

# PLANET – The Partnerships Network

## Presentation to Dublin City Childcare Committee

Community Support Workers' Network

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12<sup>th</sup> June 2008

THE PARTNERSHIPS  
NETWORK



# Introduction to PLANET- The Partnerships Network

**PLANET is an independent network of area-based Partnerships which exists to strengthen the contribution Partnerships make individually, and collectively, to local development and social inclusion and to promote the partnership concept. We do this by:**

- Organising structured opportunities for our members to learn from and share with others**
- Lobbying policy makers and decision makers on common critical issues**
- Providing our members with expert support services that are more effectively and efficiently provided at national level**

# What we do ...

- **Networking**
- **Policy Development**
- **Advocacy**
- **Information**
- **Promotion**

# PLANET NETWORK

**PLANET Management Committee**  
4 Urban, 4 Rural, 4 Dublin members

**Urban Partnerships**  
(9)

**Dublin Partnerships**  
(11)

**Rural Partnerships**  
(18)

**Policy Groups**

**Third Sector**

**Employment Services**

**Child Wellbeing**

**Community Development**

**Education & Training**

**Working Groups / Sub Committees**

**Administrators**

**Enterprise Co-ordinators**

**Remuneration & Future Planning**

# Different channels of Networking

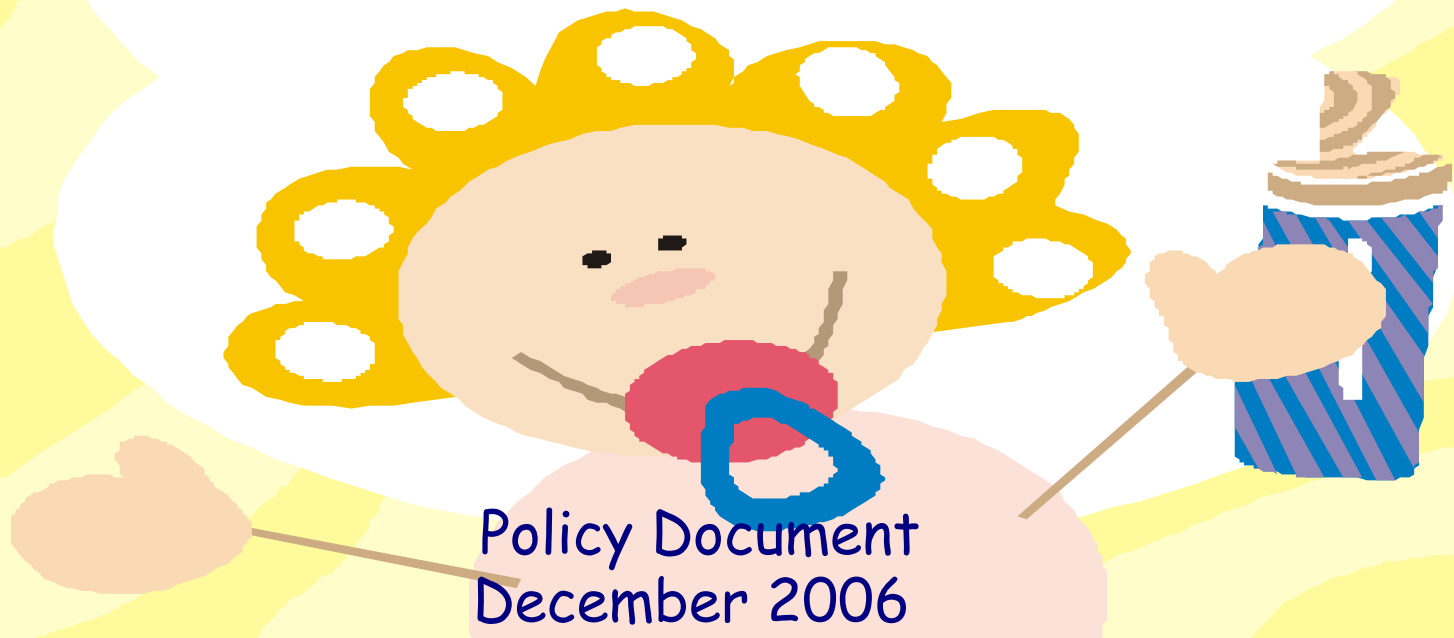
- **Scheduled Network Meetings**
- **Policy Groups / Sub-committees**
- **Conferences**
- **Study Visits**
- **Social Events**
- **Newsletters / E-bulletins**
- **Reports**
- **Website – internet**
- **Discussion documents / Queries**

# Why Network?

- **Share experience / Exchange learning**
- **Common voice & collective action**
- **Peer Support**
- **Build up links and contacts**
- **Influence decision makers, and a means for decision makers to communicate with a wider group through one medium**

# PLANET Childrens' Policy Group

## The Role of Partnership Companies relating to Child Development



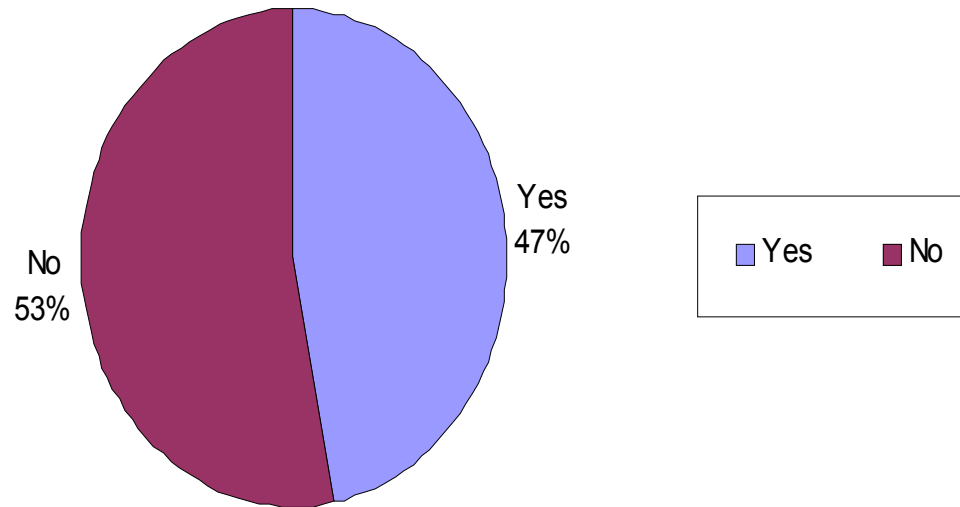
Policy Document  
December 2006

# Partnerships & Child Wellbeing

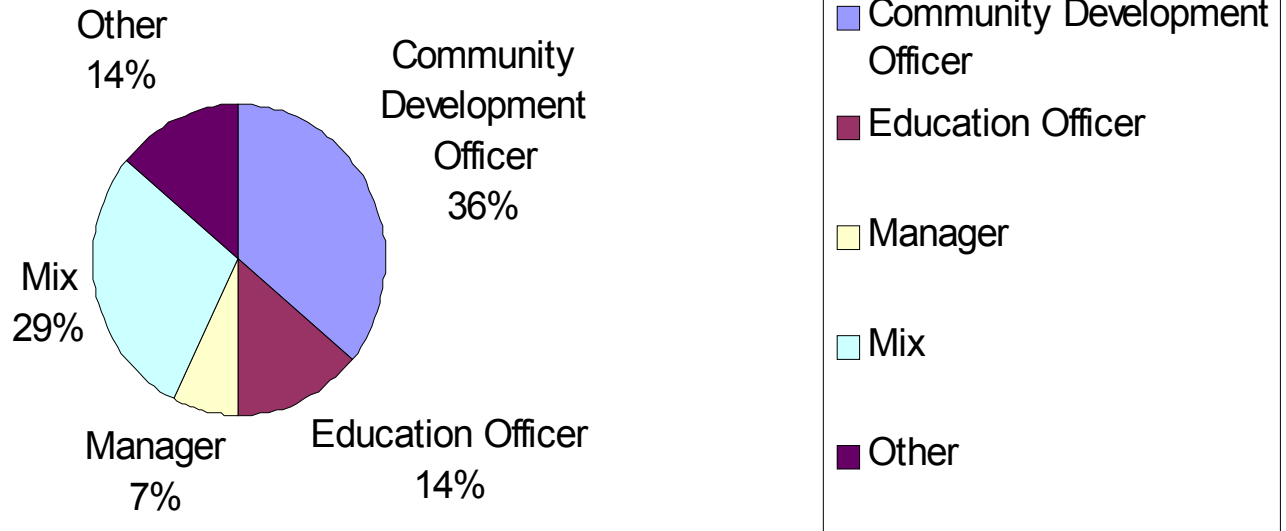
## Historic Background

- **“Partnerships have played, and continue to play, a major role in responding to childrens' needs in disadvantaged areas.**
- **In light of developments at national level, the priority placed on child wellbeing strategies now varies between Partnerships.**
- **However, the level and diversity of work, and investment of time and resources undertaken by Partnership staff continues to remain high.”**

**Question 1:**  
**Do you have a designated childcare person on your staff?**

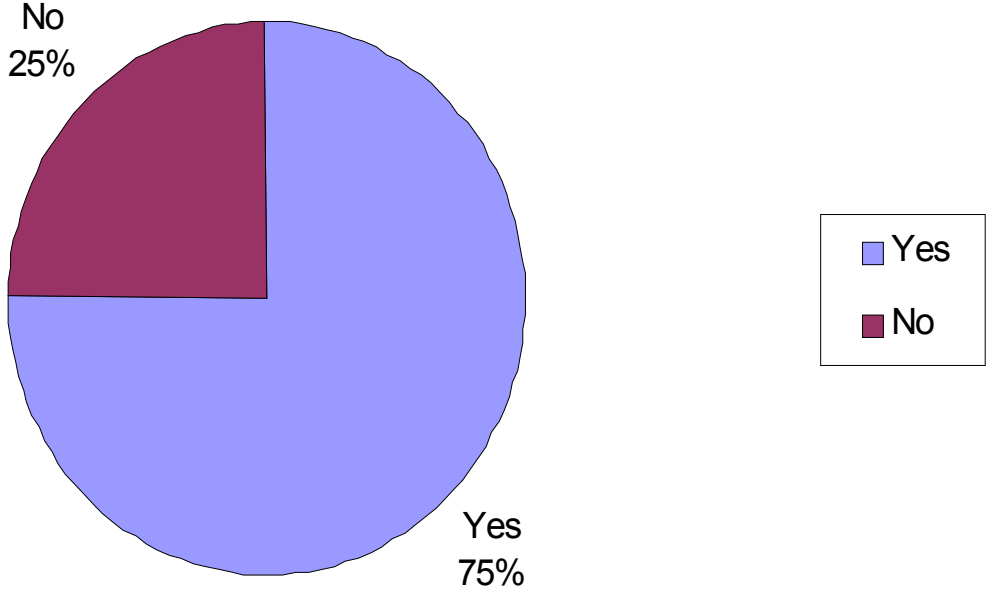


## If not, who has responsibility for child wellbeing issues within your Partnership?



Number Respondees: 14

**Question 2:  
Does your Partnership hold a seat on the CCC?**



# Approaches taken by Partnerships

- **Support to Community Childcare**
- **Brokers**
- **Advocates**



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# Six Recommendations

- **Ensure that children be named as a target group in the next Programme, and ensure that support for children and families have a central role for all elements of Partnerships' work.**
- **Conduct a situation analysis, comprising needs analysis, identification of gaps in services, etc.**
- **Create a new vision and role for how they will achieve child wellbeing outcomes.**
- **Develop a strategy for childrens' wellbeing.**
- **Appoint one dedicated staff member to delivering their strategy for child wellbeing.**
- **Create a cohesive approach to child wellbeing within the Partnership as a cross-cutting theme in their work.**

# Current Policy Group Work

- **Community Childcare Subvention Scheme**
- **Organising Information Exchange opportunities at Network Meetings**
- **Developing Linkages with other organisations e.g. CECDE; St. Patrick's College, *Headstrong***
- **Facilitated session on Child / Family Wellbeing**

A yellow graphic of an open hand with fingers spread, positioned behind the text.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you about  
PLANET and our Childrens' Policy Group

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