Brief Review of Planning and Reporting Arrangements of Interagency Initiatives

Presented by Lisa Ann Kennedy, Project Specialist, Centre for Effective Services at the Children and Young People’s Services Committees: Planning and Reporting Framework Workshop 27th September 2016
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interagency Initiative</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children and Young People’s Services Committees (CYPSC)</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
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<td>Drugs and Alcohol Task Forces (DATF)</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communities that Care (CTC)</td>
<td>Pennsylvania, USA</td>
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<td>Local Safeguarding Children’s Boards (LSCB)</td>
<td>England, UK</td>
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<td>Children’s Trusts (CT)</td>
<td>England, UK</td>
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<td>Children’s Services Planning (CSP)</td>
<td>Scotland, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership</td>
<td>Northern Ireland, UK</td>
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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?
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?
• 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?
• 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?
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?
Colma Nic Lughadha

National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People’s Services Committees

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