

The Norfolk Family Focus Newsletter is aimed at everyone interested in Norfolk's response to the National Troubled Families programme to date. This is the first of our quarterly newsletters.

Message from the Interim Assistant Director, Early Help Michael Rosen

Norfolk County Council agreed to the task set by central government to turn around the lives of 1700 families by May 2015.

As the Troubled Families Initiative enters the final year of its three year programme, **Norfolk has "turned around" 337 families.**

34% of families worked with in Norfolk, have taken charge of their lives and committed to lasting change.

Children Services Leadership Team is committed to achieving the target set by central government, and recognises the continued partnership work required in order to achieve the targets.

Norfolk Family Focus (NFF) Workforce increased by 50%.

NFF and partners are working together to identify families by June 2014 to support them to take charge of their lives and commit to last change by May 2015.

Norfolk is on track to identify all 1700 families by the end of June 2014.

Louise Casey CB Director General, Troubled Families visited Norfolk on the 3 April due to concerns expressed about Norfolk's approach to the troubled families programme. After meeting front line practitioners, the NFF Programme Team and senior managers, Louise Casey left saying "Norfolk is back on track". Thanks to all involved!

"Norfolk is back on track." Louise Casey CB Director General Troubled Families

The target that central government has set for Norfolk is a challenging one. However, it is achievable if we work together.

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Norfolk Family Focus

Newsletter No 1 Date: May 14

Message from the Norfolk Family Focus Locality Coordinator

Elizabeth Broadhurst Elizabeth.broadhurst@norfolk.gov.uk

I am very excited to be part of the Norfolk Family Focus team. Since joining the team, at the beginning of May, I have met with a number of partners and look forward to getting to know many more. I am responsible for the operational and programme delivery of Norfolk Family Focus; with my first function to clarify the NFF delivery teams' offer.

In July, the Local Authority expects to get written clarification from the DCLG, outlining the expectations for Phase II of the programme, taking it through to 2020.

Across the country each Local Authority has implemented this programme differently; with recognisable similarities regarding the challenges faced. Working together, Norfolk Family Focus and its partners are in a very strong position to ensure that the offer in place for families is consistent and robust.

Exciting times indeed!

East of England Project

On the 18 November 2013, Norfolk County Council in partnership with Gt Yarmouth Borough Council successfully secured funding through the East of England Local Government Association, to enhance the Norfolk Family Story Board and deliver Community Connectors in Gt Yarmouth.

Gt Yarmouth Borough Council has appointed 3 Community Connectors.

Norfolk County Council is working in partnership with Hewlett Packard to deliver an electronic Self Help tool through the use of the Family Story Board.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all staff involved in the Louise Casey CB, Director General, Troubled Families and Ian Brady, Deputy Director visit that took place on the 3 April 2014

The visit demonstrated to the DCLG the progress Norfolk is making and all the great work front line practitioners are doing to turn around the lives of 1700 families.

Louise Casey left saying "Norfolk is back on track".

Stonham Family Intervention Project (FIP) Update

Stonham secured the FIP contract as of the 1 April 2014 for rural Norfolk. Following a restructure Stonham has appointed 8 frontline colleagues and has 7 vacancies still to fill, these will be advertised within the next few weeks on <http://sector1.net>.

Stonham is working with an existing caseload and accepting new referrals. Stonham is really excited about the new service and the joint working opportunities. Stonham will be co-located with Norfolk Family Focus colleagues (with the exception of King's Lynn, where Stonham is based at King's Lynn Borough Council within the operational partnership team) and look forward to developing these relationships for the benefit of children, young people their parents/carers in rural Norfolk.

The New Family Story Board

Following feedback from practitioners and families, the Family Story Board is simplified. It is a more consistent and flexible tool, that is updated as required with progression or a scheduled review.

For templates and guidance go to <http://www.norfolkearlyhelp.org.uk/Professionalpractice/FamilyStoryBoard/NCC126576>

Family Story Board Training

Tuesday 20 May (pm)
King's Lynn PDC

Wednesday 4 June (am) Gt
Yarmouth, Kings Centre

Wednesday 11 June (am)
Norwich PDC

Wednesday 25 June (pm)
Diss, Park Hotel

Thursday 3 July (am)
North Norfolk District Council

The Norfolk Family Focus Service

The Norfolk Family Focus service builds trusting relationships with families and providers to enable families to commit to lasting change. Interventions and approaches are unique for the whole family, individual child, young person, parent/carer.

"We like that we can visibly see the targets we achieve, and how well things have changed in our house. This helps us see how we are moving forward and gives us a boost."

"A quick letter to say thank you for helping me and mum, I know times weren't easy... You're legends" Young Person



New Core Agency Spreadsheet

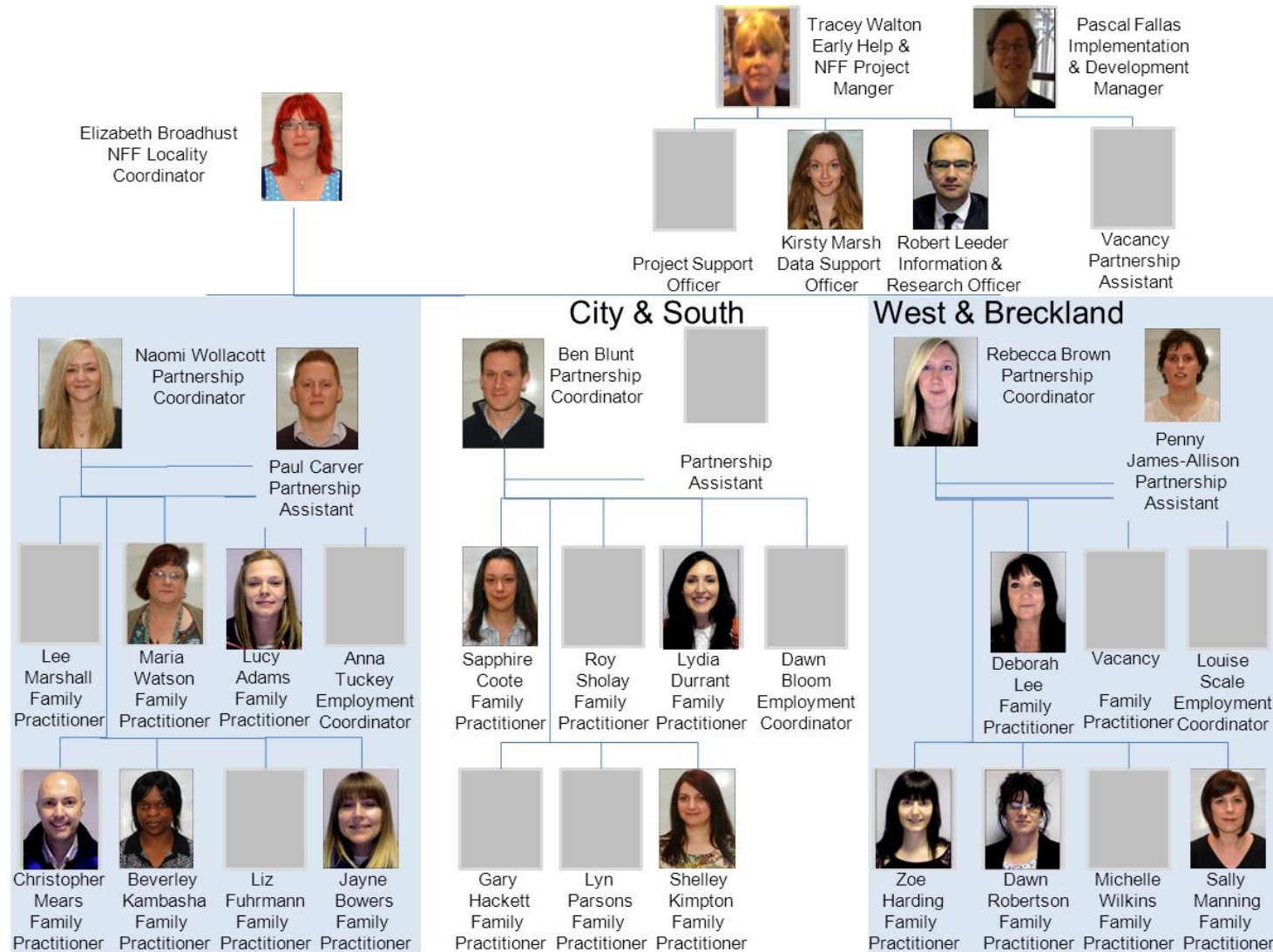
May Data Returned - Deadline 13 June 2014

Following recent audits by the Department of Communities and Local Governance and Norfolk Audit Services, lessons have been learnt regarding how we evidence supporting data.

For this reason, the core agency spreadsheet has been improved. The last return on the original spreadsheet will be the end of April. The NFF Programme Team will transfer all the old data into the new format and returned by the 30 May. For this reason the May return will be extended to the 13 June 2014 and in line with DCLG reporting. Instructions will be issued and training will be offered.

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NFF Key Contacts

Programme Team

For strategy, process, data related queries, the bonus and maintenance scheme:

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