RESTART JOURNEY

Mum: Eva (27)
Dad: David (35)
Harry (6)
Hilary (4)

Mother and children reside together in private rented accommodation

Father is sofa surfing with friends and family

START

- Anonymous calls to children's social care for child neglect and domestic abuse
- Concerns raised by wider family members of Mother and Father's use of Class-A substances
- Both parents deny any issues

Point of referral

- Mother won't see professionals without Father present
- Harry has ASD and is non-verbal, requiring additional support at school
- Children are on child protection plan with a view to go into pre-proceedings

RESTART

REFERRAL TO CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

- Mother stated there is no domestic abuse and declines support from specialist support services
- Housing need disclosed for both Mother and Father. Father is encouraged to present as homeless.
- As neither disclose abuse, a referral to a behaviour change programme is not accepted for the Father

- Both deny any domestic abuse and express confusion at the referral
- Both claim Father does not reside at the address and keeps clothes there for when he supports with 'co-parenting'
- Since referral made mother is engaging with substance use support via CGL

OUTCOME

- Father is not considered priority need by Housing
- The social worker discovers he is residing at family home after further reports of domestic abuse to the Police
- Local authority starts legal proceedings to remove the children

ASSESSMENT

- Both deny domestic abuse and express confusion at referral. Both claim Father does not reside at address and keeps clothes there for when he supports with 'co-parenting'
- Since referral made Mother is engaging with substance use support via CGL
- Mother denies any domestic abuse but would like to engage with Partner Support Worker (PSW)
- Housing need disclosed for both Mother and Father
- Father referred to Accommodation Support Worker (ASW) for housing assessment and hotel accommodation accepted

SUPPORT

- Mother engages with PSW via weekly check-ins (texts and calls). Due to unmet needs around adequate and safe housing for Mother and children, the PSW acts as an advocate, providing support with housing applications, liaison and referrals for additional financial support
- Father engages with weekly 1:1 with Case Manager, engaging in Restart workbook
- Father engages with ASW, who offers practical support as well as liaising with agencies and chairing weekly housing panel meetings
- Referring social worker reports that Father is easier to engage with and a new contact plan is in place and appears to be working well

RESTART

OUTCOME

- Mother and children are rehoused appropriately
- Mother is engaging with employment & volunteering support
- Father is in hostel accommodation, engaging with keyworker and looking for work
- Father is completing Men and Masculinities
- Both parents had positive parenting assessments, and children are now on a Child in Need plan
- The couple are co-parenting children, with contact between the children and Father happening twice weekly at his mother's home