

# Getting it Right for Every Child



Scottish Executive

Highland Council

**Pathfinder Project**

αβχδεφγηιφκλ

Youth Justice and Children's  
Hearings Division

“Improving Children's Services Unit”

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ Genealogy

Partnership Agreement

Vision

For Scotland's Children

Integrated Services

Review of Children's Hearings system

Phase 1 ⇒ GIRFEC

# GIRFEC ?



Grrr!

+



Oh Bother!

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ

Getting it Right  
for Every Child:

- Children get the help they need when they need it. No more referrals.
- Responses to meet need are appropriate, proportionate and timely
- Strengthening the capacity of families and communities to meet the needs of children

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ

- Unified approach will strengthen integration agenda and improve delivery and outcomes for all children
- Minimise bureaucracy and deliver better outcomes for children
- Thinking whole child and action to address need: applies to everyone, incl youth justice, schools, police, health

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ Why?

We know the system is not working as it should: referrals, bureaucracy

Children experience many meetings, many reports, confusing action plans

Children have been failed

Panel Members not well served: complaint numbers/ varied approach concern to us.

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ Update

- Healthy response: generally 75 - 95% support for most proposals. But more detail sought  
Some points not fully understood:
- Children's views different to professionals'
- Responses from agencies were quite agency focused.
- Victims in Hearings not supported. Concern over local links.

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ

## Issues

- Lead professional.
- Concerns over information sharing/how single record will be achieved
- Support structure
- Victims/ offending
- How do we make it happen?

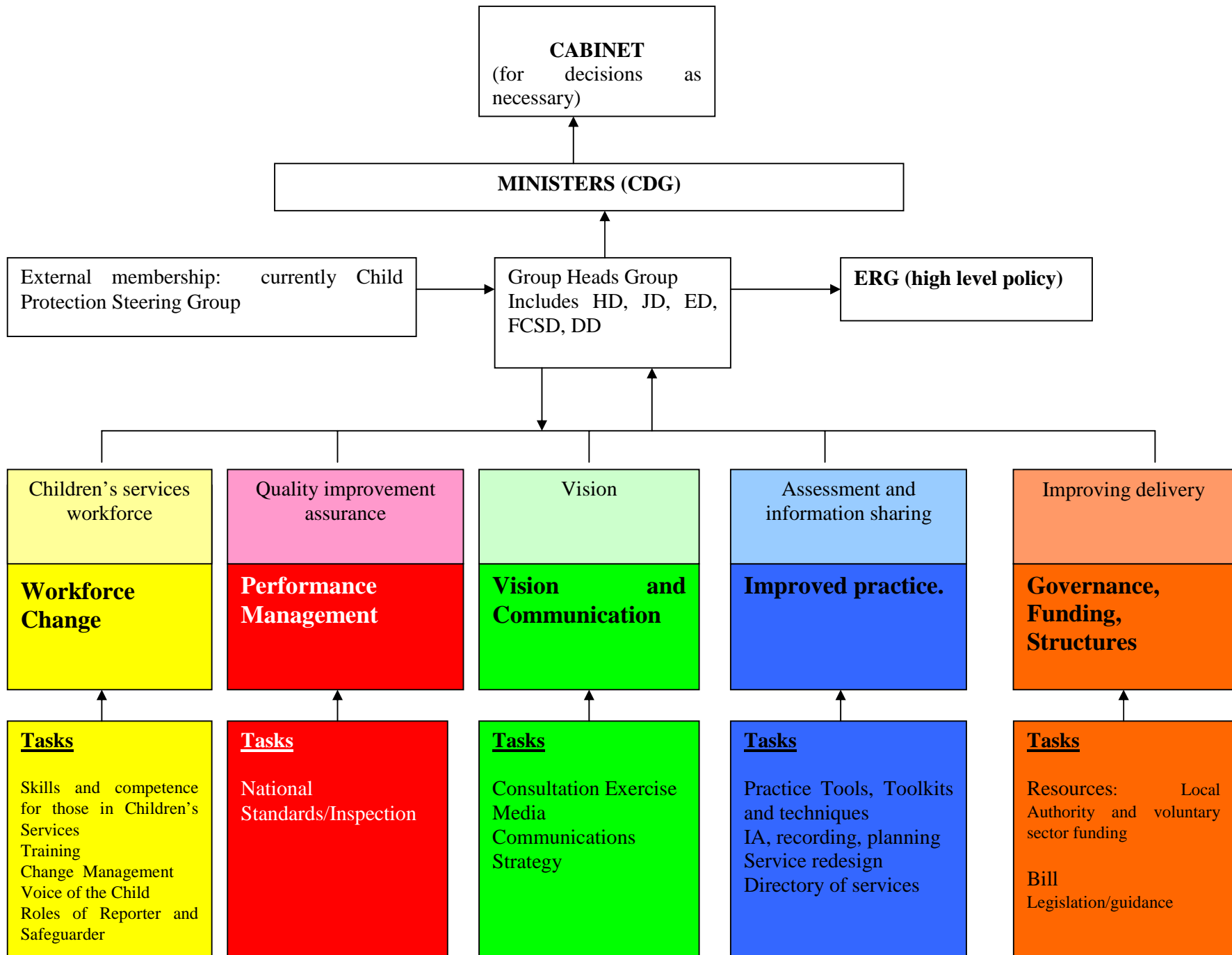
# αβχδεφγηιφκλ

## Next Steps

- Consultation published in detail
- Advocacy research published at the same time as consultation.
- Not received many views of the public. Will wish to take soundings as GIRFEC rolled out. Views of public/ young people on team.
- Parliament

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ How? - Strategy

- Legislation
  - September 2006
  - Enacted by March 2007
  - Implementation (of legislation) 2009?
- Governance, funding and structures
  - if needed
- Practice change
  - From now
  - Pilots: Highland: lead pathfinder
  - Guidance



**CABINET**  
(for decisions as necessary)

**MINISTERS (CDG)**

External membership: currently Child Protection Steering Group

Group Heads Group  
Includes HD, JD, ED, FCSD, DD

**ERG (high level policy)**

Children's services workforce

**Workforce Change**

Tasks  
Skills and competence for those in Children's Services  
Training  
Change Management  
Voice of the Child  
Roles of Reporter and Safeguarder

Quality improvement assurance

**Performance Management**

Tasks  
National Standards/Inspection

Vision

**Vision and Communication**

Tasks  
Consultation Exercise  
Media Communications  
Strategy

Assessment and information sharing

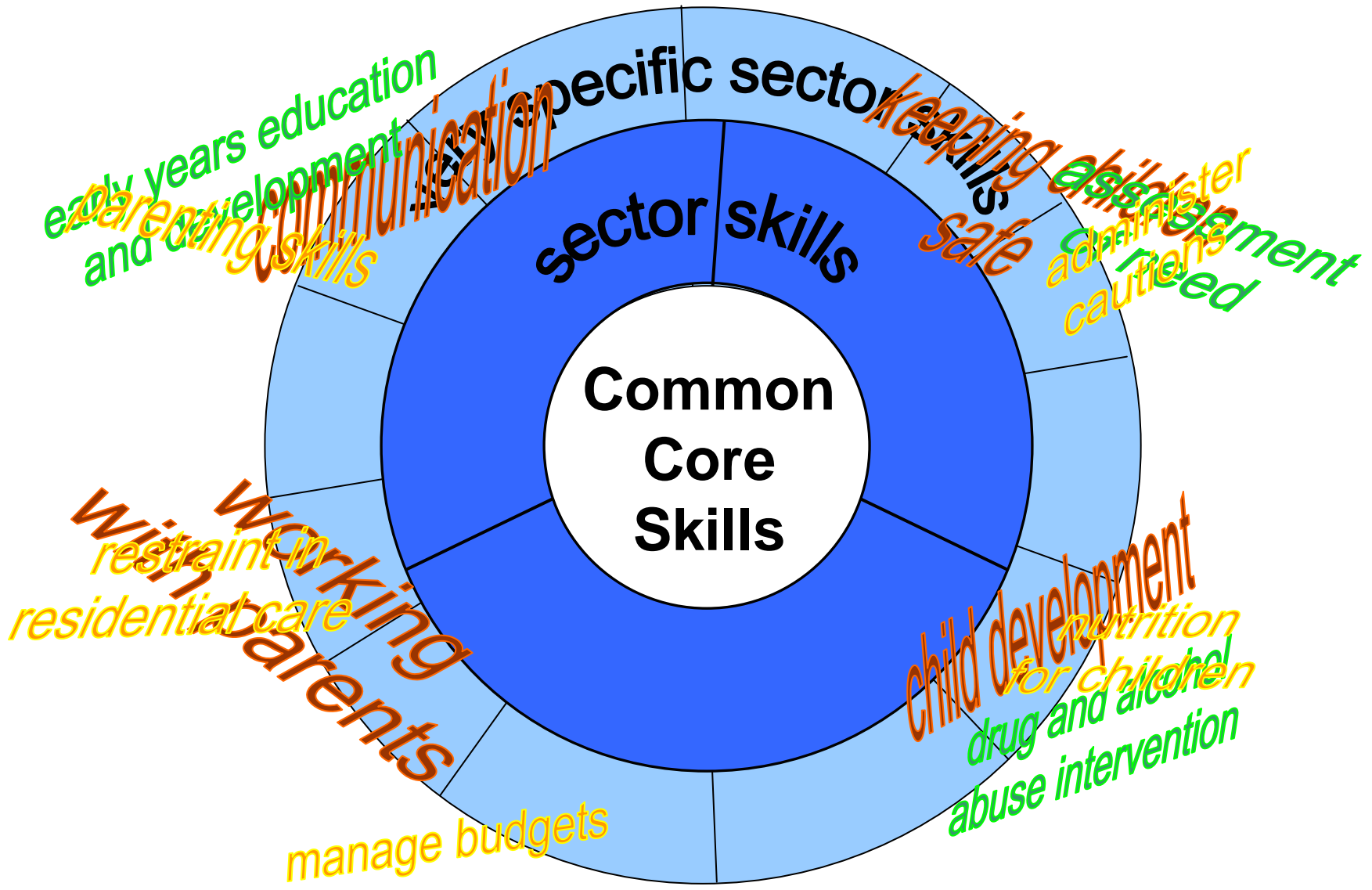
**Improved practice.**

Tasks  
Practice Tools, Toolkits and techniques  
IA, recording, planning  
Service redesign  
Directory of services

Improving delivery

**Governance, Funding, Structures**

Tasks  
Resources: Local Authority and voluntary sector funding  
  
Bill  
Legislation/guidance



# αβχδεφγηιφκλ

The overall aim is to ensure practitioners are better able to deliver good outcomes for children through a range of tools, techniques, technologies and approaches which support their work

Vision/outcomes for children

Integrated children's services plans

Delivery mechanisms

CHS,  
ASL  
Tribunals  
etc

Additional  
Multi-agency  
interventions

Universal services for all children

Reporter

Integrated  
assessment,  
plan and record

Information  
sharing  
systems and  
procedures

Quality  
improvement  
framework/ self  
evaluation

Integrated  
inspections



National

Implementation

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ

- Taking forward: Want to see GIRFEC rollout from the outset. Not wait for legislation.
- Commitment to support and develop
- Pathfinder pilots

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ Highland/ SE

- Common interest
- Developing dynamic approach (pathfinder)
- Basis for dissemination within Highland/ Scotland
- Evaluation for Highland, but lessons for others
- Highlight barriers – and how to overcome them
- Identify benefits/ costs/ efficiencies: how to resource roll out
- Impact on children: are outcomes improved?

# αβχδεφγηιφκλ Importance

- High level commitment
- Fit with Highland's objectives and policy – and with SE's
- Management Board, to include key SE Departments
- ECare: SE commitment to make it work and support
- Evaluation
- Timing not the best to support legislation, but long term project
- Impact on how public services are delivered for better outcomes: lessons for the future