

Early Help

Presentation to Resilient
Communities Scrutiny Committee

Early help – a Blackpool wide approach

Universal

Vulnerable

Complex

Acute

The current situation

Strengths

- 80 getting it right champions across the agencies
- Better Start
- Additional resources for Domestic Abuse and sexual abuse
- Some good partnership working
- We meet and exceed troubled families targets

Weaknesses

- Getting it right still needs to further embed
- Impact of early help on the numbers of open cases to social care not clear
- Inconsistent approaches at level 2 (vulnerable)
- Lack of data of activity and impact outside of complex and acute
- Early help still not seen as “everyone’s business”
- Partners under pressure to due to competing priorities

Opportunities

- Expansion of the children’s centre offer
- Share good practice across schools
- Consider alternative approaches to pastoral care

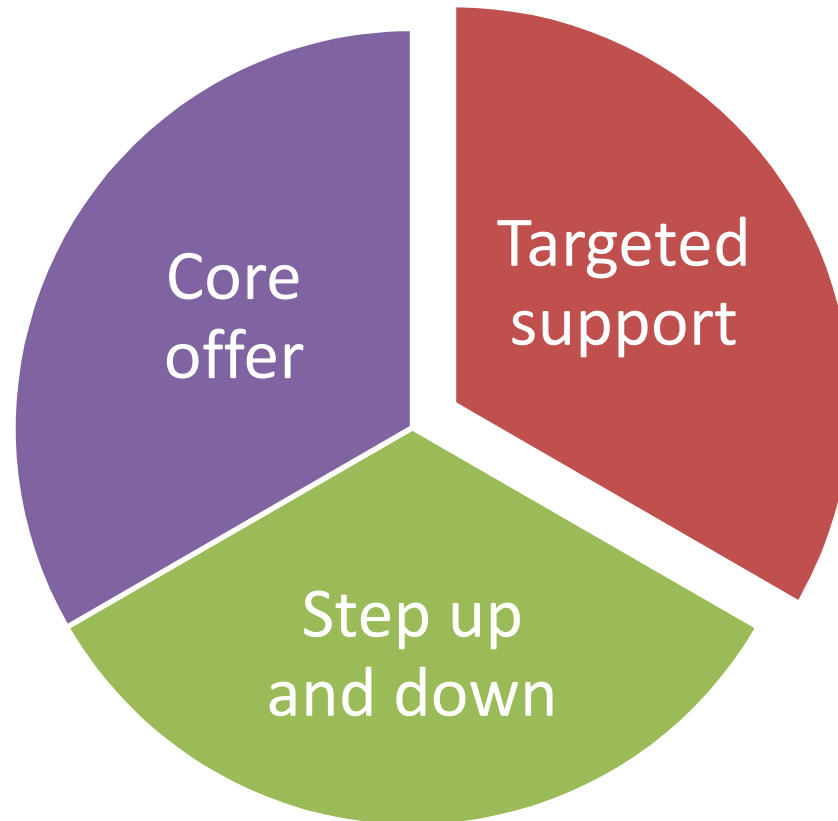
Results required

- Reduction in the number of complex and acute cases
- Reduction in school exclusion rates

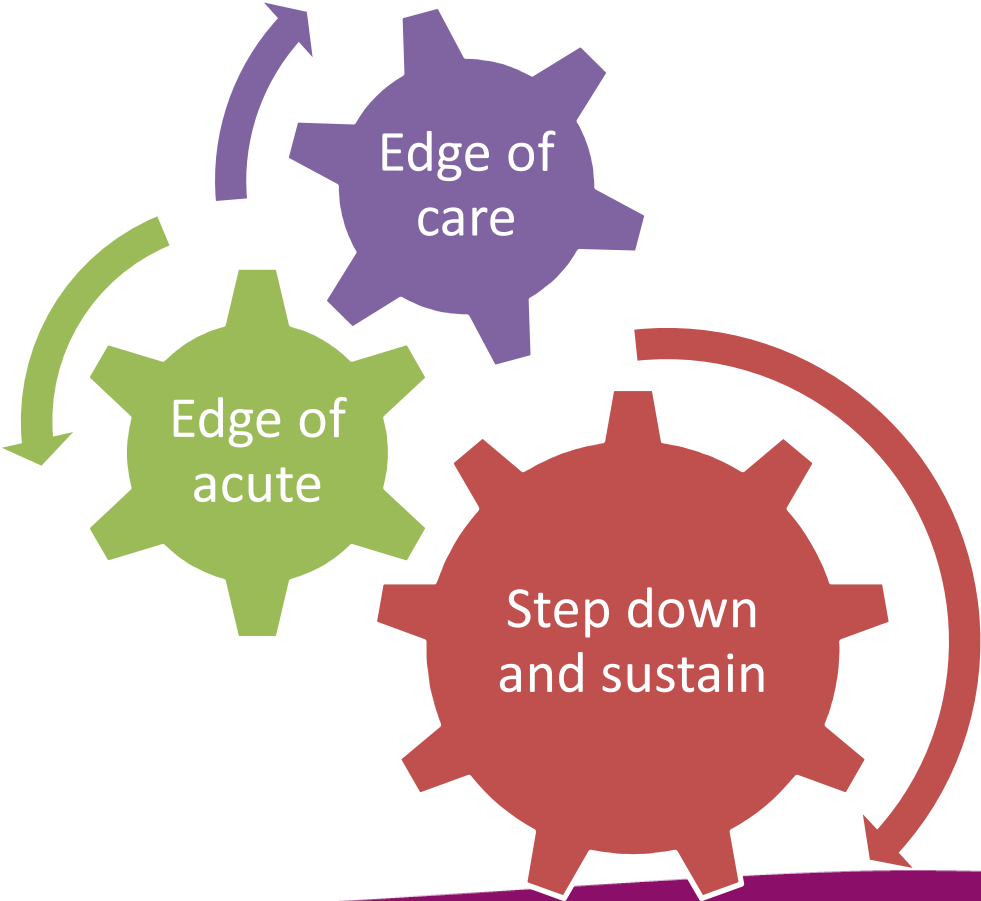
The vision moving forward

- Never do nothing – we all need to support effective early help – its part of the day job
- Shared approach and shared language
- We act early before the situation or the problems become worse
- Assessments need to lead to clear actions to achieve defined outcomes and by dynamic
- Decision making and planning are shared and balanced

Children's Centres



Families in Need



Domestic abuse and conflict

- Inner strength
- Evidence based 12 week programme addressing the behaviour of domestic abuse perpetrators. Currently delivering 3rd cohort, early findings are positive, attendees have engaged and completed the course.
- Parents as partners
- Step up pilot

Impact

- High levels of activity
- FIN 2015/16 worked with 832 families
- Currently supporting 418 families
- 83% 0-5 registered at a children's centre
- BUT impact difficult to measure
- 345 stepped down to level 2 (FIN)

New Ways of Working

- BSCB taking forward a new early help strategy
- Better joint working – the development of a vulnerable adolescent hub
- Stronger focus on edge of care and prevention of family breakdown
- Tighter focus on commissioning of early help by social care
- Stronger link to the evidence base