



Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership

Northern Ireland Children and Young People's Plan 2014-17



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Introduction

The CYPSP is a multiagency strategic partnership, consisting of the leadership of all key agencies across statutory, voluntary and community sectors who have responsibility for improving outcomes for all children and young people in NI.

The CYPSP has been developed and supported by HSCB to support the Children's Services Planning process.

The initial CYPSP plan covered the period 2011-2014. In line with the Children's Services Planning Guidance the CYPSP agreed to move its planning cycle to a point where it would align with the Programme for Government and comprehensive spending review.

The Children (1995 Order) (Amendment) (Children's Services Planning) Order (Northern Ireland) 1998 allows for either a modification of an existing plan (2(b)(i)) or a new plan (2(b)(ii)).

This second plan represents a modification of the original plan rather than a brand new plan. It marks a continuation of the strategic direction set by the 2011-2014 plan. The intention of CYPSP will be to produce a substantive new plan to sit within the context of the next Programme for Government and the new Children's Strategy.

Alongside this document a review of the 2011-2014 plan has been produced and agreed by CYPSP.

The overall work of the CYPSP is encapsulated in this plan and the supporting plans produced by the Outcomes, Locality and Regional planning groups. These are all available on our website (www.cypsp.org)



Statutory Basis for Children's Services Planning

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)

The aims of Children's Services Planning as set out in the guidance are as follows-

- Promote the welfare of Children
- Clarify strategic objectives in relation to services
- Promote integrated provision of service and effective use of available resources
- Ensure consistency of approach to planning
- Promote high standard of coordination and collaboration between HSCB and Trusts and between social care and health services
- Establish a high standard of coordination and collaboration between HSCB and Trusts and other agencies and organizations which have a contribution to make to effective provision of local services
- Facilitate joint commissioning by agencies when it is seen as appropriate to meet the needs of children

Purpose of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (NI Children and Young People's Plan)

- a) To develop and maintain integrated planning and commissioning across agencies and sectors, 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 well-being;
 - Contributing positively to community and society; and
 - Living in a society which respects their rights.
- b) To ensure that the CYPSP will be informed by and inform individual organisational business, corporate and community plans.
- c) To ensure the participation and involvement of children, young people, families and communities in the integrated planning process.
- d) 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.
- e) The age group of children and young people addressed by the CYPSP and its planning groups is 0-18years but extended for young people who have been Looked After, those who are homeless and those who have a disability.



Information to Support Outcomes Based Planning for Children and Young People

CYPSP has developed a multi-agency Outcomes Based Accountability information system. The CYPSP Information Team provides information management and support to the working groups. Much work has already taken place in measuring the outcomes for children and young people. Alongside OFMDFM, a set of Core Indicators have been chosen which link to each Outcome, within the Northern Ireland Children's Strategy, with information collated from across a range of agencies. The information has been collected over time, which provides information on whether children's lives are improving or not. This allows the CYPSP to identify issues which need to be addressed, so that we can, together, change supports and services so that indicators start to improve – this can be described as “turning the curve”.

The purpose of the information systems and the information team is to:-

1. Maintain an interactive mapping system linking the OFMDFM agreed indicators to the High Level Outcomes at different geographical levels
<http://www.cypsp.org/maps-demographic/>
2. Maintain an interactive performance system providing the status/performance against the high level outcomes based on the population accountability of the outcomes area measured against a baseline <http://www.cypsp.org/performance-profile/>
3. Provide analyses of need and service provision of Family Support
4. Work with OFMDFM and Departments to support the introduction of child right indicators onto the CYPSP electronic system
5. Provide an information analysis and support function to all CYPSP planning groups
6. Support CYPSP planning groups with the effective monitoring and reporting of progress through the use of a suite of agreed monitoring tools

7. Maintain a comprehensive up to date informative website
8. Maintain information sharing agreements with partner organisations

To view key indicators [click here](#)

Strategic Context for CYPSP Plan

Political Context

New **Programme for Government**

Delivering Social Change policy direction

The potential passing of the **Children's Services Cooperation Bill** into legislation and the creation of a **statutory duty** to cooperate

Outworking of the **UNCRC** examination of UK and NI record on Children's Rights

Introduction of new **Children's Strategy**

Economic Context

The impact of **austerity** and public expenditure reductions on services for children, young people and families

The introduction of **Welfare Reform**

Social Context

The challenge of addressing **Child poverty**



The impact of **Demographic changes** on service delivery

Technological Context

Managing demand for service through **new ways of organising and delivering services**

Increasing the focus of service delivery on **early intervention**

Managing the impact of **organisational and structural change**, for example the new Councils and the creation of the new Educational Authority

Improving the **Outcomes focus** and **evidence base** for service delivery

Interface with Other Multi-Agency Planning Processes

CYPSP aims to avoid duplication and harness the potential of integrated planning. Interface arrangements therefore will be reviewed and where necessary refreshed with-

1. The early years planning process **Child Care Partnerships**
2. Safeguarding children **SBNI**
3. The **Community Safety Partnerships**

Interface arrangements will be developed with-

4. The **Programme for Government** planning cycle
5. The new **Children's Strategy** and the associated monitoring arrangements
6. The **Community Planning** process
7. The new Public Health strategy '**Making Life Better**' planning structure



Core Principles of CYPSP

Being clear that what we do makes a difference through **Outcomes based planning and delivery**

Using **evidence** to underpin planning-Using multi-agency information to drive commissioning and demonstrate impact and effectiveness

Inclusion of children, young people and families in planning and design of services

Incorporation of **children's rights** in planning and delivery of services

Focusing on **Earlier Intervention**

Working to deliver greater **collaboration** and less overlap through **integrated planning and commissioning**

Ensuring an **efficient and effective structure** to support the work

Focus of CSP Plan

The CSP Guidance (July 1998) notes that this process is concerned with children who are in need in the community and is designed “to promote collaboration and coordination between agencies in the planning and delivery of services for vulnerable children and in so doing so builds upon the Children (NI) Order 1995” (1.1).

CYPSP have agreed to focus on Children and young people at risk of poor outcomes who require a multi-agency response. The 2011-14 plan indicated that particular focus should be placed on the following groups whose needs were consistently identified through an analysis of Outcomes Groups plans-

- Young people at risk of poor emotional health and well-being outcomes
- Children and young people at risk of poor education outcomes
- Young people at risk of offending

Two other groups have emerged as focus for Outcomes Group work-

- Disability
- BME

CYPSP has agreed to continue a focus on these groups.

The specific needs of other vulnerable children and young people are considered in the work of the regional subgroups for Young Carers, LAC 16+ and Homelessness, Hidden Harm, Think Family and LGBT.



The CSP Guidance (July 1998) also notes that “CSP’s may well include children who are not ‘in need’ in statutory terms. For the purposes of defining the children included in a CSP a broad interpretation which encompasses all vulnerable children may be useful particularly as the legislative concept of need in the Children Order will not directly correspond with the priorities of non-social services agencies” (6.3)

In this context CYPSP agreed a focus on promoting early intervention. This is defined as –

“Early Intervention is intervening early and as soon as possible to tackle problems emerging for children, young people and their families or with a population at risk of developing problems. Early intervention may occur at any point of a child’s life” (CYPSP Plan 2011-2014)

The intention is to ensure that the needs of vulnerable groups would be addressed not just by a direct focus on their presenting needs but also through developing an early intervention infrastructure that would enable support at a much earlier point in order to prevent the circumstances of families deteriorating to the point where they become ‘children in need’.

Purpose of Children's Services Planning Process

Purpose of CSP as defined by CSP guidance (1998)	2011-2014 Plan	2014-2017 Plan
Promote the welfare of Children	<p>Support to vulnerable children within the wider context of universal service provision.</p> <p>Supporting services to be proactive and identify families who need additional help including those who need access to specialist services</p>	Regional subgroup structure to maintain a focus on vulnerable children
Clarify strategic objectives in relation to services	<p>Promotion of early intervention approach</p> <p>Three core groups for focus-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of offending • Education • Emotional health and well being 	<p>Continue development of early intervention approaches through the Outcomes Groups.</p> <p>Specific work through Outcomes Groups on early intervention needs of vulnerable children</p>
Promote integrated provision of service and effective use of available resources	<p>Coordination and collaboration structure established-</p> <p>CYPSP</p> <p>Outcomes groups</p> <p>Regional subgroups</p> <p>Locality Groups</p>	In this period we will develop a number of models of integrated working at Outcomes Group level

Purpose of CSP as defined by CSP guidance (1998)	2011-2014 Plan	2014-2017 Plan
Ensure consistency of approach to planning	Incorporation of elements of CYPSP plan into agency plans	Incorporation of elements of CYPSP plan into agency plans and improved links to other planning processes
Promote high standard of coordination and collaboration between <i>HSCB and Trusts</i> and between social care and health services	Coordination and collaboration structure established- CYPSP Outcomes groups Regional subgroups Locality Groups	Coordination and collaboration structure maintained and developed- CYPSP Outcomes groups Regional subgroups Locality Groups
Establish a high standard of coordination and collaboration between <i>HSCB and Trusts</i> and other agencies and organizations which have a contribution to make to effective provision of local services	Coordination and collaboration structure established- CYPSP Outcomes groups Regional subgroups Locality Groups	Coordination and collaboration structure maintained and developed- CYPSP Outcomes groups Regional subgroups Locality Groups

Purpose of CSP as defined by CSP guidance (1998)	2011-2014 Plan	2014-2017 Plan
Facilitate joint commissioning by agencies when it is seen as appropriate to meet the needs of children	Successful development of a joint commissioning framework EITP-government response to CYPSP	Continue to identify opportunities to deliver joint commissioning by agencies.



Agreed CYPSP Actions 2014-2016

CYPSP Principles	What we will do	Who will do it
<p>Being clear that what we do makes a difference through</p> <p>Outcomes based planning and delivery</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enable all CYPSP planning groups to demonstrate outcomes and effectiveness with the use of multi-agency information Report Cards. 	<p>Report card Templates will be developed by the CYPSP Information team</p> <p>Implemented by Outcomes Groups/Regional subgroups/Locality Planning Groups/</p>
<p>Using evidence to underpin planning-Using multi-agency information to drive commissioning and demonstrate impact and effectiveness</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enable all CYPSP planning groups to use data more effectively to assess need and monitor trends through the introduction of an area performance profile. 2. Maintain an up to date multi-agency information system 3. Keep a focus on demonstrating effectiveness 4. Demonstrate effective use of qualitative information at Locality level 	<p>Area profile template rolled out to all Outcomes/Locality groups by Information team</p> <p>Implemented by Outcomes Groups/Regional subgroups/Locality Planning Groups</p> <p>Maintenance of information system by information team</p> <p>Locality groups</p>

CYPSP Principles	What we will do	Who will do it
<p>Inclusion of children, young people and families in planning and design of services</p> <p>Incorporation of children's rights in planning and delivery of services</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reposition the CYPSP commitment to participation of children, young people and parents in planning and service development towards a co-design model 2. Incorporate the OFMDFM child right indicators on the CYPSP Information system 	<p>Modelling of new approaches to be undertaken in the BME/Disability/Emotional Health and well-being regional subgroups</p> <p>Work on incorporating child right indicators to be undertaken by information team</p>
<p>Working to deliver greater collaboration and less overlap- Integrated planning and commissioning</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop five models which will deliver new configurations of service delivery at Outcomes Group level 2. Promote the learning from these models across CYPSP member organisations 3. Explore other opportunities across all parts of the structure for integrated working and sharing of 	<p>Outcomes Groups/Regional subgroups/Locality Planning Groups supported by CYPSP Team</p> <p>Integrated working/opportunities for resource sharing-all CYPSP members</p>

CYPSP Principles	What we will do	Who will do it
	<p>resources.</p> <p>4. Improve interfaces/ linkages with other planning process specifically Programme for Government, Community Planning, Children's Strategy and Public Health Strategy.</p> <p>5. Particularly look to opportunities to share resources and expertise across planning interfaces.</p>	
<p>Focussing on Earlier Intervention</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete the evaluation of Family Support Hubs. 2. Develop a 'best practice' model for coordination of early intervention support 3. Develop a 'manual' for Locality Planning to underpin the evidence base for this model of work and promote greater consistency 	<p>Family Support Hub Developer.</p> <p>CYPSP team</p> <p>CYPSP Children's Services Planning Officer</p>

CYPSP Principles	What we will do	Who will do it
	in operation.	
Maintaining an efficient, effective and representative structure	1. Work to continually improve the CYPSP structures to ensure they are able to effectively support the work.	CYPSP Team

What CYPSP has been asked to do?

CYPSP Principles	What we have been asked to do	Who will do it
Being clear that what we do makes a difference through Outcomes based planning and delivery	1. Work with OFMDFM to develop the new children's strategy for Northern Ireland	CYPSP, Outcomes Groups/Regional subgroups/Locality Planning Groups
Incorporation of children's rights in planning and delivery of services	1. Work with OFMDFM to incorporate the children's rights indicators into the information suite held on CYPSP website	CYPSP Information Team
Using evidence to underpin planning- Using multi-agency information to drive commissioning and demonstrate impact and effectiveness Focussing on Earlier Intervention	1. Support EITP to monitor impact of their commissioned interventions. 2. Support the development of EITP Early Intervention service and keep an overview of the links to Family Support Hubs	CYPSP

Communicating our Key Messages on Outcomes Based Planning, Using Evidence and Early Intervention.

What we plan to do	Why are we doing it- Outcome	How will we know if it has made a difference-indicator(s)
Promotion of single outcomes based approach to planning	Greater consistency across CYPSP member agencies and key planning partners in using outcomes based planning	Extent to which member agencies and key partners are adopting outcome based planning
Promoting Learning and knowledge transfer	Initiate and support events to build awareness of the learning from CYPSP work	Number of Workshops/conferences/events and analysis of impact.
Communication to key stakeholders	<p>Continue to build awareness of CYPSP amongst internal and external stakeholders.</p> <p>Dissemination of key messages focusing on 'added value' of CYPSP</p>	Analysis of effectiveness of core communication tools- E-zine/website/publications

Structures for Delivery-CYPSP Planning Groups

CYPSP supports a range of planning groups. CYPSP has reviewed the structure in line with the commitments made in 2011-14 plan.



A governance document has been created and will be amended to reflect any changes that occurred during the 2011-14 period (and subsequently agreed by CYPSP) and any recommendations flowing from the review of structures.

The current agreed structure comprises-

1. One regional **CYPSP**. There are no plans for structural change. An Outcomes Group chair will be added to the core membership of CYPSP. Membership may need to change to reflect the new structures for some member organisations particularly in councils and education. Should the Children's Services Cooperation Bill become law there would need to be a further review of membership.
2. There are **5 Outcomes Groups** focussing on need in specific geographic areas (currently co-terminus with the Health and Social Care Trusts). The purpose of Outcomes Groups is to act as coordination and planning space for early intervention developments in their area. There are no plans for structural change. Need to grant flexibility to chairs to invite representation from other parts of the structure to attend part/all of Outcomes group meetings to improve connectedness. Again, should the Children's Services Cooperation Bill become law there would need to be a further review of membership.
3. There are **30 Locality planning groups** focusing on need at local community level with a specific role in engaging communities in discussion about how organisations can work together to more effectively address need at a local level. Locality planning groups do not cross the new council boundaries. There are no plans for structural or membership change.

4. There are **10 regional subgroups** focussing on need for specific vulnerable groups of children and young people. There is a need to change this part of the structure. The intention with these groups is to move to adopt a 'task and finish' approach to the work rather than the current model of standing groups and to reduce the overall number of groups. We will move to a model of working for regional subgroups which is more clearly directed and mandated by CYPSP with member organisations more explicitly agreeing to focus collectively on certain vulnerable groups. The collective focus will aim to improve the quality of work with vulnerable children, young people and families and improve outcomes.

5. CYPSP has established at different times the following **partnership subgroups**

- a. Early Intervention (standing)
- b. Communicating with Government (evolved into process of engagement with DSC)
- c. Communications (standing)

New subgroups will be established with the agreement of the CYPSP as required and existing subgroups will review their purpose. Groups will consider alternative ways of working (for example e-mail groups).

6. CYPSP **Task and Finish Groups**. Currently none active. Previous Task and Finish groups were

- a. Joint Commissioning (Task and Finish-produced commissioning model)
- b. Social Clauses (Task and Finish-produced paper on social clauses)

New groups will only be established with CYPSP endorsement.

Summary of Actions relating to Structure

What are we planning to do?	Why are we doing it- Outcome	How will we know if it has made a difference- indicator(s)
CYPSP- Add a place for an Outcomes Group Chair to core membership	Maintaining an efficient, effective and representative structure	Improved connections/communication between chairs group and CYPSP
CYPSP-confirm membership with organisations undergoing structural change	Maintaining an efficient, effective and representative structure	Streamlined membership that reflects the needs of member organisations.
Outcomes Groups- flexibility to chairs to invite representation from other parts of the structure to attend part/all of Outcomes group meetings to improve connectedness.	Maintaining an efficient, effective and representative structure	Improved connections/communication between Outcomes group and other parts of CYPSP structure
Regional Subgroups-adopt a 'task and finish' approach with a clearer direction from CYPSP as to	Maintaining an efficient, effective and representative structure	Clearer focus for regional subgroups. Clearer sense of a shared CYPSP ownership of work of regional subgroups

priorities issues to be focussed on		Focus on how greater collaboration can drive quality improvement and better outcomes
Regional Subgroups- Existing groups will undertake a review of purpose against this plan.	Maintaining an efficient, effective and representative structure	Improved connection between the work of the regional subgroups and priorities of CYPSP member organisations
CYPSP subgroups/ Task and Finish Groups- New groups only with CYPSP endorsement	Maintaining an efficient, effective and representative structure	No unnecessary groups established.