

Families with Multiple Problems on the Edge of Care

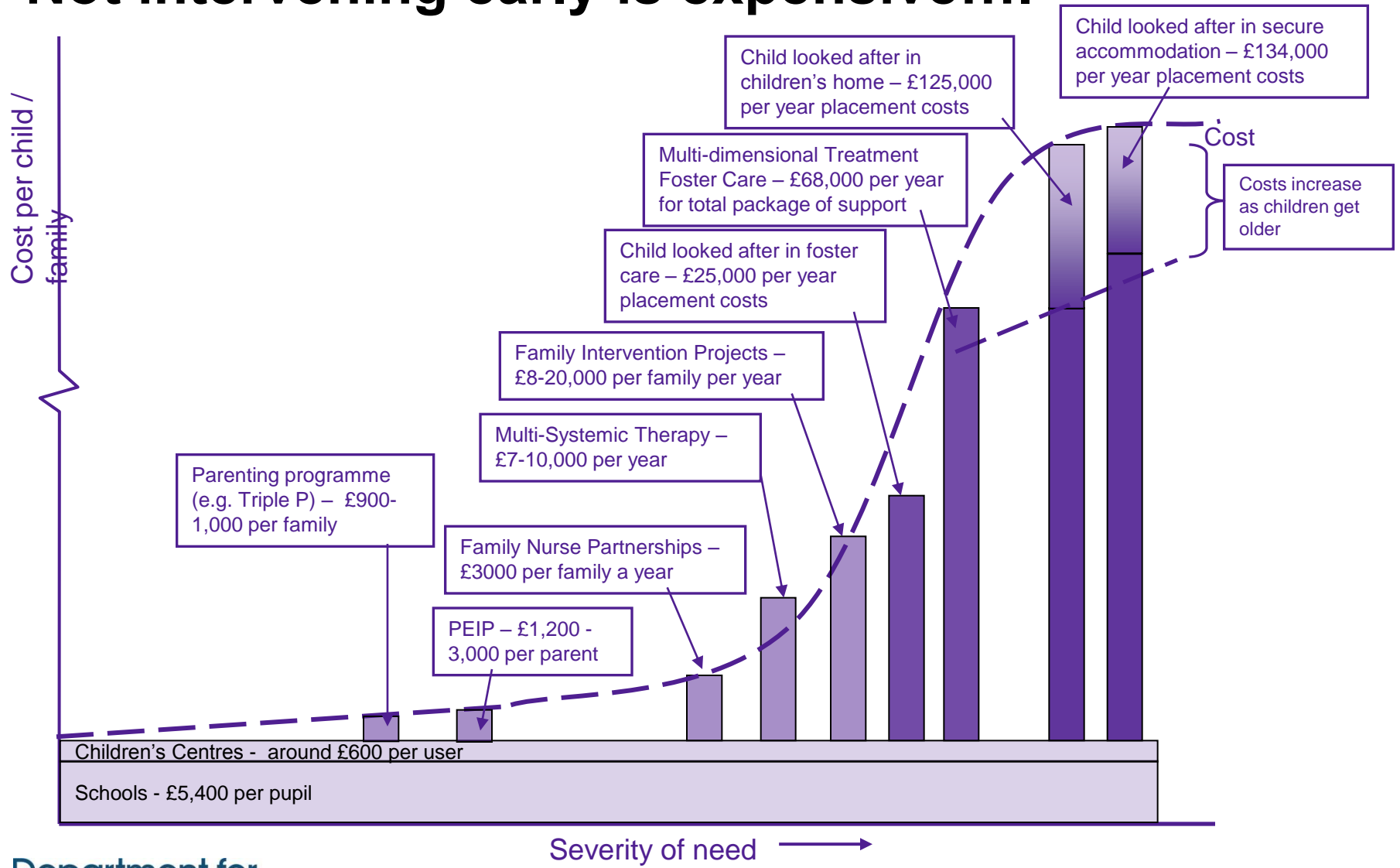
**Families Delivery Team
Families at Risk Division
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What is Edge of Care?

Children and young people at the 'edge of care' are those:

- who are able to remain safely within their family (as a viable alternative to care) and receive intensive family support to address their difficulties / problems;
- where reunification with the family (immediate or otherwise) is possible;
- where a move to independent living is a viable option.

Not intervening early is expensive....



What do good systems and/or practice look like?

Services that families most value and use:

- **are easily accessible, culturally sensitive, have practitioners who are approachable and responsive;**
- **pay attention to family and individual strengths as well as needs;**
- **work with other agencies and maintain a focus on the family as a whole increasing the network of support for families;**
- **have a professional and managerial culture which values the development of good working relationships and recognises this is needed for good inter-disciplinary and inter-agency work with families.**

Eileen Munro Review of Child Protection

- First part of Munro Review report published on 1 October
- Argues that previous reforms have not delivered positive, long lasting improvements in the front line because:
 - professionals too focused on complying with rules and regulations so spending less time assessing children's needs.
 - a target driven culture means social workers are unable to exercise their professional judgement.
 - too much emphasis on getting the process right, rather than on improving outcomes for children
- Interim of Munro Review published early February 2011
- Final Report/Recommendations expected April 2011

Q & A