

**// Foundations**

What Works Centre for Children & Families

# Reducing Parental Conflict National Conference

Learning from enablers and  
challenges to support continued  
progress





## SESSION A

**What are the enablers that are supporting progress?**



# INTRODUCTIONS & WELCOME

- A summary of planning tool analysis with a focus on enablers to progress: Bethan Le Maistre, Foundations
- Reflections on family first pathfinder: Michael Taylor, Dorset Council
- Breakout rooms
- Summary



# AIMS

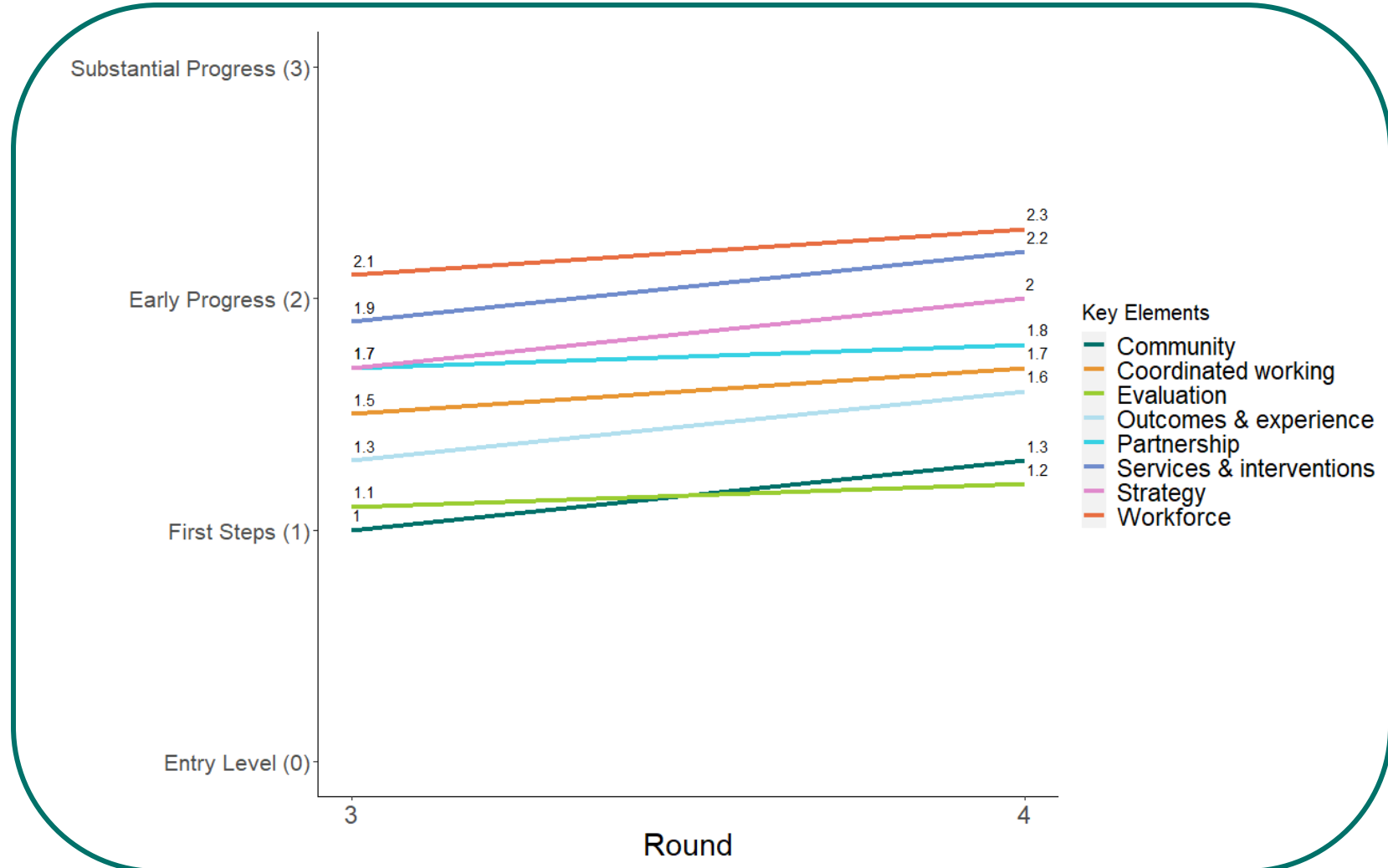


- Consider the progress made across the different elements of the planning tool.
- Consider the four enablers that were summarised through the analysis of planning tool returns.
- Reflect on a practical example from Dorset sharing their learning as a Families First for Children Pathfinder area.
- Through breakout rooms reflect on areas of progress and the supporting factors, to consider how learning from others could be applied in your local context.

# AN OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS FROM 2022 - 2023



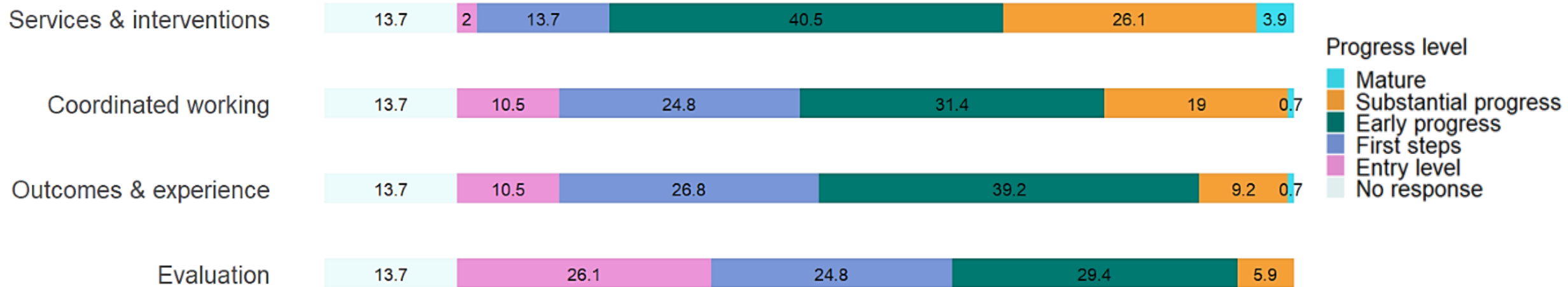
- **Local authorities are making steady progress on delivering actions to reduce parental conflict.** On average, local areas are more mature according to their self-assessment than the previous year.
- **Most local authorities report only positive progress or are at the same level of progress across all key elements** of the planning tool. Only a small minority report negative or no progress.



# PROGRESS LEVEL FOR EACH KEY ELEMENT



# PROGRESS LEVEL FOR EACH KEY ELEMENT



# ENABLERS TO PROGRESS



**LOCAL DELIVERY  
LEADERSHIP**



**STRONG MULTI-AGENCY  
PARTNERSHIPS**



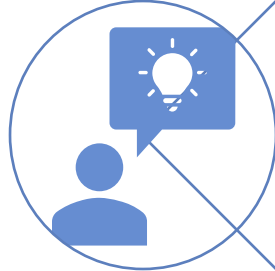
**JOINED UP LOCAL  
STRATEGIC PLANNING**



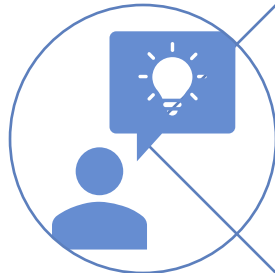
**THINKING LONGER-  
TERM**



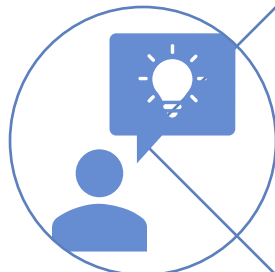
# LOCAL DELIVERY LEADERSHIP



Role of the RPC coordinator



Role of champions and  
relationship leaders



A particular focus within the plan  
& deliver dimensions

# STRONG MULTI-AGENCY PARTNERSHIPS



Delivery of awareness raising sessions and training with partner organisations



Co-development of an RPC delivery plan with partners



Multi-agency steering groups and panels

# JOINED UP LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING



RPC is an explicit part of Early Help strategies.

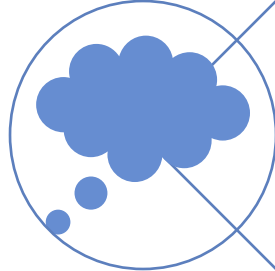


Shared ownership for RPC planning and delivery between partners.

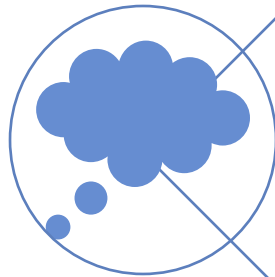


RPC incorporated into the Family Hubs structure and agenda

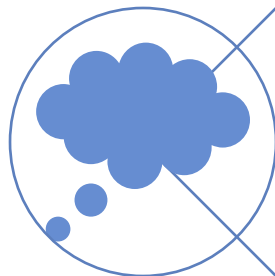
# THINKING LONGER-TERM



Embedding sustainable models locally



Governance as an enabler for sustainability



Evaluation as an enabler for sustainability



# Michael Taylor, Dorset Council

Reflections on family first pathfinder

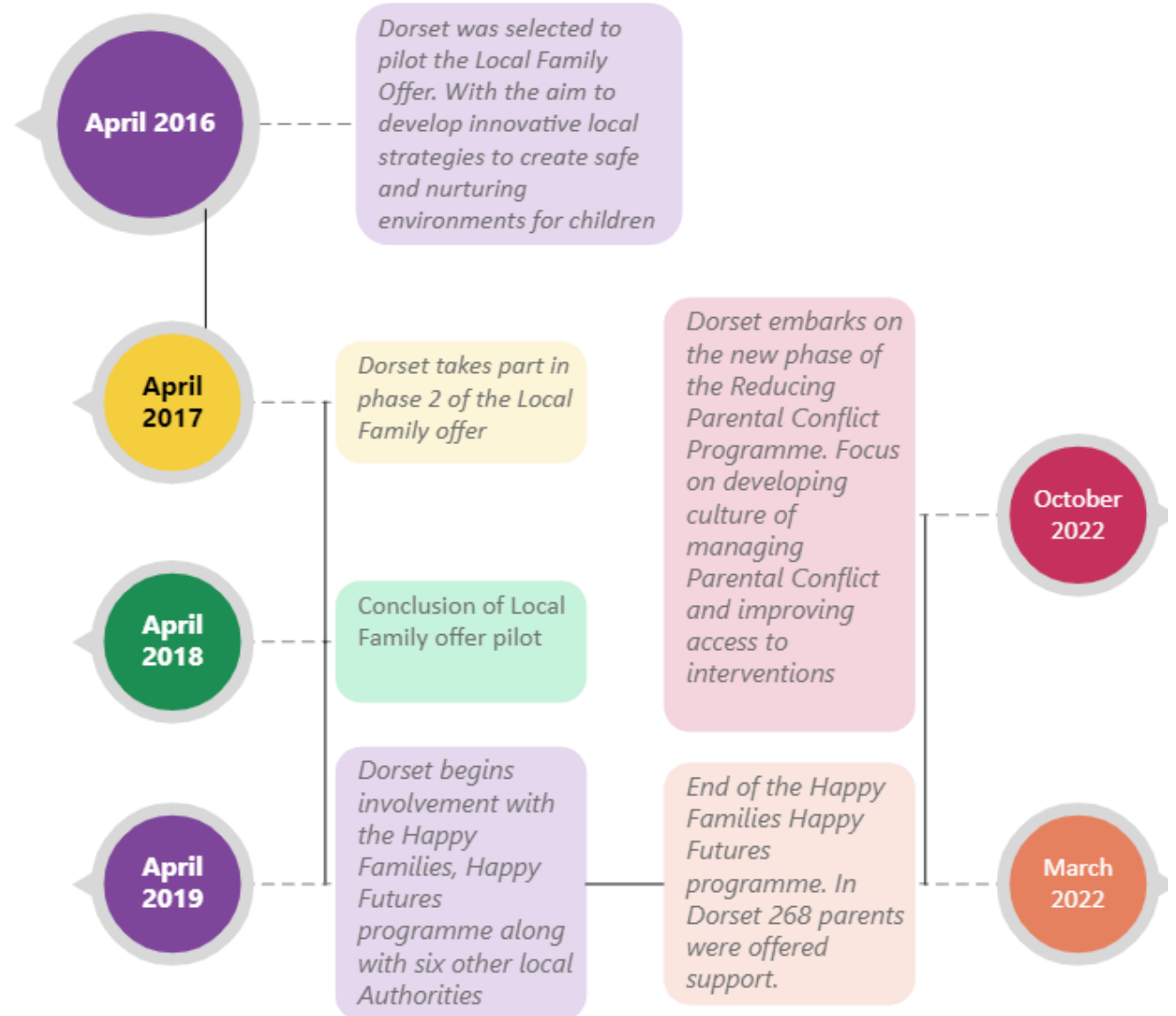


# Reflections on family first pathfinder

Michael Taylor



# Dorset RPC history



# What is the Family First Pathfinder?

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Implementation of reforms to;

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Family help

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Child protection

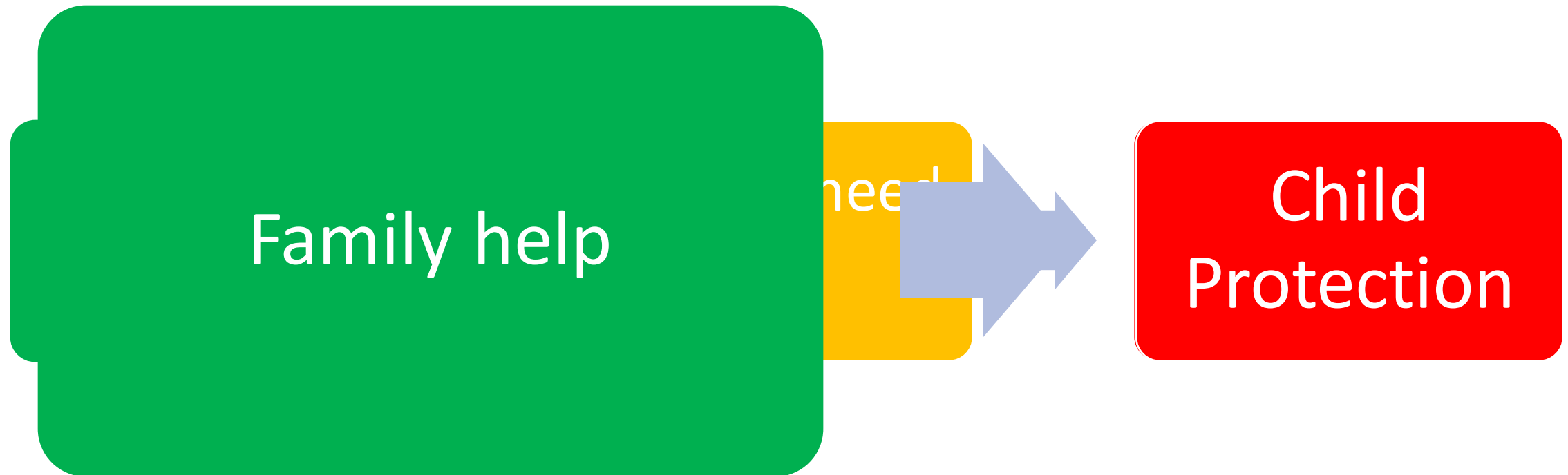
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Family network support packages

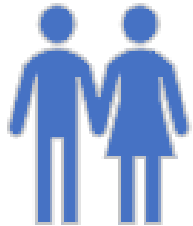
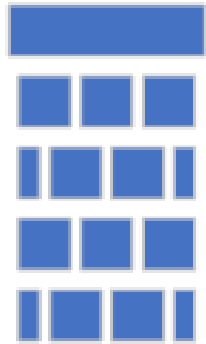
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Safeguarding partners

# Family help & child protection



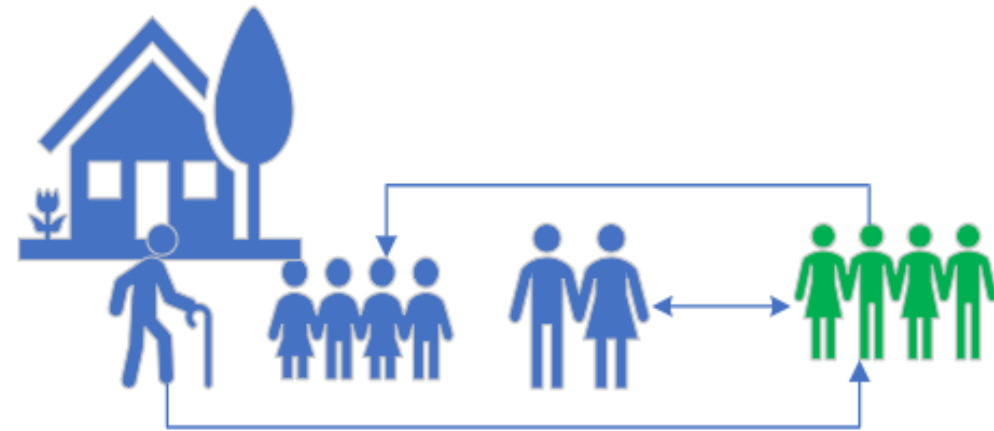
# Family Support Networks



Focus on keeping children within the family home

Placing children in care should be a last resort

Families are the experts in their own lives





# Alignment with Family First Pathfinder

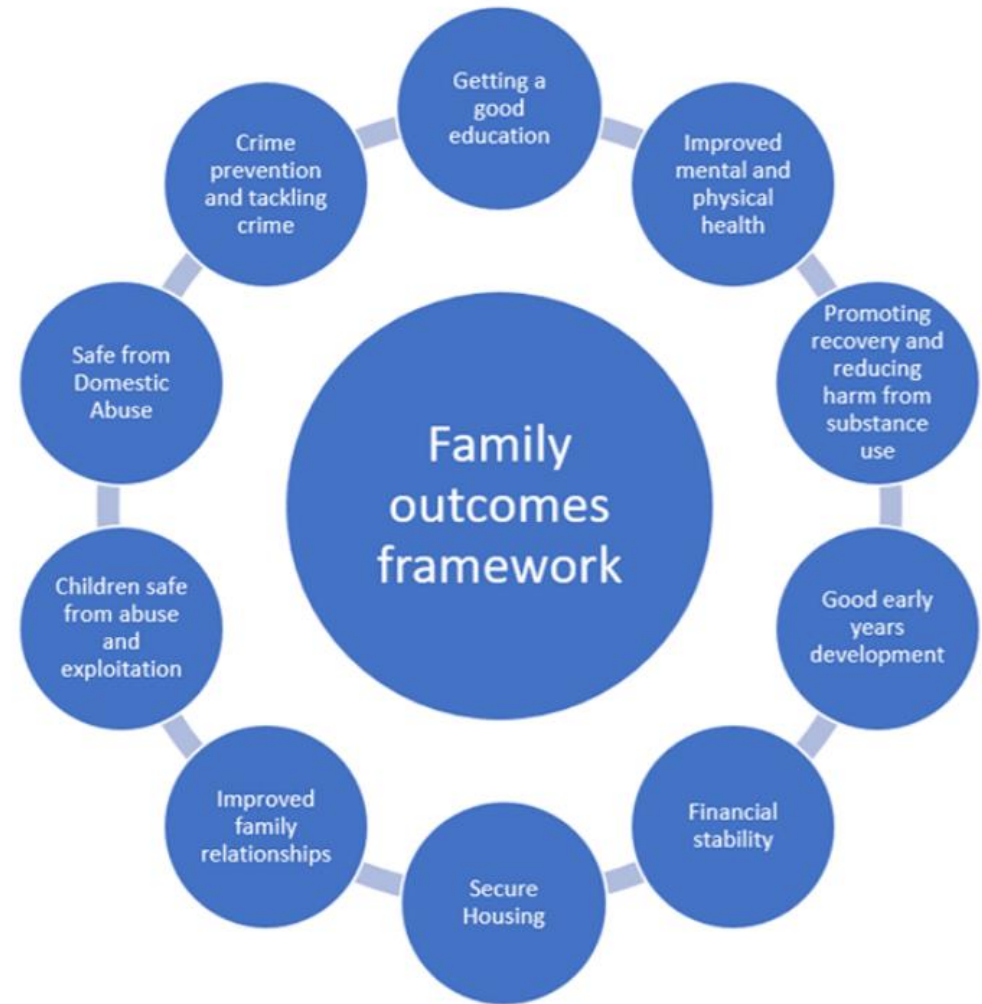
Supporting Families Framework

## Improved family relationships

Parent require parenting support & improved positive parenting

Harmful levels of parental conflict

Parents understand the impact of the conflict on the children



# Key factors influencing progress

+ DfE requirements

+ Fresh opportunities

+ Training

- Perceived Upheaval

- Competition

# Progress so far

We are going live from April in a phased approach

Family Network support packages are being developed

RPC will now have a place within a single assessment framework

Outcome measures are being utilised in parenting programmes

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## Key Learning

- There are many opportunities to embed RPC within pathfinder but sometimes you must push for this
- To engage key stakeholders ensure you have evidence to back up your point

