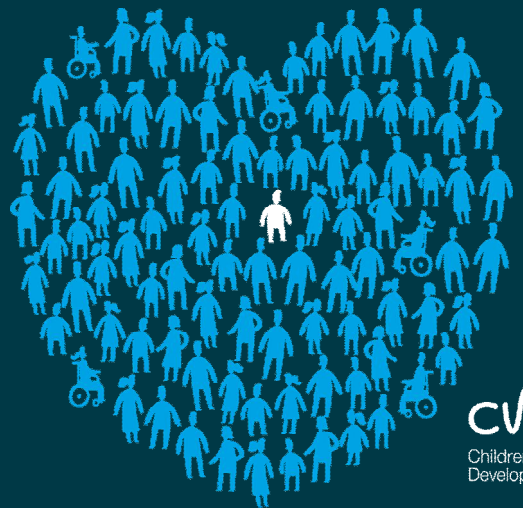
Children's Workforce Development Council

Social Work Reform
National Conference
Enabling social work reform through local areas



Children's Workforce Development Council

Implementing Reforms – Enabling Social Work Reform Through Local Areas

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Remodelling Social Work Delivery - Purpose of the pilots

- The expertise of staff can be used more widely.

- Children's social work can be delivered as part of integrated services.

- Social workers spend more time on direct work with clients, contributing to prevention.

- Bureaucracy is reduced for social work staff.

Early challenges and lessons

- Embedding and development
- Recruitment
- Commitment and support of senior managers

Supporting the social work task

- Reducing bureaucracy
- Other support
- Contact with children and young people

Lessons

- Strong managers
- Prior consultation
- Acknowledge learning process
- Strategy – top down and bottom up
- Importance of location and co-location
- Inter-agency work and specialist services

Challenges

- Development time
- Unexpected events and external change
- Engagement of health services
- Image of social work
- Sustainability