



Children's Outcomes – Executive Committee

29th March 2023

MINUTES



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13:00-14:30

ATTENDEES

Minister for Health and Social Services
Minister for Housing and Communities
Minister for Children and Education
Assistant Director Policy
Senior Policy Officer
Chief Officer, CYPES
Director of Delivery and Improvement
Associate Director of Engagement and Participation
Les Amis Representative
JEYA Representative
FNHC Representative
Research and Administration Officer

APOLOGIES

Minister for Home Affairs
Assistant Minister for Children and Education (Children's Services)
Assistant Minister for Children and Education (Early Years)
NSPCC Representative
Senior Youth Worker - Jersey Youth Parliament

1. Welcomes and Apologies

The Minister for Children and Education highlighted that this was the first meeting of the Children's Outcomes Executive Committee. Previously there had been two workshops with partners to discuss the Governance structure of the Children's Strategic Leadership (CSLB) and Children's Strategic Partnership Boards (CSPB). The outcomes of these workshops highlighted that there was a need for a clear and simple structure with a focus on progression plans. There needed to be a focus on the right direction of travel and improved system partnerships.

The Committee introduced themselves and their organisations.

2. Policy Context

The Senior Policy Officer outlined the policy context, highlighting that the Children and Young People's Law 2022 requires the publication of a Children and Young People' Plan every four years. Previously the CSPB held responsibility for this plan. The Government Programme 2023-26 included children and families as one of the

priorities for the Common Strategic Policy. The review workshops highlighted the need for a clear and simple system Governance. There was a need for common endeavour around a shared vision for children and families, to put energy into system alignment and interconnections. It was key to listen to the voice of the child. The workshops also highlighted the need to be data led and establish feedback loops.

The Senior Policy Officer outlined how the passions and guiding principles would be aligned for the one underlying outcome of 'improving children's wellbeing'. The four outcomes would remain the same. The outcome of feeling valued and involved was now embedded across the other three outcomes via Participation Standards. The three passions are protecting children's rights, reducing inequalities, and promoting wellbeing. The new Children's Outcomes Executive Committee would meet every term for a summit to help realign outcomes across the Governmental work. She outlined the feedback loops for activity for each outcome. Each feedback loop would look at how strategy, commissioned activity, and Government programs aligned.

The Minister for Children and Education outlined plans for the new meeting structure with a meeting of the Executive Committee and Forum workshop with partners and stakeholders connected to theme being discussed. Feedback and learning would be looped into Government programs and could help align partnerships and communications.

The Assistant Director Policy noted that the Children and Young People's Plan would form the overarching frame. The termly meetings would create opportunities for organisations to report, share, and align work under the headline object. This would create an opportunity to bring together practitioners and leaders. The focus should be on action rather than process. It was a vital opportunity for key people to discuss areas of strength, gaps, and areas to develop, so that partners could align what they were doing. He also highlighted the importance of capturing the voice of the child and ways to do this, such as Youth Parliament. These inputs could be discussed further.

The Minister for Health and Social Services enquired about the Ministerial engagement with the Forums and also the role of young people in the Governance. She asked how the views of young people would be gathered. The Minister for Children and Education highlighted the importance of understanding whether the vision for delivery was matching the reality. It was important to listen to the feedback of children and young people to understand their experiences. The feedback could then be looped back into delivery. It would be helpful to have a representative from Youth Parliament, although a wider opinion of young people would also need to be captured.

The FNHC Representative highlighted that the voice of young people was sometimes sensitive and vulnerable. An advocacy service could assist with capturing experiences.

The Chief Officer CYPES agreed with the Minister for Health and Social Services on the need to draw in multiple strands to capture the wide ranging voice from children and young people. This could include Youth Parliament, the Engagement and Participation Strategy, and Children and Young People's Survey. It was also important to capture the Early Years voice context with JEYA. This could be formalised as a participation strand as a standing item on the agenda. It would act as a test of the actions and activity.

The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation highlighted that a new Youth Advisory Group was being proposed to bring all voices together. Often the same groups were consulted, but there was a need to capture less heard voices, such as care leaver groups. There will be training available for the Youth Advisory Group to help them engage.

The Assistant Director Policy noted that these insights should help alignment of core Government programs. It was important to have varied input from children and young people. It was also important not to generate another set of Governance, but to provide insights back to the most appropriate parts of the system. This would create a feedback loop focussed on delivery.

The Les Amis Representative enquired about the age range and how you could capture the voice of hard-to-reach groups. The Minister for Children and Education agreed young people up to the age of 25 years should be involved, as CYPES covered a broad spectrum of ages. It was important to find ways to engage with hard-to-reach groups.

3. Review and Agree Terms of Reference

The Minister for Health and Social Services was supportive of the way termly meetings were organised. They could take a Part A and Part B approach. She was also supportive of incorporating young people up to the age of 25, as this aligned with Health. There also needed to be a focus on inclusion, disability, and other needs.

The Assistant Director Policy agreed to circulate the revised Terms of Reference to update all those who took part in the previous workshops.

The Minister for Children and Education preferred the format of the Executive Committee to be a day of focus to allow for a full discussion. It was preferable to book a larger venue to allow the Forum to gather.

The Assistant Director Policy noted that there was a piece of work to review the current Children and Young People's Plan and publish this by the end of 2023.

The Director of Delivery and Improvement found the model of the feedback loop exciting. She highlighted that it was important to combine the feedback of children

with the performance data. This could combine data and stories to help gain wide ranging insights.

The FNHC Representative highlighted that the feedback loop should inform future commissioning. The Terms of Reference should include the ability to quickly influence how providers are providing.

The JEYA Representative was happy with the Terms of Reference. It was important that Early Years were not overlooked. You could capture the voice of younger children by working with an advocate. The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation highlighted the Early Years tool kit and tool kit for children in care. These were part of the Participation Standards and could help capture the voices of those children and young people.

The JEYA Representative also highlighted third sector partnerships, including elements of public health. The Les Amis Representative suggested the Children's Cluster meeting and the FNHC Representative highlighted the Charity CEO Forum. The Assistant Director Policy would update the Terms of Reference with suggested representatives for the Forums.

4. Agree Proposed Action Plan

The Senior Policy Officer ran through the proposed actions, including closing the CSPB and CSLB, identifying sustainable approaches to engage children and young people, publishing the review of the Children and Young People's Plan, and assembling a group to draft a revised Children and Families Plan for 2024-27.

The Minister for Children and Education requested suggestions for engagement with young people before the next meeting.

The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation suggested publishing the Terms of Reference and a Press Release about the new Executive Committee.

The Assistant Director Policy agreed to circulate the Children and Young People Plan to the Executive committee. He noted that the Children's Plan review could be the focus of the first Forum.

The Director of Delivery and Improvement enquired about the timing of the first forum around the finalising of the Ministerial Plan. The Minister was keen to hold the meeting the first two weeks of July and include feedback from the Children's Day group. The Minister was content with using the Children's Plan as a focus.

The Executive Committee confirmed the action plan.

5. AOB

There was no AOB noted.



ACTIONS

The Assistant Director Policy and the Senior Policy Officer to update the Terms of Reference with suggested representatives for the Forums.

The Assistant Director Policy to circulate the revised Terms of Reference to update all those who took part in the workshops.

The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation and the Assistant Director Policy to develop a plan of engagement to capture the voice of children and young people for the Forum and Executive Committee.

The Associate Director of Engagement and Participation to assist with Press Release and publication of Terms of Reference to media highlighting new Committee and Forum Governance structure.

The Assistant Director Policy to circulate the Children and Young People Plan to the Executive Committee.

Research and Administration Officer to organise dates and arrangements for next Executive Committee meeting.