

Monitoring & Evaluation Framework for the National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse

– yourtown's advocacy submission



What is it about?

yourtown responded to the National Office for Child Safety on the Monitoring & Evaluation Framework for the National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Child Sexual Abuse. The development of this fell under the First National Action Plan Measure 25. The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework will assess the progress of the National Strategy's measures and objectives.

Why is it important?

The generation and collection of quality data, and robust evidence through the lifetime of the Strategy will drive continuous improvement. One of the challenges with the draft Framework is the lack of a clear commitment to what 'success' will look like in addressing the 62 measures. Without clear indicators of performance and success and articulation of accompanying data sources, it will be difficult to measure, monitor and secure lasting change, or identify what has or has not, worked and the extent of any impact.

Some of **yourtown's** key messages:

1. Stronger focus on empowering and engaging all children and young people through a child rights approach.

While a longer-term outcome is that 'everyone' recognises and is empowered to act on systemic or direct risks to safety, there should be a specific medium-term outcome focused upon children and young people specifically being empowered both to 'be' safe; and that they 'feel' safe.

2. The principles for measures should be amended to ensure the capture of sufficient and appropriate data.

To ensure quality data is collected it should be representative of the population, derived from a sufficient sample size and ethically obtained, stored and utilised, and data collection processes should be co-designed, reviewed and agreed to by victims/survivors.

3. Accessible versions of public reports should be made available for children and young people as a mandatory principle.

It is critical that accessible versions of the report be made available for children and young people as a mandatory principle, rather than a 'considered' principle. Versions of the report should also be accessible for people with visual and auditory impairments and be available across multiple media channels.



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