

## Bringing context into your team

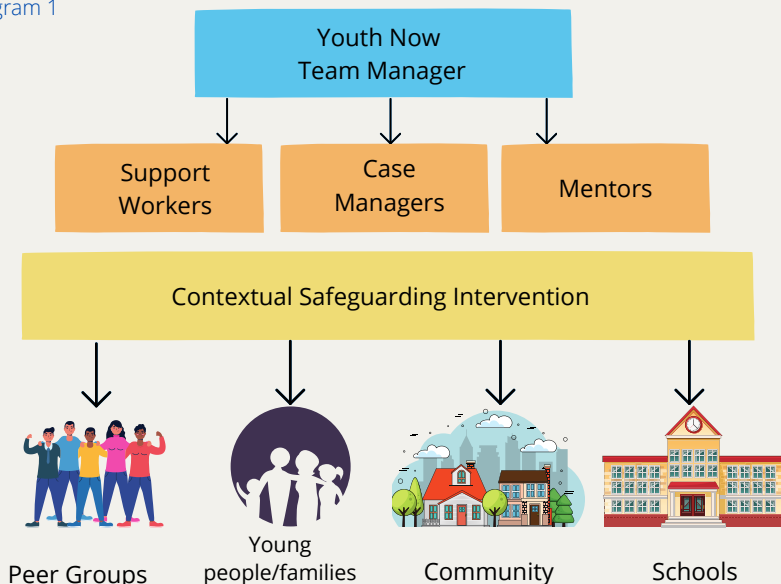
### Changing the organisational flow of Youth Now

'Youth Now' is a pilot project, based within the Youth Justice Service at Positive Steps Oldham, designed to explore the relevance of adopting Contextual Safeguarding approaches to address serious youth violence. The Youth Now team aimed to develop and implement contextual interventions across several key settings/contexts in relation to reducing serious youth violence in Oldham, including:

- Community/neighbourhoods
- Schools
- Young people/families
- Peer groups

Organisationally, at the start of the project, members of the Youth Now team operated individually towards each of the key settings and had distinct interventions within those contexts, led overall by a Team Manager from Positive Steps. This operational practice is represented in Diagram 1.

Diagram 1



As the project progressed, the team instigated a weekly Youth Now Team Meeting, where information and implementation was shared across these groupings and between individuals. This new organisational structure enabled a clearer focus on cross-cutting issues related to Contextual Safeguarding (CS). In addition it enabled individual staff to more easily see the connections emerging across the separate areas of intervention, as well as how best they could support each other within this and develop closer working relationships with multi-agency partners around contextual safeguarding. This operational shift is represented in Diagram 2.

Diagram 2

