

The Wakefield project to strengthen multi-agency panels began in September 2024, to improve the decision-making process to enable settings to improve outcomes for children. Training was developed for panel members, settings and SENART members, and a robust triage process was developed which both enables more timely and confident decisions and optimises panel discussion time.

Next steps are to improve follow-up work across agencies and strengthen QA process around decisions. Work is also ongoing with the PCF to support attendance.

The Multi-Agency Panel is well established, with committed regular panel members including health and social care, ensuring consistent decision making. The robust triage process has supported timely decisions, provided more autonomy and confidence to SENART workers, and enabled effective discussions at panel around challenging cases. The graduated approach is starting to be rolled out and there are green shoots that it is becoming part of common language. The transition to Liquid Logic has enhanced data capture, with further refinements needed to improve the quality and usefulness of reports.

**Impact**

Training and a graduated approach document have been developed for settings and panel members to improve understanding and confidence in ordinarily available provision. SENART staff have received training to improve the triage of decisions that go to panel. A new system for panel has been developed with core panel members reviewing decisions prior to panel; cases with consensus are not discussed to optimise panel discussion time.

**Activities**

The aim of this project was to improve the decision-making process to enable settings to improve outcomes for children. The project aimed to improve consistency of applying the graduated response to need; increase the confidence of SENART members to triage cases to optimise the time for panel discussions; enable holistic decisions with alternative pathways of support; and improve data capture of decision making.

**Aim**