



Issue 3 September 2014

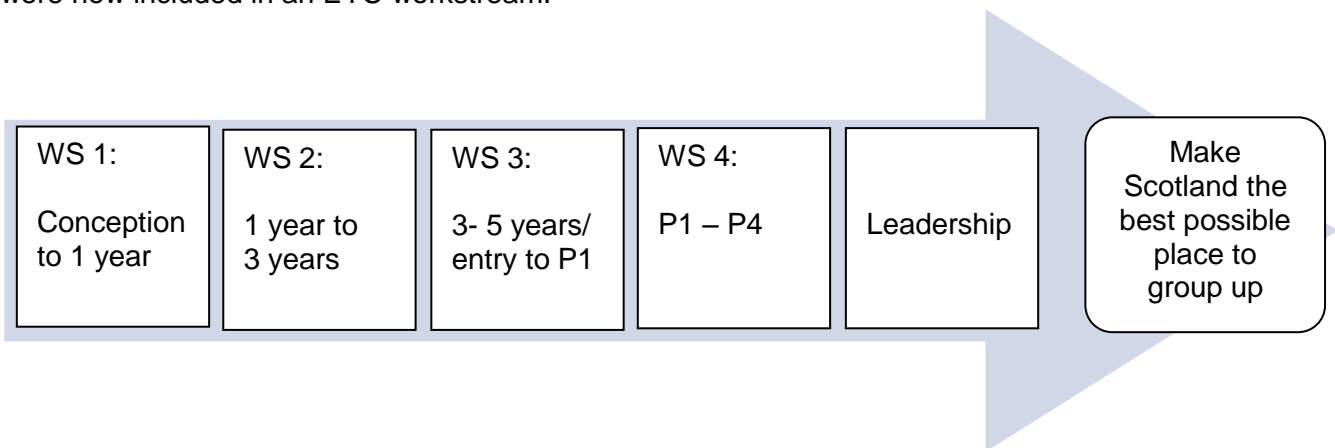
Welcome to the third newsletter for the Early Years Collaborative in South Lanarkshire. It's been a while since our last newsletter in January, but we've been very busy!

In this edition:

- Learn what has been going on in the national programme and what this has meant for us
- Find out what a Pioneer site is – and see what our pioneers have been doing.
- Creating local support for improvement
- Coming up...

Key Changes in the National Programme

You may remember that the national programme was launched with three workstreams, each focused around an age group. A fourth workstream was added late in 2013 which meant that all children aged 0-8 were now included in an EYC workstream.



Scottish Government has now asked local areas to think about eight thematic areas which they consider to be critical for making the kind of transformational change we need to make Scotland the best possible place to grow up. These eight Key Change areas are as follows:

Early Intervention in maternity services
Attachment and child development beyond maternity services
Continuity of care in transitions between services
27-30 month child health review
Developing parents skills (that is parenting skills)
Family engagement to support early learning
Addressing Child Poverty
Work stream 4 (P1-P4) – TBA

Pioneer sites in local areas are speeding up the pace of their testing and sharing learning based on these eight Key Change areas

Key Changes in South Lanarkshire

South Lanarkshire had already moved to a thematic approach and this remains. We continue to work to:

- Parenting support and attachment
- Substance misuse
- Developmental milestones

All of these are supported by a leadership group.

We have done an exercise and feel that the priorities we had already identified within these themes can slot into the Key Change areas. We also have three Pioneer sites in South Lanarkshire. Two of these are part of our Parenting Support and Attachment theme, and one is part of Developmental Milestones.

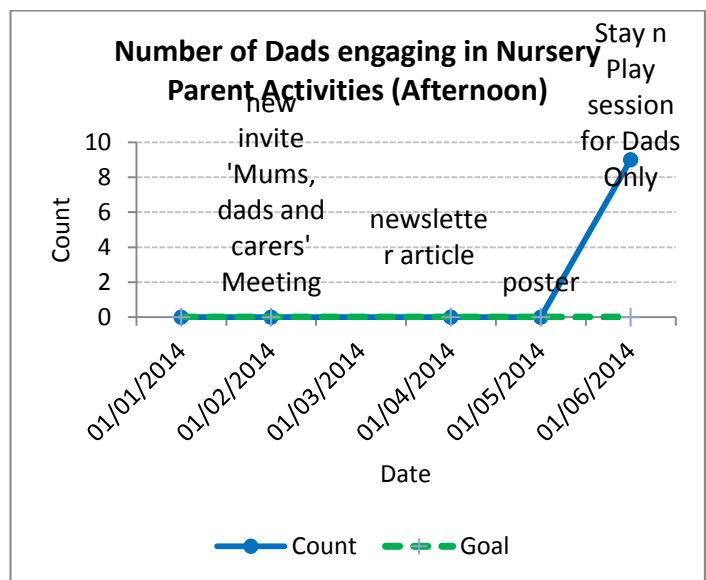
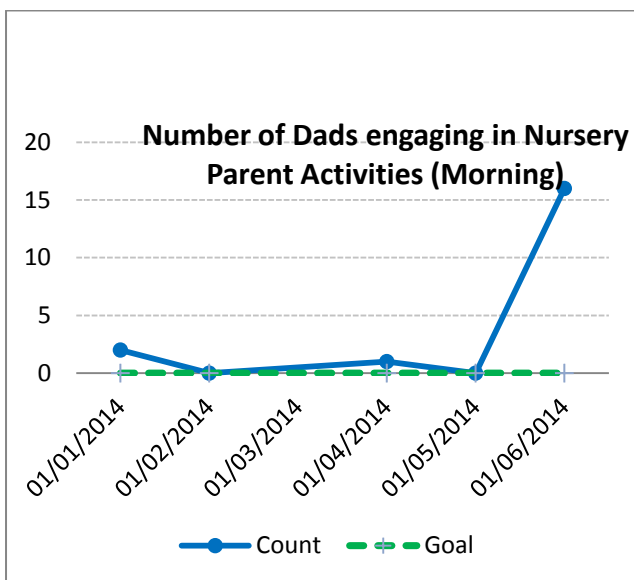
Making Fathers Figure (Developing Parents Skills)

Our Aim: By December 2015 , early years providers (ante-natal – 5 years) will encourage active involvement in services by dads and male carers at all stages of their child’s development

Making Fathers Figure is led by a multi-agency steering group that includes representatives from community learning, local nurseries, social work, midwifery and nursing, child care and play groups as well as local dads.

We have three strands of testing as part of our programme:

Involving Dads in a nursery setting – this has been one of the first areas of testing as we have been trying to increase the numbers of dads coming along to activities in the nursery. Since January we have been working on increasing the number of dads coming to the monthly meeting for all parents in the nursery – you can see from our chart that we haven’t been having a lot of success, but at least we are seeing that what we thought were good ideas are not having the impact we thought they would! However, we had a lot of success with a special Father’s Day Stay and Play event, which has given us lots to think about for the future.



Our second strand of work is about **using Dads Cards to encourage dads and male carers to get involved in early years services. We are also using these cards to encourage staff in these services to think more about dads when they are working with parents – too often this just seems to mean ‘mum’ in early years services. The first two cards we are testing are New Dad – this is in partnership with midwifery services and Starting Nursery – which links with our work to encourage dads to get involved in nursery activities. The photos below show the first page of each of the cards.**

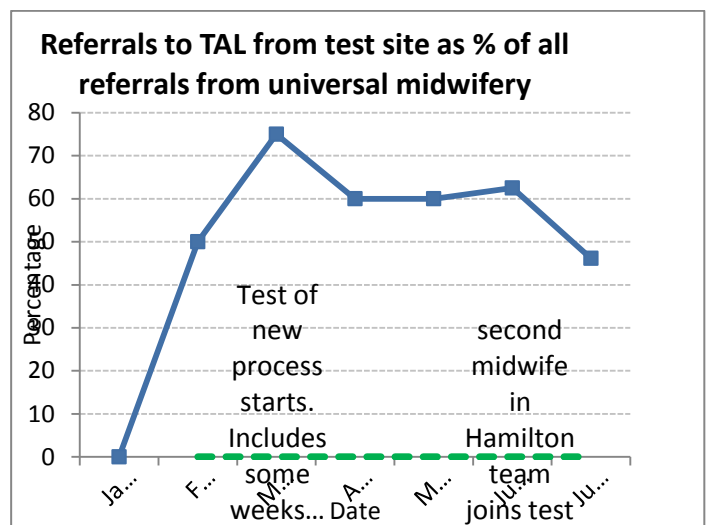
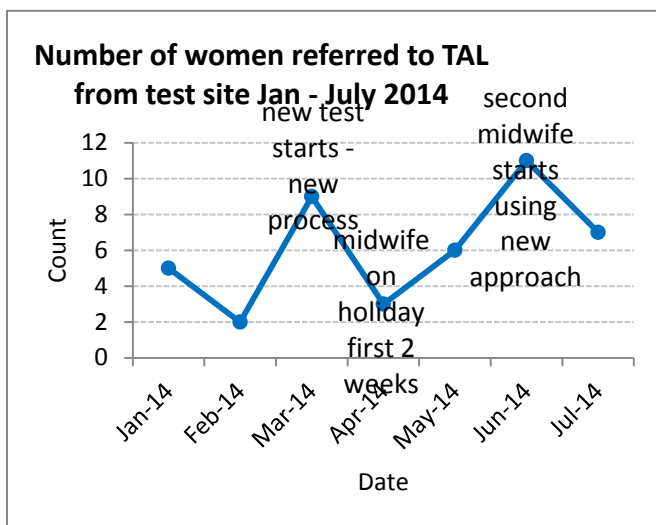


Maximizing Income for Pregnant Women (Addressing Child Poverty)

Our Aim: All pregnant women on low incomes have the opportunity to maximise their incomes during pregnancy and in the first year of their child's life

Our focus in the first year of our testing has been on increasing the level of referrals from universal midwifery services into a Telephone Advice Line which offers pregnant women advice on what benefits and income support they might be eligible for during and after their pregnancy.

Right at the beginning of the Early Years Collaborative, we started trying ways of increasing the numbers of women who were referred to the Telephone Advice Line (TAL) from universal midwifery. We tried lots of things, but none seemed to make the kind of difference we wanted. Women told us that, following an initial discussion with their midwife, they would prefer if someone from the service got in touch with them. In March 2014 we started a new process which does just this – if a woman is interested in finding out more about benefits and income supports, her details will be passed to the TAL who call her back. The midwife is supported by admin who liaised with the TAL to ensure that details were passed to them quickly. This testing was done by one midwife in the Hamilton team, with a second midwife starting to use the new process in June 2014. Our results suggest that the new process might be a lot more efficient than the old way of working. In fact the two midwives involved in the test have been responsible for 50% of all midwifery referrals to the TAL since the new process was started in March 2014.



Next steps for this work will be to get more staff in Hamilton involved in the test so we can start to test the issues related to making this way of working standard practice across one team.

Child Health Review at 15-18 months (27-30 Month Child Health Review)

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We are little further behind than the other two pioneer sites in South Lanarkshire, but will be starting our testing in September 2014. However, we have done a lot of work on our driver diagram and measurement plan, and we have also learnt a lot from the testing that has been going on around the 27-30 month child health review which was launched throughout Lanarkshire in July 2013.

All of our pioneer sites have prepared driver diagrams and measurement plans, and they report to Scottish Government each month on their testing. For more information on any of these sites, email Michele Dowling who will put you in touch with the local lead.

Michele.dowling@southlanarkshire.gcsx.gov.uk

Building local networks of support

Over the past year a number of staff in South Lanarkshire have been using the model for improvement and carrying out PDSAs. All of us involved in this way have learned a lot about how to use the model – as well as learning a lot of things that we would do differently! Over the next few months we will be getting this group of people together to start a local network of support for other staff who want to carry out improvement work using PDSAs, but don't know where to start.

In the meantime, if you want to know what is happening in your local area, get in touch with the early years forum or early years group that is part of Integrated Children's Services in your locality. All EYC work is being reported through these groups.

Details of your locality improvement link or links will be provided via the next EYC newsletter and also through the integrated Children's Services groups for early years in your locality.

Coming up...

As part of our work to support people already doing PDSAs we will be holding an event for anyone using the improvement methodology in their work around parenting or attachment. This will be on the morning of November 17. Places are limited, but additional events will be held if we have enough demand.

On the day we will cover:

- Planning for improvement – your experiences
- PDSA cycles
- Getting comfortable with data – identifying and collecting data; using charts
- What next – looking ahead to how we move from small scale testing towards implementation

If you are involved in improvement work related to Parenting support, Attachment or developing parenting skills, and would be interested in attending this event, please let Sandra Hay know by email : sandra.hay@southlanarkshire.gcsx.gov.uk.

Have you heard about the Raising Attainment for All (RAFA) Collaborative? Launched in June this year, RAFA will use the improvement model approach to supporting pupils to have the best possible chance of achieving their potential, with particular focus on literacy, numeracy and health and well being. There are clear links across the EYC and RAFA. Over the next few months *we will produce a special newsletter on activity in nurseries and schools*. If you would like to contribute to this special newsletter, please get in touch with Michele at Michele.dowling@southlanarkshire.gcsx.gov.uk

If you need this information in another format or language, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs. Phone: 01698 454102 Email: edsuppserv.helpline@southlanarkshire.gov.uk