**
- **Bringing teams together when more complex cases are not progressing** within targeted and/or specialist services



In the South....

- A wedge team has been developed and Cllrs Gabriel and Gettings have joined the team
- The number of CAFs being done is increasing and we have appointed a coordinator for the south wedge to help support the process
- We are developing 4 Intervention Panels in Rothwell, across Gildersome/Drighlington/Morley South/Morley North, and Inner South (2 tbc).
- We are developing a panel for complex cases across the South and Outer East building on the signpost model
- We are developing the integration capacity and aiming for February to begin introducing posts This will be done by redefining roles and responsibilities around localities.



Some areas to explore Area Committee may wish to explore

- Developing the role of the children's champion
- Developing the role of elected members in clusters
- Maximising the opportunities for responding locally to issues relating to children, young people and families e.g. through ALMO's Police relationships, Governing Bodies and through the Corporate Parent role

