

Area Committee Improving Safeguarding and Integrated Working

Children Leeds

the <u>Leeds</u> Initiative

Local partnerships making things happen





Content

- 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 – stronger emphasis on Safeguarding
- Unannounced inspection July 21/22 2009 Identified areas for priority action
 - Response to child protection referrals does not meet statutory guidance and does not ensure that children are adequately safeguarded
 - During the initial reading of records, children were identified as having been left at potential risk of serious harm
 - Inconsistent referrals from agencies
 - Inconsistent assessments by Children and Young People's Social Care





Responding to the Unannounced Inspection

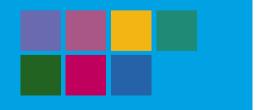
- Review of 1600 child abuse and neglect cases since 1st April 2009 now complete- learning from this has supported the findings of the unannounced inspection and highlighted the need for further action by universal and preventative services in cases that were designated 'NFA'
- Revised S47 guidance issued 6th August 2009 and transmitted this through CYPSC and further threshold guidance for all services has been issued
- 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 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





Integrated working

- Improving outcomes for children, young people and families not just a Social Care response.
- Work is underway to improve how services work together in an integrated way.
- Integrated working will:
 - Ensure children, young people and families get the right services at the right time
 - Embed consistent and shared approaches to the accurate assessment of need; and
 - Enable proper, swift responses to identified need for all children and young people





A Local Framework for Integrated Working

- Better arrangements being put in place locally to drive and support integrated working
- Additional central resources to improve local integration
- Children's Services Leadership Team
- Four key elements of local integrated working
 - Accelerating the use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
 - Integrated Service Leaders to work in clusters
 - Intervention Panels across clusters
 - Children Leeds Panel to work at wedge level







What Local Integrated Working Will Look Like

- Integrated Services Leaders (ISL's) to drive the integration of frontline services by embedding CAF, establish more responsive, needs led local teams, solution focused approaches and promote co location and joint working.
- Intervention Panels local multi-agency group to complement CAF process when cases are not progressing or improving outcomes using the CAF and team around the child process
- Children Leeds Panels wedge level senior leaders for complex cases when they are not progressing within targeted and/or specialist services
- Central project support to ensure these panels work effectively.





Areas to explore with the Area Committee

- Developing the role of the children's champion and their involvement with the Wedge Children's Services Leadership Team
- Developing the role of elected member 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



