

<p>CYPA 2001 s.23 CYPA 2001 Part 7 & Schedule 7</p>	<p>CHAPTER 4 DAY CARE SERVICES - THE ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT</p>
<p>CYPA 2001 s.23(2)(b)</p>	<p>1 The Act gives the Department power to provide, services for children in need, including day care and a duty to regulate day care. This chapter is about how it might put those powers into practice. The regulatory part of these responsibilities is set out in detail. The provision of services is left for the Department to determine in the light of best practice.</p> <p>2 The Manx Act refers to the provision of “day care” but, unlike its Parliamentary equivalent, does not set out in detail what the services should be. Some aspects of the Act of Parliament, however, provide a useful framework for the management and review of services on the Island. Where that is the case the Children Act 1989 reference is indicated in the left hand column.</p>
<p>Children Act 1989 s.19</p>	<p>a. The Department will conduct a review of day care provision for children during the first year of implementation and every third year thereafter.</p>
<p>Children Act 1989 s.18(2)</p>	<p>b. In practical terms some of the services primarily intended to promote the welfare of children in need or at risk will be more widely available to other children in the community. Those services will not be excluded from support on those grounds.</p>
<p>Children Act 1989 s.18(3)</p>	<p>c. The Department will conduct a review of facilities such as training, advice, guidance and counselling for parents and adults working in day care.</p>
	<p>OVERSIGHT AND CO-ORDINATION</p>
	<p>3 All the services and regulatory functions have implications which reach beyond the responsibilities of the Department alone and have implications for several other Departments of Government. The Department intends to consult widely with them and with voluntary and other relevant interests in reviewing and revising its policies.</p> <p>4 There is already a range and variety of day care, educational and support services on the Island, but the coherent and efficient use of services and the establishment of new ones need co-ordination. The Department intends to publish a map of existing services and use it as the basis for:</p> <p>a. developing and implementing policy,</p> <p>b. identifying gaps in services,</p> <p>c. encouraging the development of services by voluntary and independent providers,</p>

- d. links with other departments and their services,
- e. links with voluntary organisations, community groups, ethnic minority interests, and private childcare,
- f. links with employers,
- g. registration, regulation and control.

SERVICE PROVISION

- 5 The Department will identify the purposes of its day care policy in the light of consultation. In addition to addressing the needs of directly identified children in need it might include:
- a. targeting areas of multiple disadvantage where there is concern for the welfare of families generally;
 - b. targeting a locality in order to attract investment, employment and training;
 - c. pump-priming to encourage other organisations to set up facilities.
- 6 In the light of the service map the Department will identify a mix of services which will meet the Island's needs and achieve its purposes. It will consider the resources it has available and how to direct them most effectively towards children most in need. The strategy is likely to include:
- a. reviewing and strengthening its existing resources and perhaps developing new ones;
 - b. purchasing services from other providers;
 - c. sponsoring and perhaps subsidising other service provision by the provision of support in cash or kind;
 - d. collaborating with other departments to use resources jointly to improve and diversify their impact.

REGULATION AND CONTROL

- 7 The standards and processes of regulation and control are dealt with in later chapters of this volume. It should never become merely a bureaucratic exercise. Their key purposes are to:
- protect children,
 - ensure that the people entrusted with the care of children are fit to do so,
 - provide reassurance that services meet acceptable standards,
 - ensure that services for children function within a quality assured framework.
- 8 The Department will use registration and inspection positively to

promote good quality services for families. Applications will be handled promptly and sympathetically. The process will be enabling, facilitative and developmental. The staff should use their knowledge and expertise positively to promote acceptable standards of care. They should also recognise and acknowledge the expertise and knowledge of those applying for registration.

BRINGING THE FUNCTIONS TOGETHER

- 9 In a large English local authority these quite separate rôles will be difficult to co-ordinate but the Department will exploit its compact size and the relatively small number of stakeholders to maximum advantage.
- 10 The experience of the inspection staff will be used to establish benchmarks for all services, public, voluntary and private. Their information and that of service providers will contribute to the review. There should be active processes to share knowledge and good practice.