

Strengthening Families through Early Help and Protecting Children

2016

All universal services work with families providing their services and support to families and children.

Some families need a little extra. To help provide this professionals can access Early Help information, advice and tools at:

www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help/

If Early Help by the single agency is insufficient and the child and family are not making progress what more can be done ?

If the family meet the Strengthening Families criteria (see over) and are the family stuck in a cycle that needs new and holistic thinking to make changes or do they need a complex multi-agency response? refer into the locality meeting via the Shropshire Strengthening Families. ShropshireStrengtheningFamilies@shropshire.gov.uk

Create a profile on ECINs – share information with partners convening an EHPM (early help partnership meeting) if required Review progress and outcomes achieved.

Complete the early Help assessment - EHAF
Complete Webster to gain the view of the child/young persons

Seek consent from the parent to extend this to Targeted Early Help

Do you have concerns for the welfare or safety of this child?

Do you want advice on identifying risk or offering early help ?

**If yes call Compass on
0345 678 9021**

to seek consultation or make a referral

COMPASS – Multi Agency Hub will direct you and the family to the right services to meet the need identified.

This could be Targeted Early Help or Social Work Assessment.

We will always work with a family on a voluntary basis through early help if it is safe for the child to do so

The outcome of an initial contact to Compass can be Early Help or Social Work Referral

Childs Social Work services

undertake assessment where:

A child might be a child in need who without services would likely have their welfare impaired - S17

A child who might be at risk of significant harm who without services may suffer significant harm detrimental to their health and development - S47

Where a social work assessment is required a social worker will be allocated from either:

- The Assessment Team - North / South covering the local address of the child)

Or to a specialists county wide team :

- Disabled Children’s Team
- 16+ and Care Leavers team

Thresholds: Level 1-4 are identified in the SSCB criteria. Working with families at the different threshold should not be seen as a process. Instead we work with the family at the right threshold at the right time and at the lowest level possible, offering Early Help whenever and for as long as it is safe to do.

Shropshire Strengthening Families through Early Help:

Identifying Families

Problem 6: Health problems

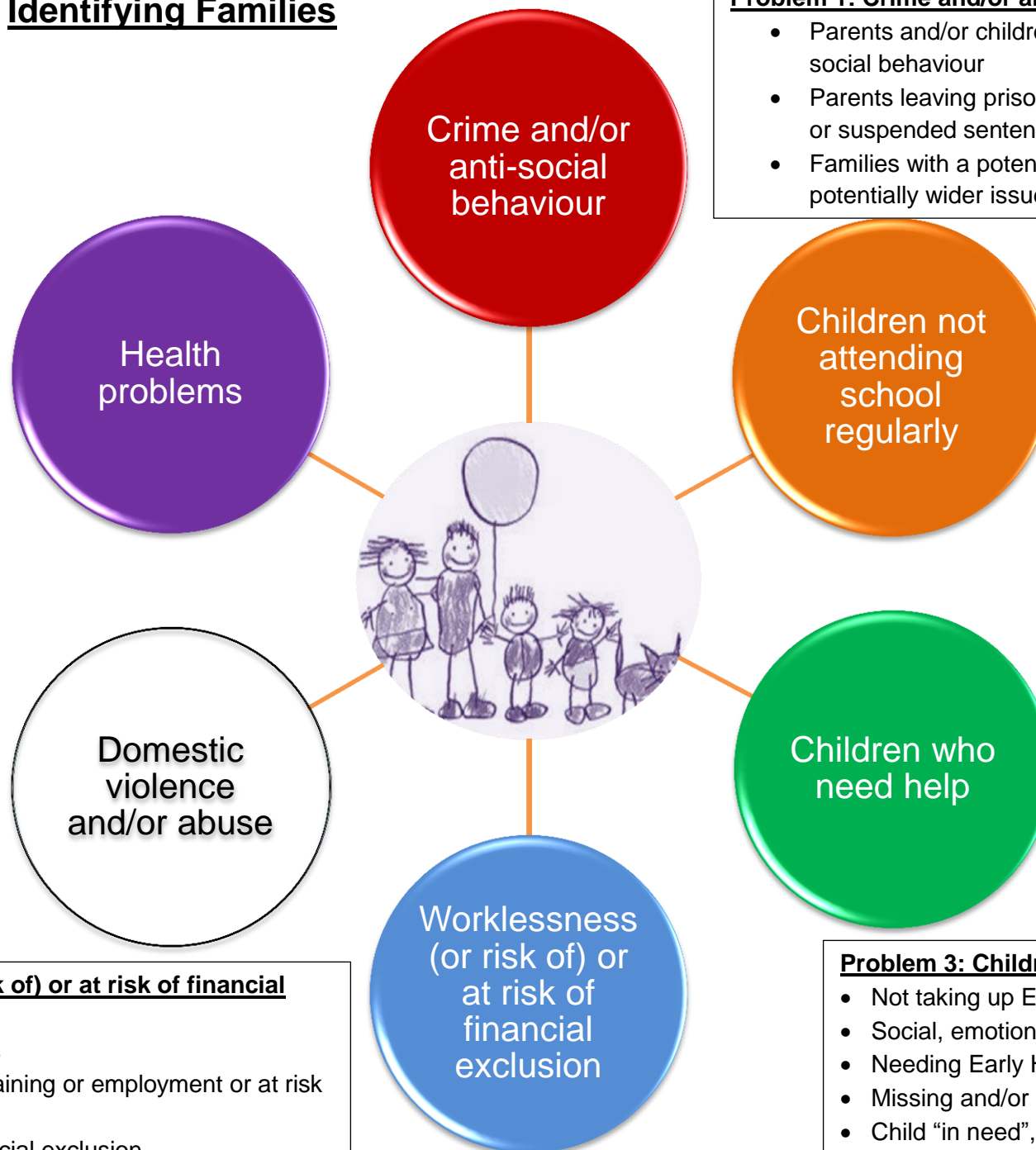
- Parents and/or children with a range of health problems.
- 3 main priorities: mental health, substance misuse and vulnerable new mothers

Problem 5: Domestic violence and/or abuse

- Families experiencing or at risk of experiencing domestic violence and abuse. This includes perpetrators and victims.

Problem 4: Worklessness (or risk of) or at risk of financial exclusion

- Adults out of work and on benefits
- Young people not in education, training or employment or at risk of worklessness
- Families at significant risk of financial exclusion



Problem 1: Crime and/or anti-social behaviour

- Parents and/or children involved in crime and/or anti-social behaviour
- Parents leaving prison or serving community orders or suspended sentences
- Families with a potential crime problem and potentially wider issues

Problem 2: Children not attending school regularly

- Children missing 10% or more of sessions (authorised and/or unauthorised) and/or have received 3 fixed term exclusions and/or permanent exclusion in the last 3 terms
- Children missing education
- Children in alternative provision (behaviour)

Problem 3: Children who need help

- Not taking up Early Years entitlement
- Social, emotional and mental health problems
- Needing Early Help
- Missing and/or at risk of sexual exploitation
- Child "in need", or subject to an enquiry under Section 47, or subject to a child protection plan