

Family Hubs and Start For Life Update

**Presentation to Executive Advisory Panel for
Education, Skills and Employment –
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**North
Northamptonshire
Council**

Start For Life Action Areas

Ensuring families have access to the services they need

1. Seamless support for families: a coherent joined up Start for Life offer available to all families.
2. A welcoming hub for families: Family Hubs as a place for families to access Start for Life services.
3. The information families need when they need it: designing digital, virtual and telephone offers around the needs of the family.

Ensuring the Start for Life system is working together to give families the support they need

4. An empowered Start for Life workforce: developing a modern skilled workforce to meet the changing needs of families.
5. Continually improving the Start for Life offer: improving data, evaluation, outcomes and proportionate inspection.
6. Leadership for change: ensuring local and national accountability and building the economic case.

What is prevention and Family Help?

Prevention is about a system comprising a range of partners across a council, health, VCFS and Education which actively strengthen people's and families' own capacity and wellbeing.

This includes:

1. **Enabling and maintaining people to live healthy, active, independent lives.**
2. **Helping early* to meet needs before they become more complex.**
3. **A personalised and strengths-based approach focused on individuals and their natural networks.**
4. **A whole partnership approach and team around the family.**

*Early Help is the principle of providing the right support at the right time to tackle problems emerging for children, young people and their families. It is about providing effective help as soon as difficulties emerge.

Within the recent independent social care review, the need to merge Targeted Early Help and Child In Need in to a Family Help framework of delivery, the concept of a new service would be delivered by multidisciplinary teams made up of professionals such as family support workers, domestic abuse workers and mental health practitioners - who, alongside social workers, would provide support and cut down on referring families onto other services. These Family Help Teams would be based in community settings, like schools and family hubs, that children and families know and trust, and the service they offer will be tailored to meet neighbourhood needs based on a robust needs assessment and feedback from the families.



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Northamptonshire
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NNC Approach

Within NNC we are committed to developing strong partnerships across the system of intervention, prevention and support to build an integrated and seamless offer of support which **brings together local partners who are committed to having the right conversation at the right time to enable the right support for families. Building relationships and working together to build family resilience, prevent difficulties from escalating and to enable better outcomes to be sustained.**

We know that people operate in systems; within their families, when they connect with organisations and as they go about their lives. People's experience of these systems is informed by their past experiences as well as their race, gender, sexuality, age, culture, faith and other things that are unique to them. We will consider this when developing a relational and trauma informed approach ensuring that we are focusing on a strengths-based model of support.

We will build the foundations by pulling together a wide range of partners through a range of task and finish groups, to drive this agenda at pace.

We will work with our partners to undertake a range of activities which include:

- ✓ Completing an Early Childhood Services and Extended Early Help Maturity Matrix and develop an action plan based on this.
- ✓ Socialise the Drivers for Change with our partners and develop this further.
- ✓ Taking partners through a Theory of Change / Logic Model exercise which incorporates and develops joint priorities such as Integrated Care Systems and Family Help Services
- ✓ Develop and align a range of priorities which are broken down by the life course of a child i.e 0-5, 5-19, 19-25 (SEND), parents and carers.



Aligned Strategies and Policies

The Early Childhood Services Strategy concept was developed by the Early Intervention Foundation ([EIF](#)) to support local authorities in prioritising and garnering senior leader endorsement of the importance of the first 1001 critical days and beyond. Through the range of partnership boards and task and finish working groups we will complete the [EIF Maturity Matrix](#) which will help us measure the current position on early childhood integrated services, intervention, identify areas for improvement and work in partnership to work on areas that need further development.

The development of North Northants Early Childhood Service Strategy will reflect the findings that came out of the EIF Maturity Matrix work. A core focus will be on the integration of services to deliver a Start for Life approach and we will work across the system to develop and implement this Strategy.

We will also integrate other local strategies and priorities to ensure that this drives a system wide approach. **Some key areas include:**

Place based partnerships and provider collaboratives to:

- ✓ Improve outcomes
- ✓ Tackle inequalities
- ✓ Drive value for money and social and economic development.

National Strategies and Policy Documents that inform our work

- Family Hub Framework ([here](#))
- Best Start for Life, a vision for the 1001 critical days ([here](#))
- Integrated Care Systems (ICS)
- Healthy Child Programme ([here](#))
- Better Births ([here](#))
- Early Childhood Services Report (EIF) ([here](#))
- Early Years Foundation Stage Reforms ([here](#))



Family Hubs Drivers for Change

To **build solid foundations of an approach which is relational and**, has a systematic practice model and practice fundamentals

The national **Supporting Families Programme and Family Hubs** initiative requires us to transform the way we work with vulnerable families, providing more opportunities for holistic support.

Financial imperatives: effective early intervention and prevention can relieve pressure on more costly statutory services

The independent review of social care, focus on a revolution in Family Help and building a system that is relentlessly focused on children and families

To **drive Integration, community ownership and relationships** and by taking a whole family approach and ensure there is fair and equitable access for all.

Families will be able to access a **physical and virtual space** that acts as a single front door to joined-up multi-agency support for children aged 0-25. Breaking down barriers such as language and digital exclusion.

Integrated Care Systems, aligning priorities which include improving the health of children and young people and supporting people to stay well

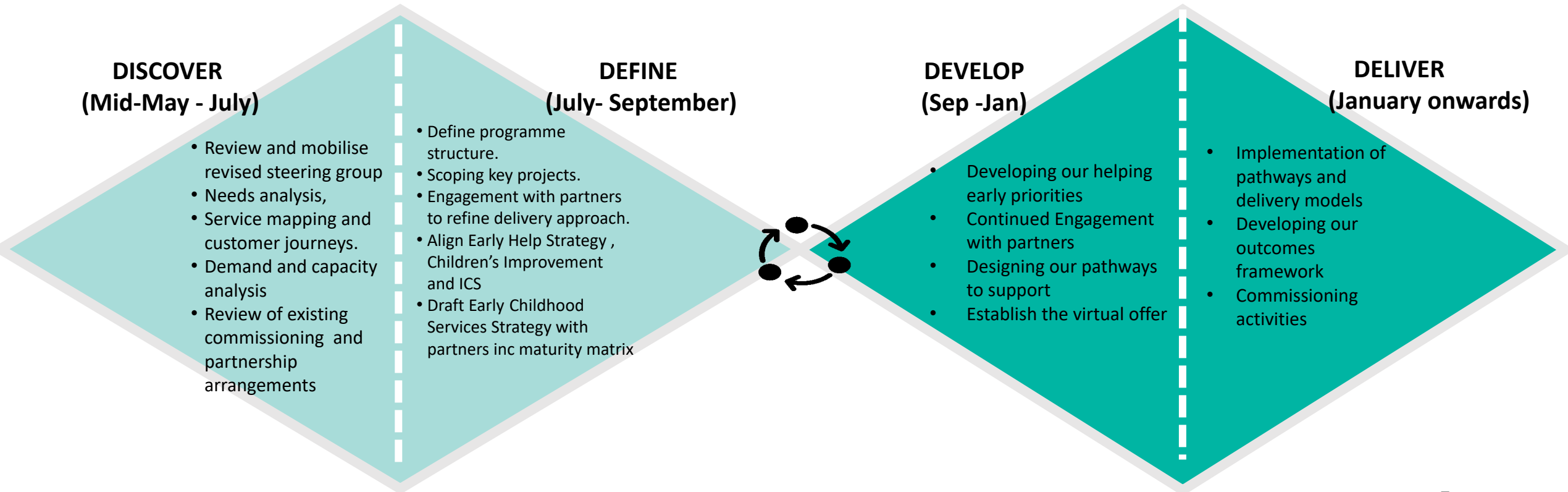
The recently published SEND review: Right Support, Right Place, Right Time.



Programme approach

The programme is being delivered with Agile principles. As we start discovery, there are areas we can get on with right away.

It's a cyclical process: We will continue to **test and learn** and iterate. Further research to refine our understanding will be critical to some projects.



Family Hubs Governance and Partnerships

- ✓ As part of the system wide approach to developing Family Hubs we have aligned the governance structures across the key areas of work to enable system wide transformation and innovation that will meet the needs of local children and families.
- ✓ We will ensure, through co-production, engagement and co-design that babies, young children, young people and their parents / carers are partners in developing services that meet their needs. This will include outreach, physical space and a strong virtual offer of support that is integrated to ensure that there is one single front door for information, advice, guidance and support.
- ✓ Through the SRO of the Family Hubs Programme, we will ensure that key risks / issues and milestones are addressed across the partnership and wider transformation programmes.
- ✓ We will ensure that there is a seamless thread of Family Hubs development and innovation through all 4 pillars to ensure that this continues to align with the Inclusion and SEND improvement transformation as well as integration with Integrated Care Systems to enable a cohesive strategic approach to developing the offer.



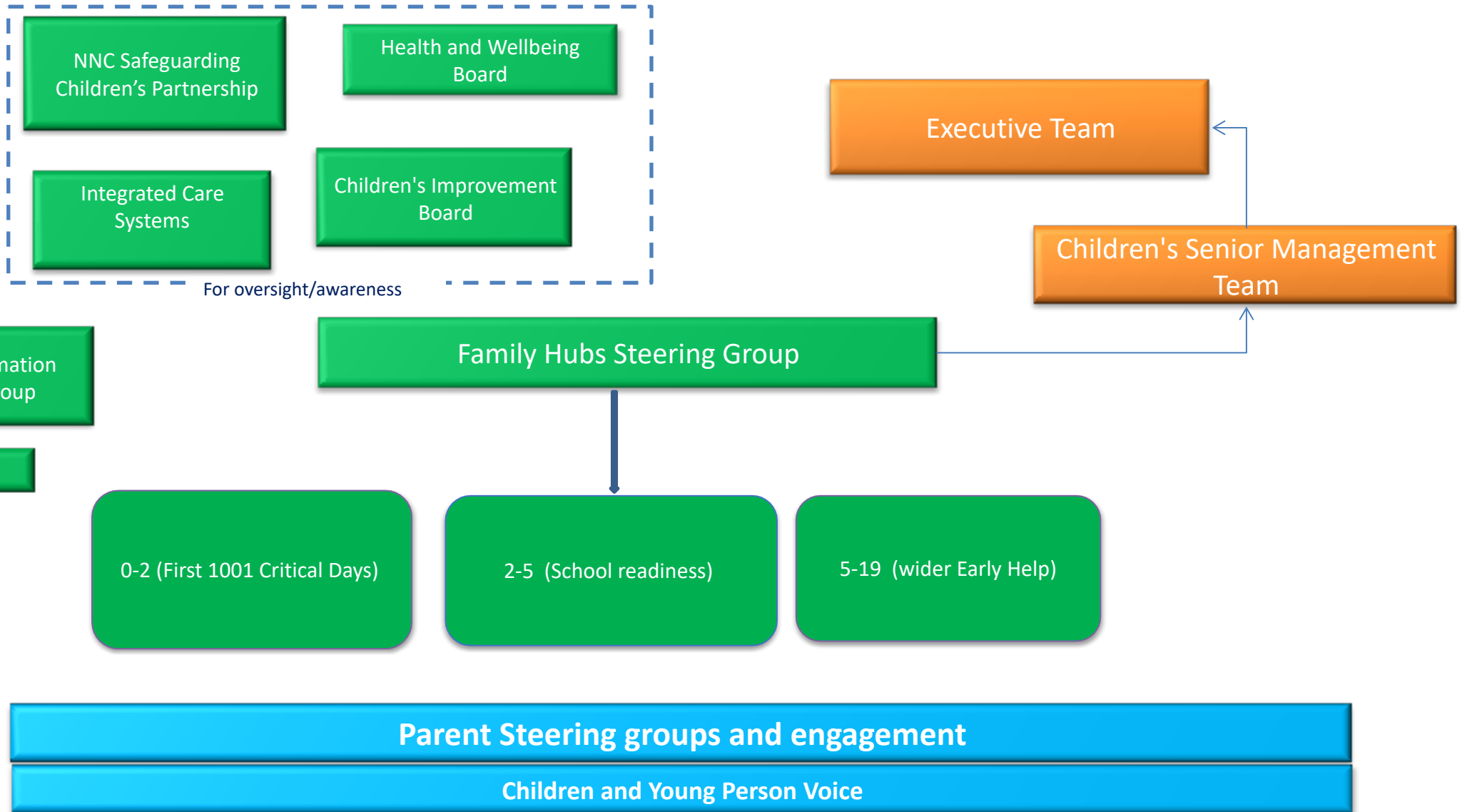
Family Hub and Start for Life Governance Structure

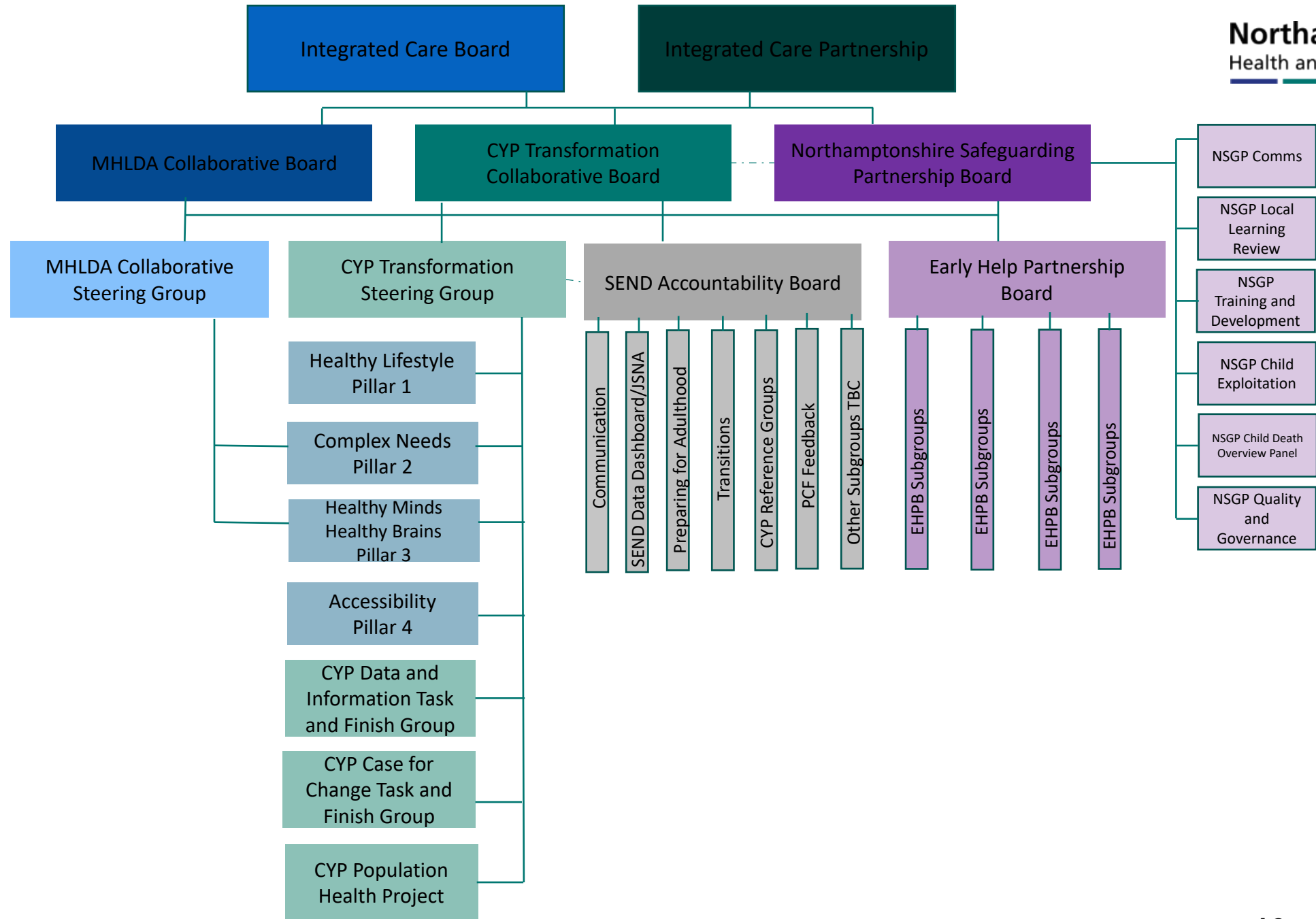
Key:-

Partnership Arrangements

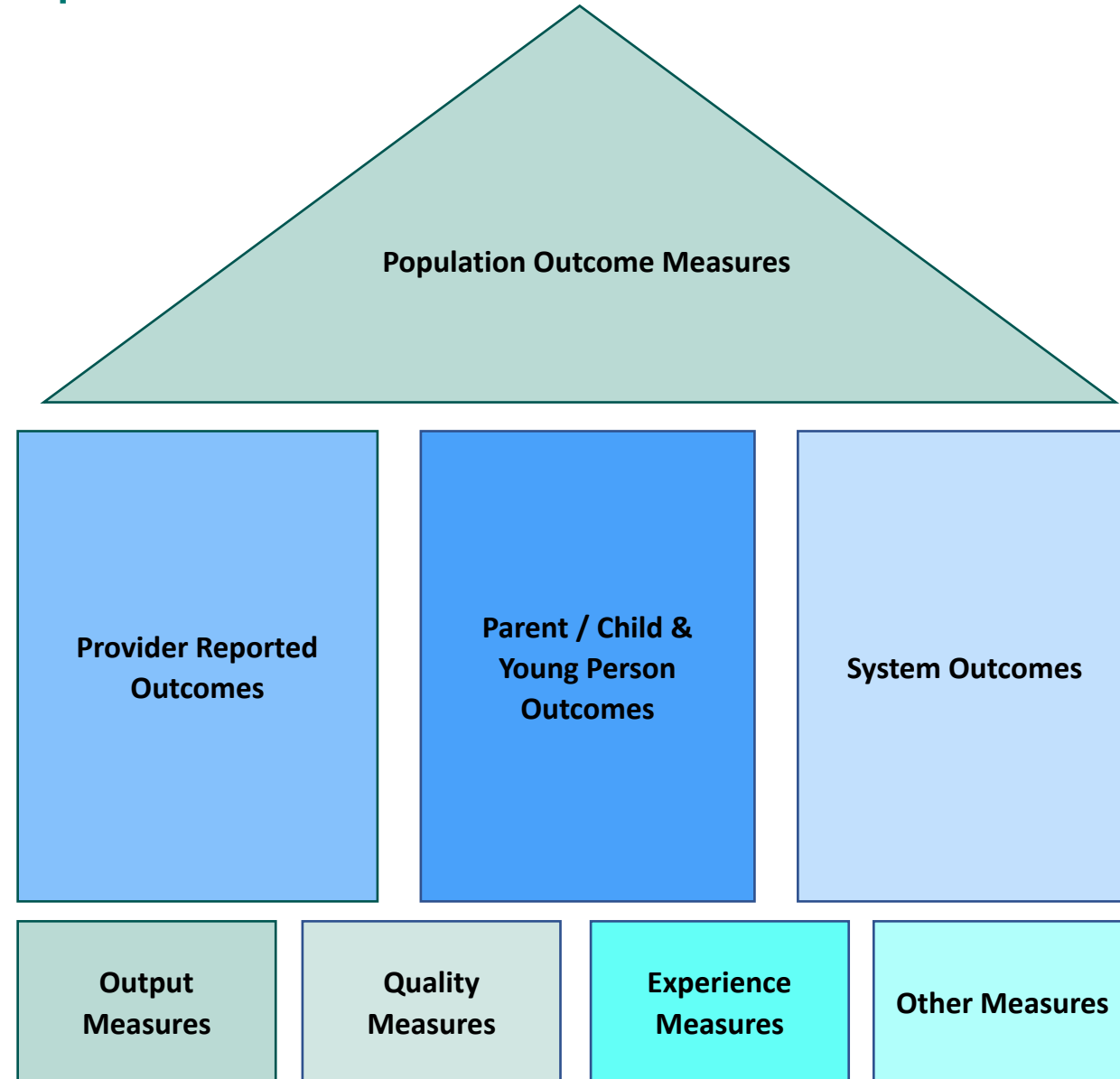
Internal SCC Arrangements

Parent/Carer/Service User





Outcomes – in development



How Start for Life will be driven across NNC?

First 1001 Critical Days

- Completion of the Early Childhood Services maturity matrix across the partnership.
- Jointly developed action plan including key priorities of ICS and Start for Life
- Bring together all services that work with families across NNC to pull together a clear conception to 2 pathway for universal, targeted and specialist services.

Readiness for School

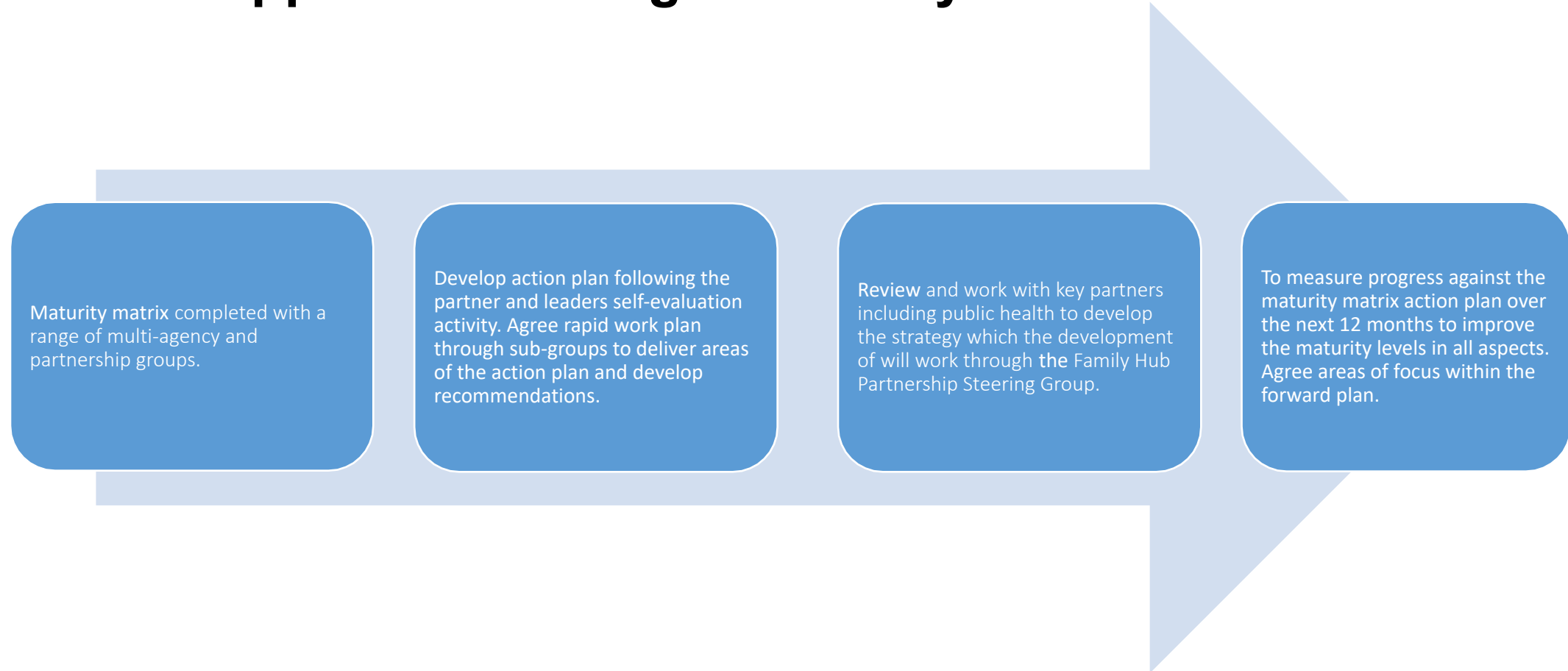
- Bring together a 0-5 pathway for all families in Newham including the school readiness approach and the first 1001 days.
- Work collaboratively to define the definition of school readiness and map all services and priorities that contribute to this.
- Development of communication and language plan

Parenting Support and whole Family approach to support.

- To map existing provision and offers across the partnership
- Utilise this group to develop the offer and innovation across the partnership addressing any gaps. There will be a key focus on relationships and conflict.
- Develop the wider whole family offer which factors the wider determinants of health and inequalities.
- Consider commissioning intentions based on the findings.



Phased approach to Integrated Early Childhood Services



Theory of Change / Logic Model

Aims (Early Help
and Early
Childhood Services
Framework)

Primary Drivers

Secondary Drivers

Interventions



Family Hubs in NNC

SRO Ann Marie Dodd's

PM Kirsty Reed

Key achievements over previous months

- Executive report submitted and agreed
- Communications regarding the approval agreed
- Family Hubs plan and approach shared with lead members
- Presentation and initial introduction and discussion with the Accessibility Pillar
- Development and alignment with SEND Improvement and Inclusion
- Discovery phase underway with a range of partners including NCT, Public Health, Wider Health Partners and Internal data and sharing.

| Project metrics | Status |
|-----------------|--------|
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Overall Status:

Key risks / issues / scope changes

- Ensuring that there is strategic alignment across the system
- Acknowledgement that some services work across Northamptonshire and this will continue to be managed through the development of the programme
- To continue at pace through to “define” stage during the summer holiday period
- Lack of confirmation regarding transformation grant and “go further” opportunities

Key milestones / actions for next month

- To continue and finalise needs analysis
- Expand discovery phase with partners across NNC
- Further alignment and progress with the outcomes framework development with public health
- To identify and align commissioning intentions that are up for review over the next 6-12 months
- Mobilise a monthly group that develops a forward plan for key milestones / commissioning intentions and strategic join up across the system
- Plan the “define” stage of the programme