

Working Together for Family Protection

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Objectives of the presentation

- Set a context for improving family protection
- Proposing a framework and approach to manage the complexity
- Describing the Working Together concept
- Key elements of a Working Together document
- Experience in UK, Jordan and other countries
- Advantages of producing a “Working Together”

Family Violence-the context

- A complex social problem with multiple causes and multiple responses to victims.
- Creating opportunities for victims to influence the process and outcome.
- Developing public awareness and long term prevention programmes

Family Violence-The Response

- Multi dimensional problem requires a multi dimensional response
- Response must include government and non-government organisations and society

The Response

How can structures and processes
be established to manage the
complexity and deliver improved
services?

Three Key Elements

- People
- Processes
- Plan

People

- Senior members of government and non-government agencies that having some responsibility for women, children and family. Committed and motivated to implement change

Processes

- Identifying, understanding and documenting current practices and services
- Having a vision of future practices and services.
- “Where are we now?”
- “Where do we want to be in the future?”

Plan-’how do we get there?’

- Documenting the vision
- Identifying gaps in services
- Assigning roles and responsibilities
- Setting objectives and action plans
- Monitoring progress

Using this approach - caution

- There are some common and universal elements
- But it must be adapted to meet local circumstances
- It is more difficult than it seems at first sight, therefore seek expert advice.

Working Together Concept-UK Experience

- History
- Multi-agency approach - consultation
- Department of Health, Home Office and Department for Education and Employment
- Focus on safeguarding children and families
- Provides a single point of reference for practitioners

Working Together- UK - Content

- Lessons from research
- Roles and responsibilities
- Area Child Protection Committees
- Handling Individual Cases
- Child Protection in Specific Circumstances
- Some Key Principles
- Case Reviews
- Inter-Agency Training and Development

Some international experience

- Malaysia
- Chile
- Cuba
- Jordan

Experience in Jordan

- National Framework Document
- Purpose
- Content
- Development Process

Experience in Jordan

- National Framework Document:

Implementation and implications:

- Document existing procedure
- Revise procedures
- Training
- Monitoring service delivery

Key Development Issues

- Need high level support for future strategy and action
- Requirement to document current practice and procedures
- Need to identify key organisation and their roles and responsibilities
- Need to establish monitor processes for the quality of services to victims and their families

Benefits of a “Working Together” Document

- High level statement of strategy and principles
- All organisations know their roles and responsibilities, and are accountable
- Practitioners know how their work integrates with others
- Provides foundation for service manuals, training and measuring services and quality
- Raises public awareness and gives confidence to victims

Consequences of not having a “Working Together” Document

- No high level government policy
- No organisational co-ordination
- Practitioners not clear about their role and those of others
- Impossible to measure service standards across the whole process
- Allows duplication and gaps in services

Working Together

.. Puts the focus of policy and practice on *meeting the needs of the victim and their families* rather than them having to respond to the organisations needs.

More Information

- Contact details:
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Domestic violence resources in UK:

- www.dvintervention.co.uk

Any Questions?