Dorset's
Family
Hub
network

Partner Briefing

2023

What is a Family Hub?

Family hubs are a place-based way of joining up locally in the planning and delivery of family services. They bring services together to improve **ACCESS**, improve the **CONNECTION** between families, professionals, services, and providers, and put **RELATIONSHIPS** at the heart of family support.

(DfE)

Transformation Fund 1 (TF1)

Dorset have been successful in securing funding through DfE Family Hub Transformation Fund (TF1)

The Family Hubs Local Transformation Fund is a key part of the Government's commitment and is funded through HM Treasury's Shared Outcomes Fund, which aims to test innovative ways of working across the public sector to address complex policy challenges.

The fund will pay for the change process only, supporting LAs to move to a family hub model through programme and capital funding.

Dorset Ambition

We believe development of a Family Hub approach will:

- ✓ Improve awareness of, and access to information and early help support for families, enabling them to get help and support when they need it
- ✓ Provide opportunities to further develop partnership working, building on established relationships and commitments
- ✓ Support and enable delivery of commitments in Children and Young People's Plan

TF1 Requirements

✓ Meet (at least) basic level criteria of **Family Hub Framework**

✓ Open physical Family Hubs that meet **specified definitions**

✓ Deliver (at least) minimum expectations of service delivery under **24 Service Areas**

Family Hub Network

Family hub

Operated by Dorset council children's services

Offering a full range of joined-up support for Dorset families

Family hub: partnership

Operated by a partner organisation

Offering a range of joined-up support for Dorset families as part of the family hub network

Family hub: community

Pop-up hub in rural areas, schools and early years settings

Offering targeted support for Dorset families as part of the family hub network

Family hub: online

Personalised online experience

Offering a full range of joined-up support for Dorset families, 24-7

Family Hub Implementation Stages

Stage 1

Stakeholder engagement & awareness

Stage 2

Site feasibility (needs / assets analysis)

Understanding needs / requirements of families and delivery partners

Stage 3

Lead Organisation identification and onboarding
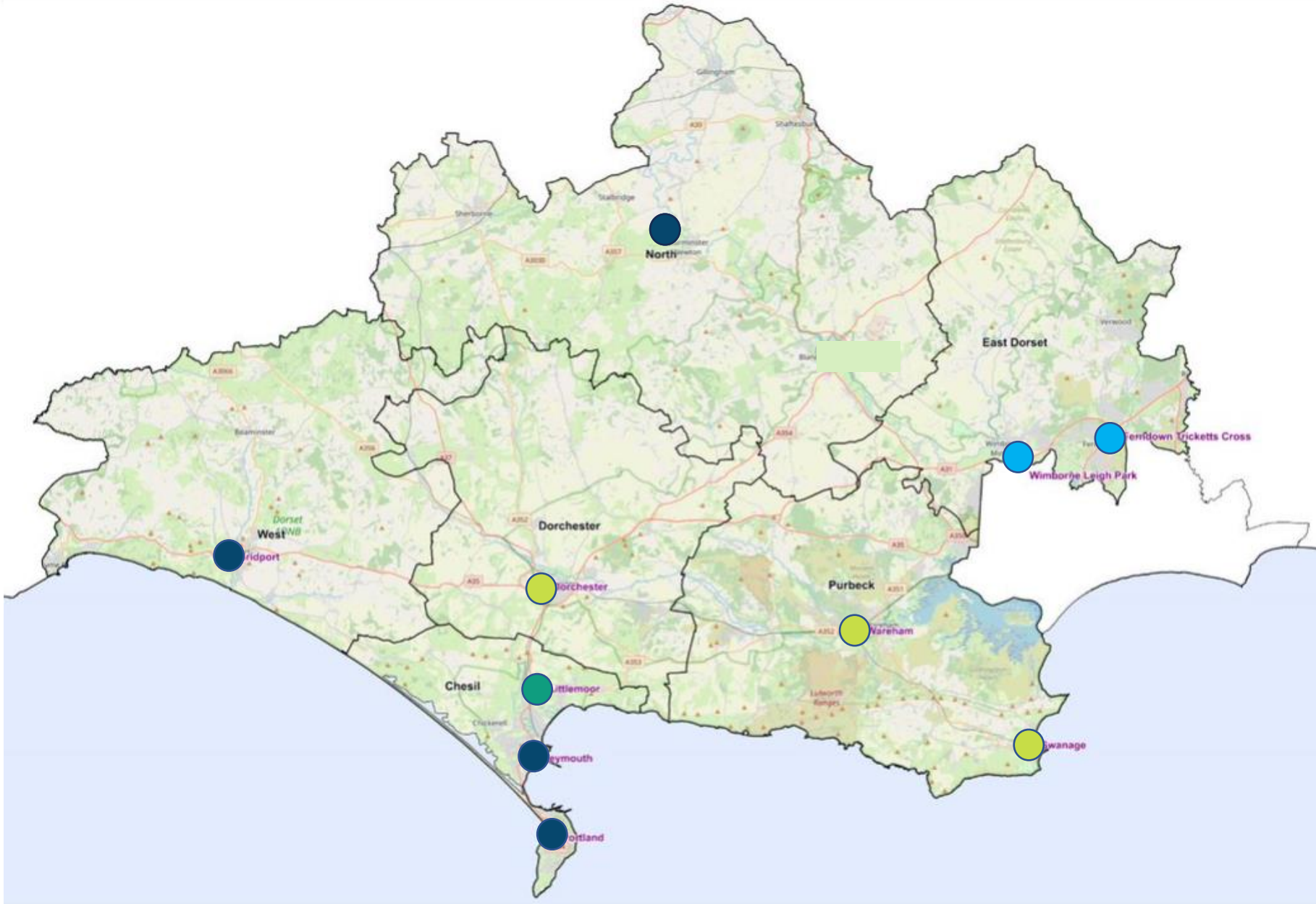
Partnership workforce development activity

Establishing governance arrangements via Local Alliance Groups

Open

Family Hub Open

Governance

Family Hubs are seen as a significant vehicle in which we will deliver much of the Children, Young People and Families plan.

Dorset's Strategic Alliance for Children and Young People provides the **strategic governance** for Dorset's Family Hubs, with local input via the partnership Local Alliance Groups (LAGs), at a locality level.

Local Alliance Groups enables different agencies to take collective responsibility, share risks and jointly invest in early help, whole-family and whole-system working, through development and delivery of Dorset's Family Hub network.

Family Hub Governance

Strategic Alliance for Children and Young People

- **East Locality Alliance Group**
- **Purbeck Locality Alliance Group**
- **Dorchester Locality Alliance Group**
- **North Locality Alliance Group**
- **Chesil Locality Alliance Group**
- **West Locality Alliance Group**

Families First for Children Pathfinder

The FFC pathfinder was announced in February 2023 as part of the government's children's social care implementation strategy, Stable homes, built on love.

It responds to recommendations from the Independent review of children's social care, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel report on child protection in England and the Competitions and Market Authority's market study of children's social care provision. The pathfinder will test delivery of key strategy commitments.

Families First for Children Pathfinder

The new end-to-end system will include 4 key elements:

•a child protection response carried out by social workers with greater expertise and experience, and access to dedicated and skilled multi-agency input, working with family help to protect children who are suffering or at risk of suffering significant harm

•greater use of family networks, with increased use of family group decision-making, facilitated by FNSPs to remove any financial or practical barriers family networks may face

•updated and strengthened local multi-agency leadership through changes to safeguarding partner arrangements

•**locally based, multi-disciplinary family help services, providing intensive, non-stigmatising and effective support that is tailored to the needs of children and families**

Family Hubs are recognised as a key delivery mechanism for Locality Family Help.

DRAFT Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy

1. **Strengths-based working**
To build a strong relationship between the council and the VCS which focuses on their potential, skills, knowledge, and connections to enable innovative and creative service delivery.

2. **Placed-based prevention**
To create effective and sustainable solutions with the VCS which address social issues and promote well-being by targeting geographical areas or communities.

3. **Effective partnerships**
To facilitate collaboration, coordination and maximise the use of resources across the public, private and voluntary and community sectors.

4. **Social action and volunteering**
To create an environment that enables VCS individuals, groups, and organisations and ultimately those communities they support to respond to local agreed priorities.

5. **The right help, at the right place, at the right time**
To promote and support community-based models of VCS and early intervention which help to build resilience and independent living and improve quality of life.

Asset Based Community Development:

- 'Inside out' development
- Building on existing skills/capacities and initiatives
- Focus on relationships, away from 'donor/recipient'
- Sustainability

Your thoughts….

Considerations
Examples of good practice
Challenges