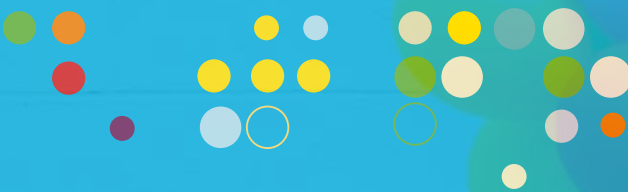




# About CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019-24





Inter-agency working  
to improve the lives  
of children, young  
people and  
families.



[cypsc.ie](http://cypsc.ie)

# Aim of CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 - 2024

The aim of CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019–2024 is to provide a succinct road map for the further development of the Children and Young People’s Services Committees (CYPSC) initiative. The substantive aim of the document is to take stock of progress and to identify the most immediate actions which need to be addressed and advanced. This will assist CYPSC to further develop in a strategic, integrated and sustainable manner to support the co-ordination and planning of efficient and effective services for children and young people.

Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019–2024 sets out a platform for the further development and vision for CYPSC over the next five years. It is intended to further structure and support the capacity of CYPSC to reflect relevant policies and emerging developments and respond to emerging needs, both national and local.

The actions outlined in the document will provide the basis for a work programme for CYPSC for 2019–2024 based on policy and strategic direction from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, the CYPSC National Steering Group and the Children and Young People’s Policy Consortium, with input from relevant sectors.



# The Shared Vision for CYPSC

The shared vision for CYPSC over the next five years is to consolidate and build upon the positive work to date. The CYPSC infrastructure and intelligence of inter-agency working will be used to create the optimum circumstances to advance local and national priorities to enable effective systems change in local communities. Cultivating leadership through

**'joined-up working'** and **'joined-up thinking'**, both locally and nationally, will be at the forefront of our efforts.

CYPSC will be supported in their mission to improve outcomes for children and young people through co-ordinated, responsive and innovative services.



# What are Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC)?

CYPSC are a Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) led initiative delivered through Tusla, the Child and Family Agency with a co-funding arrangement in place between DCYA and Tusla. The core purpose of each CYPSC is to ensure effective inter-agency co-ordination and collaboration to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people in its area.

This is achieved through effective planning, co-ordination and oversight of policy implementation and service provision locally. CYPSC act as the structure whereby services can work together in a systematic manner to achieve shared goals and bridge national policy with local provision.

There are 27 CYPSC established, with some counties sharing a CYPSC and 5 CYPSC in the Dublin region. See [www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie) for links to the CYPSC in your area.

Each CYPSC has a defined role to play in contributing to the achievement

of the vision, principles and desired outcomes expressed in Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People (2014-2020), so that these outcomes become a reality for children and young people at local level. The five national outcomes are: to be active and healthy; to be achieving in all areas of learning and development; to be safe and protected from harm; to enjoy economic security and opportunity; and to be connected, respected and contributing.

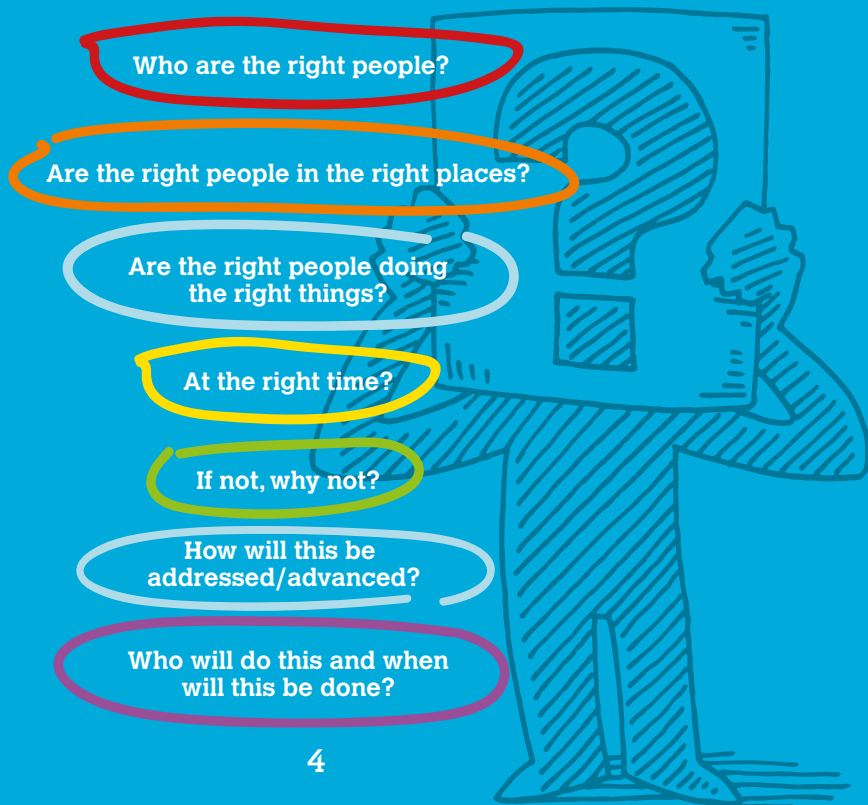
Each CYPSC focuses on identifying gaps and supporting synergies in service delivery, leading to the development of a commonly agreed plan for children and young people in its local area. In addition, service plans by member agencies also have due regard to local priorities as identified by the CYPSC. Each CYPSC also actively promotes the development of quality practices and the delivery of quality services within its area.

# Applying the learning

In the development of Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019–2024, a significant range of consultations were undertaken covering the learning achieved to date, the status of CYPSC and the future vision for the CYPSC initiative. Consultations at the CYPSC National Event in 2018 also

informed the issues that have shaped the CYPSC initiative in recent times. The emerging themes in relation to what works well, and the learning and challenges involved, are outlined on the following pages and inform the actions for the implementation of the document.

## Key questions for the work of CYPSC for children and young people



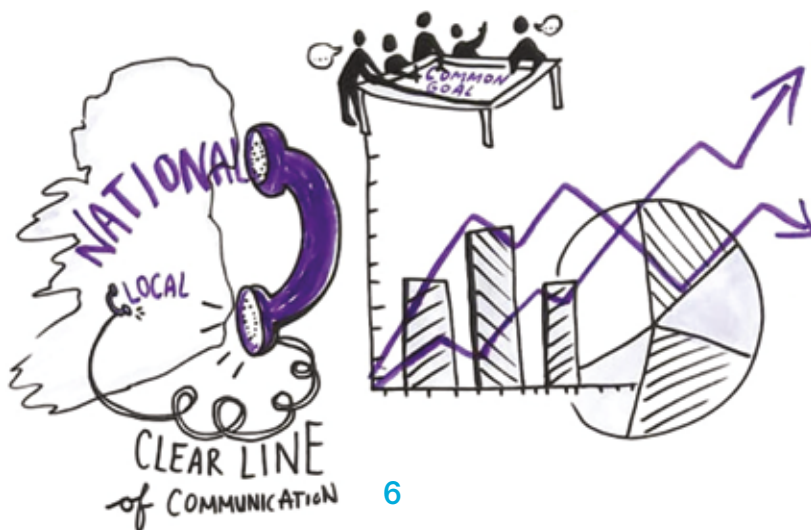
# What is working well at local level?

- CYPSC have developed a wide range of innovative responses to the needs of children, young people and their families which have been showcased and shared.
- Interagency working, collaborative effort, energy and synergy and working partnerships are very much evident with CYPSC membership engagement.
- CYPSC now have a far greater profile and status locally.
- Parenting support at CYPSC level is working well and CYPSC are gathering multi-agency collectives around the theme of parenting support.
- CYPSC have developed a significant body of work to engage children and young people in decisions that affect them.
- The gained understanding of needs in CYPSC local communities has been invaluable and sharing this information with a wider audience is key to fully realising the role of CYPSC.



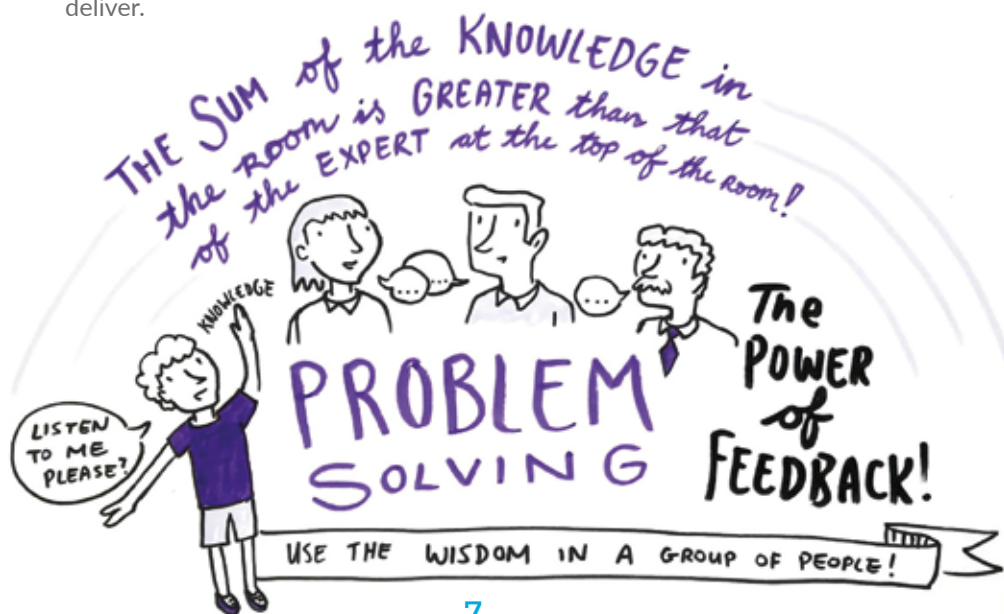
# What is working well at national level?

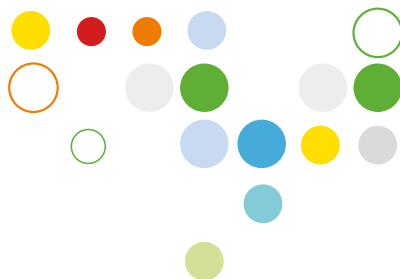
- CYPSC are now recognised as a national structure with raised profile and national coverage with a higher profile among Government Departments and State bodies.
- There are now dedicated CYPSC Co-ordinators nationwide and a National Co-ordinator for CYPSC in Tusla.
- National leadership has been strengthened in terms of developing CYPSC.
- Communication from national level to the local CYPSC has improved with more information, dissemination of best practice and sharing of innovation and ideas.
- The CYPSC role has developed over time and they are now in a position to translate national policy, identifying relevant policies and interpreting the messages for local service providers.
- CYPSC support policy implementation through data collection on service provision and outcomes for children and young people to inform national planning.



# What could be working better?

- Ensuring CYPSC actions are aligned and directly informed by the plans of member agencies.
- Ensuring shared and proportionate input, in terms of resources and activities, from CYPSC members.
- Ensuring balance between national direction and local demand; between holding a position as a co-ordinating structure above a service provision structure, and between securing the resources while ensuring the capacity to deliver.
- Emphasising the need for 'joined up thinking' to be connected with 'joined-up doing'.
- Enhancing buy-in from other Government Departments and Agencies.
- Enhancing the focus on measuring the impact of CYPSC and inter agency working.
- Collection of data and evidence to inform future CYPSC development.





# Actions 2019–2024

Strengthening the alignment and integration of policies and initiatives and the development of mutually reinforcing structures and supports has been an ongoing objective of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

Inter-agency working is the hallmark of the CYPSC initiative and effective inter-agency working is important across all levels of service provision, from targeted to universal. Co-operation, co-ordination and collaboration are the key components of a successful approach to inter-agency working.

The main focus and the shared vision for CYPSC is building on the positive work to date, to strengthen the CYPSC infrastructure and use the evidence base to create the optimum circumstances to identify local and national priorities for improving the lives of children, young people and their families in their local communities.

In supporting this approach, the following ten key high level actions set out the roadmap for the CYPSC initiative over the next five years.

- Strengthened Leadership
- Collaboration
- Building Capacity
- Resourcing
- Planning and Reporting
- Data and Evidence
- Communications
- Participation of Children and Young People
- Joint Commissioning
- Evaluation

These high level actions are supported by 37 sub actions in CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 -2024.



For more information on CYPSC see  
**[www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie)** and **[www.gov.ie/dcya](http://www.gov.ie/dcya)**



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