**Integrated Family Support Service**

Family Action is delighted to have been awarded the Integrated Family Support Service contract in Leeds, which will be launched on 1 May 2019.

About Family Action

Family Action is a national charity that delivers support service to local families, committed to building stronger families and brighter lives by delivering innovative and effective services and support to many of the UK’s most vulnerable people. We seek to empower people and communities to address their issues and challenges through practical, financial and emotional help. 2019 is an exciting year for Family Action, as we are celebrating our 150th anniversary.

The service

Family Action has been working closely with Leeds commissioners over the past few months, in preparation for the Integrated Family Support Service going live on 1 May 2019. The service will work in line with the Leeds Practice Model using restorative approaches, and will embed an Outcomes Accountability Approach within practice standards when working with families.

We are excited to contribute towards Leeds One Vision *‘of aiming to be the best city in the UK and the best city for children and young people to grow up in. Aiming to improve outcomes for all children and young people especially those from deprived backgrounds.’* (Leeds Children and Young People’s Plan 2018–2023)

Family Action’s Integrated Family Support Service aims to support families with complex problems by working with them at the earliest possible stage to improve outcomes for the whole family, thereby reducing the need for more intensive interventions. The service will provide time-focused support to families with children/young people where there is an identified support need. The service model has three key delivery elements:

1. one-to-one support
2. targeted group work to complement the one-to-one work
3. volunteer/befriender support.

We will champion the three objectives that are at the heart of the Leeds CYP Plan:

1. safely and appropriately reduce the number of looked-after children
2. reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training
3. improve achievement, attainment and attendance at school.

The service will currently accept work through the allocations panel. However, this will be revised once the Families First hubs are established.

We look forward to working with you all over the coming months to strengthen the
Family Support offer to families in Leeds.
*Claire Meek, Deputy Director of Services and Innovation*