

Supporting Children affected by domestic abuse - Our collaborative approach

Durham County Council Early Help Service & Harbour Domestic Abuse Specialist Service



Better for everyone



harbour
working for safer communities

Durham
County Council



County Durham - Context

4 Refuges

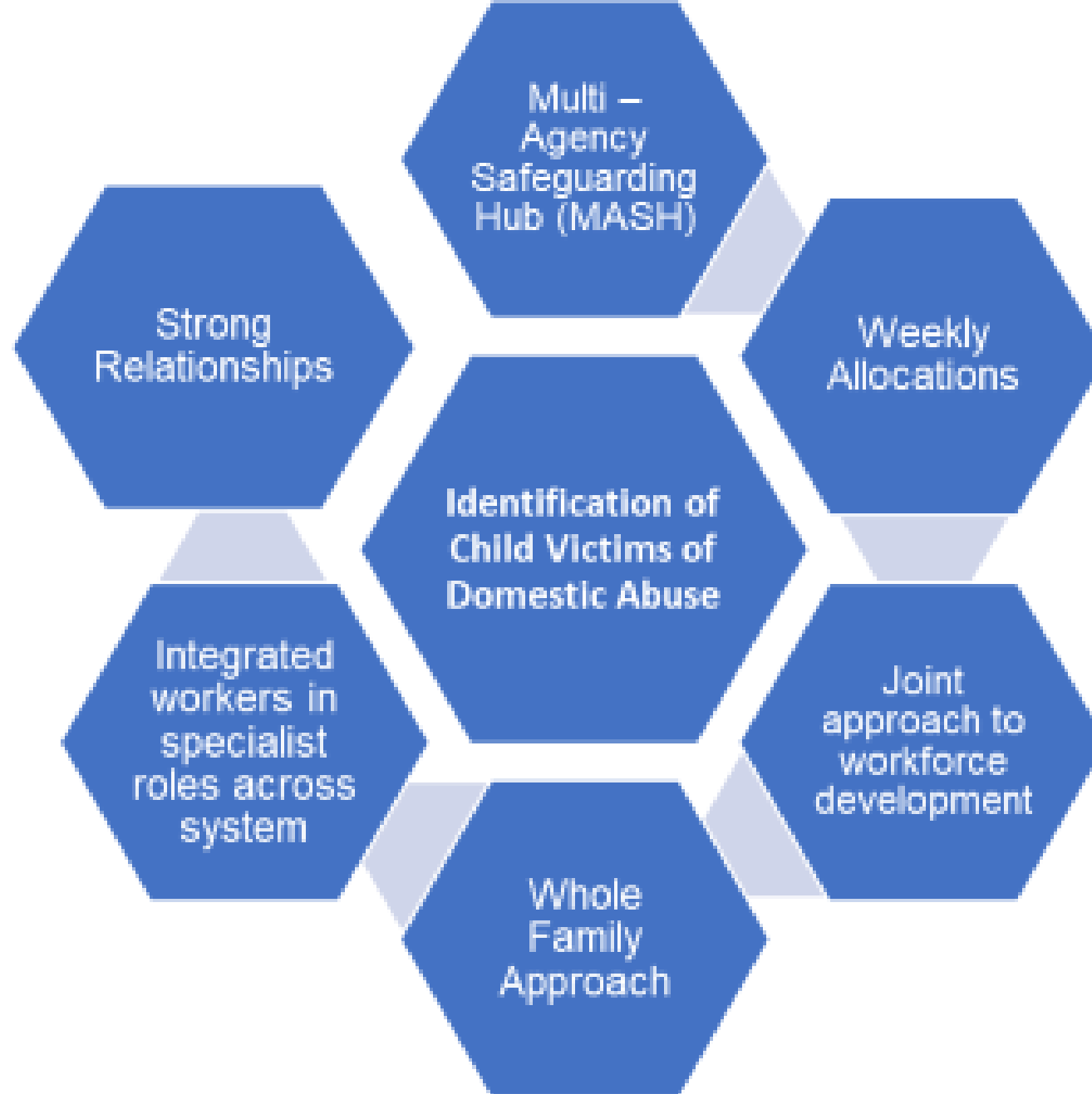
Outreach Contract (Victim support, CYP service, preventions)

New Burdens Funding – enhanced offer to CYP within safe accommodation including –

Employment of a coordinator to provide enrichment activities including after school clubs, outings, play therapy.
Activities are provided 1:1 and in groups
(dependent upon needs of child)

New contracts, from 01/04/2024 all commissioned refuge providers are required to provide specific CYP support service.









Showcasing best practice – Collaborative working

Domestic Abuse Recovering Together (DART)

- Overview of Programme
- Joint Working arrangements
- Outcomes for Families



DART

When I was first invited on the Dart programme I was quite sceptical & also wary of it bringing up upsetting feelings for my daughter & also me. Please give it a chance. Through age appropriate & clear ideas we touched on issues & emotions & how to deal with these in future. Some sessions were hard & brought back memories but these emotions were worked through & talked about with the mothers & teachers/leaders. 100% feel it has strengthened mine & my daughter's relationship & helped us both understand how each other felt. We have cried, laughed, smiled, cuddled but most of all had fun. Made drawings together, mugs, pillow cases which we can keep forever. Even made a volcano!!! It's a journey but a journey that is worth completing 😊

After a storm
comes a
rainbow



What our Children Say

"I feel more comfortable talking now and I'm having less nightmares and bad thoughts"

"I understand things better now, I used to blame myself for the arguments but now I know it wasn't my fault"

"I have loved the sessions and feel I have thought a lot more about things and understand I can't change the past, however I am looking forward to my future now."

I now understand that I could not have stopped it, I don't feel guilty anymore. It wasn't my fault"

"I feel safe now"





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