

**Creating Locality-Based Hubs for Early  
Help and Prevention  
From Ambition to Action  
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**Principles, Priorities and  
Outcomes**

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# Communication

We need to:

- Share the same vision and ‘walk the talk’
- Use information in a timely and appropriate manner (formal and informal networks – share intelligence, successes and pressure points)
- Have an understanding of the full picture – all the facts, before we react or respond. We sometimes get given half the story...!
- Establish relationships with colleagues (partners) that demonstrate integrity, honesty and trust – have courageous conversations when needed
- We need to meet regularly to talk about our top 20 high risk cases/challenges or worry lists (what keeps us awake at night).
- Pick the phone up and talk to each other more
- Ask ourselves regularly how we can add value to each others agendas

# Guiding principles

- We need to work beyond the 'crisis' points, plan ahead to anticipate and get ahead of potential crisis.
- Working Together has to guide all of our child protection work – it isn't optional
- Recognise that in giving up power sometimes we gain power..!
- Create more time to 'Stop, Think, Plan' together .
- Stand in the child/young person's shoes – understand what has happened to them and their daily lived experiences
- Avoid "passing the buck".
- Constantly ask ourselves "would this be good enough for my child?"
- Keep our children close (in Wirral) so we can "wrap services/support around them".
- Prevention is better than cure

# Next Steps

- Schools' task and finish group to look at the detail and make recommendations for change
- Children's Joint Commissioning Group to ensure commissioned services are needs-led and enable change: form follows function
- Regular Director's meetings with the VCF sector
- Work directly with primary care such as GPs, pharmacies
- Test the approach through the improving life chances pilots
- Monthly senior leadership meetings across partners to maintain the momentum of change