

Early Help Strategy

Achieving better outcomes for children, young people and families, by developing family resilience and intervening early when help and support is needed

Context



The work to develop Early Help in Haringey is in the context of:

- Growing, and young, population
- A vision to enable every Haringey child and young person to thrive and achieve
- Moves towards working alongside families and communities to build and support self-reliance and independence
- Increasing demand for specialist services across partners
- Focus on collaboration and integration across the whole system
- Considerable financial challenges for all partners
- Set of services and models which are unsustainable and not focused on delivering outcomes
- Shift from direct delivery to achieving outcomes through a commissioning approach

Introduction



-
- The Early Help Partnership Board owns and leads this Strategy
 - We are ambitious and will work collaboratively as a whole system – families, communities and partners – to achieve the outcomes set out here
 - To do so, we need to rebalance a system focused on those children and young people with high needs to early help
 - Our starting point is how we can build resilience and together enable better outcomes for children, young people and families
 - We already have in place some of the building blocks – this Strategy will touch all those in the borough working with children, young people and families

Introduction



-
- As a partnership, we have agreed to:
 - Work alongside our residents, at the heart of what we do
 - Think family
 - Intervene early
 - Build resilience in families and communities
 - Focus on outcomes not process
 - Adopt a commissioning approach, basing change on needs, evidence and outcomes
 - Tackle inequalities – not all localities have the same needs
 - Optimise use of all resources

What is Early Help?



-
- The information, advice, guidance, support and interventions that enable children and families to remain safely in their communities, improve their outcomes, reduce the need for more specialist support and sustain family cohesion by:
 - preventing needs arising,
 - intervening early to tackle emerging problems or
 - targeting support on families most at risk of becoming vulnerable.
 - Covers the age range from conception to 25, with a focus on Early Years
 - Describes also an approach to practice – stepping care up and down as needs and the ability of families to cope change
 - Operates at the preventative, universal and the most intensive end
 - Can be delivered by single or multi agency
 - Examples range from the Family Information Service to Early Years provision, family support and more targeted interventions

What is Early Help?



-
- Early Help
 - empowers children, young people and families to find their own solutions and be equipped to cope with future needs as they may arise without statutory support
 - works best alongside approaches to build community capacity
 - is based on an asset rather than a deficit model, building on the strengths and qualities within individuals and networks
 - recognises that some families will continue to need high quality specialist social care support.

Vision



The vision for Early Help is the partnership vision in the Corporate Plan for all children, young people and families in Haringey:

“We will work together with families to ensure that every child in Haringey has the very best start in life, including through world class education”

Needs assessment headlines



-
- Greater dissemination of information about early help and other services is needed for families
 - Parental health and wellbeing impacts on the likelihood of a child being at risk – a family approach is needed particularly for areas such as mental health, substance misuse and violence against women and girls
 - Identification of hotspots and key groups supports targeted early help in a locality model
 - Some services do not have a clear evidence base and cannot demonstrate how they improve outcomes and enhance resilience
 - The key risk factors for social care intervention are fairly consistent across ages and identify clear areas for earlier intervention

Our outcomes



The Strategy will seek to deliver the following three outcomes:

- Improved family and community resilience
 - Self-reliant, confident and independent
- Thriving children, young people and families
 - Healthy, learning and reaching their potential
- Strong partnerships making effective use of all resources
 - Whole systems leadership to optimise community and partner resources, qualities and assets

Our priorities



We have five strategic priorities:

1. Delivering prevention and early intervention to reduce escalation of need
2. Enhancing access to and co-ordination of integrated services
3. Sustaining resilience for children, young people and families
4. Developing the workforce to be more confident and empowered practitioners of early help
5. Increasing equity of access to quality provision for all children, young people and families

Detailed delivery plans and associated outcomes are in place for each of the actions under the priorities, these will be tracked through the Early Help Partnership Board.

Priority 1: Delivering prevention and early intervention to reduce escalation of need



What will we do?

- Facilitate timely access for all to high quality information, advice and guidance
- Develop core, collaborative, universal offer to underpin our early help provision
- Deliver the Universal Healthy Child Programme – 0-19
 - redesign the service model for health visiting across the borough
- Build robust approach to step up and step down across services
- Maximise take-up of the two year old free early education offer by our most disadvantaged children, identifying those who would benefit most
- Work across universal and community services to strengthen competence and confidence in identifying, assessing and responding to needs
- Improve access to speech, language and communication support in early years
 - build capacity in universal services to deliver support directly
 - ensure model targets resources effectively

Priority 2: Enhancing access to and co-ordination of integrated services

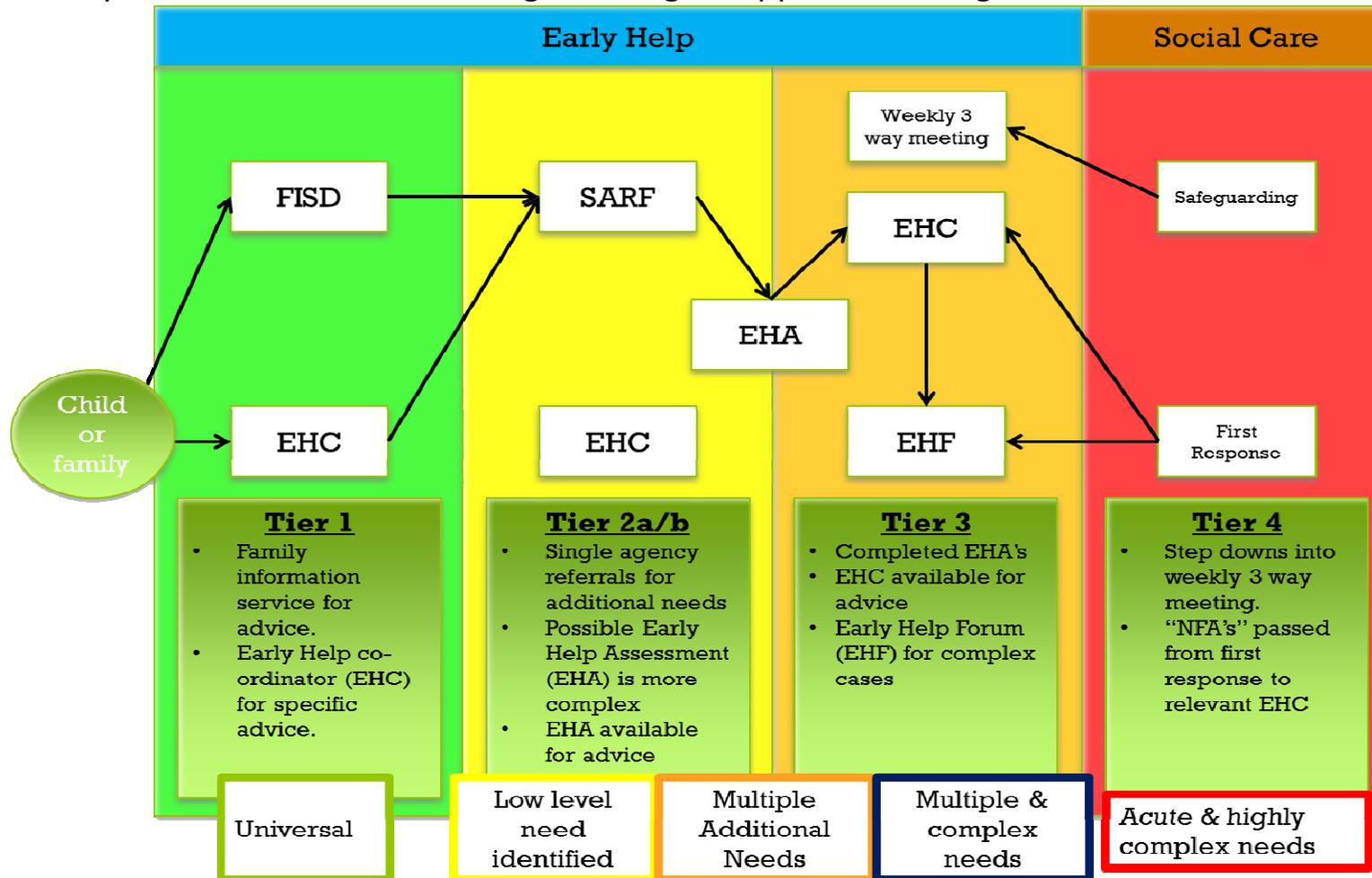


What will we do?

- Re-commission the Early Years offer on a locality model to deliver:
 - Family centres with co-located Early Help Co-ordinators & health visitors
 - enhanced links to integrated primary care locality teams
 - localised offer to target most effectively
- Develop a robust and consistent family information offer across universal services that promotes independence and self sufficiency
- Deliver our Early Help Model across partners
 - implement the Early Help Pathway
 - maintain support for the 6 Early Help Forums
 - improve access to integrated family support
- Redesign CAMHS to deliver an integrated service
 - improved Emotional Health and Wellbeing for all
 - high quality specialist interventions to those in need

Early Help Pathway

- Our Early Help Pathway has been designed to support our achievement of priorities one and two to help our children and families get the right support at the right time.



Priority 3: Sustaining resilience for children, young people and families



What will we do?

- Work alongside our children, young people and families to build capacity through co-production
- Commission our Early Help offer to provide network of evidence-based, high quality interventions
 - Refocus our Youth service to build resilience in young people and families
 - Re-commission existing services to meet Early Help priorities
 - Ensure all activity delivered through the partnership enhances resilience and Think Family
- Enable adult learning and employment opportunities through early help
- Facilitate a responsive, flexible childcare market to meet the varying needs of the working population and those seeking to work
- Build community capacity in localities, empowering parents to support one another, ensuring approaches are co-ordinated, flexible and responsive
- Embed family focused approach through better links with adult services, notably for Mental Health, Substance Misuse and Violence against women and girls

Priority 4: Developing the workforce to be more confident and empowered practitioners of early help



What will we do?

- Provide training and development to practitioners and parents to support Family Focused interventions, delivering early help
- Address practice and organisational culture to support confident and empowered staff
- Build opportunities for shared learning across agencies through the Early Help Forums
- Increase emphasis on working alongside families to deliver solutions

Priority 5: Increasing equity of access to quality provision for all children, young people and families



What will we do?

- Increase access to high quality child care for all families across the borough by:
 - refocusing subsidy from the maintained childcare sector towards investment in quality improvement for all
 - ensuring sufficiency and sustainability
- Use targeted, intelligence driven commissioning approaches to deliver improved access to high quality provision and better outcomes for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children
- Develop peer-led, collaborative approaches to quality improvement that empower providers and promote local accountability and responsibility
- Increase the number of nursery units in schools to improve access to highest quality provision for all

Conclusion



Please:

- Questions
- Comments
- Contributions