



| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| Review date | November 2021 |
| Version No. | V1-LS |

Assessment and Intervention Team

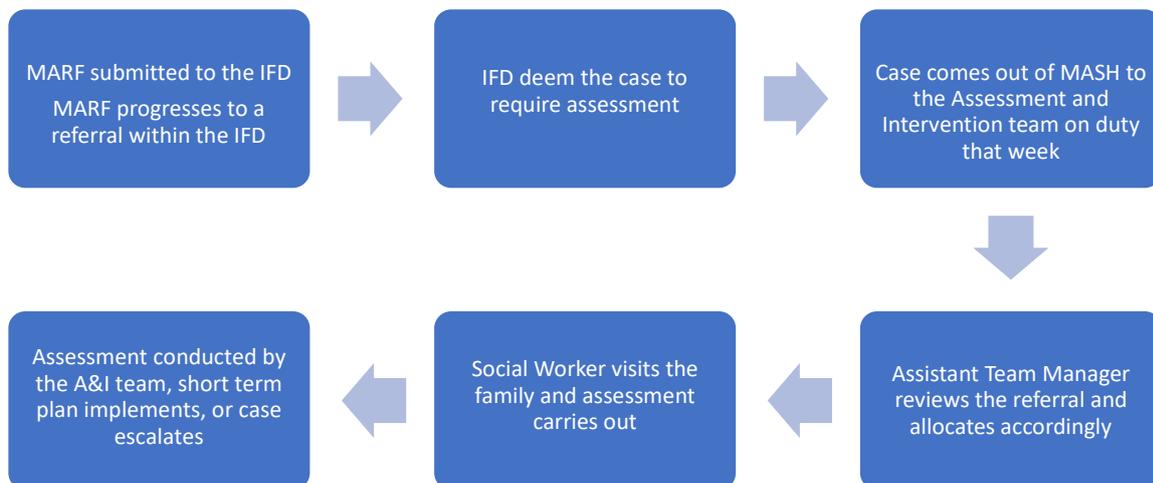
Terms of Reference

1st November 2020

Aim of the Assessment and Intervention team:

- The primary aim of the Assessment and Intervention team, is to assess children who are deemed to be high risk, high need, which have been identified for assessment, following a referral into the Integrated Front Door (IFD) and scrutiny from a safeguarding manager.
- The Assessment and Intervention team seeks to complete the initial visit to children and families, who are deemed at high need, high risk and will make the initial assessment of risk/need following that visit.
- We want to ensure the right intervention is delivered to families and therefore the Assessment and Intervention teams, will carry out Single Assessments with children and families, proportionate to their level of risk and need.
- The Assessment and Intervention team will assess families to identify need and then create an appropriate plan, to signpost and refer to agencies to address such need.
- The Assessment and Intervention team will aim to be involved with family for a short, targeted period and no longer than is required. Social Workers within the Assessment and Intervention service will be expected to carry out assessments between 10 and 35 days, dependent on complexity and needs.
- Alignment will be direct both from the IFD and into the Court and CP team. Any case that requires escalation, following assessment by the Assessment and Intervention service, will then progress to ICPC, where the case will then move to an identified Social Worker within the Court and CP team.
- Each team within the Assessment and Intervention service will undertake one full week of duty. During this time, this team will take all referrals from the IFD. Once the week of duty has been completed, the teams will then have a three week period to conduct their checks, complete their assessments, plans, step cases across to EH/universal services/ step up to the Court and CP team, or identify a short package of work at CIN. Entering the fourth week, the team will then resume duty again.

Referral into Children's Social Care, requiring assessment by the Assessment and Intervention service:



Section 17 allocation/assessment:

- Once the IFD has received and reviewed a referral and deem it to be high need/ high risk, the case will be prepared under a referral. Once the referral is ready on Liquidlogic, this will then be sent to the Assessment and Intervention awaiting allocation tray, which the Assessment and Intervention Assistant Team Manager will have access to and must review throughout each day.
- Once the Assistant Team Manager has reviewed the case, is in agreement with the allocation and the need for assessment, the Assistant Team Manager will then have a discussion with the Social Worker, who they are intending to allocate the case to. The purpose of this discussion, is to give the Social Worker an overview of the case, hold an initial brief discussion, in which a plan is created for the initial visit.
- Once this discussion has taken place and the Social Worker is aware of the plan and ready to go out on the visit, the Assistant Team Manager will then record this on Liquidlogic, as a management case note. A visit should take place within 3 working days.
- Following the initial visit, a formal supervision will be held within 5 working days to determine the next steps, focus of the assessment and trajectory of the case. Within this supervision, it should be discussed as to whether a 10/35 day assessment is appropriate given concerns and feedback from the visit.
- No case should be open to the Assessment and Intervention team for longer than a 12-week period, unless explicitly discussed and agreed with both the Assistant Team Manager and Team Manager.

Strategy discussion request from IFD:

- Should a case come from IFD with the recommendation that a strategy discussion is required, there will be a conversation between the Team Manager and the IFD Police

DDM. It will be agreed within this discussion as to whether threshold is met for to convene a strategy discussion, if threshold is agreed, a time to be set.

- Once the referral is prepared by IFD, the case will then follow the same path on Liquidlogic, as a Section 17 referral and the Assistant Team Manager will also review the strategy request and allocate to an appropriate Social Worker.
- Strategy meeting will then be held within 24 hours, in attendance at the strategy discussion, as a minimum should be Children's Social Care, Police and health, however should time allow, all involved professionals, who are working with the children should be given the opportunity to attend.
- Strategy meeting is then held within 24 hours, within this meeting, the worries should be clearly discussed, threshold agreed, and a plan created. If threshold for section 47 is met and agreed, then a clear plan must be formulated, which is clear what is expected of the Social Worker during that section 47 investigation and what needs to be covered. Team Manager will then record the minutes of the strategy discussion within 24 hours.
- Once the Section 47 investigation has been carried out, the Social Worker must record their findings on Liquidlogic, within the Section 47 form, within 24 hours.
- Once the Section 47 has been completed by the Social Worker, there should then be a formal supervision held, within 24 hours between the Assistant Team Manager and the Social Worker. This supervision must discuss the finding of the investigation and make a clear plan for the case to move forward and progress.
- Should it be felt that the case requires further escalation to ICPC, because of the concerns being substantiated, then the Social Worker and Assistant Team Manager must notify the Child Protection and Planning duty IRO, within 24 hours, so that they can allocate the case and ensure the ICPC is held with 15 working days.
- In addition to notifying the Child Protection and Planning Service, the Assistant Team Manager must also notify the Team Manager, who will track the case, to ensure that the ICPC is held within 15 working days.
- Team Manager of the Assessment and Intervention Service will then speak with the Team Manager of the Court and CP team and request a Social Worker from the Court and CP team be identified, so that they can attend the ICPC and full case handover to be held at the point of ICPC.

The Assessment and Intervention teams will be made up of the following workers:



Practitioners.



Family Support Workers

Outcomes for children

Achievement of the following outcomes will be vital to the successful and effective delivery of Assessment and Intervention teams in North East Lincolnshire:

- Children will receive the right level of intervention and support at the right time.
- Children are safe and feel safe.
- Children and families are not exposed to Children's Social Care intervention for longer than required.
- Children and families are only subjected to assessment for as long as is necessary.
- Children are resilient and their life chances are Improved.
- The voice of children is heard, listened to, and acted upon.
- Resources are effectively targeted to ease future demand on services.
- Children, young people, and their families are supported so they can access opportunities.

Challenge and Escalation

- There will at times be areas of challenge between the Assistant Team Manager, within the Assessment and Intervention team and the Assistant Team Manager within the IFD. In such instances, a discussion should be had between both and agreement reached. If an agreement cannot be reached, then the matter should be escalated to the Team Manager of the Assessment and Intervention Service, who will then discuss the case with the Team Manager within the IFD.

Measuring outcomes

- The number of open cases within the Assessment and Intervention team will reduce, due to the right support being offered to families, at the right time.
- Reduction in re-referrals/re-contacts to Children's Social Care.
- Reduction in the number of children who are looked after.
- Families are more resilient and able to meet their own needs.

- Where families are unable to meet their own needs without support, then they will be supported by the appropriate level such as universal, universal plus and Early Help services.
- Increase in school attendance for children.
- Agencies have a good understanding of the threshold criteria and the support available to a family, outside of Children's Social Care.