

Referrals

All internal referrals need to be made via the Strengthening Families Outcome and Referral form which can be requested from strengthening.families@achievingforchildren.org.uk

All external referrals to the Strengthening Families Team need to be made through the Single Point of Access.

Kingston

Phone: 020 8547 5008
(020 8770 5000 for out of hours/weekends)

Website: www.kingston.gov.uk/spa

Email: spa@kingston.gov.uk

Richmond

Phone: 020 8891 7969
(020 8744 2442 for out of hours/weekends)

Website: www.richmond.gov.uk/single_point_of_access

Email: spa@richmond.gov.uk

Further information

For any further information or questions please contact
Keval Shah: keval.shah@achievingforchildren.org.uk

Or you can visit our website:

www.achievingforchildren.org.uk/strengthening-families

Strengthening Families Team

Information for professionals



Early Help

What we offer

The Strengthening Families Team is a multi-disciplinary team delivering the Troubled Families agenda, providing support to vulnerable families living in Kingston and Richmond.

The Strengthening Families Team (SFT) provides support to families affected by issues including: substance misuse, mental health issues, domestic abuse, poor parenting, unemployment and other disadvantages. The programme's approach is underpinned by a Think Family model encouraging holistic intervention with each family member, rather than responding to each concern or person individually.

The team consists of the following specialist workers.

- Domestic abuse worker
- Family coaches
- Employment advice workers
- Adult social worker with a focus on mental health.

The SFT provides targeted intervention that is bespoke to each family in order to address their specific needs. The SFT provides support and intervention that is additional to the support received from the referring agency. It will draw on the specialist skills of the team as well as the wider Strengthening Families Partnership, including the voluntary and community sector.

Contributions from the SFT will be reviewed with the family and other professionals involved on an ongoing six weekly basis. The family may also access a devolved budget of up to £250 to support the outcomes.

Referral criteria

We welcome internal and external referrals providing the family meets two national criteria and one local criterion. The family needs to meet TWO of the following national criteria:

- parents and children involved in crime and anti-social behaviour;
- children who have not been attending school regularly;
- children who need help, including those in the early years;
- adults out of work or at risk of financial exclusion, and young people at risk of worklessness;
- families affected by domestic violence and abuse; and
- parents and children with a range of health problems.

The family needs to meet ONE of the following local criteria:

- any child stepping down from a child protection plan to become a child in need;
- children who are at risk of child sexual exploitation;
- children aged 2 years who are eligible for funding for free child care;
- parents and children who have been recorded as victims of domestic violence;
- parents and children misusing alcohol and drugs;
- parents and children who have mental health or emotional wellbeing concerns;
- children who have been diagnosed under an education, health and care plan with autism or ADHD.

Information sharing is necessary to track the contributions and the impact on families. This will be captured through an outcomes plan.

External agencies

You may be able to receive £250 per family referred to the SFT when successful outcomes have been secured and an outcome plan has been completed.