

**Early Intervention Transformation
Programme (EITP)**

Workstream 2 Summary Paper

Early Intervention Support Service

Date: 25th February 2016

Introduction

Aim is to develop an Early Intervention Support Service (EISS) aligned to Family Support Hubs (FSHS) to support families when problems first emerge, before they become embedded or before statutory services are required. The EISS is being developed as a locally tailored EISS, within set parameters to ensure there is a degree of regional consistency; the overarching model see Appendix 1 is being replicated across the five pilot sites, to a greater or lesser extent to meet local needs allowing for the model to be modified and built upon. How it works in practice will reflect what is currently in place and what is required in the local patch.

1. Family Support Hubs

The Family Support Hub (FSH) is community-facing and consists of a collaborative network of statutory, voluntary and community providers in a specified geographic patch (local area). There will be approximately 29 such 'patches' covering all of NI. FSHS will receive referrals from practitioners in their patch who have concerns about a child, young person or family that has not been resolved through the usual first-level single agency approach. The FSHS generally convene monthly multiagency meetings of providers in their patch and through those ensure that referrals are directed to the provider(s) best placed to meet a family's needs. Existing FSHS have part-time or full-time co-ordinators who manage the multiagency meetings and referral process and develop the collaborative network of providers in their 'patch'. The FSHS will work to a common manual of standard operating procedures.

Key Features of Family Support Hubs

- Receives referrals for families where the presenting problem(s) have not been resolved through single agency intervention and the referrer is seeking advice or multiagency input;
- Works to a common Manual of Standard Operating Procedures, including family consent, referral forms, confidentiality and assessment;
- Has good knowledge and contact with relevant locality family support and early intervention providers;
- The FSH Co-ordinator facilitates monthly multiagency meetings to discuss, assess and match a family and provider(s), particularly in cases where there may be a number of problems to be addressed;
- Escalates child protection concerns to statutory Social Services if such concerns emerge at any time.

2. Early Intervention Service (EISS)

EISS is being implemented in 5 areas see Appendix 2 & 3 for 33 months and will provide a regional consistent EISS that will support 1,925 families from August 2015 – May 2018; EISS is being implemented as a service closely aligned to the FSH network, which accepts referrals directly from social care, health and education professionals, self-referrals and from the FSH. The EISS services will work in conjunction with their local FSH(s) to ensure that displacement is not an issue at the local level see Appendix 1 for EISS delivery model. In

addition each EISS will have access to Incredible Years Parenting Programmes, Strengthening Families Parenting Programmes and Family Group Conferencing.

The EISS is family-facing and provides hands-on care and support. It consists of family support staff who aim to provide early, timely, flexible and responsive support to families with emerging problems to prevent escalation of those problems. Each EISS will have available a “toolkit” of services and interventions i.e. practical “hands on support”; parenting programmes; mentoring; behaviour management and a range of evidence informed therapeutic and brief interventions including Solihull Approach; Motivational Interviewing and Solution Focused Brief Therapy. The EISS is based on the key worker approach which is recognised as an effective method of enabling families to resolve problems.

Key Features of Early Intervention Support Service

- Close working with the Family Support Hub Coordinator;
- Consists of a key worker assigned to the family to assess their needs and provide a response directly or with other providers until the needs are met satisfactorily;
- Provides timely, therapeutic and practical support to families;
- Operates in any gaps between existing providers and works in collaboration with existing providers to resolve specific problems;
- Short term support, typically up to 12 weeks, but occasionally longer;
- Family Group Conferencing will be provided as an intervention for 5% of families accessing the EISS;
- Refers to the FSH for multiagency input if a family’s problems are not resolved;
- Escalates child protection concerns to statutory Social Services if such concerns emerge at any time;
- Outcomes Based Accountability used to measure the impact.

3. Evidenced Informed Parenting Programmes

The EISS will be supported by the provision of two Evidence Informed Parenting Programmes (EIPP) - Strengthening Families and Incredible Years which are being provided through a Single Supplier Framework. Strengthening Families Parenting Programmes will be provided by ASCERT in the Belfast, South Eastern, Southern and Northern areas and by Derry Healthy Cities in the Western area. Incredible Years Parenting Programmes will be provided by Barnardos in the Belfast, Northern, South Eastern & Western areas. There is currently no provider for Incredible Years Programmes in the Southern area, as the Tender has been published twice the PHA can commission the programme from an existing provider in the area as programmes are required.

Access to the parenting programmes will **only** be available in the five pilot areas of the EISS see Appendix 2. 30K of funding per area per annum is available for Strengthening Families Parenting Programme and the Incredible Years Parenting Programme. The PHA will offer an order for a parenting programme when there are sufficient families within the area to fill

the programme (approximately 10-14 families); Referral Process for Parenting Programmes is detailed in Appendix 4. The drawdown for the programmes will be based on need and as a result the number/type of programmes delivered in each area may vary. It is anticipated that there will be a maximum of two Strengthening Families Parenting Programmes and two Incredible Years Parenting Programmes delivered per annum in each area.

There are currently two funding streams for Strengthening Families programmes across the region

- one funding stream from DHSSPS, Early Intervention Transformation Programme (EITP) programme monies which is being managed by PHA
- One funding stream from local PHA Delivering Social Change programme monies

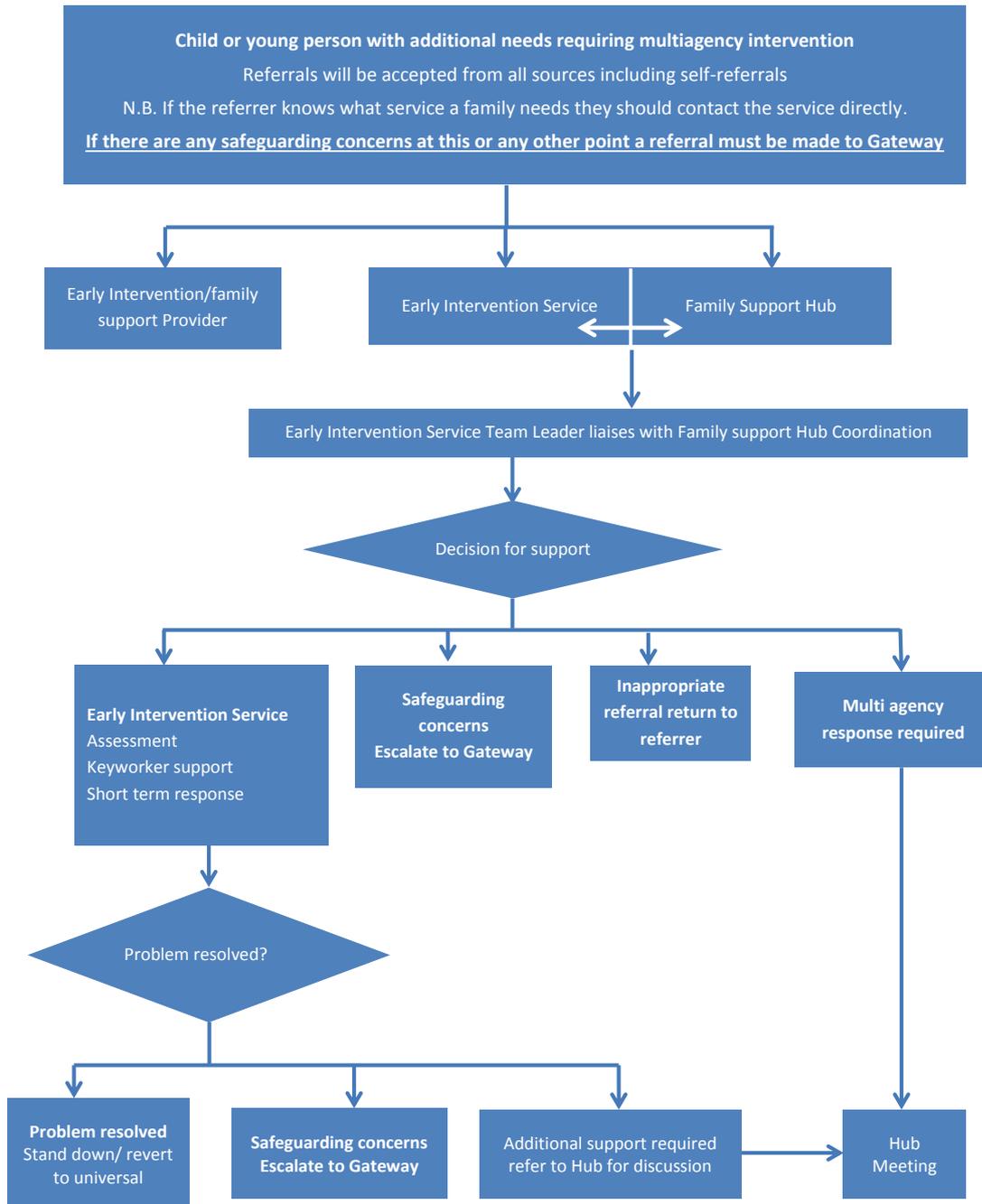
It has been agreed Strengthening Families Delivering Social Change programmes should be the central focus for referrals for families to ensure full take up of available families. Consequently there would not be “draw down” from DHSSPS EITP programme monies unless there is an excess demand for Strengthening Families Programmes that cannot be accommodated within the locality Strengthening Families Programmes Contract and related resource. Referrals to these programmes can come from a number of sources including Family Support Hubs, self-referrals and the Early Intervention Support Services. This will depend on existing contracts being extended. Should contracts not be extended we will then need to reconsider Strengthening Families Programmes delivery from DHSS EITP programme monies.

Barnardos are completing a plan for delivery of Incredible Years Programmes for 2016/2017 in all Belfast, Northern, South Eastern & Southern areas in collaboration with the EISS service providers, Family Support Hub Coordinator(s), and the Child Development Interventions Coordinator and the PHA EISS Change Manager. Once developed this will be circulated and regular updates will be provided to PHA Heads on Incredible Years and Strengthening Families programmes planned for 2016/2017.

Key Features of Early Informed Parenting Programmes

- Close working relationship between parenting programme service providers, EISS, Family Support Hub Coordinator(s), and the Child Development Interventions Coordinator within each area and the PHA EISS Change Manager to agree location and timing of each EIPP;
- Close collaborative working with other providers of EIPP in each area to agree location and timing of EIPP and avoid duplication;
- Provisional dates will be agreed for programmes within each area and programmes will be offered when sufficient families have been identified to make the programme viable.
- Referral process for Parenting Programmes is outlined in Appendix 4;
- Referrals will only be accepted for families that reside within the EISS areas see Appendix 2;
- Referrals will be accepted from any organisation or individual, including EISS, FSHS & self-requests.

Early Intervention Support Service Delivery Model



Early Intervention Support Service Pilot Areas

Belfast Outcomes Group Area

- Upper Springfield & Whiterock & Greater Shankill FSH
- Inner East FSH
- South Belfast 1 FSH
- Lower North Belfast FSH
- Outer North Belfast FSH

Northern Outcomes Group Area

- Ballymena, Larne & Carrickfergus FSH

South Eastern Outcomes Group Area

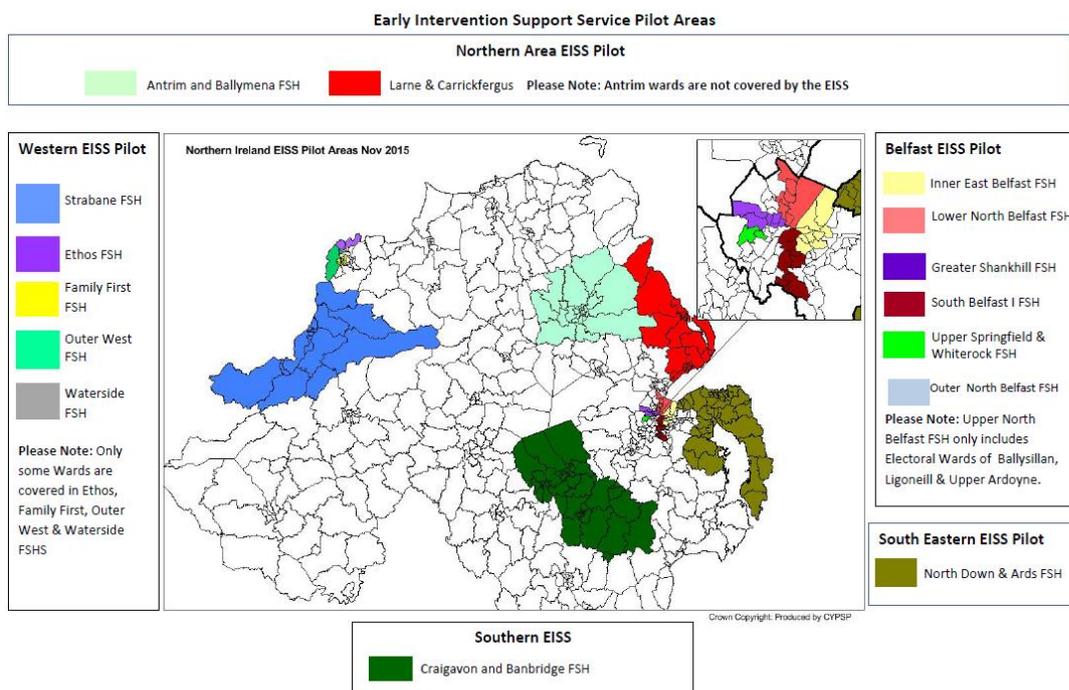
- North Down & Ards FSH

Southern Outcomes Group Area

- Craigavon & Banbridge FSH

Western Outcomes Group Area

Strabane FSH & some Wards covered by Ethos FSH (Culmore; Shantallow East; & Shantallow West), Family First FSH Brandywell; Creggan Central; Creggan South; Strand Derry & The Diamond), Outer West FSH (Crevagh, Rosemount & Springtown) & Waterside (Victoria Bridge) FSH.



Note: Shading depicts areas covered within Family Support Hubs

Contact Details for EISS Pilot Areas

Belfast Area – NIACRO

Address

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Northern Area – Action for Children

Address

St Anthony's Primary School,
43 Fairway,
Larne,
BT40 2BG

email: neiss@actionforchildren.org.uk **Telephone:** 028 2827 6044

Southern Area – NIACRO/SPACE

Address

26 Carlton Street,
Portadown,
BT62 3EP

email: eissouthern@niacro.co.uk **Telephone:** 028 9127 1538

South Eastern Area – Barnardos

Address

Simpson Family Resource Centre,
40 Manse Road,
Bangor,
BT20 3DE

email: simpsonEISS@barnardos.org.uk **Telephone:** 028 3833 1168

Western Area – Action for Children

Address

3rd Floor Ebrington Business Centre,
Glendermott Road,
Londonderry,
BT47 6BG

email: weiss@actionforchildren.org.uk **Telephone:** 028 7134 2286

For further information please contact Amanda McLean or Maurice Meehan on

028 90311611

Referral Process for Parenting Programmes

