

# Waterford Children's Services Committee

The Natural Fit between  
Children's Services Committee &  
the Local Area Pathways

# Purpose of a CSC

- CSC is the structure for bring together a diverse group of agencies in local areas engaged in joint planning of services for Children

# Purpose of LAP

- LAP is a co-ordinated, multi-disciplinary & multi-agency approach to delivering services across all level.

- CSC are responsible for improving the lives of children through integrated planning, working & service delivery.
- LAP is the means of delivering services to children & families in one cohesive support system

# CSC Task Groups

- Information & Research Task Group
- Education Task Group
- Family Support Task Group
- Community Based Adolescent Task Group
- LAP (Local Area Pathways)

# What is the Natural Fit?

- 5 National Outcomes for Children
- CSC supports membership of the LAP
- Membership of LAP Task Group overlaps with other CSC Task Groups
- CSC Needs analysis informs local planning

- CSC members i.e Managers in agencies support frontline staff working with families & children to be involved in LAP
- Work of CSC Task Groups has informed the structure of the LAP in Waterford



# LAP Local structure

- All agencies working with children & families in a local area are involved
- Particular efforts were made to involve the Voluntary & Community organisations as equal members
- Area Networks use existing community structures and neighbourhoods (City) to inform local working

# Local Area Pathways

Jim Gibson C & F  
Area Manager

**Principal Social Worker**  
With Responsibility for  
Prevention, Partnership  
& Family Support

Claire McNamara  
SCDW  
C.S.C.  
coordinator

L.A.P. Steering Group

Ferrybank

Dunmore  
Road

**Child & Family Networks**

Joan Dunne Coordinator

West  
Waterford

Tramore

North West  
Suburbs

Sacred  
Heart

Inner City

Dungarvan

Mid County

Ballybeg

Larchville  
Lisduggan

# Positives

- Greater connections for agencies with Social Work Dept.
- A sense that it feels logical
- Maximises expertise & local knowledge of Voluntary / Community Sector Staff
- Co-ordinates information flow & planning for working with a family
- Sense of support for individual staff members
- Staff/Organisations can work to their own strengths in the knowledge that it's part of a bigger work plan

# Challenges

- All agencies are working with reduced resources
- Many organisations are unsure of the future work context
- A lot of meetings
- Agencies need more clarity & training re the implications for their own Staff involvement
- Agencies need to realign referral & reporting structure