Key

- Action
- Decision
- Start of Flow
- End of Flow

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Date of Change	Description of Change	Authoriser of Change
10/6/26	Revised draft	Devika
11/6/26	Further revisions	Kerry
12/06/2026	Revised draft	Devika
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Families First- Family Help Model

Family Help Team

Governance & Oversight

Practice Lead / Practice Manager

- Provides professional supervision for alternatively qualified Family Help Practitioners
- Supports quality and consistency of Family Help practice
- Reviews assessments, plans and progress of children receiving Targeted Early Help support
- Supports identification and escalation of risk
- Works closely with the Team Manager

Family Help Team Manager

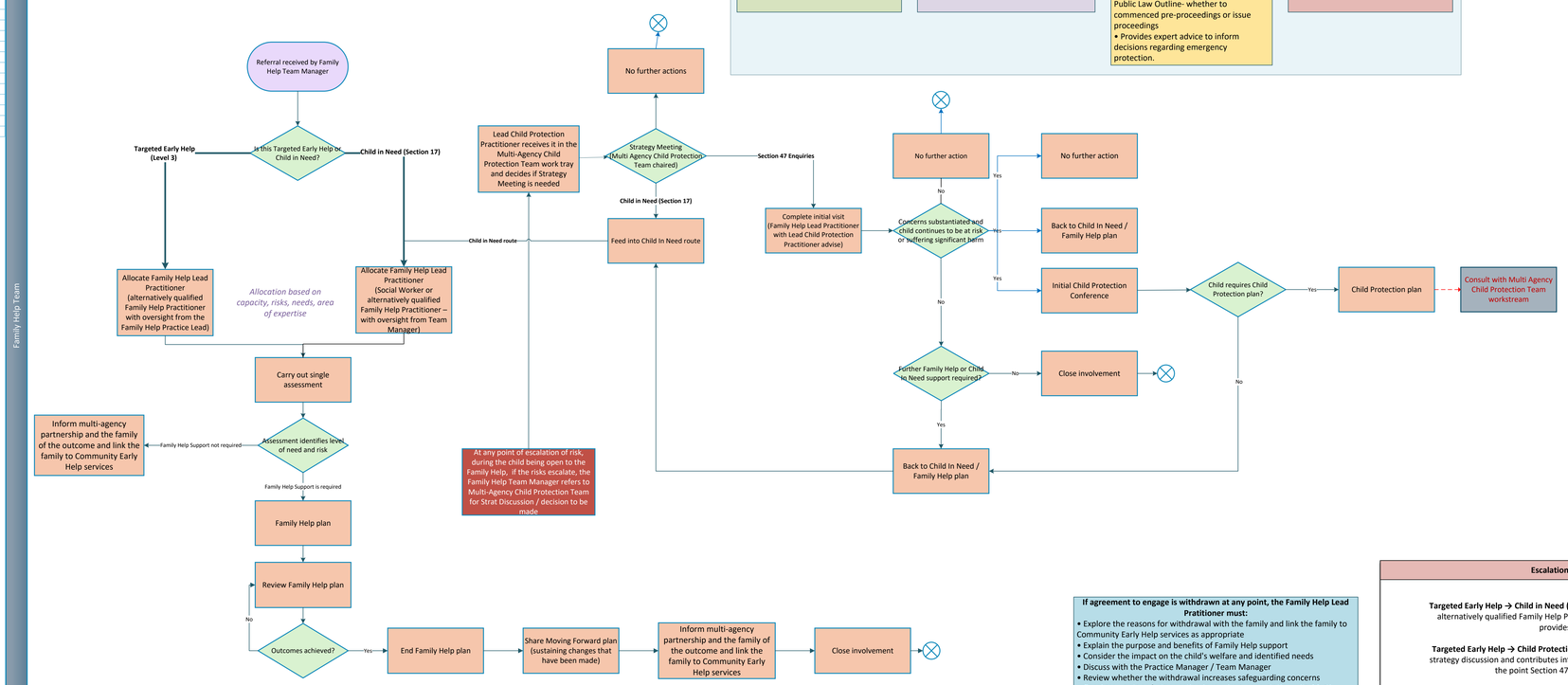
- Responsible for all allocation decisions and oversees team capacity
- Provides Social Work qualified oversight and supervision to practitioners delivering Child in Need and Child Protection support to children.
- Reviews risk, complexity and threshold decisions
- Consults with Multi Agency Child Protection Team regarding Strategy Discussions and attends Strategy Discussion as required
- Works closely with the Practice Manager

Multi-Agency Child Protection Team

- Chairs Strategy Discussions
- Oversees threshold decision-making
- Determines outcomes of Strategy Discussions
- Oversees S47 enquiries and agreed actions
- Arranges initial and review child protection conferences through the Lead Child Protection Practitioner chair's these meetings
- Provides oversight and expert advice to inform decisions regarding actions under Public Law Outline- whether to commenced pre-proceedings or issue proceedings
- Provides expert advice to inform decisions regarding emergency protection.

Child Protection Cases

- Team Manager provides ongoing supervision and oversight
- Reviews progress against the Child Protection plan
- Escalates concerns to Service Manager / Legal planning where required



If agreement to engage is withdrawn at any point, the Family Help Lead Pratitioner must:

- Explore the reasons for withdrawal with the family and link the family to Community Early Help services as appropriate
- Explain the purpose and benefits of Family Help support
- Consider the impact on the child's welfare and identified needs
- Discuss with the Practice Manager / Team Manager
- Review whether the withdrawal increases safeguarding concerns
- Consider whether further action is required, consultation with Multi Agency Child Protection Team regarding a Strategy Discussion

Escalation & Allocation

Targeted Early Help → Child in Need (Section 17) - Child's file remains with the alternatively qualified Family Help Practitioner, Family Help Team Manager provides oversight.

Targeted Early Help → Child Protection - Family Help Practitioner attends the strategy discussion and contributes information. A Social Worker is allocated at the point Section 47 enquiries are initiated.

Child in Need → Child Protection - A Family Help Practitioner attends the strategy discussion, if required, a Social Worker is allocated at the point Section 47 enquiries are initiated.

Family Group Decision Making considered throughout for family at any point of the service.