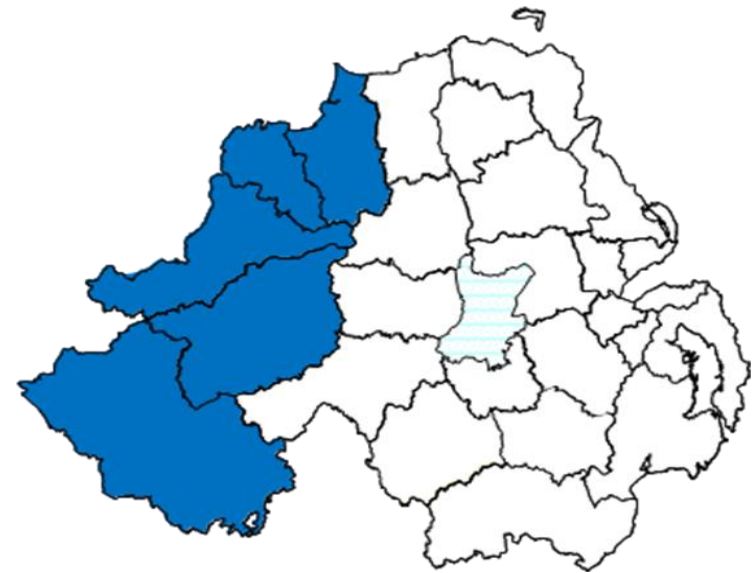


WESTERN OUTCOMES GROUP ACTION

PLAN 2011-2014

FINAL DRAFT JUNE 2012



INTRODUCTION

The Western Outcomes Group, as a sub group of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP), met for the first time on 30 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 Western 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 Western 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.



Overarching Statement of the Western Outcomes Group

The Western Outcomes Group will promote better outcomes for children by supporting parents & carers in their role as they nurture their children's physical, social, emotional and intellectual development. We will strive to reduce inequalities by working together to create communities where children, young people and families are safe and secure and can reach their full potential

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 Procurement sub group.</p>	<p>Co-ordinated funding streams Resources will be allocated effectively Services commissioned to meet identified needs and improve outcomes for children</p>

Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014
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Actions:	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people
Partnership building	The Group will continue to build a partnership across statutory, voluntary, community and BME sectors.		
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 Derry, Fermanagh, Limavady, Omagh and Strabane	Locality Development Officer Locality Planning Group Chairs All members	
Support, develop and maintain family support hubs across the area	Family Support hubs are currently operating across the Western Outcomes Group area. These will be supported and linkages to the Outcomes Group	Lead Family Support Hubs All members	Increased co-ordination and services better targeted to families

Outcome: Healthy

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

Quantitative:

- *There are 76,164 children under 18 living in the Western Outcomes Area – this is 25% of the total population (Mid-Year Estimates for 2010)*
- *Low Birth Weight Rates were 62.5 per 1000 live births 2010/11 – Overall in NI it was 61 per 1000*
- *39.1% of Mums were breastfeeding their babies on discharge from hospital the NI average was 44.7%*
- *16% of Mums Reported Smoking During Pregnancy: in 2011 in the Western Outcomes Group compared with 17% overall in NI*
- *Uptake of MMR at 24 months was 94.6% in 2010/11*
- *Dental Registrations of 0-2 year olds was 31% in 2011 the NI percentage for that year was 30,3%*
- *Dental Registrations of 3-5 year olds: 70% in 2011 overall in NI it was also 70%*
- *5.3% of Primary One Pupils in 2008/09 were obese this was equal to the NI average, while 18.6% were overweight in 2008/09 – the NI average was 17.2% for that year*

Qualitative:

6% of children are affected by a disability in Northern Ireland. Prevalence of disabilities is higher amongst boys than girls, 8% of boys aged 15 and under had a disability compared with 4% of girls on the same age. Most common types are linked to chronic illnesses, learning difficulties and social/behavioural difficulties (NISALD NISRA Prevalence survey 2006/07)

The Bamford Report estimates that 10% of the children and young people in Northern Ireland will have a moderate to severe mental health problem (Bamford Report 2006)

Over 30% of all domestic violence starts during pregnancy (Women's Aid Federation NI)

There is overwhelming evidence that early years intervention can transform the lives of children, families and communities particularly where socio-economic disadvantage exists (Hosking and Walsh, 2010)

- There have been a total of 18 Child deaths by suicide in the Western Outcomes area since 2005 to 2010.
- There have been a total of 60 Child deaths by accident in the Western Outcomes area since 2005 to 2010 (highest in NI).

Outcome: Healthy					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Aggregate data collection for children & young people from marginalised groups	Enhanced data collection could be used in planning & to inform funding sources as increased knowledge of data will avoid fluctuation in funding streams and a more even spread of funding.	DE WHSC Trust Disability Groups Childcare Partnership Regional Outcomes Group	Planning for marginalised children & young people will be more informed & better implemented which may drive systemic change for the future	Healthy, Enjoying, Achieving & Learning, Experiencing Economic & Environmental Wellbeing	On Going
Develop coherent health messages & advice in relation to preparation of parenthood at pre-natal & post-natal stages through statutory & community provision which targets mother, father, partner & extended family.	Reshape current parent craft classes	Outcomes Group LPGs Health Service PHA Community / Voluntary Groups	Minimise escalation of stresses. Health information is protective and preventive for the future	All Outcomes	By 2014
	Achieve the actions identified in the Infant mental health strategy year 2 action plan	Infant Mental Health Strategy			

Outcome: Healthy					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Develop appropriate parenting education strategy. Promote a culture of positive parenting	Agree terms of reference	Childcare Partnership Outcomes Group LPGs Health Service PHA Community / Voluntary Groups DE Sure Start	If this is started early enough, negative patterns of behaviour which are set early in life can be avoided. Also to show an improvement is parent – child interaction which is crucial to a child's learning & development. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking in pregnancy • Teenage Pregnancy • School Non-Attendance • Low birth weight babies 	All Outcomes	By December 2013
	Map what is currently available				
	Reviewed existing service delivery				
	Agree coherent evaluation outcomes for parenting programmes				
Gathering Effective Early Intervention Models/ Practices	Continue to gather information on model/practice of early intervention currently being rolled out across the area. Develop Outcomes group as a forum for knowledge exchange & translation	PHA, Speech & Language, Outcomes Group members, Sure Starts	Building common approaches among stakeholders will address gaps in service provision & more targeted support for families that require it.	All Outcomes	By December 2012

Outcome: Healthy					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Promoting Speech, Language and Communication skills	Monitor the implementation of the Infant Mental Health Strategy and other related strategies	Outcomes Group, LPGs, Childcare Partnership, Infant Mental Health Strategy Group		All Outcomes	On Going
	To be developed further				
Build Resilience Within Families	Build capacity and resilience within families to ensure they can access support services. Families with complex needs are provided with a coordinated range of services when required.	Outcomes Group Members; Locality Planning Groups; Family Support Hubs; Family Support Data Base	They will have a more coordinated approach to family support services	All Outcomes	On Going
			Children will be more ready to deal with life challenges		

Outcome: Healthy					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Develop a mechanism for targeted support for those families that need it that is matched to the family, which is timely, practical & localised.	Develop a consistent approach to enhance family support hubs	Outcomes Group Link Person	Children and young people will receive the appropriate services they need in a timely fashion	All Outcomes	On going
Ensure That Families Are Aware of the Family Support Services	Promote the Family Support Information System	All Members, Family Support Database manager, LPG members	Families are aware of the local services that are available to them	All Outcomes	On Going
	Evidence the usage of the Information System by receiving 6 monthly update				
Monitor and ensure implementation of the emotional mental health strategy	To be developed	CAMHs; Community /Voluntary Groups		All Outcomes	By April 2014
Improve Dental Registration Rates of Children	To be developed	Dentists PHA Trust	There will be an increased number of children and young people registered		By April 2014

Outcome: Enjoying, Learning and Achieving

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

Quantitative:

- *In 2010/11 5.1% of primary and 11.7% of post-primary pupils had less than 85% attendance in WELB area compared with 4.5% and 10.9% respectively overall in NI. Poorest rates Primary School is in Devinish 19.4% and Post Primary School is Coolessan 29.7%.*
- *73.8% of schools leavers in WELB area gained 5 or more GCSEs (A*-C grades) in 2011 – the NI average was 73.3% in 2011*
- *2.4% of school leavers in WELB area left school with no GCSEs in 2011 which is slightly higher than the NI average of 2.2%*
- *There were a total of 4090 school leavers in WELB area in 2010. 3136 (76.7%) went on to Higher or Further Education, 228 (5.6%) went on to employment, 551(13.5%) went on to Training and 175 (4.3%) were not in education, employment or training (lowest in NI)*

Qualitative:

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, 2012).

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

Outcome: Enjoying, Learning and Achieving					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Develop Support for Families During Transition Periods	Develop and co-ordinate support for families around relationship building in the transition years:- Home - preschool – primary – post primary – further education – adulthood	DENI Transitions Subgroup Family Support Hubs Com/Vol Groups LPG	Families are aware and engaging at each transitional stage of their child's life	Living in Safety and with Stability, Health , Economic and Environmental Wellbeing	On Going
Identify key aspects of the Sure Start Model and ensure they are replicated in other areas	Explore the implementation of key aspects of the Sure Start model in areas which do not have one, particularly in the rural areas.	WCCP Com/Vol Groups LPG DARD Local Council	Families living outside of Surestart areas are able to access level 2 family support services when required	Healthy, Living in Safety and with Stability	By April 2014
Ensure the development and promotion of coherent messages for school readiness (for parents and for services) by promoting the linkages between different strategies	Highlight through the Outcomes Group the growing number of children that are starting school without the necessary skills to allow them to learn	DENI	Children are ready for formal education and ready to learn and participate in school life The Formal education establishments are ready for the child	Healthy, Living in Safety and with Stability	By April 2014

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Outcome: Enjoying, Learning and Achieving					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Promote Mentoring for Young People	Actively promote youth mentoring to address the issues of family fragmentation and social issues	Multi agency approach via community/voluntary sector, Neighbourhood Renewal	Less school absenteeism	Living in Safety and with Stability, Healthy, Contributing Positively to Community and Society	By December 2013
	Promote positive male role models and increase the number of male mentors		Decrease in drug and alcohol misuse		
	Intergenerational mentors		Less anti social behaviour Positive change of attitude towards young people		

Outcome: Living in Safety and with Stability

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

Quantitative:

- *3.1 per 1000 Children & Young People are registered on the Child Protection Register with 20% re-registered in 2010/11 the NI averages were 5.6% and 13.5% respectively*
- *5.3 per 1000 Children & Young People are Looked After Children, overall the NI percentage was 5.8 per 1000 in 2010/11*
- *Western Outcomes Area have the 2nd highest Domestic Abuse Offences and 1.6 per 1000 Children & Young People who are victims of Domestic Violence*
- *In 2010/11 135 Children & Young People from Western Outcomes Area were injured on the roads.*

Qualitative:

Domestic violence is a violation of Article 5 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights – that “no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”.

The joint NIO, DHSSPS Strategy “Tackling Violence at Home” estimates that the cost of domestic violence in Northern Ireland, including the potential loss of economic output, could amount to £180 million each year.

UNICEF research released in 2006, showing per capita incidence, indicates that there are up to 32,000 children and young people living with domestic violence in Northern Ireland PSNI Statistics for 2010/11 indicate they responded to a domestic incident every 23 minutes of every day of the year. The Bamford Report estimates that 10% of the children and young people in Northern Ireland will have a moderate to severe mental health problem (Bamford Report 2006)

Outcome: Living in Safety and with Stability					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Develop links and influence Regional and local strategies relating to vulnerable children	Link with and influence e.g. - Domestic Violence Strategy -Hidden Harm Strategy -Think Child Think Parent - Bullying - Drug and Alcohol	Outcomes Group members	More joined up approach linking all strategies therefore working more cohesively together for better outcomes for children	All Outcomes	By April 2013
Coordinate a mechanism for improved collaborative work focusing on children and young people with Mental Health or Learning Disability In Young People	Ensure there is a range of accessible, flexible services designed for young people particularly those who have mental health problems or a learning difficulty.	Outcomes Group, Family Support Hubs, Locality Planning Groups, Link with Bamford Review Group	Awareness of services available and accessible to the young people	All Outcomes	By April 2014
			Positive mental health and well being		
			Decrease in referrals to CAMHS		

Outcome: Experiencing Economic and Environmental Well Being

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

Quantitative:

- 1.2% of Children & Young People live in overcrowded accommodation
- 679 families with 1121 children and 28 young people aged 16 to 18 were awarded statutory homeless in 2010/11
- 119 Families with 216 Children were living in temporary accommodation in 2010/11
- Approximately 24% of children are living in absolute low income poverty (Highest NI) the NI average was 16% in 2008/09
- There has been a rise in the % of Lone Parent families relying on JSA and Income Support

Qualitative:

There is a correlation between levels of deprivation and criminality, antisocial behaviour and paramilitary activity, requiring early intervention, and some form of targeted investment in training and employment opportunities, to support vulnerable children and young people not in education or training. Therefore a multi-agency approach is required in the development of support mechanisms for young people getting into employment/further education. (PSNI, 2012)

“There needs to be more opportunity for education, training and entrepreneurial skills for young people” (Home Start Lakeland)

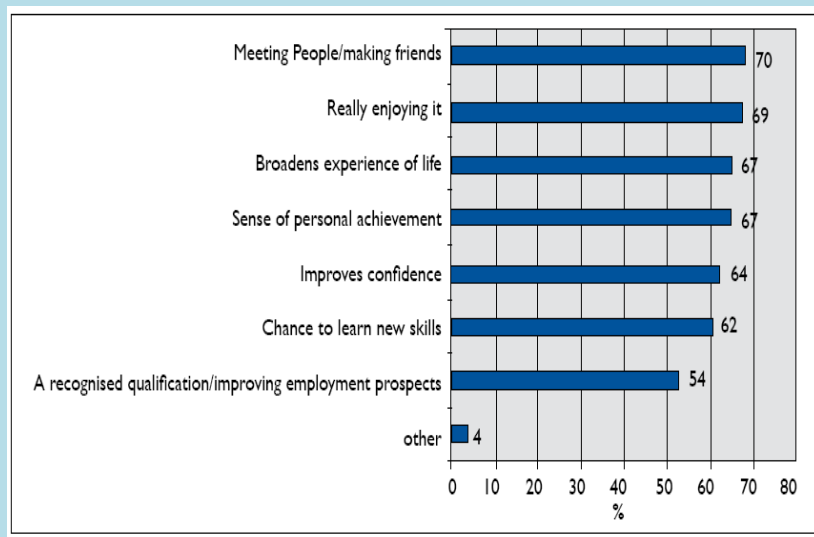
Outcome: Experiencing Economic and Environmental Well-Being					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Develop a focus on specific issues of rurality	Identify issues for families arising from rural poverty, access to services and isolation	Locality Planning Groups, (Regionally) Outcomes Group, Parents Reference Group	Comparison of the ward level indicators can show if there is a difference in a child's outcomes if they reside in a rural or urban area	All Outcomes	December 2013
	Liaise with DARD, Rural Community Network and Governmental Sub Groups				
Develop a focus on specific issues of urban	Identify issues for families in urban areas e.g. poverty	Locality Groups, Outcomes Groups, Parents Reference Group	Comparison of the ward level indicators can show if there is a difference in a child's outcomes if they reside in a rural or urban area	All Outcomes	December 2013

Outcome: Contributing Positively to Community and Society

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

Quantitative:

- *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?*



- *36% of Children & Young People in Belfast Outcomes area aged 4 – 18 participate in youth activities*

Qualitative:

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 opportunity to meet people from different cultures / religions.

- *In 2011 a total of 1841 Children & Young people aged 10-17 came to the attention of the Police for Offending behaviour in PSNI F & G Districts* with Criminal Damage being highest recorded offence followed by common assault and motoring.*
 - *In 2011 a total of 2718 Children & Young people aged 0 – 17 came to the attention of the police for non-offending behaviour – including Concern for Safety, Missing Persons, Possession of Alcohol, Anti Social Behaviour and Rowdy Nuisance.*
- Children and young people with a disability need to enjoy a range of experiences and opportunities in and contributing to their local community (Positive Futures)*

Outcome: Contributing Positively to Community and Society					
Action	Implementation Milestone	Lead Person/Other Group	What Difference will it make to children and young people	Other Outcomes	By When
Promote volunteering for young people and also in the children's sector	Volunteering opportunities to be promoted across all children and family services.	Locality Planning Groups,	Give Young People a sense of contribution	Living in Safety and with Stability,	By June 2013
	Ensure quality standards	Participation Network	Increase job prospect	Healthy,	
	Link with Volunteer Now		Better empathy and understanding of community	Living in a Society which Respects Their Rights	
Identify and Co-ordinate the range of activities available for children and young people and services for parents and families across all sectors and organisations to promote positive behaviours, promote life chances of hard to reach children	Identify gaps both in terms of geographical areas and age	All Outcomes Group members; LPGs; Family Support Hubs; CYPSP Regional sub group – children at risk of offending	Reduction in offending rates Reduction in the number of referrals to YJA Children, young people and families are more aware of services that are available to them	Living in Safety and with Stability	By April 2013

Outcome: Living in a Society that Respects Their Rights

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

Quantitative:

- *25% of the population in Western Outcomes Area are Children and Young People*
- *In 2009 1.5% of the population are from A8 countries*
- *Approximately 11% of Traveller Families are living in the Western 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
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
Involve parents in the planning process	Implement the CYPSP participation strategy for parents locally	Parenting NI Western Parent Forum 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
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