

Area Board Briefing Note – Family Help

Service:	Family and Children’s Commissioning
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Family hubs are part of the Government manifesto promise to support children and young people up to the age of 19, or 25 if they have SEND. In Wiltshire we will refer to them as part of our Family Help offer. This is to remove the implication of the support being purely building based.

We have a vision that all children, young people and families will be enabled and empowered to live their healthiest, most fulfilled lives by having easy and timely access to a locally integrated network of hubs, supported by an online offer. This will bring preventative and early help-support and information services together from all sectors to ensure a county wide delivery that is seamless, relationship based and trauma informed, empowering families to be resilient and live their healthiest, most fulfilled lives.

The Government requires the delivery of a universal core offer which will consist of:

- Maternity services
- Health visiting
- Mental health support
- Infant feeding advice with specialist breastfeeding support
- Safeguarding
- Services relating to Special Educational Needs (SEND)

As well as additional services to include and not limited to:

- Activities for children 0-5
- Birth registrations
- Debt and welfare advice
- Domestic abuse support
- Early language support
- Financial support (2year-old entitlements, 30 hours, universal credit childcare offer, tax-free childcare)
- Health visiting
- Housing
- Infant feeding
- One to one targeted family support services
- Mental health services (beyond Start for Life parent-infant mental health)
- Midwifery/maternity
- Nutrition and weight management
- Oral health improvement

- Parent-infant relationships and Perinatal Mental Health Support
- Parenting support
- Parental Relationship Support
- SEND support and services (inclusive of the Start for Life period)
- Stop smoking support
- Substance (alcohol/drug) misuse support
- Support for separating and separated parents
- Youth justice services
- Youth services-universal and targeted

These services can be either delivered by the Local Authority or Health providers, or they can be commissioned out to private providers or organisations in the Voluntary and Community Sector. Many of these organisations and arrangements already exist and will use the hub facilities where possible.

The first step to developing this countywide service is to work with the communities and ask them what they want and how they want it made available.

An online consultation was launched on 12 January and will run for 12 weeks. There will be face to face consultations in every community area during February and March for families to have their say in how the service can be developed and for them to express the needs for their area. We recognise that the solution for each area is likely to vary dependent on the needs and wishes of the families.

We have asked similar questions in relation to community connecting via the health service, but this is different and very family focussed.

It is important that families are aware of the consultation and that we reach families who do not normally engage with the Local Authority around service delivery, so please can you share with your partners and communities so that we can get a very comprehensive view from families.

Please see the attached poster for further information, and please contact us if you have any queries on FamilyHelp@wiltshire.gov.uk