

Overview of Families First Partnership



Overview

<https://youtu.be/RJJNibObBHU?si=shT2rB3wvzltcCpY>

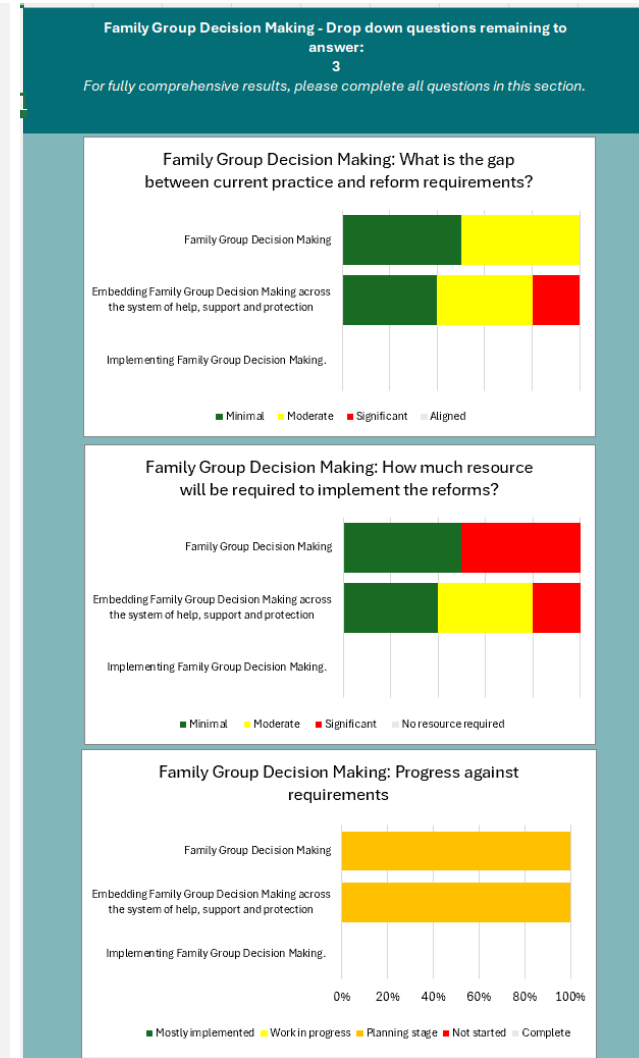
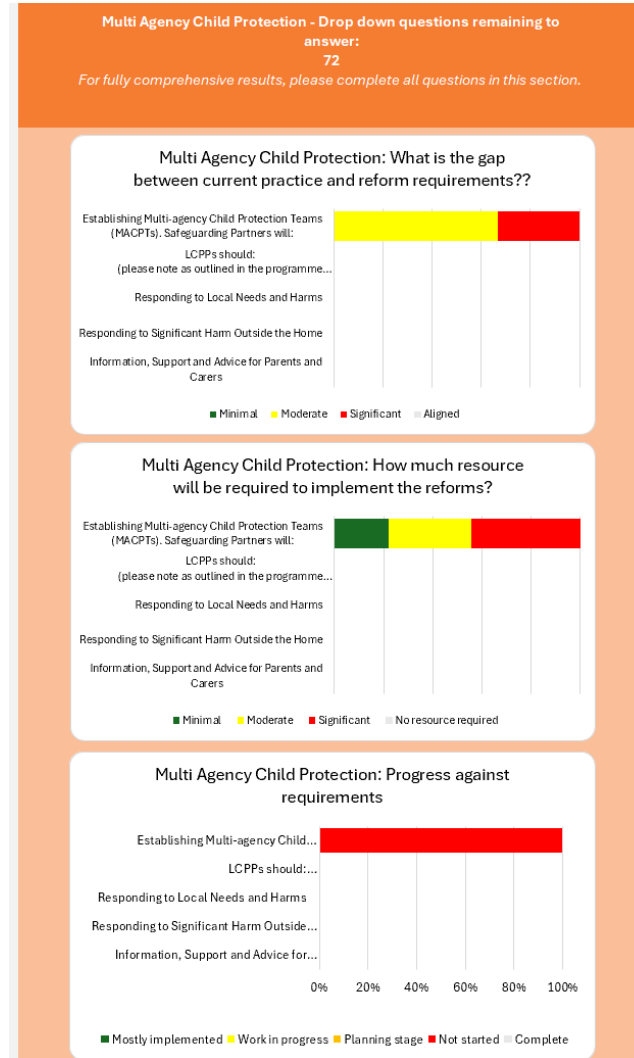
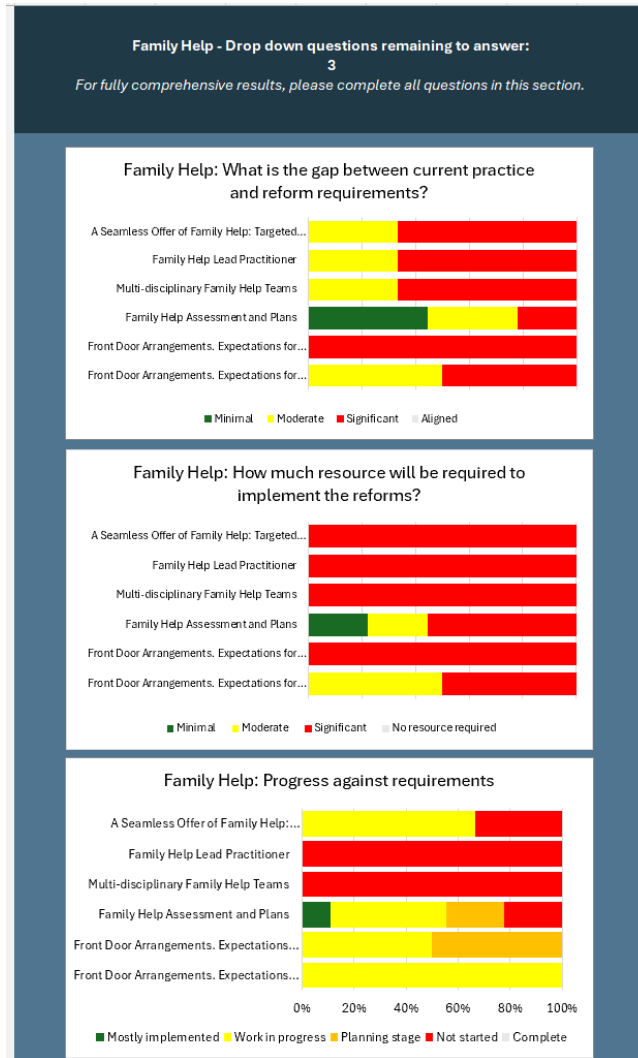
What is FFP?

Aim: The aim of the Families First Partnership (FFP) programme is to transform the whole system of help, support and protection, to ensure that every family can access the right help and support when they need it, with a strong emphasis on early intervention to prevent crisis.

How: Four key areas, Strengthened Partnership **Family Help (FH)**, with local **Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs)** that wrap support around families to reduce escalating needs, where **families are engaged in group decision making** and their broader family network play a critical role in helping prevent crisis and where crisis does happen specialist **Multi-Agency Child Protection Teams (MACPT)** who are skilled to navigate complexity offer advice, support, challenge to help the care team.

- Our vision is a reformed system where Family Help Lead Practitioners (FHLPs), supported by expert multi-agency child protection teams (MACPTs) including social worker lead child protection practitioners (LCPPs), are responsible for and undertake direct child protection practice together with families where this is needed.
- When child protection concerns arise, FHLPs will maintain the relationship with the family and continue to coordinate the support and services for them.
- Where there are concerns about significant harm, the LCPP will take statutory child protection decisions with input from the wider (MACPT).
- The FHLP will remain involved in direct practice with the family throughout.
- There will be child protection expertise across the whole system of Family Help and multi-agency child protection, so effective action can be taken where concerns arise.

Our Partnership Self Assessment (2025)



Summary of key themes

- People felt Family Hubs were strong and we needed to build upon them.
- People described the system as reactive, siloed and confusing.
- People said that we were pushing children through a system rather than responding or meeting needs.
- People from the same team don't see each other in person regularly.
- People from the same team do not know data that is shared in a partnership arena.
- People want to know more about each others roles and how they can work effectively together.
- People are frustrated at the level of duplication and inefficiency of the systems and processes.
- People don't always feel safe enough to speak up with each other to address the behaviour we don't want to see in the system.
- People know that there is inconsistent practice but do not always address it.
- People know that supporting families earlier is the right thing to do but the resources needed to achieve this are not always in the right place.
- People were keen to be one partnership team supporting children and families but the system is described as too complex to change.
- There is a need to mature the way we work with representative groups.
- Language is getting in the way of us being an effective system.

Transformation Agenda and Thematic Requirements

Theme	Families First Partnership	SEND	BSiL	Youth Strategy
Workforce	✓	✓		✓
Outcomes, Data and Systems	✓	✓		
Co-Production/Voice of CYP&F	✓	✓	✓	✓
Places and Spaces		✓	✓	✓
Inclusion		✓	✓	
Leadership, Partnership and Commissioning		✓		✓

Themes

Inclusive Places
and Spaces

Inclusive People
and Practice

Data, Systems
and Outcomes

Children and
Family Voice

Leadership,
Governance and
Commissioning

Working Out What, Where and When....

Theme	Chair Organisations	Chair	Representatives
Family Help	Education	Carla Wheelan	Sarah Shea (LA) Imogen Forrest (LA) Emma Harding (LA Education) Lindsay Morris - inclusion manager at Woodside Primary to represent education inclusion (Lindsay) David OToole / CEO- representing secondary and 6th form Andrew Morris /CEO - representing primary
Family Group Decision Making	Local Authority	Maxine Ellis (LA)	Gemma Onions (LA)
Multi Agency Teams	Health	Ellie Lloyd (ICS)	Jeanette Hill (LA) Helen Hooper (Shrop Comm) Sam Scott (Education) Zoe Webb Elaine Storey (LA)
Multi Agency Child Protection Teams	Police	Natalie Arrowsmith (Police)	Kate Owen (LA) Hannah Roberts (LA) Shakuntla Sian (LA) Amanda Beaufoy (LA)