

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGY

Wednesday 20 April 2016



Office of the
**First Minister and
Deputy First Minister**

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?



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



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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



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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



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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



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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?



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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)
- Executive Agreement (December 2016)



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