

# SEFTON EARLY HELP STRATEGY 2020-2025

## VISION

Our ambition is that **all children, young people and families in Sefton will be safe, heard, healthy and happy, and will aspire to be the best they can be.**

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Early help is everyone's responsibility.
2. Wherever possible all children and families' needs will be met by universal services.
3. Listen to children and families and treat them as partners.
4. Focus on whole Family working.
5. All services will work together with children and families to promote family strengths, build resilience and independence.
6. Understanding needs.
7. Ensure clear pathways to support.
8. Everyone will encourage integrated working.

## DELIVERY MODEL PRIORITIES

1. Establish Effective Leadership, Partnership Working and Governance
2. Establish easy to use Early Help online information and advice
3. Develop a suite of tools for early help practitioners to use – ensuring a whole family strength based consistent approach to working with children and families
4. Develop effective and timely processes for sharing information between agencies
5. Refresh structures and pathways that support the access to early help
6. Develop a skilled and competent workforce across the partnership
7. Develop a joint commissioning framework for early help

## RISKS/INTERDEPENDENCIES

### Risks:

- Misalignment between partner priorities.
- Day to day service demands hinders progress.
- Reductions in frontline staff/workforce.
- Statutory functions take priority.
- Demands from Children's Social Care impact on capacity to deliver

### Interdependencies:

- Partner engagement
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Children and Young People's Plan
- LSCB
- Community Safety Board

## WHY WE NEED A STRATEGY

Effective early help requires a whole family approach and encompasses all stakeholders working with children and families. This includes Health, Police, Education, Children's Social Care, Local Authority Early Help, Voluntary and Community organisations and the wider public.

Engagement with the strategy by all sectors will require some cultural and operational changes but by doing so, and actively working together to deliver outcomes, we believe that we will positively change the relationship between the community and the public sector in ways which build and strengthen community resilience.

## GOVERNANCE

