

Appendix 1: Early Intervention Grant – Priority Areas:

Priority Area 1 – Parenting and Compromised Parenting:

Services will need to provide for vulnerable children, young people and adults to *secure better* outcomes for children by identifying families at risk of poor outcomes by

- providing support at the earliest opportunity
- strengthen the ability of family members to provide care and support to each other

This can be done through open access and targeted parenting programmes and one-to-one support to help parents develop their skills and confidence in managing children's behaviour. It is anticipated that all services can potentially be delivered Wirral wide whilst reflecting patterns of need and risk within the community.

PA1.1 - *Early Intervention* Home Visiting – Age Range 0 - 5

The service will support families with children under the age of five years and will offer flexible support in the home for families in Level 2 (targeted) of the Continuum of Need. This will include evenings and weekends when required. Demonstrating excellent links with key partners (particularly Children's Centres, schools and community groups) is an essential requirement for success. The service will offer support on a wide range of subjects, including housing, debt management, parenting, child behaviour, healthy lifestyles, including sexual health and child development. Expertise and experience in the early years is essential as well as a good understanding of the CAF and TAC structure within Wirral.

PA1.2- *Targeted* Family Support – Age Range 5 – 19

Targeted family support services will need to use a model which has been subject to a formal evaluation approach and be required to develop provision in line with the refreshed parenting and family support strategy. (<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/childrens-services/childrens-social-care/children-and-family-care/parenting-and-family-support>) These services can be provided either on a one-to-one through a dedicated key worker or in a group setting and will be required to work within the CAF/Team around the Child framework. A particular focus for this service area will be accessible provision in the evenings, and the inclusion of parents who are less likely to engage, with reference to fathers, parents with mental health problems, parents with learning difficulties/disabilities, teenage parents/to be and domestic violence.

PA1.2.1 - Evidenced Based Parenting Programmes/Groups – (Targeted at 5-13 / 13-19 age groups)

The service will provide one or more of the following evidence based parenting programmes such as Triple P Teens, Family Links, Incredible Years, Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities, and Strengthening Families 10-14. This is to help improve parenting skills through increasing the accessibility of evidence based parenting programmes for children and young people at risk of negative outcomes.

This service will be focused on the inclusion of parents who are less likely to engage, with specific needs identified and with reference to fathers, parents with mental health problems, parents with learning difficulties/disabilities, teenage parents/to be and domestic violence.

Applicants within this Service Area will be required to identify which age range/s they are able to support.

- a) Age Range 5 – 13
- b) Age Range 13 – 19
- c) Age Range 0 – 19 (across the whole age range)

PA 1.2.2 - Intensive Family Support

Using a model which has been subject to a formal evaluation approach (e.g. Family Intervention Project or equivalent) this service will be required to provide intensive support to vulnerable families and in particular those facing legal actions, evictions or who are affected by longstanding worklessness and poverty. Referral routes may include anti-social behaviour team, youth offending service, social landlords, social care etc)

Applicants within this Service Area will be required to identify which age range/s they are able to support.

- a) Age Range 5 – 13
- b) Age Range 13 – 19
- c) Age Range 0 – 19 (across the whole age range)

PA1.2.3 - Home Visiting

The service will support families across a broad age range (5-19) working within the CAF/Team around the Child framework and will offer flexible support through home visiting. This will include evening and weekends and agencies will have to demonstrate excellent links with key partners particularly area teams, youth offending service, schools and community groups.

Applicants within this Service Area will be required to identify which age range/s they are able to support.

- a) Age Range 5 – 13

- b) Age Range 13 – 19
- c) Age Range 0 – 19 (across the whole age range)

PA1.2.4 Domestic Violence Support

Supporting children aged 5-13 and young people, including young parents/parents to be aged 16-18 who have been affected by, or victims of domestic violence. The long term preventative aim is to break the cycle of domestic violence with shorter term aims to enable children and young parents/parents to be to develop their own behaviour management/strategies. The service needs to demonstrate clear exit strategies for the children, young people and families including supporting them to develop healthy relationships within supportive social networks.

PA1.2.5 Black and Minority Ethnic Families Support

The service is primarily intended to assist Black and minority ethnic children with a particular focus upon children who are experiencing the negative effects of social isolation, family stress and racial harassment. Families will be encouraged and supported to make more effective links with the other agencies that provide services to meet their specific needs. The service provided will also work with the parents/carers of the referred children engaging them in activities to encourage better communication between parent and child, strengthening family relationships and develop skills and support networks.

Applicants within this Service Area will be required to identify which age range/s they are able to support.

- a) Age Range 5 – 13
- b) Age Range 13 – 19
- c) Age Range 0 – 19 (across the whole age range)

PA1.2.6 Support for Young Carers

This service will provide a “whole family” approach to ensure that children and young people who find themselves in the caring role are not disadvantaged and ensure that their attainment of health and social wellbeing is maintained. A particular focus of this service will be early intervention and prevention through a co-ordinated approach in partnership with schools, health and Adult Social Services.

Applicants within this Service Area will be required to identify which age range/s they are able to support.

- a) Age Range 5 – 13
- b) Age Range 13 – 19
- c) Age Range 0 – 19 (across the whole age range)

Priority Area 3 – Children and Young People with Disabilities:

Following the successful outcomes of the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme each local authority now has a statutory duty to follow the 'The Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations coming into force on 1st April 2011.

These regulations are currently in draft but state:

A local authority must provide, so far as is reasonably practicable, a range of services which is sufficient to assist carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively.

In particular, the local authority must provide, as appropriate, a range of:-

- (a) Day-time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere.
- (b) Overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere.
- (c) Educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes.
- (d) Services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.

To meet these regulations Wirral Council are aiming to procure a range of short break services to meet family needs.

A short breaks service should:

- Be based on a needs assessment of the local disabled child population, taking into account the voice of disabled children, young people and their families (participation and feedback).
- Use fair, understandable and transparent eligibility criteria that enable short breaks to be accessed easily by families.
- Offer reliable and regular local short break provision, tailored to families needs. These could include.
- Provide and monitor positive outcomes for children by promoting friendships and by encouraging social activities, new experiences and supportive relationships with carer.
- Ensure that provision is available on a planned and regular basis and at the times when families and young people, need breaks.
- Provide fit for purpose and age appropriate.

- Promote information about services available appropriately and regularly to families.

PA2.1 – Weekday and Weekend Leisure / Play Activities

These will offer short breaks for children with disabilities on a regular basis, providing fun activities and the opportunity to socialise with children.

PA2.2 – Sitting Service

Provide sitting services that supports parents with short breaks within the family home.

PA2.3 – Direct Payment Support Scheme

Provide a scheme that supports parents with employment issues and will facilitate the recruitment of personal assistants.

PA2.4 – ASD Specialised Support

To support families of children and young people with ASD and challenging behaviours to have a short break which will provided by a highly individualised support package, which will involve working in the family home, in the community and in other venues.

Priority Area 3 (PA3)
Behaviour in Children, Young People and Families.

Wirral Council's Children and Young People's Department is looking to work in partnership with organisations that can provide exciting and stimulating youth support services that will challenge and inspire the young people of Wirral and provide them with innovative opportunities to develop their potential. Activities should provide young people, including those who are vulnerable and at risk, with diversionary activities and engage them in a Youth Offer which contributes to their personal development.

Providers will be expected to run activities that engage young people aged 13-19 in positive activities. It is expected that any programmes will be complementary to the other commissioned activities aimed at providing appropriate support to children, families and young people. Funded by the early Intervention Grant, activities will be provided in the evenings and at week-ends and in school holidays. Successful organisations will be those that demonstrate a practical effective response to the needs of young people. Organisations will have to demonstrate how young people have been involved in planning for service provision.

These activities / interventions have been pulled into the following Service Areas.

**PA3.1 – Risk Taking Behaviour
(Crime/ Anti-Social behaviour/ Substance Misuse/ Risk of
entering the Judicial System)**

It is anticipated that organisations will be offering opportunities that will encourage young people to engage in positive behaviour and achieve in school, employment or training. Providers will target young people who engage in risk taking behaviour which is evident in substance misuse, sexual activity and anti social behaviour and youth crime. Adopting an early intervention approach, organisations will be expected to provide activities which engage young people before they progress to a level whereby they will require intensive support.

Applicants within this Service Area will be required to identify which age range/s they are able to support.

- a) Age Range 8 – 13
- b) Age Range 13 – 19

PA3.2 – Advice / Guidance / Support Services

Providers will be expected to provide Information/ advice to young people. This will be provided on a one to one basis and organisations will be expected to provide appropriate support to young people and access them to more targeted support as necessary. This may involve supporting young people in issues such as homelessness, sexual health, substance misuse, school attendance, family breakdown.

Age Range – 13 - 19

PA3.3 – Youth Arts / Big Nights / Youth Activities / Accredited Opportunities.

Organisations will be expected to provide Big Nights such as Discos or Band Nights, Youth Arts activities and other diversionary activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award, and other sporting opportunities. Providers will be expected, where appropriate, to provide activities that can be accredited.

Age Range – 13 - 19

PA3.4 – Workshops (Risk Taking Behaviour / Substance Misuse).

Workshops will be provided as part of the early preventative agenda to develop in young people an awareness of the consequences of risk taking behaviour while also developing resilience and protective behaviours.

Age Range – 13 - 19