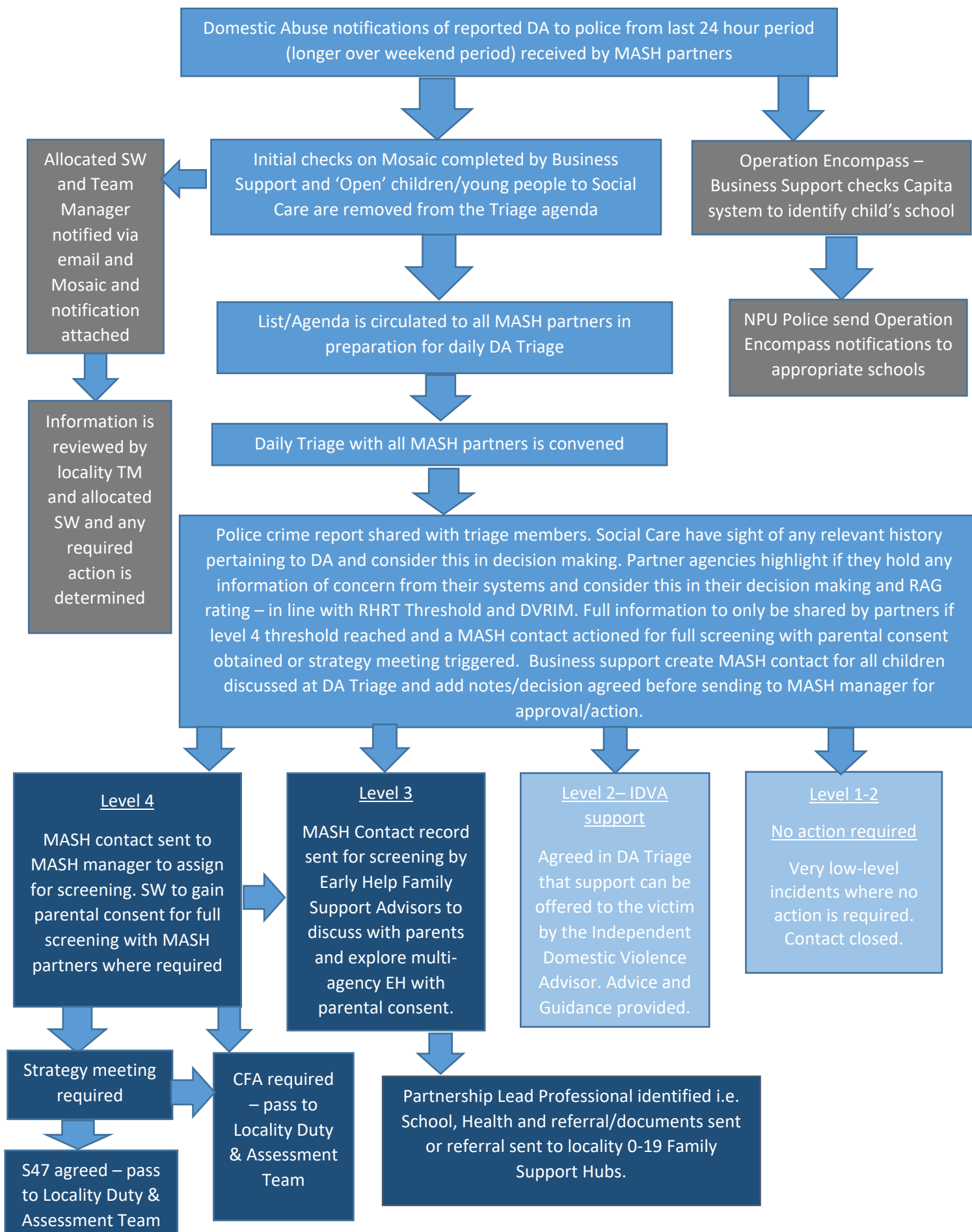




Walsall Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

APPENDIX B – DOMESTIC ABUSE TRIAGE

WALSALL DOMESTIC ABUSE TRIAGE



Domestic Abuse Daily Triage

Terms of Reference

Purpose:

The purpose of Domestic Abuse Daily Triage (DA Triage) is to provide a co-ordinated multi-agency response to domestic abuse ensuring that the right help, support and intervention, is provided at the right time and appropriate level, to children, young people, their parents and carers, where domestic abuse is a feature.

Key Objectives:

- To provide a coordinated multi-agency response to domestic abuse concerns for children, young people and their parents or carers.
- To reduce risk of domestic abuse within families through early identification and intervention i.e. low level domestic abuse concerns, signposting to community and voluntary provisions for support and preventative intervention.
- To review and discuss new domestic abuse notifications within 24 hours of MASH receiving them for children, young people and their parents and carers, collectively agreeing level of risk/harm in line with the Barnardo's Domestic Violence Risk Identification Matrix (DVRIM) and Right Help, Right Time Threshold guidance (RHRT).
- To share information and intelligence to support appropriate decision making and identification of risk level in relation to children, young people and adults where domestic abuse is a feature or concern.
- Collectively agree appropriate actions/interventions required to respond to and to reduce harm in relation to children, young people and their parents or carers identified as experiencing and/or witnessing domestic abuse.
- To ensure information discussed and actions agreed are appropriately recorded within the MASH contact and where appropriate (with consent at level 3/4 screening) are disseminated within own agency/department/team and with partners as relevant.
- To work closely together as a partnership to achieve the best outcomes for children and young people who are experiencing or witnessing domestic abuse, seeking maximum impact from the shared resources available.

Governance:

The Domestic Abuse Daily Triage is underpinned by the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Operating Principles. This is governed by the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Management Group that meets Bi Monthly and reports to Walsall Safeguarding Partnership quarterly.

Membership:

- West Midlands Police – Police Constable
- Children's Social Care - MASH Social Worker
- Black Country Women's Aid – Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- Walsall Healthcare Trust - Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children
- Early Help – Senior Family Support Advisor
- Education Welfare Officer
- Probation Service (PS)/Youth Justice Service (YJS) Representative
- MASH Business Support – Note Taker

Roles and responsibilities of members:

- Complete any required pre-meeting checks and attend triage prepared.
- Active participation in agenda and discussions.
- Personal data shared must be proportionate, necessary but not excessive, and must be balanced with the consideration of privacy rights under the Human Rights Act.
- Business Support Officer to create a MASH contact for all children residing in Walsall, discussed at DA Triage and will ensure information or actions are recorded on the MASH contact as appropriate and sent to the MASH managers for approval/further action.
- Level 3 and 4 contacts to be screened in MASH (with parental consent obtained by the screening Early Help Advisor or Social Worker) where appropriate following DA triage if additional information/discussions are required, including preparation for strategy meeting where this is applicable.
- Information/actions are disseminated within own agency/department/team and with partners as relevant – where there is parental consent to do so (level 3 and 4).
- Undertake actions as agreed within the meeting.
- Where a member is unable to attend, a nominated delegate should attend the meeting in their place from their agency.
- Raise and escalate any concerns or threshold discrepancies from an agencies perspective as required via the MASH Team Manager.
- Abide by the information governance guidelines for each agency and Data Protection Act.

Information sharing

Section 11(2) of the Children's Act, 2004 requires Local Authorities and the Police to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children. This enactment provides the conditions required

under schedule 2 (5b) and schedule 3 (7(1b/c)) of the Data Protection Act 1998 by which personal and sensitive personal data may be lawfully shared.

The Management of Police Information (MOPI) Code of Practice requires the police to obtain specific information when attending at domestic incidents. Personal data shared must be proportionate, necessary but not excessive, and must be balanced with the consideration of privacy rights under the Human Rights Act. It must take into account any duty of confidentiality owed. A public interest in disclosure must outweigh an individual's right to privacy.

Information is shared amongst key partners within the domestic abuse triage in line with the Walsall Safeguarding Partnership Information Sharing Agreement (ISA).

Frequency of the Meetings.

The Domestic Abuse Daily Triage will take place each weekday morning at 9.30am and will last no longer than 1 hour, Monday's are likely to be longer meetings following weekend notifications being received.

Review

The TOR will be reviewed annually to consider any changes to membership / reporting / process. 1st Review due June 2022.

Version Control

V.1 draft completed on 30/04/21	Rebecca Warren, Group Manager MASH.
V.2 final copy completed on 14/06/21	Rebecca Warren, Group Manager MASH.