From the Graduated Pathway to the Earliest Support Pathway

Presentation by Sophia Jamal - 10/11/2026

Summary prepared from the presentation and meeting transcript. This is an accessible takeaway rather than a verbatim record.

Family Help reforms

Family Help brings targeted family support and social work together to reduce unnecessary changes of worker and strengthen whole-family practice.

Early Intervention and Community Team

Family, Community and Education Advisers will provide outward-facing support to schools and other lead practitioners, including a linked worker model for schools or clusters.

Why the pathway changed

The pathway was reviewed to align with Family Help and SEND reforms, clarify the local offer and simplify older guidance and paperwork.

What families and schools said

Schools wanted consistency, examples and clarity. Families wanted accessible language, strengths-based planning and less repetition of their story.

One plan

My Plan, My Plan Plus and My Assessment have been combined into one Earliest Support Plan covering overview, assessment, planning and review.

Resources and transition

Refreshed guidance, tools and example plans are available. Existing plans should move to the new format at their normal review point rather than being rewritten immediately.

Ongoing review

Consultation and testing will continue, with feedback used to improve implementation and future alignment with SEND reforms.