

Social Work Scotland June 2019

Anna Rickards

Kathryn Baker

Derek Aitken



Film *"The Changing Dance"*



Tabletop exercise

Task: Quick table top discussion about women subject to recurrent removal of children from their care in your local area

- What do you know about how many women this may be?
- What services/ support exist in your area to currently support them?
- What are the gaps in provision?
- What works well in your local area
- Feedback

A case for early intervention



What is Pause?

▶ Our aim

To prevent the damaging consequences of thousands of children being taken into care each year.

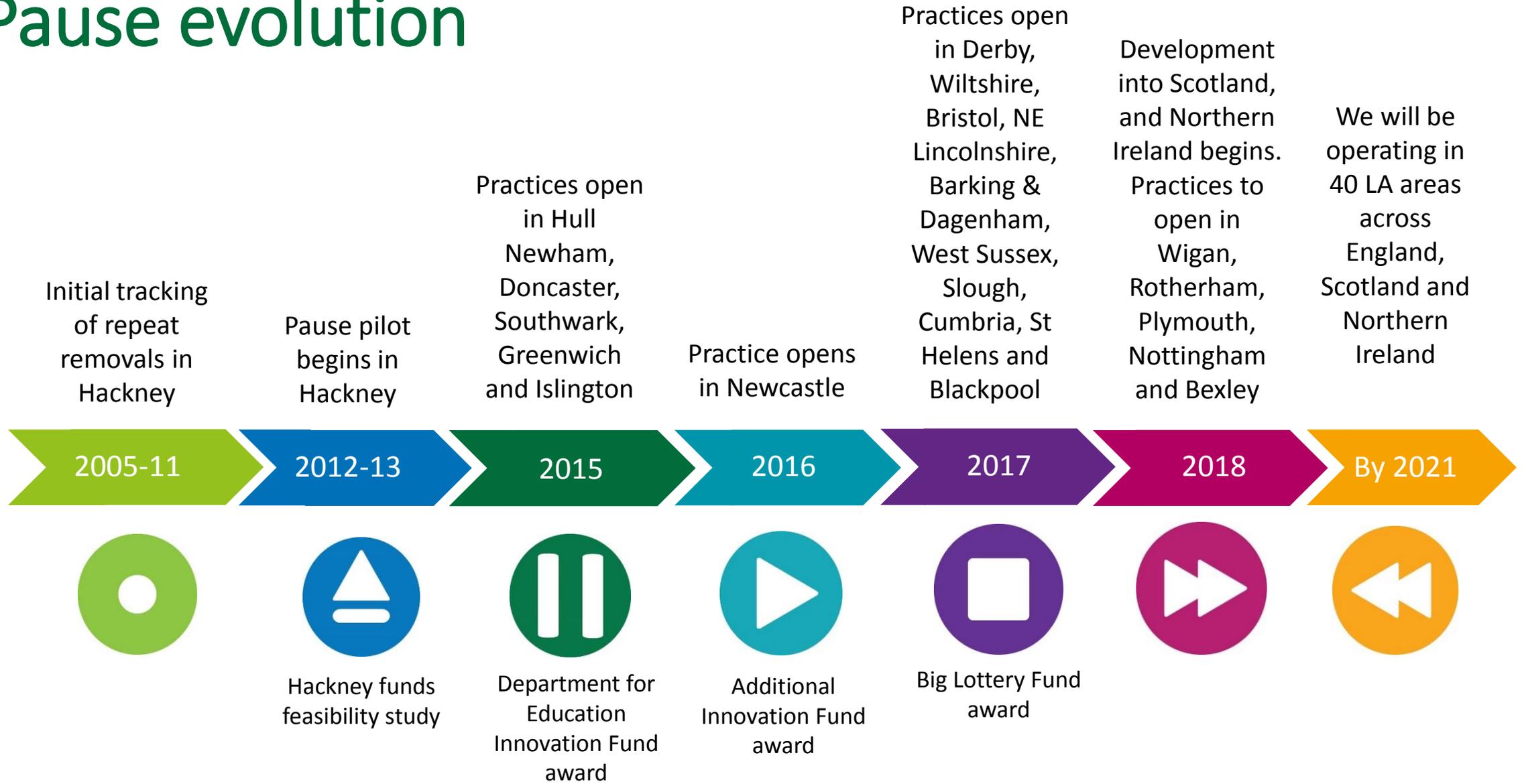
▶ What we do

We work with women who have experienced - or are at risk of - repeated pregnancies that result in children needing to be removed from their care.

▶ How we do it

Through Pause Practices working together with local authorities and other partners.

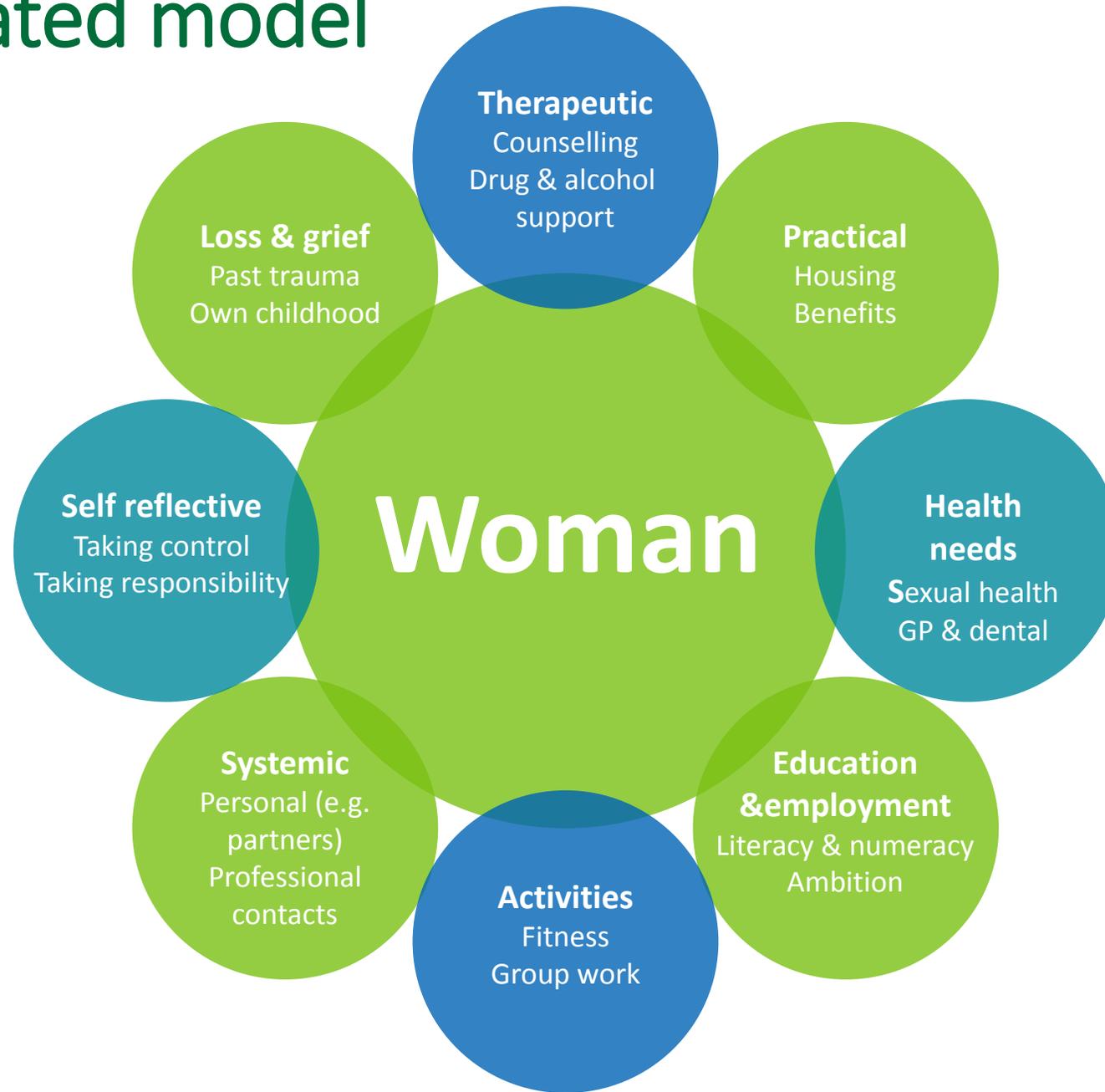
Pause evolution



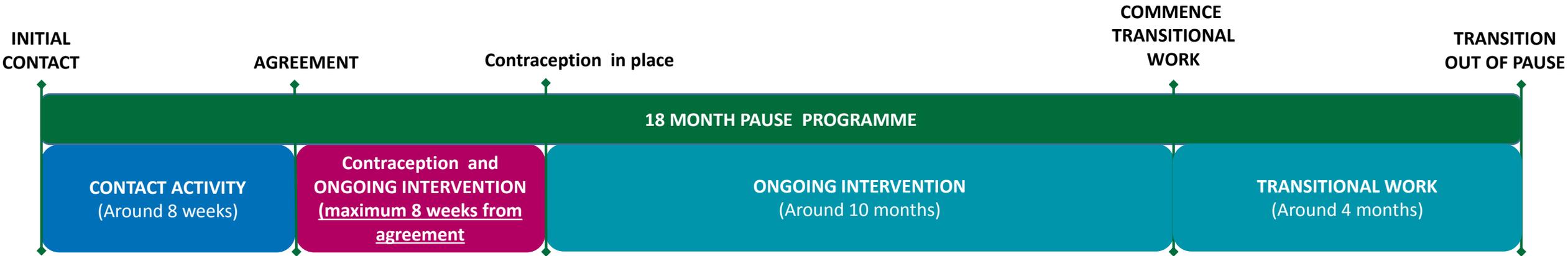
Initial feasibility study in Hackney 2013



The integrated model



PAUSE Timeline of Support



Pause Practice model

- **Integrated, intensive and systemic model of support** for 18 months tailored to their needs
- Predicated upon the vital importance of **assertive outreach and relationship based practice**.
- **Voluntary programme** based upon what the women want to focus on during this period of support
- Practice draws upon the ideas from **systemic practice, attachment and trauma, grief and loss, strength based and evidence informed interventions**.
- Helps **set in place strong foundations** on which they can build a more positive future for themselves
- Women agree to take *the most effective form of reversible contraception* so they have the opportunity to reflect and focus on their own needs often for the first time in their lives.



What Pause does

Requires the women to use the most effective form of reversible contraception

Helps build their resilience and self-esteem

Offers bespoke education/career plans

Helps build healthy boundaries

Helps women learn ways to avoid adversarial interactions

Works closely with partners and others in their system

Reflects on their responsibility to previous children

Addresses negative issues, like drug use and domestic violence, when the women are ready

Supports the women into stable accommodation and helps them sustain it

Develops aspirations for the future

Supports the women to reflect on the past and face trauma

What Pause does not do

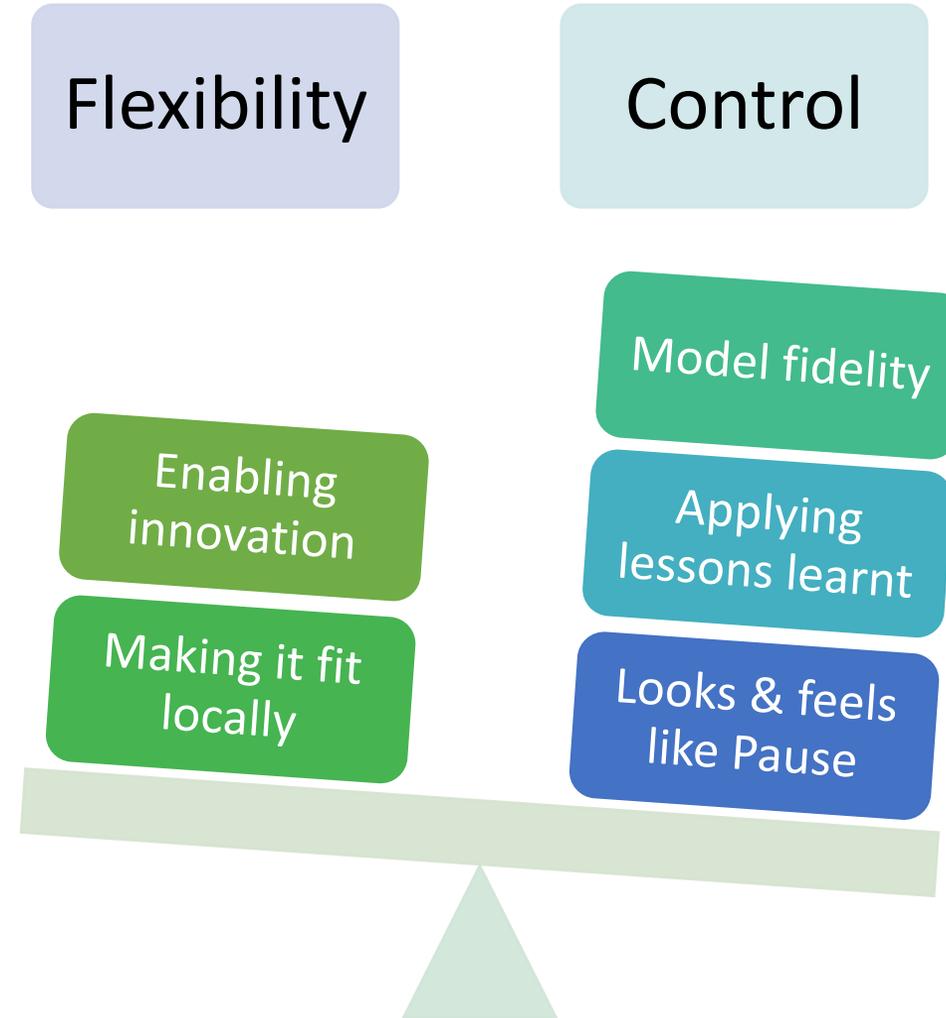
Work with women to get their children back

Offer parenting support or parenting classes

Conduct parenting assessments

Rescue women and run their lives for them

Getting the balance right.....



Developments in Scotland

- Development of a Pause Scotland Board chaired by our founder Sophie with a range of partner agency members
- Scoping undertaken in Dundee, East Ayrshire and currently in Aberdeen
- Development of relationships and awareness across a number of agencies
- First practice to go live in Scotland in Dundee in June

Pause in Dundee



WHAT IS SOCIAL BRIDGING FINANCE?

Developed by The Robertson Trust, Social Bridging Finance aims to:

- support third sector delivery of services;
- ensure the long-term sustainability of those services which evidence success.

It does this through the development of a **contract with the public sector**.

The model aims to bring in new funding from independent sources to support the move to preventative services.

Design

A working partnership is formed between a public sector agency, a third sector organization and an independent funder to replicate an existing evidence-based model which has been trialed successfully elsewhere or at a small-scale in the existing geography. This service should enable a move from reactive to preventative services and meet an identified need which the public sector body is prepared to fund longer term. The partners need to agree success criteria in advance.

Contract

A simple, binding contract is signed between the partners to commit the public sector organization to sustaining funding for the service for a specified period of time, if the agreed success criteria are met.

Demo

After an allowance for an initial set-up phase the service is delivered for an agreed period of time, usually 2 to 3 years. During this trial stage, which will be grant funded (this can be from a range of sources, including Trusts and Foundations, public sector, individual philanthropists etc....), partners can adjust how the interventions are delivered, in order to ensure the best chance of meeting the agreed success criteria. A Project Board is established with senior representatives from all the partners to ensure strategic level oversight of progress.

Evaluation

An audit is commissioned by the partnership and paid for by the independent funder at the outset of the trial period. This evaluation will make an informed judgement as to whether or not the agreed success criteria have been met at the end of the trial.

Sustainability

If the external evaluator determines that the agreed success criteria have been met, then the contract determines the length of time for which the public sector organization will sustain the service. If the trial period has not been successful, all partners ensure that they take learning from the process and walk away, thus the public sector commissioner faces no risk from the trial as this is carried by the grant funders.

Collaboration and Partnerships

Relationships underpin everything we do- How we work with women, engaging partner agencies, working with the women's system

- **Pause Dundee** will be delivered by **Tayside Council on Alcohol (TCA)** and will be licensed to deliver the programme and have operational management of Pause locally
- **Dundee City Council** will commission the service and will chair the Local Pause Board. Agreement to fund the programme in the future if successful

Collaborative Partnerships

- **Pause National** safeguards the fidelity and quality of the programme, ensure delivered with integrity and achieves the best outcomes for the women supported on the programme.
- **The Robertson Trust** provide funding through Social Bridging finance which they have developed to support third sector delivery of services
- Pause, TCA and Dundee City Council will work collaboratively with the Robertson Trust to generate learning about what works and why, by establishing and testing how the model works in Scotland

What does this mean for you locally?

What does/could the work of Pause- supporting women who have had repeated removals of children from their care-mean to you locally?

Table top exercise – 10 minutes

- *What could be the opportunities?*
- *What would be the challenges ?*
- *How would this fit into your current service delivery/area priorities?*

Any questions