

Report: West Lancs Area September 2015.

Core Offer Use

Family Support: continues to be well used. A recent change in management has led to a meeting with the new manager to look at communication and smooth transition of cases; to ensure families receive good information regarding waiting times. This appears to be going well.

Emotional health & Well Being: this strand of the offer has seen the greatest use, but still has plenty of capacity to use due to carry over from last year. CANW have introduced a 'triage' system: contacting families within two weeks of receiving their request for support; to discuss the need and to let the family know how long they will be waiting. This again is improving communication with families.

Domestic Abuse: continue to attend panel when necessary; and are working well with the co-ordinator when requests for support are received.

Parenting: this strand has not had good take up across the county, and West Lancs is no different in this. Work is to be undertaken with the commission to look at local need and then support the commission to get appropriate requests. This will include trying to include our short stay schools; to ensure targeted parents who would benefit from courses are facilitated to attend.

Requests for Support

The majority of Requests for Support continue to come from our colleagues in education. Requests for Support are improving in quality: it is apparent that many local Lead Professionals are attending the various training events such as Solihull training; mental health first aid and Outcomes Star training which supports the work of the CAF. The majority of requests come through the Co-ordinator in this area which allows for planning of service capacity issues.

Panel attendance and issues

Panel has been well attended by most professionals in the quarter. Other professionals regularly attending panel include Housing Dept.; DWP (WTWF colleagues) and commissioned service representatives.

Lead Professional Budget/Small Grants

Lead Professional Budget has been well utilised particularly after promoting its use to Children's centre staff. Requests have been submitted once professionals have exhausted their own sources; and are usually asked for a small family contribution as well. There have been no Small grants submitted this quarter.

CAF/CAF QA

Co-ordinators are now Quality Assuring CAFs from the local area, one per month, which are chosen at random. This is to look at compliance and quality issues; and Lead Professionals receive written feedback from this process. The Co-ordinator is available to offer informal support to Lead Professionals and has already attended some team meetings regarding use of CAF.