I’m delighted to write the introduction to our first edition of THRIVE Wandsworth News.

It is just over a year ago since I joined Wandsworth and I have really enjoyed finding out about the range of early help available to children and families.

If you haven’t already seen it, please have a look at our early help strategy THRIVE Wandsworth which sets out how we plan to take forward early intervention. I hope you have had a wonderful summer – my highlight was the delivery of our very first Summer Pick and Mix programme which was a fantastic collaborative effort to provide children and young people with opportunities over the summer.

Our next edition will give you some more information on how many children and young people we reached by working together as an early help community.

I’m looking forward to working together to implement our strategy to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

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**Takeover Challenge 2018!**

Takeover Challenge is a national initiative led by the Children’s Commissioner for England and in Wandsworth, it is supported and run by Wandsworth Youth Council. Wandsworth Youth Council will be running their 7th annual Takeover Challenge this year.

Takeover Challenge gives young people the chance to ‘take-over’ the jobs of adults for the day and be involved in high level decision-making. Young people benefit from the opportunity to experience the world of work, make their voices heard and be involved in decision making processes. Adults and organisations gain young people’s insights on what they do and how it affects young people.

The Early Help Division will be fully supporting this initiative. We would love for you and your service to be involved in Takeover Challenge too and give young people the chance to shadow you for the day!

The day is a great chance to inspire young people around career aspirations, enlighten them on different jobs and empower them too!

Takeover Challenge will take place on **Tuesday 20 November** from 10am - 5pm.

To register for the day, please visit: [https://wandsworth_takeover_challenge2018.eventbrite.co.uk/](https://wandsworth_takeover_challenge2018.eventbrite.co.uk/)

For more information, please contact Tiffany Brown at tiffany@participationpeople.com or call 07511942396

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**THRIVE Wandsworth**

THRIVE Wandsworth is the name Wandsworth’s Early Help Strategy, THRIVE stands for: **Targeted, Holistic, Responsive, Innovative, Valued** and **Evidenced**.

Our vision is for every child and young person in Wandsworth to be safe from harm and abuse, be enabled to reach their full potential and develop skills for life, enjoy healthy lifestyles and be happy and active members of the community.

Wandsworth Council believes that success starts with early help, our strategy THRIVE Wandsworth sets out how the Early Help Division will be working together and with partners to achieve our vision.

If you have a safeguarding concern for a child who lives in Wandsworth you will need to complete an Early Help Assessment (EHA) and send this, where possible, via EHITS to the Initial Point of Contact (IPOC).

If you feel the child is at risk of immediate harm you should call IPOC on 0208 871 6622. Information on how to do this can be found here: https://thrive.wandsworth.gov.uk/kb5/wandsworth/fsd/family.page?familychannel=6. You should select the EHA Safeguarding Form for this.

IPOC has an experienced team of social workers who will carry out a signs of safety risk assessment (SOS), this will determine the level of risk/need for the child, based on the threshold set out in the London Continuum of Need. If the level of need is below the threshold (levels 3&4) the family will be contacted and asked if they consent to working with early help services. If the family agrees IPOC will pass the contact information and SOS through to the Early Help Pathway Team.

The Early Help Pathway Team will develop a plan and identify the appropriate service to take the lead professional role with the family. If this is not clear then the Early Help Pathway Team will work with the family and child / young person.

Services the Early Help Pathway Team will pass early help work to include: health visiting and school nursing, children’s centres, THRIVE Together, THRIVE in Touch and Youth Services.

For more information on what these services offer and the other services that make up the Early Help Offer please go to: https://thrive.wandsworth.gov.uk/kb5/wandsworth/fsd/family.page?familychannel=8

Want to know more about the DCR and WAND card? Visit the Local Offer website – www.wandsworth.gov.uk/localoffer call the Family Information Service (FIS) on 020 8871 7789 or email fis@wandsworth.gov.uk Copies of the Map are available from FIS too.

Our new Local Offer map is designed to help families with children and young people 0 to 25 years with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) make the most of Wandsworth.

On side one are activities, leisure and sports centres, side two highlights useful support services.
THRIVE Wandsworth was launched at the first Early Help Day in February, the second Early Help Day was held in the Civic Suite and was a carousel format with everyone able to spend about 10 minutes or so at five activities of their choice, this was popular and staff said they liked the opportunity to hear about what other services did - and to see the overlaps and links that they could make.

During this second event staff said that they felt that it would be beneficial to ask our partners and colleagues in other services to attend.

The third event took place in July and many of our colleagues and partners had stalls which provided an excellent opportunity for staff networking.

Our next divisional half day is for Early Help Division staff only Morning of 20 December, book via TPD online.
EHITS News

The quarterly EHITS newsletter is now incorporated into the Thrive newsletter, it will continue to provide quarterly data on who is undertaking EHA, and which children are getting early help. In addition we will continue to keep you up to date on EHITS tasks, training, handy hints and good practice and system developments.

From the 1st April until the 30th June 2018 233 EHA's were undertaken to ensure that children who needed early help were getting the support and services they need. Although deprivation rates are lower than the rest of inner London boroughs, over a fifth of children in Wandsworth aged under 16 live in low-income families (from the Income Domain Affecting Children Index (IDACI) map the areas within the highest deprivation top 10%). Primary school staff continue to be the professional group that completes the greatest proportion of EHA's, creating 63% of the total number for this quarter. Partnership working with primary schools has been a key area of focus. General Practitioners (GPs) continue to be engaged and this is supported through the Child Health Overview and Clinical Reference Group co-chaired by the Council and lead GP. Through dip sampling EHA's we can see that the voice of the child is not always being recorded.

This will be addressed by increasing staff and partner awareness on the value and need to seek out the views of children and parents, and embed this in system developments.

In addition to these EHA's you also completed 206 EHA's that went to the Initial Point of Contact (IPOC) and 16% of those came to the Early Help Pathway.

Keeping EHITS Up To Date

So that EHITS is up to date we close cases that have been inactive for 6 months. Cases are monitored on a monthly basis and any case that falls into this criterion will be closed by the EHITS team, who will send an email to you to tell you this will happen unless you tell us otherwise. If a case is closed for over 6 months then a new case will need to be created, the EHITS Team can do this for you. Case documents can still be accessed, even if the case is closed.

If for any reason, you are having issues with the closed case, please do not hesitate to call us on 020 8871 7746/7745
As a user of the system it is your role to tell us if or when you leave your role at your place of work. Giving us that information allows us to organise the access and authorisation each account has. If a user notifies us about them leaving, it allows us to remove any pending cases that they have and transfer them to another user from the service. It also allows us to revoke any access they have to the system so they are not able to have unauthorised access to any information stored on the system.

If a new starter is replacing a current EHITS user, it is advised that they attend the EHITS training session which runs all year round.

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**Signs of Safety and Wellbeing Multi Agency Training (SoSWB)**

SoSWB is a solution focused framework for working with children and their families and it has been agreed by Wandsworth Children’s Safeguarding Board that all staff working with children and families in Wandsworth will use this framework.

Each year we run a number of 2 day SoSWB multi-agency workshops these are available to any practitioners who work with children from conception to 19 years or up to 25 years with SEND.

The training offers practitioner an overview of the theory and how this is applied in Wandsworth, it also offers the opportunity to apply the framework to undertake an Early Help Assessment (EHA) and in a Team Around the Child review.

For those practitioners who have been using SoSWB for a while and would like the opportunity to support others in their service to make full use of the skills and tools the framework offers, we offer a 4 day Practice Leads SoSWB training that explores how you can help others to get the most from the framework and ensure the greatest impact on children and families.

Below are the dates for upcoming Practice Leads training and 2 day workshops:

### 2 Day Multi-Agency SoSWB Training

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### SoSWB Practice Leads Training

4th – 6th December 2018 with a follow up day on 24th January 2019

If you want to apply for any this training please book via TPD online.

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**Upcoming EHITS Training Dates**

Below are the upcoming EHITS training sessions held at the town hall, available to book on via TPD online.

- 24th October 2018
- 7th November 2018

We can also come out and train you at your premises if you are finding it difficult to make time to come to us.

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**Leavers and New Starters**

As a user of the system it is your role to tell us if or when you leave your role at your place of work.

Giving us that information allows us to organise the access and authorisation each account has. If a user notifies us about them leaving, it allows us to remove any pending cases that they have and transfer them to another user from the service. It also allows us to revoke any access they have to the system so they are not able to have unauthorised access to any information stored on the system.

If a new starter is replacing a current EHITS user, it is advised that they attend the EHITS training session which runs all year round.

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**Next Issue**

We plan to publish our newsletter quarterly, so if you have feedback or contributions you’d like to make please contact **Sara Jukes** or **Lucy Davies**:

- lucy.davies@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk
- sara.jukes@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk
The Youth Offending Team (YOT) held its first open day in June 2018.

This enabled YOT staff to showcase their work to councillors, senior council staff, magistrates, and other agencies. The staff who make up YOT include social workers, reparation staff, restorative justice worker, panel members, Police, parenting, education, substance misuse and health staff.

Visitors watched a video testimonial from an individual who was a victim of crime, who agreed a Restorative Justice Conference and explained how this helped him and his family come to terms with the offence and move forward with their lives. During the day there was an emphasis on the rehabilitative work the YOT does with young people, victims and parents.

Other partnership agencies on the day included the Feel Good Bakery, a social enterprise to support young people moving away from gangs and offending which provides training, coaching and employment.

A number of the visitors brought plants to go into the YOT garden which is maintained by young people as part of their reparation.