

SOUTHERN OUTCOMES GROUP

ACTION PLAN 2011-14

FINAL DRAFT JUNE 2012



INTRODUCTION

The Southern Outcomes Group, as a sub group of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP), met for the first time in June 2011. Membership of the Group consists of representatives from the Statutory, Voluntary, Community and Black and Minority Ethnic sectors. Current membership can be found at Appendix __

The following action plan sets out how the Southern Outcomes Group will contribute towards the implementation of the Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014 set out above. The plan includes the priorities which need to be taken forward to improve the six high level outcomes for children and young people in this area. The plan has been informed by an extensive consultation exercise which ended on 11 April 2012. Details of the results of the consultation and how the responses were dealt with will be available in the coming months.

This action plan is one document in the suite of action plans which make up the NI Children and Young People's Plan. The Southern Outcomes Group will collaborate with the other 4 Outcomes Groups, the CYPSP Groups and Regional Sub Groups in order to implement the overall Plan.

The Plan is therefore a live document – at any one time the latest version of the overall Plan and the Action Plans of all of the planning groups will be available on our website, at www.cypsp.org.

The plan is set out in line with the 6 high level outcomes. A number of underpinning actions have been set out in the first pages. A review of the plan will be carried out annually.



Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014
SOUTHERN OUTCOMES GROUP

Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people
Outcomes Based Planning	The Outcomes Group will continue to monitor the 6 high level outcomes in relation to the children and young people in the area and plan accordingly. This will include further tracking of the indicator set, collating qualitative information from communities through locality planning, the views of children and young people and parents through implementation of the CYPSP Participation strategies.	Outcomes Group CSP Information Participation Network Parenting NI	
Integrated Planning and Commissioning	<p>The Outcomes Group, supported by the CYPSP, will work towards integrated planning and commissioning across agencies and sectors to ensure we make the best use of existing resources and allocate funding effectively.</p> <p>The group will put in place a commissioning framework to ensure the successful procurement of family support services.</p> <p>A procurement sub group will be set up to implement the commissioning framework.</p>	<p>Outcomes Group members</p> <p>CYPSP Integrated Commissioning Sub Group</p> <p>Procurement sub group.</p>	<p>Co-ordinated funding streams</p> <p>Resources will be allocated effectively</p> <p>Services commissioned to meet identified needs and improve outcomes for children</p>
Partnership building	The Group will continue to build a partnership across statutory, voluntary, community and BME sectors.		

Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people
Support, develop and maintain locality planning groups across the area to carry out outcomes based planning	Locality planning groups are currently carrying out outcomes based planning in Armagh City, Banbridge and Dungannon. A locality planning group in South Armagh is being supported by the CAWT process. Discussions are taking place with Newry and Mourne Council to make connections to their developing Children's strategy.	Locality Development Officer Locality Planning Group Chairs All members	Support, develop and maintain locality planning groups across the area to carry out outcomes based planning
Support, develop and maintain family support hubs across the area	Family Support hubs are currently being implemented across the Southern area.	Family Support Hub Developer Lead Family Support Hubs All members	Increased co-ordination and services better targeted to families

High Level Outcome: *Healthy*

**What we will do: Develop and provide on an integrated basis, a range of family support interventions, that are practical, sustainable, community based and empower families.
Give all 0-6 year olds the best start in life, based on equality of opportunity**

What do we know about children and young people...

Quantitative Information

- *According to mid-year estimates for 2010 there are 92,162 children under 18 living in the Southern Outcomes area this is 25.6% of the total population.*
- *Births continue to increase in the Southern Outcomes Area year on year.*
- *46% of mothers were breast feeding at discharge from Hospital in 2010/11 in the Southern Outcomes Group area - the NI average is 45% - Wards in the Southern Area with the lowest rates were Court and Drumnamoe both 24%*

Qualitative Information

Through the consultation and locality groups it was highlighted that SureStart type services are very limited to specific ward areas throughout the Southern Outcomes Area

“Parent to parent support gives parents the confidence to overcome barriers with their children/young people” (Homestart).

Outcomes Group Members and Locality Planning Groups in the Southern Outcomes Area all identified the following as key priorities: Parental

- Uptake of MMR at 24 months was 91.6% compared with the NI average of 95.6% in 2010/11
- In 2011, 31% of 0-2 year olds and 70% 3-5 year olds are registered with a dentist – NI average was 30% and 70% respectively. Highest ward in the Southern Area for 0-2 and 3-5 is Augher 50.6% and 89.7% - lowest for 0-2 is Drumalane 16.9% and 3-5 Drumgor 41% overall in NI the ward with the highest 0-2 year olds registered with dentists was White Rock (Belfast) – 9.6% while Ballyhanwood (Belfast) – 56%
For 3-5 year olds overall in NI Drumgor was the lowest (41%) and Armoy (Northern) was the highest (97.7%)
- 5.4% of P1 pupils are obese in 2008/09 while 17.6% are overweight compared with 5.3% and 17.4% overall in NI
- In 2009 4.2% of the population are from A8 countries – NI average is 2.2%
- Approximately 45% of all Traveller Families known are currently living in the Southern Outcomes Area.
- There have been a total of 22 Child deaths by suicide in the Southern Outcomes area since 2005 to date

Support, Family Support for vulnerable families and Mental Health

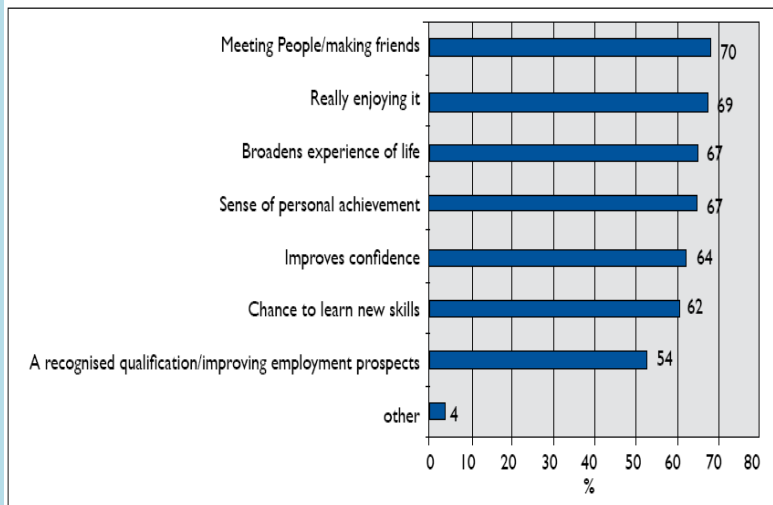
High Level Outcome: Healthy					
Priority: To ensure that all young children get the best possible start in life, have good mental health and are school ready. This should start as early as possible i.e. at pre-natal stage.					
Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other High Level outcomes	By when
1: To identify where overlaps and gaps exist in Early Years and Family Support Services and provide direction on the targeting.	To carry out a mapping exercise, using the Family Support Database and other sources of relevant information	Child-Care Partnership	Families living outside of Surestart areas are able to access level 2 family support services when required	Enjoying, Learning and Achieving; Living in Safety and with Stability: Living in a Society which Respects their Rights	2013
	To identify models of good practice that would assist in meeting this outcome	All members			
	To take cognisance of ongoing research/mapping exercises	Family Support Database	Increase numbers of families from BME and rural areas accessing Family Support services		
	To link with Family Support Hubs to highlight areas of unmet need on a quarterly basis.	Colm McCafferty Maurice Leeson			

High Level Outcome: Healthy					
Priority: To enable all parents / carers to receive the help and support they need to empower them to parent					
Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other High Level outcomes	By when
2.To Support and facilitate parental access to a range of universal parenting	To collate a directory of parenting programmes that are available and accessible across the age and level of need continuum which will be made available to all practitioners to enable ease of referrals	Parenting NI Outcomes Group Members	Strengthen parent/child relationships which will improve children's health, well-being and development Earlier access to community based family support services	Enjoying, Learning and Achieving; Living in Safety and with Stability Living in a Society which Respects their Rights	September 2012
	To help inform the commissioning of services in the community sector to target gaps in provision parenting programmes and / or highlight lack of provision in areas	Outcomes Group Members	Improved access and uptake by parents to parenting courses		
	Raise awareness of parenting programmes by providing a series of presentations/ workshops to practitioners/key agencies, about benefits of referring parents to parenting courses	Parenting NI Outcomes Group Members			December 2012

High Level Outcome: Healthy					
Priority: To enable all parents / carers to receive the help and support they need to empower them to parent					
Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other High Level outcomes	By when
	Raise awareness and promote access to a range of universal programmes such as HCHF	Outcomes Group Members			Ongoing
3. To work collaboratively and in partnership to promote good mental health from a very young age	To raise awareness of existing strategies and services that promote positive mental health	Infant Mental Health Strategy Hidden Harm Group, Protect Life Regional EBD Subgroup (Paedar White Lead)	Improve how the family functions as a unit Improved relationships within families Children are less vulnerable	Enjoying, Learning and Achieving; Living in Safety and with Stability; Living in a Society which Respects their Rights;	Ongoing
4. Address isolation issues for families	To explore evidence base for volunteer mentoring for families with potential to establish a pilot	Link with other organisations	Increased safety and stability for children Improve/address issues of isolation of families in rural areas	Contributing Positively to Community and Society; Experiencing Economic and Environmental Well-Being	Ongoing

<p>High Level Outcomes</p>	<p><i>Contributing positively to community and society</i></p> <p><i>Living in Safety and with Stability</i></p>
<p>What we will do: <i>We will work collaboratively on promoting positive images of young people Improve engagement with and for ALL our young people in their community and with regard to good citizenship</i></p>	
<p>What do we know about children and young people...</p>	
<p>Quantitative Information</p>	<p>Qualitative Information</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39% of young people aged 4 – 18 were participating in Youth Activities in 2010 • In 2011 a total of 1252 Children & Young people aged 10-17 came to the attention of the Police for Offending behaviour in PSNI E District* with Theft, Common assault and Criminal Damage being highest recorded offence. • In 2011 a total of 1667 Children & Young people aged 0 – 17 came to the attention of the police for non-offending behaviour – including Concern for Safety, Missing Persons, Anti Social Behaviour and Rowdy Nuisance. • <i>Young Life and Times Survey 2009 with 857 16 year olds chosen at random gave the answers below to the question What benefits do you get from volunteering?</i> <p>*Excludes Dungannon</p>	<p>A recent report (March 2012) based on the views of 141 Millennium Volunteers. The majority of young people surveyed said that they could contribute a significant change in the following areas of their life due to volunteering as a Millennium Volunteer- Increase in confidence (92%), feeling that they were making a useful contribution (89%), ability to organise their time (78%). 69% said that volunteering had increased their ability to get paid work and 67% believed it would increase their chances of getting a university / college place. 97% said that they would recommend volunteering to their friends and the same number said that they would recommend the Millennium Volunteers programme to other young people. Across all age groups those people that come from poorer backgrounds will be less likely to volunteer (It's All About Time, 2007). Northern Ireland based research has shown that young people from poorer backgrounds can benefit most from this experience and the benefits it can offer, including given young people the</p>

- *Young Life and Times Survey 2009 with 857 16 year olds chosen at random gave the answers below to the question What benefits do you get from volunteering?*



opportunity to meet people from different cultures / religions.

The Prince's Trust has also launched a campaign to tackle negative perceptions about young people. In November 2008, it claimed that three out of five press stories about teenagers were negative - but pointed out that young people were more likely to be the victims of crime than the perpetrators.

- A Good Childhood, The Children's Society, 2009 found that 72% of adults surveyed feel nervous, threatened or scared when they see young people wearing hoodies in the street. Prince's Trust "Truth About Youth" survey, November 2008
- 55% of adults thought there was more conflict between adults and children now compared to when they were young. The Children's Society, Good Childhood Inquiry 2009

**Outcomes Group Members and Locality Planning Groups identified the following key themes as:
Early Intervention for family support, Anti social behaviour**

Outcomes: Contributing positively to community and society; Living in Safety and with Stability					
Action:	Implementation Milestones	Lead Person/Other Agency	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other High Level outcomes	By when
1. All young people will have more opportunities to contribute to their communities	Scope with local agencies/organisations what volunteering opportunities they currently offer to young people	Establish a sub group	Young people will have better knowledge of the personal development that they would gain from volunteering. They will be more aware of how the wider community benefits from volunteers, and what opportunities are available to them.	Contributing Positively to Community and Society; Enjoying, Learning and Achieving ; Experiencing Economic and Environmental Well-	January – March 2013
	Make links with the Volunteer Bureau and Volunteer Now and link with other outcomes groups about this action	All member agencies			Ongoing
	Scope with young people what opportunities there are currently or they would like to have available for them contribute to their community	Locality Planning Groups with other key agencies/groups	Increase of young people involved in initiatives which promote good citizenship Greater personal development Mutual understanding		March – June 2013

Outcomes: <i>Contributing positively to community and society; Living in Safety and with Stability</i>					
Action:	Implementation Milestones	Lead Person/Other Agency	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other High Level outcomes	By when
	Increase volunteering opportunities and other ways for young people to contribute positively to their community through improved relationships across sectors	All Outcomes Group Members Agencies	Young People feel that they are recognised as productive members of society Young people are engaged in positive activities	Being; Living in a Society which Respects their Rights	Ongoing
	Support locality planning groups to organise voluntary fairs to increase awareness and benefits of volunteering	Outcomes Group Members Locality Groups			June 2013
2. All children and young people are valued as members of their community and their successes and	To make links with and support existing initiatives which celebrate and value children and young people's contributions to their community	CYPSP Subgroups, Outcomes Groups, Establish sub group	Children and young people who are making a contribution to their community will have that contribution recognised. Greater personal development Helps to improve their Curriculum Vitae		Ongoing

Outcomes: <i>Contributing positively to community and society; Living in Safety and with Stability</i>					
Action:	Implementation Milestones	Lead Person/Other Agency	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other High Level outcomes	By when
contributions are celebrated			Mutual understanding Young People feel that they are a recognised member of their community	As Above	
	Each Outcomes Group member agency will have a minimum of two positive stories about children and young people in the local media	Outcomes Group Members, Regional Sub Groups	A positive image of young people will be portrayed in the media. Recognition that young people's contribution is valued. Young people will be encouraged to engage and participate in positive activities.		June 2012- June 2013
	The Group will develop an events/press release planner				September 2012
	Support and develop intergenerational programmes involving children, young people and older people.	Outcomes Group, Locality Planning Groups	Intergenerational work - Mutual understanding and respect for each other in their community Build more positive relationships		Ongoing

High Level Outcome: Enjoying, Learning and Achieving

What we will do: We will work together to enhance the achievements of all children throughout their time in education, training and into employment

What do we know about children and young people...

Quantitative:

- 4.9% of Primary school pupils and 10.7% of Post-Primary pupils had less than 85% attendance at school in 2010/2011 in the SELB Area while the overall NI percentages are 4.5% and 10.9% respectively
- SELB Area has the highest % of Children achieving level 5 at Key Stage 3 in English, Maths and Science.
- 74.7% left school with 5 or more GCSEs (A*-C) in 2011 while 2.4% left school with No GCSEs in 2011 the NI average for this year were 73.3% and 2.2% respectively
- There were a total of 5232 school leavers in SELB area in 2010. 4177 (79.8%) went on to Higher or Further Education, 278 (5.3%) went on to employment, 534 (10.2%) went on to Training and 243 (4.6%) were not in education, employment or training, compared with NI

Qualitative:

Young people involved in positive education, training and employment are less likely to offend or, if they do so, are likely to desist

"Truancy and low school attendance resulting in poor educational attainment ultimately has an impact on a young person's contribution to society, their understanding of the impact of their actions on others and their influence on the next generation. This is also recognised as a risk factor leading to involvement in antisocial or criminal behaviour and may be an indicator of potential neglect" (PSNI).

The Outcomes Group Members and Locality Planning Groups identified the following as key themes; Young people leaving education, those young people not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

average of 75% going to Higher or Further Education, 7% to employment, 11.8% to training and 6% were not in Education, Employment or training.

Outcome: Enjoying, Learning and Achieving					
Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other outcomes	By when
1. Provide support for parents/carers, children and young people to understand the importance of attending and fully participating in education and training	1a). To develop a multi agency campaign to highlight the importance of school attendance The campaign to be piloted selected ward areas and an evaluation carried out	Regional Task Group on Educational Attendance to be formed with membership of other Outcomes Groups	Increase the educational attendance Reduce barriers to accessing education and training Parents/carers will be more involved in their child's/young person's education/training	Living in Safety and with Stability; Contributing Positively to Community and Society; Living in a Society which Respects their Rights	September 2013 to June 2014
	1a).To provide information and support to enable parents to have a better understanding of the education system		Raise aspirations and improve attainment Parents, carers children and young people will value the importance of education and training		September 2013 to June 2014
	Link with other outcomes groups to address this action				Ongoing
2. Begin to raise aspirations and expectation within communities	Develop opportunities for young people to learn work ready essential skills and experience work placements	Regional Task Group	The aspirations of the children, young people, parents and the wider community will be raised Young people will be more work		By April 2014

Outcome: Enjoying, Learning and Achieving					
Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	Other outcomes	By when
	Support the production of a DVD involving young people which will reinforce messages of aspirations/attainment	Set up a task group	ready There will be more opportunities for young people to gain work placements		
	Explore the potential across agencies and the private sector to offer work placements	Outcomes group Members	Young people will have the opportunity to develop alternative skills such as media skills		

Outcome: Living in a Society that Respects Their Rights

What do we know about children and young people....

Quantitative:

- *25.6% of the population in Southern Outcomes Area are Children and Young People*
- *In 2009 4.2% of the population are from A8 countries – NI average is 2.2%*
- *Approximately 45% of all Traveller Families known are currently living in the Southern Outcomes Area.*

Qualitative:

A culture where the views of our children and young people are routinely sought in matters which impact on their lives.” [Our Children and Young People - Our Pledge, a ten year strategy for children and young people in Northern Ireland, OFMDFM, 2006](#)

Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (ratified by UK Government in 1989) which states all children and young people have a voice in any decisions affecting them and their views should be respected.

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act (1998) which places particular duties on statutory authorities to take account the impact of their services and policies on children and young people.

It is within this legislative context that a number of organisations, including [Save the Children](#), the [Youth Council for Northern Ireland](#), the [Northern Ireland Youth Forum](#), [YouthNet](#) and [Children in Northern Ireland](#) undertook a feasibility study in relation to children and young people's participation in decision making. The publication, [Turning Up the Sound](#) (2005), provided evidence that children and young people are interested in engaging with decision makers, and that decision makers appreciate their opinions. The main obstacle to effective engagement was the lack of appropriate mechanisms (Participation Network, 2012)

Outcome: Living in a Society that Respects Their Rights					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
1. Involve children and young people in the planning process	Implement the CYPSP participation strategy for children and young people locally	Participation Network, Locality Planning Groups, Outcomes Group, Regional Sub Groups	Young people's voices will be heard and included in policies and shaping of service delivery Young People will have ownership of the planning process	All outcomes	Ongoing
2. Involve parents in the planning process	Implement the CYPSP participation strategy for parents locally	Parenting NI Southern Parents Reference Group Outcomes Group	Parent's voices will be heard and included in policies and shaping of service delivery Parents will have ownership of the planning process	All outcomes	Ongoing
3. Service development should promote good relations and take cognisance of equality and diversity issues	Take cognisance of section 75	Outcomes Group Locality Planning Groups Family Support Hubs	ALL children and young people are valued, respected and included	All outcomes	Ongoing