

Children, Young People and Education Committee

From: Welsh Government
Date: 8 November 2017
Time: 9:30 – 11:00
Title: Evidence paper on the Draft Budget: 2018-19: Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children

1. Introduction

This paper provides comments and information to the Committee regarding the Communities and Children (C&C) portfolio and future programme budget proposals outlined within the Detailed Draft Budget which was laid on 24 October 2017 that fall within the remit of this Committee.

2. Summary Financial Tables

The tables below provide a breakdown, as requested, of the 2018-19 Communities and Children MEG allocations, as relevant to children and young people, by Spending Programme Area, Action and Budget Expenditure Line (BEL).

Resource

SPA	ACTION	BEL	2018-19 Draft Budget Allocation £000's
Enabling Children and Communities	Supporting Children	Support for Childcare and Play	27,706
		Support for Children's Rights	357
		Supporting Children *	1,989
		Children's Commissioner	1,543
		Cafcass Cymru	10,267
		Advocacy Board	1,100
	Early Intervention, Prevention and Support**	Prevention and Early Intervention	140,156
			183,118

* Formerly Grants in Support of Child & Family Services BEL and Services for Children BEL. Merged into one BEL

** Renamed Action - formerly 'Prevention and Early Intervention'

Capital

SPA	ACTION	BEL	2018-19 Draft Budget Allocation £000's
Communities and Tackling Poverty	Communities and Tackling Poverty	Flying Start Capital	566
			566

3. Budget Overview

This budget includes spending plans for 2018-19, together with indicative revenue budgets for 2019-20 and indicative capital plans until 2020-21. This is the second budget of this term of Government and the third year of the UK Government's current Spending Review settlement.

Austerity continues to be a defining feature of public expenditure. This long period of sustained reductions has had an impact on all services, even those where we have been able to provide some protection. It means that as Welsh Government and as a National Assembly for Wales we continue to face tough choices.

An analysis of evidence on current trends and projections has informed a focus on the areas most critical to delivering the needs of the population of Wales and has informed these spending proposals.

In September, we published our national strategy designed to bring together the efforts of the whole public sector towards this government's central mission of delivering Prosperity for All. This places the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 and the national goals at the heart of our decision making. The twelve well-being objectives represent the areas where the Welsh Government can make the greatest contribution to the national goals, working in partnership with others. The Act has been used to inform spending plans, to maximise opportunities to join up activities across my portfolio and to align resources with the national strategy.

The priorities for my portfolio are to build resilient communities, and to prevent future problems within those communities. I have had to make some tough decisions. Savings have had to be made in some areas in 2018-19, with greater savings needed in 2019-20. However, I have managed to protect front line services from the worst of the cuts in 2018-19. This includes protecting funding for Flying Start, Families First and Youth Justice Services.

In finding savings, I have been rigorous in applying the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act. I am looking to ensure that within my department we bear down on administrative inefficiencies which is why I have committed to find £2.5m of savings while shielding front line funding and the services they support in 2018-19.

In Taking Wales Forward we have pledged to provide working parents of 3 and 4 years olds with 30 hours per week of free early education and childcare for up to 48 weeks of the year, delivered in a way that works for parents and children. Expenditure will increase to £25m in 2018-19 and £45m in 2019-20 to support the roll-out of the offer. I have also been able to invest an additional £500k in the Domestic Abuse Support Grant and £1m in Discretionary Assistance Fund to support some of our most vulnerable citizens.

I want all local authorities to be able to respond to the needs of their population, to promote their well-being, to plan for the long term and to focus on early intervention, prevention and support. So I am challenging all PSBs and local authorities across Wales to engage in service re-design and to do this I will work with them to identify where we can make funding flexibilities available.

Specific to my portfolio in 2019-20, I will be considering the introduction of a new Early Intervention, Prevention and Support Grant subject to engagement on the issue – this means creating one grant to replace the myriad of funding streams that currently exist. Each of these grants creates an administrative and compliance burden which could be removed allowing efficiencies to be made. But more importantly this proposed change could empower local authorities and PSBs to plan with the needs of their citizens in mind.

I know that a move to a single grant will offer many opportunities but will also present some challenges as well. With this greater flexibility there will be greater accountability. The mechanisms for this will be developed with key partners to ensure we get this right operationally and strategically. This is why I intend to work with a small group of local authorities and a PSB in 2018-19 to pioneer these flexibilities, so that we can learn from each other before considering extending further in 2019-20. In the meantime all local authorities will be able to benefit from increased flexibility to move funds between grants.

Through this proposed approach I want to release creativity and innovation in our local authorities and PSBs to find solutions to long standing local issues. This approach will build on the work of the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government to reform local government, ensuring greater participation in civil society and democracy.

With these changes in 2019-20, I am confident that working together we can mitigate the effects of austerity and reduce the impact of the £16m of savings that need to be found over the next two years.

4. Commentary on Actions and detail of Budget Expenditure Line (BEL) allocations

Final outturns for 2016-17 and forecast outturns for 2017-18 based on estimates as at 13 October 2017 are provided at Annex A along with indicative allocations for 2019-20.

Commentary on each of the Actions within the C&C MEG as relevant to children and young people, including an analysis and explanation of changes between the Draft Budget 2018-19 and the First Supplementary Budget (June 2017) is provided at Annex B.

5. Children's rights and equalities

Impact assessments

The Equality Act 2010 aims to ensure public authorities consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society in their day-to-day activities through paying due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations.

In terms of the Welsh Government Draft Budget, Ministers have again decided to complete an Integrated Impact Assessment which takes into account children's rights alongside impacts on equality, Welsh language and socio-economic disadvantage. This approach was informed by recommendations from a range of

stakeholders including the Assembly Committees, the Budgetary Advisory Group for Equality and the EHRC. The SIIA highlights where such impacts were identified.

An integrated assessment provides a more comprehensive assessment of the overall impact of spending decisions. This approach reflects our wider understanding of the sustainability of our decisions and the aims and objectives set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, including the focus on prevention, collaboration and long-termism. This impact assessment was published alongside the draft budget.

As a Government, we are responsible for proposing and implementing policy and legislation which would apply in Wales and which aims to improve the lives of everyone in Wales. In doing so, we are absolutely committed to listening to the views of the people of Wales, including children and young people. To enable this to happen, I am continuing to provide funding in 2018-19 to enable children and young people to have their opinions heard and influence our work while I consider the best way to hear the views of Children and Young People.

All of our grant award letters set out that recipients; “must apply a policy of equal opportunities as employers, as users of volunteers, and as providers of services, regardless of race, gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, religion and belief, age or any disability.”

There are no significant changes to either children’s rights or equalities as a result of this budget. We will ensure our Families First programme will continue to promote the development of more effective services for families with a disability as well as encouraging disability concerns to be embedded in mainstream service delivery.

The funding we provide to the Children’s Commissioner enables the organisation to make a significant contribution to developing policy in relation to equalities. The Commissioner must have regard to the UNCRC in exercising her functions to ensure children’s rights are upheld in Wales. The role also allows the review and monitoring of the arrangements which certain public bodies have in place to safeguard and promote the rights of children in respect of dealing with complaints and representations, ensuring that proper action is taken in response to whistleblowing, representing the views and wishes of children, and providing children with advice and support. The Commissioner allocates resource into listening to the experiences of children and young people’s in their everyday life through survey, Ambassador Schemes in schools and communities, and face to face meetings.

Children’s Rights Impact Assessments (CRIA) have been conducted for many areas within the Communities and Children Portfolio including:

- In relation to the Positive Parenting Campaign. There were no changes to allocations as a result of the assessments. The CRIA is available at Annex C.
- A CRIA was completed in relation to the Children and Families Delivery Grant within the Families First Budget. There were no changes in 2016-17 to allocations as a result of the assessments. The CRIA is available at Annex D:.

- There was no requirement to carry out impact assessments in respect of refocusing the Families First programme.
- A full impact assessment will be conducted if we introduce a new Early Intervention and Prevention Support Grant using information gathered from the local authorities who will be trialling greater funding flexibilities in 2018-19.

Equalities, sustainability and the Welsh Language

All programme publications and promotional materials we produce are printed bilingually and all services to families are provided bilingually. All of our social media communications are posted bilingually and all messages to Programme staff are sent in accordance with their specified language preference. We ensure Welsh language provision is an integral element of the Flying Start and Families First programmes with a requirement on local authorities to respond to parental choice, and to deliver Welsh-medium provision where required. Our strategic guidance makes it clear that local authorities must put in place arrangements to meet the preference of parents for Welsh medium and/or bilingual provision.

Our Childcare activities include support for organisations such as Mudiad Meithrin and the Cwlwm consortium which provide Welsh Medium childcare. Our enhanced childcare offer will work to ensure that there is adequate Welsh Language Provision, for those requesting it. In line with the Welsh Language Standard requirements, our Parents, Childcare and Employment (PaCE) programme asks each of its participants what their preferred language would be for receiving services. These services are then delivered to the individual according to their preference.

Wellbeing and Future Generations Act

All Cabinet Secretaries are committed to embedding the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act to improve how we make decisions about the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. Our goal is to ensure we reflect the sustainable development principle and our spending plans aim to achieve a balance between short and long-term priorities. We recognise the need to collaborate with our partners and to use our collective resources effectively to plan for the tough choices ahead.

The First Minister published 'Prosperity for all – the national strategy' in September. It sets the aims of this Government and provides clarity about how we want Government and delivery partners to be part of a new approach to delivering priorities. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 supports the Welsh Government and delivery partners in making these important changes to the way we work.

The strategy sets out 12 revised well-being objectives and the steps we propose to take to meet them. Together with the well-being statement published alongside the strategy, these objectives set out the areas where the Welsh Government can make the greatest contribution to the seven well-being goals for Wales and provide the basis for strong partnerships with others.

As stated above, I have taken the Act into account as I have made tough choices about funding allocations across the whole MEG. The Sustainable Development

Principle is a fundamental part of how I want to continue to develop and implement my programmes. These programmes seek to ensure the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The principle is made up of five key ways of working which apply to this portfolio as follows:

- *Collaboration* – recognising that many of the solutions to the ‘sustainability’ challenges Wales faces cannot be solved by one organisation. Multi-agency working is now recognised as essential and not optional. Our Flying Start and Families First Programmes have improved the way agencies work together to support our most vulnerable families through joint commissioning of services and Team around the Family approaches to service delivery. I want this to go further by working with pilot areas to understand what an Early Years Service should comprise of and what steps we need to take to enable such a service to be developed. This will mean that we continue to pursue opportunities for collaboration across Government and with other partners, including the third sector, in order that programmes and services reach into the communities that most need them. CAFCASS will strengthen the partnerships with local authorities and contribute to improving services and outcomes for children and families by sharing data and information more effectively. With Looked after Children, the protection of individuals and improvement in well-being outcomes will be achieved through collaboration via multi-agency working and communities.
- *Integration* – within the Flying Start, Families First and the Communities First Legacy programmes local authorities are expected to involve other relevant programmes and organisations including Local Health Boards, and third and private sectors in drawing up their plans, ensuring that needs assessment and delivery are jointly managed and, where appropriate, there is a seamless progression for children between different interventions and programmes.
- *Long-term* – I have taken account of the potential long-term impacts of decisions and balanced this against the short-term needs. In particular the evidence is that, through investing in early years and family support, this will have greater benefits in the long term. For example, investing in the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Support Hub to work with practitioners to develop an ACE informed workforce will support our goal to reduce the impact of ACEs which, evidence suggests, will have a benefit on our public services over the longer-term.
- *Prevention* – Prevention and early intervention is an approach which not only benefits people and communities but has the potential to generate long term cost savings. This approach is at the heart of my programmes, in particular Families First, and in the approach to tackling the inequalities experienced by those with protected characteristics and those experiencing multiple ACEs. CAFCASS will continue to work with parents and carers who are involved in private law matters that are before the family court to support them to come to a mutual agreement on arrangements that will promote the physical safety and emotional well being of their child.
- *Involvement* – a core tenet of what this portfolio does is recognising the importance of involving people in the decisions that affect them. An example

of this is our highly successful #TalkChildcare campaign which has engaged over 6,500 parents and providers since its launch in August 2016, giving us confidence that we are developing an offer which meets the needs of working families. Promoting the rights of children can not be achieved without the involvement and voice of the child heard in decision making about their lives. As set out above the proposed single grant and Early Years service will require the ongoing involvement of key stakeholders and service providers to help shape the approach.

6. Other information

Value for Money

Evaluation takes place as part of normal grant and project management activities. Where I directly fund Third Sector organisations, my officials undertake due diligence before a grant is awarded and then regularly review during the life of the project before payments are made. In relation to funding to local authorities, I will continue to collect data from them to monitor performance, assess outcomes and drive the future improvement and delivery including value for money.

Prevention and sustainability

I recognise the on-going need to make hard choices. In my budget preparations, I have focused on how best to meet the growing needs of key service areas within the MEG in the face of another challenging budget. Over successive years, prioritising preventative spending has been a way of avoiding more costly interventions at a future point and improving the quality of people's lives over the long term.

These budget proposals, therefore, reflect my continuing commitment to protect and prioritise investment that supports preventative measures as far as possible. The spending decisions have not only considered how best to meet the current demand for services but have also focused on supporting interventions that are able to prevent problems arising in the future. This preventative approach is an important part of our planning for public services, both now and in the future.

Prevention and early intervention are key drivers in considering the proposed changes to a single grant from 2019-20. I am committed to working with communities to build resilience and support children and young people to have the very best outcomes possible. I cannot achieve this on my own. Collaboration with Cabinet colleagues across Government as well as with key partners and stakeholders continues to underpin my approach to delivering on my priorities.

We know that the early years are vital and that early life experiences have a profound impact on a child's development. That's why ongoing investment in Flying Start, Families First, parenting, the childcare offer and the ACE support hub are crucial and why I am looking more broadly at what an Early Years Service could look like learning lessons from what we know already works. Likewise, the funding allocations to Advocacy, the St David's Day Fund and supporting Children's Rights all have a strong focus on prevention in the longer term.

Legislation

Assessing the costs of legislation and the impact on those it affects is an essential part of the policy development process. I recognise there cannot be a blank cheque for legislation and that every new commitment made has to be paid for by a cutback somewhere else.

This is why every Bill is subject to a robust assessment of costs and benefits, achieved through consultation and engagement with our stakeholders in the development of the accompanying regulatory impact assessments (RIAs). This ensures our decisions are informed by the people who will be affected by them.

Steps are being taken to improve the clarity and consistency of RIAs, but changes made to a Bill during scrutiny and other factors will inevitably result in some variances between estimated costs at the published RIA stage and actual costs during implementation. In accordance with the commitment given by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government to the Finance Committee, a year on year table showing the cost of legislation falling to the Welsh Government was published as part of the detailed draft budget on 24 October.

The First Minister has set out the Welsh Government's intention to introduce legislation to remove the defence of reasonable punishment in Year 3 of the legislative timetable and that formal consultation will be undertaken in the coming months. The £400k currently allocated to support positive parenting will be used in part to support the communication, engagement and consultation activity associated with the legislation in 2018-19.

In addition to this we are bringing forward legislation in relation to our childcare offer. The Bill, which is scheduled for introduction to the National Assembly for Wales in Year 2 of the legislative programme, will help ensure that the application process is as straightforward as possible. Over 6,000 parents, providers and other stakeholders have been engaged to date as part of our #TalkChildcare campaign and we will be undertaking further consultation and engagement as we continue to test the offer, with £70m over the next two years to support delivery. This will be reflected in the RIA.

Implications of the UK exit from the EU

The Welsh Government established a specific team to co-ordinate European Transition issues, which is working closely with the existing team in Brussels and policy departments.

There are no immediate direct effects of the decision to leave the European Union on the core programmes that form part of my portfolio. We will ensure the impact of leaving the European Union is carefully monitored and discussions held to limit the impact. I have agreed funding to deliver workshops across Wales to enable children and young people to have a voice and have their views taken into account on the European Union – at a cost of up to £50,000 over the financial years 2017-18 and 2018-19. These views will be passed on to the European Advisory Group (EAG) so that we can be sure they are given serious consideration by the EAG and by the Welsh Government.

7. Specific Areas

Flying Start

Taking Wales Forward confirms the Welsh Government commitment to Flying Start. This evidence based programme is a key aspect of *Prosperity for All* and we will build on what works in Flying Start as part of creating a more joined up early years system.

The core entitlements of the Flying Start programme are:

- high quality, part-time childcare for 2-3 year olds;
- an enhanced Health Visiting service (where the Health Visitor caseload is capped at 110 children);
- access to parenting support and programmes; and
- access to speech, language and communication support.

The programme is currently being delivered to over 37,000 children less than 4 years of age, which equates to around 25% of all children under the age of 4 in Wales. Flying Start is geographically targeted using income benefit data provided by the Department of Work and Pensions and HM Revenue and Customs. The data provides local authorities with information on geographical Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) which shows the proportion of children under four years of age living in income benefit households in each of those areas. The Welsh Government guidance directs local authorities to prioritise the LSOAs for Flying Start support in a ranked list in order of the highest concentration of disadvantaged children.

Flying Start can support children and their families living outside of Flying Start areas. Outreach funding can be used to continue to provide support to children who have moved out of an eligible area; to help children who live outside of an eligible area as part of a tailored package or support; or to target children of specific communities of interest e.g. those living in refuges; traveller communities; homeless shelters; Flying Start women in prisons. I would like local authorities to use their discretion in how they allocate the grant in order to meet local needs. Programme funding for 2018-19 remains at the same level as 2017-18.

Flying Start has been subject to a robust independent programme of evaluation which considers impact and value for money. Evaluation reports are published on the Welsh Government Social Research web page. The latest statistical release, published in July 2016, can be found at:

<http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/flying-start/?lang=en>

Both Flying Start and Families First are early intervention programmes informed by the growing international body of evidence that supports the positive role of interventions in early years in improving the development of children and young people and their prospects in adulthood. A report published in 2015 by the Early Intervention Foundation highlighted the fiscal cost of missed opportunities to provide early, targeted support to children and young people. The report concluded “early Intervention is the smart and realistic choice for using ever scarcer public money”.

Recent qualitative research found that parents whose children had attended Flying Start childcare felt they had improved social skills and were better prepared for

school. Investment is targeted in the communities with the highest proportion of households with children aged 0-4 who are on income benefits.

Value for money of childcare within the Flying Start programme is assessed on an on-going basis. Costs are compared across local authorities; take up of places purchased is monitored and childcare budgets are agreed as part of annual work plans. Welsh Government Account Managers discuss delivery and budget allocations at regular meetings. Expenditure is agreed and projects assessed on an on going basis for eligibility with programme objectives and value for money.

A range of activity is currently underway to allow us to build on the findings of the independent national evaluation of Flying Start. This includes developing and testing an approach to identify outcomes for Flying Start children in relation to their level of engagement with the programme, including the childcare element. Children’s attainment and attendance will be explored as they move through school as well as a range of health outcomes, which will strengthen the existing evidence base on the cost-benefits of Flying Start.

Childcare

17-18		18-19		19-20		20-21	
Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
£10m	-	£25m	£20m	£45m	£20m	-	£20m

We recognise that childcare is one of the biggest challenges facing working families in Wales. As part of Prosperity for All, we will provide working parents of 3 and 4 years olds with 30 hours per week of free early education and childcare for up to 48 weeks of the year, delivered in a way that works for parents and children.

Increasing the availability of affordable, available and accessible childcare should enable parents to work, supporting our drive to increase economic growth, tackle poverty and reduce inequalities. It will also provide opportunities and long-term benefits for our children and improve their life chances.

In June 2017, I issued a written statement updating Assembly Members on the delivery of the offer. As part of this we issued detailed guidance and announced an hourly rate of £4.50 in relation to the childcare we fund. This was set after detailed consultation with stakeholders and has been well received by the sector. Our highly successful #TalkChildcare campaign has engaged over 6,500 parents and providers since its launch in August 2016, giving us confidence that we are developing an offer which meets the needs of working families.

In order to get it right for parents and providers, we have begun testing the offer in specific locations within seven local authorities. These local authorities were chosen to provide a good geographical spread across Wales and represent a good mix of rural, urban and valley communities. Over the summer all seven early implementer local authorities opened for applications from eligible parents.

We have a revenue budget of **£10m** in 2017-18 and expect the majority of this funding to be spent on childcare, including provision to support children with special educational needs to access the offer. We have included some provision for the administration costs incurred by the local authorities, and set aside money to

undertake a rigorous monitoring and evaluation of the early implementation of the childcare offer across all seven early implementer local authorities from September 2017. Learning from these early implementers will be important in helping us fine-tune policies and systems prior to a wider roll-out.

The funding to support the childcare offer increases to **£25m** in 2018-19, and to **£45m** in 2019-20. This will allow us to expand and test aspects of the delivery of the offer in different circumstances, to ensure the offer works when it is fully available across Wales from September 2020. In addition, **£60m** up until the end of this Assembly term has been included in the Education MEG for investment in childcare settings alongside the 21st Centuries Schools and Education programme. Consideration is currently being given to how the funding will be managed and allocated.

Other childcare policy and programmes

Successive evaluations have concluded that the availability of quality, affordable childcare is essential to support people who need to work, or acquire skills to enable them to work. Alongside affordable childcare some parents may need additional support to return to work and sustain employment. Some of the barriers to employment include financial stability, reluctance to use formal childcare and parents' lack of confidence in returning to work especially if they have been out of work for some time. **Parents, Childcare and Employment (PaCE)** is a £13.5m project jointly funded by the European Social Fund and Welsh Government, working in partnership with Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). PaCE targets parents who are out of work and consider childcare to be their main barrier to accessing training or work opportunities. Up to the end of September 2017, the project had engaged 2339 participants and supported 665 into work.

The childcare offer has the potential to be a catalyst for a wider transformation in the childcare sector, increasing the accessibility, affordability and availability of childcare for all parents and children of all ages, improving the flexibility and quality of what is available. This will build on the other support we currently provide for childcare providers including:

- Providing local authorities with **£2.3m** funding each year since 2012 to support local authorities to meet gaps identified through their childcare sufficiency assessments and their play sufficiency assessments. In line with my priorities, local authorities have focused on offering out of school childcare, including holiday play schemes, to children from low income families and those with specific needs;
- Providing **£1.43m** per annum to the Cwlwm consortia, comprising the five main childcare organisations in Wales, to support the childcare sector and help us develop innovative flexible childcare solutions to meet the needs of families;
- Providing funding to Social Care Wales (SCW) as a key delivery partner and the sector skills council for the childcare workforce. From April 2017, SCW gained new powers to lead the improvement of social care and childcare in Wales and are working with us to support the implementation of the 10 year workforce plan. For 2017-18, we have allocated **£105k** to SCW.

In terms of support for the **workforce**, a 10 year workforce plan for childcare, play and early years will be published in the autumn with the aim of professionalising the sector to become one which is highly regarded as a career of choice and, one which parents and carers value as offering quality, affordable and sustainable childcare. This contributes to the wider Early Years priority under Prosperity for All, as good quality early years provision is widely acknowledged to help children experience a good start in life. In recognition of the need to build capacity and capability across childcare settings, Ministers have agreed to prioritise the childcare sector to support development and delivery of the childcare offer and the implementation of the 10 year workforce plan.

Under our Apprenticeship programme and utilising the European Social Fund we have developed our **Progress for Success (PfS)** programme. PfS funds existing early years, childcare and play practitioners (including self-employed registered childminders), to undertake recognised childcare and play qualifications. The aim of the programme is to raise the quality of provision offered to our youngest children in Wales by increasing the skills levels held by the existing workforce. PfS has been successful in providing support and opportunities for 979 existing practitioners to up-skill. Building on its achievements and alongside our new all Age Apprenticeship programme, we are exploring the best use of European Social Fund investment to continue to support practitioners.

Play Policy

Wales was the first country to place play on a statutory basis in recognition of its significant contribution to children and young people's physical, social and cognitive development and wellbeing. Play Wales has a strategic role in supporting local authorities to deliver their statutory duties in relation to play and in supporting the Welsh Government to take the play agenda forward in Wales. It was in recognition of this that I decided to extend the funding for Play Wales beyond September 2017 for a further 6 months, bringing the total amount of funding to **£360k** in 2017-18. I am currently considering a business plan to provide future support to Play Wales from 2018-19 onwards.

Adverse Childhood Experiences

There is a growing body of evidence on the impact which exposure to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) has on well-being and economic prosperity. The importance of giving children the best possible start in life is already recognised in programmes such as Flying Start and Families First. However, in light of the findings of the studies into ACEs by Public Health Wales, it was recognised there is a need to increase awareness of ACEs and their impact on children's educational outcomes, employment prospects and health and wellbeing.

For 2017-18 funding of £300k has been provided to Cymru Well Wales (CWW), a collaborative partnership of public and third sector organisations working together to secure better health for the people of Wales, to support the development of an ACE Support Hub as a centre of knowledge, evidence and expertise on ACEs in Wales. An additional £100k has been provided from the Education budget to support school staff to become ACE informed and Public Health Wales has committed £250k towards the establishment of the Hub.

For 2018-19 I propose to provide £300k of funding to support the continuation of the ACE Support Hub.

Children First

Children First brings together a range of organisations to improve children and young people's outcomes, based around a distinct place, based on seven key principles:

- Clarity of place;
- Long-term, shared, strategic focus;
- Focus on a community's strengths;
- Local freedom and autonomy to decide the focus of activity, whilst aligning to the shared strategic vision;
- Anchor organisations;
- Multi-agency approach to system change and effective data sharing; and
- Dedicated secretariat support.

Local authorities were invited in January 2017 to submit proposals for Children First, from which five were chosen as pioneer areas. Children First takes a contextually-sensitive approach to working with our most disadvantaged communities. These communities are not the same and because of this, they need unique solutions. The highly localised strategies developed by Children First areas work to address the distinctive forms of disadvantage and to use the distinctive resources available in these communities.

There is no direct funding available from the Welsh Government to support the development of Children First pioneer areas, as the objective is to empower and enable the community and organisations to collaborate and make a difference for their children and young people. Funding of £100k is available to support evaluation. The pioneer areas will be supported to develop a key set of data to monitor outcomes. This monitoring data will also feed into future evaluation of Children First, to include an exploration of the value for money of the activities delivered.

Communities First legacy fund

The Legacy Fund is a revenue fund that has been allocated to local authorities which currently have Communities First areas. To assist in planning, indicative allocations formed part of the Communities First award letter for 2017-18. This fund is to support the continuation of the most effective aspects developed by the Communities First Programme that are highly valued locally.

Whilst the detail of the guidance for the Legacy Fund is still being developed, we have taken a 'co-production' approach to the development to ensure that both Lead Delivery Bodies' and LAs experience and views are reflected in the written guidance.

Legacy Fund principles have been issued to all eligible LAs to ensure they have the information required to plan, with existing LDBs, for the next financial year.

The choice of what should be funded will be locally determined, local authorities will need to take account of both their duties under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act and the assessment of local well-being in making those decisions.

In discussions with LDBs and LAs, officials have emphasised the importance of them working with their clusters, public service boards and other partners to ensure any concerns are taken into account.

The total allocation for 2018-19 is £6m.

Families First Programme, including specific reference to the Children and Families Delivery Grant

Families First provides innovative and effective multi-agency systems and support for families, with a clear emphasis on prevention and early intervention. The Welsh Government is investing £38.352m in the Families First programme in 2018-19.

Evaluation evidence has found that the programme has led to fundamental changes to the culture and commissioning of services which has directly contributed to ensuring these services meet the needs of families. In particular, the Team Around the Families (TAF) approach is one of the successes of the programme and the concept of providing bespoke services which meet the needs of the whole family is now firmly embedded in service provision, and services have improved as a result.

We are working to ensure the Families First programme is focussed on providing services which can help to prevent ACEs, as well as providing support to mitigate the harmful effects of ACE exposure. To help achieve this, parts of Families First are being refocused to ensure the programme is able to do more to support parents, children and young people to build their resilience and confidence and achieve positive wellbeing.

Revised Families First programme guidance was published in April 2017 and all local authorities will be operating under the new arrangements from 1 April 2018. The TAF will continue unchanged, and the continued focus on providing bespoke, multi-agency support to whole families will have a key role in helping parents to create stable and nurturing environments in which children and young people can thrive.

Children and Families Delivery Grant (CFDG)

The Families First budget supported the Children and Families Delivery Grant (CFDG) which represented a £10.2m investment over the 3 years of the current grant programme (1 October 2014 to 30 September 2017). The focus of the CFDG was to support the tackling poverty agenda by reinforcing the work of our key programmes together with that of the childcare, children's rights, play and participation programmes operated by the Welsh Government. Five grants were awarded to Third Sector organisations.

Grants to PromoCymru (for Family Point), Groundwork Wales and Tros Gynnal ended in September 2017, however PromoCymru will receive an additional £35k to support its helpline for the period October-December 2017, to allow time for transition arrangements to be made. The grants for CWLWM and Play Wales were extended to March 2018, and the grant for Children in Wales has been extended to September 2018.

Integrated Family Support Services

The funding linked with the Integrated Family Support Services (IFSS) transferred into the RSG from 2015-16.

Family Information Services

Family Information Services (FIS) are the first point of contact for impartial advice and information on local services for families and carers. Local authorities are required to have a FIS that meets the minimum standards set out in the Childcare Act 2006.

Children in Wales currently carry out a support function on behalf of the Welsh Government (£45k provided via a contract). A review will consider whether such a function is required when the contract ends in March 2018.

Parenting Support

Our approach to positive parenting is set very firmly within the wider context of economic improvement and wider wellbeing. As set out in Prosperity for All, we are committed to helping improve health and well-being for all to ensure everyone can fulfil their potential, meet their educational aspirations and play a full part in the economy and society of Wales.

Across Wales, parents and carers have access to a range of services to support positive parenting delivered by local government, health, education, social services and social justice. Support is delivered at different points in a child's life (antenatal to teenage) through parenting groups and one-to-one work, ranging from informal, bespoke support for parents, through to more targeted, specialised interventions.

Our 'Parenting, Give it time' campaign promotes positive parenting messages in a number of different ways, including through social and print media and digital advertising. A dedicated website and Facebook page provide parenting tips, information and advice, and signpost parents to sources of further support. A media agency actively promotes the campaign through a variety of advertising avenues.

Parents should expect support to be of high quality. Our non-statutory guidance sets out the Welsh Government's expectations on how parenting support should be provided. In addition we are providing additional funding to help local authorities develop the core skills and knowledge of their workforce in line with the key themes of the guidance.

The Welsh Government commitment to introduce legislation to remove the defence of reasonable punishment will form a key part of our overall action on promoting positive parenting, driving behavioural change and bringing about positive outcomes for our children in Wales.

Given the importance of promoting positive parenting, the budget of £400k remains unchanged for 2018-19.

Sustainable Social Services Third Sector Grant 2016-19

Within the field of social care, Welsh Government support for the third sector has substantially moved towards a three-year funding model. The Sustainable Social Services Third Sector grant is a three-year grant scheme introduced to support implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. Nearly £22m of grant funding was awarded to 32 organisations and projects via the Health and Social Services Main Expenditure Group which support children, young people and their families, looked after children and care leavers, older people, people with learning disabilities and autism, people with physical and/or sensory impairments and carers. Applications for the grant were carefully considered as part of a competitive process matching applications to the advertised grant funding criteria and policy priorities. To ensure there was equity across sectors, the maximum award made to any organisation was £1.5m over three years, representing 10% of the total funding available. In 2018-19 a total of £7.25m is due to be distributed.

The application process for the Sustainable Social Services Third Sector grant, a three-year grant scheme introduced to support implementation of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, required applicants to demonstrate how projects would support the key themes including prevention.

Child Poverty

There is no separate budget for tackling child poverty for the Welsh Government. This is because there are a range of policies and programmes in place to tackle child poverty, which are being taken forward. This includes key commitments such as Flying Start, Families First, the Pupil Deprivation Grant and the Healthy Child Wales Programme. There are also a range of other mainstream services which are delivering support for low income households, which form part of wider funding arrangements.

Children's and young people's rights and entitlements

Welsh Ministers are under a duty to have due regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in all their work, and to raise public awareness (including among children and young people) of children's rights and the UNCRC. The arrangements in place for doing this are set out in the Children's Rights Scheme 2014.

Section 5 of the Measure also places a duty on Ministers to take appropriate steps to promote knowledge and understanding amongst the public, including children and young people, of the UNCRC and its Optional Protocols.

A budget of £357k has been allocated at a level sufficient to deliver on Ministerial commitments in relation to the Rights of Children and Young Person's (Wales) Measure 2011, the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010; and the necessary work in these areas in relation to children's rights, the UNCRC and children and young people's participation. This includes:

- raising awareness of children's rights, both internally and externally to Welsh Government: hosting and maintaining the childrensrights.wales website and Twitter account;
- ensuring appropriate UNCRC training is in place, actively promoted and taken up;
- promoting participation by children and young people; and
- ensuring Welsh Government policy and legislation is formulated having given proper consideration to children's rights.

Children's Commissioner for Wales

Established by the Care Standards Act 2000, the Children's Commissioner for Wales (CCfW) is an independent children's rights institution. The remit is laid down in the Children's Commissioner for Wales Act 2001, which amended the Care Standards Act 2000. The budget covers the running costs of the Commissioner's office for 2018-19 and the resources required in discharging her statutory functions.

This budget received a 10% cut for 2016-17 in line with other Commissioners (budget was previously £1.715m) but has been maintained at cash flat for 2017-18 and 2018-19. This is considered sufficient to deliver the Commissioner's functions.

Advocacy

Social Care is a priority in Prosperity for All and is clear that children should be listened to and helped to develop positive relationships.

With our partners, we have developed a National Approach to Statutory Advocacy for looked after children, children in need and other specified individuals which went live in July. This means a consistency of entitlement and good practice in the commissioning, delivery and awareness of statutory advocacy provision in Wales. The implementation of the National Approach will cost in the region of £1.1m and Welsh Government has agreed to provide up to £550k to the Social Services Regional Collaboratives to deliver the offer in full. Local authorities will fund the rest.

Safeguarding

We established the National Independent Safeguarding Board under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 to work with Safeguarding Children Boards and Safeguarding Adult Boards to drive improvement; to report on the adequacy and effectiveness of arrangements to safeguard children and adults and make recommendations to Ministers about how arrangements could be improved. We provide secretariat and support the work programme of the Board valued at £200k per year.

We support National and regional events during safeguarding week, valued at £22k to raise awareness of safeguarding and related issues.

We will provide generic training for practitioners in delivering Child and Adult Practice Reviews valued at £45k. We will provide £100k grant to Cardiff and Vale Safeguarding Board to deliver the National Protection Procedures arising from the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and related subordinate legislation

and guidance to assist better protection for children and adults at risk of abuse, neglect or other forms of harm.

Cafcass Cymru

Allocation – 2018-19

- Total programme allocation £10.267m
- Running costs £9.950m
- Contracted costs £0.317m

Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass Cymru) is a direct service delivery and demand-led organisation undertaking statutory functions across Wales on behalf of Welsh Ministers in accordance with the Children Act 2004. In 2016-17 we worked with 8,491 of the most vulnerable children and young people in Wales, an increase from 7,546 in 2015-16. Its financial allocation for 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 is £10.267m per year of which £9.045 m (92%) of the budget is committed to staff costs. Therefore all inflationary costs must be absorbed within the budget.

There has been a significant increase of 25% in public law and 29% in private law work over the past two years with the volume of work being sustained in 2017-18. This increase has been absorbed within Cafcass Cymru's existing resources. Any reduction in budget will result in essential posts not being filled with existing staff managing even higher workloads with potential staff welfare implications. This could also have an impact on children and young people having to wait for a service in Wales resulting in delayed court proceedings.

Cafcass Cymru has over the last 5 years significantly reduced its management structure, streamlined internal processes, introduced flexible ways of working and enhanced practitioner capability to ensure services are delivered as efficiently and effectively as possible and performance maintained.

Adoption, fostering and looked after children

Taking Wales Forward includes the chapter on Ambitious and Learning which states that we will “examine ways of ensuring children in care enjoy the same life chances as other children and if necessary reform the way they are looked after”. Building on this Social Care is a top 5 priority in Prosperity for All and is clear that children should be listened to and helped to develop positive relationships.

A programme of work is being taken forward under the Ministerial Advisory Group on Improving Outcomes for Children which will identify early and preventative action to help reduce the numbers of children taken into care, improve outcomes for children already in care and improve outcomes for care leavers. This includes the £1m St David's Day Fund which will continue for a second year in 2018-19. This Fund allows local authorities to provide financial support to care leavers so they can successfully access employment, education and training opportunities, improving their opportunities towards independent lives.

In 2017-18 the Welsh Government received an additional £20m consequential funding from the UK Spring Budget for improvements in social care. £8m of that

budget was allocated to expedite the Ministerial Advisory Group's work programme. The funding will be used to reduce the numbers of children entering care and improving the outcomes for children and young people in care through a £5m investment in expanding local authority edge of care services; £850k to roll out the Reflect project across Wales which aims to reduce the number of children being taken into care by breaking the cycle of repeat pregnancies and recurrent care proceedings; £1.625m to support care leavers to successful futures and independent living by providing additional resources to local authority traineeship/work placement schemes and extending the provision of personal advisers up to age 25; £400k to implement the National Fostering Framework and £125k to develop adoption support work. This funding will be included in the RSG from April 2018.

The Welsh Government is also providing £90k to the National Adoption Service to develop and support its strategic and holistic approach to adoption support services in Wales. We have invested £172k to maintain a database to provide the basis for the future Wales Adoption Register and have awarded three grants under the Sustainable Social Service grant scheme totalling £435k to Voluntary Adoption Agencies to develop adoption support services. Additional stand alone funding will be provided in 2018-19 to take forward a new Welsh Adoption Register and to provide resources to deliver key elements of the Adoption Support Framework.

COMMUNITIES AND CHILDREN MAIN EXPENDITURE GROUP (MEG) ANNEX A

RESOURCE BUDGET - Departmental Expenditure Limit

SPA	Actions	BEL Title	2016-17 Final Outturn £000s	2017-18 Forecast Outturn £000s	2018-19 Draft Budget £000s	2019-20 Indicative Budget Allocations £000s
Enabling Children and Communities	Supporting Children	Support for Childcare and Play	5,463	11,979	27,706	48,351
		Support for Children's Rights (and prevention from 2019-20)	215	257	357	991
		Children's Commissioner	1,543	1,543	1,543	1,543
		Advocacy	780	917	1,100	550
		Supporting Children	634	2,116	1,989	989
		CAFCASS Cymru	9,875	10,267	10,267	10,267
	Prevention and Early Intervention	Prevention and Early Intervention	157,155	152,564	140,156	0
		Supporting Communities	0	0	0	6,162
		Early Intervention, Prevention and Support Grant	0	0	0	252,153
		Support for children and families	0	0	0	3,004
			175,665	179,643	183,118	324,010
Communities and Tackling Poverty	Communities and Tackling Poverty	Flying Start Capital	3,461	2,760	566	529
			3,461	2,760	566	529
		TOTAL RESOURCE	179,126	182,403	183,684	324,539

Commentary on each of the Actions within the C&C MEG as relevant to children and young people, including an analysis and explanation of changes between the Draft Budget 2018-19 and the First Supplementary Budget (June 2017)

Action: Supporting Children

2017-18 Supplementary Budget June 2017 £000's	Changes £000's	2018-19 New Plans Draft Budget £000's
26,675	16,287	42,962

Increases to Action:

- £30k transfer from Education MEG in respect of the Development of Early Years and Childcare Workforce (BEL 310)
- £1m from reserves in respect of a Bursary Scheme for Looked After Children (BEL 410)
- £67k from reserves in respect of SAIL project (tampon tax) (BEL 410)
- £230k allocation from reserves in respect of MEIC (BEL 5333)
- £15m allocation from reserves in respect of childcare offer (BEL 310)

Children's Commissioner

There are no proposed change to the Children's Commissioner's budget allocation.

Support for Children's Rights

There are no proposed changes to this budget.

Action: Early Intervention, Prevention and Support

2017-18 Supplementary Budget June 2017 £000's	Changes £000's	2018-19 New Plans Draft Budget £000's
154,383	-14,227	140,156

Reductions to Action:

- £300k transfer to the Education MEG in respect of funding to Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin
- £13m transfer to reserves in respect of discontinuation of Communities First
- £1.890m savings found in respect of administrative savings on European Social Fund projects.

Increases to Action:

- £963k transfer in from reserves

We are reducing the level of reporting and testing a new approach to a larger grant to increase potential efficiencies. The changes as a result of the reduction to Communities First have been mitigated through the Legacy Fund. Planning against the agreed principles is underway. The additional saving has been found as a result of prudent planning of the PaCE programme ensuring our domestic funding was front loaded.

Action: Communities and Tackling Poverty

2017-18 Supplementary Budget June 2017 £000's	2018-19 Plans as per 2017-18 Final Budget	Changes £000's	2018-19 New Plans Draft Budget £000's
1,260	566	0	566

Flying Start Capital

There have been no proposed changes to the funding compared to plans published in the final budget of 2017-18. Our ability to provide funding to complete existing projects is adequate but our ability to fund maintenance activity on existing Flying Start Childcare Estate will be restricted.



Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) Template

Title / Piece of work:	'Parenting. Give it Time' – positive parenting campaign
Related SF / LF number (if applicable)	SF/LG/1589/15
Name of Official:	Lucy Akhtar
Department:	Education and Public Services Group
Date:	18 July 2015
Signature:	

Please complete the CRIA and retain it for your records on iShare. You may be asked to provide this document at a later stage to evidence that you have complied with the duty to have due regard to children's rights e.g. Freedom of Information access requests, monitoring purposes or to inform reporting to the NAFW.

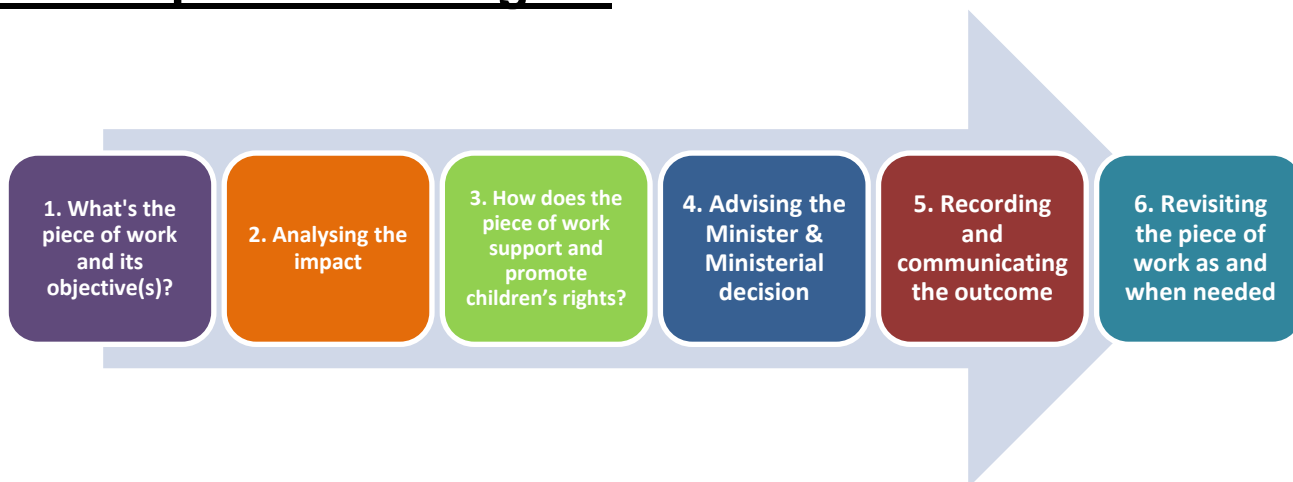
Upon completion you should also forward a copy of the CRIA to the Measure Implementation Team for monitoring purposes using the dedicated mailbox CRIA@wales.gsi.gov.uk

If officials are not sure about whether to complete a CRIA, they should err on the side of caution and seek advice from the Measure Implementation Team by forwarding any questions to our mailbox CRIA@wales.gsi.gov.uk

You may wish to cross-reference with other Impact Assessments undertaken.

NB. All CRIAs undertaken on legislation must be published. All non-legislative CRIAs will be listed on the WG website and must be made available upon request. Ministers are however, encouraged to publish all completed CRIAs.

Six Steps to Due Regard



Step 1. What's the piece of work and its objective(s)?

You may wish to include:

- A brief description of the piece of work
- What the time frame for achieving it is?
- Who are the intended beneficiaries?
- Is it likely that the piece of work will affect children?
- Will the piece of work have an affect on a particular group of children, if so, describe the group affected?

Description of the piece of work

Evidence suggests that certain approaches to parenting promote successful outcomes for children and research has shown that a positive parenting style is more likely to lead to better social, emotional and academic outcomes for children.

(Stroufe, et al 1990; Emler, 2001; Desforges and Bouchaard, 2003; Seaman et al, 2005; Feinstein and Sabates, 2006 O'Connor and Scott 2007; Moullin et al, 2008; Katz and Redmond, 2009; Asmussen and Weizel, 2010 and Nixon, 2012). Please see a full list of references in 'Parenting in Wales: Guidance on engagement and support'

<http://gov.wales/docs/dsjlg/publications/cyp/140910-parenting-in-wales-guidance-en.pdf>

Positive parenting is where parents:

- are loving, nurturing and respectful;
- are supportive and involved;
- provide clear consistent boundaries based on realistic expectations according to a child's age and stage of development;
- model good behaviour;
- provide appropriate supervision;
- praise good behaviour; and
- handle problem behaviours consistently without resorting to physical punishment and excessive shouting.

In the Autumn the Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty will launch a positive parenting campaign. The overall aim of the campaign is to help bring about an attitudinal change in the general public on the way children and young people are brought up and disciplined, by making physical punishment unacceptable and promoting positive alternatives.

'Parenting. Give it time', will promote positive approaches to raising children through a number of

different media channels. Using the theme of 'time,' the messages given to parents will be positive and supportive. Initially the main target audience will be parents and carers of young children (0-5), as evidence suggests children in this age group may be more likely to be smacked.

(See: Jackson (1999) cited in Henricson, H. & Grey, A. (2001) "Understanding Discipline" National Family and Parenting Institute; and Bunting, L., Webb, M. & Healy, J. (2008) "The 'Smacking Debate' in Northern Ireland – Messages from Research", Barnardo's Cymru, Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People and NSPCC Northern Ireland).

The campaign would support the overall aim by:

- using a range of 'marketing' techniques and approaches to raise awareness of the positive parenting message;
- providing 'products' (such as leaflets, web content, video clips, posters and Facebook posts) which will offer information, practical tips and strategies to support attitudinal and behaviour change;
- signposting parents to services (such as health visitors, Family Information Service, Families First, Flying Start etc); and
- bringing together a range of internal and external stakeholders who can use their influence to support attitudinal and behaviour change.

Research

Running parallel to this piece of work will be three strands of research activity:

Campaign development: focus groups will be undertaken to explore the key campaign messages and the most effective approaches to promotion. It is likely this will include focus groups with parents of children aged under seven years old.

Children and young people's attitudes towards physical punishment: qualitative work will be undertaken with children to explore their attitudes towards methods of parenting including physical punishment. Previous work has explored adults' attitudes on this topic, but there has been no work yet with children and young people who are more likely to be affected by physical punishment. Specialists will be commissioned to carry out this research due to ethical sensitivities.

Quantitative baseline of attitudes: We will commission some work to gauge the attitudes of parents who have children in the target age group, prior to the campaign. We then intend to conduct the research again a few years into the campaign with parents in the target group to explore if there are any differences in attitudes.

Time frames

As attitudes are formed by a complex range of factors, our approach will require a concerted effort over a number of years. It is envisaged that the campaign could run over a period of three years. The first phase will run from autumn 2015 until the end of March 2016.

Beneficiaries and affect on children

- Children should benefit from positive parenting by having a happier home life, displaying improved behaviour and having better social and emotional development;
- Parents should benefit from adopting positive parenting methods by experiencing less stress and improved well-being;
- Parents and children should benefit from a better parent-child relationship.

Step 2. Analysing the impact

- What are the positive and/or negative impacts for children, young people or their families?
- Where there are negative impacts; what compensatory measures may be needed to mitigate any negative impact?
- How will you know if your piece of work is a success?
- Have you developed an outcomes framework to measure impact?
- Have you considered the short, medium and long term outcomes?
- Do you need to engage with children & young people and/or stakeholders to seek their views using consultation or participatory methods?
- Do you need to produce child friendly versions of proposals/consultations?

- **What are the positive and/or negative impacts for children, young people or their families?
What compensatory measures may be needed to mitigate any negative impact?**

It is not expected that there will be negative impacts on children and their families. The campaign will be a vehicle for promoting positive parenting strategies and helping parents to find positive solutions to managing their children's challenging behaviour.

Positive Impacts:

The campaign intends to affect a culture change in attitudes towards physical punishment of children in Wales, making it unacceptable. The campaign will promote the rewarding of good behaviour rather than punishing bad behaviour.

The campaign will provide parents with options and alternatives to physical punishment and encourage parents to look after their own health and well-being better to manage stressful situations.

This campaign will promote positive parenting to a wide audience. It will raise awareness among the wider public of the value of positive parenting and help normalise the process of seeking parenting help.

Potential Negative impact:

There may be a perception by some parents that the Welsh Government is telling them how to parent. However we will be promoting the following supportive messages:

- The campaign isn't about telling parents how to raise their children.
- There is no 'one size fits all' way to parent. Every child and every parent is unique and the campaign does not provide a set of parenting rules that must be followed. It gives tips and strategies so parents can make decisions about what can work for their child and family.
- Nobody has all the answers and there is no such thing as a perfect parent. However, psychologists have found the positive parenting style is most likely to help children grow up happy and learn well.

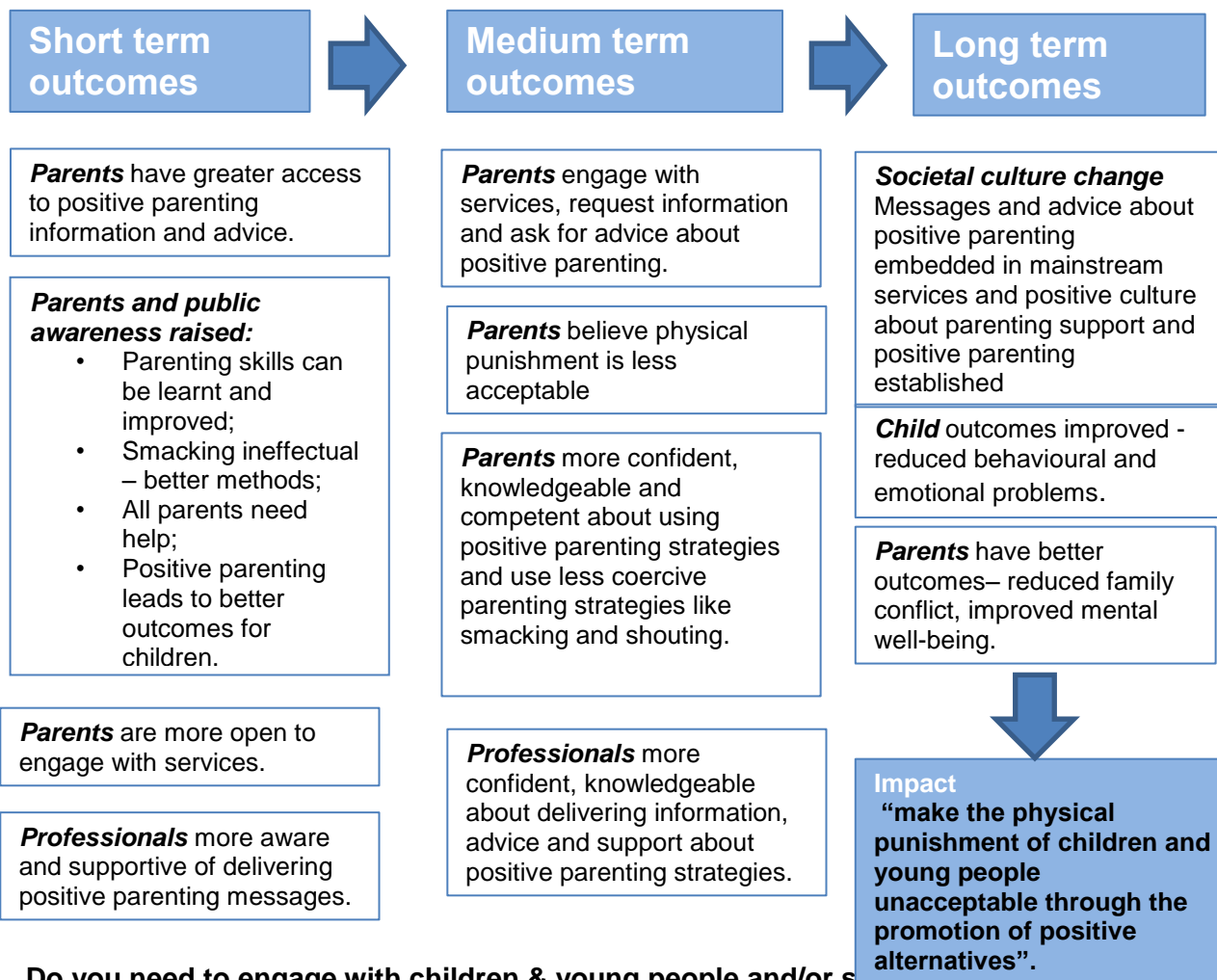
The campaign aims to empower parents to maximise their skills and knowledge in order to build a positive, healthy relationship with their children.

- **How will you know if your piece of work is a success?**

We will do this on a number of levels:

- The research activity described earlier will explore attitudes to physical punishment and parenting practices amongst parents in the target group prior to and later in the campaign.
- We will be measuring traffic and engagement on social media and our dedicated website.
- The media agency, engaged to support delivery of the campaign, will monitor the effectiveness of the various media channels used to promote the campaign messages.
- **Have you considered the short, medium and long term outcomes?**

The Logic Model below summarises the intended short, medium and long term outcomes.



- **Do you need to engage with children & young people and/or service providers using consultation or participatory methods?**

We will be seeking the views of children and young people on physical punishment and parenting practices through commissioned research, as described above.

Step 3. How does your piece of work support and promote children’s rights?

Dependant upon the impact of your piece of work, use balanced judgement to assess:

- Which UNCRC articles are **most** relevant to the piece of work? Consider the articles which your piece of work impacts upon. <http://uncrcletsgetitright.co.uk/images/PDF/UNCRCRights.pdf>
- How are you improving the way children and young people access their rights?
- What aspects of children’s lives will be affected by the proposal?
- What are the main issues that the CRIA should focus on?
- Does the piece of work help to maximise the outcomes within the articles of the UNCRC?

- If no, have any alternatives to the current piece of work been considered?

Which UNCRC articles are most relevant to the piece of work? Consider the articles which your piece of work impacts upon

The Positive Parenting Campaign is based on the core principles of the UNCRC which centres on respect for children's best interests and rights and support for parents in carrying out their role:

- ensuring best interests of the child (article 3);
- parental guidance and evolving capacity (article 5);
- parental responsibilities (article 18);
- ensuring the child's rights for basic care and survival, (Article 6), play and education (Articles 28 & 31);
- protection from abuse, neglect and degrading treatment (Article 19); and
- a right to have a say in matters affecting them as their abilities develop (Article 12).

The UNCRC contains a number of provisions relating specifically to parents and highlighting the importance of their role. E.g. the UNCRC gives parents responsibility for providing their child with appropriate guidance and direction on using their rights properly (Article 5) and in matters relating to religion and conscience (Article 14). Article 18 identifies both parents as having the primary responsibility for bringing up their children, making it clear that governments must provide resources and support to help them fulfil their responsibilities. It also gives parents responsibility to provide adequate living conditions to meet their child's development needs, with financial assistance from the Government if needed (Article 27).

How are you improving the way children and young people access their rights?

Ultimately the campaign is intended to provide advice and information for parents rather than support directly to children. However, for a majority of children, the family home is where they will realise many of the rights laid out in the UNCRC. Parents clearly have a pivotal role as guardians and advocates of children's rights with a responsibility on the state to act as final guarantor. It is hoped that the campaign will assist parents to parent in a positive, supportive manner that considers and reflects children's rights. This will ultimately benefit children and enable them to realise their rights and maximise positive outcomes for them.

We will be seeking the views of children and young people on physical punishment and parenting practices through commissioned research, as described above.

• What aspects of children's lives will be affected by the proposal?

The information provided to parents will encourage them to incorporate positive parenting strategies (such as praise, talking, playing and listening) into every day activities with their children like dressing, playing, shopping, bathing and mealtimes. It will provide specific tips and information for parents on dealing with common behaviours and situations where parents may be more likely to resort to shouting or physical punishment. It will also provide information to parents on what their child can be expected to do, to encourage parents to adopt realistic expectations.

• Does the piece of work help to maximise the outcomes within the articles of the UNCRC?

For a majority of children, the family home is where they will realise many of the rights laid out in the UNCRC. The campaign is intended to maximise the articles of the UNCRC through:

- a culture change in attitudes towards physical punishment in Wales, making it unacceptable and promoting positive parenting techniques. Helping mothers and fathers understand the importance of their role and the positive difference they can make to their child's development, (Article 5,18)
- providing all parents with easy to access tips and information about ways to help take some of the stress out of everyday family activities, such as bed time, bath time and the weekly food shop. Providing details of organisations for parents who may need further help and support. (Article 18)
- encouraging parents to play, talk and listen to their children and encourage positive behaviour by adopting positive parenting strategies (Articles 28 & 31)
- encouraging parents to consider their young child's emerging capacity for autonomy – e.g. giving their young child some choices about what to play with, what to wear and what to eat. (article 5)
- encouraging parents to adopt positive parenting strategies and providing them with options and alternatives to physical punishment. E.g. praising positive behaviour rather than punishing bad behaviour. Highlighting the negative impact of using physical punishment and that it is not an effective method of discipline (article 19)
- The campaign will provide age appropriate tips and strategies to promote children's development (article 3)

The campaign will also work with professionals who support parents and provide information to them on positive parenting.

Step 4. Advising the Minister and Ministerial decision

When giving advice and making recommendations to the Minister, consider:

- The ways in which the piece of work helps to maximise the outcomes within the articles of the UNCRC?
- Has any conflict with the UNCRC articles within the proposal been identified?
- Consider the wider impact; does the proposal affect any other policy areas?
- With regard to any negative impacts caused by the proposal; can Ministers evidence that they have allocated as much resources as possible?
- What options and advice should be provided to Ministers on the proposal?
- In relation to your advice on whether or not to proceed with the piece of work, is there any additional advice you should provide to the Minister?
- Is it appropriate to advise the Minister to reconsider the decision in the future, in particular bearing in mind the availability of resources at this time and what resources may be available in the future?
- Have you provided advice to Ministers on a LF/SF and confirmed paragraph 26?
- Is the advice supported by an explanation of the key issues?

Advice to Minister

Although parents have some access to universal parenting support delivered by partners in local government, health and education, services are primarily provided through our anti-poverty

programmes – Flying Start, Families First and Communities First. In his Annual Report (2013-14) the Children’s Commissioner for Wales expressed concern all parents and carers should have access to universal parenting support.

Targeting parenting support to families living in deprivation or to families assessed by professionals to have problems may attract stigma, which could affect parents’ readiness to engage. A targeted approach to parenting support also does not contribute to a culture where parenting is seen as a learned skill everyone can acquire and benefit from.

It is important for parents to receive consistent messages on the key aspects of good, positive parenting from a range of sources. Non-statutory guidance, "Parenting in Wales: Guidance on engagement and support" sets out the Welsh Government's expectations on how parenting support should be provided. The guidance is intended to inform the decisions made by those delivering and commissioning parenting services. It contains a firm expectation for positive parenting principles to be promoted actively and consistently.

Research we commissioned last year has provided us with insights into attitudes in Wales to child discipline. It has contributed to our knowledge of different discipline strategies parents use and their information needs. The research highlights the potential to build on parents' existing skills in order to reinforce the effectiveness of the positive strategies they already use.

Evidence suggests attitudes towards parenting and physical discipline could be influenced by a national social marketing campaign. Lessons can be learned from the implementation of various social marketing campaigns in the UK and internationally. The success of these campaigns depended on having clear, consistent and positive messages promoted through a number of media communication methods.

To take forward the Programme for Government and manifesto commitment on positive parenting, the Minister was advised to consider funding a social marketing campaign and funding research with children and parents on attitudes to physical punishment and parenting practices.

No advice was given on legislation as the Welsh Government has no mandate to legislate on this issue as it was not part of the Government’s manifesto and does not feature in the legislative programme.

The Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty has given agreement for the campaign in SF/LG/1589/15

Step 5. Recording and communicating the outcome

Final version to be retained on i-share

Evidence should be retained that supports:

- How the duty has been complied with **(Steps 1-3 above)**
- The analysis that was carried out **(Steps 1-3 above)**
- The options that were developed and explored **(Steps 1- 3 above)**
- How have the findings / outcomes been communicated? **(Step 4 above)**
- ‘Tells the story’ of how the assessment has been undertaken and the results **(Step 4 above)**

Step 6. Revisiting the piece of work as and when needed

In revisiting the piece of work, consider any monitoring, evaluation or data collection that has been undertaken:

- Has your piece of work had the intended impact as set out in Step 2.
- Have you engaged with stakeholders to discuss how the policy or practice is working.
- If not, are changes required.
- Identify where improvements can be made to reduce any negative impact.
- Identify any opportunities to promote children's rights, bearing in mind any additional availability of resources at this time.

Reviewing intended impact:

We will do this on a number of levels:

- The research activity described earlier will explore attitudes to physical punishment and parenting practices amongst parents in the target group prior to and later in the campaign.

Review date: research conducted prior to campaign – follow up research – date tbc

- We will be measuring traffic and engagement on social media and our dedicated website.

Review date: Initially monthly and thereafter bi-monthly

- The media agency, engaged to support delivery of the campaign, will monitor the effectiveness of the various media channels used to promote the campaign messages

Review date: The media agency will provide regular updates, which will be reviewed

Engagement with stakeholders to discuss how the policy or practice is working

Engagement will take place through the following activities:

- presentations to national networks, forums, meetings, conferences and events;
- articles in external Newsletters or briefings;
- meetings with key individuals

The working links with key relevant organisations, already established, will be maintained. These include regular attendance at

- All Wales Health Visiting Forum;
- FIS Network;
- North Wales Families First Parenting Learning Set; and
- National Parenting Coordinators Network.

Budgets

As a result of completing the CRIA, has there been any impact on budgets?


It is important that where any changes are made to spending plans, including where additional allocations have been made, that this has been assessed and evidenced as part of the CRIA process.

No

Please give any details:

Monitoring & Review

Do we need to monitor / review the proposal?	Yes /
If applicable: set the review date	Month / Year March 2016



**See next page for a
Summary List of the
UNCRC articles**

THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

www.uncrcletsgetitright.co.uk

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is an international agreement that protects the human rights of the children under the age of 18. On 16 December 1991, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland formally agreed to make sure that every child in the UK has all the rights as listed in the convention. The Welsh Government has shown its commitment to the convention by adopting it as the basis for policy making for children in Wales.

Altogether there are 54 articles in the convention. Articles 43-54 are about how adults and governments should work together to make sure all children are entitled to their rights. The information contained here is about articles 1-42 which set out how children should be treated.



**Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government**

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Everyone under 18 years of age has all the rights in this Convention.

Article 2

The Convention applies to everyone whatever their race, religion, abilities, whatever they think or say and whatever type of family they come from.

Article 3

All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for each child.

Article 4

Governments should make these rights available to children.

Article 5

Governments should respect the rights and responsibilities of families to direct and guide their children so that, as they grow, they learn to use their rights properly.

Article 6

All children have the right of life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily.

Article 7

All children have the right to a legally registered name, the right to a nationality and the right to know and, as far as possible, to be cared for by their parents.

Article 8

Governments should respect children's right to a name, a nationality and family ties.

Article 9

Children should not be separated from their parents unless it is for their own good, for example if a parent is mistreating or neglecting a child. Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay in contact with both parents, unless this might hurt the child.

Article 10

Families who live in different countries should be allowed to move between those countries so that parents and children can stay in contact or get back together as a family.

Article 11

Governments should take steps to stop children being taken out of their own country illegally.

Article 12

Children have the right to say what they think should happen, when adults are making

decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account.

Article 13

Children have the right to get and to share information as long as the information is not damaging to them or to others.

Article 14

Children have the right to think and believe what they want and to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Parents should guide their children on these matters.

Article 15

Children have the right to meet together and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

Article 16

Children have a right to privacy. The law should protect them from attacks against their way of life, their good name, their families and their homes.

Article 17

Children have the right to reliable information from the mass media. Television, radio and newspapers should provide information that children can understand, and should not promote materials that could harm children.

Article 18

Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their children, and should always consider what is best for each child. Governments should help parents by providing services to support them, especially if both parents work.

Article 19

Governments should ensure that children are properly cared for, and protect them from violence, abuse and neglect by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 20

Children who cannot be looked after by their own family must be looked after properly, by people who respect their religion, culture and language.

Article 21

When children are adopted the first concern must be what is best for them. The same rules should apply whether the children are adopted in the country where they were born or taken to live in another country.

Article 22

Children who come into a country as refugees should have the same rights as children born in that country.

Article 23

Children who have any kind of disability should have special care and support so that they can lead full and independent lives.

Article 24

Children have the right to good quality health care and to clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment so that they will stay healthy. Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 25

Children who are looked after by their local authority rather than their parents should have their situation reviewed regularly.

Article 26

The Government should provide extra money for the children of families in need.

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Children have a right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and mental needs. The Government should help families who cannot afford to provide this.

Article 28

Children have a right to an education. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity. Primary education should be free. Wealthy countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 29

Education should develop each child's personality and talents to the full. It should encourage children to respect their parents, and their own and other cultures.

Article 30

Children have a right to learn and use the language and customs of their families, whether these are shared by the majority of people in the country or not.

Article 31

All children have a right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of activities.

Article 32

The Government should protect children from work that is dangerous or might harm their health or their education.

Article 33

The Government should provide ways of protecting children from dangerous drugs.

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The Government should protect children from sexual abuse.

Article 35

The Government should make sure that children are not abducted or sold.

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Children should be protected from any activities that could harm their development.

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Article 41

If the laws of a particular country protect children better than the articles of the Convention, then those laws should stay.

Article 42

The Government should make the Convention known to all parents and children.

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Cic - The National Information and Advice Service for Young People www.ciconline.co.uk/news/





Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) Template

Title / Piece of work:	Children and Families Delivery Grant
Related SF / LF number (if applicable)	SF-JC0456-14 Replacement for the Children and Families Organisation Grant: Children and Family Delivery Grant
Name of Official:	Robert Edwards
Department:	Children Young People and Families Division.
Date:	24 March 2014
Signature:	

Please complete the CRIA and retain it for your records on iShare. You may be asked to provide this document at a later stage to evidence that you have complied with the duty to have due regard to children's rights e.g. Freedom of Information access requests, monitoring purposes or to inform reporting to the NAFW.

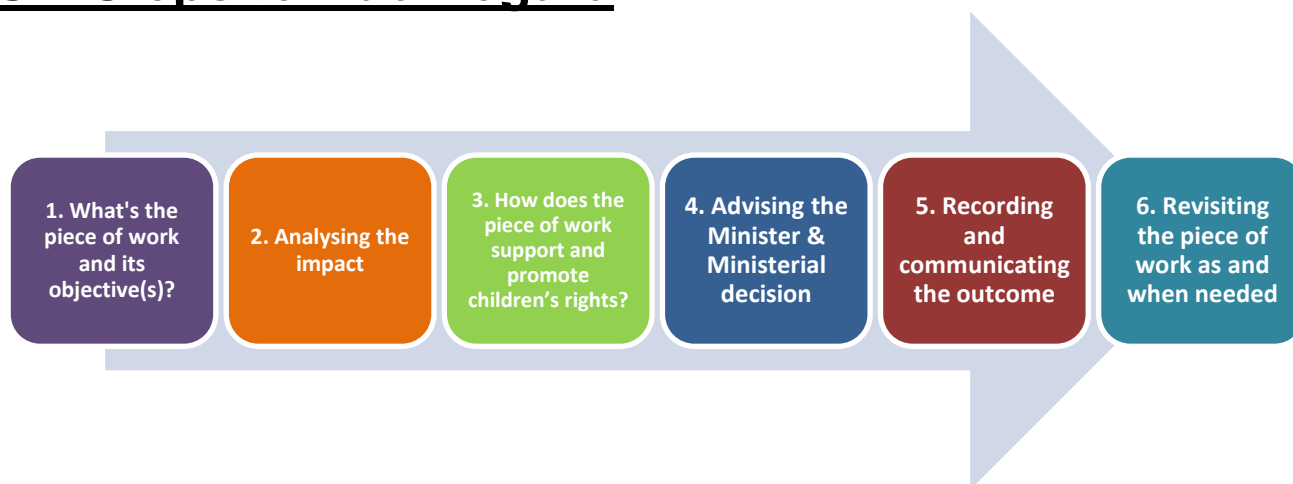
Upon completion you should also forward a copy of the CRIA to the Measure Implementation Team for monitoring purposes using the dedicated mailbox CRIA@wales.gsi.gov.uk

If officials are not sure about whether to complete a CRIA, they should err on the side of caution and seek advice from the Measure Implementation Team by forwarding any questions to our mailbox CRIA@wales.gsi.gov.uk

You may wish to cross-reference with other Impact Assessments undertaken.

NB. All CRIAs undertaken on legislation must be published. All non-legislative CRIAs will be listed on the WG website and must be made available upon request. Ministers are however, encouraged to publish all completed CRIAs.

Six Steps to Due Regard



Step 1. What's the piece of work and its objective(s)?

The Children and Families Delivery Grant (CFDG) will replace the current Children and Family Organisation Grant (CFOG).

An independent review in 2011 of the CFOG Family Support and Childcare and Play strands considered that too many organisations were funded through the grant. The report also considered that monitoring arrangements by the Welsh Government were weak and relationships insufficiently dynamic. Following further consultation with stakeholders a decision was reached to move to a more delivery focussed funding model.

The grant, to Third Sector organisations, will be to drive outcomes in five specific priority areas that complement and add value to the Welsh Government's Family Support agenda. The grant will support families in practical, measurable ways, with a strong emphasis on outcomes that will directly impact on children through its focus on participation and engagement, childcare, policy and play.

The CFDG will commence 1 October 2014 and run for 36 months. Funding will be £2.8 million per 12- month period. The intention is to award 5 grants to address each of the following 5 stated priorities:

- Families across Wales can access affordable, quality **childcare**;
- Increased opportunities for children in Wales to **play**;
- Families are **informed** about financial and other practical support that builds resilience;
- 'Seldom heard' families are **engaged** and access programmes, support and services; and
- Policy and strategic development in relation to Children, Young People and Families is supported and systemic opportunities for Children and Young People to participate in decisions that affect them and have their **voices heard** is increased.

Step 2. Analysing the impact

The Children and Families Delivery Grant is specifically about better outcomes for children, young people and their families. It is about ensuring delivery on the ground that will be seen and felt. The Minister is clear that all grant activity must be able to evidence that its delivery is making a positive difference to those it intends to affect.

Each application for funding will include a section which outlines the arrangements for monitoring and reporting within the project. The Welsh Government is recommending a Results Based Accountability approach to this activity. Applicants will be expected to outline how they intend to monitor progress of the project and respond to unexpected problems, provide details of milestones and timescales and project tolerances. As part of this requirement applicants will be required to state how they will measure the achievements of the project. They will be required to include details of proposed surveys and research activities and whether or not they will be carried out by independent assessors.

Successful applicants will be expected to submit a quarterly grant claim form which will include a requirement to report progress against agreed outputs. Annual progress reports will also be required.

At project end applicants will be required to evaluate the actual impact and outcomes of their project in accordance with the methodology outlined in their application. This will include the requirement to submit an evaluation report to the Welsh Government within 6 months of the end of the project.

The collaborative approach that this grant encourages is intended to provide children, young people and families with a more coherent service through organisations working together move from focussing on services and process to focussing on delivery.

Step 3. How does your piece of work support and promote children's rights?

Every priority area of this grant is intended to further children's rights. The grant focusses on making rights a reality for many children, young people and families. The range of activities which could be covered by the grant is potentially wide. Successful applications could include projects which range from the provision of high level over arching services to the sector as whole to on the ground delivery of services directly to children and their families.

The Grant focusses on supporting the following UNCRC Articles/themes:

Article 3. The success of the programme will be monitored closely and evaluated with a primary focus being the best interests of children and young people. The measurement of Outcomes and impact is an integral part of the grant programme.

Article 5. Provide Parenting activities so parents learn how to bring their children up in a structured and supportive environment.

Article 6. The programme will potentially support Health Visitor activities with the flying Start programme. This will increase the likelihood of children surviving through the identification of domestic risk and help ensure they grow up healthy.

Article 12. Provide child advocacy services to ensure children's voices are heard.

Article 18. Support programmes that help both parents have input into the development of their children, Whether the parents are together or living separately.

Article 24. Increased Health care through support for the Flying Start enhanced health visitor service.

Article 26. The primary aim of the programme is to tackle poverty using an early intervention model wherever possible. £8.4million is being made available across a 36 month period to support the aims of the grant.

Article 29. Language and Play are essential components of divisional activities. The new grant can provide additional support in this area. Early interventions allow the child to develop both in terms of their personality and linguistic abilities making them more sociable and amenable to engaging more closely with the education system.

Article 31. Play activities are eligible for funding under the CFDG .

Priority area 5 is specifically intended to attract proposals that increase and realise opportunities for children and young people in Wales to have their voices heard (article 12). The following eligible activity was identified in the application guidance:

- enabling children and young people to have a voice in the workings and developments of the Welsh Government;
- the collective voices of children and young people from local forums are heard nationally by Ministers;
- ensuring that children and young people, and those who work with them, are aware of children's right to participation as set out in the UNCRC; and
- promotion of meaningful and effective participation through the sharing of good practice.

The range of activities which could be covered by the grant is potentially wide. Successful applications could include projects which range from the provision of high level over arching services to the sector as whole to on the ground delivery of services directly to children and their families.

Step 4. Advising the Minister and Ministerial decision

Ministerial advice was provided under submission:

SF-JC0456-14 Replacement for the Children and Family Organisation Grant. - Children and Family Delivery Grant

The Minister has approved the recommendation of the submission.

Step 5. Recording and communicating the outcome

Final version to be retained on i-share

Documentation relating to the development of the grant can be found on iShare under reference: zA745098.

Step 6. Revisiting the piece of work as and when needed

The grant commences October 2014 following a grant assessment panel in June 2014. Reviews of the programme will take place on an annual basis and reviews of project progress on a quarterly basis. Each successful applicant will be assigned an account manager to monitor progress.

Budgets

As a result of completing the CRIA, has there been any impact on budgets?

It is important that where any changes are made to spending plans, including where additional allocations have been made, that this has been assessed and evidenced as part of the CRIA process.

Yes

Please give any details:

Tackling Poverty Budgets are expected to increase over the 3 year life span of the new grant. There will however be some adjustment of priorities within the main funding Programmes to accommodate changing priorities. The CFDG budget will be similar to the current CFOG grant which it replaces with an annual budget of approx. £2.8m available to support the funded projects.

Monitoring & Review

Do we need to monitor / review the proposal?

No

If applicable: set the review date

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