Brief Review of Planning and Reporting Arrangements of Interagency Initiatives

Presented by Lisa Ann Kennedy, Project Specialist, Centre for Effective Services
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Brief Review of Planning and Reporting Arrangements of Interagency Initiatives

- The *Brief Review* was undertaken to help in identifying, clarifying and informing how the CYPSC initiative might advance its planning and reporting framework

- ***Not*** an evaluation of other reporting frameworks

- **Purpose** – to stimulate discussion

- Identifies:
  - some approaches used elsewhere
  - types of information that could usefully be included
  - relevant issues to be resolved

What is a 'framework'?

__Broad__ overview, outline, or skeleton of __interlinked items__ which __supports__ a particular __approach__ to a specific __objective__, and serves as a __guide__ that __can be modified__ as required by adding or deleting items.

Source: businessdictionary.com (2016)

The initiatives reviewed

Interagency Initiative	Jurisdiction
Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC)	Ireland
Drugs and Alcohol Task Forces (DATF)	Ireland
Communities that Care (CTC)	Pennsylvania, USA
Local Safeguarding Children's Boards (LSCB)	England, UK
Children's Trusts (CT)	England, UK
Children's Services Planning (CSP)	Scotland, UK
Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership	Northern Ireland, UK

11 Predominant Features Identified

- Thematic Framework

- Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA)

- Templates

- Local Plans

- Reporting Guidelines

- Staffing

- Programme Budget

- Centralised Data Systems

- Interagency Performance Data

- Trend Analysis

- Cross Comparability

Thematic Framework

- Described the outcomes the initiatives were aiming to achieve or aspects of the policy framework within which the initiatives operate

  - *What framework should be used for planning and reporting?*
    - ➤ Five National Outcomes
    - ➤ Six Transformational Goals

Outcomes Based Accountability

- Focuses on outcomes that are desired and monitoring and evidencing progress towards those desired outcomes

  - *Would this be useful for CYPSC?*
  - *Is it likely that CYPSC will have access to the types of data and data systems required for Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA)?*
  - Related to
    - Centralised Data Systems
    - Trend Analysis
    - Cross Comparability

Templates

- Prescribed planning and/or reporting formats and templates

  - *Useful for CYPSC?*
  - *How much variability is acceptable between plans?*
  - *How much variability is acceptable between reports?*

Local Plans

- Planning and reporting processes which are tailored to a local context, as well as planning and reporting within a broader thematic framework.

  ➢ *What should the relationship be between local priorities, plans and reports, and national priorities, plans and reports?*

Reporting Guidelines

- Guidelines on what to report and how to report were available for some initiatives.

  ➤ *How detailed should reporting guidelines be?*

Staffing

- The staff involved in each initiative

  ➢ *What challenges for planning and reporting are posed by limited numbers of staff?*

Programme Budget

- Most initiatives were financed by the organisations involved in the interagency initiative

  - ➢ *What can reasonably be expected to be achieved relative to programme budget?*
  - ➢ *How can a balance be struck between time spent planning, reporting, delivery and available programme budget?*

Interagency Performance Data

- Most initiatives collected some basic interagency data, for example data on membership.

The purpose of CYPSC is

'To ensure effective interagency co-ordination and collaboration to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people in its area'

➢ *Does that mean that plans and reports should have a focus on interagency work?*

Other features of note

- Prescribed Target Groups
  - *Are there particular target groups that all CYPSC should report on?*

- Legal requirement to produce plans and reports
  - *What encourages CYPSC to plan and to report?*

- Contents of reports
  - *How detailed should the reports be?*

- How will reports reflect implementation of the CYPSC three-year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)?
  - *How will reports cultivate learning?*

- Frequency of planning and reporting –
  - *How often should plans and reports be produced?*

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