



What Works *for*
Children's
Social Care

Actively involving children and families in identifying needs and planning support

12 October 2020

Dr Michael Sanders

Chief Executive

What Works for Children's Social Care



Housekeeping

- We're recording the webinar
- We have an hour and a half
- We'll have time for questions at the end
- Please type your questions into the chat box
- We'll do our best to get to as many as possible, and may group similar questions
- If your question is for a particular panellist, please include this!



Speakers

- **Katrina Blatchford**, Programme Manager, Daybreak
- **Tah Tabod**, Project Manager, Daybreak
- **Kudakwashe Kurashwa**, Adolescents Team Manager, Hillingdon Council
- **Kelly Johns**, Social Worker, Adolescents Team, Hillingdon Council
- **Cathy Ashley**, Chief Executive of the Family Rights Group (FRG)
- **Angela Frazer-Wicks**, Member of FRG's parents' panel
- **Donna Weaver**, Member of FRG's kinship carers' panel
- **Beverly Campbell**, Family Law Solicitor working with FRG





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About WWCSC

IMPROVING EVIDENCE
FOR BETTER OUTCOMES



How?

- Pulling together what we already know
- Supporting the good work that is already happening
- Commissioning new research
- Giving practitioners, young people and families a platform to share their experience
- Improving the accessibility and relevance of the evidence



Why?

To ensure the best possible outcomes for children, young people and families



Katrina Blatchford

Programme Manager, Daybreak



Tah Tabod

Project Manager, Daybreak



**Kudakwashe Kurashwa
and Kelly Johns
Adolescents Team, Hillingdon Council**



Contextual Safeguarding - The Hillingdon Way



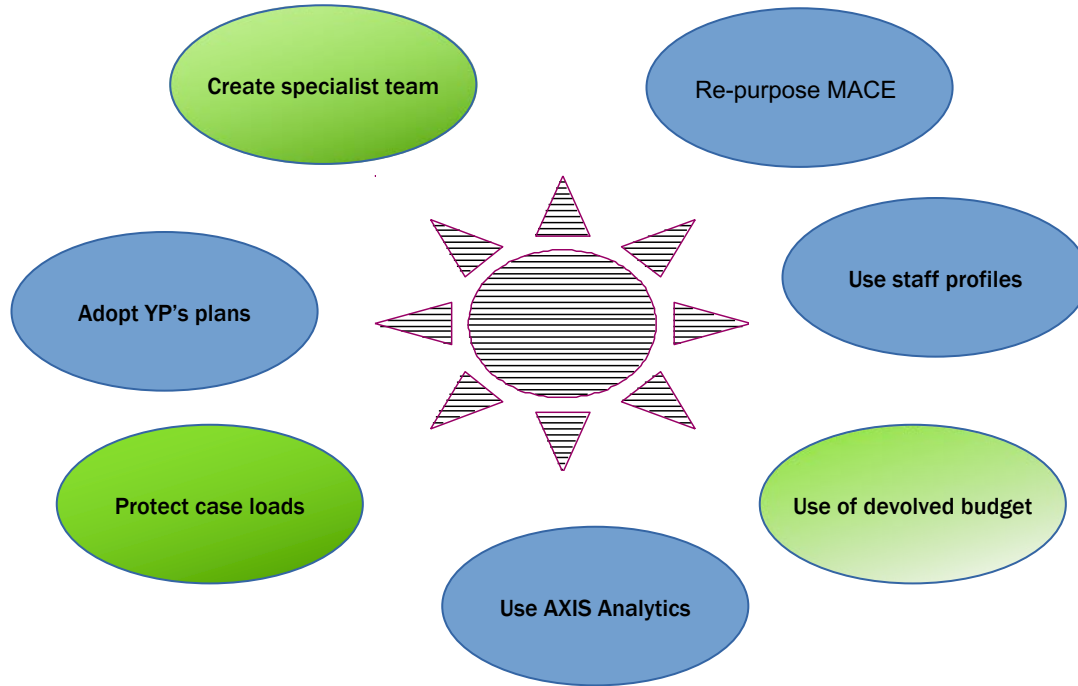
Overview of the structural redesign that led to the re-purposing of the Adolescent Team

Increased number of children coming into care.

Child protection system not equipped to address contemporary adolescent risk.

They are hard to engage. Have we engaged them?

What then was done?



Partnerships



Axis is a MoPac funded project since October 2017

Axis aims to identify under 18s who are at risk of CCE mainly 4 main risk categories CSE, SYV, PWITS and missing episodes.

Axis look to intervene and engage a YP at a much earlier stage, before reaching statutory services. The idea being to help our YP make better decisions at a pivotal stage of their lives.

Joint partnership working is absolutely key for this to work. Communication and intelligence sharing plays a huge factor in also informing the wider picture and even specific case loads.

Staff Profiles and YP Plans



- Young people choosing their own social workers.
- Shift power of outcome from professionals and giving this to the young people and their families through them creating their own plans.



Social Work - My Profile

Name - Mario 👤

Ethnicity - My race

Fact about you - "Be yourself, because the original
is worth more than the copy" 🗣️

A bit About me

Hi there I'm Mario 👤 I was born in Mozambique and have travelled a bit before arriving to UK in 2005. I have family all around the world and I love to travel and learn new things and skills. When I was younger I used to live in a very small village and dream of travelling... and one day I got abroad... Today I am living in UK and keep learning how to "fight" for my dreams.

Experiences:

I have been a social worker since 2022 and I have been privilege to work with amazing young people that overcome really hard times and are now achieving their dreams. The range of their challenges sometimes were very difficult coming into care, risk factors, peer/young violence, family breakdown, (...). I promise you that we may not always agree with all topics but I will be with you all the way.

Hobbies and interests

- I love all kinds of music
- 🎉🎊🎈 Barbecue party, Food and more food...🍔
- I play chess online ♟️🏠🏠
- Casual 👤👤, Food, Board games, Play cards, Cinema, Roleplay



- Improved working relationships with YP and family.
- Reduction in the amount of young people coming into care.
- Partners seeing increased engagement with young people.
- Child and families feel like partners now.
- Shift in the way of working.

Concerns around
CCE

Drug Use
No longer living at home
Poor family relationships
Poor School attendance.
Parents in hyper state.

Choosing a Social Worker

“Since you have been helping me Arran so much has changed since that first day you met me. You have helped make things good at home so I no longer have to have more than one home. I want us to keep working together as talking to you helps me.”

Edward

YP Plan

Wanting to move home
Reduce cannabis use
Get a form of education
Good relationship with family

Outcomes

Edward now lives at home
Edwards no longer uses Cannabis
Edward is about to start A Levels
Improved Family relationships.

Intensive working with Edward
Daily support for 3 – 5 Months
Working closely with all partners.

- Some children have refused to select staff profiles.
- Some Social Workers profiles were initially selected more than others.
- This way of working can be Emotionally and Physically demanding on the Social Worker's
- Social Worker's and Families were Initially sceptical of the devolved budget and how this should be used.

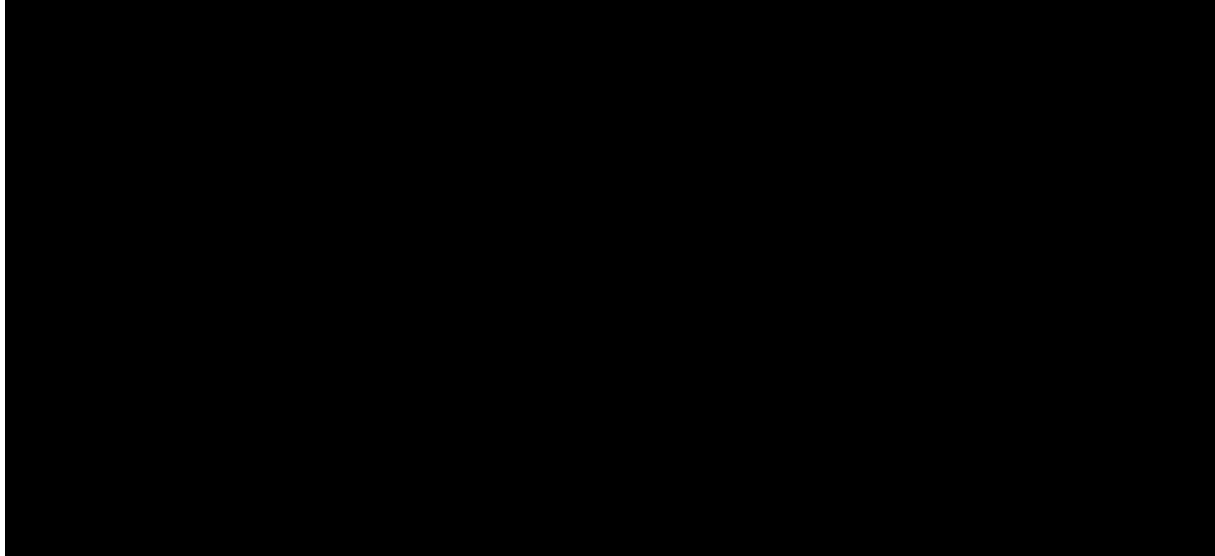
Jamie's Farm

- Farming, Family and Therapy, delivered via a five-day residential and rigorous follow-up programme that looks to support and engage young people.

- As a team we have been able to use this amazing service. Taking groups of 8 young people supported by 2 Social Workers for a week long residential trip.



Jamie's farm-Video



Plenary Session



Thank You

Quote from a Mother: *“Thank you so much for all your help, from the bottom of my heart. You have made such a difference and we have come such a long way thanks to you. So many people are afraid of social workers but I feel so comfortable with you and feel like I can share anything with you.”*



ACHIEVEMENT
AWARDS 2019
WINNERS **THE MJ**

Cathy Ashley

**Chief Executive of the Family Rights
Group (FRG)**



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Member of FRG's parents' panel



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A classroom scene where several young students are sitting on a blue carpeted floor. They are all looking towards the front of the room where a teacher and another adult are standing. Several students have their hands raised, indicating they want to ask a question or participate in a discussion. The background shows a red bulletin board with various papers and a window with blinds. The text 'QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION' is overlaid on the right side of the image in three white boxes.

QUESTIONS

AND

DISCUSSION

Lawson



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Thank you

@whatworksCSC