



## Children's Outcomes – Executive Committee

10<sup>th</sup> January 2024

MINUTES



Children's Outcomes – Executive Committee  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
12:30-14:00  
Education Committee Room

### **ATTENDEES**

Minister for Children and Education  
Minister for Home Affairs  
Minister for Housing and Communities  
Minister for Health and Social Services  
Assistant Director Policy  
Senior Policy Officer  
Director of Delivery and Improvement, SPPP  
Deputy Director Public Health Transformation  
Associate Director of Engagement and Participation  
Senior Youth Worker - Jersey Youth Parliament  
JEYA Representative  
Best Start Partnership Representative  
Acting Children's Commissioner  
NSPCC Representative  
Chief Officer, CYPES  
FNHC Representative

### **APOLOGIES**

Assistant Minister for Children and Education (Children's Services)  
Chief Inspector, Jersey Care Commission

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Minister for Children and Education welcome the attendees to the meeting.

#### **2. Approval of minutes**

The minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were not discussed.

#### **Actions:**

- The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation to engage on the name of the plan and preferred branding options.
- The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation to include in the engagement plan ways for the voice of early years children to be included by 16<sup>th</sup> November.

- The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation to update timeline for future consultations and build summary of groups who could be asked for engagement and consultation by 16<sup>th</sup> November.
- The Senior Policy Officer to develop an invite list for the Forum on 16<sup>th</sup> November.
- The Senior Policy Officer to organise professional facilitator for Forum.
- The Senior Policy Officer to organise a survey to be sent to all 49 States Assembly Members.
- Research and Admin Officer to send out COEC dates for 2024.

### **3. Feedback from Children's Outcomes Forum – 16<sup>th</sup> November / Draft Children and Families' Plan 2024-27 – Senior Policy Officer**

The Senior Policy Officer gave a presentation on the outcomes forum from November 2023. 5 big picture outcomes, what we heard through the review and engagement, people were pleased with previous plan and wanted to continue with the language from the previous plan. A new outcome of standard of living has been added.

Top 10 themes were shared (copy from slides)

- 1) **Reduction of inequity / inequality / equal opportunities / disparity / accessibility / closing the gap**
- 2) **Parents** – education, respect and recognition, importance of role → 'Think family' → **community**
- 3) Ensuring offer across all age groups – including teenagers (**life course approach**)
- 4) **Early years / early intervention**
- 5) **Poverty** / cost of living / affordability
- 6) **Inclusion** (including marginalised / hard to reach)
- 7) **Safeguarding** / healthy relationships
- 8) **Housing** (including qualifications / five year residency)
- 9) **Play** / green space / outdoor space
- 10) Adverse childhood experiences (**ACEs**)

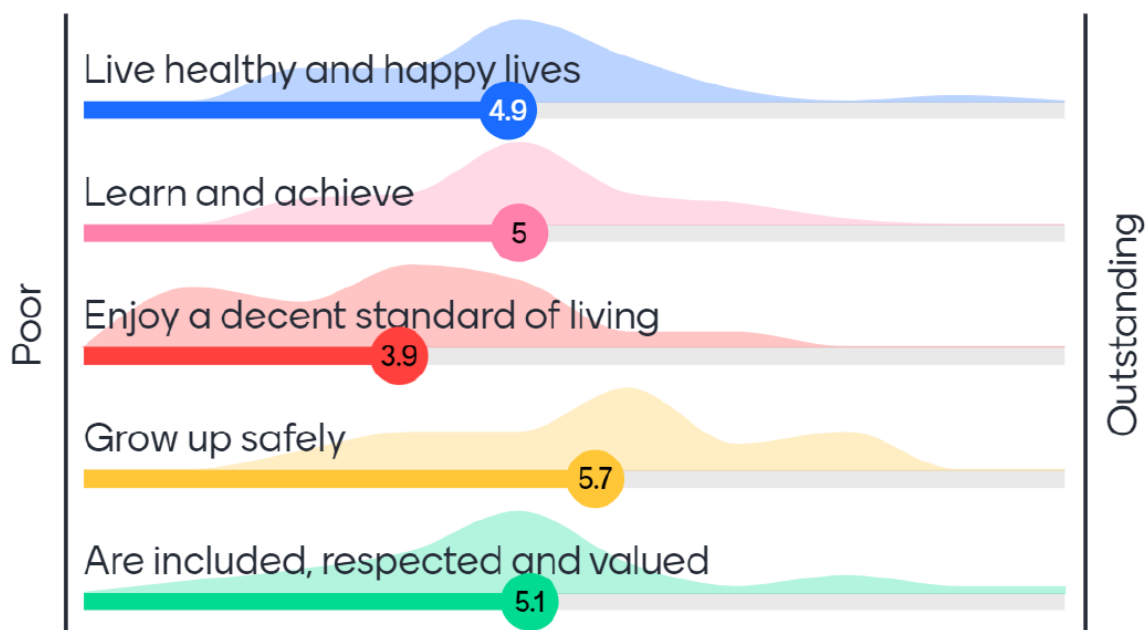
Rich feedback received on the day and also through considering it afterwards. Thematic analysis produced the top 10 themes, reduction in inequity and inequality. Important role parents play in children's lives. We mustn't forget about teenagers the plan is for all children not just the younger ones.

Inclusion, reaching marginalised groups. Safeguarding, healthy relationships. Housing, qualifications, and residency rules / law. Play the importance of it, green and outside space to play in.

Further qualitative feedback has been taken onboard as well, we need to work better together was a key theme. Needs to a flexible and individualised response considering different age cohorts etc.

Quotes included the impact of cost of living a consistent theme. Physically active, important to think beyond school physical education. All children learning to ride a bike and swim etc. Wealth of feedback from C&YP through engagement and participation, inclusion and VAWG work.

A poll was taken at the end of the presentation at the November event. How is Jersey doing?



This shows nothing is above average, standard of living is lower. This provides a snapshot of the feeling in the room at the time.

### **Big picture outcome No 1**

Live healthy and happy lives

Shall we include the word “happy”, this word is used in other countries, would we like to see it in the Jersey Children’s Plan? Also, should we use the word “active” as well? The COEC needs to decide.

Fostering and adoption representative at the time made comment, is it perhaps too aspirational?



Deputy Director Public Health Transformation commented, feedback from health and delivery forum felt the word active was better than happy.

Minister for Children and Education asked others for their views, JEYA Representative felt health and active is stronger. The FNHC Representative feels healthy relates to physical health, happy is an important word as it relates to emotional wellbeing. A happy and active child is likely to have better physical health. The Acting Children's Commissioner thinks we should have happy in there it is a great aspiration. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation confirms that feedback from children was that happiness is important to them. The Minister for Health and Social Services - there are lots of ways to measure children's happiness, we can take a baseline measure and then see of what we are doing is making a difference. We shouldn't ignore the importance of this word at all, it has an impact on the child and their family too. The Minister for Health and Social Services is very supportive of keeping the word happy as she is certain we can measure it. The Deputy Director Public Health Transformation is not averse to the word happy, Children and Emotional wellbeing strategy used happy and thriving, should we keep consistent with this?

Minister for Children and Education worried about the measurements, active easier to measure than happiness. The Best Start Partnership Representative feels we can measure happiness as children do understand this word better than thriving. Assistant Director Policy suggests "all children in Jersey have healthy and happy lives". All confirmed the word 'health' must be in there. The FNHC Representative - some children cannot be physically active, but they can be active in other ways. JEYA Representative it is hard to measure happiness in very young children as it will differ from one day to another. The FNHC Representative - we can look at their behaviours and development, we can make a judgement based on these measurements, JEYA Representative agreed. The Minister for Health and Social Services commented in the chat that active is not an outcome it is a state.

Minister for Children and Education we need to respond to those who were concerned about the use of the word happy to explain why we felt it was important and how we will measure it. It was agreed to stick with healthy and happy lives, the word thriving is a little too complex.

#### **Big picture outcome 4**

All children in Jersey are loved nurtured and safe is suggested wording copied from New Zealand. The FNHC Representative - it is aspirational. Minister for Children and Education Promise Scotland, one of the themes is that children need to be loved. The Acting Children's Commissioner – the VAWG taskforce highlighted that children do not see safety the same way as we do, she likes the word loved. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation not sure on the word nurtured, is it youth friendly enough? The Best Start Partnership Representative suggests cared for instead of nurtured.

Minister for Children and Education if you are loved you are nurtured? The Senior Policy Officer is concerned by word love in terms of complex safeguarding space. Dep Doublet, change it to safe and loved. If you are loved you are nurtured. Minister for Children and Education agrees the word safe should come first. The Deputy Director Public Health Transformation agrees safe before the word loved. Agreed – “All Children in Jersey are safe and loved”

The Committee agreed the wording for the big picture outcomes as per below:

All children and young people in Jersey:

1. Are healthy and happy
2. Can learn and achieve
3. Enjoy a decent standard of living
4. Are safe and loved
5. Are included, respected and valued

Draft has been circulated to members on Monday to COEC and the task and finish group, we think more widely about who needs to see this early draft, CYPES SLT, CEHA scrutiny panel, might need briefing. Feedback by 22<sup>nd</sup> January. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation will speak about the comms for the Plan.

#### **4. Roadmap for Delivery – Assistant Director Policy**

A road map to support system wide delivery, what sits above all the individual plans programmes and strategies. He has identified 4 key areas, wants to check thinking on this.

### **A Road Map to support System Wide Delivery**



There are key areas of activity that sit above and inform the delivery of multi-agency strategies and services that collectively contribute to improving children's wellbeing.....

- Establish and maintain a core set of population outcomes and indicators for the children's system
- Consolidate and grow sustainable approaches to engage children and young people to inform improvement activity
- Improve alignment between Childrens & Families Plan and wider Government strategies, performance and planning cycles
- Progress a series of three *Forums* that are focused on a particular aspect of a big picture outcome. Resulting learning will be shared with key stakeholders

Jurisdictions around the world are all doing similar work in this space



Data development agenda, lots of opportunities to create island wide outcome measures.

Meaningful engagement with children and young people.

So what, you have a plan but what does it connect to. How does it inform and support work in various parts of the system.

More work is required as to how the Government of Jersey (GoJ) reports on progress. There is room for more alignment as feedback by COEC and forum members.

We want to run spotlight forums about aspects of the big picture outcomes. This will need to be resourced, these deep dives will create information on how we are doing.

## Spotlights / Forums - Design Principles

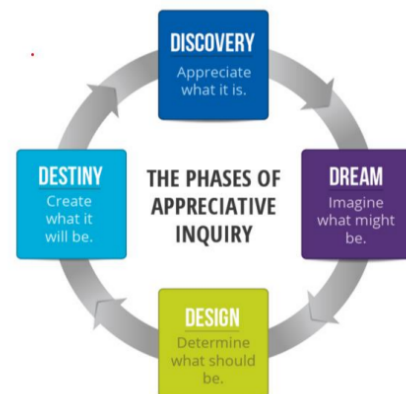


### Purpose

- To provide whole system insight into a specific area where indicators suggest system improvement is needed

### Design Principles

- Children and Young People experience utilised to maintain a child focus
- OBA performance accountability used to evaluate impact of current activity
- Appreciative inquiry used to understand gaps and opportunities to improve
- Participants invited from services most relevant to the focus area
- Insights from each forum are summarised and fed-back to key stakeholders in the system (Commissioners, Ministers, Chief Officers, Youth Parliament)



Minister for Children and Education asked for any comments on the structure the Assistant Director Policy has proposed?

The Chief Officer, CYPES - general principle, whatever we determine we must ensure we are not duplicating corporate parenting board or other Chief Officer Groups. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation - can we expand on this slide so we can see what sits above this structure, the Assistant Director Policy confirms it is not a governance structure. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation refers to the chain in the previous plan which shows.

The FNHC Representative - is their clarity in COEC on what the biggest blockers are to achieving the big picture outcomes. If we have this data, we can focus our efforts on the areas that will close the biggest gaps first, or the gap that will influence more other gaps. The Senior Policy Officer advised we have CYPES informatics, but there is no ownership of the data that informs the outcomes in the draft plan.



For example, obesity is increasing fast, we need to get a forum focus on this. The FNHC Representative - we know more than we think we know. The Assistant Director Policy agrees we do have some good data that can give us a steer. The Deputy Director Public Health Transformation – advised that the Health and Wellbeing Delivery Forum is the only group that has continued from the previous CYP plan, we have been thinking about how we can improve our structure.

We felt it needed to run as a programme, a piece of work has been started with the Education Reform Programme Director to look at this further. This model could be considered for other areas of focus. The Senior Policy Officer - where does the Childrens Plan fit? There could be a case that the CYP is the primary start of the process as it is a statutory plan, this would require a change of approach. Minister for Children and Education we will need to get the CYP approved by the Council of Ministers (CoM).

The Minister for Health and Social Services agrees the CYP plan crosses many portfolios, we need a deeper understanding about it feeds into Ministerial Plans. We need buy in from the wider CoM on this. The Senior Policy Officer - in the draft, we say this plan will inform and guide the work across all of government in relation to children. The Minister for Health and Social Services feels there is a lack of understanding across departments of what each other is doing. Communication to gain buy in is key, we really need to get the message across that this does relate to other portfolios, everyone needs to buy in. We have to able to translate it for other departments to they fully understand that success is contingent upon their own contribution. The Minister for Housing and Communities agrees it needs to go to CoM. The Senior Youth Worker - Jersey Youth Parliament is thinking of having an event for CYP to feedback on the plan, it is informed on by young people, but it is written by adults. There must be equal focus for all age groups, perhaps a video would be a good means of getting the children and young people in front of CoM. Are we brave enough to help understand how string their voice can be in influencing government. There is nothing to stop us going out to meet them, they do not have to come to us. We need to help young people articulate what they can expect from government, as a government we need that challenge from citizens. Nothing as powerful as us going to meet them where they meet to hear what they want and respond to them. The JEYA Representative agrees with all of this but wants to promote the under 5s, we cannot take the spotlight away from them.

The Assistant Director Policy summed up, COEC do not need to run everything. The Senior Policy Officer - key programmes and strategies are referenced in the plan, COEC members requested to feedback of there any we are missing.

Minister for Children and Education we can finalise the first revision of the plan and publish it.

Minister for Children and Education we do not know if the outcome forums will work so let's prototype them and see how it works.

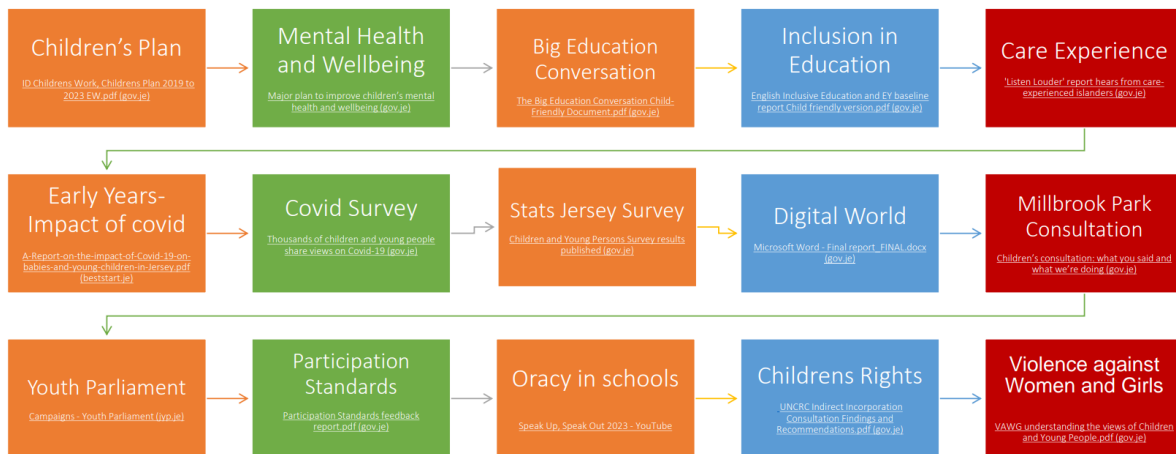


There are some indicators already in existence which we can use to guide on us on first area(s) of focus. The FNHC Representative - this all starts with a viable pregnancy, but this plan talks about the time from birth onwards. We know a lot about pre-natal and post-natal health issues already. The Best Start Partnership Representative advised that they have an event on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February looking at what data we have available, what priorities, this is looking from conception onwards.

### 5. Establishing a sustainable participation and engagement plan – Associate Director Engagement and Participation

The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation - we recently held a workshop with school council members where they prioritised the Health Ministers priorities and they confirmed pregnancy was important. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation - all stakeholders need to understand how important this plan is, we can empower children and young people to feed into this. Over last 4 years we have a wealth of feedback from children and young people, Life on the Rock from the Office of the Childrens Commissioner was one of these. Forum members were shown the Life on the Rock video, all this work is being brought into the plan. This plan needs to show delivery through an action plan, it is a 4-year programme not a one-off event.

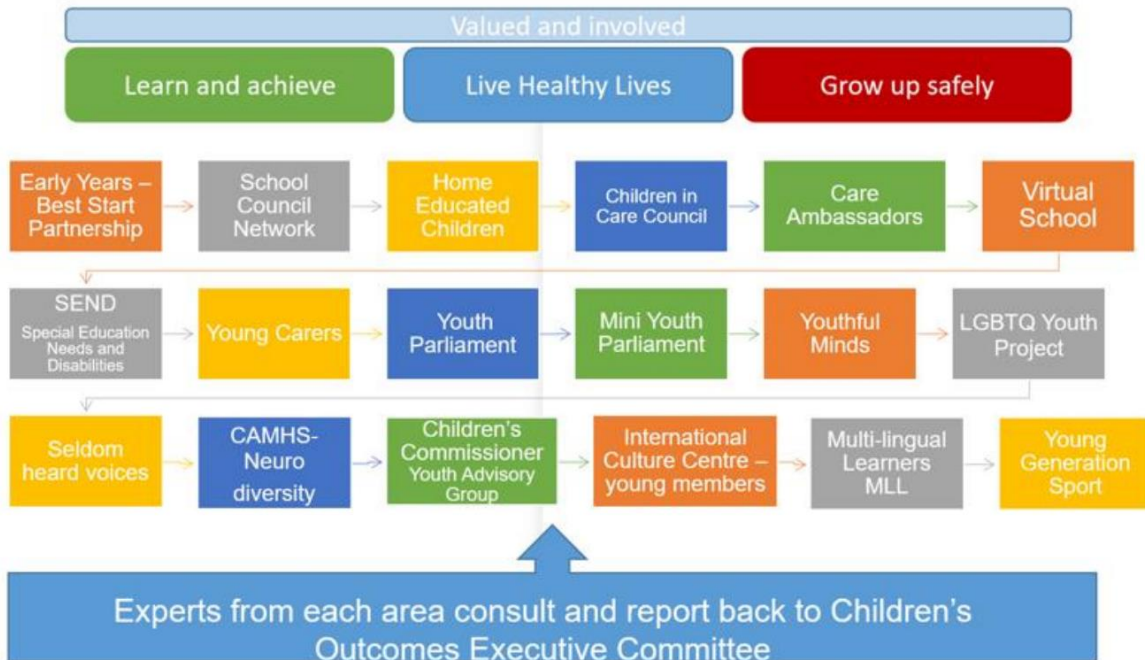
### Evidence of engagement with children and young people



**TIMELINE AND ACTIONS**



**Stakeholder Mapping**



Stakeholder mapping slide shown above, as Chief Officer, CYPES said we must ensure we are not duplicating, we plan to use the school council network. We have training as there are elections every year for representatives across year groups. We are also conscious of the under 5s and will work with Best Start Partnership.



Workshops for school councils after Feb half term, working with OCC staff.

When final plan is published, maybe something in March at Jump Jersey.

The Senior Policy Officer and the Assistant Director Policy have worked with head of comms at SPPP. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation works with Youth Friendly; they have given a quote to make the document community friendly, a one-page summary, some animation, social media content as well. Quote of less than £5k to carry out this work, they are also working on the new Childrens Law. This will help all children and young people hold government and partners to account for our delivery.

The Assistant Minister for Children and Education (Early Years) - we need someone in house who can do this. The Senior Policy Officer - the internal comms do not do this type of work anymore. The Minister for Children and Education - we do need a children, young people and family friendly version. As COEC, if we want this work and communicate with effectively, we need someone in house who can do this in the longer term.

The Assistant Director Policy this as a piece of work is big and ongoing. The Acting Children's Commissioner - bringing people with skills to create the plan and then do the engagement.

The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation - it works for now using external companies but longer term it would be better if we can do this in house.

It was agreed that the Associate Director of Engagement and Participation can spend up to £5k with Youth Friendly. The FNHC Representative - this resource should be available to external partners as well, paid for of course, but we are then all aligned and using the same methods, branding etc.

## **6. Future Governance Structure – Meeting Dates and Review Membership – Minister for Children and Education**

Minister for Children and Education dates – steering committee meeting dates

Forum dates not suggested yet

Minister for Children and Education we have plan we have a launch event.

Email to COEC members, would you please suggest 3 options for deep dive focus in 2024. Minister for Children and Education would like to know by 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. The Senior Policy Officer - there are some suggestions for areas of focus in the draft plan. The Assistant Director Policy, in time the indicators will be the driver for deep dives.



In March we can have a forum, gives us two months to prepare.

Minister for Children and Education has committed to launch the plan in quarter 1.

Needs to be consultation with children, feedback from them incorporated.

Minister for Children and Education from now you have time to consult with the children, we have enough consultation.

The Acting Children's Commissioner advised that in Ireland they have an overarching engagement strategy. The Senior Youth Worker - Jersey Youth Parliament advised it is rushed to do it before half-term; she will not have capacity to do a school council meeting before half term. Minister for Children and Education this draft plan needs feedback from the Council of Ministers (CoM), Scrutiny and children by the end of February, we do not need to wait and wait. There are several things that are major for CoM, it is just to get buy in. Minister for Children and Education what is the goal for this consultation. The Senior Policy Officer - presenting them the finished document is a challenge, we can ask them what they want the spotlights to be only.

Minister for Children and Education this plan was informed by previous consultation with children. The Acting Children's Commissioner - you do have a lot of data, some of it is out of date but a lot of it is OK. She agrees we can present the finished plan to the children, but it shouldn't be the default to do it this way.

Minister for Children and Education we can never have perfect consultation.

The Senior Policy Officer - if 14 March was a COEC meeting we can decide the focus for the July Forum. Minister for Children and Education would like the forum in June.

We will finalise and publish, and version 2 will come next year.

## **7. AOB**

None