

	<b>INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES CHILD WELFARE MANUAL</b>	
	<b>Chapter 1:</b> Introduction	<b>Effective Date:</b> July 1, 2015
	<b>Section 2:</b> The Child Protection Plan	<b>Version:</b> 2

<b>POLICY</b>
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Each Indiana Regional Services Council (RSC) must hold a public hearing prior to the preparation of the local Child Protection Plan for the delivery of child protection services. The Child Protection Plan is required to be completed prior to February 2 of each even-numbered year.

Each RSC (after a public hearing) will:

1. Prepare a local plan for the provision of child protection services; and
2. Submit the plan to:
  - a. The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) Agency Director,
  - b. **[NEW]** Each DCS office within the region,
  - c. Each juvenile court within the region,
  - d. **[REVISED]** The community Child Protection Team (CPT) of each county that participates in the RSC, and
  - e. Appropriate public and voluntary agencies, including organizations for the prevention of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (CA/N).

The local Child Protection Plan must describe the implementation for the delivery of child protection services in the region by the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS), including:

1. Organization;
2. Staffing;
3. Mode of operations;
4. Financing of the child protection services; and
5. The provisions made for the purchase of service and interagency relations.

The DCS Agency Director will certify whether the local plan fulfills and meets the provision of child protection services no later than **60** days after receiving the Child Protection Plan.

If the DCS Agency Director certifies that the local plan does not fulfill the purposes and meet the provisions of child protection services, the DCS Agency Director will:

1. State the reasons for the decision;
2. Make revisions to the plan that the Director determines are necessary to meet the requirements and fulfills the purpose of child protection services; and
3. Approve and certify the revised plan as the local plan required by [IC 31-26-6-5.5](#).

Code Reference

1. [IC 31-26-6: Regional Services Strategic Plan](#)
2. **[NEW]** [IC 31-26-6-5.5: Description of plan implementation](#)

## PROCEDURE

The RSC will:

1. Prepare a local plan for the provision of child protection services; and
2. **[REVISED]** Submit the plan to the DCS Agency Director, each DCS office within the region, each juvenile court within the region, the community CPT in each county that participates in the RSC, and appropriate public and voluntary agencies, including organizations for the prevention of CA/N no later than February 2 of each even-numbered year.

The DCS Agency Director will certify whether the local plan fulfills and meets the provisions of child protection services no later than **60** days after receiving the Child Protection Plan.

If the plan does not fulfill the purposes and meet the provisions of child protection services, the DCS Agency Director will:

1. State the reasons for the decision,
2. Make revisions to the plan that are determined to be necessary to meet the requirements and fulfills the purpose of child protection services, and
3. Approve and certify the revised plan as the local plan.

## PRACTICE GUIDANCE

### **RSC Hearing Guidelines**

See separate policy, [1.03 Regional Services Council](#) and the [Regional Services Council \(RSC\) Protocol](#) for details.

## FORMS

N/A

## RELATED INFORMATION

N/A