



Islington's Partners in Practice proposal

Understanding excellence.

Islington are expanding, developing and embedding their *Doing what counts and measuring what matters* innovation programme¹. This will be achieved by:

- Developing and embedding Motivational Social Work (MSW)² by mainstreaming the Measuring What Matters framework into child in need, disabled children, looked after children (LAC) and leaving care services. It will also be applied to challenging areas such as domestic violence and youth crime so a whole system approach is taken.
- Developing an in-depth approach to feedback and observation to increase learning around high risk cases, such as children at high risk of going into care.
- Define, develop and embed the MSW Supervision and Leadership programme. This will provide existing supervisors with training, coaching and feedback to develop their capacity to deliver MSW Supervision, which is currently led by University of Bedfordshire.
- Evaluate the quality of supervision using the MSW practice evaluation framework and embed the evaluation frameworks into child in need, disabled children, and LAC.
- Engage young people in research by inviting involvement from all care leavers (16-25) who have open cases with Independent Futures (IF). Children's Active Involvement Service (CAIS) – an established group of care experienced young people in Islington will also be involved, potentially through their employment as peer researchers.
- Developing the MSW practice and MSW supervision and leadership programmes into accredited post qualifying awards in partnership with University of Bedfordshire.

Sector improvement

- Once the model has been proved, Islington will work collaboratively with three other

¹ Doing what Counts is about embedding Motivational Interviewing (MI) a form of counselling initially developed in relation to alcohol problems that looks at reducing people's resistance to accepting help. Measuring What Matters focuses on performance managing the right things and asking the right questions.

² MSW is grounded in the principles of motivational interviewing, task centred social work, motivations risk assessment and management. This aims to reduced resistance and ambivalence of service users. MSW identified seven key elements to effective social work practice: evocation, collaboration, autonomy, empathy, purposefulness, clarity about concerns and child focus.

LA's per year over three years to rollout Islington's Endorsement by the Employer framework³. The framework could also work with other relationship based models of practice.

- Working with other PIP to establish a self-sustaining network with the potential to develop a collaborative vision for modern social work. This will include developing and sharing materials with other local authorities by developing a website to share materials relating to MSW and other learning topics.
- Establishing an MSW practice network for staff at operational management and head of service level. This will be complimented by the establishment of an alumni group of previously trained senior managers and directors to provide coaching and advice.

³The employer by endorsement framework contains four stages; case review, practice and supervision evaluation, service user feedback and organisational learning which ultimately lead to accreditation