

## **Targeted Early Help**

# **Business Processes and Procedures**

Version 4.8

Date 12/01/2021

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#### **Document Control**

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## **Purpose of Document**

The purpose of this document is to give an overview of back office Targeted Early Help procedures using the Early Help Module (EHM, previously eCAF). It highlights the steps to take when receiving an Early Assessment or request from the Early Help Front Door. All incoming referrals and requests for support are received in to the Early Help Front Door. Triage activity is then undertaken and a decision is made on what should be allocated to each Targeted EH team. The Targeted EH Manager / Senior Targeted Family Support Worker will filter out requests which can be supported at the following levels:

- Universal Single Agency Response
- Universal Plus Cases that can be managed by Approved Lead Professionals. Note some Universal Plus cases may be allocated to the Targeted EH team where there is no approved Lead Professional. In these cases administrative support will be given and the appropriate worker from the allocated Targeted EH Team area will offer advice and guidance.
- Level 3 Targeted EH service Support
- Level 4 If a request or Early Help Assessment meets the Level 4 threshold the relevant agency will be asked to complete MARF.

The majority of cases that will be allocated to Targeted EH Service will meet the Targeted Services Response Level Three. These will be allocated to the appropriate Targeted EH area where the Targeted EH Manager/ Seniors will decide which Service would best meet the needs of the Child and Family and allocate the case to the appropriate key worker.

This document should provide you with enough information on how to manage a case systematically. If you require further information please contact the ISM Team Helpdesk for advice and guidance.

Please note a separate document outlines the Early Help Desk processes and procedures.

## The Information Sharing & Management (ISM) Team

The ISM Team is part of the Children and Families Service (CYPS) of Sandwell Children's Trust and is responsible for deploying and administering the Early Help Module.

As EHM access is not restricted to Sandwell Children's Trust staff, the team's role also extends to non-trust services, such as Sandwell MBC, health trusts, schools and voluntary organisations.

Email - ecaf\_queries@sandwell.gov.uk

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## Information Commissioner's Office – Guidance on Data Protection and Consent

The first data protection principle requires, among other things, that you must be able to satisfy one or more "conditions for processing" in relation to your processing of personal data. Many (but not all) of these conditions relate to the purpose or purposes for which you intend to use the information.

The conditions for processing take account of the nature of the personal data in question. The conditions that need to be met are more exacting when the information being processed is sensitive personal data, such as information about an individual's health or criminal record.

However, our view is that in determining if you have a legitimate reason for processing personal data, the best approach is to focus on whether what you intend to do is fair. If it is, then you are very likely to identify a condition for processing that fits your purpose.

One of the conditions for processing is that the individual has consented to their personal data being collected and used in the manner and for the purposes in question. You will need to examine the circumstances of each case to decide whether consent has been given. In some cases, this will be obvious, but in others the particular circumstances will need to be examined closely to decide whether they amount to an adequate consent.

Consent is not defined in the Data Protection Act. However, the European Data Protection Directive (to which the Act gives effect) defines an individual's consent as:

"...any freely given specific and informed indication of his wishes by which the data subject signifies his agreement to personal data relating to him being processed".

The fact that an individual must "signify" their agreement means that there must be some active communication between the parties. An individual may "signify" agreement other than in writing, but organisations should not infer consent if an individual does not respond to a communication – for example, from a customer's failure to return a form or respond to a leaflet.

Consent must also be appropriate to the age and capacity of the individual and to the particular circumstances of the case. For example, if your organisation intends to continue to hold or use personal data after the relationship with the individual ends, then the consent should cover this. Even when consent has been given, it will not necessarily last forever. Although in most cases consent will last for as long as the processing to which it relates continues, you should recognise that the individual may be able to withdraw consent, depending on the nature of the consent given and the circumstances in which you are collecting or using the information. Withdrawing consent does not affect the validity of anything already done on the understanding that consent had been given.

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You should review whether a consent you have been given remains adequate as your organisation's relationship with an individual develops, or as the individual's circumstances change.

Consent obtained under duress or on the basis of misleading information does not adequately satisfy the condition for processing.

#### The Data Protection Act distinguishes between:

- the nature of the consent required to satisfy the first condition for processing;
- the nature of the consent required to satisfy the condition for processing sensitive personal data, which must be "explicit".

This suggests that the individual's consent should be absolutely clear. It should cover the specific processing details; the type of information (or even the specific information); the purposes of the processing; and any special aspects that may affect the individual, such as any disclosures that may be made.

As explained above, a particular consent may not be adequate to satisfy the condition for processing (especially if the individual might have had no real choice about giving it), and even a valid consent may be withdrawn in some circumstances. For these reasons, an organisation should not rely exclusively on consent to legitimise its processing. In our view, it is better to concentrate on making sure that you treat individuals fairly rather than on obtaining consent in isolation. Consent is the first in the list of conditions for processing set out in the Act, but each condition provides an equally valid basis for processing personal data.

Information Sharing is covered in Integrated Working Training (Safeguarding Level 2)- <a href="https://www.bookwhen.com/sandwellearlyhelptraining">www.bookwhen.com/sandwellearlyhelptraining</a>

Sandwell Safeguarding Board - <a href="http://www.sandwellscb.org.uk/">http://www.sandwellscb.org.uk/</a>

Please consult your line manager if you have any queries regarding consent.

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## **Timescales**

The table below highlights the timescales that apply to all cases that come into the Early Help Desk and allocated to the Targeted Early Help area and Services

Service	Task	Timescales	Review
			meetings
EH Desk – Front Door	Receipt of referral to allocation	24 hours	N/A
Targeted EH Management	Decision and allocation	24 hours	N/A
Targeted + Universal	Allocation and hold initial Team Around the Family (TAF)	30 working days	12 weekly
Targeted EH – Services Coordination	Covid 19 Pre Visit Risk Assessment From Allocation	From Allocation	Every face to face Visit
Targeted EH – Services Coordination	Initial Home Visit	10 working days from allocation	Weekly initially may move to fortnightly depending of need and risk
Targeted EH – Services Coordination	Early Help Assessment	From allocation and within 30 days	If a case is reviewed after 6 months
Targeted EH – Services Coordination	Outcome Star / My Star	Within 30 working days from allocation	12 weekly and closure
Targeted EH – Services Coordination	Child Wishes and feelings	From Allocation to closure	As appropriate and regularly throughout the intervention
Targeted EH – Services Coordination	Case Summary/ Chronology/ Genogram	From Allocation, and any significant changes to update	12 Weekly
Targeted EH – Services Coordination	Troubled Family Criteria Form	Initial from Allocation	After each TAF and Closure
Targeted + Universal	Progress to meeting	30 working days from allocation	12 weekly or as appropriate

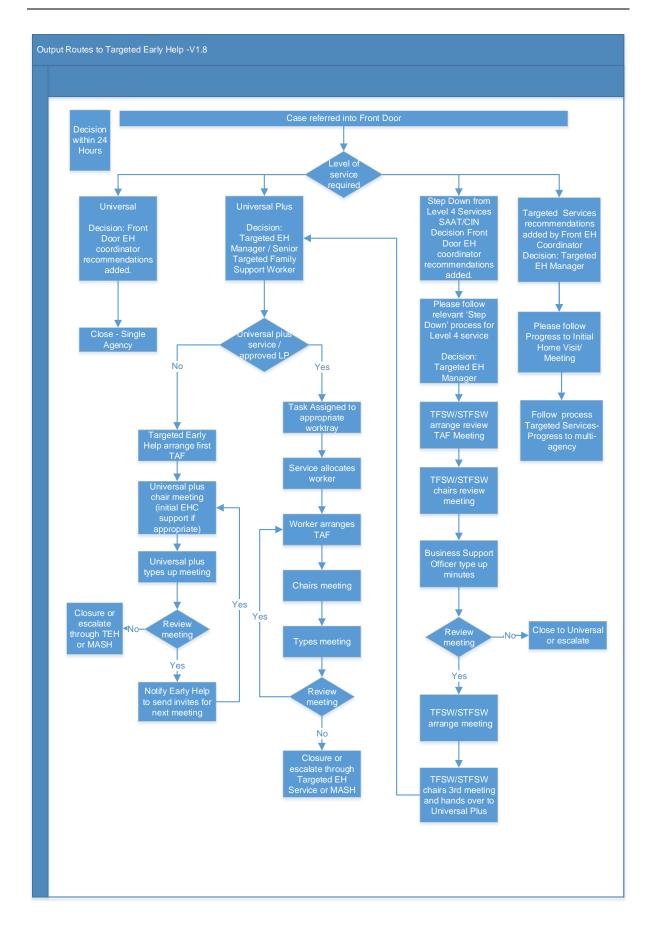
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They operate from point of receipt to first intervention and subsequent reviews. It is essential that these timescales are adhered to so it meets Early Help's commitment to Children, Young People and Families in providing the right services in a timely fashion.

"Delivering services at the right time and in the right way to help families help themselves to meet the needs of their children"

These timescales are reported on in various reports that are presented to senior management and the DfE. If you have queries regarding these please consult your line manager or the ISM team.

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## Output Routes to Targeted Early Help

## **Output Routes to Targeted Early Help**

Responsibility – Early Help Representative within Front Door

The Early Help Desk Senior will review all incoming Early Help Assessments along with the Triage Checklist once they have been inputted by the Early Help Business Support Officer.

They will use both the Assessment and the Triage checklist, which identifies other agencies working with the family to make an informed decision about the route that the episode will follow.

#### The decision routes are:

- Universal Single Agency
- Universal+ Coordination
- Step Down from Level 4 Services
- Allocate to Targeted Early Help

## **Universal – Single agency**

Responsibility – Early Help Representative within EH Desk Front Door

The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator has made a decision that the case does not require multi-agency support as the issues recorded relate to only one service. In this situation, the episode completed stage will be chosen and the case closed. The Parents/guardians/young person will be sent a letter informing them of the decision and which agency it is advised that they contact. The referrer will update either by letter or electronically.

## EHM Data Entry Checklist

Responsibility - All Staff

The following is a checklist of key data fields that <u>you must keep up to date</u> on EHM. As a result, the work carried out by you and your partners, with children and families will be accurately recorded and reported on. In addition, there is important information about families, such as CIN codes and ethnicity which must be recorded for each child. All data must be up to date **by the last day of each month**.

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#### **EHM Data Entry Checklist Data Field** Guidance Adding key ✓ If you are working with a child, ensure that you are listed on the agencies kev agencies tab ✓ If there are other agencies working with a child, add them to the list on the key agencies tab Note: If these are not kept up to date, invites and expected attendance at TAF meetings will not be accurate When you are no longer working with a child, end date your Closing key involvement on the key agencies tab agencies ✓ If other agencies are listed and you are aware that they are no longer working with the child then end date them too Lead ✓ When checking TAF minutes ensure that the agreed Lead **Professional** Professional's name has been inputted - the default setting is (LP) the Episode Coordinators name which is not always correct ✓ Input the agency for whom the Lead Professional works Note: This will automatically update all siblings listed in the meeting area ✓ For all new cases allocated to the Targeted EH Targeted Early **CIN Codes** Help Team and Universal+ it is the <u>Targeted EH Manager's</u> responsibility to add at least one Primary CIN Code and a Secondary CIN Code (if required), which can be found on the Further Details tab. ✓ If no ethnicity is recorded, clarify at first TAF meeting and **Ethnicity** update system accordingly. Ordinarily the Chair would be responsible for this however, any worker can update ethnicity. ✓ If the case is being assigned to a Children's Centre Cluster to Locality coding manage then you must update their locality on the personal Children's details tab to show their cluster Centre cluster Case notes When sending case notes to other active users please ensure and consent that they are on the consent statement or they will not be able to receive the case note. In order for them to have access you must check the consent statement from the case pathway and if their name is not listed then add them to it Note: When creating or updating consent the system will automatically update all siblings listed in the Family Grouping Address √ When updating/changing an address on the system, ensure and Phone that you tick the other relevant family members that will also be moving/have moved to that address. Number Note: The system will show a tick box of which family members to be included in address change. ✓ If the family meet the criteria for the Troubled Families Agenda Complete initial they should be flagged as such in personal details. This needs Troubled to be case noted using the appropriate drop down option **Families** 'Troubled Families Indicator' and the Targeted EH Manager and TF Co-coordinator need to be notified.

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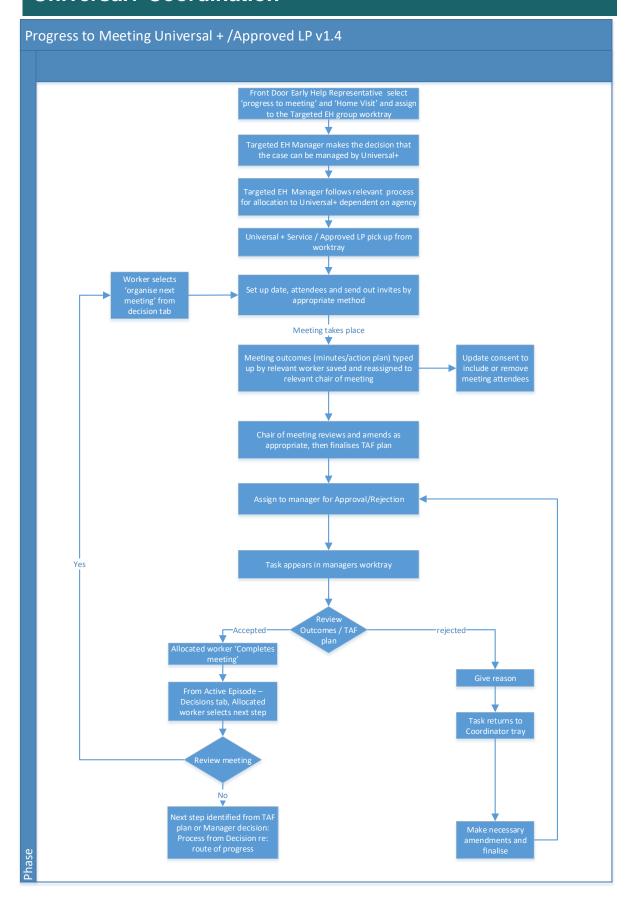
Note: For each of the above (unless otherwise stated), you must carry out the same action for <u>each sibling</u> in the family. Certain elements are not automated by the systems family working functionality as it is not appropriate. For example, different CIN classification may apply to different family members as each child's needs should be looked at individually.

Should you have any queries please speak to your Targeted EH Manager in the first instance.

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## **Universal+ Coordination**



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### **Universal+ Coordination**

Responsibility – Early Help Representative within EH Desk Front Door & Targeted EH Manager

A decision has been made by the Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator that the case meets the criteria for a multi-agency Team Around the Family Meeting (TAF).

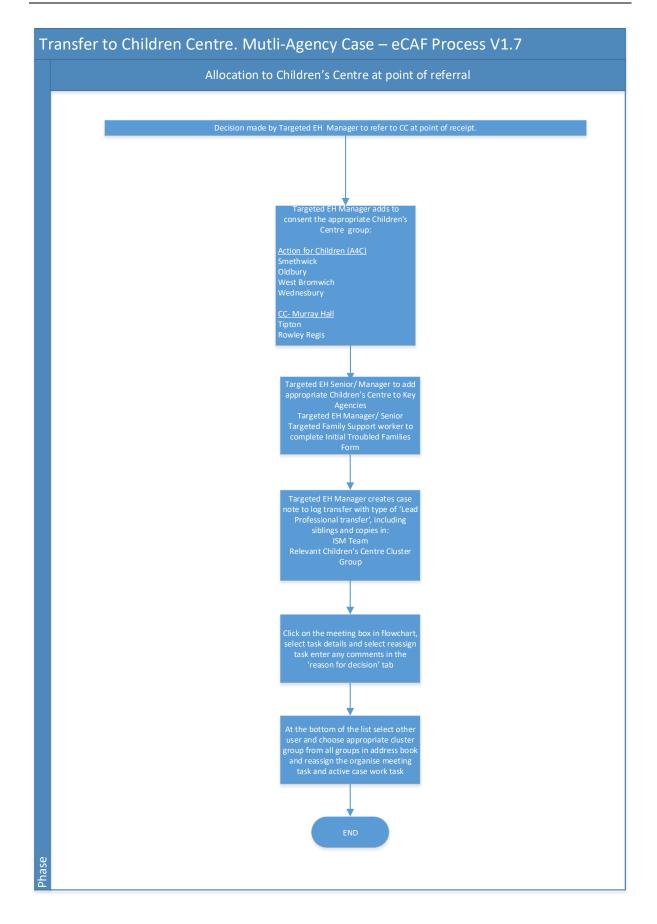
Early Help Desk Business Support process the Early Help Assessment and complete the Triage checklist.

Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator reviews the Early Help Assessment and checklist and selects 'progress to meeting' from the decisions tab within the Assessment they then select the Targeted EH group to be the meeting arranger and assign it to the relevant Team work tray.

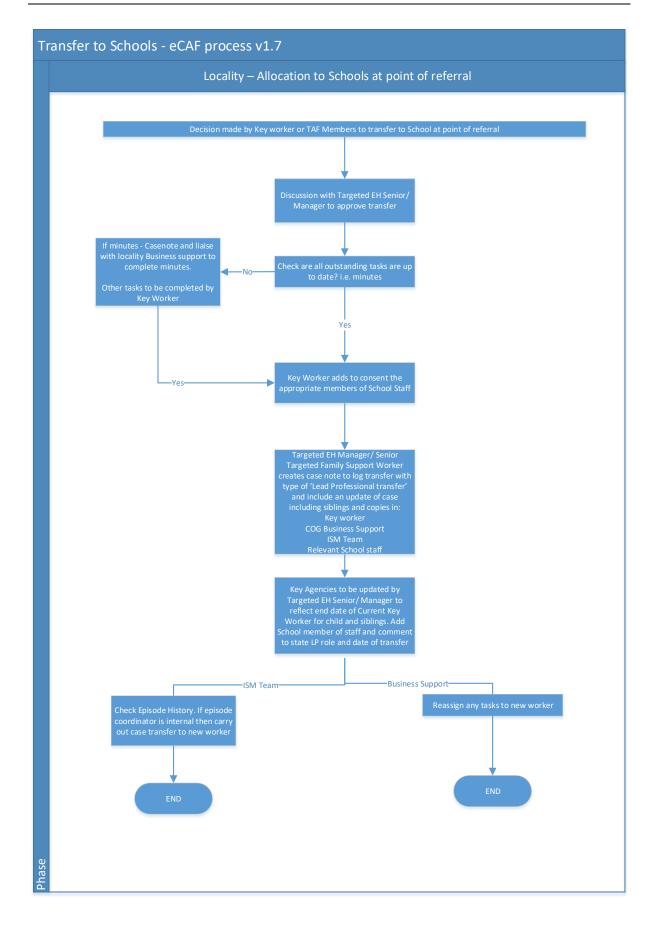
The Targeted EH Manager will make the decision that the case is not complex and can therefore be managed by a commissioned service or an approved, trained Lead Professional. The Targeted EH Manager will then reassign the 'progress to meeting' task to the appropriate group tray and add the agency to Key Agencies within the child and siblings' demographics. The Targeted EH Manager will also send a case note to both the agency group, ISM group and Triage Group with a type of Lead Professional Allocation to ensure that the agency are aware and the case transfer can be completed.

An up to date list of all Approved Lead Professionals is available on the shared drive and is updated after each readiness meeting.

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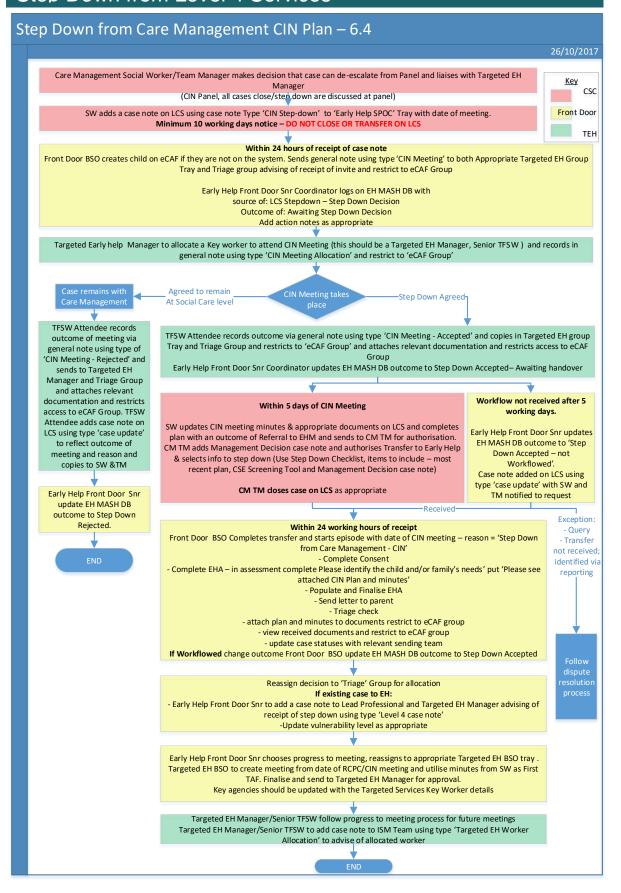


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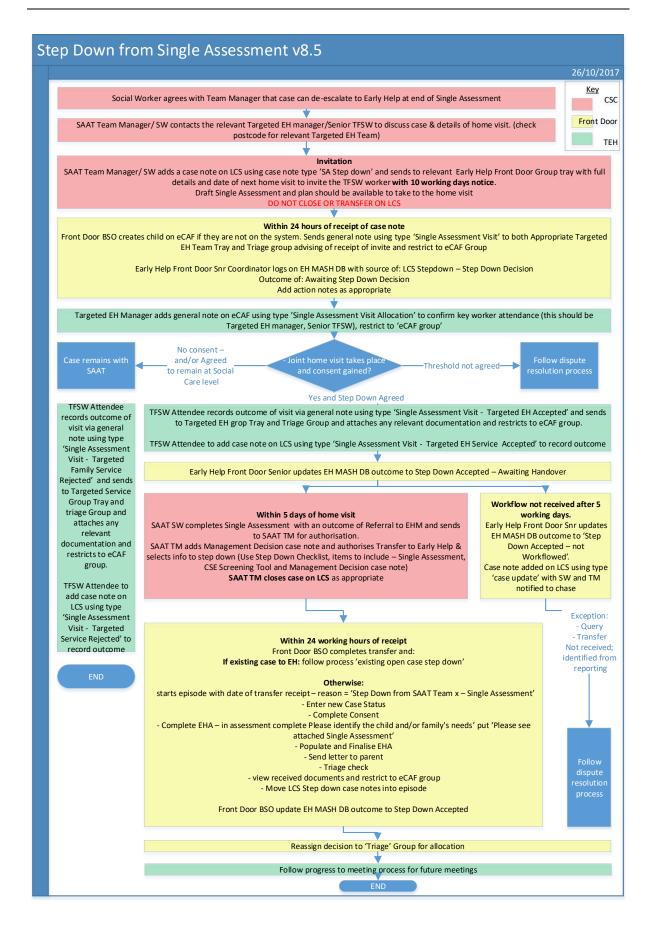


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## Step Down from Level 4 Services



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## **Step Down from Level 4 Services**

#### Responsibility - Early Help Representative within EH Desk & Targeted Service

There are a number of points in the Children's Social Care process when a child/young person and their family may be 'stepped down' to Targeted Early Help:

- At any point in a Child in Need (CIN) Plan when it is agreed that Children's Social Care no longer have a role
- After a Single Assessment has been carried out by Safeguarding and Assessment and Children's Social Care intervention is not required

If a social worker requires assistance during the Step Down process they may contact the Early Help Front Door representative for support and consult the Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator.

#### **Step Down from Care Management CIN Plan**

In order to 'step down' a case to Targeted Services where the child is subject to CIN the allocated Social Worker should send a case note on LCS using case note type CIN stepdown to MASH Managers tray with the date of the next CIN meeting (minimum of 10 days notice)

Upon receipt of the email the Early Help Business Support Officer creates the child on EHM if their record does not already exist and sends a general note using type 'CIN Meeting' to the appropriate Targeted EH work tray and the Triage Group. Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator records this on the Early Help database to show outcome of 'Awaiting Step Down Decision'.

The Targeted EH Manager will review the details of the meeting and allocate a Key Worker to attend the meeting. This should be recorded in general notes with the type 'Targeted Early Helps Key Worker Allocation' and the worker notified. The Targeted EH manager will also record in Key Agencies the name of the allocated worker with appropriate start date. At the meeting, the Targeted Early Help representative should ensure they take accurate minutes and that consent is explained and sought. The Targeted Early Help Representative and the members of the meeting will decide whether it is appropriate for the case to be transferred to Targeted Early Help.

#### **CIN Meeting - Rejected**

If it is agreed that the case remains with a Care Management then the Targeted Early Help Representative should record this decision on general notes with type 'CIN Meeting – Rejected' and send to both the Targeted EH Manager and Triage Group. She / He should also provide a copy of their minutes to the Targeted EH Business Support Officer to type up and attach in documents and restrict to 'eCAF Group'. The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator will update the Early Help database appropriately to reflect outcome of 'Step Down Rejected'.

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#### **CIN Meeting – Accepted**

If it is agreed that the case may be transferred to Early Help or Targeted Services the Targeted Services Representative should record the outcome of the meeting in general notes with the type 'CIN Meeting – Accepted' and send to both the Targeted EH Manager and the Triage group. The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator updates the Early Help database appropriately to reflect that the case has been accepted 'Step Down Accepted - awaiting handover'.

The Care Management Team will, within five working days, update LCS with the new plan and minutes with an outcome of transfer to EHM. The Social Worker sends this to the Team Manager for authorisation. The Team Manager adds the Management decision case note and authorises the transfer and selects the information to step down. This should include most recent plan, CSE Screening Tool, Management Decision case note and consent.

The Early Help BSO will complete the transfer on EHM. The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator will update the Early Help database outcome to 'Step Down Accepted'.

If after 5 working days the workflow on LCS has not been received the Early Help Senior Coordinator should choose 'Step Down Accepted – not workflowed' should be chosen. This report will be run from the Early Help database on a daily basis to ensure that no child/family wait longer than five working days for Targeted Early Help intervention.

After the five working day waiting period the Early Help Desk Business Support Officer will then begin the Early Help Episode for the child/family on EHM with the start reason of 'Step Down from Care Management – CIN' and a start date of the CIN Meeting; input the consent and within the Early Help Assessment question 'Please identify the child and/or family's needs' will input 'please see attached CIN Plan and Minutes' or if no workflow has been received 'CIN meeting - Accepted not received via workflow'. The Early Help Desk Business Support Officer will populate and finalise the Early Help Assessment and carry out the Triage Checklist. She / He will send a letter to the parent/guardian/young person to inform them that Early Help have received the handover and attach the CIN Plan and minutes to documents restricted to 'eCAF group'. The decision task is then reassigned to the Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator.

The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator then chooses progress to meeting and selects the Targeted EH Team Business Support worktray as meeting arranger.

The Targeted EH Business Support officer then progresses the meeting in one of two ways dependent on if the minutes were received within the 5 working day period.

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#### **CIN Minutes Received**

The Targeted EH Business Support officer creates the meeting from the date of the CIN Meeting and utilises the Social Worker's minutes as the initial Team Around Family (TAF) meeting. The Targeted EH Business Support Officer will finalise the minutes and send to the Targeted EH Manager for authorisation. The Early Help Representative's minutes will be attached in documents and restricted to 'eCAF group'. Future meetings will be arranged as per the 'progress to meeting Targeted Early Helps process'.

#### **CIN Minutes not-received**

The Targeted EH Business Support officer creates the meeting from the date of the CIN Meeting and utilises the Early Help Representative's minutes as the initial Team Around Family (TAF) meeting. The Targeted EH Business Support Officer will finalise the minutes and send to the Targeted EH Manager for authorisation. The Social Worker's minutes will be attached in documents and restricted to 'eCAF group' as and when they are received. Future meetings will be arranged as per the 'progress to

#### Step Down from Safeguarding and Assessment Team (SAAT) -

#### **Single Assessment**

In order to step down a case from Single Assessment the SAAT Team Manager contacts the relevant Targeted EH Manager to discuss the case. If the step down is agreed the SAAT Team Manager sends a case note to MASH Managers Tray with full details and date of next home visit with family minimum 5 working days notice.

The case note should be forwarded to the Early Help Desk Business Support Officer who will then create the child on EHM. They will then send a general note to both appropriate Targeted EH Group Tray and Triage group advising of receipt Early Help Desk Snr logs on early help database with source of: LCS Stepdown – Step Down Decision and an outcome of: Awaiting Step Down Decision Add action notes as appropriate.

The Targeted EH Manager allocates a worker and records in case note with type 'Targeted Early Help Worker Allocation' restrict to 'eCAF Group'

Once the home visit has taken place:

#### **Step down Rejected**

If it is agreed that the case remains with Children's Social Care then the Early Help Representative should record this decision on general notes with type 'Single Assessment Visit – Rejected' and send to both the Targeted EH Manager and Triage Group. She / He should also provide a copy of their minutes to the Targeted EH Business Support Officer to type up and attach in documents and restrict to 'eCAF Group'. The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator will update the Early Help database appropriately to reflect outcome of 'Step Down Rejected'.

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#### Step Down - Accepted

If it is agreed that the case may be transferred to Services the Early Help Representative should record the outcome of the meeting in general notes with the type 'Single Assessment visit – Accepted' and send to both the Targeted EH Manager and the Triage group. The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator updates the Early Help database appropriately to reflect that the case has been accepted 'Step Down Accepted - awaiting handover'.

The Social Worker completes the Single assessment with an outcome of referral to EHM and sends to SAAT team Manager for authorisation. The Team Manager adds the Management decision case note and authorises the transfer and selects the information to step down. This should include most recent assessment, CSE Screening Tool and Management Decision case note.

The Early Help BSO will complete the transfer on EHM.

The Targeted Service Referral Form is processed by the Early Help Desk as shown in the process

The Targeted EH Manager will pickup the task from the Targeted EH Work tray and review the case and allocate a Targeted Early Help Key Worker. She / He will add the worker to Key agencies with the appropriate type:

Targeted family Support Worker

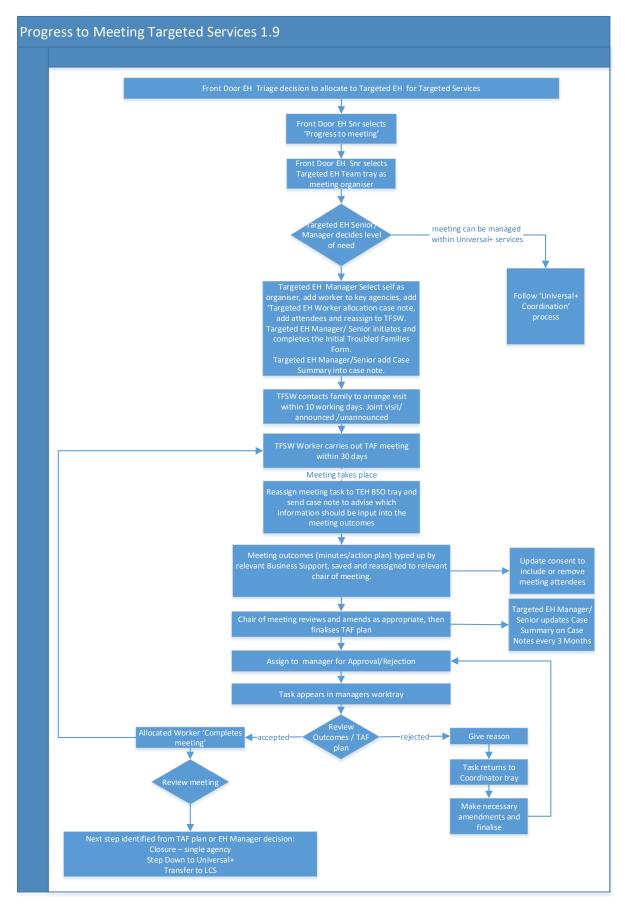
The Targeted EH Manager will add a case note with type 'Targeted Early Help Worker Allocation' to record the decision.

Dependent on allocation the Targeted EH Manager may request that a standalone Early Help Assessment be completed to gain further information. If this is the case then a case note should be added to reflect this request.

The Targeted EH Manager will add attendees to the meeting and reassign the organise meeting task to the relevant Targeted EH Business Support Group work tray.

The meeting will be arranged as per the 'progress to meeting – Targeted Early Help services' process.

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## **Targeted Services – progress to multi-agency**

Responsibility - Early Help Representative within EH Desk & Targeted EH

The Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator makes the decision that the case is to be managed by Targeted Services. She / He chooses the 'progress to meeting' option and selects the appropriate Targeted EH Work tray.

The Targeted EH Manager will pickup the task from the Targeted EH Work tray and review the case and allocate a Targeted Services Key Worker. She / He will add the worker to Key agencies with the appropriate type:

Targeted Family Support Worker

The Targeted EH Manager will add a case note with type 'Targeted Early Help Key Worker Allocation' to record the decision.

Dependent on allocation the Targeted EH Manager may request that a standalone Early Help Assessment be completed to gain further information. If this is the case then a case note should be added to reflect this request.

The Targeted EH Manager will add attendees to the meeting and reassign the 'organise meeting' task to either:

- the relevant Targeted EH Business Support Group work tray if it is for Early Help.
- directly to the allocated worker's tray identifying the appropriate timescales in comments, please refer to the timescales table.

#### **Targeted Early Help**

For the Targeted Early Help Support Worker allocation the Targeted EH Business Support officer will contact the family and referrer in order to arrange a suitable date and venue. She / He will send invitations to the meeting in the following way:

- Parent/Guardian/Child/Young Person letter/phone
- EHM User internal invite via EHM/phone
- Other professionals secure email / MovelT

The method of invitation is recorded on the meeting task within EHM.

The Targeted Family Support Worker will attend the meeting and formulate the plan and minutes and arrange a further meeting date if appropriate.

These will be handed in to the Targeted EH Business Support Officer within 24 hours and will be typed within five working days.

A copy of the plan and minutes will be sent to the Parent/guardian /Young Person via the post. Professionals will be expected to check the system. If the Lead Professional does not have access to the system they will be sent a copy electronically and booked onto EHM training.

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#### **Outcomes Star**

Responsibility – Targeted EH / Universal+ / Lead Professional

To be completed within 30 days of allocation and then 12 weekly and at point of closure

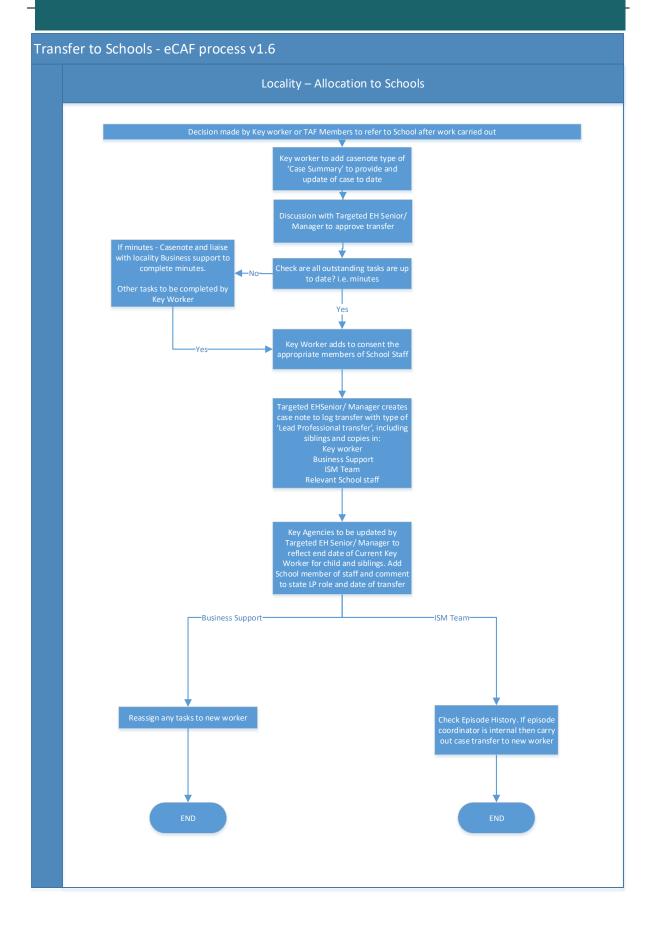
Outcomes Star should be completed for each family/ child dependent on the case and following the guidance given during training.

Both the Family Star Plus and the My Star are available to complete within the minutes of a meeting of EHM or as a standalone form if conducted outside of a Team Around the Family Meeting.

Full instructions on how to complete the Outcomes Stars are available as a manual on request from the ISM team via email <a href="mailto:ecaf\_queries@sandwell.gov.uk">ecaf\_queries@sandwell.gov.uk</a>.

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## **Transfer of cases from Targeted EH to Level 2**



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## **Transfer of cases from Targeted EH to Level 2**

#### Responsibility – Early Help Desk, Targeted EH & ISM Team

The Transfer to Level 2 Services process varies slightly depending on the service which will be managing the case. In all cases there should be a discussion between the Key worker and Targeted EH Manager to agree the handover and all outstanding tasks should be completed. A 'Case Summary' case note should be added for each transfer by the current Key Worker.

#### **Transfer to Schools**

Once handover to Schools has been agreed between the Targeted EH Manager and Targeted Services Key Worker the Key Worker should ensure that the appropriate school based members of staff are added to the consent statement, if they are not already listed.

The Targeted EH Manager will create a case note to log transfer with type of 'Lead Professional transfer', including siblings and copies in:

- Key worker
- Targeted EH Business Support
- ISM Team
- Relevant School staff

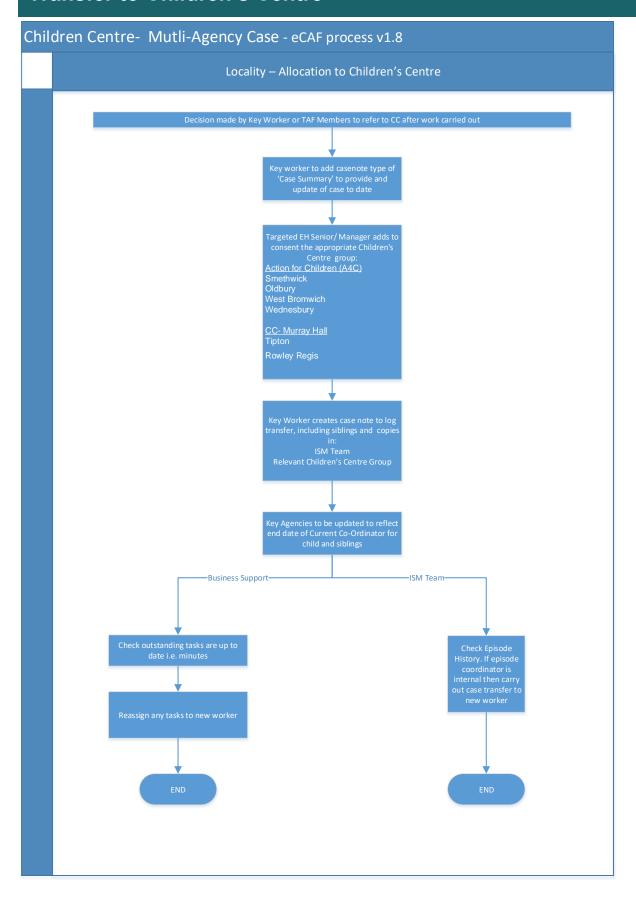
Key Agencies to be updated by Targeted EH Manager to reflect end date of Current Key Worker for child and siblings. Add School member of staff and comment to state LP role and date of transfer.

The Targeted EH Business Support Officer will reassign any relevant tasks to the School member of staff's Work tray on EHM

The ISM Team will carry out the Case Transfer on EHM.

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## **Transfer to Children's Centre**



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Once handover to one Children's Centres has been agreed between the Targeted Service Manager and Key Worker. The Targeted EH Manager should ensure that the appropriate Children's Centre Cluster group are added to the consent statement, if they are not already listed.

The Targeted EH Manager should update the personal details within the child's and siblings' basic demographics on EHM and select the appropriate locality dependent on the area. The available localities are:

#### Action for Children (A4C)

- Smethwick
- Oldbury
- West Bromwich
- Wednesbury

#### **CC- Murray Hall**

- Tipton
- Rowley Regis

The Targeted EH Manager will create a case note to log transfer with type of 'Lead Professional transfer', including siblings and copies in:

- Targeted Services Key Worker
- ISM Team
- Children's Centre Cluster Group

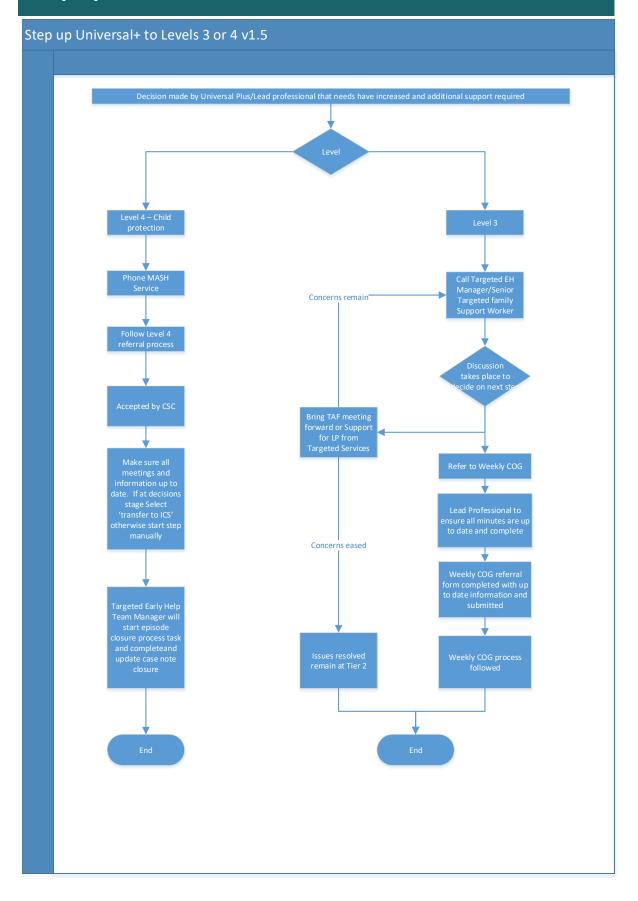
Key Agencies to be updated by the Targeted EH Manager to reflect end date of Current Key Worker for child and siblings. Add the Children Centre and comment to state LP role and date of transfer.

The Targeted EH Manager / Senior Targeted Family Support Worker will reassign any relevant tasks to the Children's Centre Cluster Group work tray on EHM.

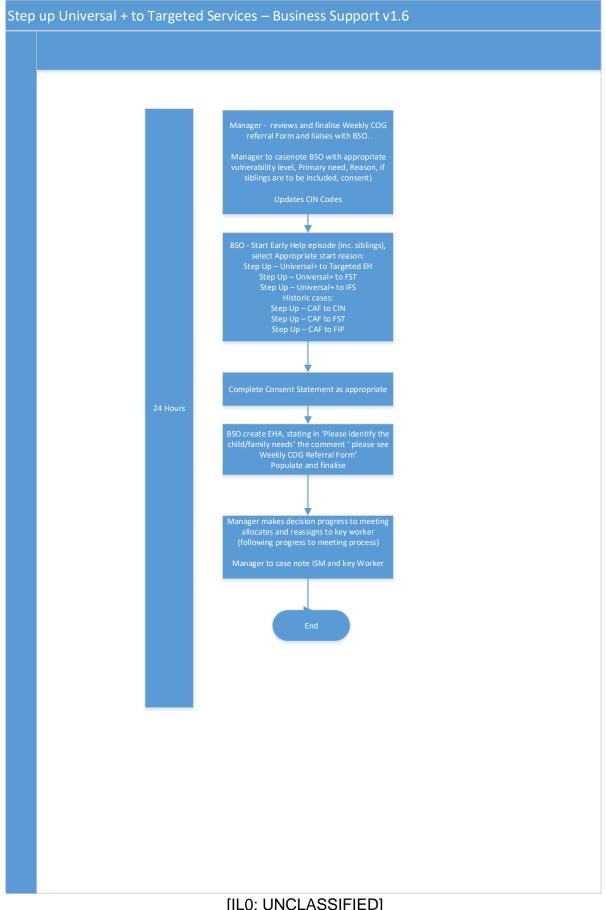
The ISM Team will carry out the Case Transfer on EHM once the relevant agency has replied to advise which of their workers the case has been allocated to.

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## Step up - Universal to level 3/4



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### Step up - Level 2 -3/4

#### Responsibility - Targeted EH

If a decision is made by a Universal+ Coordinator that they feel the case has become more complex and can no longer be managed at Universal+ level there are two routes they should follow dependent on the need of the family.

#### **Immediate Child Protection Concerns**

The Universal+ Coordinator should follow their agencies Child Protection policy and procedures. In order to refer in to Children's Social Care the worker should call MASH on 0121 569 3100 and express their concerns.

The Universal+ Coordinator should Make sure all meetings and information up to date. If at decisions stage Select 'transfer to ICS' otherwise start step manually.

The Universal+ Co-Coordinator will start the episode closure task to Universal+ Co-Coordinator to complete.

#### **No Child Protection Concerns**

If the Universal+ Coordinator does not have immediate child protection concerns but feels that the case has escalated they should in the first instance contact the relevant Early Help Coordinator at the Targeted EH relating to the area in which the child lives. They will offer appropriate advice and guidance which may result in any issues being resolved.

Once this discussion has taken place and it is agreed that additional support is required there are three routes which may be taken

- Bring TAF Meeting forward
- Refer to weekly COG
- Escalate to Level 3 immediately (close the case and complete a EHA)

The Targeted Family Support Worker should inform the Targeted EH Manager of their discussion and record the outcome on a case note.

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If the decision is to bring the TAF meeting forward the Targeted Family Support Worker will attend the meeting. Once the meeting has taken place a discussion will occur between the Targeted Family Support Worker and Universal+ Coordinator regarding the next step. If the issue has been satisfactorily resolved the case can remain at Universal+ level and Targeted Family Support Worker can cease involvement. If it is deemed that the case should Step up to Targeted Services the Universal+ Coordinator should close the episode and Targeted EH will open case with Weekly COG Referral Form on EHM and send a case note to the relevant Targeted EH Manager outlining that they have done so.

If the agency wishes to refer the child/family to the Weekly COG meeting or the decision from the discussion with the Targeted Family Support Worker is to refer immediately to Targeted Early Helps then in both cases the referrer should complete the Early Help Assessment Targeted Referral Form on EHM and send a case note to the relevant Targeted EH Manager outlining that they have done so and ensure all minutes and plans are up to date and approved.

Once the Referral Form has been received it will be reviewed by the Targeted EH Manager. If it is agreed that the case should refer to COG panel then the COG Panel referral route will be followed. If it is deemed by the Targeted EH Manager that the case should be managed by Targeted Early Helps they will close the Universal+ episode with the end reason 'Step Up Universal+ to Targeted Early Helps', update the key agencies and vulnerability level. The Targeted EH Manager will then send a case note to the Targeted EH Business Support Worktray advising that they wish for the Targeted EH Business Support Officer to open a new episode at Targeted Early Helps level. The Targeted EH Manager should include appropriate vulnerability level, primary need, reason, which siblings are to be included and consent.

The Targeted EH Business Support Officer will process the request as per the 'Step up Universal+ to Targeted Early Helps – Business Support' process.

The Targeted EH Business Support Officer will start the episode with the appropriate start reason and the information provided from the Targeted EH Manager. The Targeted EH Business Support Officer creates EHA, stating in 'Please identify the child/family needs' the comment 'please see EHA Referral Form'. They then populate and finalise the assessment.

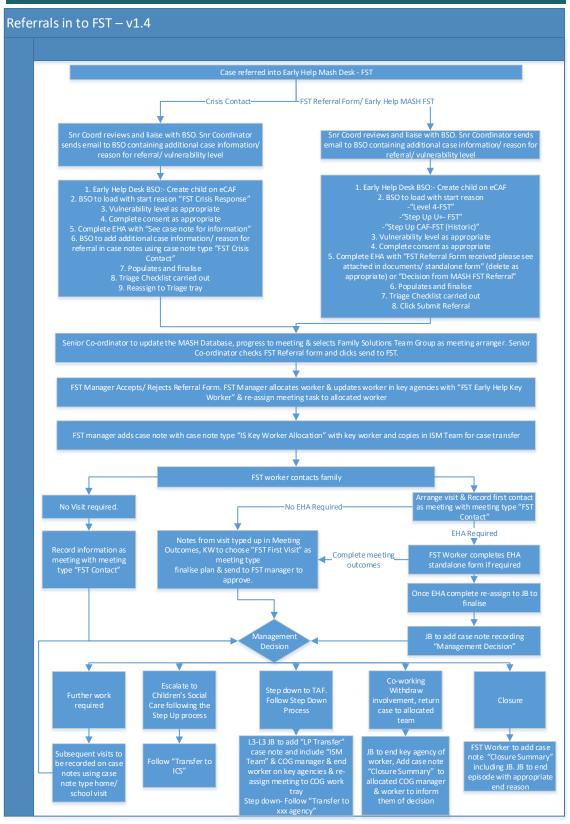
Targeted EH Manager makes decision progress to meeting allocates and reassigns to key worker (following progress to meeting process).

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#### **Referrals to Other Services**

Responsibility - Lead Professional / Key worker

## **Referral to Family Solutions Team**



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### **Referral to Family Solutions Team**

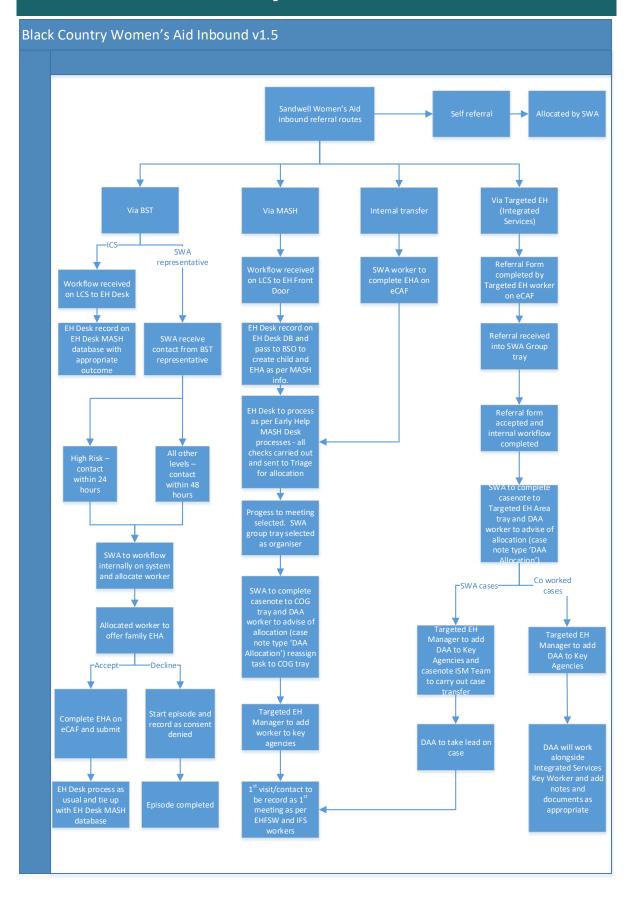
Responsibility – Lead Professional / Key worker

If it is felt by the key worker that the family require the services of the Family Solutions Team (FST) they should in the first instance discuss this with their line manager. If clarification is required for a Key Worker or Lead Professional External Targeted EH teams advice can be sought from the Targeted EH Manager. If it is deemed that the case should Step up to FST the worker should complete the FST Referral Form on EHM and send a case note using type 'referral' to the relevant Targeted EH Manager outlining that they have done so.

The completed form is automatically forwarded to the Early Help Desk Representative for processing then on to the FST Team.

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## Referral to Black Country Women's Aid



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#### Referral to Black Country Women's Aid

Responsibility – Lead Professional / Key worker

If a lead Professional within a Targeted EH Team wishes to make a referral to Black Country Women's Aid (BCWA) they should in the first instance discuss this with the Targeted EH Manager.

If it is deemed that the case would benefit from intervention with BCWA the worker should complete the BCWA Referral Form on EHM.

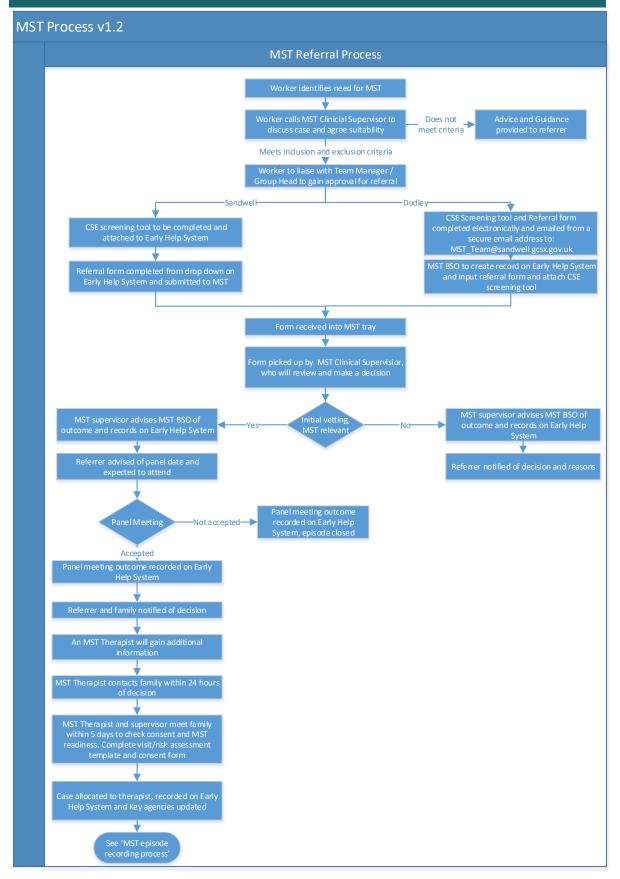
BCWA will then review the referral and allocate as appropriate notifying the Targeted EH Manager via case note type 'DAA Allocation'.

If it is felt that the case should remain with the Lead Professional and be co-worked with BCWA the Targeted EH Manager will add the Domestic Abuse Advocate (DAA) to key agencies and the DAA will work alongside the Targeted Early Helps process.

If the case can be transferred to BCWA as the Lead Professional, the Targeted EH Manager will complete a case transfer case note to the ISM Team. The DAA will follow the 'Targeted Early Help Progress to Meeting' process.

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## **Referral to Multisystemic Therapy**



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## Referral to Multisystemic Therapy and Multisystemic TherapyE

#### Responsibility – Lead Professional / Key worker

If it is felt by the key worker that the family require the services of the Multisystemic Therapy Team (MST) they should in the first instance discuss this with their line manager. The Worker should then contact the clinical supervisor for MST to discuss the case 0121 569 8272. The worker must then gain approval from their line manager to complete the referral to MST.

If it is deemed that the case meets the criteria for MST the worker should complete the MST Referral Form on EHM.

The completed form is automatically forwarded to the MST team for processing; the worker will be expected to attend the panel meeting to discuss the case.

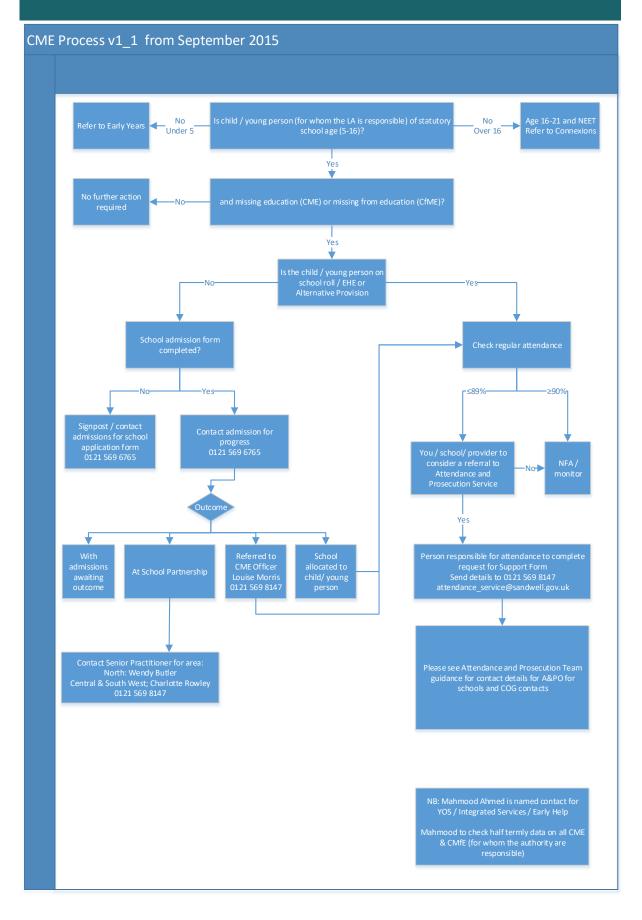
The MST Clinical Supervisor can advise the date and time of the panel when the case is discussed

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## **Children Missing Education**



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## **Children Missing Education**

#### Responsibility - Targeted EH

For those children aged 5-16 who are receiving support from Early Help, Targeted Services Key Worker workers are requested to confirm education provision and regular attendance plus refer where required.

The definitions of Children Missing Education statuses are:

CME (children missing education): Children and young people not on a school roll and not in receipt of education at school or otherwise (electively home educated / alternative provision).

CMfE (children missing from education): Children/ young people on a school roll and not in receipt of full time education (those on part-time time tables etc). DfE guidance confirms that part time provision should be temporary only and that there should be a plan of reintegration for the pupil to return to full time learning a.s.a.p. (unless medical circumstances prevent this).

#### Not on School Roll

If the child is CME or CMfE and they are not on school roll then the Targeted Early Help Key Worker should confirm whether a schools admission form has been completed.

If not, then the Targeted Services Key Worker should signpost the parent or contact directly the schools admissions service to obtain a form.

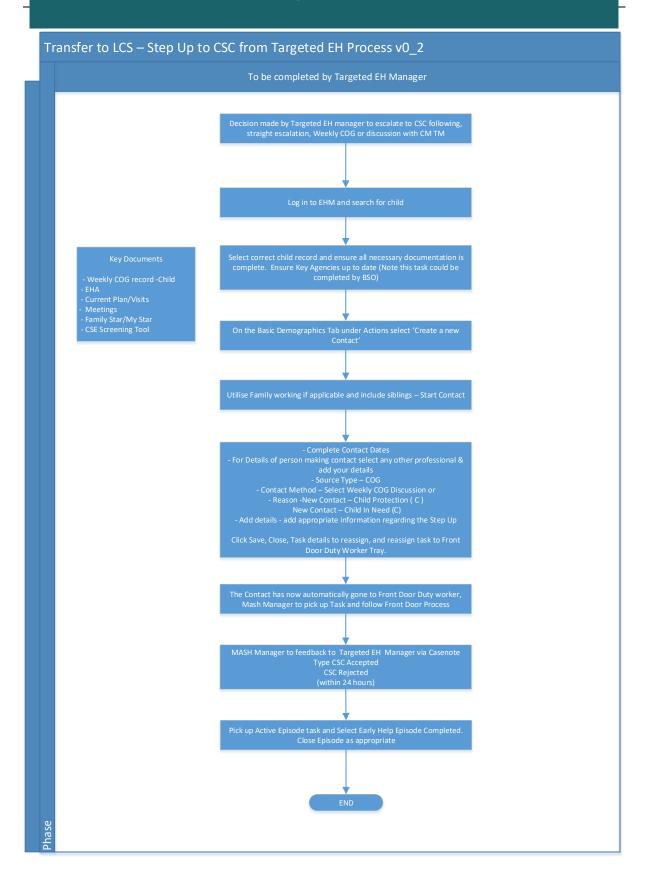
If a school admission form has been completed then the Targeted Early Help Key Worker should contact admissions for the status of the application for a school place.

#### On School Roll

If the child is CME or CMfE and is on school roll the Targeted Services Key Worker should check the regular attendance. If this is 90% or higher, this should be monitored as part of the ongoing support to the family. If it is 89% or lower, the person responsible for attendance should complete a Request for Support Form. If this is not suitable or is refused the Services Key Worker should complete the form and email to <a href="mailto:attendance\_service@sandwell.gov.uk">attendance\_service@sandwell.gov.uk</a>.

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## **Transfer to LCS from Targeted EH Process**



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## **Transfer to LCS from Targeted EH Process**

#### Responsibility - Targeted EH

If a decision is made to step up a case to Children's Social Care by the Services Key Worker then they should have the discussion with the Targeted EH Manager.

The case may be referred to Children's Social Care by someone other than the Service Key Worker, if this is the case then the referrer should notify the Service Key Worker via case note.

The Targeted EH manager will log the contact on EHM and the case will be reviewed in Front Door Manager Desk.

Once it is agreed that the case meets the threshold of Children's Social Care – within 24 hours – then the case should be closed on EHM and case responsibility will pass to Children's Social Care.

The Targeted EH Manager or Key Worker should ensure that all tasks and minutes are up to date and approved and no outstanding task remain open.

The Targeted EH Manager should carry out the Episode Completed task and as the case has been open to Targeted Services the end reason 'Refer to CSC' should be selected.

#### **Step Up to CSC Checklist**

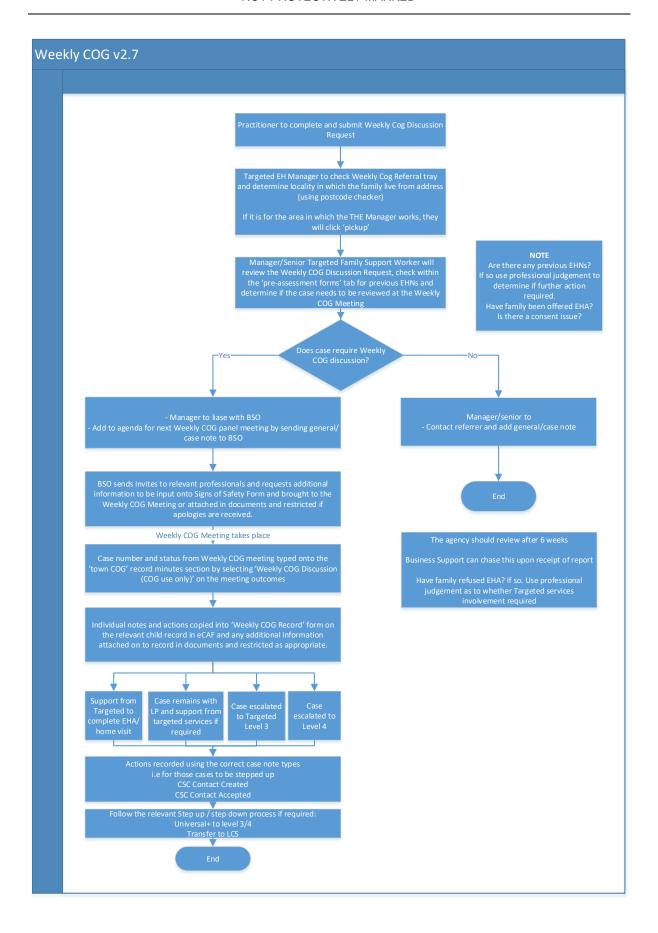
Please ensure that the following checklist is adhered to when completing a contact on the ICS system to step up a case to Children's Social Care

#### Step Up to Children's Social Care - COG Manager Checklist

#### Make sure that you...

- Ensure Child's basic details are up to date (Name, Date of Birth, Address) .
- Provide the Family Composition: siblings, parents including significant members of the family or anyone at the address. Please include Dates of Birth.
- Include details of request: be clear and succinct, a synopsis of the case.
- Include details of the Child Protection Concerns.
- Provide any additional information regarding the case to be added to EHM case notes which will be collated by Early Help Front Door Desk and brought to MASH meeting.
- Advise regarding consent from parents: Parents/carers/guardians should be made aware of the referral and that a MASH discussion will be taking place so they are aware of the fact we are sharing their information.
- Record the parent's views/response whether positive or negative.
- Record the Child's view.

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#### Weekly COG Referral

Responsibility – Targeted EH

The Weekly COG discussion Request Form is completed by a professional working with the family who are known to Early Help at any time.

The Weekly COG referral is used for open cases where the following conditions apply:

- Family Non-Engagement
- Agency Non-Engagement
- Service Required Not Available

Upon receipt of the Weekly COG Discussion request into the Weekly COG/Rent in arrears tray which is monitored by all Targeted EH Managers. The Managers should check in which locality the family live, if this is the areas for the Targeted EH in which they work they should click 'pickup' and amend the locality within the form if required. The form should then be reassigned to the locality Targeted EH Worktray for the manager to review.

The Manager will then review the form and make the decision if the case requires Targeted EH intervention:

- If no and the details do not raise concerns, Manager/Senior to provide reason for rejection to the professional'
- If yes, Manager will liase with BSO to add agenda for next COG meeting.

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## **Dispute Resolution**

## **Dispute Resolution**

If at any point during the process a member of staff does not agree with the decision taken they should in the first instance discuss this with the relevant Group Head.

In exceptional circumstances where a member of staff does not feel that the correct decision has been undertaken at the point of referral and an agreement cannot be reached the dispute will follow the respective line of escalation:

- 1) Targeted Service Manager / Front Door Manager
- 2) Early Help Desk Senior Coordinator
- 3) Group Head Front Door / Early Help

A resolution will be reached within 24 hours. The outcome of the discussion should be recorded by the appropriate manager as a case note using type 'dispute resolution'.

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