# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGY

Wednesday 20 April 2016



### **UPDATE POSITION**

- Project Board (Dept reps, NICCY, NISRA)
- Review of previous Strategy
- Analysis of UNCRC Alternative Reports / List of Issues
- Series of Workshops/ One-to-one meetings
- Met CYPSP Outcomes Groups
- Met Departmental Policy Leads



### **REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STRATEGY**

 Strong in design, development and theory – weaker in implementation, monitoring and delivery.

| Strengths  | Weaknesses  |
|--|---|
| Cross-cutting and recognised need for collaborative working to tackle complex issues | Momentum decreased as funding reduced and Departments reverted to working individually              |
| Helped break down 'silo' culture and encouraged innovative thinking.                 | Difficult to monitor given the range of other interventions available. (other strategies / schemes) |
| Considered barriers and prioritised areas of need.                                   | Actions were general and difficult to measure.  |
| Was long term and focussed on preventative measures / early interventions.           | Other strategies, whilst acknowledging CYP strategy did not necessarily align.                      |
| Respect for the rights of children.  | Needs higher profile across Executive and link / influence other related strategies.                |
| Ambitious.   | Reporting not clear / what has been achieved?   |
|  | First Minister and  |

# REVIEW OF PREVIOUS STRATEGY – LESSONS LEARNED

- Effective and robust monitoring system
- Key cross-departmental priorities
- How government and its stakeholders can work better and more closely
- Key underlying principles:
  - outcomes focussed
  - rights based
  - evidence informed
  - child informed
  - designed with stakeholders



## **ASSESSMENT OF EXISTING INFORMATION**

- Consultation responses DSC for Children and Young People (January 2014)
- UN Report four Children's Commissioners (2015)
- NGO alternative report to UN (2015)
- Young Persons report to UN 'Our Lives in Our Words' (July 2015)
- Human Rights Commission UN report (July 2015)
- UNCRC List of Issues (November 2015)
- Feedback from workshops/CYPSP/Departments
- Engagement with Children and Parents of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and



## **EMERGING THEMES**

- Fully implement the UNCRC so that all our children and young people are seen as "rights holders"
- Empower and equip our children and young people to fulfil their potential as active citizens
  - · Education on rights
  - · Providing opportunities for children and young people to participate in policy development
- Issues that affect the well-being of our children and young people including:
  - · Mental health, Education, Employment,
  - Youth Justice issues, Child poverty,
  - · Transitions, Negative stereotyping,
  - Disabled children issues
  - Homelessness
  - Looked after children
  - Parenting / families / Separation/ Divorce
  - Safety in own communities
  - Good relations
  - Play and leisure
  - Addiction
  - Neglect
  - Youth Work
- Emerging issues
  - Cyber bullying
  - · LGB children and young people
  - Transgender CYP
  - Newcomer children
  - FGM
  - Children of prisoners



# **Bigger Picture**

- UNCRC (Concluding Observations June 2016)
- Children's Services Co-operation Act (8 well-being parameters)
- NI Executive Programme for Government
- NI Executive Children & Young People's Strategy

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES CO-OPERATION ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2015

- Within the Act the term 'well-being' is defined through using 8 general parameters.
  - Physical and mental health
  - Enjoyment of play and leisure
  - Learning and achieving
  - Living in safety and stability
  - Economic and environmental well being
  - Positive contribution to society
  - Respect of their rights
  - Promotion of good relations



# **PfG Framework Structure**

#### **High Level Outcomes**

10-15 succinct, accessible statements describing what we are trying to achieve.

#### **Key Indicators**

Perhaps about 3 per outcome – in key areas indicating progress towards the outcome. Taken in the round, show direction of travel.

#### **Progress Measures**

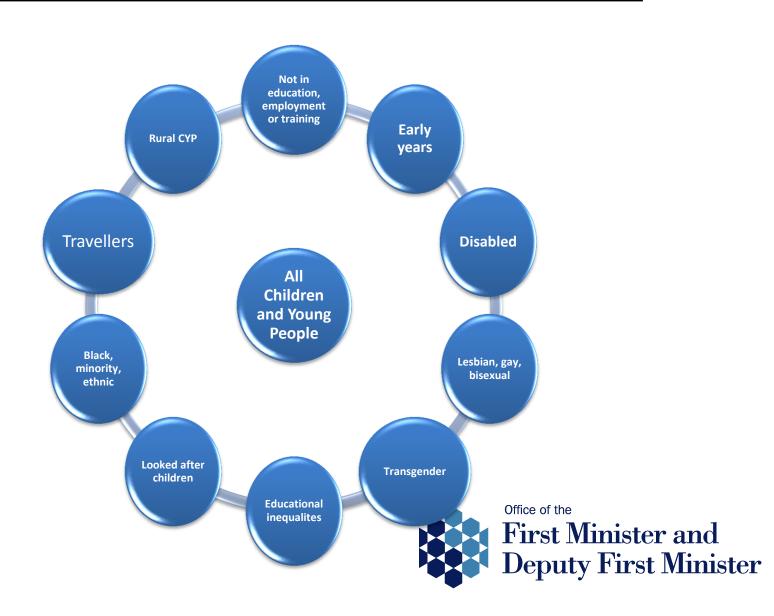
Providing information on how the actions are being delivered

#### **Key Actions (e.g. Children & Young People's Strategy)**

Actions that will shift key indicators.

Collaborative programme – subject to review in light of progress.

## **NOT A SINGLE ISSUE STRATEGY**



### **HIGH LEVEL APPROACH**

#### BETTER OUTCOMES

- What conditions for Children and Young People do we want?
- How will we measure success?
- What does the existing data / research say?
- Who are the key stakeholders?
- What actions can we take?

#### Better co-operation

- How can Government work together?
- What arrangements / structures are needed?
- Where would the pooling budgets / data sharing / shared resources be most effective?

#### BETTER DELIVERY

- How can we monitor progress?
- How do we keep sector reps and CYP involved?
- Where can we make revisions / improvements?
- What new data do we need to improve delivery?



# **NEXT STEPS**

- Testing emerging thoughts (NICCY Workshops)
  - Are we missing anything?
- Analysis of the strategic outcomes.
  - Outcomes Based Approach
  - Collation of data
- Improving co-operation.
  - What arrangements are required?
- Formal Consultation on draft Strategy (Autumn 2016)

First Minister and Deputy First Minister

• Executive Agreement (December 2016)