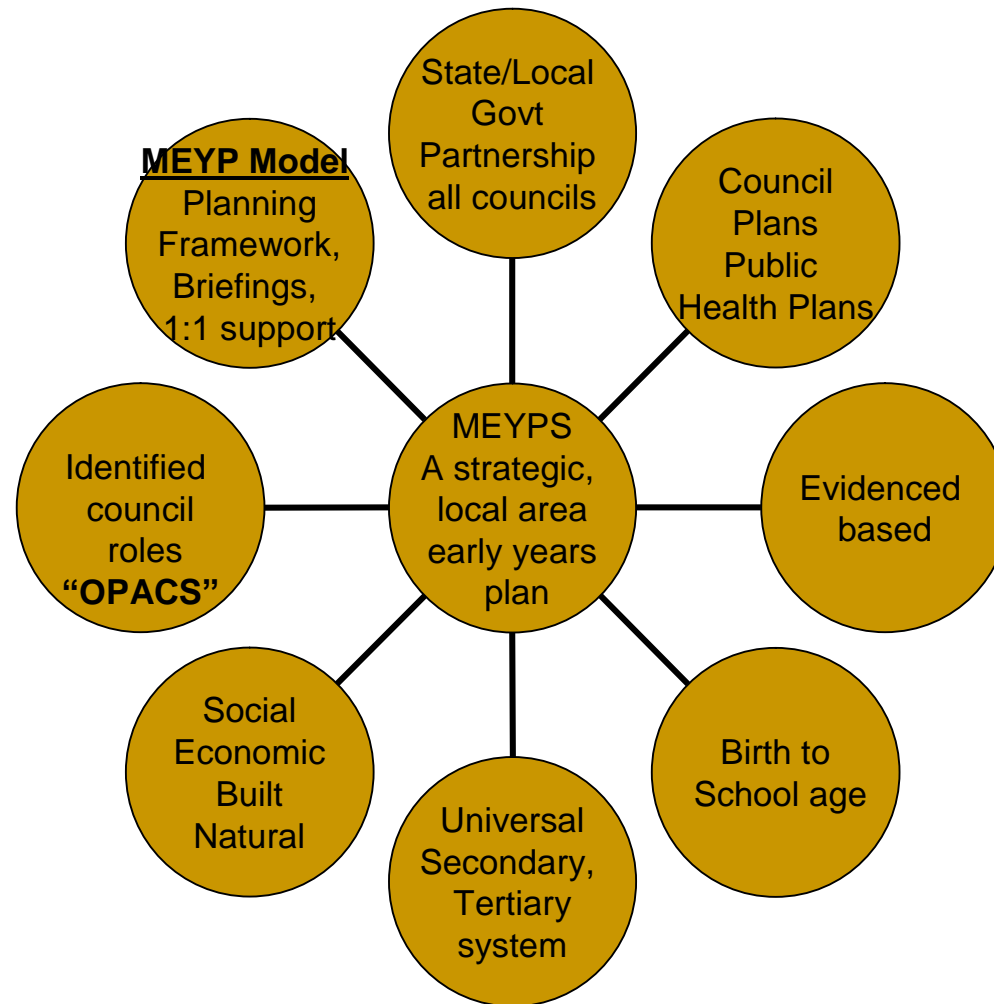

MUNICIPAL EARLY YEARS PLANS

Evidence based planning
with local, state and
national impact

Background

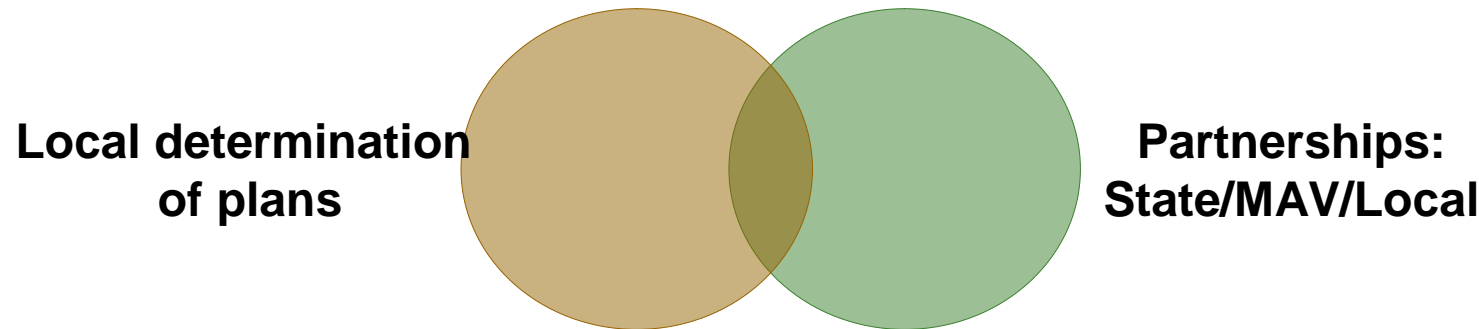


FOUR KEY EARLY YEARS EVIDENCE THEMES

- 1. Setting the stage for later life**
- 2. Developing through relationships with others**
- 3. The balance between risk and protective factors**
- 4. Providing a comprehensive, coordinated family & community centred service system**

Underlying Human Rights Issues: The planning process

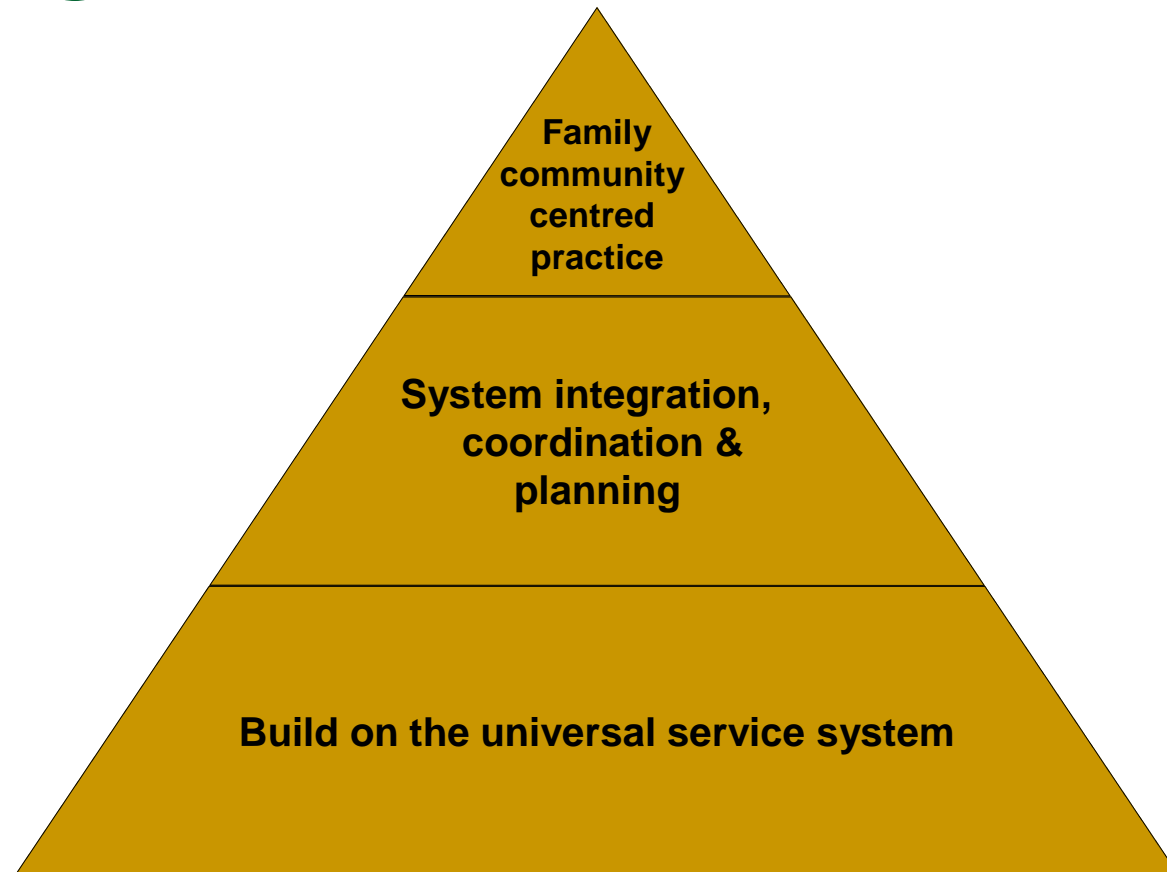
MEYP PLANNING SUPPORT MODEL



Underlying Human Rights Issues: **Planning from the evidence base:**

- Investing in children leads to competent adults, stronger communities and maximum use of resources
- Caregivers (parents and professionals) should be supported
- Support to vulnerable families should be strengthened

Underlying Human Rights Issues: Planning from the evidence base:



ISSUES / CHALLENGES: the planning process

- MEYPs have resulted in strategic planning clarifying local government's service /facility, planning, advocacy/community building role across the whole service system
- Powerful advocacy tool
- MEYPs feeding in to State-wide Plan for Children
- Challenge to identify emerging trends
- Implementation/evaluation support limited
- Council plan – not a municipal wide plan

ISSUES / CHALLENGES – the critical early years

- Local government has increased its investment
In the early years
- The message is not yet through to families,
councillors, professionals,
businesses



ISSUES/CHALLENGES: supporting parents and staff

- **Local government has expanded its planning for supporting parents and professionals**
- **How can we address workforce issues - professional isolation, recruitment, retention?**
- **Does there need to be more integration/coordination between national/state/local strategies to strengthen support to parents and professionals?**

ISSUES/CHALLENGES: supporting vulnerable families

- **Local government is now planning to include vulnerable families**
- **How can we meet the gaps/overlap in services for vulnerable families?**
- **Local government has always focussed mainly at the universal end How can it find the resources and capacity to effectively gauge with new partners at the secondary/tertiary end?**

ISSUES/CHALLENGES: a comprehensive, coordinated, family/community centred system

- **Planning for child friendly environments**
- **Planning for universal service provision**
- **The balance of childcare supply and demand - particularly in isolated/market failure areas**
- **Better utilisation of and improvement in inappropriate, ageing facilities and playgrounds**
- **New models of early childhood provision – kindergarten/childcare, public/private partnerships, governance**
- **Consistent early years data**

ISSUES/CHALLENGES: a comprehensive, coordinated, family/community centred system

How do we turn integration theory into practice?

How can we ensure families are empowered when consulted?

How can we ensure services adopt family centred practice?

How do we high level address municipal wide coordination?

What skills/resources have we got/do we need?

WHAT ARE THE REMEDIES?

- Continue MAV/State funded partnership to support early years planning process
- Cross govt community awareness campaign on the critical early years
- Partnership projects for service gaps identification & planning data
- Cross government coordination program for supporting families and professionals

WHAT ARE THE REMEDIES?

- Cross government high level agreements on long term facility and service planning
- Focus in on specific barriers eg childcare/kindergarten supply/demand, facility planning, staff recruitment/retention/support, new early years models
- Long term - develop model of local government coordination for a municipal wide integrated service system

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