**Children, Youth and Community Services Policy and Research Working Group (CYCSPRWG)**

**26 February 2013 – Adelaide**

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| **OUTCOMES** |

**Attendees**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Mr Terry Murphy (Chair)Ms Kay Benham | Western Australia | Department for Child Protection |
| Ms Maree Walk (Deputy Chair) | New South Wales | Department of Family and Community Services |
| Ms Cate McKenzieMs Helen Bedford | Commonwealth | Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs |
| Ms Anne CampbellMs Penny Hood | New South Wales | Department of Family and Community Services |
| Ms Mary McKinnon | Victoria | Department of Human Services |
| Mr Patrick Sherry (proxy for Brad Swan) | Queensland | Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services |
| Ms Jennifer Harvey | South Australia | Department for Communities and Social InclusionDepartment for Education and Child Development |
| Ms Christine Nolan | Australian Capital Territory | Community Services Directorate |
| Associate ProfessorDes Graham | Tasmania | Department of Health and Human Services |
| Ms Joanne Townsend | Northern Territory |  |
| Mr Tim Beard |  | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |
| Dr Mark Collis | Guest, attended via teleconference for agenda item 3. | Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators |
| Ms Kate Pope | Guest, attended via teleconference for agenda item 4. | Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) |
| Annie Butkus | Commonwealth | CYCSPRWG Secretariat |

**Apologies**: Ms Sue Barr, SA Government

 Vesna Ringuet, CYCSPRWG secretariat

**Meeting Minutes**

**Item 1 Welcome and apologies**

Chairs welcomed new members: Mary McKinnon from Victoria and Ms Sue Barr form South Australia (apology) and noted Ms Townsend (NT) was attending via teleconference.

**Item 2 Outcomes and actions arising from October 2012 meeting**

Members noted all actions arising from meeting of 24 October 2012 are completed except for the following:

* action item 8: CYCSPRWG year one work plan (will be discussed today at agenda item 7.1);
* action item 7: CYCSPRWG sub-committee review (will be discussed today at agenda item 7.2);
* action item 9: identify possible strategic discussion items for future SCCDSAC meetings – this action is ongoing.

Members endorsed minutes from the previous meeting 24 October 2012.

**Item 3 Juvenile Justice**

**3.1 Update from sub-committee**

Dr Collis (via teleconference) provided an update noting in particular:

* The National Youth Justice Framework (NYJF): the Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators (AJJA) have engaged the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) to develop the NYJF and it is now in its final stage of drafting. Once endorsed by State and Territory AJJA members it will proceed to CYCSPRWG for endorsement.
* AJJA is supporting AIHW’s bid for the SCCDSAC 2013-14 cost-shared budget to develop a linked data collection to report on the relationship between child protection and youth justice.
* The first Australasian Youth Justice Conference will be held in Canberra on

20-22 May 2013.

Dr Collis raised the issue of formal AJJA representation on CYCSPRWG, noting the significant links between child protection and juvenile justice. Members discussed this request, noting that none of the other CYCSPRWG sub-committees have representation on CYCSPRWG.

***Decision***

Members agreed that AJJA would not join CYCSPRWG as a member. Instead juvenile justice will become a standing item on the CYCSPRWG agenda. The Chair of AJJA will join via teleconference (for the juvenile justice item only), or in person as required.

**3.2 Initiatives and identification of outstanding issues**

Members noted initiatives underway in their jurisdictions including:

* Ms Benham advised that WA are looking at the outcomes of therapeutic secure care versus justice approaches.
* Mr Sherry noted that any therapeutic secure care built in Queensland will be in the health area.
* SA noted the nexus between children and young people in OOHC and their over-representation in juvenile detention.
* Ms McKenzie noted, as an example of joint work, the *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children* was jointly endorsed by both Ministers for Women and Community Services Minsters.

***Actions arising***

1. *Juvenile justice to become a standing item on future CYCSPRWG agendas. The Chair of AJJA will join by teleconference or in person as required.*
2. *The Chair of AJJA to bring the National Youth Justice Framework to CYCSPRWG for endorsement once finalised.*
3. *Provide members (for ongoing distribution through member networks), information on the upcoming Australasian Youth Justice Conference 20-22 May 2013.*

**Item 4 Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors – update and discussion**

Ms Pope, from the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) joined the meeting via teleconference for this item to provide an update to members noting:

* At their November 2012 meeting SCDDS agreed to progress work on an agreed approach for guardianship services for unaccompanied humanitarian minors.
* The Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors (UHM) Technical Reference Group (TRG) was formed to advise DIAC on the implementation of proposed alternative arrangements for the care of 16-17 year old unaccompanied humanitarian minors and to develop a nationally consistent service and funding model.
* It has been agreed in-principle that the Commonwealth will assume responsibility for the majority of the 16-17 year old caseload and will focus primarily on settlement, rather than care and protection (except where needed).
* The Commonwealth service model will be delivered by non-government providers and the tender to procure these services will open on 10 April 2013.
* Approximately 100 clients went through the pilot and the experience was positive.
* Discussions relating to cost models for the state and territory administered portion of the UHM program are progressing. The draft funding model will be distributed to jurisdictions for comment.
* Noted that the proposed new arrangements will require endorsement by the new Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Brendan O'Connor MP. His Office has been briefed.

***Discussion***

Members noted the importance of ensuring senior level officers are represented on the UHM Technical Reference Group.

Members commented positively on the progress on this issue, noting in some jurisdictions the number of cases has dropped dramatically.

Members noted implications for individual jurisdictions’ legislation if the Commonwealth changes the *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946*.

***Actions arising***

1. *Add ‘Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors’ as a standing item to future CYCSPRWG agendas.*
2. *Jurisdictions to liaise directly with Kate Pope (kate.pope@immi.gov.au) regarding any concerns about changes to the Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946.*
3. *Circulate draft service and funding model to members for consideration.*

**Item 5 National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children**

**5.1 Outcomes from National Framework Implementation Working Group (NFIWG) meeting of 25 February 2013**

Ms Bedford provided an update on the previous day’s NFIWG meeting, noting:

* A robust discussion took place regarding the Community and Business Priorities Workshop (Priority 20 under the Second Action Plan).
* NFIWG members were updated on progress of the Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory program.
* It was suggested that the Executive Summary of the National Framework’s Annual Report to COAG be expanded so it can be read as a stand alone document.
* The next steps for the approach to communication of the National Framework and Second Action Plan (SAP) were agreed.
* NFIWG received updates on the Indigenous Promising Practice Project; the National Research Agenda; National Framework Evaluation; the Pilot Survey on the National Standards for Out of Home Care and the National Centre of Excellence.
* Members also noted that SCCDS have tasked NFIWG with responsibility for a number of additional actions. NFIWG members emphasised the need to be kept fully informed of progress of all actions under the Second Action Plan, including those led by CYCSPRWG.
* Noted that Mr Murphy will take issues of NGO representation on the RED Working Group to SCCDSAC at the 21 March 2013 meeting.

**5.2 Final National Framework work plan as endorsed by SCCDS on 23/11/2012.**

Members:

* noted the final *National Framework for Protecting Australia’s Children 2009-2020: Second Action Plan 2012 -2-15 Work Plan* was endorsed by Ministers at their meeting on 23 November 2012.
* noted actions items assigned to CYCSPRWG to lead.
* noted the full SAP work plan and progress report will be available to all NFIWG and CYCSPRWG members.

**5.3 Update on Year One priorities**

The Chair led members through progress against Year One priority actions. The outcomes of this discussion have been reflected in the attached Second Action Plan Progress Report (Attachment B).

***Actions arising***

1. *Secretariat to circulate Second Action Plan progress report template for members to note and update where necessary*
2. *Confirm timeline for action item 10.1 – trial locally based strategies for working with households with complex needs.*
3. *Seek jurisdictional input regarding any current or planned initiatives in relation to action item 11.2 – build the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations through partnerships with mainstream providers.*
4. *Seek jurisdictional input on initiatives to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to work in the child protection system – SAP Action Item 11.4.*
5. *Circulate Tasmania’s carers’ continuum to members.*
6. *Amend timeframes for action items relating to interface between disability and child protection to take account of NDIS trials. For SAP Action Item 18.1: delete ‘end June 2013’; and change date for 18.2 to March 2014.*

**5.4 Annual report to COAG**

Members noted the Annual report is close to finalisation, any comments or amendments should be provided to the secretariat as soon as possible. The report will go to the next SCCDS meeting scheduled for 3 May 2013 for endorsement.

***Actions arising***

1. *Members to provide any comments on the draft Annual Report (Agenda Item 5.4) to secretariat at this address:* *cpc@fahcsia.gov.au*

**5.5 Evaluation Plan**

The Commonwealth noted that a preferred tenderer has been identified to develop an Evaluation Plan for the National Framework and an announcement of the successful candidate is expected soon, with the project to commence in March 2013.

It was noted that the successful consultant will develop the Evaluation Plan in consultation with all jurisdictions and members of the NGO Coalition.

**5.6 Children’s Commissioners and Guardians**

Members noted the request by the Australian Children’s Commissioners and Guardians (ACCG) to be more formally involved in implementation of the National Framework.

Members noted that as a first step to engage more directly with Commissioners and Guardians regarding the National Framework that it was agreed to invite the newly announced National Children’s Commissioner to attend the next NFIWG meeting.

***Decision***

Members to discuss again after the next NFIWG meeting.

**Item 6 .1 Health outcomes for children and young people in child protection system – SAP action 17.1: update**

Ms Bedford provided an update on this item, noting that:

* Work is progressing well on this project. The working group, (comprising members form all jurisdictions from both health and child protection departments), is scoping the project and the Commonwealth will go out to tender in the near future to engage a consultant to undertake the analysis.
* The scope had become too broad but has now returned to what Ministers had originally requested. Therefore the consultant will assess:
	+ implementation of the *National Clinical Assessment Framework for Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care* (OOHC) across jurisdictions;
	+ effective mechanisms to track health histories of children and young people in OOHC; and
	+ use of existing relevant Medical Benefits Schedule (MBS) items and exploration of a new dedicated MBS item or other alternatives.
* An Expert Reference Group (ERG) will be convened to inform and guide the project.
* The report from this project will be considered by SCCDS at their August 2013 meeting.
* Members discussed issues such as resourcing and connections with other service systems, specifically the supply and capacity of health practitioners to undertake assessments and provide treatment services for identified concerns.
* Members noted progress and challenges across jurisdictions in implementing the *National Clinical Assessment Framework for Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care* (OOHC).

**Item 6.2 Joint SCCDS and Standing Council on Health (SCoH) –agenda items**

NSW is preparing a discussion paper that will propose agenda items for the joint meeting, for consideration by SCDDSAC and the Australian Health Ministers’ Advisory Council (AHMAC).

Members agreed to the three discussion topics proposed in the agenda paper. The issue of enhancing child and family sensitive practice was discussed in greater detail. In particular, members highlighted the importance of encouraging other service systems to take broader responsibility for children in their care.

***Decision***

Members agreed to the three proposed discussion topics, (with slight amendment to wording of topic 3), progressing to SCCDSAC in preparation for the joint meeting of SCCDS and the Standing Council on Health (SCoH).

***Actions arising***

1. *Seek jurisdictional input regarding initiatives (including advantages and disadvantages), planned or implemented in their jurisdictions to facilitate child and family sensitive practice in alcohol and other drug treatment services.*
2. *Refine wording of discussion topic for joint SCCDS & SCOH meeting: ‘enhancing child and family sensitive practice in alcohol and other drug treatment services’.*
3. *Jurisdictions to advise Secretariat (by emailing cpc@fahcsia.gov.au) of any additional issues for joint SCCDS & SCoH meeting.*

**Item 6.3 SCCDSAC – HMAC joint work – update**

Anne Campbell and Maree Walk provided an update on this item.

NSW is working with jurisdictional representatives from the Disability Policy and Research Working Group (DPRWG), the Housing Homelessness Policy & Research Working Group (HHPRWG), CYCSPRWG and the Commonwealth to identify possible strategic priority projects for a joint SCCDSAC/Housing Ministers’ Advisory Committee (HMAC) strategic agenda. A workshop is planned for 28 February 2013 and NSW has distributed a background paper to participants in preparation. Des Graham from Tasmania and Angela Hope from the Commonwealth will be participating on behalf of CYCSPRWG.

**Item 7 Other business**

**7.1 Agree to CYCSPRWG 2013 annual work plan for SCCDSAC endorsement**

Members discussed the draft CYCSPRWG work plan provided, noting the work plan will be presented to SCCDSAC for endorsement at their 21 March 2103 meeting.

Members noted the work plan comprises tasks relating to implementation of the Second Action Plan of the National Framework; key tasks of CYCSPRWG sub-committees; and additional priorities referred to CYCSPRWG by SCCDSAC that relate more broadly to children’s services, youth and community services.

The Chair suggested it was unnecessary to repeat the tasks of the Second Action Plan in the work plan, rather the combined NFIWG/CYSPRWG progress report could be included as an attachment to the work plan as this document includes all action items under the National Framework.

***Decision***:

Members endorsed the CYCSPRWG 2013 work plan subject to amendment as noted.

***Actions arising***

1. *CYCSPRWG 2013 work plan: Move National Framework action items from front of work plan and instead include combined NFIWG/CYCSPRWG progress report at the back of the work plan.*

**7.2 Discuss sub-committee structures, ToR and work plans**

Members discussed the proposed sub-committee structure, noting the proposal to convene a new adoption working group and that the Terms of Reference (ToR) for this group will be agreed by CYCSPRWG out of session. Members noted the sensitivities around the potential range of issues, (including inter-country adoption and forced adoption) that will be covered by this sub-committee and the need to agree an appropriate name for the sub-committee.

Members agreed with the proposed, revised sub-committee structure as outlined in the agenda paper; that is CYCSPRWG will now have six sub-committees (including NFIWG).

***Actions arising***

1. *Add a standing item to meeting agenda to provide time for jurisdictions to share progress on initiatives.*
2. *Follow up with sub-committees regarding outstanding ToR, membership and work plans.*

**7.3 Members to note endorsement of CYCSPRWG ToRs**

Members noted the revised ToR that were endorsed at the 24 October 2012 CYCSPRWG meeting.

**7.4 Next meeting**

Members noted the next meeting will be held in Sydney on 22 May 2013.

Meeting closed 3pm

**Summary of Actions Arising from 26 February 2013 CYCSPRWG Meeting**

| **Action** | **Timeframe** | **Responsibility** | **Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Juvenile Justice to become a standing item on CYCSPRWG agenda. Chair of AJJA will join by teleconference or in person as required (Agenda Item 3.1). | Ongoing | Secretariat | In progress |
|  | Chair of AJJA to bring the National Youth Justice Framework to CYCSPRWG for endorsement (Agenda Item 3.1). | Prior to May meeting | Secretariat | In progress |
|  | Provide members (for ongoing distribution through member networks) with information on the upcoming Australasian Youth Justice Conference 20-22 May 2013 (Agenda Item 3.1). | ASAP | Dr Mark Collis to send information to CYCSPRWG secretariat: cpc@fahcsia.gov.au for circulation to CYCSPRWG members | Completed 26/3/13 |
|  | Add ‘Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors’ as a standing item to CYCSPRWG agenda (Agenda Item 4). | ASAP | Secretariat | Complete |
|  | Jurisdictions to liaise directly with Kate Pope (kate.pope@immi.gov.au) regarding any concerns about changes to the *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946* (Agenda Item 4). | ASAP | All | In progress |
|  | Circulate draft service and funding model to members for consideration (Agenda Item 4). | ASAP | Kate Pope (DIAC) |  |
|  | Secretariat to circulate Second Action Plan progress report template for members to note and update where necessary (Agenda Item 5.3). | Ongoing action, circulate prior to next meeting | Secretariat to circulateMembers to complete | In progress |
|  | Confirm timeline for action item 10.1 – *trial locally based strategies for working with households with complex needs.* (Discussed at Agenda Item 5.3). | ASAP | Victoria | In progress |
|  | Seek jurisdictional input regarding any current or planned initiatives in relation to action item 11.2 – *build the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations through partnerships with mainstream providers.* (Discussed at Agenda Item 5.3). | ASAP  | Secretariat to request.Members to action | Completed27/3/13 |
|  | Seek jurisdictional input on initiatives to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to work in the child protection system - Action Item 11.4. (Discussed at Agenda Item 5.3). | ASAP | Secretariat to request. Members to action | Completed 27/3/13 |
|  | Circulate Tasmania’s carers’ continuum to members. (Discussed at Agenda Item 5.3). | ASAP | Tasmania to provide to Secretariat for circulation |  |
|  | Amend timeframes for action items relating to interface between disability and child protection to take account of NDIS trials. For action 18.1: delete ‘end June 2013’; and change date for 18.2 to March 2014. ( Discussed at Agenda Item 5.3). | ASAP | Secretariat | Completed |
|  | Members to provide any comments on the draft Annual Report (Agenda Item 5.4) to secretariat at this address:cpc@fahcsia.gov.au | COB 5 March 2013 | All | Completed |
|  | Seek jurisdictional input regarding initiatives (including advantages and disadvantages), planned or implemented in their jurisdictions to facilitate child and family sensitive practice in alcohol and other drug treatment services (Agenda item 6.2).  | ASAP | Secretariat to send request Members to action request |  |
|  | Refine wording of discussion topic for joint SCCDS & SCOH meeting: ‘*enhancing child and family sensitive practice in alcohol and other drug treatment services’* (Agenda item 6.2). | ASAP | NSW | Completed |
|  | Jurisdictions to advise Secretariat (by emailing cpc@fahcsia.gov.au) of any additional issues for joint SCCDS & SCoH meeting (Agenda item 6.2). | COB 8 March 2013 | Secretariat who will then forward to NSW | Completed  |
|  | CYCSPRWG 2013 work plan (Agenda item 7.1): Move National Framework action items from front of work plan and instead include combined NFIWG/CYCSPRWG progress report at the back of the work plan.  | ASAP | Secretariat | Completed |
|  | Add a standing item to meeting agenda to provide time for jurisdictions to share progress on initiatives. | ASAP | Secretariat | In progress |
|  | Follow up with sub-committees regarding outstanding ToR, membership and work plans (Agenda item 7.2). | ASAP | Secretariat | In progress |

| **NFPAC Second Action Plan - Year 1 Progress as at 18 Feb 2013** |
| --- |
|  | **Action** | **Key Deliverable** | **Key Milestones** | **Timing of Milestones** | **Lead Working Group** | **Traffic Light Status** | **Progress** |
| **Delivering on** National Priorities | **8. National Standards for Out-of-Home Care** |
| **8.1** Enhance the application and nationally consistent reporting of the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle (ACPP). | Identify practical steps to enhance application of the Aboriginal Child Placement Principle across all jurisdictions. | • National Workshop• Report including options provided to NFIWG• Seek agreement to practical steps by Ministers. | End 2013August / September 2013Late 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| Agree and implement reporting detail for the Child Protection National Minimum Data Set across all jurisdictions. | • Aboriginal Child Placement is reported as part of the National Minimum Data Set – confirmation of reporting arrangements at the ACPP workshop.• Seek agreement to implementation by Ministers. | End 2013Late 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| **8.4** Improve stability of placements for children in out-of-home care, including through permanency planning. | Map permanency planning policies and payment arrangements to identify and consider models that support best practice. | • Key Commonwealth and state and territory government contacts identified.• Mapping of existing and proposed permanency planning policies complete. • Advice to Ministers. | March 2013September 2013Late 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **9. Transitioning to Independence** |
| **9.1** Integrate support for young people leaving care that is tailored to their individual needs and builds on a lifespan approach, including the Transition to Independent Living Allowance and State and Territory leaving care packages for care leavers. | Identify good practice initiatives and support models from jurisdictions to develop better ways to integrate support for young people leaving care.  | • Key Commonwealth and state and territory government contacts identified.• Mapping of existing and phased good practice initiatives and support models completed. • Develop better ways to integrate support for young people leaving care. | March 2013Sept 2013June 2014 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **10. Joining Up Service Delivery** |
| **10.1** Trial locally based strategies for working with households with complex needs, including in Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, with a cost benefit analysis to inform future service models. | Identify options for locally based strategies for working with households with complex needs, including in Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.  | • Telecon with lead jurisdictions Cwth, SA and Vic.• Identify and scope existing and phased initiatives. | March 2013June 2013August 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| Undertake trials and cost benefit analysis of these models. | Report on outcomes of trialsConduct analysis and report.  | 2013-14 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **10.3** Develop and implement local place-based initiatives to support the safety and wellbeing of children in Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. | Implement Child Health and Wellbeing package as part of Stronger Futures, including continuation of frontline mobile child protection workers and remote Aboriginal family and community workers in the Northern Territory. | Implementation plan currently being negotiated with NTRollout of Communities for Children sites on track to commence by 1 July 2013. | July 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **10.5** Identify and share best practice in Child Aware Approaches to promote a better understanding of the relationship between the risk factors for child abuse and neglect. | Hold a National Conference on Child Aware Approaches. | • Conference successfully held. • Conference proceedings to be disseminated via CAA website. | 11-12 April 2013Mid 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. Almost 100 presenters and over 200 registrations. CAA website developed. |
| Build an evidence base on promising practice and research to promote a better understanding of the relationship between the risk factors for child abuse and neglect across all levels of government, non-government organisations, business, service providers and communities.  | • Online resource to share innovative ‘child aware’ research and resources using existing information sharing mechanism such as AIFS' CFCA. • Undertake review of child aware approaches and develop evidence base in collaboration with NGO sector. | Mid 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. Online dissemination of CAA resources via CFCA planned. Review of CAA projects and development of a set of 'child aware' principles planned. |
| **11. Closing the Gap** |
| **11.1** Explore collaborative approaches to child safety and wellbeing where children and families move between jurisdictions, particularly in Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory. | Scope and implement options to improve collaborative approaches to protecting children across jurisdictions. | • Scoping work completed.• Central Australia Cross Border Child Protection and Child and Family Wellbeing project.  | Completed 2012End June 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | Initial scoping study undertaken in 2012 in collaboration with NT, SA and WA.On track. |
| **11.2** Build the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations through partnerships with mainstream providers. | Identify opportunities to establish partnerships with mainstream providers to build the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and report on outcomes. | • Scoping work of connections between Commonwealth, state, territory and NGO effort undertaken.• Report to NFIWG. | End June 2013September 2013 | **CYCSPRWG and NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| **11.4** Share strategies to encourage Indigenous people to work in child protection and family support. | Share strategies to encourage Indigenous people to work in child protection and family support and share existing initiatives. | • Map current and planned strategies.• Report to NFIWG. | June 2013September 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| **12. Improving Support for Carers** |
| **12.1** Investigate the barriers and opportunities for developing models of professional carers. | Review existing research and develop options to address barriers and identify opportunities for developing models of professional carers. | • Key Commonwealth and state and territory government contacts identified.• Paper on existing research and options developed. • Advice to Ministers. | March 2013May 2013Late 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **12.2** Improve opportunities and remove barriers to enable working families to become carers. | Explore options to consider State and Territory carer recruitment and support policies for working families to become carers. | • Key Commonwealth and state and territory government contacts identified.• Mapping of state and territory governments and international carer recruitment and support policies completed. • Advice to Ministers. | March 2013September 2013Late 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **13. Responding to Sexual Abuse** |
| **13.2** Review and support strategies to assist children, young people and adults who have experienced complex trauma to engage with the service system. | Develop guidelines to better support the mental health needs of adult survivors of childhood trauma. | Guidelines developed. | January 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | Guidelines completed. Available online at the ASCA website.  |
| Map support and responses for adult survivors across jurisdictions and identify and share good practice. | • Research to map support and responses for adult survivors across jurisdictions developed. • Research report completed. | September 2013End 2013 | Green | On track. |
|  | **13.4** Explore ways to respond nationally to the sexualisation of children. | Review the literature on the sexualisation of children. | • Developing an approach to the literature review.• Report to NFIWG.  | February 2013September 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
|  | Consider options to a national response to the sexualisation of children. | • Workshop.• Progress national response to sexualisation of children. | Commence by mid 2013End 2014 | Green | On track. |
| **Exploring** New Priorities | **16. Domestic and Family Violence** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **16.2** Work towards the development of a National Centre for Excellence to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children to coordinate and share research, data collection, analysis and review in the areas of sexual assault and domestic and family violence. | Establish a National Centre for Excellence. |  |   | **SCCDSAC / SCWIAC** | Green | Completed. NCE registered as a company on 12 February 2013. |
| **17. Health and Mental Health** |
| **17.1** Review options for ensuring ongoing and substantive health assessments and interventions for children and young people in out-of-home care, including mechanisms to track health histories. | Develop and scope priority actions to improve health outcomes for children and young people in the child protection system, ensure ongoing and substantive health assessments and interventions and identify mechanisms to track health histories. | • Project scoping issues and Expert Reference Group (ERG) membership agreed by Working Group.• CYCSPRWG notes scope and proposed ERG members.• Consultant to initiate scoping work and consultations.• Progress report to SCCDSAC and SCCDS.• Consultant's report to be considered by SCCDS.• Next steps to be considered by SCCDS. | January 2013February 2013March 2013March/May 2013August 2013November 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **18. Disability** |
| **18.1** Explore the interface between disability, child protection, and primary service systems, including through NDIS launch sites. | Report on the impact of the NDIS on the interface between services across the disability, child protection and mainstream service systems. | Ongoing monitoring of progress during establishment of NDIS launch sites. | March 2014 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **18.2** Review the service response for children with disability in the out-of-home care system. | Map how children with disability access services across the disability, child protection and mainstream service systems across jurisdictions and identify opportunities for improvement.  | Ongoing monitoring during establishment of NDIS. | March 2014 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **19. Sector Development** |
| **19.1** Explore the development of a para-professional workforce. | Identify barriers and explore opportunities to develop a para-professional workforce. | • Initial discussion with CYCSPRWG regarding option of a workshop and next steps.• Explore options to develop para-professional workforce. | February 2013Mid 2013 | **CYCSPRWG** | Green | On track. |
| **19.5** Research mandatory reporting schemes in each jurisdiction to identify elements that enhance their success. | Research and document mandatory reporting schemes in each jurisdiction, including elements that enhance success. | • Scoping paper developed• Literature review completed• Interview/focus groups and field data collected, analysed and draft report completed• Final report completed | March 2013June 2013December 2013June 2014 | **CYCSPRWG** |   |  On track. |
| States and Territories consider findings relevant to their own mandatory reporting schemes. | • Report to CYCSPRWG on state plans for their own schemes | September 2014 | **CYCSPRWG** |   |  On track. |
| **20. Community and Business** |
| **20.2** Explore options for developing stronger engagement of CALD communities and in particular newly arrived cultural groups to enhance their understanding of child wellbeing and available support systems. | Explore options to strengthen linkages with existing supports and services for newly-arrived cultural groups and strengthen their engagement with the National Framework. | • Workshop with CALD leaders and communities to explore options to strengthen linkages and existing supports. | End June 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| **20.4** Work with the media to encourage appropriate reporting of child abuse and neglect in order to protect the interests of the child. | Identify opportunities to encourage appropriate media reporting of child abuse and neglect by building on the work progressed under the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women. | • Progress work to identify opportunities that build on work under the National Plan. | End June 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| Ongoing engagement with the media to encourage sustained improvements. | As above | End June 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| **20.6** Engage community leaders, including leaders from Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, to build support for protecting children and young people. | Consult with targeted communities and identify community leaders to develop and implement culturally specific engagement strategies to build support for protecting children and young people. | • CALD leaders engagement progressed through Priority 20.2.• Workshop with Indigenous leaders and communities. | End June 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
| Build on outcomes from actions 20.1, 20.2 and 20.3. | As above | End June 2013 | **NFIWG** | Green | On track. |
|  | On track |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Attention required |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Urgent action required |  |  |  |  |  |  |