

The Wider Context

Families with Multiple Problems on the Edge of Care

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Spending Review Commitments

- A new **National Campaign** to “*support and help turn around the lives of families with multiple problems, improving outcomes and reducing costs to welfare and public services*”
- Pooled departmental funding to create **Community Budgets** focused on family intervention - initially in 16 local areas, to be rolled out to all over SR period
- An **Early Intervention Grant** will bring together funding for a number of early intervention and preventative services e.g. families with multiple problems, targeted support for young people, Sure Start Children’s Centres

Families with Multiple Problems

- Growing up in a family with significant, social, health, economic and behavioural problems has **lasting and inter-generational impact** on a child's life chances
- Around **117k families** in England experience multiple social, health and economic problems. **46,000** of those experience 'problem' child behaviour
- Account for almost two thirds of exclusions, 1 in 5 youth offences, parents 34 times more likely to need drug treatment and 8 times more likely to need alcohol treatment and a third are subject to child protection
- Contribute to a wide range of social problems

Types of problems faced by families...

No parent in the family is working

Family lives in poor-quality or overcrowded housing

No parent has any qualifications

Mother has mental health problems

At least one parent has a long-standing limiting illness, disability or infirmity

Family has low income (below 60% of the median)

Family cannot afford a number of food and clothing items

Poor parenting

Truancy, exclusion or low educational attainment

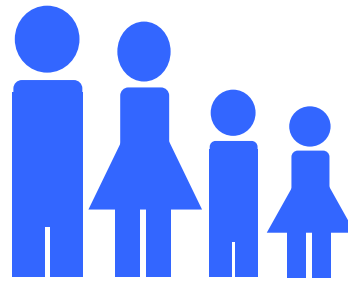
Family in debt

Drugs or alcohol misuse

Marriage, relationship or family breakdown

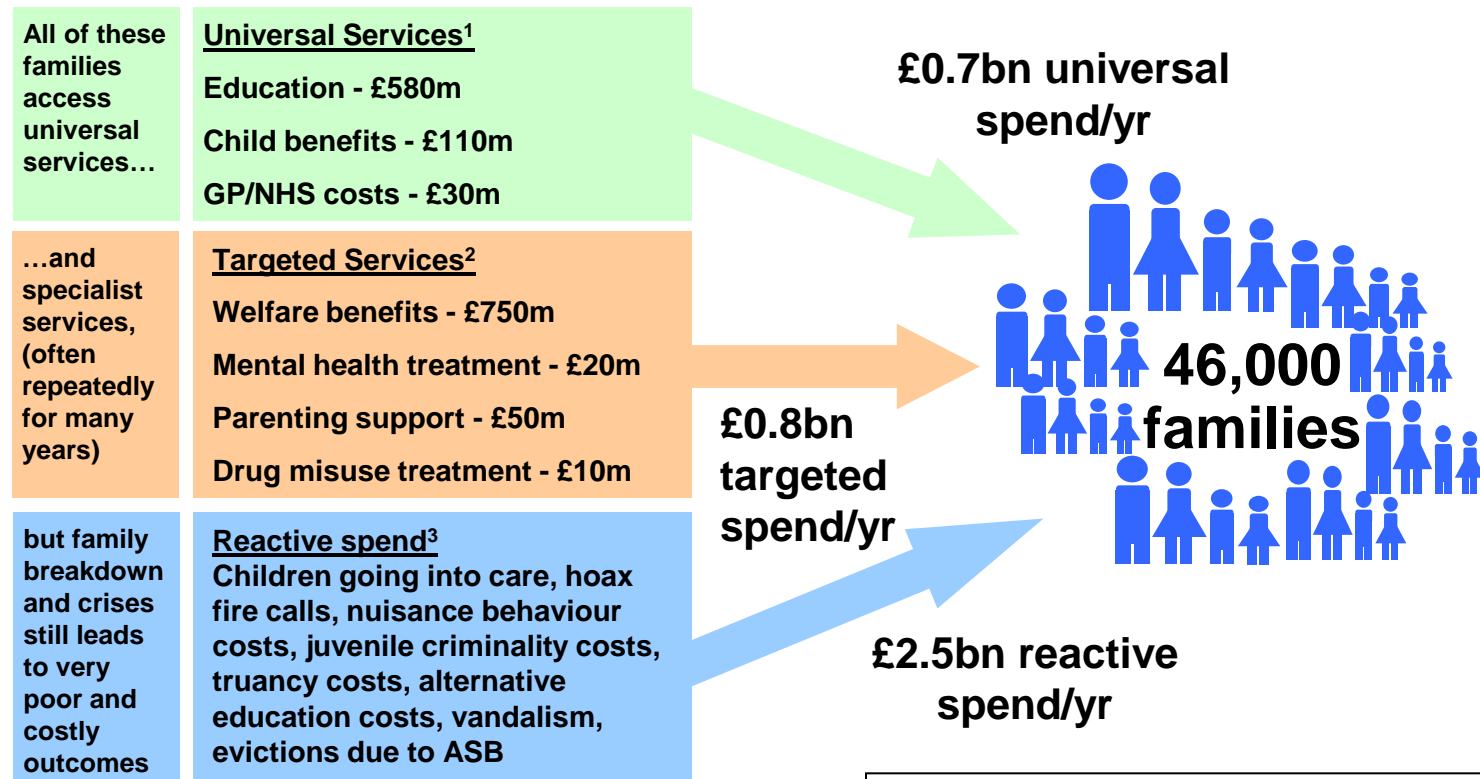
Domestic violence

Child protection issues



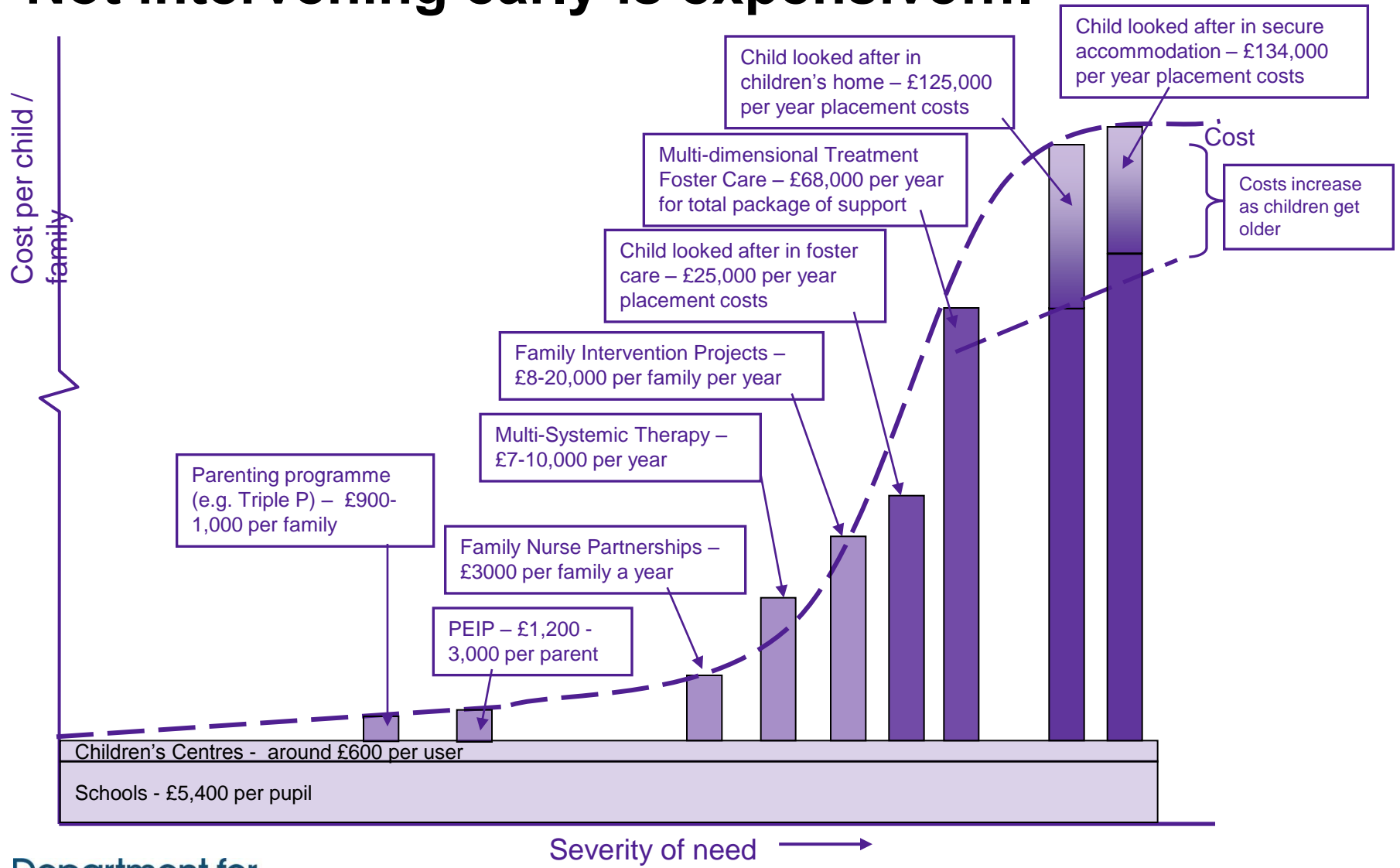
Disproportionate costs on services

Can be as much as **£250,000-330,000** per family per year.....



NOTE: INDICATIVE COSTS ONLY - do not include costs of criminal justice services pending further analysis by MoJ.

Not intervening early is expensive....



What works.....?

- High quality **key workers** working with **low caseloads** (4-6 families per worker)
- Respectful and persistent **whole family working** that empowers and **builds on family strengths**
- Using incentives / rewards / consequences and flexibility to use resources creatively
- Support **not time-limited** for support (average 12-18 months) and available 'out of hours'
- Effective **multi-agency** working and information sharing
- Family intervention **costs £14K¹** per family per year, making **savings of around £50K²** per family per year
- Evidence Based Parenting Programmes – *Parenting Early Intervention Programme: 2nd Interim Report* (published 25th November)

The Future....

- Shift from **centrally to locally driven** approach and from **outputs to outcomes**
- Fewer funding streams and accountability frameworks, local pooling and flexibilities
- Drive to remove **duplication** and **lack of co-ordination**
- A **sector-led** approach *to* best practice and workforce development
- A **Big Society** - greater involvement of voluntary sector, volunteers, social enterprise approaches to funding and organising services
- Supporting **cost effective reform and redesign**