Show and Tell: A new operating model for a needs-led front door

Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

12 March 2024

Agenda

- What we are here to do
- What have we done so far
- Our current test
- What's next

What we're here to do

The big problem

Children, young people and families who are referred to MASH often need support beyond safeguarding or social care.

Currently, these needs aren't always being met because the MASH is optimised to identify safeguarding and social care service needs.

If we can identify these needs and provide support earlier, we will prevent children, young people and families from further deterioration and from needing social care in the future.

Our approach

- Co-design with those that are in it
- Focussing on meeting the needs of people who use the service
- We are building a shared understanding
- We are working in the open
- Testing something and learning doing not just talking

What have we done so far

The vision

Provide the right support for the right child at the right time

Give referrers the confidence and information to support the child

Ensure access to the information we need to make informed decisions

Shift from meeting thresholds to meeting needs

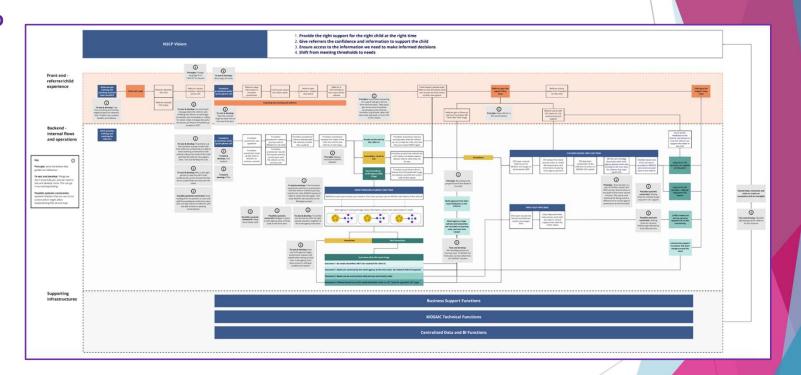
Operating principles

How we work

- 1. Children, young people and families come first
- 2. We make decisions based on needs, not thresholds
- 3. We are improving our service one step at a time; no big bangs
- 4. We won't be restricted by technology or process
- 5. We are honest and show people what we are doing
- 6. We learn through doing. When we don't know, we experiment
- 7. We thrive with high support and high challenge
- 8. Our partnership is one team. We involve everyone who has a stake in the service or how it's delivered when we are making changes

Service map

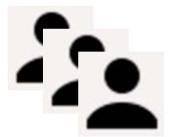
Our current best hypothesis for how to deliver the service



Building on our first test

A MASH Officer picks up the phone, has a conversation with the referrer and then goes to a duty team made up of multidisciplinary professionals.

Together, they review and respond to the referral based on the needs of the child.



Plus - on hand: Police Probation Adult Safeguarding Business Support



Duty Team



Advanced Practitioner







Health



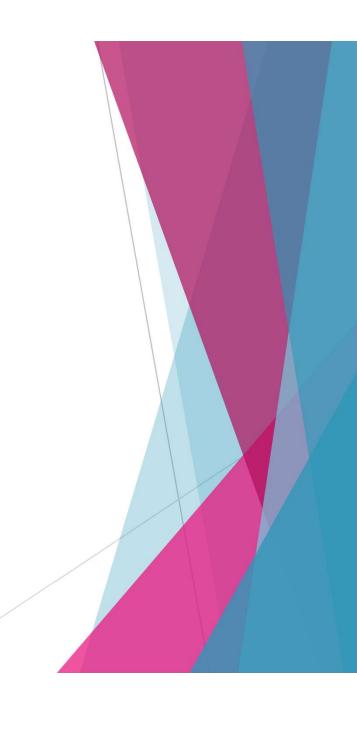
Social Worker



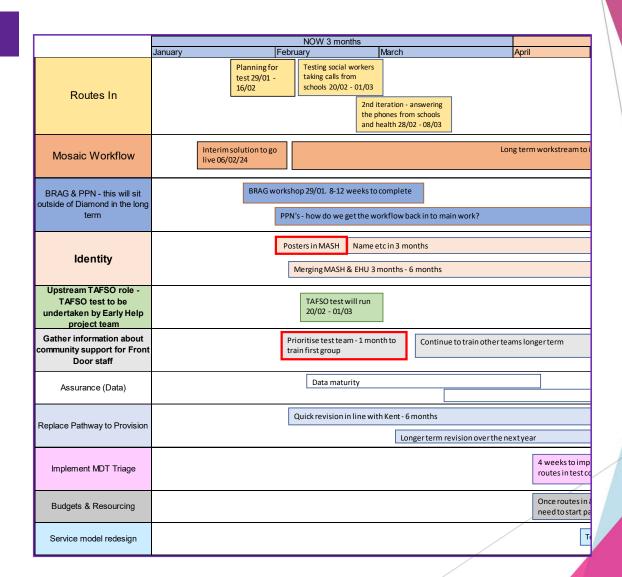
Education

But also...

- Adapted the Public Digital approach
- Literally broken-down barriers
- Modelled a partnership culture
- Inspired a new team structure



Roadmap



Our current test

'Routes in' test

What did we test?

 A group of professional referrers being asked to refer via telephone rather than the online form or email, speaking to a MASH Social Worker rather than a MASH Officer

TAFSO Test

- Team Around the Family Support Officer
- A person who provides an outreach from the front door to community settings
- Helps with what to try next, tools to use to help understand the extent of concerns, having difficult conversations with family members and seeking involvement from the right services



Reflections & feedback

"Preferred this way of referral as I felt I was having a conversation with someone who could give their opinion of where they felt it should go, able to have that two-way conversation"

"When you know the children you know the background well, but it's easy to miss something that the Social Worker might need to know.

They asked questions that I wouldn't have supplied the answer to on an online form"

"...took a bit longer though"

"This is great, because I now know what I need to do"

"Got the decision straight away and the advice was given there and then" "It was positive hearing exactly what was happening with the referral" "It was brilliant, all sorted in one call"

"It felt good to talk"

"...I was asked if things had been done by the school that hadn't been done, this gave me thoughts about what we can improve on for the next time"

"Excellent communication with the Social Worker. Clear direction and outcome of referral and clear feedback about how school responded"

Analysis

- Debrief meetings held throughout the test with staff
- Survey to referrers 31 responses so far
- Debrief with involved schools held Friday 8th March
- Debriefs with involved staff to be held this week
- Summary & analysis of test

What we are planning to do next

Linked Workstreams

Police notifications

How do we make sure that children who the police visit and are worried about get the right support at the right time when they don't need a child protection response?

A link from the front door to community settings

How do we support colleagues in community settings (like schools, nurseries and colleges) with meeting children's needs in the right place, at the right time so that a referral to the new front door is not needed?



Makeover at the MASH





Working in the open

- Analyse test 3 results
- Use results to look at how we can update the service model
- We will keep sharing weeknotes
- Progress assurance & data workstream
- Big Hopes & Fears session
- Next Show & Tell 25th April

We can't solve this alone

Relationships are the foundations for solving this together

The NSCP core team aka Diamond

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Name	Role
Merlin Tinker	Operations Manager - MASH
Sam Harris	Service Manager - NCSP
Jayne Hopkinson	Project Manager for the front door project
Christopher Neijs	Project Officer for the front door project
Carolann Cairns McFarlane	MASH Business support manager
Janet Smith	Children's Service Manager - MASH
Katie Warner	Group Manager – MASH and Assessment Teams
Debbie Clarke-Colton	Service Manager for Early Help Unit
Rachel Miller	Service Director
Amanda Marsden	Team Manager - Adult MASH
Sandra Morrell	Designated Nurse for Safeguarding
Stuart Barson	Detective Inspector – MASH
Moira Loadman	Education adviser - MASH
Tamar Henry	Senior Probation Officer

Our Diamond team



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