

Compass Team Newsletter

Issue 7 Quarter 4 2025

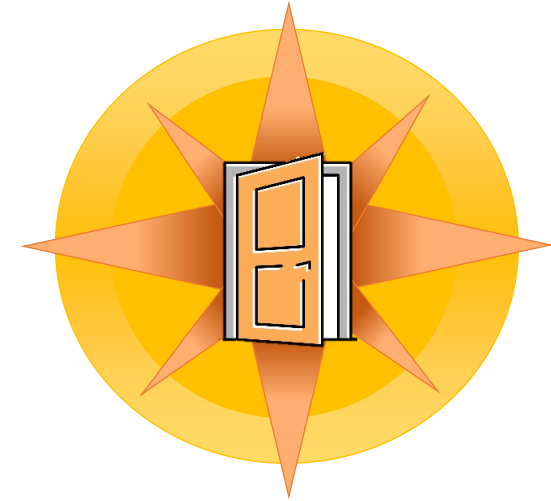
Welcome!

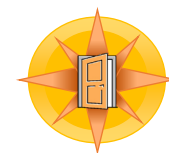
A warm welcome to all our partner agencies to our Seventh edition of the COMPASS newsletter.

Due to high demand within Compass with a need to prioritise we were not able to cover Q3 of 2024.

This Newsletter will focus on data obtained from Quarter 4 (January-March 2025)

Gemma Onions & Kate Owen (COMPASS Team Managers)





Themes of the Quarter

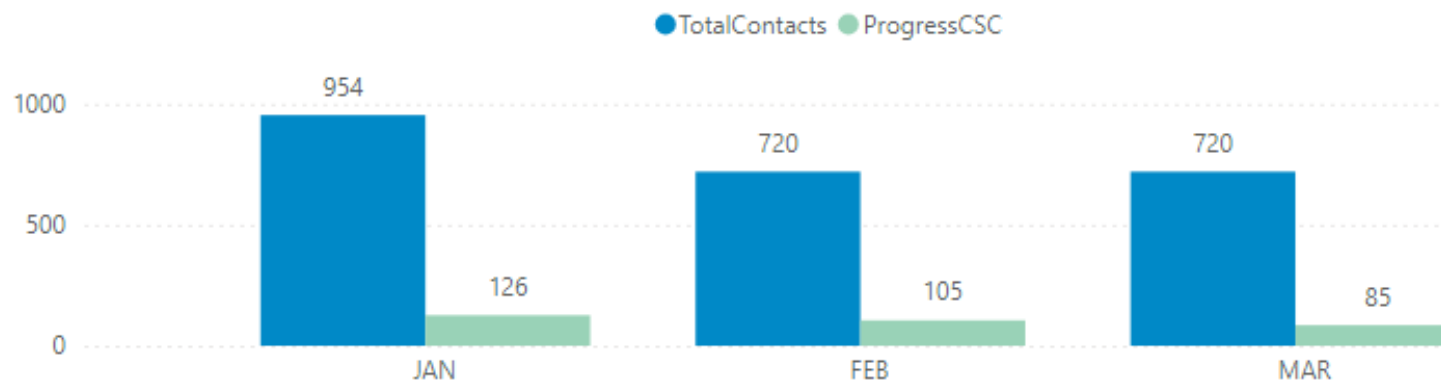
Data taken from Q4 2025 – January, February, March

We have had a slight increase in number of contacts to the last newsletter analysis in Q2 (2249 in Q2, 2394 in Q3), and a similar amount that have progressed to CSC (14% in Q2, 13% in Q3)

Total Contacts by Compass Workers

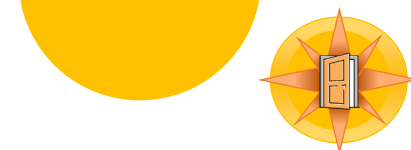
Month	TotalContacts	ProgressCSC	%
MAR	720	85	12%
FEB	720	105	15%
JAN	954	126	13%
Total	2394	316	13%

Contacts by Compass Workers



Themes of the Quarter

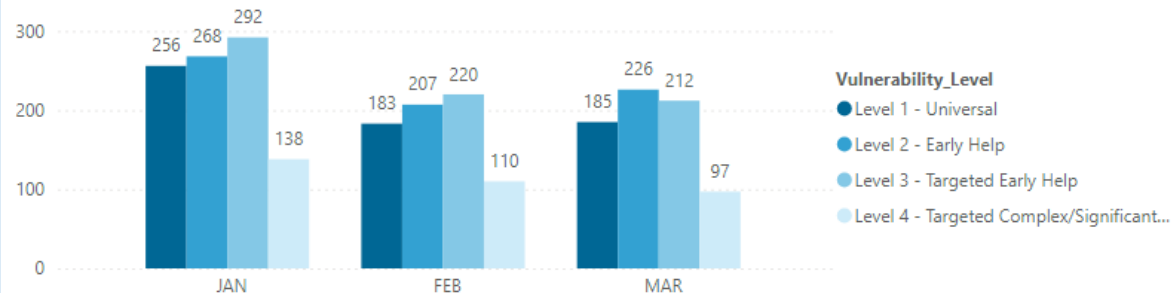
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Total Contacts by Compass Workers

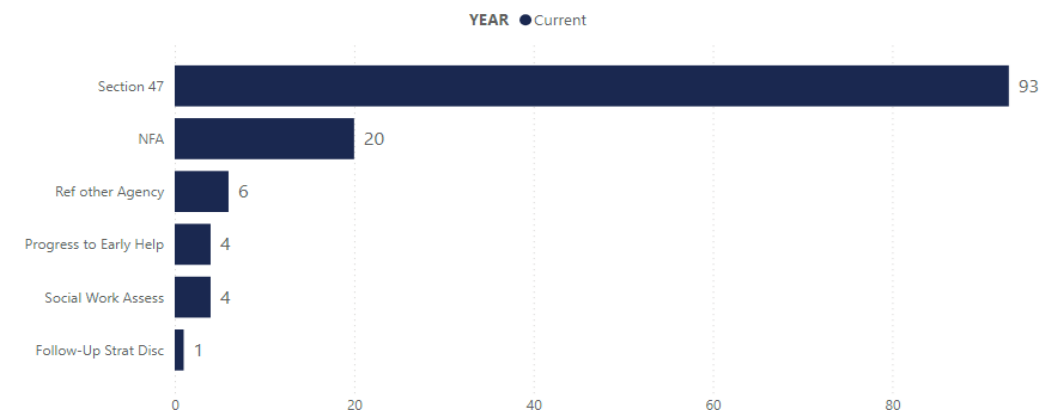
Month	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total Contacts
JAN	256	272	292	138	954
FEB	184	209	220	110	720
MAR	185	226	212	97	720
Total	625	707	724	345	2394

Contacts by Compass Workers



We have seen an increase in Level 1 and Level 3 outcomes compared to Q2. There has been a decrease of around 100 contact outcomes for Level 2.

Strat Outcome



In Q4 there was an increase in Strategy meetings,

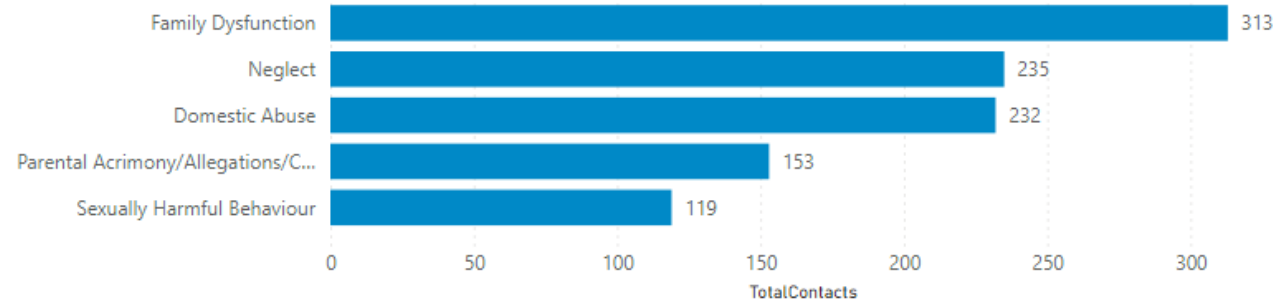
Themes of the Quarter

Data taken from Q4 2025 – January, February, March

Compass top 5 contact reasons

ContactIssue	Total
Family Dysfunction	313
Neglect	235
Domestic Abuse	232
Parental Acrimony/Allegations/Contact Issues	153
Sexually Harmful Behaviour	119

Compass top 5 contact reasons



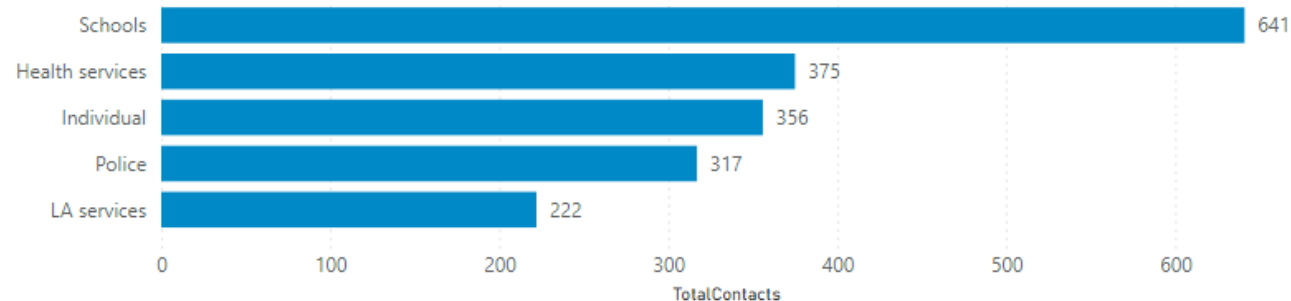
Age Band

Age Band	Total
A) 0 to 5	633
B) 6 to 18	1761
Total	2394

Compass top 5 referrers

ContactSource	Total
Schools	641
Health services	375
Individual	356
Police	317
LA services	222

Compass top 5 referrers



Family Dysfunction and Neglect remain the top two contact reason for Q4. We have seen a 78% increase in referrals from schools since Q2 (359 in Q2 to 641 in Q4)



A REMINDER ABOUT CONSENT

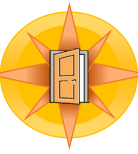
COMPASS require parental consent to accept a referral and progress to social work assessment.

The only exception to this is if it is suspected that a parent has intentionally caused harm to their child/ren, and they have suffered significant harm or are at ongoing risk of suffering significant harm.

It has been noticed that there has been an increase in professionals stating that they have not gained parental consent as they do not wish to negatively impact their relationship with the family by informing them that a concern has been raised.

This is a reminder that professionals cannot remain anonymous when reporting a concern and the COMPASS senior social workers WILL inform the parent of the referrer's details.

Professionals should be aware that parents always question why they had not been informed that a concern was going to be or had been raised, they want professionals to be transparent and honest with them and by not informing them this will have a more detrimental impact on the professional/ parental relationship. When recording in the MARF that consent has been gained please can you specify from whom and please do not leave this section blank or unanswered.



SPOTLIGHT ON THRESHOLD

COMPASS continue to receive a high level of inappropriate referrals which do not require a Level 4 threshold response. Schools and the health service remain the agencies who make the most referrals which do not reach threshold and where support can be provided at Level 2 or 3. Our data demonstrates that only 13% of concerns raised reach the threshold for a S17 or S47 response and therefore the Early Help pathway should have been followed. Information in relation to this pathway can be seen in slide 10.

Before raising concerns in COMPASS please refer to the threshold document which gives clear guidance as to the appropriate level of support.

Charity Spotlight

In each Newsletter we would like to highlight a charity that is close to someone in our team.

Little Stars Baby Bank will be taking part in the London Marathon 2025!

David Howson will be running on behalf of Little Stars



Donate

David Howson

My Story

I can't believe I've only just got round to doing this at 44 years of age. I'm so excited to be finally running the **London Marathon** next year and in support of such an amazing cause. I just hope my dodgy ankle and back hold up!

Little Stars, a Shropshire-based charity providing essential items like baby clothes, toiletries, and school uniforms to families in need. In Shropshire, nearly **1 in 5 children live in poverty**, and many families struggle to afford the basics. Little Stars plays a vital role by easing the financial and emotional burden on local families, helping them focus on what matters most—raising happy, healthy children.

By sponsoring my run, **you can make a direct impact on families across our community**. My goal is to raise £2,500, which will enable Little Stars to continue offering their much-needed services. Whether you donate £5 or £50, every bit helps, and your generosity will make a real difference.

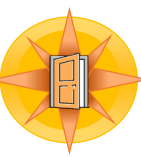
Thank you so much for your support!

About Little Stars

Our vision at Little Stars is to ensure babies and children across Shropshire have access to the basic essentials that they need to feel safe and secure.

- Helping families when times are challenging.
- Working with professionals to support families.
- Ensuring parents and their children have the basic essentials.

Little Stars works with professionals including midwives, GPs, housing associations, schools, social services, domestic abuse charities and many more to provide these essential items for the children.



Accessing support from Little Stars is super-simple and can come as a referral through professionals such as doctors, midwives and health visitors, as well as through appropriate voluntary organisations. Unfortunately, we don't accept self-referrals.

Are you a referral partner or healthcare professional working with a family needing our help?

To refer a family to Little Stars, please complete the [online form](#)

Make a Referral

A note about our new MARF

Compass now have a new MARF – please use this document for all referrals moving forward.

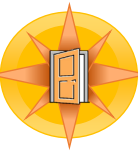
[Child Safeguarding and Protection Practice — Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership](#)



MARF May 2024

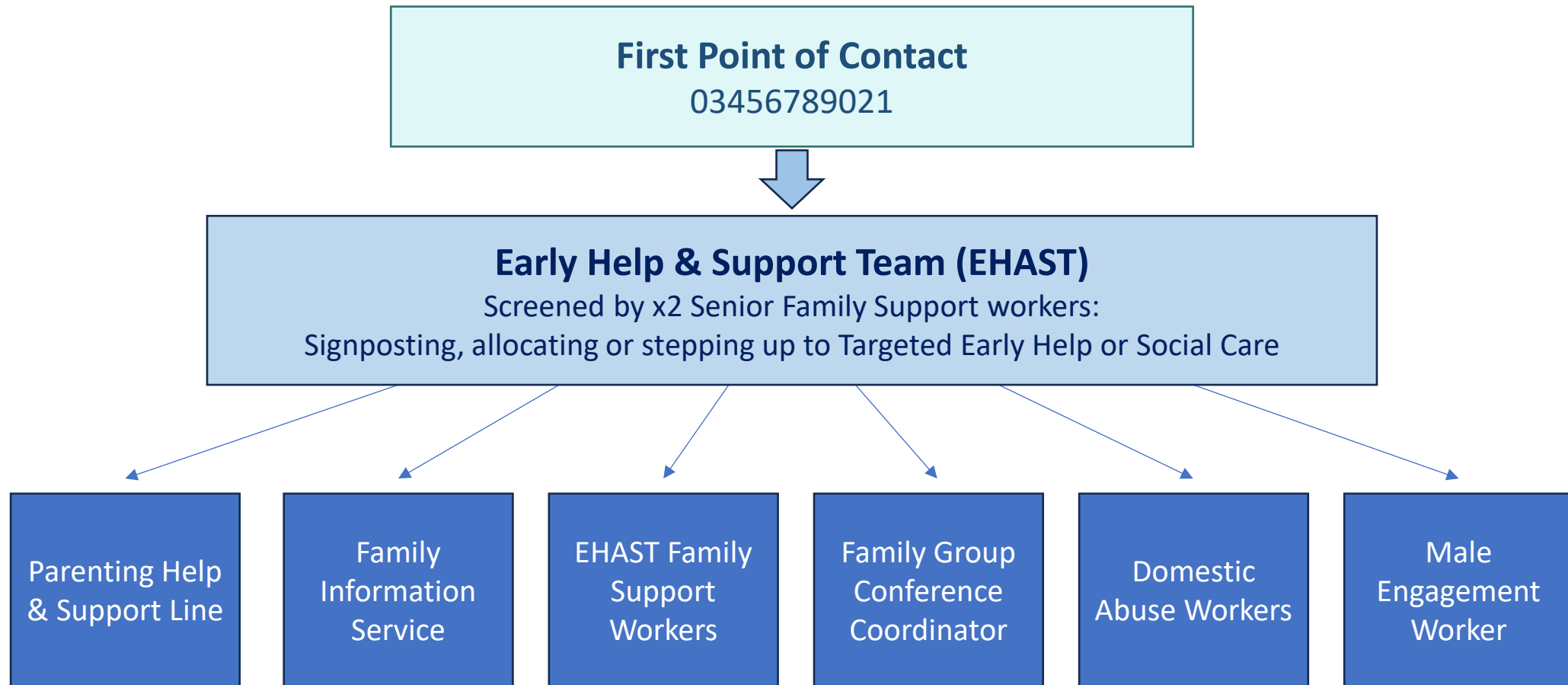
This is a reminder that MARFS should only be completed for concerns that are deemed to meet Level 4 of the threshold document.

Should you wish to access Level 2 or 3 support please follow the correct pathway (see next slide) or call First Point Of Contact (FPOC): 03456789021

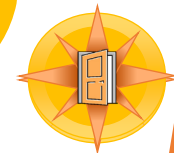


Professional and Public Referral Pathway into Early Help

Level 2 (EHASt) and Level 3 (Targeted Early Help)



Key Contacts & Useful Documents



First Point of Contact (FPOC) (Compass and Initial Contact Team)	0345 678 9021
Emergency Social Work Team	0345 678 9040
West Mercia Police	101
If you think a child is in immediate danger, call the emergency services	999
Shropshire Early Help	Earlyhelp@shropshire.gov.uk
Shropshire Strengthening Families	Shropshirestrengtheningfamilies@shropshire.gov.uk
Compass - For safeguarding concerns for children	Compass.referrals@shropshire.gov.uk
Shropshire Family Information Service	01743 254400 and ShropshireFIS@shropshire.gov.uk
Health visitors and school nurses – single point of access (SPOA)	0333 3583654
Shropshire Housing Options	0345 678 9005
Citizen's Advice	https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk
Domestic Abuse Helpline 24-hour	0808 2000 247
NSPCC	0808 800 5000
Family Lives – parent helpline	0808 800 2222 Parenting and Family Support - Family Lives (Parentline Plus) Family Lives
Local Offer website	The SEND local offer Shropshire Council
Shropshire Choices	Shropshire Choices Shropshire Council
All In Registrations	All In Programme Shropshire Council
Occupational Therapists via First Point of Contact	0345 678 902
We Are With You - Substance Misuse Treatment Provision	01743 294700 Shropshire - With You (wearewithyou.org.uk)

Useful links & Documents

Multi-agency guidance on Threshold Criteria to help support Children, Young People and their Families in Shropshire
[Childrens Threshold Document](#)

Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership
[Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership](#)

West Midlands Children's Safeguarding Procedures
[West Midlands Safeguarding Children Group \(procedures.org.uk\)](#)

Thank you!

Thank you for reading this issue of the Compass Newsletter.

We look forward to bringing you the next newsletter for Q1 2025.

Gemma Onions & Kate Owen (COMPASS Team Managers)

Designed by Rebecca Bean (Compass Coordinator)