

Action Plan 8	
CQC/OFSTED Recommendation:	
SAFEGUARDING SERVICES	
AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT	PARAGRAPH 19 No. 8
ACTION REQUIRED	Develop explicit arrangements for the use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) within strategies for early intervention and family support to ensure that all agencies are assuming responsibility for being lead professionals in suitable cases.
PARAGRAPH Quality of provision Grade 3 Adequate In order to improve we need to take account paragraph within report point 31	The use of the CAF to support children and families at an early stage of their difficulties is inconsistent. While there are examples of good impact for individual children and families, there is reluctance within some agencies to assume the role of lead professional. There was a significant increase in the number of CAFs between 2008 and 2010 but the rate has reduced during the first six months of 2011. This trend has been recognised with a constructive report to DSCB in July 2011 identifying the actions needed to increase the use of CAF across the whole partnership and to extend lead professional responsibilities across the whole partnership. Feedback from parents and children where CAFs have been completed indicates that they felt their situations had significantly improved by the CAF process.
LEAD ORGANISATION	DCS
SEE ACTION PLAN FOR DETAIL	Page 14

	Action	Specific Actions	Milestones	Timeframe	Responsible officers	Review date / completion Date	Status (RAG)	Impact	Measures
	Safeguarding Services Within six months								
12	Develop explicit arrangements for the use of CAF within strategies for early intervention and family support to ensure that all agencies are assuming responsibility for being lead professionals in suitable cases.	a) Implement arrangements for supporting CAF implementation	Agreement gained to extend ISM contract until new arrangements are in place (DSLTT)	JAN	PS/MW	6 JUNE		Increased number of children and young people staying safely with their families.	Increased use of CAF and lead professional. Reduction in referrals to social care.
			Carry out process to extend HR current contract	FEB / MAR	PS/MW	31 MAR			
			Confirm completed contract amendment form	MAR	PS/MW	31 MAR			
			Job description and person specification for Early Intervention Practitioner post produced	MAR	PS/MW	31 MAR			
			Early Intervention posts graded	MAR	PS/MW	31 MAR			
			Carry out HR process to Implement new Early Intervention Practitioner	FEB / MAR	PS/MW	30 APR			

	Action	Specific Actions	Milestones	Timeframe	Responsible officers	Review date / completion Date	Status (RAG)	Impact	Measures
			posts						
			Confirm funding stream	FEB / MAR	PS/MW	30 APR			
			Recruitment completed	JUN	PS/MW	31 MAY			
			New team in post	JUN	PS/MW	30 JUNE			
			New team induction completed	JUN	PS/MW	7 JUL			
			Specific attention given to supporting partners in the 9 Super Output Areas prioritised in the Children and Young People's Plan	JUN - JULY	PS/MW	31 JULY			
			New version of CAF database implemented	JUN	PS/MW	31 JULY			
		b) Carry out reviews of progress in agencies and agree action plans for improvement	Review tool produced	MAR	PS/MW	31 MAR		Increased number of children and young people staying safely with their families.	Increased use of CAF and lead professional. Reduction in referrals to social care.
			List of up to 20 partners to be reviewed produced	MAR	PS/MW	31 MAR			
			List of partners agreed at	APR	PS/MW	14 APR			

	Action	Specific Actions	Milestones	Timeframe	Responsible officers	Review date / completion Date	Status (RAG)	Impact	Measures
			Strategic Commissioning Board						
			List of partners prioritised	APR	PS/MW	14 APR			
			Agree timetable for reviews	MAR	PS/MW	2 JULY			
			Carry out reviews	APR/MAY/JUN	PS/MW	30 JUN			
			Agree individual action plans for agencies	APR/MAY/JUN	PS/MW	30 JUN			
			Issues, barriers and solutions identified	APR/MAY/JUN	PS/MW	30 JUN			
			Action agreed to address issues and barriers	APR/MAY/JUN	PS/MW	30 JUN			
			Implementation of action plans checked	JUN/JUL	PS/MW	31 JUL			
		c) Monitor and review progress across the Children and Young People's Partnership	Present data on activity by agency and township at each DSCB and Strategic Commissioning Board meeting with an analysis of progress, risks, issues and recommendations for corrective action where appropriate.	FEB - JULY	IM/PS/MW	JULY		Increased number of children and young people staying safely with their families.	Increased use of CAF and lead professional. Reduction in referrals to social care.
			The appropriate DSCB and Strategic Commissioning	FEB - JULY	IM/PS/MW				

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			Board members are tasked to ensure timely corrective action is taken.						