

# National Care Review

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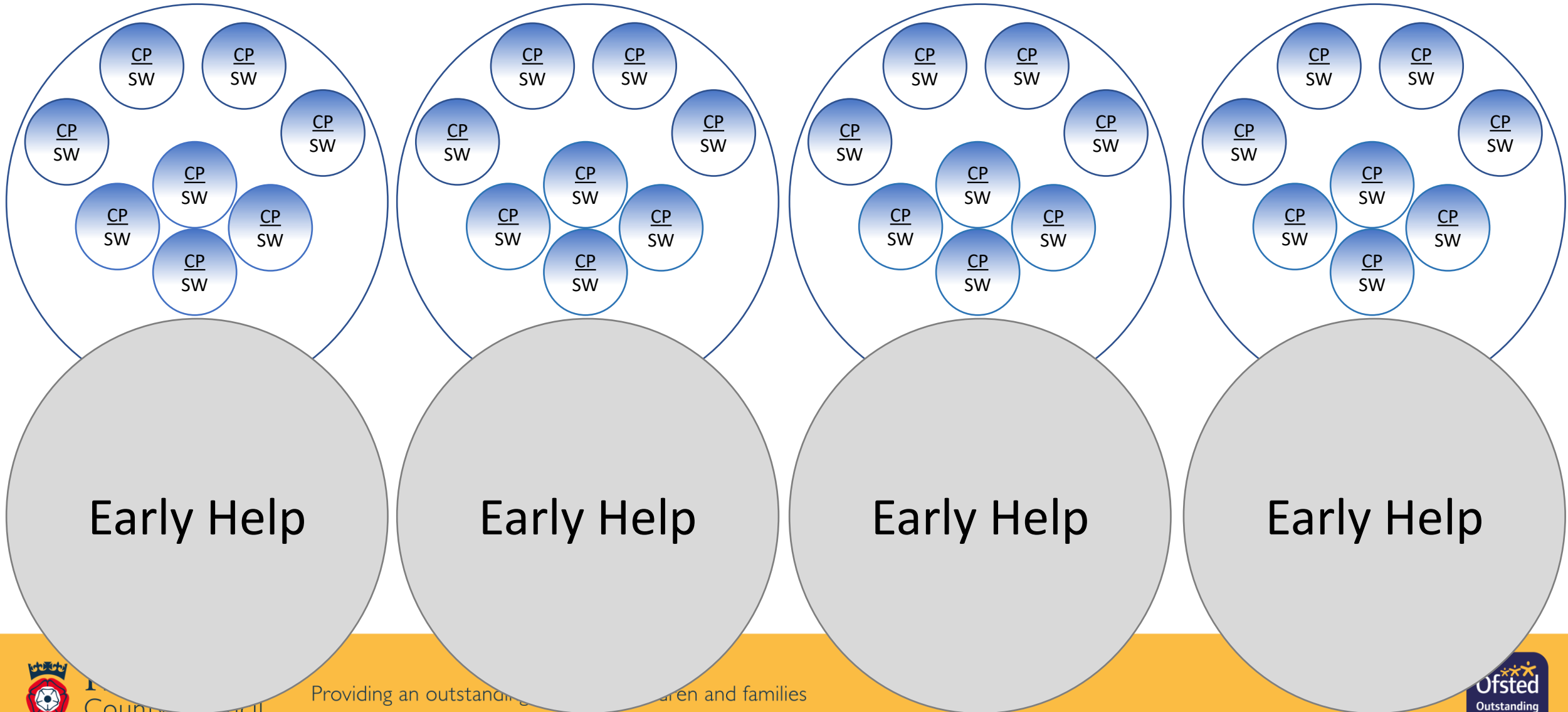
# 1. Executive summary

- Sets tone, sets out purpose of CSC
- Sets out relationships at core
- Some clear principles
- Need for investment
- Acknowledges poverty and inequality, pressures, emerging threats, domestic abuse, mental health, substance misuse, immigration and asylum

## 2. A revolution in family help

- Brings together early help and children in need (lower level social care cases)
- Defines family help as being a revolution to prevent families facing changes of professionals as needs/risk increase..
- Suggest should be c5% of child population
- Multidisciplinary casework including **non**-social workers holding what are currently some social work cases

# Typical Currently 'Havant Child Safeguarding and Early Help



# Independent Care Review – eg Havant model 1

CP

Family  
Support  
Leigh Park

CP

Family  
Support  
Waterlooville

CP

Family  
Support  
Emsworth

CP

Family  
Support  
Wecock Farm

## 2. A revolution in family help

- Social workers skills more targeted
- ‘Neighbourhood’ dimension – 30k population
- Aim is to **keep more families safely at home** – ring any bells? Hampshire Approach!
- Call for £2.6bn investment

## 2. A revolution in family help

- *National Children's Social Care Framework* – to define outcomes, objectives, indicators of success and most effective models of delivering help
- Multi- agency work to be strengthened alongside role of DCS and suggests legislating along similar lines to YOT
- Makes links to SEND green paper and inspection – the latter now being a judgement inspection

# 3. A just and decisive child protection system

- Introduces concept of expert practitioner child protection social workers
- They would chair child conferences, make threshold decisions, joint visits alongside ongoing family support worker or social worker
- Emphasises the need for multi-agency contribution to MASH and should be set out in Framework and post MASH



# 3. A just and decisive child protection system

- Introduction of Child Community Safety plans for extra-familial harms (exploitation)
- Simplify multiple funding strands from govt
- Better guidance on information sharing and action for govt on joining up systems through a single identifier – likely the NHS number

# 4. Unlocking the potential of family networks

- Mandatory use of family decision making before PLO
- New type of plan – Family Network plan overseen by social worker
- Financial allowance for SGO, Kinship Care and Child Arrangement Orders at same rate as fostering (watch for new burden)

# 4. Unlocking the potential of family networks

- Financial allowance for Special Guardianship Orders, Kinship Care and Child Arrangement Orders at same rate as fostering (watch for new burden)
- Drive to support more children in Kinship Care (friends and family is the phrase I prefer)
- LA to develop peer support and training for all kinship carers
- New legal definition of kinship care taking broader range of circumstances

# 5. Transforming Care

- Supporting Annex (not seen) on alternatives including price caps, profit margins, nationalisation of independent children's homes – rejected
- Proposes windfall tax on profits
- National foster care recruitment campaign
- Link to family group decision making to identify foster carers
- Independent Reviewing Officers to be replaced by independent high quality advocacy (Children's Commissioner?)

# 6. The care experience

- 5 missions; loving relationships, higher education, 3500 well paid jobs, reduce homelessness, increase life expectancy
- Broaden corporate parenting responsibility across wider range of public sector bodies
- Care leaving a protected characteristic
- Priority for housing

# 6. The care experience

- Stronger safety net against homelessness by removing local area connection requirement, providing rent guarantor and increasing leaving care grant
- Employers should be able to use unspent apprenticeship levy to create a care leaver bursary to tailor support for apprentices with care experience
- A better range of housing options such as staying put, staying close and supported lodgings

# 7. Realising the potential of the workforce

- Recommends national programme that unpicks bureaucracy, IT, culture that pulls social workers away from the front line
- 5 year early career framework and national pay scales
- Wants to ‘tackle’ social work agencies – references, must be 2 years post qualifyin
- ‘Government should introduce new national rules on agency usage’,

# 8. A system that is relentlessly focused on children and families

- Inspectorates should review their frameworks re joint working
- Schools a statutory safeguarding partner
- Incentivise greater partnership working through publishing partner contributions and making reform grant contingent
- Better national govt coherence in policy making



# 9. Implementation

- Good financial analysis – funded through *Relationships Protect* reform programme
- £2bn family support, £23m family networks, £76m homes for children, £253m for workforce
- Will need white paper in 6 months
- Foster care recruitment programme, start NCSCF, AYSE to be done within 6months, may be some other ‘quick wins’

# 9. Implementation

- By 2024 should have NCSCF, family finding, transforming family help, social work career framework
- Foundations for kinship care reform, leadership programme
- Full flight from 24-27 developing savings in the system
- Not in print but possible that this will shift 1 year back to fit in with spending review

# Questions?