

Cafcass: ten years after

Anthony Douglas

Chief Executive

8th October 2010

Last year

Unprecedented demand increases in public and private law (30% and 15% respectively)

Great public and professional concern about delays

New Cafcass operational structure begins and starts to take effect – 21 service areas

Major corporate downsizing – 2.7 million

More children at risk and in need identified

We start to help more children but are slammed for what we can't do

Ofsted inspections continue in the main to be poor, leading to even greater practice improvement effort

All children's services organisations feel the pressure, at the very time the money runs out

This year

- Demand continues to rise, less strongly, but at the new higher level
- Unallocated cases reduce considerably, caseloads increase – for example, we have 2,500 more public law cases open, and demand for s7 reports reduces by 2,500
- Productivity increases – up by 17% in 18 months
- Cafcass is funded with an extra £10 million by DfE for a far-reaching Transformation Programme
- President's Interim Guidance is renewed with an emphasis on strong local agreements
- The London agreement is the most radical, and possibly the most sustainable
- Further corporate downsizing underway
- Family Justice Review and the Munro review start their work
- Several Cafcass local service areas demonstrate big improvements in performance and quality



Family Justice Review Panel reports (April and September 2011), and the Government responds

Coalition policies start to become embedded: deregulation and localism for example

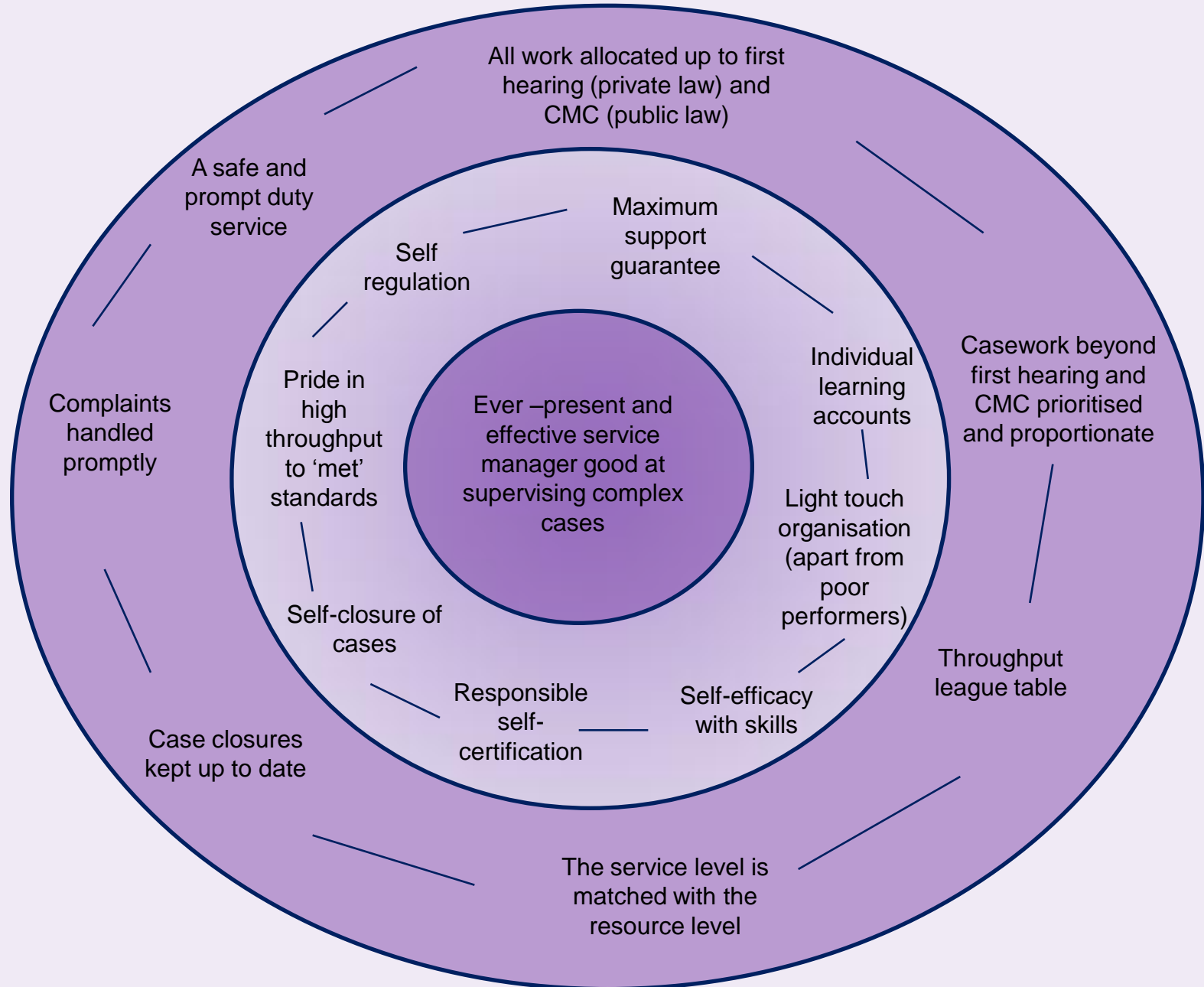
**Next
year**

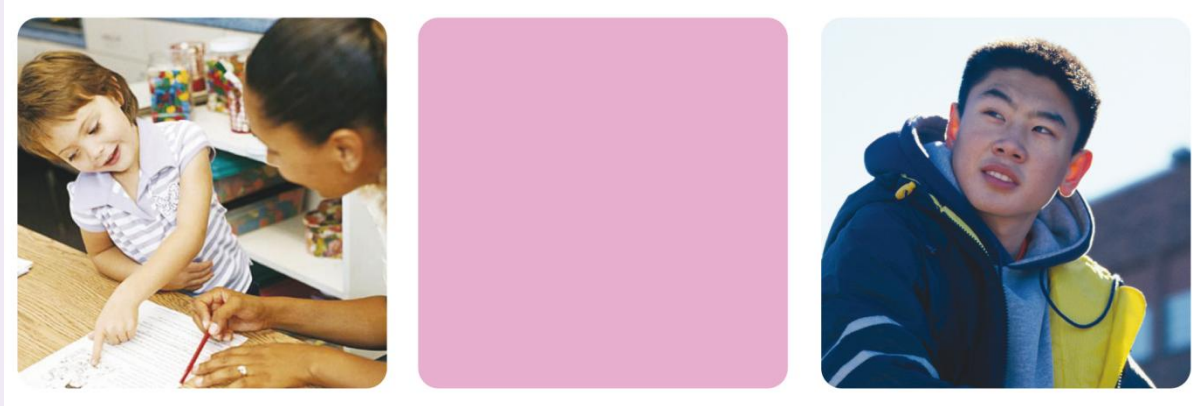
Ten years after: Cafcass begins on a transition to its next incarnation

Results of the Transformation Programme in place

Comprehensive Spending Review (Year 1 of 4)

Proportionate working for teams





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