LOCAL AUTHORITY/HEALTH BOARD: LOGO

SAMPLE SELF-ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

DEVELOPING A PATHWAY FOR CRISIS SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES WITH INFANTS

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Yes** | **No** | **Gaps identified and action needed** |
| **Referral pathways for families with infants who are experiencing food crisis or require welfare assistance** | | | |
| 1. Does a referral pathway currently exist which includes an infant feeding assessment carried out by the health visiting or infant feeding team? |  |  |  |
| 1. Can families in need self-refer into the pathway? |  |  |  |
| 1. Is an out-of-hours referral pathway available e.g. via a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Children’s Advice and Duty Service (CADs) or the emergency duty children’s social worker? |  |  |  |
| **Providing wrap-around care with partner organisations** | | | |
| 1. Are local services available which could benefit families with infants or pre-school age children? Could these form a package of support in instances of financial hardship or food crisis?   Consider services delivering the following support:   * Infant feeding and nutrition * Health and wellbeing * Welfare advice * Employment and income maximisation * Psychological * Family wellbeing * Parenting |  |  |  |
| 1. Can locally available food support be mapped? |  |  |  |
| 1. Can awareness of an existing referral pathway be increased among the following services and/or networks, or can a new pathway be co-produced with these organisations?   Consider community services such as:   * Food banks, food pantries, food larders and social supermarkets * Community fridges, community kitchens and community growing schemes * Baby banks * Local voluntary and charitable organisations * Faith groups * Organisations supporting refugees, trafficking victims or those affected by domestic violence * Early Years providers, including nurseries   Consider networks such as:   * Food alliances working to reduce food poverty and food inequalities * Groups responsible for implementing the Healthy Weight charter * Local Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) partners * Community hubs |  |  |  |
| **Training and support** | | | |
| 1. Can information and/or training be provided to volunteers in community and/or partner organisations such as food banks, baby banks, etc?   Consider information and/or training on:   * Supporting eligible families to apply to the Healthy Start Scheme (Best Start in Scotland) * The International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes (the Code) * How the Code impacts donations and distribution of infant formula * Why breastfeeding and human milk matter * How best to support families to get breastfeeding off to a good start * Safer preparation of infant formula and responsive bottle feeding |  |  |  |
| 1. Is there a plan in place for communicating information and/or training offers to community and partner organisations? |  |  |  |
| **Provision of infant formula** | | | |
| 1. Does the Local Authority/Health Board emergency preparedness plan include the following?:  * Provision of breastfeeding and infant feeding support * Provision of an ongoing and consistent supply of infant formula where indicated |  |  |  |
| 1. Is the Local Authority/Health Board emergency preparedness plan cross-linked to the local infant feeding strategy? |  |  |  |
| 1. Can the following strategies be adopted to support provision of infant formula where required in line with the Code?  * Emergency funds and/or shopping vouchers * Pre-paid cards redeemable at PayPoint outlets * Local stock of infant formula * Working with partner organisations offering food support or infant feeding support |  |  |  |
| **Data collection** | | | |
| 1. Are data collection systems in place to monitor progress and evaluate effectiveness of the pathway?   Consider the following data sets:   * Referring individual or organisation * Age of infant or child * If the family has been successful in accessing Healthy Start/Best Start Foods (if eligible) * The reason infant formula was requested e.g. * loss of household income * family displaced * family has no recourse to public funds * Outcome of referral e.g. * infant formula required / not required * length of time infant formula required * safeguarding concerns identified * other support services family referred to |  |  |  |