LOCAL AUTHORITY/HEALTH BOARD: LOGO

SAMPLE SELF-ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

DEVELOPING A PATHWAY FOR CRISIS SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES WITH INFANTS

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| **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?
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| 1. Can families in need self-refer into the pathway?
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| 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?
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| **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
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| 1. Can locally available food support be mapped?
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| 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
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| **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
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| 1. Is there a plan in place for communicating information and/or training offers to community and partner organisations?
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| **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
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| 1. Is the Local Authority/Health Board emergency preparedness plan cross-linked to the local infant feeding strategy?
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| 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
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| **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
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