

Families First Partnership Programme Newsletter



Hello,

Welcome to our Families First Partnership Programme newsletter.

Here you will receive the latest updates taking place across the borough of Rochdale as we deliver on exciting new national reforms taking shape in children's social care.

Thank you.

Latest updates



The latest from our Families First pilot...

We continue to understand and learn how the new national reforms will work locally for us in the future and since our last newsletter, we have now launched our pilot in Heywood.

The focus of this pilot so far has been on family help and **we're pleased to share** that this is already having **great outcomes for local people**.

Key outtakes include;

- **Families are experiencing greater consistency** and trust with one lead worker throughout their journey. This is enabling stronger and more meaningful relationships.
- **Families also experiencing less disruption** when moving between services, particularly when moving between targeted early help, child in need and child protection.

We're now beginning to introduce family group decision-making and new multi-agency child protection teams into the pilot and **we're confident this approach will deliver even more positive outcomes** for our borough.

Watch this video below for a quick recap on how Families First is working so far in our borough.



What are people telling us?

Our recent volunteer voice survey has now been completed with **clear themes identified from the feedback** we have received.

This includes a need for quicker access to support and reduced waiting times for services.

People have also expressed a need for clearer language and varied listening spaces, and there is also **genuine appetite for co-production** which is key as we implement and deliver these new ways of working in the future.

We have been **running a number of participation people workshops** to engage with a broad range of young people and foster carers too, and these are also generating consistent insights.

Introduction of new lead child protection roles

Work is progressing to establish the **new lead child protection (LCP) role** within our new multi-agency child protection teams (MACPT) to **strengthen our safeguarding approach**.

As a reminder, this new role will be responsible for undertaking direct child protection practice together with families where this is needed.

Where there are concerns about significant harm, the **LCP will take statutory child protection decisions** with input from the wider MACPT.

Once this work is completed, newly appointed **LCPs will begin to support our existing work within the Heywood pilot.**

Contact us

If you would like to find out more or share your thoughts about Families First and how we can work to implement these reforms at a local level, **contact us today with your views** via FamiliesFirst@Rochdale.gov.uk.

You can also [visit our website for more information.](#)

