

Frequently Asked Questions – Family and Wellbeing Centres

Family and Wellbeing Centres

Why is Sefton thinking of introducing Family and Wellbeing Centres?

Our communities have told us that our teams need to be more joined up as this will make their lives easier. To help to achieve this, we propose to redesign our overall offer at Children's and Family Centres so that people can access support more easily. The proposal is that this new service will cover ages from pre-birth to 19 year olds so we can offer a whole family approach. We propose to do this by creating main bases that will be known as Family Wellbeing Centres, integrating the offer for families with children from pre-birth to 19.complemented by a number of smaller bases, within three locality areas – North, Central and South.

It may mean that some people will access support in a different place or in a different way. This will enable us to make the most of the limited amount of money that we have available to provide this important support to 0 to 19 year olds and their families.

Our aim is to continue work to reduce inequality and provide accessible and responsive services. We will do this by working together with our diverse communities to improve their quality of life and enable all our children to reach their full potential.

What are Family and Wellbeing Centres?

There are times when we all need extra support or a bit of advice Family and Wellbeing centres will be a focal point from where we can support families. The Centres will tackle the multiple needs of people in different ways, for example by providing outreach support into schools and the community.

What difference will they make?

We believe that Family Wellbeing Centres will make a considerable difference to families, in terms of what is available and where services will be accessed. The proposal aims to:

- Develop a “whole family” approach where root cause issues can be addressed and families limit the number of times they need to tell their story
- Ensure a focussed response on providing improved outcomes for the children and young people themselves on occasions where the “whole family” approach does not work.
- Ensure that the child's voice is heard and that safeguarding thresholds are maintained through service redesign and delivery
- Support children and families that are failing to thrive or reach their potential, particularly with regard to attachment, language acquisition and early childhood milestones
- Promote good mental health and emotional wellbeing for all children and young people, parents and care givers in Sefton

What will each Centre deliver?

The detail of what each of the Family and Wellbeing Centres will deliver has not been decided. We will consider need across the borough and your feedback will help to inform the future model.

We want to better understand what activities you currently take part in and value, to ensure these are reflected in the new model. We will be working closely with youth and health partners to ensure centres offer a full range of services covering the needs of families for 0-19 year olds

Where will the Centres be based?

The proposals for remodelling and developing a family well-being service is part of a wider transformation process relating to Early Intervention and Prevention. The proposals will align to three identified localities in the North, Central and South areas of the Borough.

Within each locality we propose to have a main Family and Wellbeing Centre. The current proposals are:

South – Marie Clarke Family Centre or Waterloo Children’s Centre

Central – Netherton Family and Children’s Centre (already together)

North - Talbot Street Family Centre

Each main centre will be complemented by each other and the network of other centres. This network will ensure activities and support can be accessed locally.

Are you closing my local centre?

Nothing has been decided about the future of individual centres. The proposal is not to close centres but to make them work in a different way. You can see from the proposal that this may mean relocation.

Your comments and views will be fully considered in the decision making process.

How do I have my say about the proposals?

It is easy to get involved – you can go online and complete our questionnaire, or you can pick up a paper copy of the questionnaire in your local Family or Children’s centre, library or leisure centre. Alternatively if you call 0151 934 3193 we will be able to send out a copy of the questionnaire by post.

We really want to hear what you have to say about our proposals; the easiest way to do this is online via www.sefton.gov.uk .

We will also be organising a number of face to face engagement sessions, check on social media or with your local centre for more details.

When will any final decisions be taken?

A comprehensive report including a thorough analysis of the consultation feedback from will be taken to Cabinet in December 2017. At this point councillors will consider all of the available information and agree the way forward.

This report and the subsequent action will be published on www.sefton.gov.uk