



Kerry Children's Services Committee

Workplan for Children and Young People July 2011 – June 2013

Contact

“The Kerry Children’s Services Committee welcomes comments, views and opinions about our Workplan for Children and Young People.

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Foreword

Foreword by the Chair of the Kerry Children's Services Committee (CSC), Mr. Michael Fitzgerald, Area Manager, HSE South.

As chairperson of the recently established Kerry Children's Services Committee, I am pleased to launch the publication of our "Workplan for Children and Young People July 2011 – June 2013". This is the first interagency action plan for Kerry dedicated to coordinating how agencies deliver services and supports to children and families in the county. The concept for developing countywide Children's Services Committees arose from an initiative developed by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA) and is overseen by the National Children's Strategy Implementation Group (NCSIG). The Kerry Children's Services Committee has been established as a sub-group of the county development board.

The Workplan was developed by the 14 members of the Kerry Children's Services Committee who represent 12 agencies on the Kerry CSC and the Working Group members. It is the first step in bringing together all responsible statutory and voluntary agencies involved in providing services and supports to children, young people and their families in Kerry in order to ensure better interagency working, planning, sharing of resources and ultimately better outcomes for children and young people in county Kerry. This workplan is considered by the Kerry Children's Services Committee to be a 'live document' which will be reviewed and updated as required. The "National Children's Strategy" outlines a vision which is *"An Ireland where children are respected as young citizens with a valued contribution to make and a voice of their own; where all children are cherished and supported by family and the wider society; where they enjoy a fulfilling childhood and realise their potential."*

In order to achieve this vision, and the goals and objectives set out in the strategy we will have to change how we plan and manage services for children, young people and families. Improved coordination of services at national, regional and local level is required. The new Kerry Children's Services Committee is a new local structure which should enhance service development and delivery. We hope that by improving interagency working, and through the coordination and integration of services we will achieve better outcomes for children and families in Kerry and achieve the vision outlined in "The National Children's Strategy".

I would like to acknowledge the role of the OMCYA, the support they provided to us in developing the Kerry Children's Services Committee and the resources they have made available to us to date. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of all committee and Working Group members in the development of this plan. I look forward to working in partnership with children, young people, communities and agencies in its implementation over the coming years.

Michael Fitzgerald

Chairperson

Kerry Children's Services Committee

June 2011

Section 1: Introduction

The purpose of the Children's Services Committees is to secure better developmental outcomes for children through more effective integration of existing services and interventions at local level.

The Seven National Outcomes for Children in Ireland envision that all children should be:

- **Healthy, both physically and mentally**
- **Supported in active learning**
- **Safe from accidental and intentional harm**
- **Economically secure**
- **Secure in the immediate and wider physical environment**
- **Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community**
- **Included and participating in society**

Background to the CSC initiative and policy context

Children's Services Committees in Ireland

The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA) established the Children's Services Committees initiative in 2007 with the purpose of improving outcomes for children and families at local and community level. CSCs do this through interagency collaboration and joint planning and coordination of services.

A major Government policy which influenced and informed the development of the Children's Services Committees is the *Agenda for Children's Services: A policy handbook* (2007). The Agenda sets out the strategic direction and key goals of public policy in relation to children's health and social services. At the core of the Agenda is the promotion of good outcomes for children. In this Workplan for Children and Young People the *national* outcomes for children in Ireland are linked with *local* priority areas, objectives, indicators and activities.

Children's Services Committee in County Kerry

Kerry Children's Services Committee was established in September 2010 with members representing the HSE, Kerry County Council, Kerry Education Services, An Garda Síochána, the Probation Service, Kerry County Childcare, Kerry Network of Family Resource Centres, South Kerry Development Partnership, North & East Kerry Development Partnership, National Education & Welfare Board, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service and the Institute of Technology Tralee. The Kerry CSC will oversee and direct the delivery of initiatives that will improve outcomes for children, and which require collaboration between services.

Children's Services Committees are about improving outcomes for all children, with the aim of pooling and directing resources to children and families most requiring of same. The delivery of better services to children in Kerry includes the need for quality support and interventions, coordination of service delivery, assessment and evaluation in order to inform best practice and policy development.

Who we are

The Kerry Children's Services Committee is comprised of representatives from Community, Voluntary and Statutory agencies that deliver services to children in County Kerry. In order that the CSC can address issues relating to the National Outcomes for Children, senior managers from all the major statutory and voluntary services for children and families are represented on the CSC. Membership of the Kerry CSC includes representatives from the agencies listed below.

Leadership on the CSC initiative, at a national level, has been provided by the OMCYA. The OMCYA designated the HSE to lead this new initiative under the auspices of the County Development Board. This decision was driven by the fact that the HSE is responsible for child welfare and protection and family support services, and has trained professionals to support the delivery of these services

Membership of Kerry Children's Services Committee:

Michael Fitzgerald (Chairperson)	Area Manager, Health Service Executive
Oliver Mawe	Childcare Manager, Health Service Executive
John Breen	Director of Services, Kerry County Council
Ann O'Dwyer	Acting CEO, Kerry Education Services
Miriam Galvin	Youth Officer, Kerry Education Services
John Brosnahan	SPO, Probation Services
Inspector Fearghal Pattwell	An Garda Síochána
Dr. Colm O'Doherty	Institute of Technology Tralee
Eamonn O'Reilly	CEO, North & East Kerry Partnership
Tim O'Donoghue	CEO, Kerry Diocesan Youth Service
Oonagh Fleming	Manager, Kerry County Child Care Committee
Ann Fogarty	Education Welfare Officer, National Education & Welfare Board
Deirdre Fleming	Education Coordinator, South Kerry Development Partnership
Seamus Falvey	Coordinator Kerryhead/Ballyheigue FRC, Kerry Network of Family Resource Centres
Maria McSwiney	Retired Principal, Irish Primary Principals Network
Claire O'Toole	Coordinator , Kerry Children's Services Committee

Achievements to date

The Kerry CSC has employed a coordinator, Claire O'Toole to support the work of the Children's Services Committee and the implementation of the strategic action plan, "Kerry Workplan for Children and Young People 2011 – 2013".

Kerry CSC has established 8 working groups to oversee the implementation of the strategic action plan. Through these working groups many more agencies and individuals have committed to working with the Children's Services Committee in order to ensure better developmental outcomes for children and families in Kerry. The priority action area working groups are: Parenting & Family Learning 0-6; Children with Disabilities; Drugs & Alcohol; Youth Mental Health; Young people at Risk; Budget Management; Community and Volunteer Initiatives; Research & Information.

The Kerry Children's Services Committee is currently undertaking research to (a) provide accurate baseline socio-demographic data on Children and Families in county Kerry with appropriate demographic indicators (b) to provide a detailed profile of services and supports available to Children and Families in the county and (c) Develop an appropriate Data Collection Framework for the Kerry Children's Services Committee.

This research will serve as an essential reference resource which will support the work of Kerry Children's Services Committee. It will help identify the current needs of children and young people, future needs of children and young people and gaps in current service provision. It will also enable the Kerry Children's Services Committee to measure the success of actions undertaken in the county to support children, young people and their families.

How the Workplan for Children and Young People was developed

The Kerry CSC's "Workplan for Children and Young People 2011 – 2013" was developed by the partner agencies and is founded on information collated from a data gathering project conducted in 2009. The development of this first workplan was driven by a desire by all the partner agencies to improve interagency work, the sharing of information and resources in order to improve outcomes for children and families in county Kerry.

The Kerry Children's Services Committee has developed the first strategic interagency plan for Kerry based on the priority action areas and objectives identified by the Kerry CSC working groups. It is the intention of the Kerry Children's Services Committee to engage with children, young people and their families in the roll out of the workplan. Kerry CSC will develop a consultation process to ensure the voice of children and young people is reflected in all aspects of our work. All future action plans will be developed in partnership with children, young people and their families.

The initial stages of developing the Kerry CSC's Workplan were completed by facilitated planning sessions, with reference to the 5 National Outcomes for Children, in order to identify the priority areas (local issues) which would benefit from a more collaborative inter-agency working approach.

National Outcomes for Children:

1. Healthy both physically and mentally
2. Supported in active learning
3. Safe from accidental and intentional harm/Secure in the immediate and wider physical environment

4. Economically secure
5. Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community/included and participating in society

Working groups were then established for each priority area identified comprised of Kerry CSC members and the relevant agencies and stakeholders.

Draft workplans were developed by the CSC, based on a template developed by the OMCYA, each working group detailed the following components:-

- Objectives identifying desired achievements for each priority area
- Indicators to measure degree of success achieved
- Targets to identify the desired change in service provision
- Activities which will be undertaken to support achievement of objectives
- Timeframes for completion of individual objectives

Working groups will report back to the CSC on progress achieved towards fulfilment of objectives ensuring the Kerry CSC Workplan remains a live and relevant document focused on improvement in inter-agency working in its mission to improve services for children and young people in County Kerry.

Section 2: Socio-Demographic Profile of County Kerry

Overview:

County Kerry is situated in the south west of Ireland in the province of Munster. It covers a total area of 1,815 square miles and a total population of 139,835 was recorded in the 2006 Census. This represents an increase of 7,308 persons or 5.5% on the 2002 Census.

There are three main towns in county Kerry: Tralee, Killarney and Listowel. Tralee is the county town and administrative centre. There are a further 4 large towns: Castleisland, Dingle, Kenmare and Killorglin. 35% of the population of Kerry resides in the 7 main towns of the county. There are also two Gaeltacht areas in county Kerry: Gaeltacht Chorca Dhuibhne situated on the Dingle Peninsula and Gaeltacht Uibh Ráithaigh which is situated on the Iveragh Peninsula.

Indicator	Measure
Child population ¹	In 2006 there were 33,036 children under 18 living in Kerry. Source: CSO SAPS Census Reports 2006
Non-Irish national children ¹	2,390 or 7.2% non-Irish national children are resident in the county in 2006. Source: State of the Nation's Children Ireland 2008
Traveller children ¹	There are 285 Traveller children in county Kerry which represents 0.9% of the total child population. Source: State of the Nation's Children Ireland 2010
Children with Disabilities	In 2006 there were 1359 children with disabilities living in county Kerry. Source: State of the Nation's Children Ireland 2010
Family structure ¹	In 2006, 5,076 children under 18 in Kerry lived in family household units with only one parent or primary care-giver resident. Source: State of the Nation's Children Ireland 2010
Number of Births to Females aged 10 -17	8 children were born to teenage mothers in 2008 in county Kerry. In 2009 13 children were born to mothers aged less than 18 years; 7 mothers were aged 16 years old and a further 6 were 17 years old. Source: CSO Register of Births
Education Level	The mothers of 5.4% of children in Kerry have no formal or primary level education only. 31% of mothers of children in Kerry have achieved a third level qualification. Source: State of the Nation's Children Ireland 2010

¹ Data is available on a county basis from the Central Statistics Office for the following categories: child population, child mortality, ethnicity, non-Irish national children, family structure, parental education, traveller children

School Attendance	<p>In the academic year 2007-2008 the average non-attendance rate in national schools in Kerry was 6.5% which translates into each child missing an average of 11.9 days of school in that year.</p> <p>In the same academic year, the average non-attendance rate for post primary schools in Kerry was 8.3% compared to the average for the state of 7%. This represents an average of 13.86 missed school days per child per year, over 2 days more than the national average.</p> <p>In the 2005-2006 academic year 14,616 children were enrolled in primary school of whom 12.3% missed 20 days or more. This was higher than the national average attendance rate of 11.5%.</p> <p>In the 2005-2006 academic year 9,939 young people were enrolled in secondary school 16.4% of whom missed 20 days or more which is slightly above the national average of 16%.</p> <p>Source: Analysis of School attendance Data in Primary & Post Primary Schools 2006/07 & 2007/08</p>
Juveniles Referred to the Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme (2009)	<p>In 2009, 510 young people aged 10 – 17 were referred to the Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme in Kerry.</p> <p>Source: State of the Nation's Children Ireland 2010</p>
Children in Care of the HSE	<p>On December 31st 2007 there were 124 children in the care of the HSE in Kerry of which</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80 children were in general foster care • 27 children were in foster care with relatives • 17 children were in other care arrangements with the HSE <p>At the end of 2010 there were 155 children in Kerry in the care of the HSE of which</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90 children were in general foster care • 53 children were in foster care with relatives • 12 children were in other care arrangements with the HSE <p>This increase reflects similar increases across the country.</p> <p>Source: Childcare Interim Data Set</p>
Housing & Local Authority Housing	<p>There were 48,110 private households in county Kerry in 2006, comprising 47,743 permanent and 367 temporary private households. 33.2% of households are of a husband, wife and children.</p> <p>In 2008 a total of 469 families with a total of 763 children were on the Kerry County Council waiting list to be housed representing over 45% of the total number waiting to be housed that year. In the same year 48 families, including lone parent families with children were provided with emergency accommodation.</p> <p>There were 3,138 dwellings in Kerry rented from the Local Authority in 2006.</p> <p>Source: O'Connor, C., 'Emerging Trends in Kerry – Census 2006' (2007)</p>

Kerry Money Advice and Budgeting Service

In 2010, 508 families with children sought support from the Kerry Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS). There are currently (June 2011) 744 families with children being supported by MABS and a further 20 families with children awaiting an appointment with a money advisor.

Source: Kerry MABS, June 2011

Unemployment Statistics

In 2006, there were 4,842 persons registered as unemployed in county Kerry. In March 2011 the total of persons registered as unemployed in Kerry had risen to 16,926 persons.

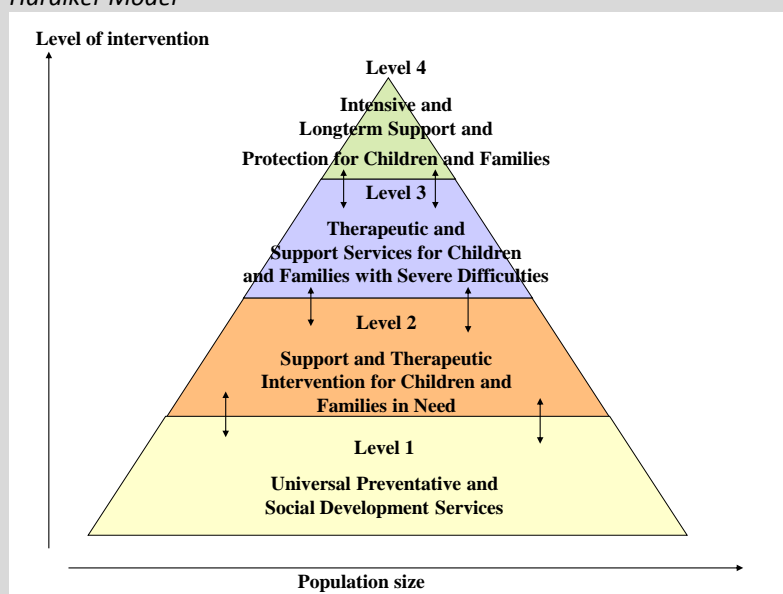
Source: Unemployed Statistics, National Live Register (March 2011)

Section 3: Overview of Services to Children and Families in County Kerry

This section should **summarise** the services provided to children and families in the local area, by statutory, voluntary and community sector organisations. The information contained in this section should be based on the audit of services conducted by the CSC.

It is suggested that CSCs should categorise the services provided to children and families in the local area, according to the different levels in the Hardiker Model, i.e. Levels 1,2,3 and 4 (recognising that some services cross several levels)

Hardiker Model



The Overview should summarise services provided by statutory agencies and by community and voluntary organisations, covering:

- Health and social services
- Education
- Policing and youth justice
- Local authority services
- Social welfare
- Other services

Overview

In this section the Kerry Children's Services Committee has identified and briefly outlined below many of the main services available to children, young people and their families within the priority action area categories in county Kerry. A more detailed audit of services will be undertaken as part of a research project commissioned by the Kerry CSC and will be available at the end of 2011.

The HSE provides a wide variety of services and therapies to children and families in Kerry. The social work department services include child protection services which provide care, assessment and follow up, family support services, fostering and residential care services. Child health care is provided through area medical teams which visit schools and work with public

health nurses to give vaccinations and monitor the development of children from birth onwards. 8 primary care teams are currently operating across the county and a further 8 PCTs are in development. There are health centres established in most communities in the county.

There are 143 primary schools throughout county Kerry, including 3 special needs schools located in Tralee, Listowel and Beaufort. 15 primary schools were classified as disadvantaged DEIS schools. There are 26 secondary schools in county Kerry including 5 designated disadvantaged secondary DEIS schools. There are currently 14 schools engaged in the School Completion Programme 7 in North Kerry and 7 in South Kerry. There are 146 childcare services registered with the HSE in county Kerry; 85 private providers and 61 community childcare services providing early years care and education to children aged 0 – 12 years in the form of all day care, part-time care, sessional pre-school and after school care.

There are 12 Family Resource Centres funded by the Family Support Agency located in Ballyduff, Cahersiveen, Castlemaine, Duagh, Kerryhead/Ballyheigue, Killarney, Killorglin, Lauragh/Tousist, Listowel, Tralee (x2) and Sneem which provide a wide range of community based childcare, family support and counselling services.

The KDYS provides a range of youth work services to young people aged 12 – 20 across the county. They operate 47 youth clubs in the county and 4 youth centres in Tralee, Killarney, Listowel and Killorglin as well as 4 outreach facilities. Universal services are delivered on a weekly basis to 4,800 young people with the support of trained staff and 493 volunteers. Services provided include youth information, mentoring, after school supports, SPY projects, Garda Youth Diversion Projects, Drugs Projects, Youth Reach, Springboard and childcare services.

There are 391 sports and recreation clubs in county Kerry including 69 GAA clubs, 45 community games associations, 37 soccer clubs, 21 athletics associations, 19 Girl Guides, 16 Basketball clubs, 5 rugby clubs, 11 judo clubs, 5 boxing clubs, and 2 special Olympics groups.

Many of the main services available within the main priority action areas are outlined briefly below.

Parenting & Family Learning 0 – 6 Years:

Parenting courses are available to parents regularly across the county. Information is provided locally and via the Kerry County Childcare website. Family learning opportunities are provided to parents in their local adult education centre regularly by Kerry Education Service. The programmes focus on literacy and numeracy and are designed to help parents to support their child's learning. The Springboard project is available to parents and families in the Tralee Rapid area. Springboard is a family support initiative designed to improve the well-being of families, parents and children. Springboard provides a 'drop in' support service as well as preventative early intervention and intensive, therapeutic interventions to families in Tralee. There are 10 FSA funded Family Resource Centres located throughout county Kerry which provide a wide range of community based family support services and parenting programmes. The Public Health Nurse visits all new mothers in their homes and can provide support and advice to parents. The PHN provides links to early assessment and intervention services, family support, community and voluntary organisations. Parents can also access support from the 'Community Parents' programme. Community parents offer support and guidance to parents of children less than two years of age. Parent & Toddler Groups operate across the county and provide peer support to young parents and an opportunity to play and socialise for young children. Parents can locate a Parent & Toddler group near them via the Kerry County Childcare website.

Children with Disabilities:

Disability support services are provided for children with disabilities in Kerry by the HSE Early Intervention Services. The HSE has also contracted St John of God Services, Brothers of Charity Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services, Brothers of Charity Early Intervention Services, Brothers of Charity Autistic Spectrum Services and Enable Ireland to provide disability support services. A wide variety of services including: physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, educational psychology, clinical psychology and dietician are provided by these agencies. The current delivery of services for children with disabilities is under review. It is hoped to reconfigure service delivery in order to provide equitable access to services across the county.

Drugs & Alcohol:

A range of addiction services and supports are provided to young people in county Kerry. The Southern Regional Drugs Task Force funds 3 drugs workers in Listowel, Tralee and Killarney. The drugs workers work with young people to support them into addiction support services or post addiction interventions to maintain positive change. Addiction counselling and residential treatment services are available through the HSE. Residential addiction treatment is available to adults in Talbot Grove Treatment Centre, Castleisland, county Kerry.

Youth Mental Health:

The Kerry Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) is delivered by the Brothers of Charity Southern Services on behalf of the HSE and provides a specialist multi-disciplinary service to children and young people with mental health disorders aged 0 – 16. Disorders include ADHD, Eating Disorders, Depressive Disorders and Psychotic Disorders. There are currently 2 multi-disciplinary teams serving North Kerry and South Kerry. A specialist service is provided for children with an intellectual disability who also have mental health disorders. Waiting lists are in operation but all emergency cases are seen promptly. Residential mental health care is available through the HSE in a 22 bed residential care facility based in Cork which serves the HSE Southern Region. Counselling Services are provided to adolescents and children by the Kerry Counselling Centre, Tralee and South West Counselling Centre, Killarney. The National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS) provides school based psychological supports to support the educational needs of children and young people. Children are referred to the NEPS by their school. Jigsaw Kerry, a community based mental health initiative provides training opportunities and a drop in facility to young people in Tralee.

Young People at Risk:

There are 6 Garda Youth Diversion Projects operating in Kerry under the Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme in Tralee (x3), Castleisland, Listowel and Killarney. Youth Reach projects are available to young people in Tralee, Killarney, Listowel and Killorglin. A Probation Officer works with youth offenders under the Young Person's Probation, a specialised division within the Probation Service in Kerry. The service works with young people aged 12 – 18 and seeks to promote positive change and prevent recidivism. The School Completion Programme operates in 14 schools, both primary and secondary in Kerry. The school completion programme aims to impact positively on school retention rates and prevent early school leaving. The HSE Social Work Department is responsible for the protection and welfare of children at risk in Kerry.

Budget Management:

The Kerry Money Advice Budgeting Service provides budgeting and money management supports to families throughout Kerry who are experiencing financial difficulties. Local Development Companies North and East Kerry Development, South Kerry Development Partnership, Comhar Dhuibhne and IRD Duhallow offer local employment and training supports to families throughout the county. The Society of St Vincent De Paul provides financial support to individuals and families experiencing financial difficulties.

Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in County Kerry

This section should highlight the main concerns and issues for Children and Young People in your area, drawn from the socio-demographic profile and the audit of services. It should summarise the key findings from the local needs analysis conducted by the CSC.

It should convey **“how the children and young people in your county are doing”** in terms of the National Outcomes for Children:

- Healthy, both physically and mentally
- Supported in active learning
- Safe from accidental and intentional harm
- Economically secure
- Secure in the immediate and wider physical environment
- Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community
- Included and participating in society

In 2009 as part of its pre-development work Kerry Children’s Services Committee undertook a data gathering project which attempted to map the services available to children and families in county Kerry as well as capture how children and young people were doing in Kerry under the National Indicator Set. Further analysis of how services are being delivered and responding to local need will be undertaken. The initial data gathering project highlighted the need for a focussed research project to underpin the Kerry Children’s Services Committee initiative.

Kerry CSC has commissioned a research project which will be completed by December 2011. The aims of this research are the collection and analysis of data as prescribed by the indicators identified by the working groups of the Kerry Children’s Services Committee in consultation with the researcher. The indicators are measures by which each group can measure the effectiveness of their actions and are identified as *“An indicator is the measure which will be used to determine whether the objective is being achieved. An indicator can be a national indicator or one which has been developed locally”* (OMCYA, CSC Workplan Template). Indicators provide evidence that certain results have or have not been achieved and enable decision makers to assess progress towards the achievement of intended outcome objectives.

The research will establish an appropriate data collection framework which can be updated regularly by the Kerry CSC in order to ensure that required information remains current, measurable and valid.

The research will serve as an essential reference resource which will support the work of Kerry Children’s Services Committee. It will identify the current needs of children and young people, and gaps in current service provision. It will also enable Kerry CSC to measure the success of actions undertaken in the county to support children, young people and their families.

The following steps will be undertaken as part of the research.

A. Identification of Indicators & Appropriate Baseline Data:

Identification of indicators in consultation with working groups to ensure that clear indicators are established for each priority action area: Parenting & Family Learning 0-6; Drugs & Alcohol; Youth Mental Health; Budget Management; Young People at Risk; Community & Volunteer Initiatives. The

researcher will also consult with working groups to establish the baseline data required to support the identified indicators.

B. Profile of Services:

Provide a comprehensive profile of the services provided by statutory, community and voluntary sector organisations to children and families in county Kerry specific to the following working groups of the Kerry CSC: Parenting & Family Learning 0-6; Drugs & Alcohol; Youth Mental Health; Budget Management; Young People at Risk; Community & Volunteer Initiatives.

C. Collection & Analysis of Data:

Local data sources relevant to the above named working groups will be compiled and analysed to provide an accurate overview of services to children in the county. The data must be specific, measurable, relevant and obtainable regularly. This data collection, compilation and analysis will be required to support the 'outcome indicators' of each of the Kerry CSC working groups. Consideration will be given to the following:

1. Consider the indicators to ensure that quantitative data can support each indicator.
2. Collate the relevant baseline evidence for each working group (based on the list of indicators).
3. Analyse the baseline evidence and the indicators and present this information in a way that can be used by each working group to inform the workplan.

D. Data Collection Framework:

In addition to the collection, compilation and analysis of relevant local data the researcher will establish an information collection framework which can be continually updated by the Children's Services Committee Coordinator to support the information requirements of the Kerry CSC. The data collection framework will have two components:

1. The development of a database with the above named baseline evidence and indicators. Queries can then be run on a regular basis that will yield information that will indicate if the Kerry CSC is achieving its planned outcomes.
2. An evaluation framework that will assess the quality of the implementation and assess the relationship between outcomes for service recipients and the inputs made by the working groups.

Section 5: Summary of Workplan for Children and Young People for Kerry

Having considered the initial socio-demographic profile, the audit of services and the local needs analysis as outlined in sections 2, 3 and 4 of this document, Kerry CSC has identified priority areas for action, linked to the national outcomes. These priority areas are summarised in section 5 below.

National Outcomes	Local Priority Areas
Healthy, both physically and mentally	1: Parenting & Family Learning 0-6 2: Children with Disabilities 3: Drugs & Alcohol 4: Youth Mental Health
Supported in active learning	
Safe from accidental and intentional harm / Secure in the immediate and wider physical environment	5. Young People at Risk
Economically secure	6. Budget Management
Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community / Included and participating in society	7. Community & Volunteer Initiatives

Change Management	Local Priority Areas
Change management - CSCs may also identify priority areas relating to change management and supports needed to enable interagency collaboration at local level, e.g. development of information sharing protocols, interagency training	8. Research & Information

Section 6: Action Plan for County Kerry Children's Services Committee

Local Priority Action: Parenting & Family Learning 0 – 6

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Parenting & Family Learning 0 – 6 Years	Support the coordination and provision of parenting programmes for parents of children aged 0 – 6 years old across the county.	<p>8 Parenting Programmes for parents of children aged 0-6 to be delivered across the county annually.</p> <p>A number of families take up the parents support programmes.</p> <p>A number of families complete the programmes.</p>	All families that are identified as requiring the service receive the support of the service /an offer of the service.	<p>Coordinate activities of agencies involved.</p> <p>Promote the Parenting & Family Learning webpage on Kerry County Childcare's website</p> <p>Identify need and gaps in current services.</p> <p>To identify Parents Support Programmes</p> <p>Prioritise areas of need.</p> <p>Parenting Programmes for parents of children with disabilities aged 0-6 to be organised as appropriate in partnership with the Children with Disabilities WG</p>	<p>A review of the working groups' activities will be undertaken annually.</p> <p>Coordination Role Ongoing for families to 2013</p>	Oliver Mawe (HSE)	<p>The Supporting Parenting Strategy</p> <p>Kerry Parenting & Family Learning Strategic Plan (2008- 2010)</p>

Local Priority Action: Children with Disabilities

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Children with Disabilities	<p>1. Provide vision for provision of specialist clinical services for children 0-18 years with complex developmental needs as set out in the 'Report of the National Reference Group on Multidisciplinary Disability Services for Children Aged 5-18' (2009)</p> <p>2. Reconfigure multi-disciplinary service provision for children with complex developmental needs across the county to provide clarity & simplify access.</p>	<p>Equitable access across locations in the county.</p> <p>Positive feedback from service users.</p> <p>Positive feedback from service providers.</p> <p>Parents can access relevant information as required.</p>	<p>Standardised approach to referral & service provision across the county.</p> <p>Coordinated approach to maintenance and development of service provision into the future.</p> <p>Measurable outcomes</p> <p>One clear pathway to services for all children according to need.</p> <p>Effective teams working in partnership with parents and service users.</p> <p>Resources used to the greatest benefit for all children and families.</p>	<p>Set up Governance and Local Implementation Groups with clear terms of reference.</p> <p>Establish existing levels of service provision for children with disabilities across the county.</p> <p>A draft of guiding principles for service will be written and agreed by all service providers.</p> <p>Voluntary service providers will complete a mapping template.</p>	<p>LIG to report on current service provision, resource allocation, location of service provision & timelines for key changes in Dec 2011.</p> <p>Overall project completion date December 2012.</p>	Michael Fitzgerald (HSE)	<p>Disability Act</p> <p>Report of the National Reference Group on Multidisciplinary Disability Services for Children Aged 5-18 (2009)</p>

Children with Disabilities (continued)	<p>3. Ensure the maximisation of use of available resources.</p> <p>4. Identify and prioritise future additional developmental requirements.</p> <p>5. Establish a “Route Map” for parents to support their ability to identify & access services they require for their children with disabilities.</p>		<p>Partnership between health and education to support children to achieve their potential.</p>	<p>Information on disability services available for children and young people to be provided via the Kerry CSC website.</p>			
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Local Priority Action: Drugs and Alcohol

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Drugs & Alcohol	<p>Establish an Interagency Link between CSC, SRDTF & An Garda Síochána with regard to Community Based Drugs Initiatives.</p> <p>Quantify the drugs and alcohol problem relating to children and young people in Kerry.</p> <p>Identify all facilities and programmes available to children and young people affected by drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>Promote the work of the SRDTF.</p>	<p>Statistical analysis of under-age detections.</p> <p>Analysis of target audience presenting for treatment and or aftercare etc.</p> <p>Complete a Drug and Alcohol Awareness Survey.</p>	<p>Increase underage detections by 10% from 2010 to 2011.</p> <p>Increase the number of persons presenting by 10% by 2012.</p>	<p>Regular analysis of figures relating to detections & persons presenting.</p> <p>Establish an interagency link between the Kerry CSC, An Garda Síochána and SRDTF.</p> <p>Sharing of knowledge of services.</p>	Quarter 2 2012.	Det. Fearghal Pattwell	<p>National Drugs Strategy 2009 – 2016</p> <p>Headstrong & Jigsaw Kerry Resource & Needs Analysis 2009/2010.</p>

Local Priority Action: Youth Mental Health

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Youth Mental Health	Establish referral pathways for children and young people with identified needs to appropriate mental health supports in a timely manner. Establish an interagency agreement / protocol across services re the most appropriate response to young person with mental health needs.	<p>Availability of timely appropriate mental health supports to children and young people with complex mental health needs.</p> <p>Ongoing analysis of mental health needs of children and young people in Kerry.</p> <p>Educational preventative community level supports established.</p>	<p>Clear and appropriate response to critical incidences as they arise with clearly defined roles and responsibilities established for each agency.</p> <p>Clear and simple access to appropriate preventative and early intervention supports at community level for young people with emerging mental health needs or concerns.</p> <p>Ensure highest professional standards available to young people through counselling supports, school and community level supports.</p>	<p>Mapping of MH services which will illustrate clear referral pathways.</p> <p>Promotion of services via Kerry CSC website.</p> <p>Development of interagency critical incidence response protocol.</p>	2011 – 2013	Oliver Mawe	<p>A Vision for Change</p> <p>Vision into Action</p> <p>Agenda for Children's Services</p>

Youth Mental Health (continued)	<p>Establish a community level protocol for young people with emerging mental health needs / concerns.</p> <p>Establish a multi-agency critical incidence response protocol to ensure speedy and appropriate response as required.</p> <p>Establish Education, Preventative & community level supports.</p>						
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Local Priority Action: Young People at Risk

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Young People at Risk	<p>Development of interagency systems and structure at local level for delivery of integrated services to young people at risk</p> <p>Development of interagency information exchange procedures</p> <p>Establishment of interagency support network</p> <p>Interagency system of effective casework management for delivery of integrated services to YPAR.</p>	<p>Agreed referral system established.</p> <p>Local structures in place.</p> <p>Number of referrals in each locality.</p> <p>Number of completed integrated service plans.</p>	<p>All young people who require specific targeted services are referred to the appropriate service.</p>	<p>Agree definition on the term 'young person at risk'.</p> <p>Review the relevance of the Hardiker Model to YPAR.</p> <p>Review and evaluate approached adopted by other CSCs.</p> <p>Evaluate compatibility with requirements and current structures in Kerry.</p>	Quarter 2 2012.	John Brosnahan	

Local Priority Action: Budget Management

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Budget Management	To promote greater economic security of families with children in Kerry, with specific emphasis on vulnerable families through increased access to information and improved interagency working.	Improved access to information and financial supports for families.	All families who require budget information or financial advice are referred to the appropriate service.	<p>To prepare and circulate information Facts Sheet on welfare entitlements for the self-employed.</p> <p>To develop and roll out interagency information evenings for front line staff and community activists on supports available to those in financial difficulty throughout the county.</p> <p>To support and promote the roll out of MABS household budgeting course county-wide.</p>	12 months	Eamonn O'Reilly	

Local Priority Action: Community and Volunteer Initiatives

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Community & Volunteer Initiatives	<p>Explore and implement best practice in the area of volunteer recruitment, development and participation.</p> <p>Build capacity in communities through volunteer initiatives.</p> <p>Improve access to participation and services in communities through volunteering.</p> <p>Research volunteer practice and participation in the county.</p> <p>Identify lead in the county.</p>	<p>Volunteer training developed.</p> <p>Increased participation in communities.</p> <p>Community and voluntary forum identified as key agency.</p>	<p>Standardised approach to recruitment and training of volunteers across the county.</p> <p>Increased community participation.</p>	<p>Research into volunteer led activities across the county to establish training needs, existing capacity and gaps in communities that voluntary roles could serve to fill.</p>	<p>Research complete by March 2012.</p> <p>Other actions completed by December 2012.</p>	Tim O'Donoghue	<p>Community and Voluntary Plan</p> <p>White Paper on Volunteering</p> <p>OMCYA Volunteer Charter</p>

Local Priority Action: Research and Information

Priority Area	Objective	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Responsibility	Links to Other Plans
Research and Information	<p>To provide and collate accurate Information to the Kerry CSC to inform the Kerry CSC Action Plan.</p> <p>To develop an appropriate data collection framework to ensure information remains accurate and current.</p> <p>To ensure the Kerry Children's Services Committee has up to date and accurate baseline information to inform its work.</p>	<p>Develop a comprehensive profile of health and well-being of children and families for the county utilizing the indicators across all areas to inform the action plan.</p> <p>100% of objectives of priority actions will be supported by appropriate and measurable indicators.</p>	<p>Baseline information to inform the CSC working groups to measure the effectiveness of their actions by September 2011.</p>	<p>Prepare and circulate a research tender to provide socio-demographic profile, audit of services and information gathering framework.</p> <p>Establish the level of service provision to children and families in county Kerry.</p> <p>Establish the local needs and gaps in service provision.</p> <p>Identify areas of duplication and scope for integration and rationalisation of services.</p>	September 2011.	Miriam Galvin	

Section 7: Monitoring and Review

Kerry Children's Services Committee will work with all partner agencies, children, young people and families to implement its workplan. Kerry CSC has made contact with the Kerry Comhairle na nÓg with a view to establishing an appropriate consultation process in order to ensure their participation in the work of the committee going forward. It is envisaged that the Kerry CSC will feedback to and consult with Comhairle na nÓg on a six-monthly basis.

This workplan is considered by the Kerry Children's Services Committee to be a 'live document' which will be reviewed and updated as required. The Kerry CSC has commissioned a research project to provide and collate accurate information to the Kerry CSC to inform the Kerry CSC Workplan. The research will develop an appropriate data collection framework to ensure information remains accurate and current and also ensure the Kerry Children's Services Committee has up to date and accurate baseline information to inform its work going forward. The research will be completed by December 2011 and will then be presented to the committee. This workplan will be reviewed and amended in light of the research findings and consultation with children and families in early 2012.

Each working group is responsible for the objectives outlined in the workplan and ensuring that they are implemented. The working groups will report back to the CSC quarterly. A quarterly report template will be devised for this purpose. The data collection framework commissioned as part of the research will enable the Kerry Children's Services Committee together with the working groups to track and monitor progress and the impact on children's lives.

Kerry CSC will provide regular reports to the Kerry County Development Board and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (formerly the OMCYA).

Section 8: Appendices

- (A) Terms of reference for the CSC
- (B) Membership of CSC subgroups

Appendix A

Kerry CSC Terms of Reference

Background

Mandate and Purpose

The National Children's Strategy Implementation Group (NCSIG) and the Office for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA) have agreed the overall purpose of the CSCs as 'securing better developmental outcomes (meaning the 7 National Outcomes) for children through more effective integration of existing services and interventions at local level'.

The 7 National Outcomes envision that all children should be:

1. Healthy, both physically and mentally
2. Supported in active learning
3. Safe from accidental and intentional harm
4. Economically secure
5. Secure in the immediate and wider physical environment
6. Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community
7. Included and participating in society

CSCs are about improving outcomes for all children (universalism), with the targeting of resources on those that have special needs for support or protection in county Kerry. The **Lifecycle Framework** places the individual at the centre of policy development and delivery by assessing the risks facing him/her, and the supports available to him/her to address those risks, at the key stages in his/her life. The delivery of better services to children in Kerry includes the need for quality support and interventions, coordination of service delivery, assessment and evaluation in order to inform best practice and policy development.

Functions of the Kerry CSC

The Kerry Children's Services Committee (CSC) is an interagency committee committed to and responsible for the following:

- To bring together and establish mechanisms for communication between, statutory and voluntary organisations involved in providing services to children.
- To conduct needs analyses relevant to the specified national outcomes for children and other relevant local issues.
- To map the services currently available.
- To identify gaps and priorities in relation to population groups and services.
- To develop and oversee the implementation of an inter-agency plan designed to improve outcomes for children.
- To target resources and oversee delivery of initiatives that will improve outcomes for children, and which require collaboration between services.
- To create effective systems of co-ordinated services, support and opportunities to improve outcomes for children.
- To eliminate fragmentation and duplication of services by ensuring more effective collaboration between children, young people and family service.
- To strengthen the decision-making capacity at local level.
- The Kerry CSC should have the opportunity to influence funding decision relating to services in the area, by considering proposed initiatives, programmes and services within the context of a plan for the county developed by the CSC.

The CSC has four overall goals:

1. To bring partners within a single framework for the delivery of services to children, young people and their families within the County.
2. To provide strategic leadership to ensure the development of and delivery of improved outcomes for children, young people and their families.
3. To agree and implement an action plan.
4. To act cohesively to implement strategic decisions of the committee.

Leadership

Leadership on the CSC initiative, at a national level, has been provided by the OMCYA. The OMCYA designated the HSE to lead this new initiative. This decision was driven by the fact that the HSE is responsible for child welfare and protection and family support services, and has trained professionals to support the delivery of these services.

Chair of the CSC

The Kerry CSC will be chaired by the HSE Local Health Manager (LHM).

The key roles of the Chair include:

- Provide leadership and direction for the CSC
- Ensure that the CSC delivers on its plan/work programme
- Ensure appropriate interaction between the CSC, the CSC Steering Group and external stakeholders.

The CSC Coordinator

The Kerry CSC will appoint a CSC Coordinator from within existing resources of CSC member organisations.

Membership

Kerry CSC is made up of representatives from Community, Voluntary and Statutory agencies that provide support, and /or service delivery to children in County Kerry. In order that the CSC can address issues relating to the seven national outcomes for children, senior managers from all the major statutory and voluntary providers of services to children and families should be represented on the CSC. It is recommended that members attend as many meetings as possible and that a member cannot send a substitute to a meeting in his/her place.

Membership of the Kerry CSC will include representatives from the following:

Membership includes (14):

HSE (2)

Kerry County Council (1)

Kerry Education Service (2)

Kerry County Childcare Committee (1)

An Garda Siochana (1)

Probation Service (1)

North and East Kerry Development (1)

South Kerry Development Partnership (1)

KDYS (1)

Family Resource Centre (1)

IT Tralee (1)

National Education Welfare Board (1)

Working in partnership

1. In order to develop a framework for child centred policy development and service delivery, the committee will identify existing models of good practice and develop new models where necessary.
2. Each member organisation will work in collaboration with other members of the committee to improve policy development and delivery of services for children.
3. Each member organisation will seek to remove unnecessary duplication and blockages to the delivery of child centred policies and services both within their own organisation and in cooperation with other organisations.

CSC Meetings and subgroups

The Kerry CSC will meet every 4-6 weeks.

The CSC will develop a Work plan and establish subgroups around specific outcomes/issues. Each of the subgroups will be chaired by a member of the CSC (who is accountable to the CSC for the subgroup). The subgroups can include organisations and individuals who have a particular expertise in the subgroup topic, but who are not members of the CSC. The subgroups will meet on a monthly basis.

Reporting mechanism

At a national level:

The CSC will provide update reports to the National Steering Committee and the NCSIG when required.

At a local level:

The CSC will provide update reports to the County Development Board.

Review and Evaluation

The Committee, led by the Chair, will undertake an annual review and evaluation of its performance. This will be based on the goals and targets as outlined in the work programme.

Values

- We are committed to **delivering quality outcomes** for children, their families and all associated services.
- We support procedures which achieve **child-centred outcomes**.
- We are committed to **collaborative, transparent, and democratic decision-making**.

- We demonstrate **trust** for each other and **respect** for our colleagues efforts and contribution.
- We reflect, understand and develop through **continuous learning** and **experience**.
- We work **creatively and innovatively** to overcome challenges.
- We are **assertive, positive**, and **solution focused**.
- We **communicate efficiently and effectively** with each other and with all stakeholders.

Guiding Principles

The Kerry Children's Service Committee will adhere to the following principles:

- The wishes, feelings, safety and well-being of children will be considered in all work undertaken by the committee and the member agencies. Hearing the voice of the child will frame our work.
- Working in partnership includes children, families, professionals, communities and agencies.
- The work of the CSC will reflect a strengths -based perspective recognising the resilience of children and their families.
- Evaluation of the work of the CSC will be ongoing and will focus on outcomes achieved for children and families in Kerry.

Summary of key operations of the Kerry Children Services Committee

- To identify the weaknesses and needs in the current provision of children services in Kerry and to respond effectively.
- To recognise and develop the strength and the capacity to deliver high quality and comprehensive children services in Kerry.
- To provide efficient and effective structures for the coordination of services to children and families provided by a range of organisations in Kerry.
- To facilitate and support effective collaboration between agencies in Kerry which provide services to children.
- To report on the resourcing and outcomes of children services provision in Kerry on a regular basis.

Confirmation of Agreement

We, the undersigned, agree on behalf of the organisations we represent to the Terms of Reference, the Values, and the Mission and Vision for Co. Kerry Children's Services Committee:

_____	Health Service Executive (Chair)
_____	HSE
_____	Kerry County Council
_____	Kerry Education Service
_____	KES
_____	An Garda Síochána
_____	County Childcare Committee
_____	Tralee IT
_____	NEKD
_____	Probation & Welfare Service
_____	HSE (Child Care)
_____	Family Resource Centre Representative
_____	KDYS
_____	SKDP
_____	National Education Welfare Board

Appendix B

Kerry CSC Subgroup Membership

Subgroup	Members
1: Early Years Intervention	Oliver Mawe (HSE - Lead) Oonagh Fleming (KCCC) Deirdre Kearin (NEKD) Deirdre Fleming (SKDP) Margaret Wrenn (FRCs) Ann Moynihan (HSE) Claire O'Toole
2: Children with Disabilities	<u>Management Governance Group:</u> Michael Fitzgerald (HSE) (Lead) Angela O'Neill (HSE) Eithne McCauliffe (HSE) Ann Sheehan (HSE) Kevin Ryan (St John of God Services) Terry Datsun (Enable Ireland) Una Nagle (Bros. Of Charity) <u>Local Implementation Group:</u> Angela O'Neill (HSE - Lead) Peggy Horan (HSE) Moira King Fitzgerald (BOC - EIS) Dr. Claire Craven (BOC - CAMHS) Mary Fitzgerald (BOC – ASD) Eleanor Clifford (SJOG) Maria Leyden (EI) Eibhlís Cahalane (HSE – EIS) Dr Sharon Condon (Consultant Paediatrician) Monica Sheehan (HSE) Dr Gretta Tarrant (Snr AMO) Ann Sheehan (HSE) Parent Rep

<p>3: Drugs & Alcohol Initiative</p> <p>(Membership currently being increased to include representation from HSE Health Promotion & DES SPHE)</p>	<p>Oliver Mawe (Temporary Lead)</p> <p>Det. Fearghal Pattwell (Gardaí)</p> <p>Sgt. James Foley (Gardaí)</p> <p>David Lane (HSE D&A Services)</p> <p>Con Cremins (Talbot Grove)</p> <p>Tim O'Donoghue (KDYS)</p> <p>Chris Black (SRDTF)</p> <p>Gordon Kinsley (SRDTF)</p> <p>Chris Barrow (KLEM)</p> <p>Mairead O'Sullivan (Jigsaw)</p> <p>Claire O'Toole</p>
<p>4: Young People at Risk</p> <p>(Membership currently being increased to include representation from the SCP and HSE Social Work Dept)</p>	<p>John Brosnahan (Lead)</p> <p>Inspector Martin McCarthy (Gardaí)</p> <p>Miriam Galvin (KES)</p> <p>Kevin Murphy / Paula Shanahan (KDYS)</p> <p>Cecilia Scanlon (JLO)</p> <p>Seamus Falvey (Ballyheigue FRC)</p> <p>Ann Fogarty (NEWB)</p> <p>Oliver Mawe (HSE)</p> <p>Michelle Moore (Probation Service)</p> <p>Claire O'Toole</p>
<p>5: Budget Management</p>	<p>Eamonn O'Reilly –NEKD (Lead)</p> <p>Hilary Scanlan - HSE</p> <p>John Herlihy – Dept. of Social Protection</p> <p>John Breen – Kerry County Council</p> <p>Jerry Doyle - MABS</p> <p>John O'Sullivan – St Vincent DePaul</p> <p>Nancy Holmes Smith - Kerry Network of FRCs</p> <p>Dave Fitzgibbon – NEKD</p> <p>Claire O'Toole</p>
<p>6: Community and Volunteer Initiatives</p>	<p>Tim O'Donoghue (Lead)</p> <p>Rena Powell (KDYS)</p>

	<p>Miriam Galvin (KES)</p> <p>Siobhan Griffin (KCC)</p> <p>Padraig Blake (Volunteer)</p> <p>Elizabeth Williams (Volunteer)</p> <p>Lynda Moriarty (Volunteer)</p> <p>Claire O'Toole (Kerry CSC)</p>
7: Information Sub-group	<p>Miriam Galvin (Lead)</p> <p>Aisling Sharkey (ITT)</p> <p>Noreen O'Connor (Kerry County Council)</p> <p>Patricia Maher (HSE)</p> <p>Claire O'Toole</p>