

Change Project Partner summaries

Local Authority		Project allocation	Project proposals
1	Darlington Borough Council	Empowering social workers to take decisions - over budgets - to prevent the need for children to enter care	<p>Darlington, Hillingdon and Wigan have all proposed to allocate significant devolved budgets to young people and their families, with the aim of reducing the need for care proceedings and / or for children to live in out-of-home care. All three projects have a shared commitment to genuine professional autonomy and the involvement of children and parents in decision making. Yet they also offer variety in the focus of the devolved budgets, in different parts of the service and for families with different needs.</p> <p>Darlington propose to roll-out the use of devolved budgets within a number of their existing Keeping Families Together and Safeguarding teams, allocating devolved budgets to 30 families. Hillingdon propose to re-purpose one of their existing child protection teams to focus on working more effectively with young people at risk of child sexual exploitation, including supporting up to 100 young people to chair their own meetings and help devise their own support plans. Wigan propose to allocate devolved budgets to a number of social workers in one of their child protection teams, with each social worker given a devolved budget to use with any or all families on their caseload, at their discretion.</p>
2	Hillingdon Borough Council		
3	Wigan Council		

4	Lambeth Borough Council	Locating social workers in schools to work with children and families	Lambeth, Southampton and Stockport propose locating social workers in schools with the aim of reducing family involvement with statutory services. These social workers will work directly with families, as well as supporting teachers and other school staff via training and consultations. In Lambeth, this will include a focus on contextual safeguarding, while Stockport will build on their existing early help work with schools and enable social workers to support a group of up to 8 primary and 2 secondary schools. Southampton will be targeting 3 specific school clusters with high levels of social care referrals and need.
5	Southampton City Council		
6	Stockport Borough Council		