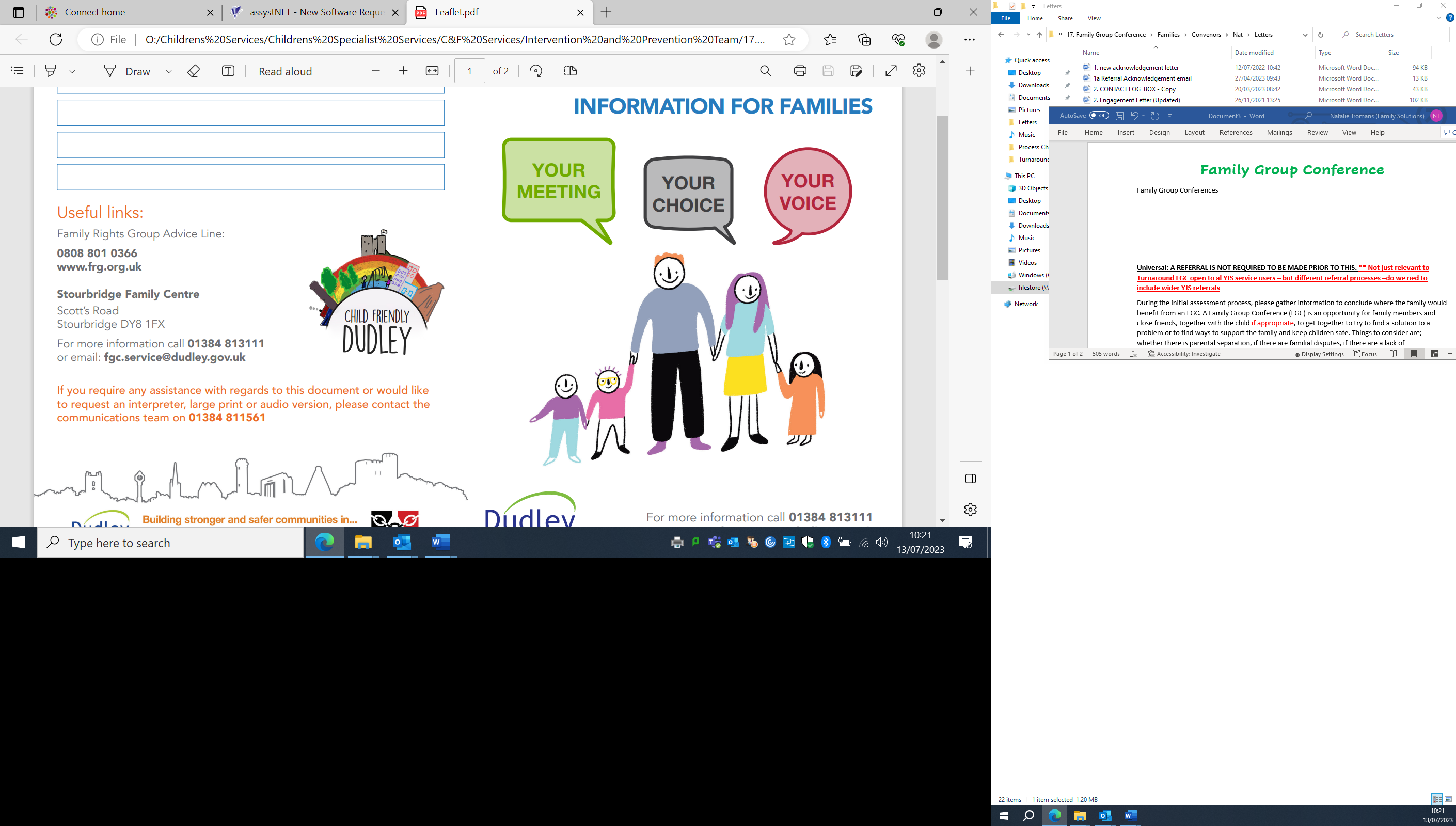
**Family Group Conference Guidance**



**A Family Group Conference (FGC) is an opportunity for family members and close friends, together with the child if appropriate, to get together to try to find a solution to a problem or to find ways to support the family and keep children safe.**

**What you need to do:**

* **Think of the questions you want the family to address, what do you want people to pull together to support with**
* **If you need us to explain FGC in greater detail to the family ie what FGC is let us know we are happy to discuss FGC with the family prior to the referral being made**
* **Complete the referral on LCS, confirm that parents/carers are in agreement with the content of the referral as this will be shared word for word with all ‘Family’ members**
* **Call FGC if you are unsure about anything or need help on 3111 or email the duty box** [**FGC.Service@dudley.gov.uk**](mailto:FGC.Service@dudley.gov.uk)
* **Attend the FGC to share your concerns and what you hope the family can support with and agree the family plan once completed**
* **Use the Family Plan as part of your work with the family.**

**What we will do:**

* **Engage with families to inform them about FGC, prior to referral to see if a referral is suitable**
* **Share the referral with Wider family and discuss how they can help or what needs resolving**
* **Prepare the wider family for an FGC, it is possible we may offer mediation in the build up to an FGC if necessary**
* **Convene Family Group Conferences for families**
* **Offer the family the chance to review the plan 4-6 weeks later to see how things are progressing or earlier if requested by the family if things aren’t working out**
* **Share a copy of the Family Plan with relevant professionals**