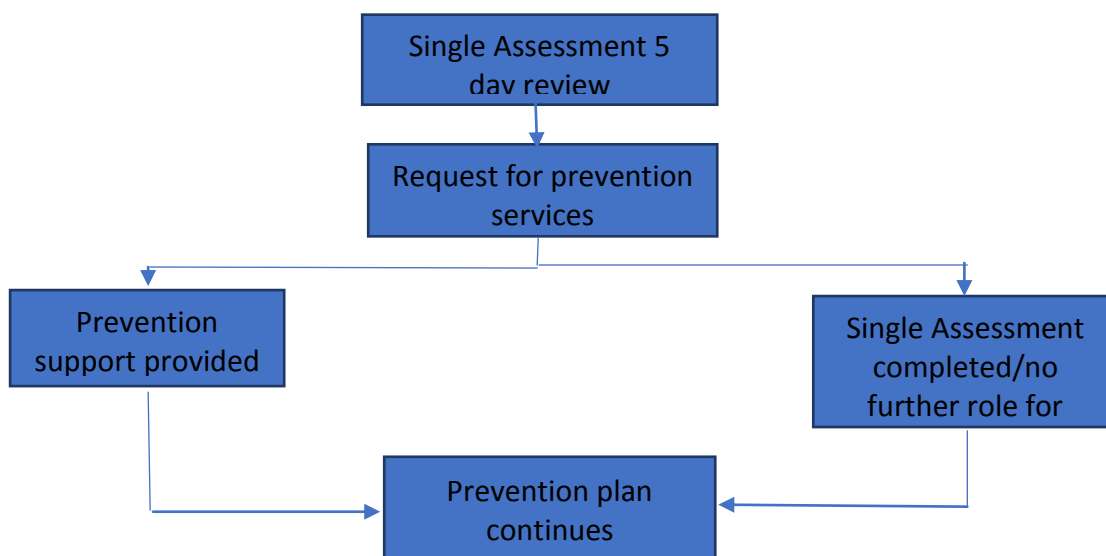


Step across arrangements between Duty and Assessments teams and the Prevention Service

March 2019

1.1 Step Across from a Social Work Assessment of Need (Single Assessment) (Level 4) to Prevention Service (Level 3/4) where joint working arrangements are already in place

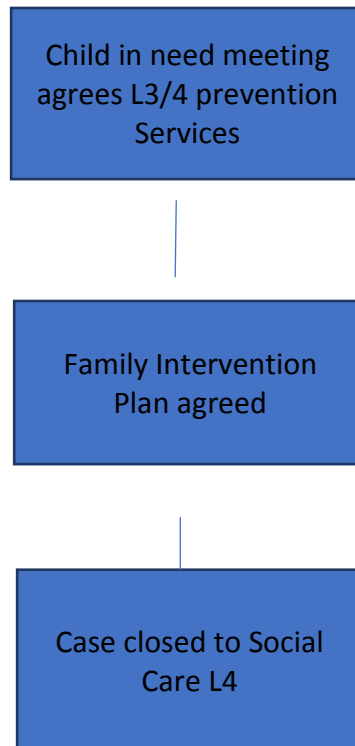
On commencement of a single assessment the social worker will at the day 5 review point discuss with their team manager whether prevention services are required to support the family and the proposed plan of intervention. Where prevention services are in place and the assessment indicates that there are no safeguarding concerns requiring social work statutory intervention, the social worker will ensure that the intention to close the case is jointly agreed with the prevention service. The closure summary must include the ongoing plan of intervention from the prevention service.



1.2 Step Down from a Social Work Assessment of Need (Single Assessment) (Level 4) to Prevention Services (Level 3/4) where joint working arrangements are not in place

The decision to step down a case from Children's Social Care to the Prevention Service (level 3/4) following a period of child in need should be a multi-agency decision, where relevant agencies agree

that this is the most appropriate course of action. The Social Worker, having discussed the case with their team manager and Prevention Team Manager should arrange a final Child in Need meeting and ensure that a professional from the Prevention Service is in attendance. The outline plan will be agreed at the final Child in Need meeting and the Prevention Service will develop a Family Intervention Plan. The closure summary must include the ongoing plan of intervention from the prevention service.



(Where there is a dispute between services/agencies regarding the threshold for intervention between L3/L4 services or a decision to close a case to Children's Social Care then this should be discussed directly with the Social worker. Where this dispute is unresolved then the matter should be discussed with a Team Manager or Head of Service. Should the matter remain unresolved please refer to the Multi agency escalation procedure which can be found at <https://www.wirral safeguarding.co.uk/procedures/10-2-multi-agency-escalation-procedure/>).