

Central Bedfordshire Council

TRANSFORMING CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Briefing for Corporate Parenting Panel 8th May 2017

Gerard Jones



Our ambition

To have the happiest, safest, healthiest & highest achieving children in the country



Building on our strengths in preventing family breakdown

Looked After
Children
Numbers
DOWN

Feb 2014 275
Feb 2017 249
excl UASCs

6% reduction
in 4 years
despite 5%
increased
population
and 12%
increase in
national LAC

Child
Protection
Plans Numbers

DOWN

Feb 2014 222
Feb 2017 164

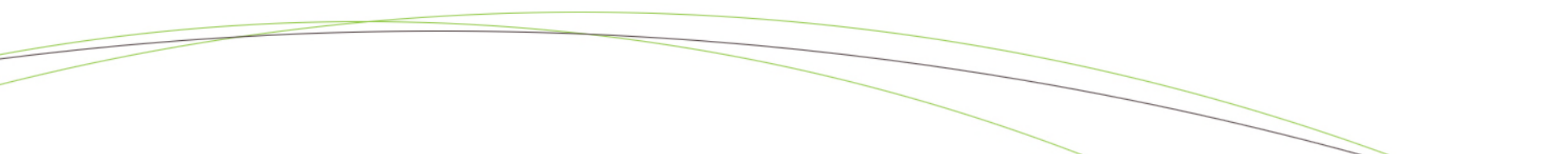
44%
reduction
over 4 years
despite 3%
population
increase

Child in
Need Plans

DOWN

12% in 4
years
despite a 3%
population
increase

Good Outcomes for Children in Care

- Social Workers visits to Children in Care – 97.7%
 - Average SDQ Score (Mental & Emotional Wellbeing) for Children in Care – Down from 14.7 to 13.4
 - Placement Stability – Children in Care with 3+ Care Placements – Down from 12.2% to 9.2%
 - Placement Stability – children in the same placement for 2+ yrs – Up from 63.0% to 78.4%
 - Care Leavers in Suitable Accm: Up from 88.3% to 90.9%
 - Care Leavers in EET: Up from 68.0% to 70.2%
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Realising our ambition – the Transformation Programme

Work Streams

Integrated Working Project

Project leads:
Gerard Jones and Celia Shohet

Service Development

Lead: Alex Coman

- Develop and test new operating model for locality working, including structure, pathways in and out of system, roles and supporting processes
- Establish a plan for implementation, including realistic phasing to introduce the new model

Workforce Development

Lead: Debbie Crawford

- Skills audit focusing on demand drivers & develop plan to address gap
- Review external best practice
- Develop a workforce development strategy and plan
- Identify suitable training and roll out development plan

Commissioning and Performance

Lead: Ben Pearson

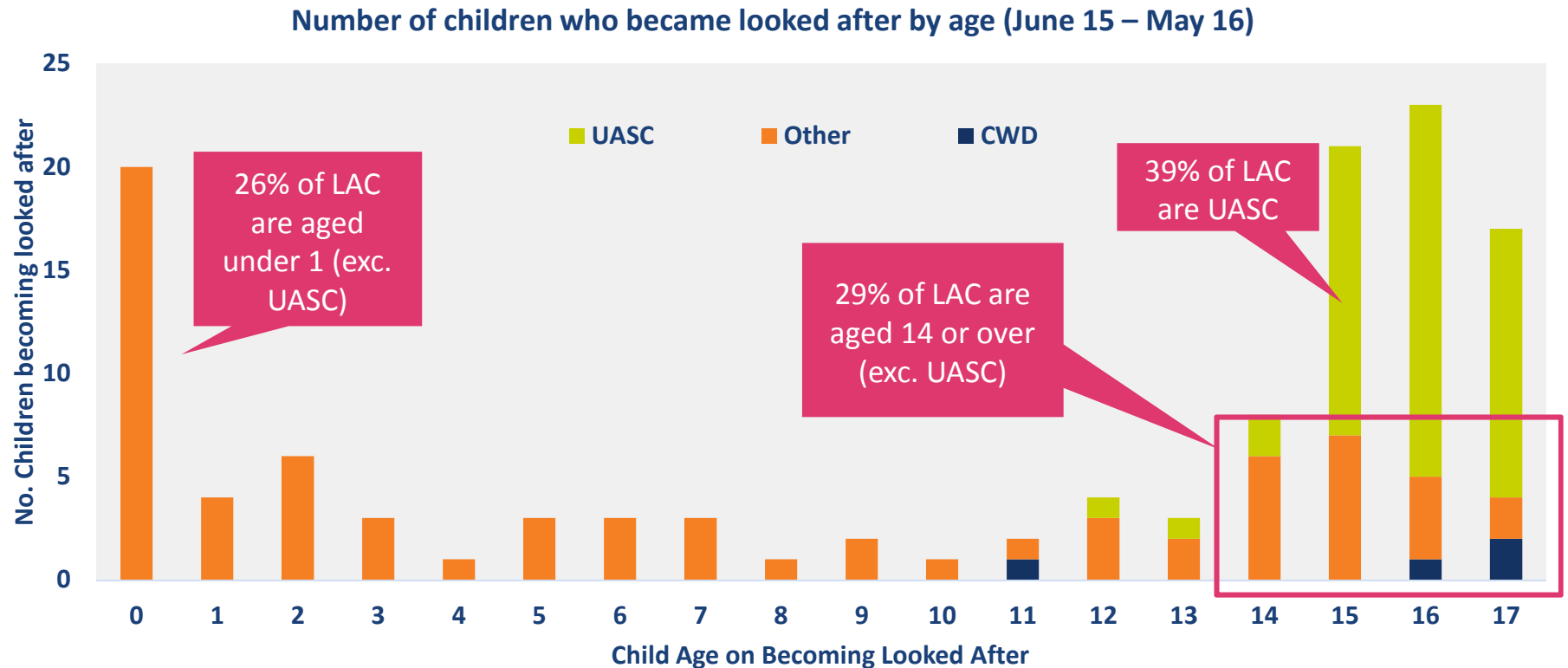
- Design commissioning/ decommissioning strategy
- Review effectiveness of services that were not in scope of original PIR
- Develop, test and implement service performance framework
- Resource Allocation System design and implementation

Infrastructure and Systems

Lead: Alex Coman

- Understand the enabling functions to support the new model (IT, equipment and accommodation)
- Develop and agree information sharing protocol across partnership to optimise systems use and access

Insight from the Transformation Programme – care entry is driven by children under 1 year and by adolescents



Identifying the two key cohorts allows us to focus on shaping the system to support and offer early intervention to the most at risk children and families

Key messages from our development work – to get even better

Our services need to be more integrated

our model of delivery needs to change

We need to work with families for longer

We need to focus on direct intervention and delivery

All staff will need to have core skills

We need to use data differently

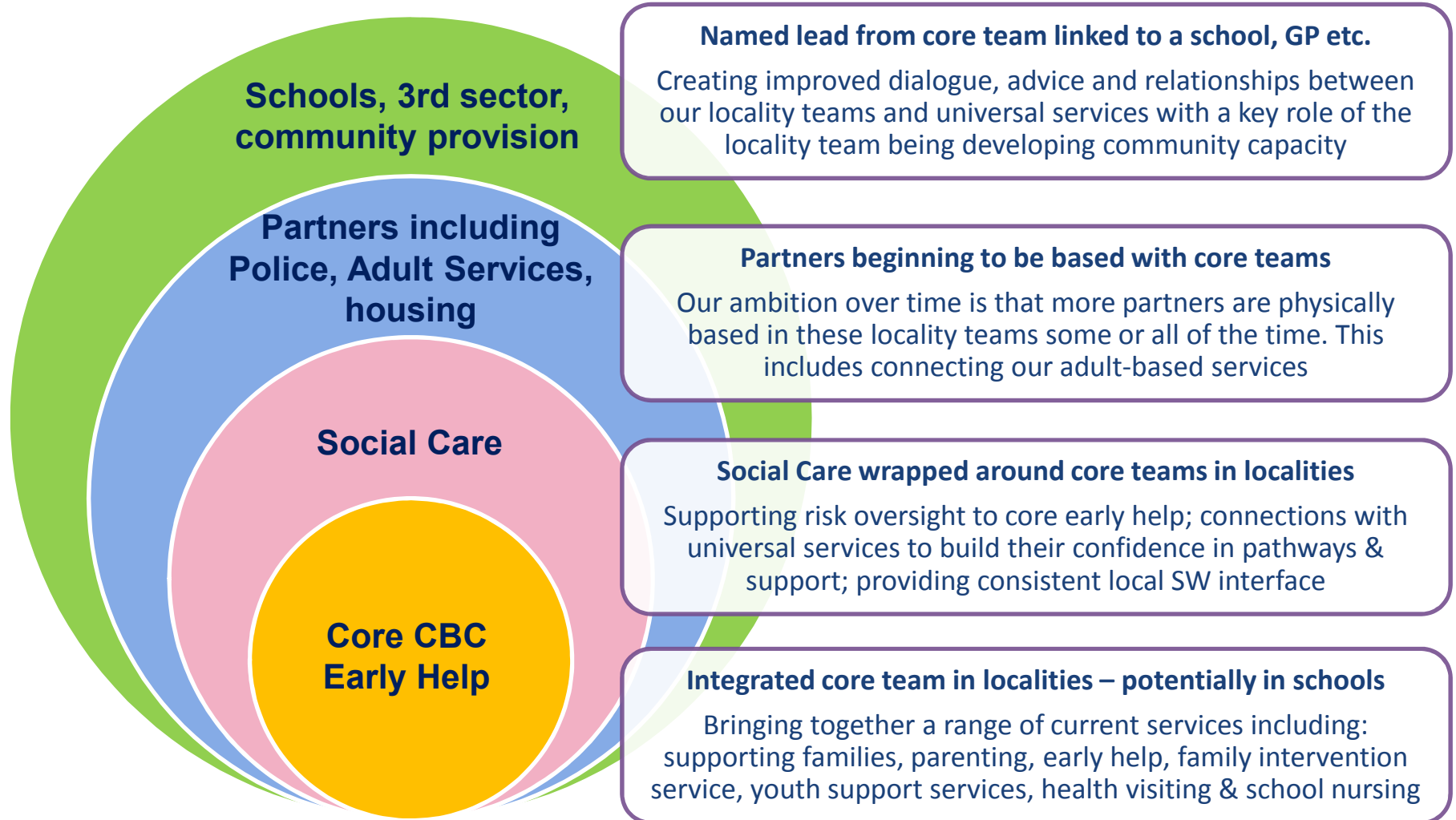
We will need to consider how we commission different specialist support

Two key pathways:
Pre-birth to 1 year
•14 + (particularly adolescent girls)

We need to invest in partnerships and work more closely with our localities

We will be introducing five integrated locality teams in June 2017

It is clear that we need to integrate our services to address the problems families face more effectively

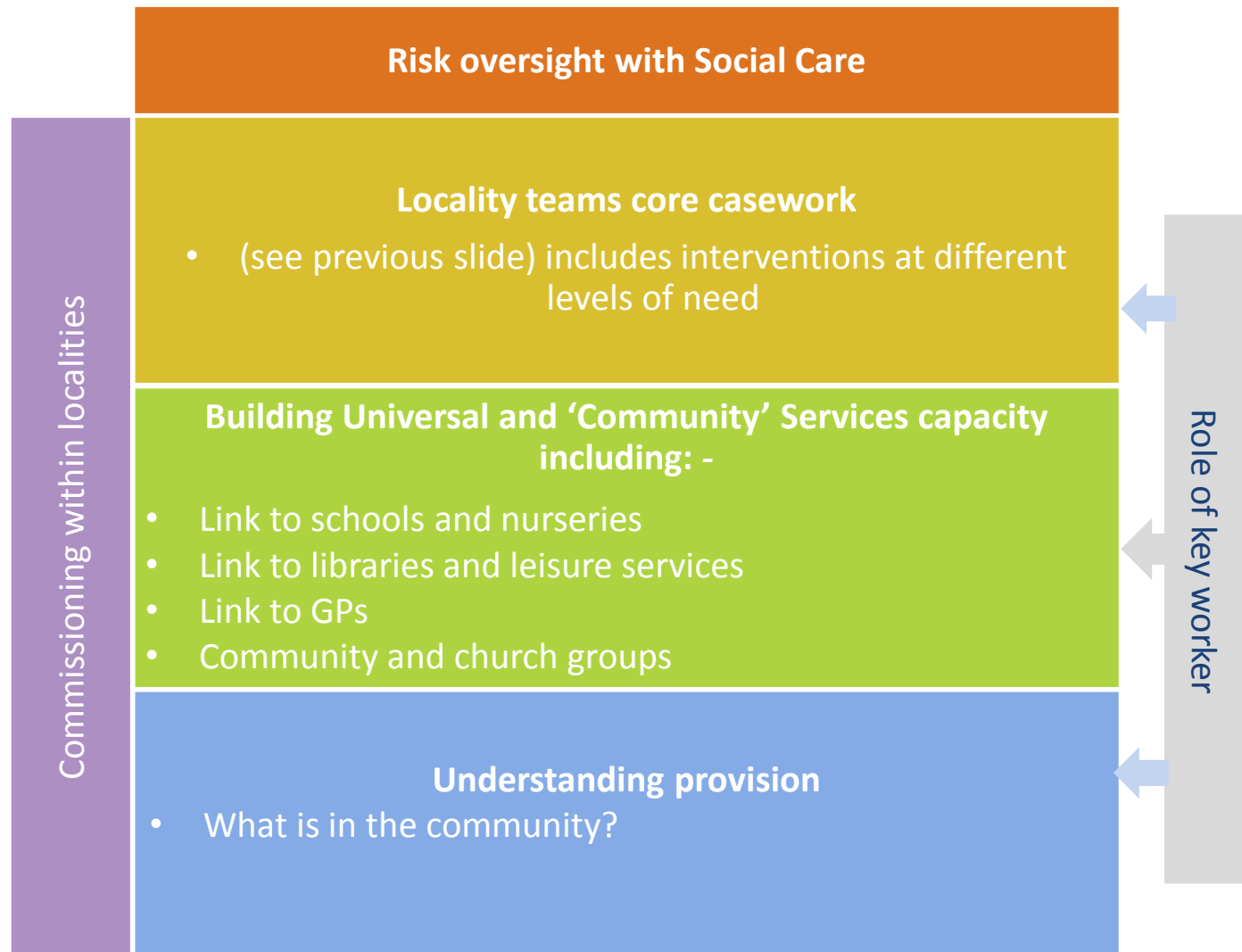


Each team will have a number of Early Help 'key workers' within it

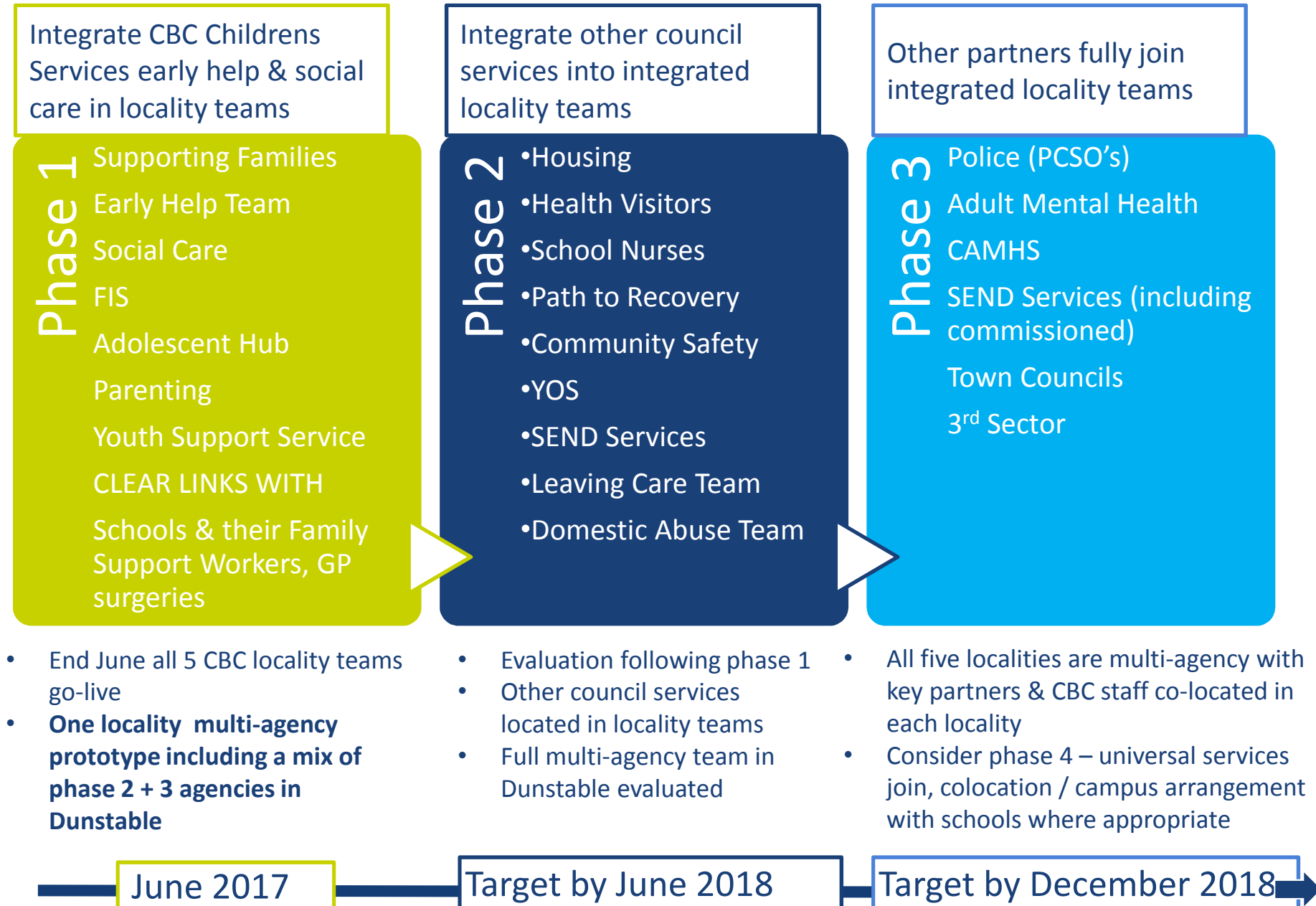
These workers will have a number of key roles over time

The role of workers in the locality teams is multi-faceted and includes: -

- Providing direct case work support to families
- Ensuring a clear understanding of locality provision
- Working with universal services to develop their capacity
- Potentially commissioning on an individual or local scale



The 'Transformation' Journey - The Planned Timetable



SUMMARY

- We are a well performing Council and good Corporate Parents to our Children in Care and Care Leavers.
 - It is clear that by working more closely with key partners we can do even better and use our resources more efficiently.
 - The Transformation Programme is key to the Medium Term Financial Plan over the next 4 years.
 - New leadership arrangements are in place in Children's Services including a new multi –agency Children's Leadership Board.
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SUMMARY

- The first stage of implementing the programme commences in June 2017 with Locality Early Help Teams and a multi agency Domestic Violence pilot in Dunstable.
 - We will develop an 'Adolescents Hub' to target support on young people most at risk of care, custody and School exclusion.
 - We will target better support and interventions to very young children whose parents are affected by Domestic Abuse, Mental Health, Substance Misuse, Learning Disability and Criminality.
 - New services will be closely linked to School Clusters and based in the communities they support.
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