Implementation Learning Community

Developments in Integrated Early Intervention Initiatives in the South of Ireland

Armagh 30th May 2014
DCYA led initiatives:

• Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures (2014)
  Transformational Goal: Earlier Intervention and Prevention.

• ‘Emphasis and resources will have been rebalanced from crisis intervention towards prevention and earlier intervention, whilst ensuring an effective crisis intervention response at all times’.
Integrated Early Intervention Initiatives in the South

• DCYA led: NEYAI

• 2011-2014 : **11 projects** from around the country have been selected and funded under this initiative. Each of the selected projects has had a specific focus; parents, pedagogy, professionalism, language, numeracy and training.

• To improve access to quality early childhood care and education services for children and their families.

TU ŠLA
An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency
Anti-poverty initiative: DCYA & AP

3 main sites: 2007-2013: Young Ballymun; Northside Partnership and the Childhood Development Initiative in Tallaght

To implement a strategy of integrated, evidence-based prevention and early intervention supports for children, young people and families.
Followed by the ABC initiative

An area-based approach to child poverty, drawing upon best international practice and existing services, to break the cycle of child poverty where it is most deeply entrenched.

2013-2016 with a budget of €29.7m. This Initiative is building on and continuing the work of the Prevention and Early Intervention Programme (PEIP) which supported projects in Tallaght, Ballymun and Darndale.

9 areas have been selected to enter the design stage.
The Prevention and Early Intervention Programme

- 24 evidence-based practice, advocacy and research organisations (e.g. Midlands Area Parenting Partnership; Lifestart; Jigsaw etc)
- The case for Prevention and Early Intervention (2014)
Children’s Services Committees: DCYA led:

• A structure for joint planning of services for children.
• All major organisations and agencies working locally on behalf of children and young people are to be represented on the CSCs.
• These committees are responsible for improving the lives of children and families at local and community level through integrated planning, working and service delivery.
• The overall purpose of the CSCs is to secure better developmental outcomes for children.
• 16 CSCs in the country+ National Co-Ordinator: DCYA initiative.+ Tusla lead responsibility.
• Important link to Local & Community Development Programme.
Development of the agenda around prevention, partnership and family support in the new Child & Family Agency, Tusla:

• A new National Service delivery Framework, and a
• Suite of policy, strategy and guidance documents on PP&FS: www.tusla.ie
National Service Delivery Framework

Universal Services
*E.g. Local Government, Education, Health*

Early Intervention / Prevention

Target Services

**Point of Entry Screening**

Contact → Concern → Intake

Referral

Social Work

*Initial Assessment*

Child Welfare (e.g. cases at risk of formal intervention (DRM type response))

Child Protection (CPNS)

Available Local Community Services

Local Area Pathway Supporting Children and Families

Community & Voluntary Services (38 & 39)

Other Community & Voluntary Services

Not open to social work

Open to social work

Close

Child in Care

Available Local Community Services

An Gníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach

Child and Family Agency
1. Guidance for Implementation of an Area Based Approach to Prevention, Partnership, and Family Support
2. 50 Key Messages: Supporting Parents to Improve Outcomes for Children
3. Investing in Families: Supporting Parents to Improve Outcomes for Children
4. What Works in Family Support?
5. Commissioning Guide for the Child and Family Agency
6. Meitheal - a National Practice Model for all agencies working with Children, Young People and their Families
The PP&FS Programme of work

• Each of these national policy/strategy/guidance documents are inter-related and need to be considered and implemented collectively to support the comprehensive development of prevention, partnership and family support service provision in the new Child & Family Agency.
Prevention, Partnership and Family Support
PPFS Governance of Local Area Pathway

• Overall responsibility rests with the Child and Family Agency Area Manager

• Steering Committee/Sub-committee of Children’s Services Committee will be established to support implementation

Operational responsibility rests with
• Principal for Prevention, Partnership and Family Support for the development of Child & Family Support Networks and the implementation of the case coordination National Practice Model, Meitheal.

• Co-ordinators of Child & Family Support Networks