

## **Troubled Families Outcome Plan 2018-2019**

### **1. The vision for whole family working**

The national troubled families programme has been devised to deliver outcomes for families, the taxpayer and local services. In Cumbria this programme is run under the banner of 'Focus Family', however, it is the work of the whole workforce that generates change and the small Focus Family team are essentially in place to support and evidence the changes and emphasise the benefits of work.

In order to empower families and help them become increasingly self-sufficient the programme expects all professionals and agencies to work together to help families achieve "significant and sustained progress". This level of progress set against a whole family approach helps to ensure work with children and families is focussed on achieving positive and measurable outcomes. This document aims to explain how the Troubled Families Programme fits in with LSCB working practices and how the approach will help to address improved outcomes for families and stakeholders. It is based on county wide priorities from:

DWP: Improving Lives: Helping Workless Families  
Cumbria County Council Plan  
Children's Trust Board  
Cumbria LSCB 2017-20 Business Plan  
Cumbria Health & Wellbeing board  
Police and Crime Plan

Achieving successful outcomes will ensure finance is received into the local authority under the terms of the Troubled Families Financial Framework <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/financial-framework-for-the-troubled-families-programme-january-2018-onwards> .

### **2. Who are the families?**

Whole family working covers all thresholds of service provision and all needs of families. Working in a whole family way encompasses effective delivery of the LSCB Early Help Strategy and multi-agency procedures.

The Troubled Families agenda identifies six broad headline criteria:

1. Parents or children involved in crime or anti-social behaviour.
2. Children who have not been attending school regularly.
3. Children who need help: Children of all ages, who need help, are identified as in need or are subject to a Child Protection Plan.
4. Adults out of work or at risk of financial exclusion or young people at risk of worklessness.

5. Families affected by violence against women and girls and domestic abuse
6. Parents or children with a range of health problems.

It is an expectation of the programme that all families are supported in line with the following principles:

- All families have an assessment that takes into account the needs of the whole family
- There is an action plan that takes into account all (relevant) family members
- There is a lead/ key worker that is recognised by the family and other professionals involved with the family
- The objectives in the family action plan are aligned to those in the local authorities Troubled Family Outcome Plan.

### **3. How will evidence be gathered?**

The Focus Family Team will ensure robust evidence is secured, according to the terms of the Financial Framework. Some of this evidence will be from data streams but the overriding principle is to gather qualitative evidence from frontline professionals. The Focus Family team will be able to provide support and direction with this.

Outcomes are classed as “sustained” at the point at which the last improvement has been made i.e. CP plan is closed/ work has started. The period of monitoring will cease once the claim has been verified.

All data is captured and stored in line with data protection requirements and in accordance with the council’s privacy notice.

#### **The Outcome Plans:**

**Please see below**

Recommendations following national Audit Spot Check in January 2019:

1. To alter the timeframe for measuring sustainment following a Child Protection plan closure from 12 months to 6 months.
2. To strengthen the definition of “Progress to work”

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Theme 1: Parents and young people involved in crime or anti-social behaviour		
Strategic Priorities: 1. Children & Young People are Safe 2. Tackle crime and anti - social behaviour 3. Manage offenders in the community after release from prison or a court sentence		
Identified issues	Significant progress (Outcome measure)	Sustained Progress (Outcome Measure)
An Under 18 year old who has committed a proven offence in the last 12 months	At least 50% reduction in offending or case closed due to reduction of risk of re-offending	In the last 6 months of the intervention
A young person under 16 years old is a perpetrator of domestic abuse or sexual violence		
An adult or child who has received an anti-social behaviour intervention (or equivalent local anti-social behaviour teams and measure) in the last 12 months.		
An adult prisoner who is less than 12 months from his/her release date and will have parenting responsibilities on release	Adult does not reoffend AND Successful completion of licence conditions and / or community order, including alcohol and drug programmes No return to court No recall to prison	No reoffending over the course of meeting all other outcome measures
An adult who is currently subject to a licence or supervision in the community, following release from prison, and has parenting responsibilities.		
An adult who is currently serving a community order or suspended sentence, who has parenting responsibilities		
Adults and children nominated by professionals because their potential crime problem or offending behaviour is of equivalent concern to the indicators above.		

Theme 2: Children who have not been attending school regularly

Strategic Priorities: 1. Children and young people are achieving 2. To safeguard children and support families and schools so that all children in Cumbria can grow up in a safe environment and can fulfil their potential.

Identified issues	Significant progress (Outcome measure)	Sustained Progress (Outcome Measure)
<p>A child or young person is;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• not attending school regularly</li> <li>• has a fixed term exclusion</li> <li>• has a permanent exclusion</li> </ul>	<p>Authorised &amp; unauthorised attendance is improved to at least 90% of possible sessions</p> <p>No permanent exclusions</p> <p>No more than 3 fixed term exclusions or none if the individual already had less than 3 on entry</p>	<p>Over the last 3 consecutive terms</p>
<p>A child or young person is in alternative educational provision for children with behavioural problems.</p>		
<p>A child who is neither registered with a school, or being educated in an alternative setting.</p>		
<p>A child nominated by education professionals as having school attendance problems of equivalent concern to the indicators above because he/she is not receiving a suitable full time education. This would include where the level of authorised absences are a cause for concern.</p>		

Theme 3: Children Requiring Help and Support		
Strategic Priorities: 1. Child and young people are safe 2. Prevent grooming/ CSE and sexual abuse		
Indicator/ family Problem Identified issues	Significant progress (and / or Outcome measure)	Sustained Progress
A child in the family is in receipt of support at Child Protection Plan (S47 and above) level	Child does not become looked after Child and family are stepped down non-statutory support	No re-entry to social care in 6 months
Family is supported below S47 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>those repeatedly assessed at S17 or S47 but deemed to be in need of early help</li> <li>Child identified as having or at risk of developing social, emotional or mental health problems</li> <li>A young person under 16 years is a victim of domestic abuse</li> <li>A child identified as having a delay in speech, language and communication skills or not school ready. This can include children not reaching the threshold in the communication domain at the 2-2.5 yr old health visitor check</li> </ul>	Child's needs do not escalate to child protection levels Child and family are stepped down non-statutory support  Child does not become looked after  Early Help Assessment process is successfully addressing needs	No new referral or escalation in 6 months
Child identified as at risk of Childhood Sexual Exploitation and /or reported as missing from home	Child no longer on the register as at risk of CSE No missing person or vulnerable child reports	No new referral or escalation in 6 months
A child in the family is recognised as being a Young Carer	Child's school attendance is above 90% Child reports settled and healthy home environment	
A child nominated by professionals as having problems of equivalent concern to the indicators above including not having taken up free early years entitlement	Family maintain safe environment as evidenced by achieving all other Focus Family outcome measures	

Theme 4: Adults out of work or at risk of financial exclusion AND young people at risk of worklessness		
Strategic Priorities: 1. Children and young people are achieving 2. To enable communities to help shape their local services, promote health and wellbeing and support those in poverty		
Indicator/ family Problem Identified issues	Significant progress (and / or Outcome measure)	Sustained Progress
An adult in receipt of out of work benefits including Universal Credit / JSA/ IS/ ESA and is subject to work related conditions	Claimants move into work UC claimants achieve Administrative Earnings Threshold OR benefit claimants successfully make progress to work through attending relevant training courses or volunteering	JSA claimants must sustain work and UC claimants must meet AET for 26 of the last 30 weeks Other claimants must maintain work for 13 weeks OR progress measures must be made
A young person who is not in education, training or employment	Young person is engaged in employment, training or education OR young person addresses barriers to work through successful attendance at relevant courses/ programmes	During the course of the intervention
A young person who is about to leave school with no planned education, training or employment	Young person attends education, training or employment on leaving school	During the course of the intervention
Parents and families nominated by professionals as being at significant risk of financial exclusion. This may include those with problematic/ unmanageable levels and forms of debt and those with significant rent arrears	An income and debt re-payment plan is in place and judged to be satisfactorily maintained  There is no escalation in sanctions	At least 13 weeks

Theme 5: Families affected by domestic & sexual abuse including violence against women & girls		
Strategic Priorities: 1. Tackling domestic abuse early 2. Child and young people are safe		
Indicator/ family Problem Identified issues	Significant progress (and / or Outcome measure)	Sustained Progress
<p>A person over 16 years old known to local services has experienced, is currently experiencing or is at risk of Experiencing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• domestic violence or abuse</li> <li>• Sexual violence or abuse</li> <li>• 'Honour based' abuse.</li> </ul>	<p>One of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No repeat referral to MARAC</li> <li>• Reduction in number of domestic abuse incidents over last 6 months</li> <li>• No Police call outs for domestic abuse</li> <li>• Completion of recognised healthy relationships programme (child/ adult and/ or victim/ perpetrator)</li> </ul>	<p>Over the last 6 months of the intervention</p>
<p>A young person or adult who is known to local services as having perpetrated, in the last 12 months, an incident of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• domestic violence or abuse</li> <li>• Sexual violence or abuse</li> <li>• 'Honour based' abuse.</li> </ul>		
<p>A police call out, or disclosure of, at least one domestic incident, including so called 'honour based' abuse in the last 12 months</p>		

Theme 6: Parents and children with a range of health problems		
Strategic Priorities: 1. To address the Health and wellbeing gap 2. Children and young people are healthy		
Indicator/ family Problem Identified issues	Significant progress (and / or Outcome measure)	Sustained Progress
An adult with parenting responsibilities (including new or expectant mothers), or a child, with mental health problems	Improvements in wellbeing maintained as measured by successful engagement and completion of support plans OR Successful engagement with community based services	Over 6 months
An adult with parenting responsibilities (including new or expectant mothers) or a child with a substance misuse problem.	Reduction in alcohol related hospital admissions Reduction in intake and harm as measured by successful engagement and completion of support plans OR Successful engagement with community based services	Over 6 months
An adult with parenting responsibilities (including new or expectant mothers) showing other health factors associated with poor parenting including those receiving Universal Partnership Plus Service.	Practitioner or other relevant community based support reports evidence of parent demonstrating ability to take responsibility for actions to improve health of family	Over 6 months
Adults with parenting responsibilities or children who are nominated by health professionals as having any mental and physical health problems of equivalent concern to the indicators above, which are being poorly managed within the family e.g. obesity.		