

Listening to Families

'Listening to families' is a project funded by Kirklees Stronger Families Programme.

Led by Third Sector Leaders, Listening to Families aims to learn from voluntary organisations working with parents, and from parents themselves, to shape future support services.

The work will be to spend time with parents/carers in the family and record their views about their lives and what needs to happen to make a difference.

There will then be a small amount of money for the organisation to agree with the parent to do something to help them begin to improve things and to review things three months later.

We are interested in all organisations who have contact with eligible families and who would like to take part. You can choose to work with one or two families or with more, so long as the families meet the criteria of the programme.

Target Families are:

- Out of work and claiming benefits
- Caring for children who don't always go to school
- Have family members involved in crime or anti-social behaviour
- Raising concerns about their safety or ability to look after themselves

Families who meet any of the above criteria are eligible.

Organisations taking part need to meet a few conditions:

- Organisations must already have the ability to work with the targeted families, and have some contact with families in similar circumstances
- The parent must give written consent to use their information and to share it with Kirklees Council. They can require some of their story or opinions to be anonymous
- The organisation must apply to be part of the project by giving information about their current contacts and work with eligible families
- The organisation will propose a family/families to work with, providing names and addresses, before an agreement to begin the work is given by TSL
- The work is in three parts and funding is available for each section- 1) gathering the views and submitting the family's story; 2) Identifying what help is available; 3) reviewing any progress
- Funding will be released at each stage - £250 once a family is agreed and gives consent to take part; 2) £400 once the story is received to fund some immediate action; 3) £100 once the review report is submitted