



# Children First

## Sectoral Implementation Plan

(Published by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth under Section 27 of the Children First Act 2015)

March 2021

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## Foreword

I am very pleased to publish, in accordance with section 27 of the Children First Act 2015, this second Sectoral Implementation Plan for the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. The Plan describes the range of services for children provided directly or funded by my Department, and sets out the programme of measures in place to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance in respect of those services.

My Department conducted a review of its first Sectoral Implementation Plan in early 2021, as required by the Act. This involved an audit of compliance with Children First obligations by all units of the Department, including those in the areas of equality, disability policy and integration which transferred in from the Department of Justice last October. Units were also reminded to have regard to the addendum to the Children First National Guidance (published in January 2019), which clarifies that organisations providing relevant services to children need to consider online safety risks in the context of preparing Child Safeguarding Statements.

The Children First Act 2015 has been fully commenced since December 2017 and provides for a number of key child protection measures, including improving child protection arrangements in organisations providing services to children. Of central importance here are the obligations on providers of relevant services to keep children safe from harm whilst availing of their services, to carry out a risk assessment and to develop a Child Safeguarding Statement, setting out the policies and procedures in place to manage any risk identified.

It is the responsibility of each Government Department, including my own, to ensure that children and young people are kept safe while accessing services provided or funded by them. The Sectoral Implementation Plans produced by each Government Department apply not only to that Department but also to any organisation providing a relevant service to children and receiving funding from that Department in that regard. In this way, these Plans should ensure that public funding is linked to full compliance with the requirements of the Children First Act.

Of course, ever before the commencement of the Act, the Children First National Guidance has been in place since 1999 and was fully revised in 2017 to include reference to the provisions of the Act. The Guidance sets out definitions of abuse, and signs for its recognition. It explains how reports about reasonable concerns of child abuse or neglect should be made by the general public and professionals. It also sets out safeguarding best practice to assist any organisation providing a service to children to create a safe environment.

It is everyone's responsibility to protect children and young people and to do our best to keep them safe. By reaffirming our commitment to child safeguarding and by working together in the interests of children, this can be achieved.

Roderic O'Gorman  
Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth  
March 2021

## Background

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth deals with policy and service developments relating to a number of very important groups in society. It seeks to co-ordinate and develop key actions across Government relating children and young people. It also works on issues relating to some of our most vulnerable groups including children at risk, children in the care of the State, and other vulnerable, minority and disadvantaged groups. It emphasises inclusivity and support in the area of equality. It is responsible for international protection accommodation for those seeking asylum in Ireland and, in the near future, it will take on responsibility for disability services that are currently under the remit of the Department of Health. The Department also deals with a range of important legacy issues from Ireland's past. Finally we deal with a range of issues that are universal to society, including early learning and care for our children, prevention and early intervention services and support and advice for parents. Most of the Department's funded services fall within the definition of relevant services to children under the Children First Act 2015.

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth focuses on harmonising policy issues that affect children in areas such as early childhood care and education, youth justice, child welfare and protection, children and young people's participation, research on children and young people, youth work and cross-cutting initiatives for children. The Department has a budget of €1.879bn in 2021, and a staffing complement of 385, and funds a range of services for children and young people, directly and through NGOs and funded agencies, including Tusla. Most of the Department's funded services fall within the definition of relevant services to children under the Children First Act 2015.

Given the remit of the Department, the safeguarding of children is central to the ethos of the Department. The Department is fully committed to meeting all its statutory obligations in relation to child protection, and is further committed to striving to continuously developing best practice standards in all its activities. However, the Department also recognises the central importance of helping children and young people to meet their full potential, and is committed to balancing proportionate risk to continuing to engage with children.

## Requirements of the Children First Act 2015

This Children First Sectoral Implementation Plan has been prepared and published in accordance with the Children First Act 2015. Section 27 of the Children First Act 2015 requires each Minister to prepare and publish a Sectoral Implementation Plan in relation to services to children delivered or funded by the Department. Relevant services in this context are defined in Schedule 1 of the Act. The Sectoral Implementation Plan must contain the following:

- A description of the relevant services provided by or on behalf of the Department;
- An outline of the programme of measures taken, or to be taken, to ensure that the Department and any body funded by the Department, is in compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance [namely, the Children First Act 2015 and Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children [2017];
- An outline of the measures taken or proposed to be taken to promote, review and report on compliance under the legislation and guidance;
- Monitoring and review procedures in relation to the Sectoral Implementation Plan.

The Sectoral Implementation Plan, in accordance with Section 27(4) of the Act, must be laid before both Houses of the Oireachtas. It will also be available on the Department's website.

The Act provides that each Minister shall review and, if appropriate, revise a sectoral implementation plan at intervals of not greater than 3 years.

## Relevant services provided by or on behalf of the Department

The development of the Department's Sectoral Implementation Plan was preceded by an audit of every Unit of the Department. Each unit was tasked with identifying any relevant services for children provided by, or funded by, the Unit. They were also required to set out the measures in place, or proposed to be taken, to ensure that the Department itself, or the funded service or body, were in compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance.

The full set of responses at Unit level is attached at Appendix 1.

In addition, there may on occasion be activities carried out by this Department which are not classed as relevant services under Schedule 1 of the Act, but which involve interactions with children. It is also the case that various units of the Department may, in the course of their work, receive correspondence or other communications giving rise to child protection concerns. In line with best practice, this Department has in place policies, procedures and training to support staff and to ensure that Children First principles are understood and followed.

## Overview of compliance arrangements

The range of services provided or funded by the Department stretches from once off funding of small projects, to significant funding of sectors, including Early Years and Youth Affairs, and of Agencies, including Tusla, which has a budget in excess of €850m. Child protection was already a significant feature of engagement in relation to DCEDIY funding, with in many cases, child protection structures and supports in place, including provision of training.

Full commencement of the Children First Act 2015 is now complete, with the provisions relating to mandated reporting and Child Safeguarding Statements having commenced on 11 December 2017. Funded agencies and services are now required, in the context of the normal governance processes, to assure the Department that they have identified and are compliant with, all their legal requirements under the Children First Act.

All Units in the Department integrate the obligations of the Children First legislation into their usual governance and compliance engagement with agencies and services receiving funding from the Department. Child safeguarding in general, and compliance with Children First guidance and legislation in particular, is integrated into compliance processes with all funded agencies and services. This in turn is reflected in the normal business planning and risk management processes within the Department.

## DCEDIY Children First Oversight Group

A Children First Oversight Group has been in place in the Department for a number of years. The Group consists of representatives from units of the Department with direct contact with children, or significant funding of children's services, and from the Agencies funded by the Department, namely, Tusla, the Adoption Authority of Ireland, and the Office of the Ombudsman for Children. The focus of the Group was child safeguarding generally, and in particular, supporting the Department and its agencies to prepare for the full commencement of the Children First Act 2015.

The focus of the Group following the full commencement of the Act is to support the Department in promoting, reviewing and reporting on compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance, as required by the Act. The Group also has a role in relation to promoting consistency across the Department in relation to governance and compliance in respect of Children First, and related child protection legislation.

The Oversight Group provides updates as required to the Management Board of the Department. The terms of reference and membership for this group are currently under review.

## **DCEDIY Child Safeguarding Statement**

This Sectoral Implementation Plan has been prepared in conjunction with the Department's Child Safeguarding Statement. Both have been prepared on the basis of a detailed audit at unit level of the relevant services for children provided directly by the Department, and relevant services funded by the Department.

As the Department directly provides services to children in respect of some of its functions, it is required to prepare and publish a Child Safeguarding Statement [CSS] under section 11 of the Children First Act 2015. The CSS includes a risk assessment in respect of certain services provided directly to children and young people by the Department, and sets out the mitigating measures in place to address those risks.

The Department's CSS is available on the Department's website and is on view in the Department's headquarters, as required by the Act.

## **Monitoring and review of the Sectoral Implementation Plan**

This is the second iteration of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Sectoral Implementation Plan, and follows an audit by all units of the Department who have undergone an exercise of explicitly identifying the funding of children's services [as defined in the Children First Act] and setting out the programme of measures to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance.

The Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth is required, under section 27(5) of the Children First Act 2015, to review and revise a sectoral implementation plan not later than 3 years from the date of publication. This plan will be reviewed no later than March 2024, unless the Minister determines another period, as provided for in the Act.

## Appendix 1

### Sectoral Implementation Plan: DCEDIY UNIT RETURNS

Alternative Care Policy Unit		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	Nil	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Nil	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	

<b>Child Welfare and Protection Policy Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	Nil	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Funding of ISPCC Missing Children Hotline (MCH).  The 116 000 Hotline provides emotional support and advice to young people and adults in relation to missing children.	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services <b>provided</b> by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	A Service Level Agreement (SLA) between (the then) DCYA and the ISPCC was signed in May 2019. This sets out the terms and conditions applying to grant funding allocated from DCEDIY for the MCH. This includes a requirement for the ISPCC to comply with all relevant public financial procedures and legislation, in particular, the Children First Act 2015 and the Children First National Guidance.	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	DCEDIY releases grant funding to the ISPCC quarterly in arrears subject to the terms and conditions set out in the SLA being met. Amongst other requirements, in applying for grant funding, the ISPCC are required to submit a certificate of assurance, signed by the CEO, stating that the public money granted was used in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant.  CWPPU has written to the ISPCC on 27.1.21 reminding them of the requirement for providers of relevant services to review their Child Safeguarding Statement not more than 24 months from the date on which it was first prepared, with further reviews to be carried out at intervals of not more than 24 months from the date of the previous review. (section 11(7) of the Children First Act 2015 refers).	



**Child Care Legislation and Children's Rights Policy Unit**

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	Nil	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Nil	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	

**Tusla Performance & Governance Oversight Unit**

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	Refer to 2020 Submission. Feb 2020.	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Nil	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	

<b>Child Care Performance and Social Work unit (CCPSWU) Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	Nil	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Nil	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	

**Tusla Programme Development and Cross Government Framework Unit**

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	Nil	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Nil	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Nil	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Nil	

<b>Parenting Support Policy Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<b>Covid-19 Response Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<b>External HR and Internal L&amp;D units</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<b>Finance Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	



**Human Resources Unit**

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	The Induction process includes information in relation to Child Safeguarding Statement in the Department. All staff are required to sign a declaration that they have read and understand the CSS. Each declaration is returned to HR and held on the individuals personnel file.	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<b>ICT and Procurement Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

Early Years Units		
QUESTION	RESPONSE	REF. TO CF ACT 2015
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	<p>All funded Early Learning and Care services and School Age Childcare services including pre-school and crèches.</p> <p>Bodies funded by DCEDIY Early Years Division who give guidance and support including the following:</p> <p>Tusla Early Years Inspectorate</p> <p>Pobal, including Better Start Quality Development Service,</p> <p>30 City and County Childcare Committees</p> <p>Voluntary Childcare Support Organisations including Early Childhood Ireland, Barnardos, Childminding Ireland, National Childhood Network, the National Parents Council, St Nicholas Montessori Society of Ireland and Bláthú Steiner Early Childhood Association.</p>	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	<p>This unit provides support and training to Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare services through a network of 60 trainers based in the City and County Childcare Committees. This work is overseen by a national co-ordinator working for a national committee tasked by this division to implement Children First plan for Early Learning and Care. Training specifically aimed at this sector has been developed as well as a number of national support publications including a Child Safeguarding template. Tusla have overseen and supported this work.</p> <p>Training has been interrupted by the Covid emergency. A new website was recently launched with all necessary information to support funded services to comply with Children First.</p> <p><a href="http://www.childsafeguardingelc.ie/">http://www.childsafeguardingelc.ie/</a></p> <p>Compliance with Children First is a contractual condition of all services funded by this division.</p> <p>This division ensures that all research/evaluations funded by this division includes a contractual requirement that the research/evaluation undertaken is compliant with the principals of research ethics and that GDPR is adhered to in all data gathered.</p>	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<p>1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines</p>	<p>All funded services have received recent correspondence requiring them to review their Child Safeguarding Statements in compliance with the Children First Act and guidelines and links to the new website to support this work.</p> <p>Support with compliance is available for Early Learning and Care and School Age Services is available to them through the City and County Childcare Committees.</p> <p>While face to face training on Children First and how it applies to Early Learning and Care and School Age services is suspended at this time, the Tusla Introduction to Children First e-learning programme and a specially developed webinar tailored for early learning and care and school age childcare, are available online through the CPD page on the First 5 website.  <a href="https://first5.gov.ie/practitioners/continuing-professional-development">https://first5.gov.ie/practitioners/continuing-professional-development</a></p>	

<b>Communications and Corporate Governance Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Ombudsman for Children's Office	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	<p>Bi-annual governance oversight meetings take place between the OCO and CCGU. A standing item on the agenda for these meetings is Children First. CCGU always ask the OCO to confirm its compliance with the Children First Act at each Governance Oversight meeting.</p> <p>As part of the governance engagement, the OCO is required to complete an annual Checklist and confirm compliance with all legislation.</p>	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	<p>As per 1.4 above, we will ensure that compliance by the OCO with Children First remains a standing item on the agenda for the governance oversight meetings with the OCO.</p> <p>As indicated, the OCO in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies is requested to confirm on an annual basis that it is compliant with legislation generally.</p>	

<b>Information Management Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<b>Legislation Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<b>Research and Evaluation Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	<p>Growing Up in Ireland (GUI): the national longitudinal study of children in Ireland is funded by DCEDIY, and managed by DCEDIY in association with the Central Statistics Office. GUI is carried out on behalf of the Department by the Economic and Social Research Institute - the prime contractor - in collaboration with Trinity College, Dublin. GUI involves the regular collection of data over time from two large cohorts of children, young people and their families - cohort '08, mainly born in 2008, and cohort '98, mainly born in 1998 and now young adults. GUI also involves focus group consultations with children and young people in advance of each wave of data collection as part of the questionnaire development process. The next wave of GUI data collection from Cohort '08 (age 13) will take place in 2021. Due to COVID-19 this survey will be conducted remotely.</p>	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	The contract with the ESRI requires compliance with CF.	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	<p>See answer to 1.4. Compliance with CF guidance and relevant legislation is required of the contractor under the GUI contract.</p> <p>A GUI governance structure is in place and meets at least quarterly relating to the funding of service in question. Discussion with the ESRI on any issue arising, as well as the implementation of DCEDIY requirements on assurances from funded services emerging from the deliberations of the DCEDIY oversight group, will take place in this context.</p>	



<b>Adoption Policy Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	DCEDIY funds the AAI which has obligations under Children First	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	The Unit has and will communicate with the AAI regarding their potential obligations under the Children First Act, and will integrate monitoring of same into the governance processes and structures.	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	See answer to 1.4 above: the conversation with the AAI will take place in the context of the normal governance engagement	

<b>Detention/Oberstown Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	Role of the <b>PO/Child Welfare Advisor</b> . To provide specialist advice to the DCEDIY/Detention Unit in the area of youth justice (Oberstown). This includes the safe and secure custody of young people detained by the courts. To meet as needed with young people and monitor care provision. Ensure appropriate safeguarding policies are in place in line with legislation and guidance. Have oversight in ensuring that children's rights are maintained in compliance with both national and international standards.	REF: Children First Act 2015: Schedule 1, Section 2, 6.
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	<b>Oberstown Children Detention Campus</b> – provision on behalf of the DCEDIY/Detention Unit of safe and secure custody of young people sent to detention by the courts.	REF: Children First Act 2015: Schedule 1, Section 2, 1(f)
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	<b>PO/Child Welfare Advisor</b> is aware of responsibilities of the Children First Act 2015 through participation in the Children First Inter-Departmental Implementation Group (CFIDIG) and the Children First Oversight Group within the DCEDIY.	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	The Board of Management and the Director of <b>Oberstown</b> have been kept informed through the DCEDIY Children First Oversight Group. A letter issued in December 2017 to both the Chair of the BOM and the Director which outlined the responsibilities in relation to the Children First Act 2015 and highlighted in particular: Mandated Reporting; Child Safeguarding Statement and Training.  A further letter issued to the Chair of the BOM and the Director of the need to update the Child Safeguarding Statement for the Oberstown Campus on 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2020. The BOM reviewed the statement at its subsequent meeting. Next review due in 2022.	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Board of Management and Director of <b>Oberstown</b> to provide reviewed CSS to DCEDIY by March 11 <sup>th</sup> 2020. On-going review of compliance with the Safeguarding Policy for the Campus to be conducted by the Child Welfare Advisor.	

<b>Historic Burials Legislation Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

**Mother and Baby Homes Unit**

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	

<b>Participation and Strategy Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	<p>Working in collaboration with other DCEDIY Units, other Government Departments and national and local State Bodies, the Unit supports the participation of children and young people in decision making in line with the State's legal and policy obligations set out in national and international policy and law.</p> <p>The Department has in place a contract with Foroige to support implementation of the Departments annual Business Plan with respect to children and young people's participation.</p>	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	This Unit provides direct funding to Comhairle na nÓg within each Local Authority area	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	<p>The Unit will undertake its work in line with the DCEDIY Child Safeguarding Policy.</p> <p>All staff in the Unit are reminded to undertake the on-line Tusla Child Safeguarding Training and to confirm familiarity with the DCEDIY Child Safeguarding Statement.</p> <p>The Unit has regard to Child Safeguarding matters within both the operation and governance of its contract with Foroige referred to above at 1.1. A new contract for the provision of these services has very recently been signed (Jan 21<sup>st</sup>) and the early stage of operation of this new contract will require Foroige to provide details to DCEDIY of its Child Safeguarding Statement and how it will operate within the context of the new contract; this will include documenting how the Foroige and DCEDIY Child Safeguarding Statements interact. The Unit will provide this material for sign-off to the HR Unit.</p> <p>DCEDIY addresses matters related to Child Safeguarding in the context of development of a new initiatives with collaborating bodies.</p> <p>All DCEDIY publications relevant to children and young people's participation highlight the importance of appropriate Child Safeguarding measures being in place for ALL those undertaking child participation initiatives.</p>	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	As Local Authorities are the constant funded body, an Annual Letter is issued reminding LAs of their obligations. In addition the annual funding application requires signature at CEO level of assurance that all CF matters relevant to the operation of the CNN are in hand at LA level, inclusive of the instances where the CNN is outsourced to another party.	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on	In addition to the response provided under 1.3 above, the Unit will co-operate with all DCEDIY CSS corporate requirements.	

<p>compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines</p>		
<p>1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines</p>	<p>In addition to 1.4 above, the Unit will implement all DCEDIY CSS corporate requirements.</p>	

<b>Youth Affairs Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	<p>Following on from the enactment of Children First legislation on 11 December 2017, correspondence issued to the National Youth Organisations and ETBs alerting them to their obligations under the legislation which included the carrying out of a risk assessment and the preparation of a child safeguarding statement which was to be in place no later than 3 months after the commencement of the provisions of the Act.</p> <p>In addition, the YAU Financial Circulars which are issued annually with the Letters of Allocation reminds funding intermediaries and funded organisations of their obligation to be compliant with the requirements of CF legislation.</p>	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	A Children First Committee for the Youth Sector was established in 2012 to support the youth sector in matters relating to the implementation of the Children First Act 2015 in a consistent manner across all (the then) DCYA funded youth organisations. DCEDIY is represented on the group, which is chaired by NYCI and it is proposed to review the work of the committee in 2020.	

<b>International Protection Accommodation Services Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	IPAS provides accommodation to families and individuals seeking international protection in Ireland. IPAS is a provider of relevant service.	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	IPAS has contracts with almost 80 International Protection Accommodation Centres, Emergency Accommodation Centres and other locations that provide accommodation to persons seeking international protection in Ireland.	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	<p>All International Protection Accommodation Centres and Emergency Accommodation Centres are obligated to have a Child Safeguarding Statement for their centre. The Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Practice Document for Reception and Integration Agency (RIA), Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) and Accommodation Centres for Persons in the International Protection Process under Contract to the Department of Justice and Equality (2018) and Addendum to Cover Application of the Policy and Practice Document in Emergency Accommodation Settings (2020) outline the policy of IPAS regarding child protection and welfare. All Managers of IPACs and IPEACs are mandated persons under the Children First Act and responsible for reporting child welfare concerns and making child abuse notifications to Tusla.</p> <p>IPAS has a fulltime Social Work Team Leader seconded from Tusla to work on issues regarding children and families within IPAS.</p> <p>IPAS provides training to all staff in IPAS, IRPP and IPSS regarding Children First, as well as providing Children First Training to all staff in IPACs and IPEACs. This comprises of two stages. The first is all staff completing the Introduction to Children First eLearning Module on the Tusla website and receiving certification for this from Tusla. The second stage is the delivery of in-person Always Children First Foundation training and certification for same. Both of these steps are compulsory for all staff in IPAS, IRPP and IPSS and all staff in IPACs, IPEACs and EROCs.</p>	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	IPAS, IRPP and IPSS conduct inspections of all services to ensure compliance with policy and procedures, including Children First.	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	The Manager of the Child and Family Services Unit, who is a Social Work Team Leader seconded from Tusla to DCEDIY, is responsible for reviewing and updating the policies and procedures of IPAS and IRPP that pertain to the children in the accommodation.	



	All centres have been asked to submit their Child Safeguarding Statements to this Manager. The Manager is engaging with the Tusla Child Safeguarding Statement Compliance Unit.	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	The Manager of the Child and Family Services Unit is responsible for ensuring that all staff in centres are trained regarding Children First.	

**Irish Refugee Protection Programme Unit**


<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
<p>1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit</p>	<p>IRPP travels to third countries and selects individuals and families, including children, to come to Ireland as programme refugees. IRPP also provides accommodation for new refugees who arrive in Ireland under this programme and assist the families in finding accommodation in the community and moving from the Emergency Reception and Orientation Centres (EROCs) to permanent homes in the community. IRPP also places some refugees directly in accommodation in the community through the Community Sponsorship Scheme. IRPP is a provider of relevant service.</p>	
<p>1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit</p>	<p>IRPP has contracts with three Emergency Reception and Orientation Centres (EROCs) which provide accommodation to persons granted refugee status in Ireland who have travelled to Ireland with the assistance of the IRPP.</p> <p>IRPP also works with communities across Ireland to source sponsorship to allow a community to sponsor a refugee family who come to Ireland.</p>	
<p>1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance</p>	<p>All Emergency Accommodation Centres are obligated to have a Child Safeguarding Statement for their centre. The Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Practice Document for Reception and Integration Agency (RIA), Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) and Accommodation Centres for Persons in the International Protection Process under Contract to the Department of Justice and Equality (2018) and Addendum to Cover Application of the Policy and Practice Document in Emergency Accommodation Settings (2020) outline the policy of IPAS regarding child protection and welfare. All Managers of IPACs and IPEACs are mandated persons under the Children First Act and responsible for reporting child welfare concerns and making child abuse notifications to Tusla.</p> <p>The fulltime Social Work Team Leader seconded from Tusla to IPAS also works on issues regarding children and families within IRPP accommodation.</p> <p>Training is provided to all staff in IRPP regarding Children First, as well as providing Children First Training to all staff in EROCs. This comprises of two stages. The first is all staff completing the Introduction to Children First eLearning Module on the Tusla website and receiving certification for this from Tusla. The second stage is the delivery of in-person Always Children First Foundation training and certification for same. Both of these steps are compulsory for all staff in IRPP and all staff in EROCs.</p>	
<p>1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to</p>	<p>IPAS, IRPP and IPSS conduct inspections of all services to ensure compliance with policy and procedures, including Children First.</p>	

ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance		
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	<p>The Manager of the Child and Family Services Unit, who is a Social Work Team Leader seconded from Tusla to DCEDIY, is responsible for reviewing and updating the policies and procedures of IPAS and IRPP that pertain to the children in the accommodation.</p> <p>All centres have been asked to submit their Child Safeguarding Statements to this Manager. The Manager is engaging with the Tusla Child Safeguarding Statement Compliance Unit.</p>	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	The Manager of the Child and Family Services Unit is responsible for ensuring that all staff in centres are trained regarding Children First.	

<b>International Protection Procurement Services Unit</b>		
<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	Contracting in of accommodation and ancillary services to persons seeking international protection	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Contractual obligation for providers to adhere to Children First Legislation and guidance – the monitoring and operations of which is administered through the Child and Family Services Unit in IPAS	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	Monitoring of compliance and training in relation to Children First Act and guidelines administered through Child and Family Services Unit in IPAS	

**Traveller and Roma, LGBTQI+, Human Rights, Magdalens Unit; Equality and Gender Equality Policy Unit; International Protection Accommodation Policy, Disability Policy & Anti-Racism Policy**

<b>QUESTION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>REF. TO CF ACT 2015</b>
1.1 Please give details of all relevant services provided by your unit	NIL	
1.2 Please give a short overview of the relevant services funded by your unit	NIL	
1.3 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your Unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	NIL	
1.4 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken, or proposed to be taken, by your unit to ensure compliance with the Children First legislation and guidance	Clause included in Grant agreements to - The Grantee shall comply with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements which includes, without limitation, building legislation, equality legislation, employment legislation, child protection and welfare legislation, and health and safety legislation in the implementation and performance of the project.	
1.5 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services provided by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	NIL	
1.6 Please outline, in respect of any relevant services funded by your unit, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by your unit to promote, review and report on compliance under the Children First Act and guidelines	A Children First Declaration will now be added to each Grant agreement	



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