

'The right help, at the right time, in the right place'

Southwark Children and Families Family Early Help Update for GPs and Primary Care– Dec 2019

Family Early Help within the Local Authority Children & Families directorate

- There are 68 staff in Family Early Help reporting to the Assistant Director Jenny Brennan
- The Transformation Lead, Paula Hill, reports directly to the AD and will drive the integration of **Under 5s** work in Children's Centres and cross system early help provision plus maximize **Troubled Families** funding
- The Family Early Help service is led by Vicky Agnew and includes:
 - **Early Help CAMHS team**
 - **Business admin team**
 - **Southwark Parenting Programme** Coordinator with team of Parenting Practitioners based at Ann Bernadt Children's Centre
 - Under 11 and 11+ Adolescent Service (95% of workforce trained in the **FAMILY model**)
 - **Under 11 service** with 4 teams aligned geographically with Children's Centres areas South Bermondsey Children's Centre (Bermondsey and Rotherhithe and Borough, Bankside and Walworth) and Queens Road 2 building (Camberwell and Dulwich, Peckham, Peckham Rye and Nunhead) **Service Manager – Liz Fajemisin**
 - **11+ Adolescent service** with 4 teams based at based at Ann Bernadt Children's Centre, a GSTT Nurse and the Education Inclusion Team with **Senior Education Welfare Officers** based geographically **Service Manager – Shane Steere-Jones**

Core teams working with families consist of a Team Manager, Senior Early Help Practitioner with Early Help Keyworker or Apprentice and Early Help Practitioners x 3. Teams aim to provide step-down and new referral work with families in Southwark that need an early help service (proposed casework with 30 families per year = 1500 families). Other frontline staff from the Family Early Help Specialist Teams will focus on parenting, attendance/exclusions, and physical and mental health early help interventions and support.

Practice

- Whole family assessment and plans are undertaken through a **FAMILY model** framework to address areas of concern and goals agreed with the family which will include key risk factors identified within the Troubled Families Programme¹.
- Statutory duties for Education Welfare are delivered within the whole family approach with 3 specialist Senior Education Welfare roles undertaking prosecution work and offering expertise on exclusion.
- Completion of the Early Help Referral form will continue to be the access point for services

Referrals and Consent

Refer children and families where needs are beyond the level of support what can be provided by the practice, but do not meet threshold for social care intervention/statutory child protection.

- What help have you or others provided to address the child and family needs?
- What are you still worried about? **What needs to change for the child(ren) and why?** What has prompted this referral now?
- What information do you have about the parent/carer and wider family support network? E.g. relationships, friendships, behaviors, support, stability, safety, language, mental health, substance misuse, domestic abuse, additional risks?

¹ School attendance including exclusion, child in need of help, physical and mental health needs, domestic abuse, criminality and financial exclusion/worklessness

As a non-statutory service consent is required for referral, but can be recorded as verbal. Consent is required, as the Children Act 1989 mirrors Human Rights Act 1998. Section 47 of the Children Act reflects the absolute right within Article 3 of the Human Rights Act: Right of protection from inhumane or degrading treatment, whilst Section 17 reflects qualified right within Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life.

Ambition

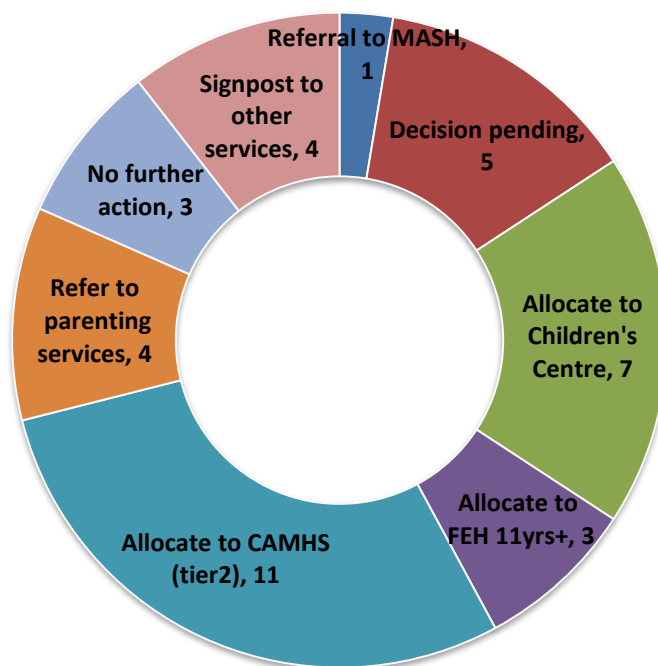
The remodelling will build on existing high-quality interventions to achieve excellence:

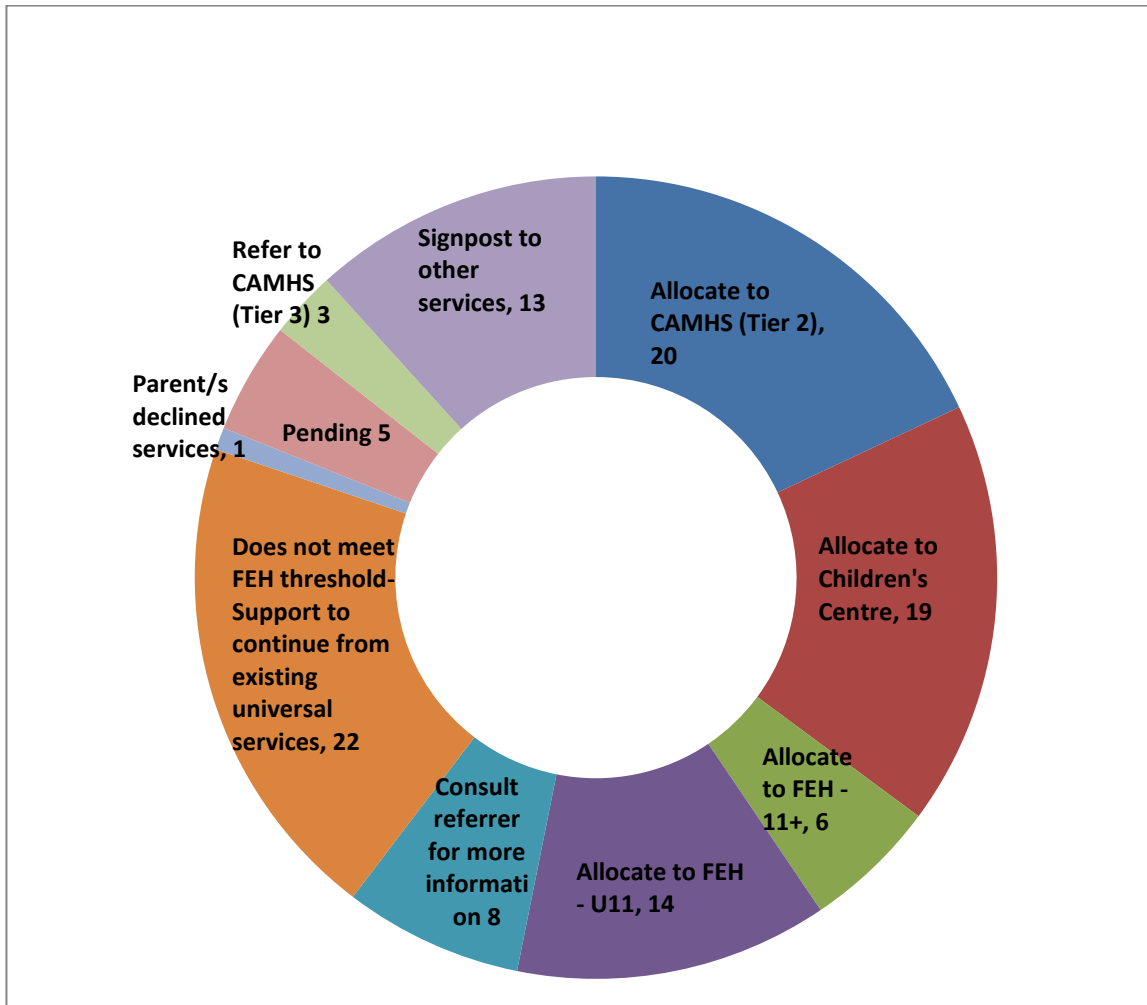
- Vulnerable children are helped when problems emerge, and their families are supported in a sustainable way to enable change and avoid escalation to statutory services
- Pathways to targeted early support are clear and outcomes achievable within the resources available
- A step-down pathway from statutory safeguarding is effective in maintaining progress towards universal service support for families and sustainable change for children
- Attendance and attainment at school is a key outcome for the Family Early Help service and we will refresh and continue our commitment to working with schools to maximize these key indicators
- The Family Early Help service works alongside other agencies to ensure the most vulnerable families receive 'the right help, at the right time, in the right place' and effective governance holds partners to account

Referral Data

2nd January to 3rd May 2019

38/198 (19%) of referrals to family early help, from health, were from general practice. Other referrers within health include: health visitors, school nurses, SLAM, antenatal, brook, A&E

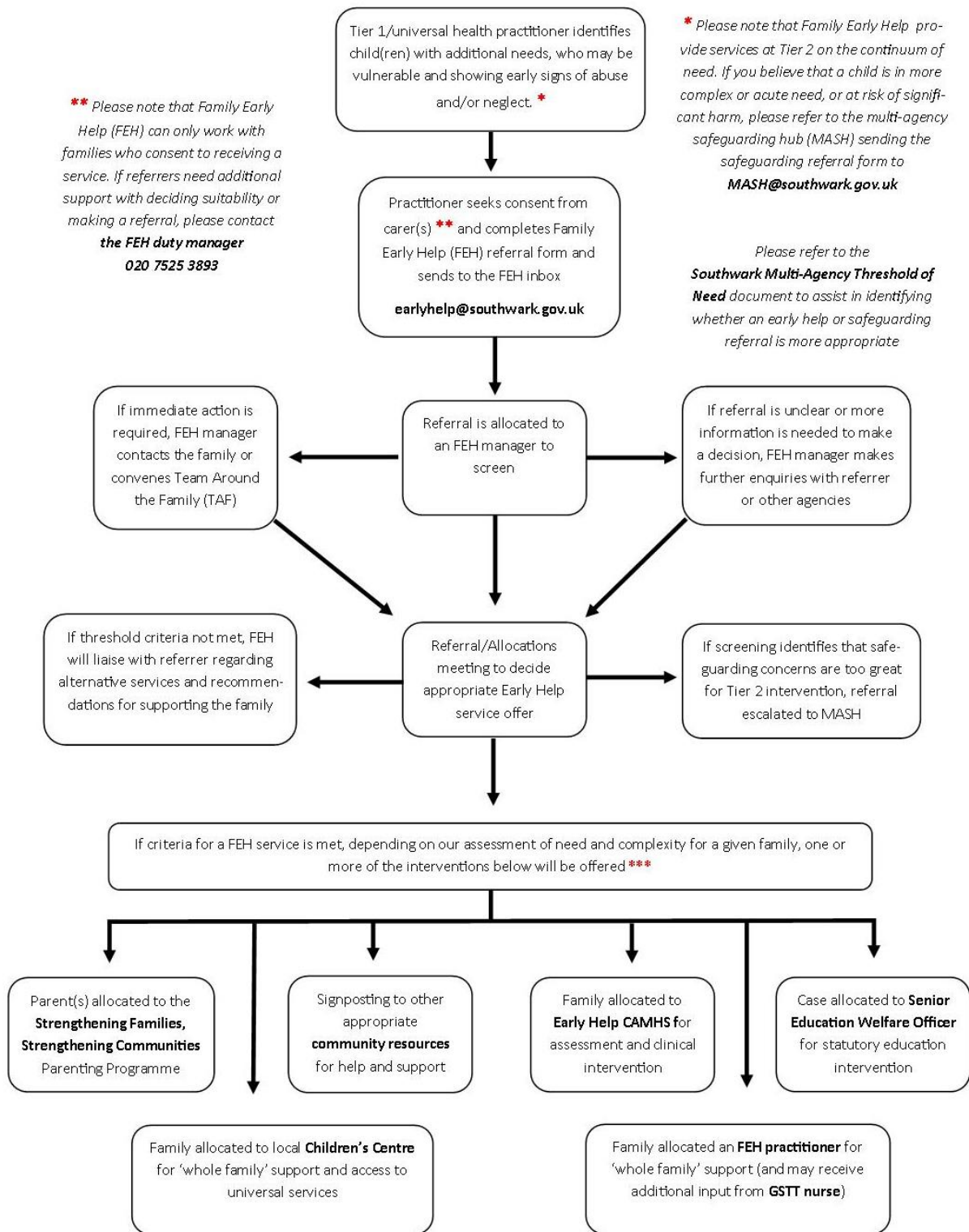




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Process for referring to Southwark Family Early Help



***** Please note that there may be a short waiting list for allocation**

