

Families Working Together Case Study

**Period of
Involvement:**

16/8/2014 –
18/7/2014

Family details:

Mother

Child A – 17

Child B - 13

TFID: 02829

Key issues on referral – Parents/ Carers

- Mother was unable to protect the children from unwanted visitors to the property
- Mother was classed as morbidly obese, her mobility was limited and she had several health needs including diabetes.
- There were several agencies involved however the family's engagement was minimal and they had made little progress.
- Mother was out of work and claiming benefits, she was unable to meet the children's basic needs as the visitors to the property would take her money, Mother felt unable to stop the visitors from coming to the property.
- Mother had been in an abusive relationship previously and Child A had also been abused by this partner.
- Mother had a very limited capacity to act protectively toward her children.

Key issues on referral – Children

- The children were at risk of significant harm, Child B was subject to a Child Protection plan and Child A was subject to a Child In Need plan.
- Child A had 47% unauthorised absence from school, Child B had 75% unauthorised absence
- Child A had taken on the parenting role and this had impacted on her attendance at school and emotional well-being
- There were serious concerns regarding sexual exploitation after Child A suffered a miscarriage in 2012 with the reported father being 21 years.
- Child A had made a disclosure of sexual abuse; it was felt that Child B was also at risk of being abused however no disclosure had been made.



Families Working

TOGETHER

- Both children were recognised as young carers due to mother's lack of mobility and additional health needs.
- Both children were obese and at high risk of developing extra health needs and mobility problems.

Key interventions

- FWT supported the family to move away from the area and into a new council property in another district.
- FWT arranged for Target Hardening to be carried out on the new property where the Police check the safety of the property and the council make any necessary changes. Extra security lights were fitted and new fencing around the garden.
- Non-Molestation orders were put in place and FWT and the social worker supported Mother to understand what this meant.
- FWT supported Child B to visit a new school and enrol; Child B now has an attendance level of 99% since November 2013.
- FWT supported Child A to visit college and discuss training options, Child A is now attending college two days a week and is volunteering in a charity shop for 3 days.
- FWT referred the family to a health trainer and they are all steadily losing weight.
- FWT arranged for a 6 week family cooking course, the family completed all 6 weeks and this has been extended for a further 6 weeks due to their commitment.

Key progress

- Both children are attending young carers weekly with Child A now acting as a volunteer.
- Child B has access to the school gym 5 days a week and is committed to using this facility, she is steadily losing weight.
- Child A will be attending the local gym with the health trainer over the summer holidays.
- Mother's mobility is greatly improved since losing some weight and she is able to walk Child B to the school bus stop every day.
- All three family members are going swimming together every Sunday.
- Mother has taken on the parenting role and Child A is able to enjoy her teenage years.
- The Child Protection plan and Child In Need plan have been ended as there is no longer a risk of significant harm.
- Mother is not working at present but is undertaking a weekly training course through the job centre that supports her with life skills, Maths, English and ICT and has applied for a local voluntary role.
- The family are all attending the cooking course with Cook Connect and are learning new skills which they have transferred to their home. Cook Connect has



Families Working

TOGETHER

supplied the family with each recipe and the family are committed to eating healthily at home. Cook Connect has taught all 3 members of the family several cooking skills. Whilst connecting with Cook Connect, the family have taken on board the nutritional and calorie information that are given at each of the cookery sessions and all three are showing signs of weight loss.