Developments in Early Intervention in Northern Ireland.

Presentation to Early Years Interventions Conference 31st May 2011.

Fionnuala McAndrew,
Director, Social Care and Children Health and Social Care Board
The value of early Intervention is increasingly recognised internationally, within the UK and in NI.

Early intervention = intervention at an early age and at an early stage of difficulties.

Early intervention requires a coordinated approach, if it to work for families, communities and make best use of scarce resources.
A Shared vision – Outcomes for children

A strategy for children and young people, which includes six high level outcomes, which make sense to representatives across a wide range of agencies.
Living in a society which respects their rights

Healthy

Enjoying, learning and achieving

Living in safety and with stability

Experiencing economic and environmental well-being

Contributing positively to community and society

OUTCOMES BASED ON NEEDS AND RIGHTS
Families Matter

“Family Support is defined as the provision of a range of supports and services to ensure that all children and young people are given the opportunity to develop to their full potential. It aims to support their development primarily by supporting and empowering families and strengthening communities. Its focus is on early intervention, ensuring that appropriate assistance is available to families at the earliest opportunity at all levels of need”

Families Matter: Supporting Families in Northern Ireland (DHSS&PS 2009)
Article 18 UNCRC

“For the purpose of guaranteeing and promoting the rights set forth in the present convention, State parties shall render appropriate assistance to parents and legal guardians in the performance of their child rearing responsibilities and shall ensure the development of institutions, facilities and services for the care of children”
Children in Need

Including:
- Disability,
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health,
- Youth Offending,
- Homelessness,
- School Exclusion,
- Care Leavers

Total Population of Children and Young People

Children on Child Protection Register

For example:
- Behaviour Support,
- Parenting Support Programmes,
- Social Excluded Communities (e.g. Travellers)

Children Looked After

Children who are Vulnerable
We have information on Outcomes -

- We have information…..

- Related to Government outcomes for children and young people.

- We have built in rights to the indicators as well as needs.
Integrated planning and commissioning – led by Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership at Northern Ireland level - and through locality planning groups - bringing together children and young people, families and agencies.
Structures and Links

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

REGIONAL THEMED GROUPS eg Families Matter Implementation Group, Young Carers, Disability

Northern, Western, Southern, Belfast, South Eastern, OUTCOMES BOARDS

LOCALITY PLANNING GROUPS

Family Support Hub

SAFEGUARDING BOARD NI

CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIPS
Purpose of Locality planning

To improve outcomes for children and young people and families in an area by:

- Establishing a local partnership
- Building on existing social networks
- Developing community ownership
- Listening to children young people and families and
- Developing services to meet their needs
Who – partnership statutory voluntary and community family support service providers

- Community workers/leaders
- Council/ local politicians
- Social Work
- Youth Services
- Homestart (home visiting)
- Womens Aid (DA)
- PSNI
- Choices Adolescent (10+)
- Health nurse manager
- Early Intervention for the Prevention of offending 8-11
- Education head teacher
- SureStart 0-4
- Range of professionals
What is Needed to make Locality Planning Work Well

Communities bring:
- Commitment
- Ownership
- Passion
- Local knowledge
- Opportunity to achieve early intervention
- Effective involvement of children young people and families
- Bottom up

Agencies bring:
- Support to meet and plan
- Tools - Outcomes based model – indicators
- Family support model
- Whole Child model
- Strategic influence
- Top down support
- Family Support Database
- Funding

Outcomes analysis
+ local knowledge
+ input children/young people
• LOCAL PLAN linked to Children and Young People’s Plan setting out service development and actions
FROM CO-ORDINATION OF PLANNING EFFORTS

TO

CO-ORDINATION OF INDIVIDUAL FAMILY NEEDS
What is a Family Support Hub

- A network of agencies (voluntary/community and statutory) who work directly with parents and children in a local area
- Engages with families who do not meet the threshold for statutory social work support
- Aims to avoid duplication and improve coordination of service delivery to individual families
- Draws on expertise of voluntary and community organisations
- Develop clear links with statutory social services to manage child protection concerns
What Hubs will do

- Provide early intervention family support services to vulnerable families and children aged 0-18
- Type of services depends on what is available in local area
- Signpost families to other services (using Family Support Database)
Continuum of Support

Locality Information Signposting

Locality Needs Assessment

Locality Service Coordination
Family Support Services Directory

Welcome to the Northern Ireland Family Support Services Directory.

This directory provides details of a wide range of services offering support to families across Northern Ireland. It brings together comprehensive and up-to-date information about services for children, young people, their parents and carers.

SEARCH DATABASE

Choose a service OR

Keyword Search

Select district council

SEARCH

A-Z SERVICE DIRECTORY

ABCDFEGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Telephone Helpdesk
Talk to us now for help & advice...

Challenging Behaviour Courses
Click here to register...

Training Courses...

SureStart Summer Schemes
Find out what's going on in your area...

SureStart

Site Safe
All organisations in this directory have declared to HSCB that they have clear policy and procedures for Safeguarding children.

Get included in the Directory!

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
www.chspni.gov.uk

Health and Social Care
www.hscni.net

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Care Board
Key Messages

- Early years and early stage
- Planning universal and targeted services together – through a process which builds on agency and community strengths at all levels
- Focus on what works – support nearest the family – Family Support Hubs.
Evaluating Family Support

FAMILY SUPPORT AS REFLECTIVE PRACTICE
PINKERTON, DOLAN, CANAVAN 2006

LOCALITY HUB

- Measures Success (1-10)
- Partnership Working (1-10)
- Needs Led (1-10)
- Wishes Feelings Safety (1-10)
- Strengths Based (1-10)
- Accessible Flexible (1-10)
- Informal Networks (1-10)
- Multi Access Referral (1-10)
- User/Provider Input (1-10)
- Social Inclusion (1-10)
Evidence Base


- MORRISON T; The Strategic Leadership of Complex Practice; Opportunities and Challenges’; Child Abuse Review Vol 19; 312-329 (2010)


- RICHES K, ACTON M M, MOON G, GINNS H; ‘Measuring Resilience in Childhood using data from the Tellus surveys’ Research Policy and Planning 27(3)

- RUTTER M; ‘Resilience, Competence and Coping’ in Child Abuse and Neglect 31(3) 2007


- UNGAR Michael (2009); ‘What is Resilience’ Website of the Resilience Research Centre, Dalhousie University, Canada – www.resilience project.org
Evidence base continued:


- **Croydon Total Place** Croydon Council (2010). *Child: Family: Place: Radical efficiency to improve outcomes for young children*, Croydon Council and NHS Croydon, UK.


- MUNRO E; The Munro Report of Child Protection – Interim Report 2; The Childs Journey; Crown Copyright (2011)

Evidence base continued;