

Early Help, Think Family and Housing

Think Family – what does it mean?



Definition...

Think Family means improving outcomes for children, young people and families with multiple needs by considering and understanding the needs of all family members and co-ordinating the support they receive from children's, young people's, adult's and family services through a single family support plan co-ordinated by a Lead Professional.

One Lead Professional

One thorough family assessment

One overarching family support plan

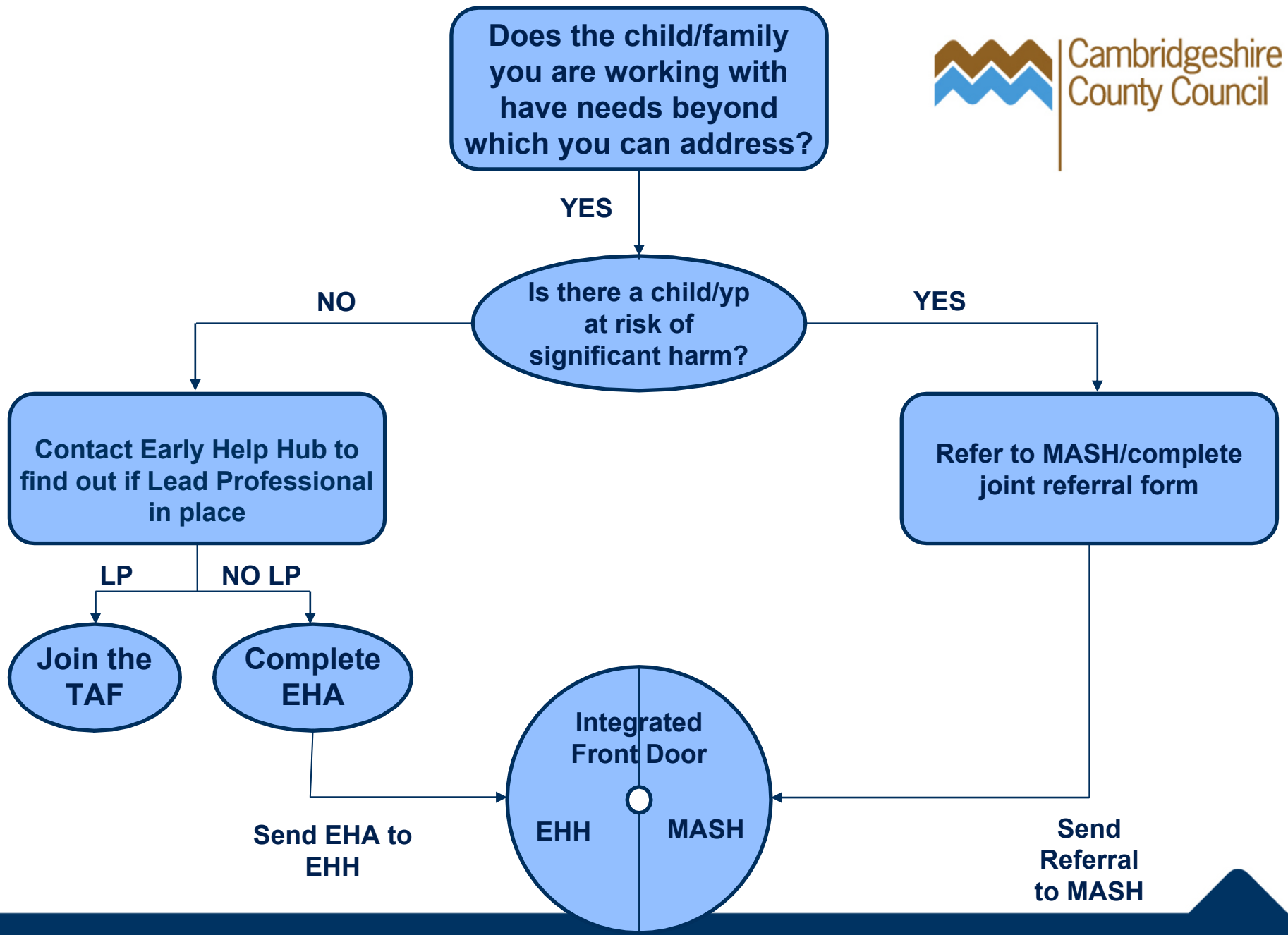
Limiting transfers that families experience through our services

A team around the family

Commitment to putting the family's needs at the centre and overcoming professional difference



The 'Think Family' approach



Early Help Hub or MASH or neither?

- u The new Threshold document is guidance to help professionals decide whether to refer to Early Help or MASH
[http://
cambridgeshirescb.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/threshold_document.pdf](http://cambridgeshirescb.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/threshold_document.pdf)
- u The Early Help Assessment and short factsheet on how to complete are available at:
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/parenting-and-family-support/providing-children-and-family-services-how-we-work/>
- u The Joint Referral Form and short factsheet on how to complete are available at:
<http://www.safeguardingpeterborough.org.uk/children-board/reporting-concerns/>

Support provided through EHH

All Requests for Early Help Hub via either MASH or EHAs are reviewed against the LSCB threshold document and will normally result in one the following:

- w Allocation of a service from a Cambridgeshire County Council District Early Help team. District Early Help Team support could include the allocation of a Family Worker to support with complex parenting needs or a Young People's Worker to offer direct input with a young person who may have multiple or complex needs.
- w Provision of information & advice or brokering support from other agencies – this will include signposting to access parenting courses or Drop In Sessions, Children's Centre groups or support from external agencies
- w Support to further develop the Early Help Assessment to allow us to make an appropriate decision

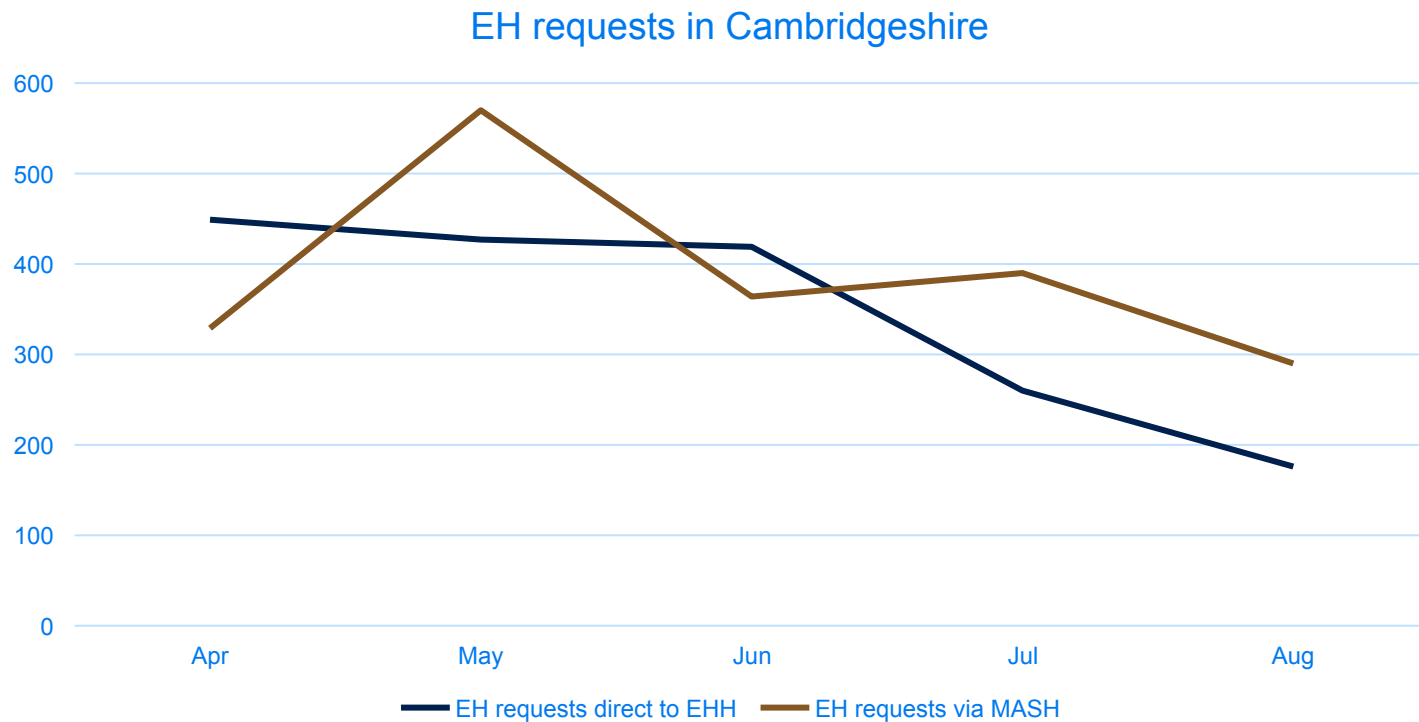
Early Help/Think Family and housing - progress to date

- u Training provided along with Trailblazer team to CHS, Luminus, Sanctuary, Clarion, BPHA, Muir, Accent Nene, City Homes, South Cambs District
- u Training generally well received
- u Generally good feedback about joint working from CCC staff although keen for more

EHAs in month of August

	Child	Family	Percentage (Family)
Individual	1	1	1
Education – primary	18	18	14
Education – secondary	5	5	4
Early Years	3	3	2
Child and Family Centres	9	5	4
Health	57	45	35
Housing (LA or assoc)	1	1	1
LA services	77	50	38
Police	0	0	0
Police - MARAC	0	0	0
Other legal agency	0	0	0
Other (CCs/provs/vol orgs)	5	2	1
Total	176	130	

Early help requests



CASE STUDY FROM FENLAND