What is the Threshold Document?

Every LSCB published a Threshold Document that includes:

- the process for the early help assessment and the type and level of early help services to be provided;
- the criteria, including the level of need, for when a case should be referred to local authority children’s social care for assessment and for statutory services;
- clear procedures and processes for cases relating to the sexual exploitation of children and young people.

How does it help me?

It will tell you:

- What services are available in Cambridgeshire for children, both Early Help and Social Care
- How to assess which services a child might need
- How to access those services
- How to understand the framework used in Cambridgeshire services and how to communicate with colleagues.

Why do we need a new one?

The MOSI is well known and well used. However, the Threshold Document does not include all that it needs to. It has now been updated and expanded, and includes a simplified model supported by information that reflects the experience and perspective of the professionals who will use it.

What is new?

Continuum of Needs

The MOSI pyramid has been replaced by a Continuum of Needs. This simplifies the model and emphasises the dynamic nature of the needs of children and their families. It is in line with that used elsewhere and will assist professionals working across LSCB areas. It is printed on the other side of this leaflet.

Integrated Front Door

All requests for services go to the same point of entry, both for Early Help and when there is a significant risk of harm to the child (the Joint Referral Form).

Early Help Assessment

The process uses a simplified and shorter Early Help Assessment that replaces the CAF

Where can I get more information?

Threshold Document
Sources of Support and Advice
Early Help Assessment Guidance
Making a Child Protection Referral

What should I do if I have a concern?

Police: If a child is in immediate danger, please call 999.
Children Social Care: 0345 045 1362; (Mon – Thurs) 8am – 5:30pm; (Friday) 8am – 4:30pm
Emergency Duty Team (Out of Hours) 01733 234724.
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub: 0345 045 1362
MASH.C&F@cambridgeshire.gcsx.gov.uk
Early Help Hub: 01480 376 666; (Mon – Thurs) 8.45am – 5.20pm; (Friday) 8.45am – 4.20pm;
Early.Helphub@cambridgeshire.gcsx.gov.uk
Universal

- Secure and warm parenting.
- Guidance and boundaries in place.
- Network of support, adequate home environment, good school attendance, accessing health provision as needed.
- Age appropriate development and responses.
- Positive sense of self and developing age appropriate independence skills.
- Parents may be struggling with a specific issue and require a low level of support.
- Basic care may sometimes be inconsistent.

Targeted

- Parenting is inconsistent and parenting issues may be getting in the way of meeting the child’s needs (mental health, learning disability, substance misuse).
- There is a lack of parental guidance and age appropriate boundaries are not in place. Parents may be struggling to manage behaviour within the home and there may be some evidence of domestic abuse.
- The home environment may not always be adequate and the family may not have positive relationships within the community.
- There may be issues with poor school attendance and behaviour when in class, health needs may not be met as appointments are often missed, there may be issues with anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, risk taking behaviour including early onset of sexual behaviour.

Specialist

- Child may have been abused or neglected; adults caring for the child are known or suspected of being a risk to children.
- Parents have significant personal issues such as mental health, substance misuse or learning difficulties which present a risk to the child.
- Family relationships are significantly conflictual and domestic abuse is assessed as high risk and the child is at risk of significant harm.
- The child’s medical needs have been significantly compromised due to parental neglect.
- There is concern regarding a child under 13 being engaged in sexual activity.
- Child may pose a significant risk of harm to others.
- The home environment presents an immediate and serious environmental and health risk to the child.

http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/lscb/report