

# Tameside Early Help

## Strategy



2023-2026

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# 1. Foreword

**Everyone has a role to play in providing early help. Early help focuses on bringing services together, considering the needs of the family as a whole, to make sure families get the right help at the right time from the right place.**

Support can come in many forms and may be delivered by just one service or may include many organisations across different areas such as health, education, employment and the voluntary sector working together to support a family. Early help focuses on the strengths of each family, supporting them to reach their own solutions to prevent issues from escalating.

We know that public sector cuts coupled with the cost of living crisis have detrimentally affected our most vulnerable families, as such it is more important than ever that families can access effective support early on.

We want to build on the early help approach already in place in Tameside to continue to reduce the number of families reaching crisis so that we can help all children reach their full potential. We know that early intervention is critical in ensuring that our young people lead happy, safe and healthy lives. Our ambition is that all families are supported holistically as partners, and that all families are able to access services and information when they need to, promoting positive outcomes across the borough.

Tameside's Early Help Strategy will be overseen by the Early Help Partnership who will monitor the implementation and delivery of the strategy.



**Cllr Bill Fairfoull**  
Executive Member for Children and Families



## 2. Introduction

**This strategy builds on Tameside's previous Early Help strategies of 2020 and 2017 by setting the scene both locally and nationally. It provides clear priorities and accountability to improve and enhance, at pace, the Tameside Early Help approach and offer, ensuring it remains responsive to the needs of the children and families within the Borough.**

The Tameside Early Help Strategy 2023-26 is a partnership document which underpins our strong commitment to early intervention, aligning with our updated thresholds document, the [Tameside Framework for Help and Support](#).

There are over 54,000 children and young people living in Tameside and whilst most children and their families in Tameside have a good quality of life with minimal additional support, there are some who need extra help for a variety of reasons. At different times in their lives, children, young people and their families in these circumstances may need additional support and help from universal, targeted or specialist services. We know, for families, it can sometimes feel difficult to ask for help or to know what help is available and how to access this support. Which is why, early help is an approach, not a single provision and is everyone's responsibility.

Early help can only work when delivered in partnership across multiple agencies who work with families.

Early help means children, young people and their families are supported holistically at the right time, as soon as a problem is identified and is not left to escalate. Early help means that families are supported and their strengths are recognised.

We know early help is the right thing to do, which is why this strategy strives for high-quality offer for children and their families at the earliest opportunity to build the strongest possible foundations for children to thrive throughout their life.

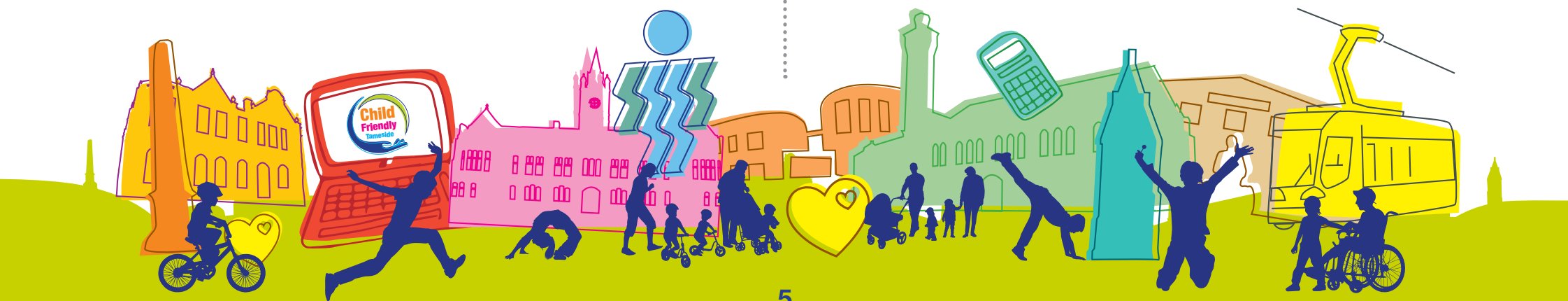


Learning from recent OFSTED inspections we will strengthen our approach to joint working. This includes continuing to strengthen the link between special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and our early help offer, to ensure needs are identified and supported at the earliest possible point across health, education and social care services.

Our early help approach will be the foundation of our Family Hub model, recognising that investment in preventative support for families is crucial to promoting better health, education, emotional and social outcomes in the longer term. The Family Hubs Programme will provide multi-disciplinary support physically within the community, embedding the ethos of early intervention and supporting families with children from 0-19 years or up to 25 years for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Effective early help also contributes towards the fulfilment of our statutory duties including the Council's duty to improve the wellbeing of young children (Section 1 Childcare Act 2006) and to improve cooperation between local partners to improve the wellbeing of children (s.10 Children Act 2004).

This is a high-level document outlining our approach to Early Help which will be complimented by our Early Help Delivery Plan.



# 3. Context

## 3.1. National Context

Still of relevance today is the Munro Review of Child Protection (2011)<sup>1</sup> which were incorporated in the Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013;2018)<sup>2</sup> that clearly set out the importance of early identification and support for children and families – ‘Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later’. The statutory guidance makes clear that under section 10 of the Children Act 2004, Local Authorities have a responsibility to promote inter-agency co-operation to improve the welfare of all children, emphasising that early help is an approach and offer across many agencies, and is not a single provision.

From a population point of view, the Marmot Reviews: Fair Society, Healthy Lives (2010; 2022) provide the bedrock of evidence supporting prevention and early intervention – ‘The foundations for virtually every aspect of human development – physical, intellectual and emotional – are laid in early childhood. What happens during those early years, starting in the womb, has lifelong effects on many aspects of health and wellbeing, from obesity, heart disease and mental health, to educational and economic achievement. Later interventions, although important, are considerably less effective if they have not had good early foundations’.

More recently, Josh McAllister’s independent review of Children’s social care (2022)<sup>3</sup> has a firm focus on early help, which is referred to as ‘Family Help’, calling for a fundamental shift from crises interventions that don’t always achieve the best outcomes for children and families, as well as continuing costs to public services. The Department for Education’s recently released children’s social care strategy ‘Stable Homes, Built on Love’<sup>4</sup> responds directly to the independent review, committing to providing families with supportive and welcoming Family Help services delivered through a skilled multi-disciplinary workforce, providing the right support at the right time. These developments highlight a growing consensus around the importance of taking a joined up whole family approach to early intervention.

Furthermore, the SEND Review (2022)<sup>5</sup> clearly identifies that early help is vital and can improve outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, enabling children and families to thrive through access to the right support, from the right place, and at the right time.

In addition, national and global crises including the cost of living crisis have negatively affected families, increasing demand for services, often highlighting and exacerbating existing health and socio-economic disparities. For example, the Institute of Health Equity (2022)<sup>6</sup> highlights how fuel poverty is detrimentally

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/munro-review-of-child-protection-final-report-a-child-centred-system>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

<sup>3</sup> <https://childrensocialcare.independent-review.uk/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1133537/Children s social care stable homes consultation February 2023.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1133537/Children_s_social_care_stable_homes_consultation_February_2023.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-review-right-support-right-place-right-time>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.instituteoftheequity.org/resources-reports/fuel-poverty-cold-homes-and-health-inequalities-in-the-uk>





### 3. Context

affecting children's development, mental health, educational outcomes, and increasing the risk of poor respiratory health. Similarly, whilst the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is yet to fully understood, early evidence reviewed by the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities (2022)<sup>7</sup>, found health inequalities amongst children and young people, living in deprivation, or who are from black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds, or are lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ+).

National developments have also indicated the growing awareness of the variety of factors affecting outcomes for children and families, necessitating a coordinated multi-agency approach. OFSTED recently announced that their Joint Targeted Area Inspections will focus on the local multi-agency response to children and families who need help, evaluating how effectively different agencies work together to reduce risks to children and meet their needs early on.<sup>8</sup> The new inspection criteria highlight the importance of a partnership approach in supporting children and families, showing the renewed significance of an effective early help system.



<sup>7</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-mental-health-and-wellbeing-surveillance-report/7-children-and-young-people>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-targeted-area-inspection-of-the-multi-agency-response-to-children-and-families-who-need-help/joint-targeted-area-inspection-of-the-multi-agency-response-to-children-and-families-who-need-help#evaluation-criteria>



# 3. Context

## 3.2. Local Context

Tameside's population of children and young people is the fastest growing, compared to other age groups. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, Tameside had challenges regarding economic growth, and significant challenges with high concentrations of deprivation and entrenched issues that exist in some communities including unemployment, ill-health and social issues including higher prevalence of domestic abuse and substance misuse.

An important part of understanding the local context in Tameside involves listening to children and young people about how they feel about living in Tameside, and what makes a difference in their lives. Children and young people have told us they recognise that love and emotional support from family, friends and communities is the key to a happy childhood, that the compassion and care for one another that exists across generations in Tameside families is important to them and is a strength of the Tameside community. Children and younger people have told us that they are ambitious for their future and want to have a wide range of opportunities available to them. Opportunities to develop confidence and self-esteem are important to them.

They also want to feel safe and secure within their communities, tackle the stigma associated with mental health and recognise the importance of preventing crisis' developing. Listening to children and young people is at the heart of our early help practice and in developing this strategy we are focused on improving the Early Help Offer in Tameside to underpin the ambitions of children, ensuring their voice is heard and reflected in the services we deliver.

It is important to acknowledge that some children in Tameside face additional barriers, which, unless addressed early, can accumulate throughout life and negatively impact on their life chances, resulting in significant inequalities. Children living in Tameside are less likely to meet the expected level of development in their early years, with speech and language needs being a particular challenge.

Throughout their school career, children living in Tameside are more likely to need additional support or be identified as having Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. At secondary level, challenges around school attendance and attainment are key drivers in preventing progression into Further and Higher Education or training and in later life, impacting on earning potential.

Families in Tameside can sometimes face challenges, which can have long-term detrimental impact on the wellbeing of children and young people into adulthood. In particular, domestic abuse, mental health issues, neglect and parental conflict are some of the issues that result in referrals to Children's Social Care.

Intervening as soon as these issues are identified is vital in creating conditions where families can improve their own life situation and go on to thrive.

Understanding both the assets within families and the communities they live in, along with the challenges that they face is vital to the delivery of this strategy. By using both data and intelligence and by listening to families we will strive to understand their needs better, and be more responsive when supporting families.





# 3. Context

## Children, Young People and Family Outcomes in Tameside

Further to Tameside Children and Young People's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2022), the below data illustrates that children, young people and families in Tameside have worse outcomes compared to the England averages.

The Strategy does not seek to prioritise any one particular outcome, but seeks to work as a whole system across all policies to improve these outcomes as a whole. Equally, the strategy seeks to support and help children and families where these needs have been identified.

### Deprivation

**17.6%** of children in absolute low income families, compared to 15.1% across England (2020/21)

**22.3%** of children in relative low income families, compared to 18.5% across England (2020/21)

## Early Years & Child Development



**11.3%** smoking status at time of delivery in Tameside, compared to 8.6% across England (2021/22)



**34.2%** of babies are breastfed at 6-8 weeks, compared to 48.6% across England (Q4 2021/22)



**60.1%** of children achieving a good level of development at the end of Reception, compared to 65.2% across England (2021/22)



# 3. Context

## Education & Employment



**8.1%** of 16-17 years not in education, employment or training, compared to 4.7% across England (2021)

**57%** pupils achieving KS2 RWM EXS+ compared to 59% across England (2021/22)

**44.2%** of pupils achieving a strong pass in English and maths compared to 50% across England (2021/22)



**91%** of pupils in good or outstanding primary schools (2021/22)

**63%** of pupils in good or outstanding secondary schools, compared to 67% across England (2021/22)

## Health



**11.6%** of children are obese at Reception, compared to 10.1% across England (2021/2022)

**33%** of 5 years olds have obvious dental decay, compared to 23.7% across England (2022)

**19.4 per 1,000** under 18 conceptions, compared to 13 per 1,000 across England (2020)



**105.6 per 10,000** hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (0-14), compared to 84.3 per 10,000 across England (2021/22)



## 3. Context



**438.0 per 100,000**

### hospital admissions for asthma

compared to 131.5 for England (2021/22). Tameside has the highest rate of hospital admissions for asthma (under 19 years) in England.



### FASD

A UK study on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) found the prevalence rate was between 1.8% - 3.6% (when possible cases were also included).

**This means in Tameside at least 50 children are born each year affected by FASD and at least 4077 individuals are living with FASD in Tameside.**



## Mental Health

**3.5% of school pupils have social, emotional and mental health needs, compared with 3.0% across England (2021/22)**

**11% of children in Tameside are known to have an Eating Disorder (2020)**

**Self-harm** the rate of young people (10-24 year olds) admitted to hospital as a result of self harm is in line with the England average (2021/22)



# 3. Context

## Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND)



**13.5%** of pupils in Tameside have Special Educational Needs (SEN) support compared to 12.6% of all pupils across England (2021/22)



**4.1%** of pupils in Tameside have an Education, Health Care Plan compared to 4.0% of children in England (2021/22).

## Protect



**2717 Child in Need**, a rate of 533.2 per 10,000, 0-17 year olds (March 2022)

Including:

**348** children on Child Protection Plans, 68.3 per 10,000 children (March 2022)

**656** cared for children, 129 per 10,000 children aged under 18 (2023).



### 3. Context

#### Substance Misuse



**95 per 100,000** - Over the period 2018/19 to 2020/21 the rate of hospital admissions for substance misuse for 15-24 year olds was 95 per 100,000.

**24.8%** of those in drug and alcohol treatment services have children under 16 at home (2021/22)



**672 adults** are estimated to be alcohol dependant and living with children.



#### Substance Misuse

It is estimated **26.3%** of adults with opiate based addiction who have children under 16 at home are not in treatment.

**29.1%** of all adults in treatment for substance misuse have children at home.





## 3. Context

### Domestic Abuse (2022)

**6260 domestic abuse incidents** in Tameside were reported to Greater Manchester Police

**681 cases** discussed at MARAC due to concerns of risk of serious harm or homicide.

**428** of the high risk cases at MARAC featured children

**3712 referrals** to children's social care relating to domestic abuse



### 262 attendances

Local emergency departments recorded 262 attendances where someone has been assaulted in a domestic abuse context



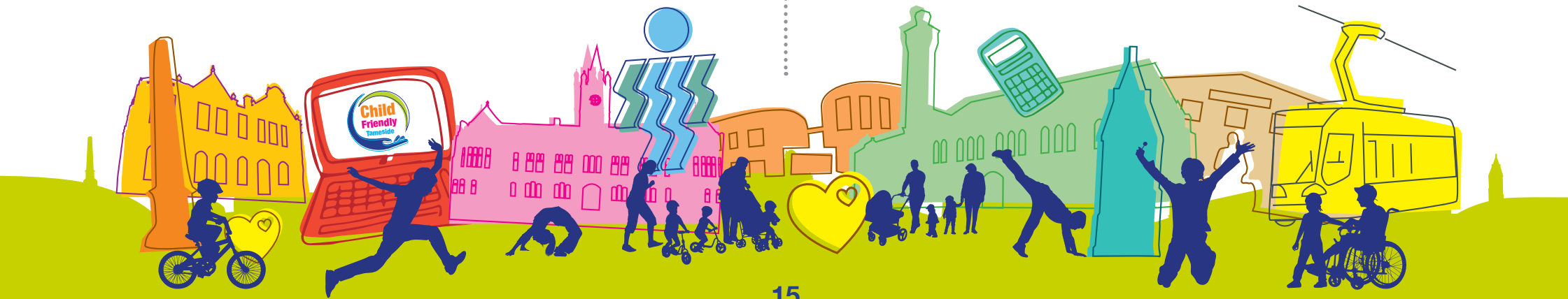
## 4. What is Early Help?

**Early help is an approach to working with children and their families. It is everyone's responsibility. Early intervention focuses on preventing problems occurring and works by tackling challenges head-on before they get worse. Effective early intervention enables children and families to build on their personal strengths and skills to become more independent and resilient to the challenges that they face. This is our Signs of Safety Approach and Practice in Tameside. Whilst early interventions are often focused on the early years of a child's life, interventions can improve children's life chances at any point during childhood and adolescence.**

Early help involves all partners sharing responsibility for looking for signs that children and families need help and then acting quickly to address these needs. Providing good early help takes into account what is happening for everyone in the family, not just one individual. In Tameside a ‘whole family approach’ is promoted and the needs of all children, young people and their family members are considered in the family assessment and support is provided.

We recognise that often when one person in a family has a problem, it affects others in the family and that effective help means solving the root cause of the problem rather than just the presenting issue. Early help brings professionals together to work with the whole family to try to improve things for everyone. The early help offer support to families in Tameside include support with, but not exclusive too:

- adolescence
- anti-social behaviour
- benefits and debt advice
- child development
- domestic abuse
- financial issues, poverty and deprivation



## 4. What is Early Help?

- employment
- health
- housing
- mental health
- parental conflict
- parenting
- school attendance
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- substance misuse
- young carers

For more information about the early help offer in Tameside and its associated thresholds, please access our thresholds document, [Tameside Framework for Help and Support](#).

Effective early help has to be a partnership not just with agencies across the Borough but also with families. It is based on respectful but persistent engagement and a commitment to helping families find ways to help themselves.

It supports families to build on their strengths so they are able to deal with setbacks themselves, seize opportunities to flourish and know where to turn to for help when needed. Developing trusting relationships with families and giving them the tools to help themselves is central to early help, nurturing long term resilience.

Early help has to be challenging to ensure that restorative practice is reflected and encourages families to engage more fully in the communities in which they live; drawing on its assets and opportunities to support them and becoming more engaged members of their community.



## 5. Tameside's Early Help Approach

### The principles to our strategy and approach are:

- Supporting and helping children and families at the earliest opportunity - the right help, at the right time, from the right place.
- Actively listening to the voices of children and families in line with the [Listening Framework](#)
- Holistic support is provided, bespoke to the needs of the family.
- Proactively utilising Signs of Safety to help assess risks, concerns and identify solutions in partnership with children and families.
- Support and help is delivered with children and families, building on their strengths and supporting them to come up with solutions with the help of their network.

- Understanding that safeguarding is everyone's business. Everyone working with children, young people and their families understands they are responsible for keeping children safe and promoting the welfare of children.
- Acknowledging that many situations need a multi-agency, trauma informed response, all agencies will work collaboratively to offer a coordinated response and avoid duplication.
- Everybody is confident with data protection principles and will proactively share information to help recognise, assess and act to provide a coordinated response to the needs of the child and the family.
- No one should assume that someone else will pass on information which may be vital to keeping a child or young person safe.



# 5. Tameside's Early Help Approach

## 1. Universal:

My needs are met and I am achieving my expected outcomes.

## 2. Early Help:

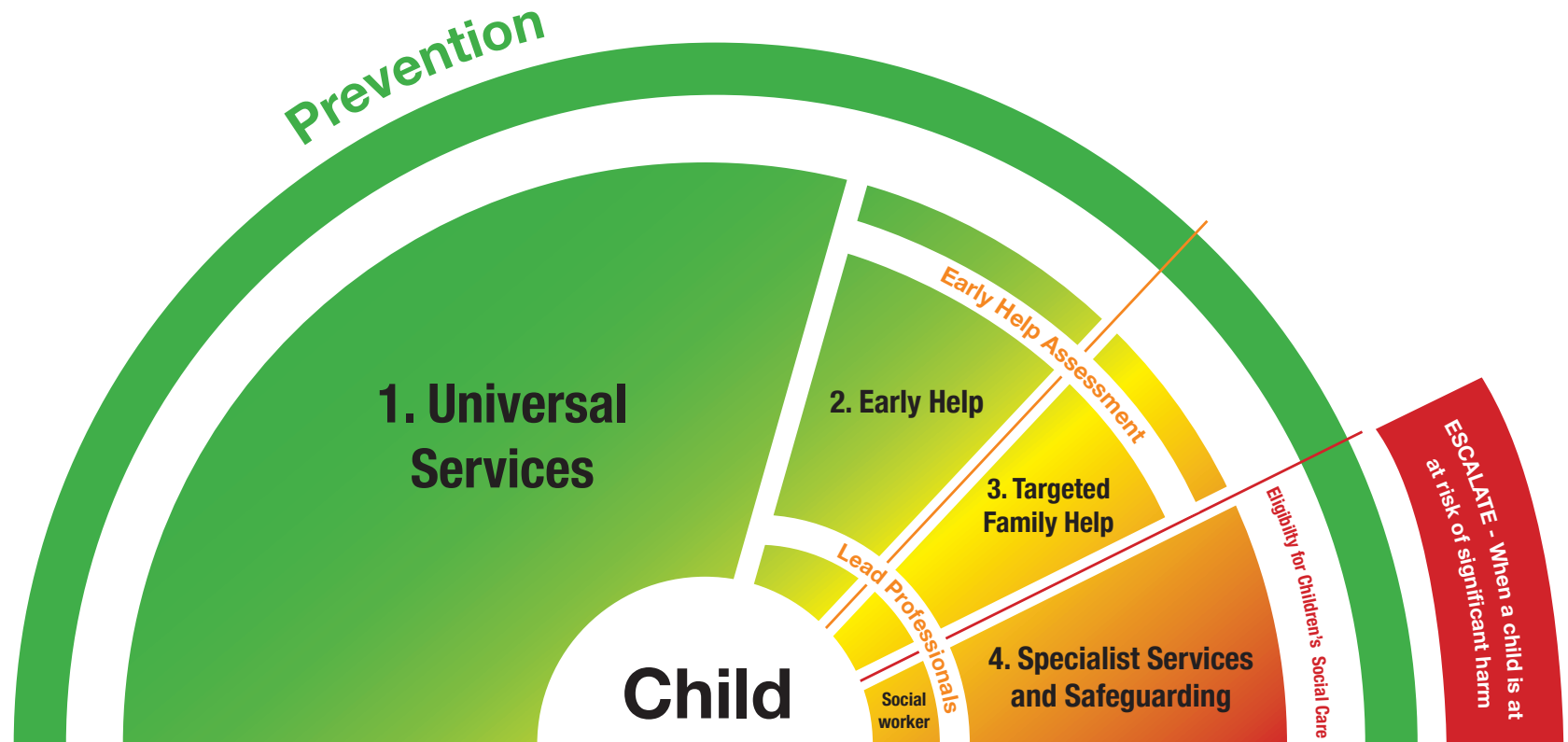
I may need some extra help alongside Universal Services to meet my needs.

## 3. Targeted Family Help:

There are complex needs. I need different services to work together to promote my welfare.

## 4. Specialist Services and Safeguarding:

I am a child in need or a child in need of protection. I am at risk of abuse, exploitation or neglect.



Further information can be found in the [Tameside Framework for Help and Support](#)





# 5. Tameside's Early Help Approach

## Our Approach

Tameside has adopted the 'windscreen' model when looking at universal, early help, targeted early help and specialist/ safeguarding services. This model closely aligns to the THRIVE model of getting advice, getting help, getting more help and getting risk support.

Early help follows the same approach and processes for working with families. When an additional need is identified which is beyond the universal support available to everyone, the early help process is started. An Early Help Assessment is completed with the family. The lead professional will work alongside the family to develop a plan of action and coordinate support.

The progress made and any ongoing needs of the family are reviewed through the 'Team Around the Family/ Setting' approach. Family Intervention Services within our four neighbourhoods (North, South, East and West) work closely with Early Years, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Job Centre plus and Active Tameside to support families 0-19 (25 with SEND).

Tameside council have established targeted family help at Level 3 where more complex early help cases will be held by Family Help Case Managers who will work with a family as long as needed provided they are making progress. where needs escalate, cases can be safely and quickly stepped up to statutory services using clearly defined, systematic approaches.

Engagement with all members of the family is crucial to the success of this approach and the child's voice has to be heard strongly within the assessment and plan to ensure it is meeting their needs. Targeted family help follows the same approach but is provided when issues have become multiple or complex and stronger co-ordination of support is needed.

To underpin Tameside's Early Help Offer, the Signs of Safety framework has been adopted as part of the Early Help Assessment to strengthen safety and wellbeing planning with families. strength and relationships based, solution focused model that looks to assess risk and concerns, identifying solutions with the family.

For more information about the model above and its associated thresholds, please refer to the [Tameside Framework for Help and Support](#).



## 5. Tameside's Early Help Approach

### Family Hubs

A key component to the strategy and approach are the Family Hubs within each of the four neighbourhoods (North, East, South and West) of Tameside. Through Family Hubs, families will be able to access services from a variety of community partners for the help at the right time.

Family Hubs bring together existing family-help services to improve connectivity between families, professionals and services, placing relationships at the heart of our approach. The Family Hubs will include a physical and virtual offer, accessible for families with children of all ages, from 0-19 or up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities and embedding the Start for Life offer at their core.

The key principles of the Family Hub model are that services are:

- **More accessible** – through clearly branded and communicated hub buildings, virtual offers and outreach.
- **Better connected** – Family Hubs drive progress on joining up professionals, services and providers – through co-location, data sharing, shared outcomes and governance. Moving from services organised for under-fives, to families with children of all ages, reducing fragmentation.
- **Relationship-centred** – practice in a Family Hub builds on family strengths and looks to improve family relationships to address underlying issues.
- **Universal through to targeted services** – providing welcoming, non-stigmatising services for families.



## 6. Making it Happen – Our Priorities

Based on a number co-production workshops with partners in Tameside, the following priorities have been developed to ensure successful delivery on the Strategy. In turn, we have stated our action under each priority.



### Authentic System Leadership

This means all partners including the Council, Health, Police, Education and Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector take responsibility for their role in early intervention as well as actively working together to deliver better outcomes for families.

#### What will we do?

- Utilise the potential of our local partners to provide critical support within the design and delivery of Early Help.
- Work cohesively as partners by listening to each other, clearly communicating roles and responsibilities of all partners and promoting respect across all levels.
- All services involved in early help will commit to delivering on the strategy and driving forwards improvements.
- Ensure there is joined up commissioning across all services supporting families, children and young people, in line with the [Tameside SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy](#)
- Maintain a clear understanding of what is commissioned and effectively communicate this with partners.



## 6. Making it Happen – Our Priorities

- Put evaluation and monitoring and review at the heart of our commissioning.
- Work jointly towards the vision of Early Help in-line with our shared principles.
- Invest in the universal foundations for our families in Tameside.

### Priority TWO

### Effective Partnerships & an Integrated Team

This means capitalising on the strengths of relationships across all organisations and services, proactively sharing knowledge, resolving challenges and coordinating our approach to make sure residents get comprehensive, holistic support no matter which area they contact first.

#### What will we do?

- Co-locate services to help strengthen relationships between partners to take a holistic, whole family, approach to support.

- Provide support within communities through our integrated Early Help offer.
- Develop our offer with partners to ensure we meet the needs of our neighbourhoods.
- Make better use of existing data, local intelligence and insights from partners to design our support offer.
- Promote effective conversations which consider the needs of the whole family across all services.
- Promote better integration between children's and adults services.
- Improve connectivity between third sector, community, faith sector, education, council and health within Family Hubs and early help, to ensure there is a clear route to support.
- Embed a making every contact count approach across services, to prevent families repeating their stories or slipping through the cracks.
- Place the voice of families and communities at the core of our strategic planning.



# 6. Making it Happen – Our Priorities



## Asset Based Focus

This means working together to make the most of what is already in place, and supporting families to build on their strengths.

### What will we do?

- Work with communities and the voluntary sector to increase our understanding.
- Maintain an easily accessible and regularly updated directory of community assets and support.
- Create a family friendly culture within family hubs.
- Work with the community to strengthen local relationships and to utilise and support assets.
- Work towards an effective single-access point for support, incorporating a physical place where families can get face to face support, a virtual place and a phone line.

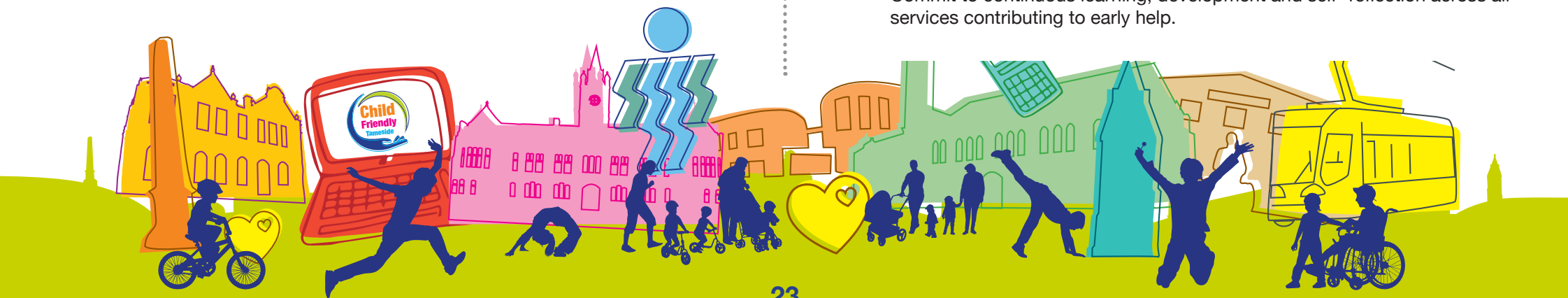


## Workforce and Development

This means making sure all staff have the right skills and knowledge to work with and support families effectively.

### What will we do?

- Have a workforce that reflects and understands the local landscape of support and the needs of the communities they work in.
- Signs of Safety Training to continue to be delivered by the Tameside Safeguarding Children Partnership.
- Making sure all our workforce know how to have effective conversations which consider all of the needs of the family.
- Delivering training internally and across the partnership to embed the Tameside Framework for Help and Support to improve the application of thresholds.
- Communicate the Early Help offer clearly to the workforce.
- Develop a multi-agency workforce development plan to coordinate training for all partners involved with early help, based on shared principles including the Solihull approach and trauma informed principles.
- Commit to continuous learning, development and self- reflection across all services contributing to early help.





## 6. Making it Happen – Our Priorities

### Priority FIVE

#### Data Improvements

This will help us to better share knowledge, make more informed, evidence based decisions and to monitor the impact we are having.

##### What will we do?

- Improve our ability to access and share intelligence between services.
- Ensure IT infrastructure enables co-location.
- Utilise the benefits of case management systems.
- Develop an Early Help Performance Dashboard.
- Develop an Early Help Outcomes Framework.

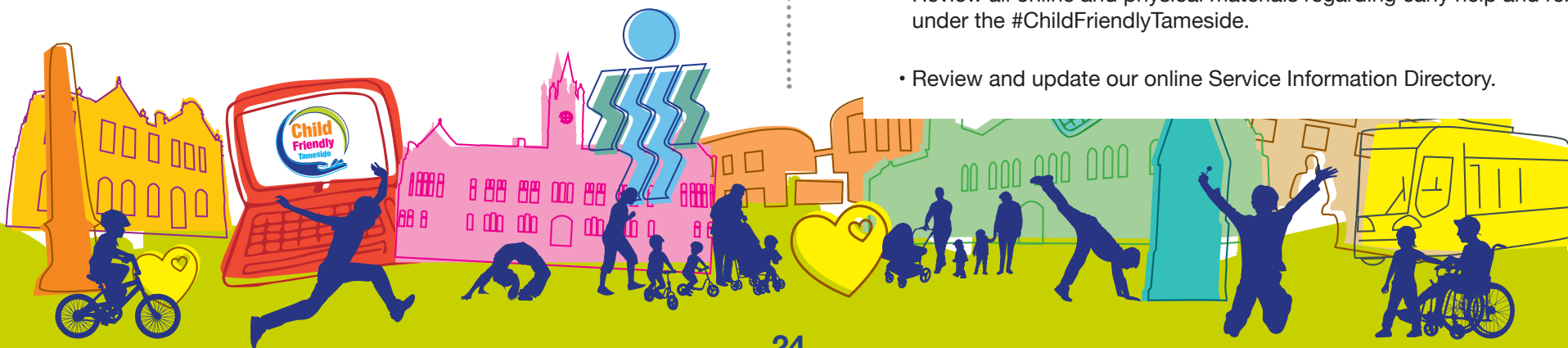
### Priority SIX

#### Communication and Engagement

This will help us to connect with residents, promote our offer within the borough, gain feedback and ensure that our approach to early help meets local needs.

##### What will we do?

- Make better use of the tools we have available including Council website and relationships with partner agencies to make it easier for residents to access information.
- Ensure our communications around Early Help offer are consistent, locality specific and uniformly accessible.
- Monitor family experiences and awareness of our offer to review how early help and targeted family help function.
- Engage with and offer targeted support for seldom heard families and groups.
- Design an outreach model for support which is focused on overcoming any stigma associated with accessing services.
- Review all online and physical materials regarding early help and rebrand under the #ChildFriendlyTameside.
- Review and update our online Service Information Directory.



## 7. Making a Difference – Our Measures of Success

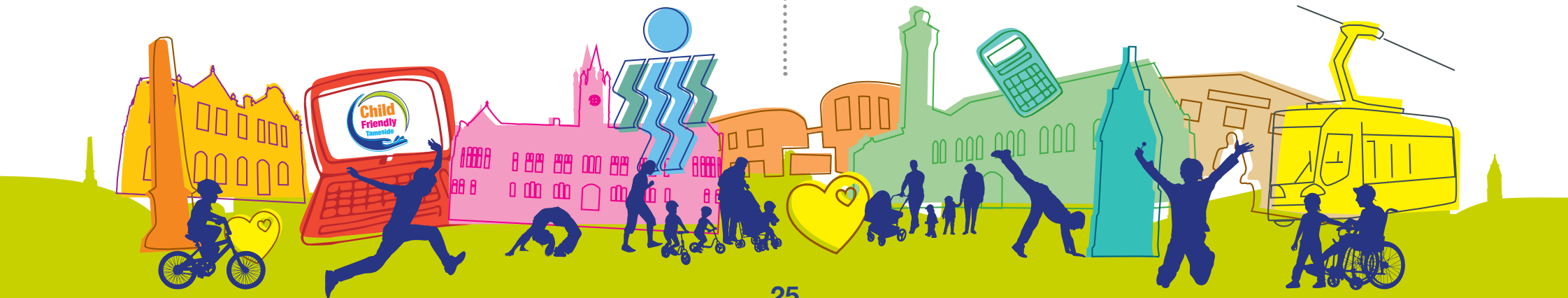
**It is recognised nationally that measuring the effectiveness of early help systems is extremely complex and challenging.**

**Prevention and early intervention approaches are long-term invest to save models which require time to generate hard evidence of fiscal savings and provide ‘cashable’ savings. It is also difficult to demonstrate the cost avoidance generated by preventing problems.**

The broad nature of interventions and services delivered by partners as part of early help adds to the complexity of evaluating impact. Attributing improvements in family situations and the outcomes they achieve to one service or intervention is exceptionally difficult as demonstrated by the well-resourced and robust National Troubled Families Evaluation<sup>9</sup>. Collating good quality evidence of impact takes time, capacity and resources but is still important to do.

Despite the challenges, there is an emerging evidence base demonstrating that sustained investment in early help and preventative services over time can be effective and reduce demand on high cost services<sup>10</sup>.

Our aim is to jointly secure better outcomes for families, avoiding statutory interventions by intervening earlier. We recognise the need for a shared vision underpinned by ongoing monitoring and accountability to achieve this. The Tameside Early Help Partnership will develop an agreed multi-agency framework for measuring success which will help us to review and deliver an effective early help system.



# 7. Making a Difference – Our Measures of Success

The Tameside Early Help Partnership will continue to develop this locally and assess the effectiveness of early help interventions. A jointly agreed Early Help Strategy Outcome Framework will be explored by the partnership which will collate evidence and utilise sources including:

- Early Help Performance Dashboard
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Management and performance information
- Feedback from families
- Feedback from practitioners
- Case studies
- Cost saving analysis
- National tools – including the [Early Help System Guide](#) and [Supporting Families Outcomes Framework](#)

The development of a common evaluation framework by the Early Help Partnership for early help will build on national best practice around the evaluation of early help systems and ensure a stronger evidence base for the Early Help Offer is available to support future investment decisions.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-evaluation-of-the-troubled-families-programme-2015-to-2021-further-findings>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.eif.org.uk/report/the-cost-of-late-intervention-eif-analysis-2016>

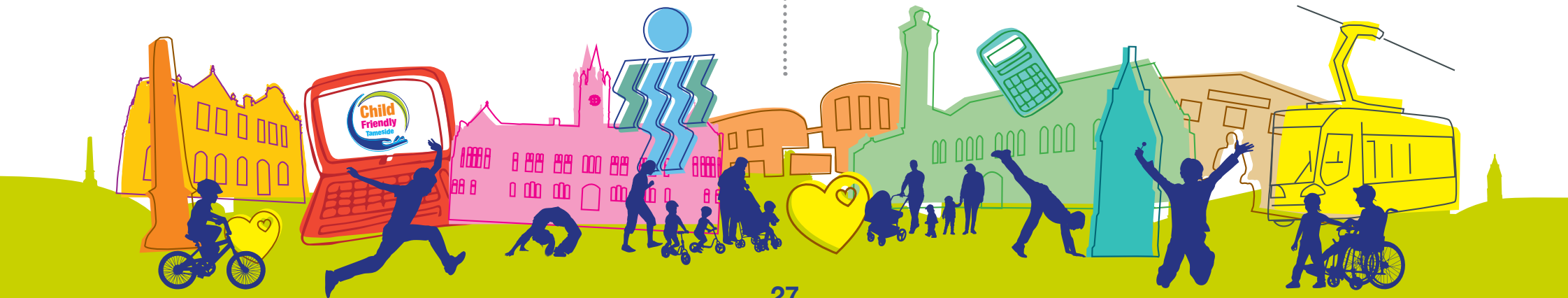


## 8. Governance

**To deliver on the approach and priorities of early help in Tameside effectively and successfully, a multi-agency delivery plan will be produced and regularly updated.**

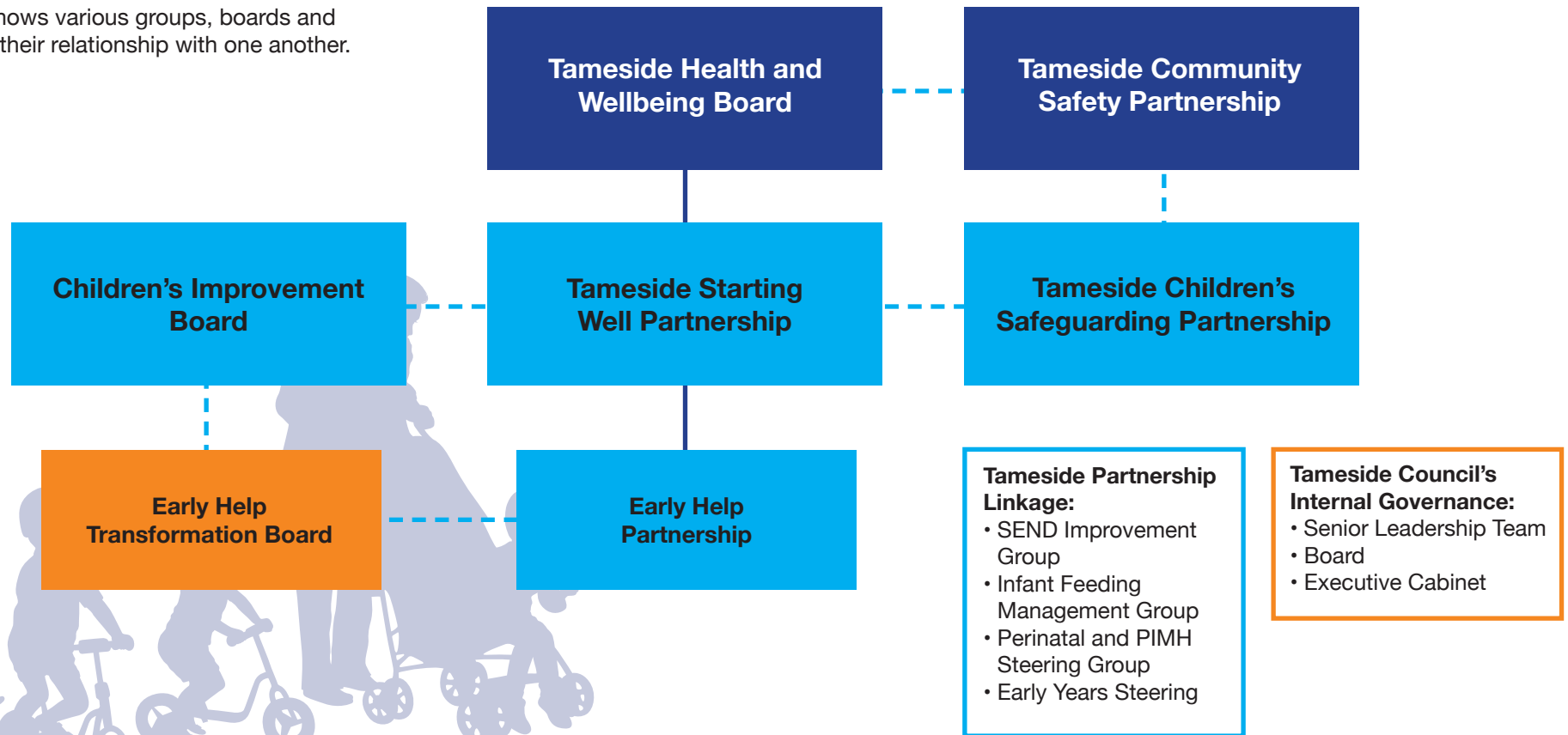
The Early Help Delivery Plan will set out an ambitious but much needed plan of work for transforming the early help approach and offer in Tameside.

The Tameside Early Help Partnership is responsible for delivering the Early Help Delivery Plan and will provide highlight reports to both the Starting Well Partnership and Children's Improvement Board.



## 8. Governance

The illustration, shows various groups, boards and partnerships and their relationship with one another.



## 8. Glossary

**BAME** - Black, Asian and minority ethnic

**CAMHS** - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

**EHCP** – Education, Health and Care Plan

**FASD** - Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders

**LGBTQ+** - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Non-Binary and more

**MARAC** – Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

**PIMH** - Parent and Infant Mental Health

**SEND** – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

**VCFSE** - Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise





