



## Multi Agency Support Panel

### Terms of Reference

#### Purpose of the Panel

To provide management oversight and enable decision making to ensure that wherever possible children and young people are supported to live with their family or within their kinship network unless by doing so their wellbeing or safety would be compromised.

To provide a multi-agency perspective in providing preventative and targeted services to children and families, early information sharing between partner agencies and joint work at an early stage will reduce duplication of assessments and resources will coordinate services providing seamless provision to enable early identification of problems and prevent them before they escalate.

The Panel will seek to provide packages of support for children and young people across the continuum of need that promote family life and protect them within a family setting.

The Panel will provide support to children who are at risk of entering the care system and look to support and prevent cases escalating to child in need (CIN) and child protection (CP) using early help services to support both prevention and de-escalation.

For those children and young people who are not able to live safely within their families the Panel will make **recommendations** about placement options and admissions into the care system to the LARP (Leicester Access to Resource Panel).

More importantly it will ensure that children and families will get the right help at the right time and reduce the number that escalate and require social care intervention.

It will also provide an opportunity to identify trends in service provision and demand, to track outcomes and to enable a proactive approach to service design and commissioning and reducing costs.

#### When should you present a case to MASP:

1. No improvement

2. High cost to the authority

3. Escalation of problems

- Families where despite intervention and allocation of resources still no improved outcomes and increased risk of escalating to CIN/CP
- Threshold resolution; for those cases when agreement cannot be reached and the step up/down procedure cannot be used
- Request for resources when they cannot be successfully accessed outside of the panel. This means that staff should endeavour to access support for families outside of panel, it is only when this cannot be achieved should they present to panel.

In the case of requesting a LARP, the following situations should be referred to MASP.

- Proposed admission to care or a request for high cost resources and packages of care
- Children who have been admitted to care in an emergency under S20, to consider support to enable a return to family, where it is safe to do so, (must be presented at the next Panel)

- Children who require support package to enable them to return to their parents or a member of their kinship network

### **Panel Process**

The Referrer must complete the MASP Referral Form and submit it with a **Chronology, Genogram (if required) and Assessment before 12.00 noon 7 days prior** to the arranged MASP meeting date. These documents will be forwarded to the MASP members. **If the correct paperwork is not received in time, your case will be removed from the agenda and put forward to the next meeting.**

Referrals will be screened by a Service Manager to ensure they are appropriate to proceed to MASP. All documents must be sent by email to panel administrator who will then distribute the agenda and referrals to panel members.

The referrer will receive from the panel administrator:-

- Via email, a panel timeslot - at least 5 days prior to panel meeting.
- Updated referral with actions agreed within one week of the meeting, this then needs to be placed on child/ young person's file(s).

The Panel will meet monthly

### **Core Panel Membership;**

Jackie Difolco – Head of Service, Early Help – Targeted - LCC (Chair)  
 Penny Brown - Service Manager – Early Help  
 Karen Dawson - Service Manager – Social Care (Duty and Advice)  
 Education Welfare – Elyas Mussa / Lesley Field  
 Adult Mental Health – Shabbir Ravat  
 Barnardo's – Helena Mitchell  
 Educational Psychologist – Anastasia Andre-Warren  
 Youth Offending – To be agreed  
 MST – To be agreed

Co-opted members and other agencies as when required will include:

Sandra Hollyoake - Service Manager: Disability/Transitions  
 Health  
 Police  
 CAMHS  
 Schools  
 Housing  
 Community Safety  
 Adults Social Care

### **Panel Agenda**

- Follow up actions from previous cases presented.
- Pre discussion regarding any issues raised from cases coming to panel
- Cases presented to panel
- Quarterly panel to consider summary data, referral trends, demands and outcomes of cases presented within the previous quarter

### **Desired Panel Outcomes:**

- Reduce duplication of assessment for families and duplication of service delivery
- Embed a 'whole family approach' with our partner agencies
- Increase the use of Early Help Assessment, earlier assessment and intervention
- Ensure families get the right help at the right time, interventions are timely and proportionate
- Improve outcomes for children and their families
- Reduce the numbers of referrals to social care and on plans
- Improve services to ensure they deliver improved outcomes for children and families, reflecting the level of need and demand.
- Reduce costs.