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What Is Birmingham's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)?

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This booklet provides practitioners who work with children and families with the relevant information you need to know about the Birmingham MASH.

The Birmingham **MASH** is a fully integrated and colocated multi-agency team based in the centre of Birmingham. The team will focus on receiving referrals for children believed to be at risk of significant harm, including domestic abuse. Each agency within the **MASH** will have access to their own systems and share information as appropriate with key partners.

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This will enable partners to gain a much more timely and comprehensive understanding of the current situation, together with any relevant historical information.

The team will then jointly discuss and assess the risk and needs of the child and agree what action needs to be taken.

MASH is embedded within the Birmingham 'Right Services Right Time' (RSRT) model. The key determination within RSRT is that MASH is here to respond to ALL additional needs and complex/significant needs.

PartnersM EET and share info togetherThey willA SSESS the RisksThey willS IGN up to ActionMake itH APPEN

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Police, Health and Children's Services will be at the **MASH** from the start. Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid have signed up and will join in September. Other partners are keen to join as soon as possible.

This is a new approach for full partnership integration and working on behalf of the child and family. It is built on an ethos of doing what is right for the child as quickly and as effectively as possible.

Having access to each other's information allows the **MASH** partners to build a full picture of the child and family quickly and fully inform decisions on what actions to take.

There are qualified Social Workers on hand at the **MASH** to discuss your referral. Talk through your concern first by phoning the usual number and then follow up your conversation with a detailed and accurate Multi-Agency Referral Form (on BSCB Website). http://www.lscbbirminaham.ora.uk

MASH will replace the Information, Advice and Support Service (IASS) and also the Bridge. Right Services Right Time; Meeting Children's Needs.

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