

**OUR VISION**

A region where;

- children and young people thrive
- families are supported, inspired by a dedicated workforce
- keeping children and young people safe
- consistently delivering the best outcomes

**THE CHALLENGES**

- county lines - impacts immense, and growing; local authorities picking up the costs
- early support and intervention: rising LAC and intervention
- being able to step in
- speed of response from peers due to capacity issues everywhere
- maintaining senior leadership buy-in due to turnover
- full honesty and self-awareness
- national funding silo or small pots
- managing markets

now more good LAs than inadequate

**BUILDING OUR REPUTATION**

We are pleased to have been approached to try out regional activities that have given us a really solid focus and enabled further development of effective partnerships including DfE, Ofsted, MHCLG, Police, Public Health, Housing, FE Colleges and Voluntary Sector :

- FutureSocial £1.5m,
- Migration Fund, £1.9m
- Safe Centre feasibility and design stage,
- Agency Market Management ,
- Troubled families turnaround
- RIIA £300K
- Strengthening Families
- Permanence Hub
- What Works Board

**ENERGY AND PURPOSE**

A clear focus for us all, the whole region committed to making improvements

- restructured, recalibrated, re-focused networks structure
- sound governance
- developing a regional commissioning hub

**THE AIM**

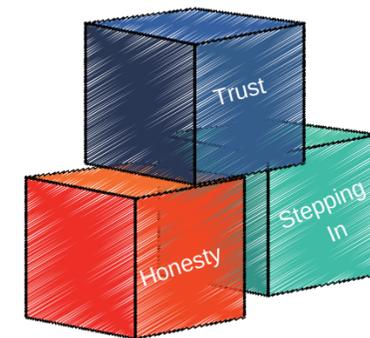
We will have

- 12-14 LAs who are Good or Outstanding (Safeguarding Inspection)
- CYP are in the top quartile for educational outcomes nationally, and compare favourably internationally,
- the lowest Social Worker turnover rate in the country,
- some of the most efficient and effective; placement, training, safeguarding boards, SEND provision,
- schools; have a reputation for innovation to improve effectiveness
- reduced costs,
- be a key influencer of Government policy

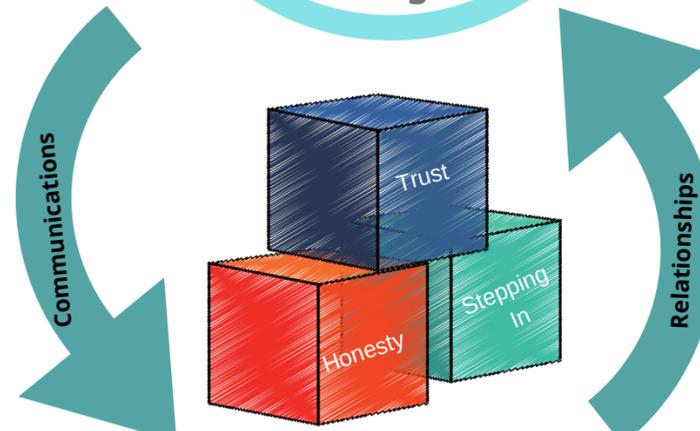
**WHAT'S MAKING IT WORK?**

Local uniqueness and collaboration with 14 Local Authorities and 3 Children's Trusts working together on real things that are affecting us all, taking a lot of leadership focus:

- having a regional engine room to move things on
- having some resources to make change
- developing great relationships with DfE and LGA who are signed-up to our MoU
- making time for reflection and planning
- join-up of political, corporate and strategic leadership - all proactively involved



**OUR BUILDING BLOCKS**



worst performing region in the country



# Some thoughts for you ....

- What prospect is there for moving away from bidding for silo pots of funding and partial roll-out of national pilots and levelling the regional playing field?
- How are you supporting national learning?
- Every organisation has strengths, but no spare resource or capacity to share these strengths unless they are PiPs - what's the thinking about opening up PiP funding?
- Supply and retention of experienced social workers - why is there still no significant national co-ordination of marketing social work as a valued profession?

**WEST MIDLANDS CHILDREN'S SERVICES**  
#TeamWestMidlands

## Keep in touch:



**@wmadcs**



**West Midlands Children's  
Services**



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