



Multi-Agency Integrated Pathway for Children Including the MASH

John Dixon

Deputy Director for Children's Social
Care & YOS



The Child and Family's Journey

We will	We could	Ideally
• Single professional 'route map' in order to join up multiplicity of access points (front doors) • Services allocated based on need • Integrated processes (e.g. assessment, IT) • Coordinated and consistent response • Start from perspective of a child and family • Involve child and family early • Meet families wherever they are (schools, Hub, home etc) • Think family • Build on good practice already there! • Families are able to co-design services (co-production) • Use 'Spend to save' initiatives where it makes a difference • Telling the story once • Advocacy and information to get to the right front door • Systems in place that actively break down barriers (cultural, professional language, ethnicity) • Workforce committed to prevention at all levels • Commissioning processes that are flexible and quick to respond	• Families carry their own personal information e.g. maternity notes and red book (? IT solution) • One main assessment • 24/7 working or at least extended working days/times • Where possible focus on families wishes more than statutory requirements • Self-referral to most services • Shared notes becoming one record • Co-location where it makes sense • Get rid of thresholds that simply ration services • Engage with independent visitors for some families	• Build resilience in all families • Single plan, single file • Create a universal language





A Fractured Pathway

Step Up (EI to CSC)	All referrals	Referred by EI	% Stepped up
Referrals from EI to Social Care	388	9	2.3%
Step Down (CSC to EI)	All cases closed	Referred to EI	% Stepped down
Closed at referral	110	2	1.8%
Closed after assessment	451	3	0.7%
Closed after CIN	39	11	28.2%
Closed after CPP	6	0	0.0%
Closed after LAC	23	1	4.3%



Increase in Numbers/Activity

Activity - April to September	2012	2013	Change
Referral	2994	2838	-5%
Initial Assessment	1569	1699	8%
Core assessment	990	1281	30%
S47 investigation	435	598	38%
Initial CP Case Conference	192	293	53%
Children placed on a plan	175	276	58%
Became looked after	109	147	35%



Cost of Different Settings Children's Social Care

Type of provision	Weekly Cost £	Annual Cost £
Adoption Allowances	106	5524
Special Guardianship	134	6965
In-house Foster Care	520	27040
Independent Fostering Agencies	812	42224
Mainstream Residential Placements	3400	176800
Specialist Residential 2:1 staffing	4300	223600
Secure Welfare Placements	5000	260000

Integrated Child's Pathway



**Universal Services –
e.g. Schools, GPs, with
Support and Advice by
Specialists**

**Multi-Agency
Safeguarding Hub
MASH
Sharing Intelligence
on Safeguarding 24/7**

**Multi-Agency Children's
Localities –
North/Central/South
Children's Social Care/Early
Intervention,
Oxford Health Children &
Adults
Police
Adult Services**

**Tertiary Health & Social Care & Youth
Justice**



**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**



Features of a MASH

- Multi-agency, co-located
- Secure collation of intelligence
- Swift triage and action on basis of joint analysis of intelligence
- Follow up actions on intelligence and referrals including handover to next stage on pathway



For Oxfordshire

- Multi-agency = CEF, TVP, Adult Services, Oxford Health as core members plus 'officiates' including Housing, Fire Services, Trading Standard etc. phased development
- Co-location in one location centrally. Shared information where feasible
- Secure intelligence = separate, secure terminals, accessed by each agency's staff only, then share
- 24/7
- Safeguarding focus
- Handover to 'Localities', also multi-agency = CEF, OH, Adults, also co-located