

Review of 2011-2014 Children's Services Plan, Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014

1. Purpose of Children's Services Plans Plan's

The Children (1995 Order) (Amendment) (Children's Services Planning) Order 1998 requires every Health and Social Services Board to prepare and publish plans for the provision of children's services within its area and to keep those plans under review. In preparing or updating its plans, a Health and Social Services Board is required to consult Health and Social Services trusts, education and library boards, district councils, certain voluntary organisations, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, the Probation Board for Northern Ireland, the police and other relevant bodies. The Department of Health and Social Services may require a Health and Social Services Board's plan to be submitted to it at any time.

Children's Services Planning Guidance 1998 (DHSS/DENI/NIO) identifies the purpose of Children's Services Plans as

- Promote the welfare of children
- Clarify strategic objectives in relation to services;
- Promote integrated provision of services and effective use of available resources
- Ensure consistency of approach to planning by HSS Boards and HSS Trusts
- Promote a high standard of coordination and collaboration between HSS Boards and HSS Trusts across Board and Trust areas and between social care and health services;
- Establish a high standard of co-ordination and collaboration between HSS Boards and HSS Trusts and other agencies and organisations which have a contribution to make to effective provision of local services;

- Facilitate joint commissioning by agencies when this is seen as appropriate to meet the needs of children

The guidance also established that it was important that the development of CSPs is integrated with other planning cycles within the HSS Board (e.g. the HSS Board's purchasing Plan, Strategy for Child Health Services etc.) and other agencies and that the CSP makes clear its relationship to such other plans".

2. Role of Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

The CYPSP is a cross-sectoral, strategic partnership, consisting of the leadership from all key agencies who have responsibility for improving outcomes for all children and young people in NI.

3. Purpose of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

- 3.1 To put in place integrated planning and commissioning across agencies and sectors, which is recorded through the Children and Young People's Plan, aimed at improving wellbeing and the realisation of rights of children in NI, in relation to the six outcomes for children:
 - Being healthy;
 - Enjoying, learning and achieving;
 - Living in safety and with stability;
 - Experiencing economic and environmental wellbeing;
 - Contributing positively to community and society; and
 - Living in a society which respects their rights.
- 3.2 To ensure that the CYPSP will be informed by and inform individual organisational business, corporate and community plans.

- 3.3 To ensure the participation and involvement of children, young people, families and communities in the integrated planning process.

- 3.4 To ensure an effective and efficient, fully mandated structure which is representative of all key stakeholders is in place to carry out the work of the partnership.

4. CYPSP strategic themes 2011-2014

Strategic themes for CYPSP			
Early intervention	Communicating with Government	Integration of Planning	Optimisation of resources
<p>Designating NI as a site for early intervention</p> <p>Supporting all services across all departments to evidence what they do in regard to this</p>	<p>Suggesting to government that all government departments develop single approach to children and young people</p> <p>Seeking that the Programme for Government supports joint approach to children and young people.</p> <p>In the longer term, seeking coordinated children's budgets/single children's budget</p> <p>In the longer term, seeking a Children's Minister</p>	<p>Connecting people at all levels to map information and evidence</p> <p>Using information (quantitative and qualitative) to make change to improve outcomes</p> <p>Measuring progress</p> <p>Making CYPSP trusted regarding what's going on for children and young people in NI</p> <p>Making CYPSP the trusted Partnership of leaders which can be used to make required change</p>	<p>Coordinating efforts to increase early intervention level of family support</p> <p>Sharing resources, for example; sharing facilities</p> <p>Reviewing and possibly changing use of resources</p> <p>Making sure that any new resources add to existing services and do not replace existing services</p>

5. CYPSP Strategic Action Plan 2011-2014

Actions	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
Activate integrated commissioning to improve outcomes	Outcomes Groups Action Plans agree planning priorities	Outcomes Groups Chairs	Priorities designed to improve high level outcomes in Outcomes Group area	<p>Achieved</p> <p>First Action Plans produced in June 2012. Currently producing second action plans.</p>
	CYPSP agree Action Plans	CYPSP and Outcomes Groups Chairs	Priorities designed to improve high level outcomes in Outcomes Group area	<p>Achieved</p>

	<p>Outcomes Groups agree commissioning priorities and put in place supports and services through commissioning of family support services funded by DHSSPS</p>	<p>Outcomes Groups Chairs</p>	<p>Priorities designed to improve high level outcomes</p>	<p>Achieved.</p> <p>All Outcomes Groups have commissioned additional services.</p>
--	--	-------------------------------	---	--

Actions	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Integrated Commissioning Framework developed	Integrated Commissioning Sub Group Chair	More efficient and joined up use of resources from across funding streams, focusing on early intervention.	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Early Intervention Transformation Project was a response to this priority from Government.</p>
	Integrated Commissioning Framework agreed by CYPSP	Integrated Commissioning Sub Group Chair	More efficient and joined up use of resources from across funding streams made possible by the existence of an integrated commissioning framework.	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Model for integrated commissioning was produced</p>
	Agreements for joined up use of resources across Department	CYPSP chair, communicating with Government Sub Group co-chairs, CYPSP members individually.	Whether or not funding streams can be utilised together will depend on work across CYPSP member agencies and with Departments of Government. For example ,there is a potential to join up the use of resources	<p>Achieved at NI wide level-EITP</p> <p>Some join up of resources at Outcomes Group level ex DSC/Outcomes</p>

			attached to the Community Safety	Group funding integrated to commission Family Support Services some joint initiatives at local level
--	--	--	-------------------------------------	---

Actions	Implementation Milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
			Strategy for early intervention with other funding stream available to other CYPSP Members.	
<p>Agree strategic direction in relation to early intervention and carry out integrated commissioning of early intervention to support better outcomes (this cross references with the set of actions above, and with integrated commissioning carried out through Regional Sub Groups)</p>	<p>Agree joint definition of early intervention</p>	<p>CYPSP Early Intervention Sub Group Chair And CYPSP</p>	<p>An agreed definition of early intervention provides the CYPSP with the basis for integrated planning to improve access to and co-ordination of early intervention, with consequent improvement in outcomes.</p>	<p>Achieved in March 2012</p>

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Carry out scan of early intervention strategies and policies across agency	CYPSP Early Intervention Sub Group Chair	Understanding and linking the strategies and policies which include early intervention will support a more joined up use of the total amount of resources available as well as co-ordination across early intervention supports and services.	Achieved September 2012
	Map existing early intervention supports and services.	CYPSP Early Intervention Sub Group Chair, together with outcomes Groups chairs and Regional Sub Group Chairs.	Understanding the current provision, across NI, of early intervention as defined by the CYPSP will assist in better use of and coordination of existing early intervention and identifying gaps. Supports integrated planning to be carried out by Outcomes Groups and regional Sub Groups.	Work has commenced across the planning groups to deliver this through the Outcome and Regional Groups

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Develop an early intervention Plan, as part of the CYPP, to ensure the availability and co-ordination of early intervention across age ranges	CYPSP Early Intervention Sub Group Chair, together with Outcomes Groups chairs and Regional Sub Groups	Increased availability and co-ordination of early intervention will support improved outcomes for children and young people.	Achieved through planning and commissioning by Outcomes Groups and the work of Family Support Hubs
Develop Family Support Hubs across NI to increase early access to early intervention.	Family Support Hubs in place across Western Outcomes Group area	Western Outcomes Group	Once Family Support Hubs are operating, they will support; 1)Improved access to early intervention family support services by matching the needs of referred families to family support providers; 2)improved coordination of early intervention family	Western Outcomes group Covered Northern Outcomes Area covered
	Family Support Hubs in place across Northern area	Northern Outcomes Group		

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Family Support Hubs in place across Southern area	Southern Outcomes Group	support services by creating a collaborative network of providers; 3) Improved awareness of family support services; 4) A contribution to the assessment of the level of unmet need for early intervention family support services, which will add to the picture built up by the relevant Outcomes Group. (Current Family Support Panels in transition to Hubs)	Southern Outcomes Group Covered

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Family Support Hubs in place across South Eastern area	South Eastern Outcomes Group chair and Family Support Developer		South Eastern Outcomes Group Covered
	Family Support Hubs in place across Belfast area.	Belfast Outcomes Group chair and Family Support Hub developer		Five Hubs established in Belfast Outcomes Group Area. Remaining two to be established before April 2015
	Sharing of practice across Hubs through workshop	Family Support Hub leads and developers, and Family Support Hub anchor organisations	Family Support Hubs need to be working to the same quality standards in order to improve outcomes.	Achieved through Family Support Hubs Regional steering Group and Outcomes Group level Coordinators meetings

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Development of evaluation framework for Family Support Hubs	Family Support Hub leads and developers, and Family Support Hub anchor organisations and Chair Early Intervention Sub Group	The evaluation of Family Support Hubs against quality standards for Hubs and against improved outcomes for children using Hubs is essential in ensuring improves outcomes of children and young people. Existing evaluations and outcome based monitoring of existing provision being collected will assist in building up a picture of where and how quality early intervention supports and services exist in NI.	Achieved March 2014. Report Cards now available

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
			This will assist in putting in place a NI wide network of quality early intervention supports and services, which are co-ordinated with universal services and which each other will support improved outcomes.	
	Monitoring and evaluation of the activity of all family support hubs across the region	Regional Family Support Hub Co-ordinator and Trust Leads	Ensure lead organisations are working to support families at full capacity of service delivery Identify areas for further development and gaps in service provision	Achieved April 2014
Audit quality of current early intervention provision across NI	Audit tool developed	Family Support developer with UNESCO oversight / Chair of Early Intervention Sub Group	An evaluation tool which can be used across all early intervention supports and services will enable comparison across provision, and also in the co-ordination across early intervention supports and services.	Achieved. Family Support evaluation framework developed. Audit of all early intervention services not completed.

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Audit tool implemented	Family Support developer with UNESCO oversight / Chair of Early Intervention Sub Group	Piloting will demonstrate whether the tool is useful for the task	Achieved March 2013
	Evaluation tool developed	Family Support developer with UNESCO oversight / Chair of Early Intervention Sub Group		Achieved March 2013

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Evaluation tool piloted	Family Support developer with UNESCO oversight / Chair of Early Intervention Sub Group		Achieved March 2013
Integrated planning and commissioning to improve outcomes for disadvantaged groups of children and young people	Regional Sub Groups formed	Chairs of regional Sub Groups	Improving outcomes for children and young people at particular disadvantage, for example, disabled children and young people, is needed if outcomes for these children and young people are to approach those of the mainstream population.	Achieved for all regional subgroups

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Action Plans to consultation			Achieved End June 2012
	Final Action plans for sign off to CYPSO	CYPSP		Achieved October 2012
The participation of children and young people in the integrated planning and commissioning process.	Participation Strategy developed	Participation Network and CYPSP	Best models of participation are needed if participation is to be meaningful.	Achieved

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Action Plan for participation across the planning groups.	Participation Network and CYPSP.		Achieved June 2012
	Children and young people involved in all planning groups.			<p>All planning groups have as an underpinning priority the involvement of children and young people. This is achieved to a varying degree by each group depending on the resources available. The Northern Outcomes Group has appointed a Participation officer thereby ensuring a high degree of involvement. December 2012</p>

The participation of parents in the integrated planning and commissioning process.	Participation Strategy developed.	Parenting NI and CYPSP.	Best models of participation are needed if participation is to be meaningful.	Achieved
	Action Plan for participation across the planning groups.	Parenting NI and CYPSP.		June 2012
	Parents involved in all planning groups	Parenting NI and CYPSP.		A parent reference group has been set up in each Outcomes Group area with direct input to the planning process

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
Information of which planning and commissioning is based is up to date and fit for purpose	Outcome Monitoring Report NI for 2010/2011	CSP Information Manager and information staff across CYPSP Member agencies	The information collected together, from across agency, mapped under the 6 outcomes, supports outcomes based planning.	Achieved. Outcome monitoring reports at Regional and Local level prepared and distributed
	Outcome monitoring report NI for 2011/12			
	Outcome Monitoring Report NI for 2012/13			
	Introduction of Interactive mapping system to CYPSP website set out under high level outcomes			
	Outcome Monitoring Reports at Outcomes Group level			Achieved
	Outcomes Monitoring Reports at District Council area, broken down into Ward level where appropriate. These reports will be			Achieved

	continually updated and placed on the CYPSP website.			
--	--	--	--	--

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Refinement of set of indicators to be a child rights set of indicators.	OFMDFM, UNESCO Chairs programme, CSP staff.	A set of indicators which includes child rights will, once used for integrated planning and commissioning, assist Member agencies of the CYPSP to promote children's rights through better planning of supports and services.	<p>November 2012</p> <p>Attended workshops and assisted in identifying core indicators – OFMDFM finalising – not released as yet</p>
	Mapping of all research under the 6 outcomes, to identify research relevant to planning groups and to identify gaps in research.	Research process overseen by UNESCO Chairs. TBC re lead on work required.	It is essential that all relevant research is used in the planning process.	<p>A process to deliver this has not been identified.</p>

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
Communicate effectively with key messages regarding the Partnership's progress, achievements and potential for reducing duplication across agency	Officially launch the Plan to key audiences.	CYPSP Chair and members	The promotion of knowledge about the CYPSP and its purpose amongst key decision makers will support the CYPSP in improving outcomes for children and young people.	November 2012
	Local stakeholder events	Outcomes Group chairs and Outcomes Group	The community sector representatives particularly require a higher level of awareness in local communities of the planning process, in order for more local community input to the planning.	<p>Local Stakeholder events have been held in West/South/North</p> <p>Events to follow in Belfast/South Eastern</p>

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Series of 6 seminars, held jointly with Improving Children's Lives initiative, each one on integrated planning and commissioning in relation to 1 outcome.	Improving Children's Lives, HSCB, PHA and CiNI.	The aim of the series of seminars is to build up a body of shared knowledge across NI of outcomes based planning, which should support the planning process itself and involve more people not currently feeding into it. All of this will enable the planning process to more accurately address the issues in relation to outcomes.	Achieved May 2012 to March 2013

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	How did we do
	Regular electronic E-bulletins across the CYPSP planning structure.	CSP staff, HSCB Communications lead for CYPSP, Communications sub group.		Achieved After each CYPSP meeting, starting June 2012
	Regular e-zine's to the CYPSP external audience.	CSP staff, HSCB Communications lead for CYPSP, Communications sub group.		Achieved Monthly starting June 2012 with leaflets on main aspects of CYPSP work
Regular review of Children and Young People's Plan	1st review	CSP staff collation across planning groups		Achieved
Evaluation of the effectiveness of CYPSP	Devise an evaluation framework	CYPSP Chair		Currently in planning
	Present evaluation framework for consideration of CYPSP			Currently in planning

Actions	Implementation milestones	Lead person/other groups	What difference will it make to children and young people	
	Put in place data collection for evaluation			Currently in planning
	External evaluation			Not required as this is being managed internally