

# NATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON CHILD PROTECTION (NFCP)

**BRUNEI DARUSSALAM** 



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# CONTENTS

FOREWORD	7
	8
OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES	14
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND CHILD PROTECTION	18
1. COUNTRY BACKGROUND	18
2. DEFINITION OF A CHILD AND A YOUNG PERSON	20
3. OVERVIEW OF CHILD PROTECTION LANDSCAPE IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	20
4. THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT	22
5. GENERAL WORK PROCESS FOR CHILD PROTECTION CASES	24
6. DEFINITION OF CHILDREN IN NEED OF PROTECTION	28
7. DEFINING CHILD ABUSE	31
1 <sup>ST</sup> PILLAR: POLICIES AND LEGISLATION	32
BACKGROUND	
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	32
2 <sup>nd</sup> PILLAR: FAMILY SUPPORT	33
BACKGROUND	33
RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	33

3 <sup>rd</sup> PILL	AR: MONITORING MECHANISMS	34
BAG	CKGROUND	34
REC	COMMENDED ACTIONS	34
4 <sup>th</sup> PILL	AR: INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION	35
BAG	CKGROUND	35
REC		36
5 <sup>th</sup> PILL	AR: SOCIAL SERVICES	36
BAG	CKGROUND	36
REC	COMMENDED ACTIONS	37
6 <sup>th</sup> PILL	AR: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	38
	CKGROUND	
	COMMENDED ACTIONS	
CROSS-	CUTTING COMPONENTS	42
BAG	CKGROUND	42
REC		42
ANNEX		45
1.	THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSON'S ACT (CHAPTER 219)	45
2.	OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES AND LEGISLATION	49
3.	NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL ISSUES AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE F.	
4.	ACTION TEAMS ON CHILD PROTECTION	52
5.	CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE	53
6.	REGISTER OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN NEED OF PROTECTION	54
7.	EVIDENCE-INFORMED ASSESSMENT TOOLS	56
8.	REHABILITATION AND CARE OPTIONS	58
9.	CLIENT TRAINING CENTRES AND PROGRAMMES	59
10.	OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES	63
11.	REPORTING MECHANISMS	65



### FOREWORD



Alhamdulillah, with the Grace and Blessing of Allah Subahanahu Wa Ta'ala, Brunei Darussalam has achieved another milestone in producing the National Framework on Child Protection, a result of the collective spirit and the whole-of-nation commitment of all agencies and parties who play a critical role in protecting children in the whole nation.

Without doubt, investing in our children is crucial towards ensuring sustainable growth for our country and its future. As we continue to foster a safer and friendlier environment for children, it will consequently address other social issues such as abuse, deprivation and economic immobility. Hence, it is essential for the whole nation to come together to ensure our children continue to be safe, protected and are enabled to fulfil their full potential.

Indeed, Brunei Darussalam's ratification to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 27th December 1995 is a testimony to the nation's continuous commitment towards fulfilling and protecting the rights of children. This ratification, alongside the dual Civil and Syariah legal systems provide a strong foundation towards the protection of CYP in Brunei Darussalam, primarily with the Islamic Family Law Act in 1999 and the CYPA in 2006.

Consequently, the new National Framework on Child Protection is based on existing legislative instruments whilst embedding the goals enshrined under the Brunei Vision 2035 (Wawasan 2035); Sustainable Developmental Goals; the Plan of Action on the Well-being of Children; the results and concluding observations received from the combined second and third periodic reports of Brunei Darussalam to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and the Regional Plan of Action on Violence Against Children (2016-2025) under the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Therefore, with the documentation of this National Framework on Child Protection, Brunei Darussalam aspires to continue to expound the existing infrastructure on child protection and practical initiatives that can be undertaken. The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports alongside our strategic partners will continue to advocate for the well-being and development of children, whilst striving to ensure every child will grow up in a safe, loving and nurturing environment to achieve their fullest potential and where no child is left behind.

For our nation's most valuable assets, let us strive to achieve this goal together as one nation.

Major General (R) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports



### **INTRO**DUCTION

The national framework on child protection (NFCP) is a national guide that aims to further develop the existing child protection ecosystem from 2020 to 2024. It focuses on children and young persons (CYP) who are under 18 years old and sets the strategies for addressing key national priorities on child protection through a whole-of-nation and whole-of-government approach. The framework sets a direction for where the country should focus its investments to enhance the protection of CYP from all types of harm.

The formulation of the NFCP is driven by the Brunei Vision 2035 (Wawasan 2035), existing legislations, the Plan of Action on the Well-being of Children (POA) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). However, it is also guided by Brunei Darussalam's national philosophy of Malay Islamic Monarchy; Sustainable Developmental Goals; concluding observations on the combined second and third periodic reports of Brunei Darussalam to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and the Regional Plan of Action on Violence Against Children (2016-2025) under the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Brunei Vision 2035 is a long-term national vision where by 2035 Brunei Darussalam is to be recognised as a nation whose people are highly educated, skilled and accomplished; has a high quality of life and has a dynamic and sustainable economy. It contains 12 national outcomes, 28 key areas and 37 national key performance indicators. With the NECP it will aim to achieve these aforementioned goals particularly:

### National Framework on Child Protection towards achieving Brunei Vision 2035

Goals	National Outcomes	Key Areas
Goal 1: Highly educated, skilled, and accomplished people	Human Resource Development	Opportunities and Access to Long-Life Learning
Goal 2: High Quality of Life	1. (4) High Standard of Living	Excellence in Service Delivery
	<ol> <li>(5) Upholding Sovereignty and Stability</li> </ol>	One of the Safest Countries in the World
	3. (7) A Resilient and Cohesive Society	<ol> <li>Inclusive and Sustainable Social Security</li> <li>Social Harmony through Social Cohesiveness</li> </ol>

The Plan of Action on the Well-being of Children is a living document that outlines the main strategies, objectives, deliverables and key performance indicators that focuses on strengthening the social protection mechanisms for children through the integration of efficient and effective systems. The plan of action comes under the Special Committee on Family Institution, Women and Children (more information on page 50). The coordination and delivery of this POA involve several agencies, as well as non-governmental organisations. In summary, the POA contains the following:

# MAIN STRATEGIES

### Policies, Laws and Infrastructure

- Harmonising laws and policies that meet the needs of children.
- 2. Enforcement of policies and laws and policies related to children.
- Revise and increase the effectiveness of the standard operating procedures amongst agencies.
- Increase in the referrals of CYP's cases that are selfreported or from the public.

### Capacity and Quality of Social Services for Children

- Increase the capacity of professionals and social workers working with children.
- 2. Minimise the rate of relapse for CYP's cases within the first three years after intervention.

10 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON CHILD PROTECTION The relationship between the National Framework on Child Protection with the National Council on Social Issues and Special Committee on the Family Institution, Women and Children



The NFCP is an initiative under this plan of action specifically the policies, laws and infrastructure strategy, and under the objective of harmonising laws and policies that meet the needs of children. Therefore, this allows a clear reporting channel and accountability whereby the activities and progress under the NFCP will be presented to the Special Committee on the Family Institution, Women and Children under the National Council on Social Issues. There are 6 pillars under the NFCP with 3 cross-cutting components. The respective pillars and components can be briefly described as follows:

### PILLARS

**POLICIES, LEGISLATION AND ETHICS:** The national framework is developed based on and is in line with the relevant laws in Brunei Darussalam and other guidelines that are adopted nationally, regionally and internationally. It also includes the code of ethics for professionals working with CYP.

**FAMILY SUPPORT:** The family institution is the pillar of our society. Hence, the framework leverages on the close relationship amongst immediate family members and extended family members. This also includes other programmes and training that can facilitate and assist parent/ carers to enhance the care of the CYP.

**MONITORING MECHANISMS:** The monitoring mechanisms allow the measuring of effectiveness of the national child protection system. It also ensures coordinated efforts amongst key policy makers to further promote the well-being and the welfare of CYP.

**INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION:** Inter-agency coordination will include clear processes amongst agencies and their various roles upon receiving a child protection case. This also includes method of referral, reporting and reviewing of cases.

**SOCIAL SERVICES:** The social services are the support services that are available for CYP and their families. This also includes rehabilitation, care options and other government and non-government welfare services.

6

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Penghulu, Ketua Kampung, neighbours and the general public are also considered to be first responders. Hence, they will also be trained in basic knowledge on identifying child protection cases, referral process, preventive measures and advocacy.

### **CROSS-CUTTING COMPONENTS**



**TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING:** Social workers and professionals working with children require specialised training to ensure they are able to identify and conduct assessments on potential child protection cases, how to communicate with CYP and respond according to the risks.

RAN

The pillars and components in the NFCP are the key areas that will be undertaken in Brunei Darussalam from 2020 until 2024 to further improve the child protection system in the country.

ON CHILD PROTECTION 13

# **OBJECTIVES** AND OUTCOMES

The objectives and expected outcomes of the NFCP are as follows:

OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES
	1. To enhance the existing child protection system and the platforms that serve the welfare of children in Brunei Darussalam.
All CYP who need or may need	2. To ensure an agreed and transparent standard operating procedure across agencies involved in child protection.
protection are not left behind	3. Establishing a centralised database called the Register of Children and Young Persons in Need of Protection.
2 Effective preventive measures, interventions and programmes on child protection measures, interventions and child protection	<ol> <li>To adopt evidence-based and evidence-informed practices on child protection.</li> <li>Establishing a centralised database called the Register of Children and Young Persons in Need.</li> </ol>
<b>B</b> Professional and skilled child frontliners	<ol> <li>Increasing the capacity and capability of child protection frontliners.</li> <li>Developing competency standards for social workers and professionals working with CYP.</li> </ol>
A United and Resilient Family	<ol> <li>Strengthen family interventions with the view of preserving families and/ or allowing family reunification through, amongst others, home-based, individualised and culturally responsive practices.</li> <li>Prioritising family-based care options for CYP who need</li> </ol>
Institution	protection.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

# 5

Smart partnerships with the private sector and nongovernmental organisations (NGO) in caring for CYP who are at risk and who need protection



A proactive community with attitudes, traditions, customs, behaviours and practices that facilitate a protective environment for CYP



#### **STRATEGIES**

Active involvement and participation from the private sector and NGOs and the community:

- a. in meeting the needs of CYP who are at risk and/ or who need protection
- b. raising awareness and promoting positive behavioural changes in the community that can generate a protective environment for CYP.

1. Harmonisation, enforcement and awareness of policies and legislation that are related to CYP.

The overall key performance indicators for the NFCP are:

The rate of child protection cases received, and



The rate of re-referrals of the same CYP or CYP from the same household within 3 years after intervention. The National Framework on Child Protection

### **BRUNEI VISION** 2035

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL ISSUES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FAMILY INSTITUTION, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

All CYP who need or may need protection are not left behind

Effective interventions and programmes on child protection

Professional and skilled child protection frontliners

A united and resilient family institution

Smart partnerships with the private sector and non-governmental organisations (NGO) in caring for CYP who are at risk and who need protection

A proactive community with attitudes, traditions, customs, behaviours and practices that facilitates a protective environment for CYP

Policies and legislation that meet children's needs





### **BRUNEI DARUSSALAM** AND CHILD PROTECTION

### **1. COUNTRY BACKGROUND**



\* 2019 – Department of Economic Planning and Statistics \*\*2016 – Department of Economic Planning and Statistics \*\*\* http://www.information.gov.bn/; accessed on 13 Mei 2020 Brunei Darussalam's political system rests on the country's written Constitution and the national philosophyof Malay Islamic Monarchy (Melayu Islam Beraja, or MIB). These two facts dominate both formal political life of Brunei Darussalam and its government ethos. MIB refers to the value system that has three main components namely:

Amonarchical government whereby the Sultan is the leader and patron of the people and holds the utmost authority in ruling the nation.

### A Malay nation which includes the seven indigenous groups which are:

- a. Belait e. Kedayan b. Bisaya f. Murut
- c. Brunei g. Tutong
- d. Dusun

Islam is the official religion that is based on the Ahli Sunnah Wal Jama'ah and in accordance to the Shafiee Mazhab.

### 2. DEFINITION OF A CHILD AND A YOUNG PERSON



According to the Children and Young Persons Act (Cap 219) (CYPA), a child is a person who has not attained the age of 14 years. Whereas a young person means a person who has attained the age of 14 years of age but who has not attained the age of 18 years. The Islamic Family Law Act (Cap 217) defines a child as a person who is unmarried who has not attained the age of 18 years qamariah.

### 3. OVERVIEW OF CHILD PROTECTION LANDSCAPE IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

The protection of children from all forms of violence in Brunei Darussalam is primarily a multi-sectoral approach. Some of the primary sectors that are involved in child protection are social services agencies, education, enforcement and health. To care for a CYP requires inter-agency involvement due to the multiple needs of a child such as his/ her physical, emotional, educational, identity, social, spiritual and self-care skills needs. This based on the model that was developed by the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore.



### Focal Agency for Child Protection

The Department of Community Development (Jabatan Pembangunan Masyarakat, JAPEM) under the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS) is the focal and lead agency for the promotion and protection of children from a rights-based approach including the support, care, protection, rehabilitation, development and well-being of children nationwide. Some of the roles of JAPEM in relation to children are as follows:

- a. The Director of JAPEM is appointed as the protector under the Children and Young Persons Act (Cap 219) (CYPA);
- b. JAPEM is the secretariat for Action Team on Child Protection (ATOCP) which was established under the Children and Young Person's Act (CYPA), and oversees cases of child abuse.
- c. The Director of JAPEM also chairs the Child Protection Committee, one of the action teams under ATOCP.
- d. JAPEM is the secretariat for the national POA for children under the Special Committee on Family Institution, Women and Children under the National Council on Social Issues.
- e. The issues of the child cut cross all sectors of society, therefore JAPEM works closely with all other relevant government and non-government bodies towards the implementation of the protection of children's rights.

#### **Current trend**

In recent years, Brunei Darussalam has witnessed an increasing trend in receiving referrals for cases involving child abuse victims, and children in need of protection. Therefore, there is an urgency for case workers and officers involved in handling child protection to improve their technical skills such as in risk assessments, interventions, case management and other relevant child-centred approaches. Consequently, it is essential for all relevant agencies who are directly involved in child protection to improve their monitoring mechanisms, intervention and assessment practices, and maintain representative and updated data. The community can also be more involved in supporting any child protection initiatives and programmes, where possible.



Child Abuse Victims and Children in Need of Protection Cases between 2011 - 2019 Received by JAPEM



### **4. THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT**

MCYS through JAPEM is the lead agency for protecting CYPs from all forms of abuse, neglect and other welfare issues concerning children in Brunei Darussalam. MCYS works closely with other government and non-government agencies to protect the interest and welfare of CYPs in Brunei Darussalam through various committees and platforms (refer to page 50). There is a close coordination between JAPEM and other relevant agencies as part of an ongoing intervention to deliver a child-centred, family-focused and community-based intervention for the CYP and their family. These agencies and their roles are as follows:

No.	Agency	Areas	Roles
1.	JAPEM, MCYS	Child Protection	<ul> <li>To assess, intervene and protect CYP.</li> <li>To coordinates and oversee interventions on child protection.</li> </ul>
		Rehabilitation and Care	<ul> <li>To provide care and rehabilitation at the Welfare Home Complex (Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan).</li> <li>To attend to the welfare of the residents at the Welfare Home.</li> </ul>

No.	Agency	Areas	Roles
		Persons with Different Abilities (Persons with Disabilites; PWD)	<ul> <li>To provide assistance to people with different abilities in their daily lives</li> <li>To increase the independence of PWDs by providing essential services such as disability services and facilities as well as providing specific training to encourage self-resilience and self- sufficiency.</li> </ul>
		Welfare Assistance	<ul> <li>To provide welfare assistance for families in need.</li> <li>The assistance is either temporary or given over an unspecified period of time.</li> </ul>
			• To encourage families to break the poverty cycle.
2.	Women and Children's Abuse Investigation Unit, Criminal Investigation Division.	Enforcement	• To conduct investigations on criminal offences committed.
3.	Ministry of Health (through Medical Social Work Services)	Social and Medical	• To provide interventions at the health services level on health, medical and social matters of patients.
4.	Student's Welfare Division,		
5.	Private Education Division,	Education & Student's Welfare	• To provide interventions at the school level on education, student welfare and school
6.	Department of Religious Education,		environment matters.

No.	Agency	Areas	Roles
7.	Narcotics Control Bureau, Prime Minister's Office	Enforcement	• To investigate misuse of drug-related matters.
		Rehabilitation	<ul> <li>To conduct rehabilita- tion and programmes for individuals involved in misuse of drugs.</li> </ul>
8.	Religious Enforcement Division, Ministry of Religious Affairs	Enforcement	• To conduct investiga- tions relating to offences under the Syariah Penal Code Order.

### **5. GENERAL WORK PROCESS FOR CHILD PROTECTION CASES**



The following flow chart provides the general process for a child protection case

When an individual/ professional/ agency is concerned that a CYP is/ suspected to be in need of protection, the reporter may refer to the Sectoral Assessment Protocol (SAP) to identify whether the situation requires further consultation with an internal expert or to be reported to JAPEM. The reporter and the internal expert may then discuss on the situation and make decisions based on the Child Protection Reporting Protocol (CPRP). However, if the guides recommend that consultation is not needed, reporters and internal experts may still proceed with consultation and/ or making a report to JAPEM.

When a CYP has been identified as at risk, suspected or confirmed to need protection, a JAPEM officer will initiate a social investigation. The police may concurrently investigate the case if there are any elements of crime involved. The immediate priority of the JAPEM officer will be to ascertain the safety of the CYP. This will often involve the CYP, his/ her family and also other relevant agencies in ensuring that the protective factors are in place and the risk factors are minimised.

In instances where the CYP's parents/ carers are unable or unwilling to take the necessary measures to keep him/ her safe, JAPEM may apply from the Juvenile Court for a Protection Order to protect the CYP from further harm. Under the order, the parents/ carers may be mandated to undergo assessments, counselling, psychotherapy and any other services to enhance the safety and well-being of the CYP. The CYP may also be temporarily placed in a Welfare Home as specified by the Juvenile Court.

Alternatively, JAPEM or parents/ carers may apply for a protection order from the Syariah Court with the provisions available under the Islamic Family Law Act (Cap 217) on behalf of the CYP. The protection order may include:

- a. allowing the CYP to live at his/ her home or any parts of it by expelling the prepetrator;
- b. prohibiting the prepetrator from coming into close contact with the CYP;
- c. requiring the prepetrator to allow the CYP to collect his/ her personal belongings with an enforcement officer;
- d. specifying the conditions in which the prepetator may communicate with the CYP;
- e. allowing the CYP to use the vehicle that was normally used by him/ her;
- f. requiring the prepetrator, CYP or both to attend counseling;
- g. requiring the prepetrator to pay compensation to the CYP, and
- h. to place the CYP at any suitable place for protection for their best interest.

A CYP may be removed from his/ her home when there are immediate concerns to his/ her safety, care and needs. In this circumstance, the CYP may be placed at the following:

### **KINSHIP** CARE

MCYS adopts a family first policy whereby whenever possible, both immediate and extended families are preferred carers when parents are deemed unfit to protect and care for them. JAPEM together with other relevant agencies will assess the safety of the family, assist and support the family to help them in enhancing the safety and well-being of the CYP.

Family members who do not consist of grandparents, brothers, sisters or parents of the CYP will require a written approval from the Director of JAPEM to become carers (Section 31, 32).

### FOSTER CARE

Foster care is the next option if kinship care is not possible. Foster care provides a home and family environment for CYP who need protection. It also provides the opportunity for the CYP to develop positive relationships with others in a family setting. More information can be found on page 60.

### **RESIDENTIAL CARE:** WELFARE HOME COMPLEX

As the final option, a CYP may be placed at residential care at the Welfare Home Complex (Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan; KRK). Placement at KRK is only possible with the approval of the Director of JAPEM which is only for the first 3 working days. Further placement at KRK will require a court order from the Juvenile Court. JAPEM's investigation on child protection cases will involve interviews and visits to family members and significant individuals involved in the CYP's life. JAPEM will also request for reports from his/ her school, any police reports, and his/ her medical reports where relevant. The CYP and carers may also be referred to undergo psychological assessments. A compilation of these reports will allow a more holistic assessment of the CYP and the situations that led to his/ her becoming a child protection case.

All child protection cases will be presented in the Child Protection Committee (more information on page 53) to further discuss on the CYP's case and endorse the child protection plan. The committee will also agree whether the case is to be registered into the Register of Children and Young Persons in Need of Protection (Register) or be referred to other relevant services. The case will then be monitored by the JAPEM officer, other relevant agencies, and also through the Child Protection Committee.

### 6. DEFINITION OF CHILDREN IN NEED OF PROTECTION

The CYPA has listed out 11 situations whereby a CYP needs protection which are listed below. Based on the list provided, Brunei Darussalam has developed the corresponding indicators that may assist in verifying such situations which may include the assessment of the Child Protection Committee. Hence, prior to proceeding with a protection order or directives based on the CYPA, such or similar indicators should be included.

No.	In Need of Protection	Indicators
1.	The CYP has been or there is substantial risk that he will be physically or emotionally injured or sexually abused by his parent/ carer.	<ul> <li>The parent/ carer has a history of abusing children.</li> <li>The parent/ carer has a history of abusing other individuals.</li> <li>The resident(s) of CYP is/ are suspected or proven to be involved in the misuse of drugs.</li> </ul>
2.	The CYP has been or there is substantial risk that he will be physically or emotionally injured or sexually abused and his parent/ carer, knowing of such injury, abuse or risk, has not protected or is unlikely to protect him from such injury or abuse.	<ul> <li>The parent/ carer has shown no efforts to protect the CYP.</li> </ul>
3.	The parent/ carer of the CYP is unfit, or has neglected or is unable, to exercise proper supervision and control over him/ her and he/ she is falling into bad association, is exposed to moral danger or is beyond control.	<ul> <li>A psychologist or counsellor has verified that CYP's parent/ carer is an unfit carer.</li> <li>The CYP is living with individuals who can negatively influence him/ her, among others, through misuse of drugs, theft, promiscuity, and co-habitation.</li> </ul>
4.	The parent/ carer of the CYP has neglected or is unwilling to provide for him adequate care, food, clothing and shelter.	<ul> <li>A medical officer has verified that the CYP is malnourished.</li> <li>The CYP is living with individuals who can negatively influence the CYP whereby the CYP may be involved in moral danger or beyond control.</li> <li>The medical officer, health inspection officer or medical social worker has verified that CYP's home is a health and safety hazard.</li> <li>The parent/ carer refuses to take necessary actions to ensure that the CYP is cared for, provide sufficient food and ensure a safe home environment.</li> <li>Other relevant agencies have identified that the CYP may have inadequate care food, clothing and shelter.</li> </ul>

No.	In Need of Protection	Indicators
5.	The CYP has no parent/ carer, or has been abandoned by his parent/ carer and after reasonable enquiries the parent/ carer cannot be found, and no other suitable person is willing and able to care for him.	<ul> <li>The CYP is found without a carer.</li> <li>The CYP has no knowledge of the location or contact details of his/ her parent/ carer and close relatives.</li> </ul>
6.	The CYP needs to be examined, investigated or treated for the purpose of restoring or preserving his health and his parent/ carer neglects or refuses to have him so examined, investigated or treated.	<ul> <li>A medical office has verified that the CYP's requires to be examined, investigated or treated and without it may lead to a further deterioration of the CYP's health.</li> <li>After the enforcement of the laws under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health, the CYP's parent/ carer neglects or refuses to allow the CYP to be examined, investigated or treated.</li> </ul>
7	The CYP behaves in a manner that is or is likely to be harmful to himself or to any other person and his parent/ carer is unable or unwilling to take necessary measures to remedy the situation or the remedial measures taken by the parent/ carer have failed.	<ul> <li>The CYP is involved in activities that are harmful to him/ herself (e.g. self-harm, wandering around without supervision) or others such (e.g. violent towards others, theft).</li> <li>The parent/ carer is unable or has made no efforts to take the necessary actions as advised by the relevant agencies to remedy the situation.</li> <li>The CYP continues to be involved in activities that are harmful to him/ herself or others after interventions by the parent/ carer and relevant agencies.</li> </ul>
8.	There is such conflict between the CYP and his parent/ carer, or between his/ her parent/ carers, that family relationships are seriously disrupted, thereby causing him emotional injury.	<ul> <li>There is evidence that there is conflict between the CYP and his/ her parent / carer(s).</li> <li>A medical officer, psychologist, psychiatrist or counsellor has verified that: <ul> <li>the family conflict is affecting the CYP's mental health</li> <li>the CYP is experiencing a developmental delay due to the family dysfunction.</li> </ul> </li> <li>There is evidence of medical neglect by the parent/ carer.</li> </ul>

No.	In Need of Protection	Indicators
9.	The CYP is a person in respect of whom any of the offences mentioned in the Penal Code (Chapter 22) or any offence of the nature described in this Act has been or is believed to have been committed and his parent/ carer is the person who committed or is believed to have committed such offence or has not protected or is unlikely to protect him from such offence.	<ul> <li>The Registrar from the Civil Court and/ or the Criminal Investigations Department, Royal Brunei Police Force have verified that the CYP and/ or his/ her parent/ carer is/ are found to have committed an offence under the Penal Code (Cap 22) or the CYPA.</li> <li>The parent/ carer has not/ is unable to protect the CYP from committing the said offence(s).</li> </ul>
10.	The CYP is — a member of the same household as a child or young person referred to in paragraph (i); or a member of the same household of the person who has been convicted of any of the offences referred to in paragraph (i), and appears to be in danger of the commission upon or in respect of him of a similar offence and his parent/ carer is the person who committed or is believed to have committed such offence or is unable or unwilling to protect him from such offence.	<ul> <li>The CYP is living with an individual(s) who may pose a risk to the CYP due to his/ her offence(s) under the Penal Code or the CYPA.</li> <li>The parent/ carer is unable or unwilling to take the necessary measures to protect the CYP from the said individual(s).</li> </ul>
11.	The CYP is found begging.	• There is evidence such as pictures, documents and statements whereby the CYP was found asking for money and donations from the public.



### 7. DEFINING CHILD ABUSE

Child abuse describes an act by parents, carer or any persons that cause harm to a CYP physically, emotionally and sexually and is determined based on the evaluations of professionals as abusive. Abuse can come in the forms of the following:

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### PHYSICAL

A CYP is physically injured if there is substantial and observable injury to any part of his body as a result of the non-accidental application of force or an agent to the CYP's body that is evidenced by, amongst other things, a laceration, contusion, abrasion, scar, fracture or other bone injury, dislocation or sprain, haemorrhaging, the rupture of a viscous, a burn or scald, the loss or alteration of consciousness or physiological functioning or the loss of the hair or any teeth;

### EMOTIONAL/ PSYCHOLOGICAL

CYP is emotionally injured if there is substantial and observable impairment of his mental or emotional functioning that is evidenced by, amongst other things, a mental or behavioural disorder, including anxiety, depression, withdrawal, aggression or delayed development.

### SEXUAL

A CYP has been/ is being sexually abused or exploited by a parent/ carer/ adult which includes being inflicted or exposed to sexual activities involved as a participant or an observer, in any activity which is sexual in nature for the purpose of any pornographic, obscene or indecent material, photograph, recording, film, videotape or performance or for the purpose of sexual exploitation by any person for that person's or another person's sexual gratification. I L D A B U S

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### NEGLECT

CYP is harmed because a parent or carer fails to provide adequate supervision, food, medical care and/ or clothing appropriate to the child or young person's age and level of development. It may include situations when the parent or carer exposes the child or young person to unsafe and/ or unhygienic living conditions.

### EXPOSURE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A CYP has witnessed a pattern in which his/ her parents/ carers/ family members wilfully or knowingly place, or attempt to place, a family member in a fearful or hurtful situation: causing harm to a family member by an act that is known or ought to have been known would result in harm; wrongfully confining or restraining a family member against his/ her will; or causing continual harassment with intent to cause, or knowingly that it is likely to cause, anguish to a family member.

### EXPOSURE/ MISUSE OF DRUGS AND HARMFUL SUBSTANCES

illegal or illicit drug taking or alcohol consumption which leads a person to experience social, psychological, physical or legal problems related to intoxication or regular excessive consumption and/ or dependence.

# **1<sup>ST</sup> PILLAR:** POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

### BACKGROUND

The existing policies and legislation in Brunei Darussalam ensure that CYP are protected and cared for in various aspects such as his/ her welfare, health, education and birth registration. The Children and Young Persons Act (Chapter 219) (CYPA) is the key legislation that protects children under the age of 18 years old and is enforced by the Ministry of Culture Youth and Sports. The CYPA identifies the key players involved in enforcing the law and outlining their roles and responsibilities (refer to page 45). There are also other laws in Brunei Darussalam that include provisions for children and are equally important to a CYP that are enforced by other agencies such as the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health (refer to page 49). Brunei Darussalam also has commitments under United Nations Treaties and ASEAN bodies which provides a basis in the development of both policies and legislation within the country. These current legal, regional and international commitments provide a strong foundation to further advance the country's existing child protection system.

- 1. Harmonise the respective laws and policies to ensure that they meet the needs of CYP especially if and where there are discrepancies, gaps and discriminatory provisions affecting children.
- 2. Increase enforcement of laws and policies that can better protect children and ensure that their rights are preserved.
- 3. Develop, establish, and/ or improve child-centred justice procedures that will protect the rights of CYP in the Syariah, civil, criminal and other proceedings both formal and informal in line with the UN Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, where appropriate.
- 4. Development of outreach, multi-disciplinary services, counselling, and other legal aid to support children and their families, in seeking redress for rights violations.
- 5. Compile best practices of countries with similar legal systems and cultural and religious backgrounds for possible adaptations.
- 6. Allocate sufficient human, technical and financial resources for the full dissemination of child-related laws and develop institutional capacity for their effective implementation
- 7. Develop child protection policies and procedures to ensure that all stakeholders safeguard CYP from all forms of violence.
- 8. Reduce the recourse to judicial proceedings and deprivation of liberty diversion and other alternative measures.

# **2ND PILLAR:** FAMILY SUPPORT

### BACKGROUND

Brunei Darussalam is well known for its close-knit family structures. It is common for extended families to maintain close relationships by living nearby, have regular visits and frequently organised family events. Some families also prefer to live in the same household although there may be limited bedrooms and facilities.

CYP cases are often preferred to be cared for by their families when their parents/ carer are not able to do so. In such situation, the family taking care of the CYP may need emotional, psychological and financial support. The government may assist in this matter through the social services that are currently available.

The country's cultural background and MIB principles encourage families to stay together and support each other. Therefore, circumstances that result in the separation of the CYP and their parents/ carers will include a child protection plan of family reunification, where possible. The family should and need to play a role in maintaining family cohesion, thus, one of the main policies of the Government is the strengthening of the family institution through a Special Committee on Family Institution, Women and Children.

- 1. Strengthen family interventions with the view of preserving families and/ or allowing family reunification through, amongst others, home-based, individualised and culturally responsive practices.
- 2. Take measures, including amendments to laws and awareness-raising campaigns, to ensure that mothers and fathers equally share the parental responsibility for their children.
- 3. Create supportive and appropriate interventions for CYP and their families experiencing violence with alternative options, services and referrals in compliance with international standards, where appropriate.
- 4. Strengthen parents' and carers' knowledge and skills on child protection and nonviolent approaches to child care as well as strengthen access to relevant social protection measures.

# **3<sup>RD</sup> PILLAR:** MONITORING MECHANISMS

### BACKGROUND

The monitoring of the activities on child protection and the implementation of programmes and initiatives are necessary to ensure they are in place and remain effective and efficient. In Brunei Darussalam, monitoring takes place through a number of platforms such as the:

- 1. National Council on Social Issues (Majlis Kebangsaan Isu Sosial, MKIS)
- 2. Special Committee on the Family Institution, Women and Children
- 3. Action Team on Child Protection, and
- 4. Child Protection Committee

More information on the above platforms can be found on page 50. All these platforms are chaired and managed by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS). There are also other platforms under various ministries and agencies that address CYP's issues however on more specialised aspects such as health and education.

Child protection in Brunei Darussalam has always been a multi-sectoral endeavour and there has been an increase in coordinated efforts especially through the inter-agency platforms such as mentioned above. Hence, it is anticipated for different agencies to maintain different statistics from one another and may also have different definitions for the same cases. In such situations, the existing data may not reflect the actual status of child protection cases within the country. Therefore, it is timely for Brunei Darussalam to establish a centralised data system on child protection cases.

The CYPA includes a provision that allows MCYS to establish a database system named the Register of Children and Young Persons in Need of Protection (Register) (refer to page 54). This Register will enable the maintenance and monitoring of child protection cases by all key agencies. Consequently, the data from this Register will allow the government to have a better understanding on the national prevalence of child protection cases and possible correlating factors.

- 1. Establish a centralised databank to aid the government in the formulation, monitoring, and evaluation of policies, programmes and projects in the area of child protection. Amongst other things:
  - a. To include disaggregated data by age, sex, disability, geographical location, ethnic origin and socioeconomic background to facilitate analysis of the situation of all children, particularly those in situations of vulnerability.
  - b. Particularly for sexual abuse and violence against children cases, it would be beneficial to include data such as the number of complaints, reports to the police, investigations, prosecutions, sentences and sanctions.
  - c. The data should be shared amongst relevant ministries concerned and used for the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programmes and projects for effective child protection initiatives.

# 4<sup>TH</sup> PILLAR: INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

### BACKGROUND

As mentioned earlier, child protection is a multi-sectoral and inter-agency undertaking due to the nature of the varying needs of a CYP especially through his/ her life cycle. Several of the agencies that are actively involved in child protection cases are JAPEM, Attorney General's Office, the Royal Brunei Police Force, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Religious Affairs. Each of these agencies are represented in the Child Protection Committee (CPC). The CPC is an inter-agency platform chaired by the Director of JAPEM that allows the discussions, directions and decisions to be collectively made on child protection cases (refer to page 53). Meanwhile, cases and matters that require more policy and strategic considerations are brought forward to the Action Team on Child Protection, chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (more information on page 52).

Since the enforcement of the CYPA in 2006, inter-agency coordination on child protection has been largely based on intuition and past experiences of predecessors. Standard operating procedures between agencies have never been documented. Whereas, assessment methods on the same type of cases differ between agencies both internally and externally. Such circumstances have led to unfortunate situations where CYP and their families did not receive the necessary interventions in terms of types and frequency. Therefore, agencies need to commit in ensuring that there is improved inter-agency coordination in handling child protection cases.

- 1. Develop standardised protocols and standard operating procedures on how agencies coordinate in handling a child protection case.
- 2. Strengthen early identification and intervention on CYP who need or may need protection.
- 3. Ensure inter-agency protocols and standard operating procedures are effective and efficient and to calibrate when necessary for continuous improvement and impact of measures adopted.

# 5<sup>TH</sup> PILLAR: SOCIAL SERVICES

### BACKGROUND

There are several social services provided by the government that are available for CYP and their families as follows:

Social services	Types or services	Brief description
Rehabilitation and Care Options	1. Administrative supervision	• CYP can be supervised by a JAPEM officer without going to court.
		• CYP and family members can be supervised by a Narcotics Officer without going to court.
	2. Probation and community service, JAPEM	• CYP who have committed a criminal offence and given a second chance will be supervised under this unit.
	3. Foster care and adoption, JAPEM	Foster care system is available for CYP who need protection.
		• JAPEM can assist in any adoption processes.
	4. Institutionalisation	• Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan (Welfare Home Complex) under JAPEM for protection and rehabilitation of CYP.
		• Pusat Al-Islah for misuse of drugs rehabilitation under Narcotics Control Bureau.
Client Training Centres and Programmes	1. Youth Development Centre (Pusat Pembangunan Belia; PPB)	• A vocational training centre for youth.
	2. Pusat Bahagia, JAPEM	• Training centre for persons with disabilities under JAPEM.
	3. National Service Program (Program Khidmat Bakti Negara; PKBN)	• National services under MCYS for young persons.
	4. Supervision under Narcotics Control Bureau	• Supervision of CYP and families who require guidance and rehabilitation due to the misuse of drugs
	5. Counselling Unit, JAPEM	• Counselling services for CYP and families under JAPEM.
	6. Clinical Psychology Division, Ministry of Health	Psychological assessments and
NATIONAL FRAMEWORK	7. Community Psychology Division, Ministry of Health	interventions.
(More information on the above can be found on page 59.)

It is important to note that social services provide interventions that are evidence-informed to ensure its effectiveness. Evidence-informed interventions are developed based on professional experience, case studies and client's subjective feedback (wishes, values and knowledge). In addition, interventions should also comprise of multicultural practices including that of religion and spirituality.

# **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

- 1. Strengthen, support and facilitate the alternative family-based care such as adoption, foster and kinship care and legal guardianship programmes available for CYP, wherever possible, with a view to reducing the institutionalisation and promote the de-institutionalisation of CYP
- 2. Ensure a periodic review of the placement of CYP in foster care and institutions and monitor the quality of care.
- 3. Ensure that adequate human, technical and financial resources are allocated to alternative care centres and relevant child protection services, in order to facilitate the rehabilitation and social integration of CYP residents therein to the greatest extent possible.
- 4. Strengthen a child and gender sensitive reporting and complaint mechanism for CYP and/ or their representatives to file for their grievances and enable such mechanisms to facilitate effective and timely remedies.
- 5. Adopt evidence-informed interventions such as ecological and systems perspective, trauma-informed practice, childhood attachment theories and adverse childhood experiences and multicultural practices including religious and spiritual aspects.
- 6. Strengthen community service programmes to increase resilience amongst CYP, caregivers and their network.
- 7. Strengthen the child helpline:
  - a. By allowing children to have free and unrestricted access to the child helpline services
  - b. Through further outreach to children especially in vulnerable situations and rural areas
  - c. Through reliable long-term funding to sustain and evolve their operations
  - d. By escalating its data to inform policy and decision making that affect children's lives.
  - e. By providing special support to helpline managers and agents to ensure they are prepared to deal with cases of abuse and violence and with mental health issues

# 6<sup>TH</sup> PILLAR: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

# BACKGROUND

It is important to have the active involvement of the local community especially in supporting the government's initiatives and also in developing attitudes, traditions, customs, behaviours and practices that facilitates a protective environment for CYP. In Brunei Darussalam, the stakeholders that can significantly contribute in achieving this are:



Social

Influencers

The institutions of Penghulu (head of sub-district or Mukim) and Ketua Kampung (Village Head) and Religious Leaders (imam) are an important part of Brunei Darussalam's administrative structure, officially recognised for being the Intermediary between the government and the community. As leaders of the grassroot level, Penghulu, Ketua Kampung and imam play a valuable role in being the ears, eyes and mouth for both the community and the government. They are seen as the most informed about their community members and can guide the community under their respective villages. Currently there are designated Penghulu, Ketua Kampung and imams leading all the villages across the 4 districts in Brunei Darussalam. Thus, there is great potential for every Penghulu, Ketua Kampung and their respective Consultative Council for Villages to further promote values of shared responsibility towards the realisation of a protective community.

The Government of Brunei Darussalam allocates an annual budget through the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports to provide financial assistance to NGOs. Amongst others, this financial assistance aims to aid NGOs to conduct their activities and projects. To ensure that the financial assistance is used effectively, key performance indicators are set to every NGO that receives the assistance. Under the Community Sector of MCYS, the annual budget allocated from 2012 until 2021 is shown in Table 2.



# Government budget allocation NGO Assistance from 2012 until 2021



In general, the NGOS in the country can be generally categorised as below:



Therefore, there is an opportunity for existing and aspiring NGOs to extend their outreach and services to children and child protection.

# **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

- 1. Encourage the establishment of companies and NGOs that specialise in children and child protection matters.
- 2. Providing opportunities for community and religious leaders, the private sector, volunteers and NGOs to acquire knowledge and develop skills on child protection.
- 3. Disseminate information on child protection matters including those in the rural areas and in vulnerable situations.
- 4. Involve communities and civil society, including non-governmental and children's organisations, in the planning, implementation and evaluation of all the government's policies, plans and programmes relating to child protection.

- 5. Adopt a comprehensive strategy including awareness-rising for the elimination of gender stereotypes, and discrimination against all groups of children in marginalised and disadvantaged situations.
- 6. Introduce sustained public education, awareness-raising and social mobilisation programmes, involving children, families, community and religious leaders, media, and social influencers on the harmful physical and psychological effects of all forms of violence against CYP through formal and informal education with a view to changing the general attitude towards that practice, and promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child caring and discipline.
- 7. Strengthen community-based networks for early detection, intervention and response to protect CYP at risk, and CYP affected by violence.



# **CROSS-CUTTING** COMPONENTS

# BACKGROUND

There are three (3) cross-cutting components that go through all the pillars namely prevention, child participation and training and capacity building.

### PREVENTION

One of the most important indicators of an effective child protection system is the degree of its ability to prevent all forms of abuse from happening. Currently, preventive measures come in the forms of awareness programmes through schools and social media, workshops and forums. Below is the number of awareness programmes that was conducted by JAPEM in 2019.





# **CHILD PARTICIPATION**

Child participation is significantly integrated in case assessments and court proceedings. Agencies will make decisions based on the consolidated information from the CYP, his/ her family, school and other relevant factors. Nonetheless the best interest of the CYP will be paramount in any decisions that are made.

#### **TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

Brunei Darussalam acknowledges the requirement of social workers and professionals working with and for children to acquire the necessary qualifications, training and experience to ensure the quality and effectiveness of assessments and interventions for the CYP and their families. Currently, there are no educational and training institutions in the country that offer qualifications and training on social work, child development, psychology and other relevant subject matters that are applicable for these individuals. Therefore, the Plan of Action on the Well-being of Children includes the objective of strengthening the capacity and capability of all frontliners in child protection. This may be achieved through the introduction of competency frameworks, scheme of services for social workers with a succession planning system, and relevant programmes at the existing educational and training institutes.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

- 1. Develop an accreditation system in coordination with educational and training institutions for the professionalisation of service providers involved in child protection.
- 2. Include training on child protection in training programmes for education personnel, health care workers, childcare workers, social workers, medical personnel, law enforcement and justice personnel to provide them with necessary knowledge and skills to adequately prevent, recognise and respond to cases of child protection.
- 3. Undertake systematic education and training on the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child for all professionals working for and with children.
- 4. Seek technical assistance from relevant regional and international bodies such as OHCHR, UNICEF, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisations.
- 5. Ensure that staff working with children, in particular probation officers, specialised

judges, legal representatives and social workers are provided with appropriate training. Relevant parties by benefit from the technical assistance tools developed by the Inter-Agency Coordination Panel on Juvenile Justice and its members, including the United Nation Office of Drugs and Crime, UNICEF, OHCHR and non-governmental organisations, and seek technical assistance in the area of juvenile justice from the members of the Panel.

- 6. Develop advocacy materials for various audiences (e.g. helpline personnel, emergency responders, volunteers, community leaders, religious leaders, people in business, relevant public employees, prosecutors, law enforcers, media staff and civil society organisations) to generate awareness and support on child protection.
- 7. Develop standards for social workers and professionals working with and for children. It should also include the code of ethics for such professionals.
- 8. For organisations, institutions and agencies working with and for children to develop policies and procedures that prevent their staff and personnel from abusing CYP.

#### PREVENTION

- 1. Provide access to resources to support parents, carers and communities to improve their skills and understanding on positive discipline, ensure non-violent interactive communication and relationship with children, child nurturing, child-care and promote an enabling environment for effective child development and learning.
- 2. Prioritise prevention policies and intervention measures to mitigate and address the underlying causes of all forms of violence against CYP and develop programmes to ensure all CYP receive appropriate care either from their own families, carers or community alternatives.
- 3. Strengthen community service programmes to increase resilience amongst CYP, caregivers and their network.

### **CHILD PARTICIPATION**

- 1. Strengthen efforts to ensure CYP's involvement is appropriately integrated and consistently interpreted and applied in all legislative, administrative and judicial proceedings and decisions as well as in policies, programmes and projects that are relevant to have an impact on children
- 2. Develop procedures and criteria to provide guidance to all relevant persons in authority for determining the best interests of the child in every area and for giving it due weight as a primary consideration
- Guarantee that CYP are actively consulted and involved in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes affecting them and pay particular attention to the active involvement of children in vulnerable situations, including children with disabilities, minority children and stateless children.
- 4. Develop awareness-rising programmes, including campaigns and the training of professionals working with or for children, to promote meaningful and empowered participation of children in judicial proceedings, in the school, the community, the family and alternative care settings.
- 5. Build the capacity and resilience of CYP and support their active participation in the child protection process.





# 1. THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSON'S ACT (CHAPTER 219)

Some of the key roles and responsibilities of the relevant individuals and agencies as mentioned in the CYPA are as follows:

PROTECTOR			
Section in CYPA	Roles and Responsibilities		
7(1)(b)	1. Access to the Register of Children and Young Persons in Need of Protection		
17(1)	2. Take a CYP into temporary custody without a warrant and place CYP to a place of safety.		
17(2)	3. Inform Juvenile Court within 3 working days of taking the CYP.		
18(1), (2)	4. Take a CYP to a medical officer after being taken into custody due to his/ her need for medical examination or treatment and to leave him/ her in the hospital.		
18(3)	5. Requires parent/ carer of CYP to take him/ her to a medical officer in writing.		
18(4)	6. Take a CYP into temporary custody for the purpose of taking him/ her to a medical officer.		
19(b)	7. Authorise the administration of medical procedures and tests that may be necessary to diagnose his/ her condition.		
19(2)	8. Authorise the hospitalisation of a CYP for the purpose of medical care or treatment.		
20(1)	9. Authorise a medical treatment.		
20(2)	10. Notify or make efforts to notify CYP's parent/ carer who is suffering from a serious illness, injury or condition or requires surgery or psychiatric treatment.		
20(3)	11. Authorise treatment that is considered necessary by a medical officer who is suffering from a serious illness, injury or condition or requires surgery or psychiatric treatment.		
32(2)	12. Enquire persons who have custody over a CYP reasons for taking him/ her and assess the parent's/ carer's suitability and to consider it in his/ her best interest.		

PROTECTOR		
Section in CYPA	Roles and Responsibilities	
32(2), (a), (b)	13. Order CYP to be returned to previous parent/ carer who had custody over his/ her care or approve the taking of the CYP to the current parent/ carer.	
32(4)	14. To register any notifications on the taking into care or custody of a CYP.	
33 (2), (a), (b),	15. To return a CYP to his/ her parent/ carer who had previously been approved of his/ her taking or take him/ her into temporary custody until he/ she can be returned to his/ her parent/ carer.	
34(1)	16. To write to persons who have or are believed to have the care, custody or control of a CYP who's taking has not been notified to produce the CYP.	
34(2)	17. To issue a warrant authorising a named person to search for a CYP and produce him/ her before the protector if the parent/ carer fails to produce the CYP.	
34(3)	18. To place a CYP in a place of safety, with a relative or other fit persons and him/ her until enquiries have been completed.	
34(5), (a), (b)	19. To consider the best interest of the CYP and order him/ her to his/ her parent/ carer or any fit persons or allow the taking of the CYP under certain conditions.	
34(6)	20. To issue a warrant and order the CYP to a place of safety, a relative or a fit person if conditions have not been met upon approval of caring for the CYP.	
37	21. To require a CYP who has entered or been brought to Brunei Darussalam or persons associated to him to appear before the protector to examine his/ her reasons for entering Brunei Darussalam.	
38	22. To require security of CYP who is believed to have been brought to Brunei Darussalam.	
39	23. To visit and inspect the place where the CYP who has been furnished security is staying.	
82	24. To give consent to medical treatment for CYP being cared by fit person or placed at Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan where the consent of the parent/ carer cannot be obtained, and delay in carrying out the medical treatment can cause unnecessary suffering or endanger his/ her health.	
92	25. To enter and search any premises for the purpose of ascertaining whether a CYP needs protection or any offence has been made against the CYPA or has been committed.	
92 (6)	26. To seize and detain any articles, books, document or accounts found during any search that may have reason to believe relate to any offence against the CYPA.	
NATIONAL FRAMEWORK		

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER		
Section in CYPA	Roles and Responsibilities	
39 (1)	1. To visit and inspect the place where a CYP who's security has been furnished under 38 lives or believed to live or be.	
39 (2)	2. To enquire the condition and circumstances of the CYP referred to any relevant persons	
49 (10)	3. To provide a written report to be submitted to the Juvenile Court to be considered without being read aloud.	
58	4. To supervise a CYP who has been brought to the Juvenile Court by a parent/ carer for beyond parental control for a period not more than 3 years.	
84	5. To apprehend a CYP who has escaped from an approved school or approved home without a warrant and return him to the approved school and approved home.	
39 (1)	6. To visit and inspect the place where a CYP who is or suspected of being trafficked whose security has been furnished lives or believed to live or to be.	
39 (2)	<ol> <li>To enquire into the condition and circumstances of the CYP who is or suspected of being trafficked.</li> </ol>	
49 (10)	8. To submit a written report on the Juvenile Court on a CYP that has been brought forward containing his/ her family background, religion, general conduct, home surroundings, school record, medical history and state of development.	
58(1)(b)(i)	9. To supervise a CYP that has been brought to the Juvenile Court for beyond parental control for a period of not exceeding 3 years.	
84(1)(a)	10. Apprehend a CYP who has escaped from an approved school or approved home (Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan) without a warrant to bring him back to the complex.	
MEDICAL OFFICER		

Section in CYPA	Roles and Responsibilities	
18(1)	1. To accept a CYP who has been brought into temporary custody by a protector or a police officer and it is in their opinion that the CYP is in need of medical examination or treatment instead of taking him/ her to a place of safety.	
18(3)	2. To accept a CYP who has been directed in writing by a protector or police officer whom they are of the opinion that he/ she needs medical examination or treatment.	

MEDICAL OFFICER		
Section in CYPA	Roles and Responsibilities	
19(1)(a)	3. To conduct or cause to be conducted an examination of the CYP who has been brought in by a protector/ police officer.	
19(1)(b), (c)	4. May in the examining of the CYP and if authorised by a protector/ police officer, administer or cause to be administered such procedures and tests as may be necessary to diagnose his/ her condition. The medical officer may also proceed to provide or cause to be provided such treatment as he/ she considers necessary as a result of such diagnosis.	
19(2)	5. To recommend to the protector/ police officer that for the purpose of medical care or treatment, for the CYP to be hospitalised.	
20(1), (2)	6. To recommend to the protector/ police officer for a CYP that has been taken into custody treatment for a minor illness, injury or condition, or who is suffering from a serious illness, injury or condition or requires surgery or psychiatric treatment.	
23 (1)	<ol> <li>To notify a protector or a police officer if he/ she is of the opinion that a CYP who he has examined or treated has been physically or emotionally injured as a result of being ill-treated, neglected, abandoned or exposed.</li> </ol>	
23(3)	8. To refer a CYP by a private medical officer to a Government medical officer on the above ground.	
23(4)	9. To take a CYP into temporary custody until such time as the temporary custody is assumed by a protector/ police officer.	
49(10)	10. To submit a written report on the Juvenile Court on a CYP that has been brought forward containing his/ her family background, religion, general conduct, home surroundings, school record, medical history and state of development.	
50(1)	11. To furnish a certificate containing the assessment of a CYP that is being dealt with by the court/ police officer due to an alleged offence whether he/ she has reached a specified age to be given in as evidence.	

8 NATIONAL FRAMEWOR

# 2. OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

Some of the legislation and policies that are related to children in Brunei Darussalam are as follows:

No.	Type of Legislation/ Policy		Description	Custodian
1	Brunei Darussalam's Laws	•	Children and Young Persons Act (Cap 219)	
	Laws	•	Women and Girls Protection Act (Cap 120)	
		•	Child Care Centre Act (Cap 218)	Ministry of Culture,
		•	Offenders (Probation and Community Service) Act (Cap 220)	Youth and Sports
		•	Old Age and Disability Pensions Act (Cap18)	
		•	Islamic Family Law Act (Cap217)	
		•	Islamic Adoption of Children Act (Cap 206)	Ministry of Religious
		•	Compulsory Religious Education Act (Cap 215)	Affairs
		•	Syariah Penal Code Order (2013)	
		•	National Registration Act (Cap 19)	
		•	Employment Order (2009)	Ministry of Home Affairs
		•	Registration of Adoptions Act (Cap 123)	
		•	Guardianship of Infants Act (Cap 191)	Civil Court
		•	Chinese Marriage Act (Cap 126)	Civil Court
		•	Penal Code (Cap 22)	Attorney General's
		•	Unlawful Carnal Knowledge Act (Cap 29)	Chambers
		•	Education Act (Cap 210)	
		•	Compulsory Education Act (Cap 211)	Ministry of Education
		•	Misuse of Drugs Act (Cap 27)	Narcotics Control Bureau
		•	Dana Pengiran Muda Mahkota Al-Muhtadee Billah for Orphans Act (Cap 185)	Dana Pengiran Muda Mahkota Al- Muhtadee Billah
		•	Infectious Diseases Act (Cap 204)	Ministry of Health

No.	Type of Legislation/ Policy	Description	Custodian
2.	United Nations Commitments	<ul> <li>Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)</li> <li>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)</li> <li>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)</li> </ul>	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
3.	ASEAN Commitments: ASEAN Socio Cultural Pillar	<ul> <li>ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMMRDPE)</li> <li>ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD)</li> <li>ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)</li> </ul>	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
4.	National Guidelines	<ul> <li>Child Online Protection Framework (COP).</li> <li>National Nutrition and Physical Activity Guidelines for Child Care Centres in Brunei Darussalam.</li> <li>Early Childhood Care and Education Framework.</li> </ul>	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports Ministry of Health Ministry of Education
5.	Regional Guidelines	<ul> <li>ASEAN Guidelines for a Non-Violent Approach to Nurture, Care and Development of Children in All Settings.</li> <li>ASEAN Early Childhood Care, Development and Education Quality Standards</li> <li>ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence Against Children (RPA EVAC).</li> </ul>	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

# 3. NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL ISSUES AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE FAMILY INSTITUTION, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

The ministerial level National Council on Social Issues or the Majlis Kebangsaan Isu Sosial (MKIS), under the chairmanship of the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, was established in April 2008 to replace the National Committee on Social Issues. Members of the MKIS include the Ministers of Finance, Education, Religious Affairs and Home Affairs; Deputy Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Chairman of the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation. The terms of reference of the National Council are:

- a. To identify current social issues;
- b. To formulate policies, legislation and plan of action for social issues;
- c. To coordinate and ensure implementation by relevant agencies of plan of action and programmes on social issues;



- d. To ensure research is conducted to identify root causes of social issues and the strategy to deal with them;
- e. To monitor and evaluate effectiveness of prevention, enforcement and rehabilitation programmes; and
- f. To ensure integrated approach and collaboration by all Government, private sector and NGOs and the community (Ketua Kampung, parents and the public) in tackling social issues.

Under the MKIS, a number of Special Committees have been set up to focus on specific areas that address the identified social issues in Brunei Darussalam. MKIS and the Special Committees meet monthly, with the agenda to update the action lines as agreed by the Committees under each objective outlined in the Plan of Action.



Chairperson	Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports	
Secretary	Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports	
Members	<ol> <li>Minister of Home Affairs</li> <li>Minister of Religious Affairs</li> <li>Deputy Minister of Prime Minister's Office</li> <li>Minister of Finance and Economy</li> <li>Minister of Education</li> <li>Chairman Board of Directors of Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah</li> </ol>	

As of 2016, MKIS has agreed for children issues to be addressed separately. By February 2019, the Action Plan on the Well-being of Children (Pelan Tindakan Kesejahteraan Kanak-kanak) was endorsed by MKIS. This action plan was a result of an inter-agency effort whereby various government and non-government stakeholders identified current children-related issues and the corresponding strategic initiatives to address these issues.

# 4. ACTION TEAMS ON CHILD PROTECTION

The main purpose of an Action Team on Child Protection (ATOCP) is to allow the coordination of locally based services to families, children and young persons in cases where CYP needs or is suspected to need protection (section 13, CYPA). Other agencies may establish their own ATOCP within their departments to serve the above purpose. However, the CYPA outlines the following requirements for each ATOCP:

- 1. The membership of the each ATOCP is to be seven or more. Members are also to be appointed by the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, (Section 14, CYPA).
- 2. Each ATOCP will have the authority to utilize any individuals and agencies so as to allow it to perform its functions and duties when needed. This also includes any qualified parties that can advise on relevant issues (Section 15, CYPA).
- 3. Each ATOCP shall be coordinated by the Department of Community Development (Section 16, CYPA).

Currently ATOCP is chaired by the Permanent Secretary of MCYS. The roles and responsibilities of ATOCP are as follows:

- 1. To coordinate locally based services to families, CYPA in cases where he/ she is or suspected to need protection
- 2. To identify and endorse foster parents to care for abandoned children whose parents are unable to be identified.
- 3. To develop and identify child protection plans for CYP cases that have been discussed in the Committee on Child Protection.
- 4. To discuss and strategise on matters that are related to child protection.
- 5. To coordinate actions and initiatives under the Plan of Action on the Well-being of Children.
- 6. The quorum for each ATOCP meeting is 2/3 of the members.
- 7. ATOCP shall convene a meeting as and when needed and at least once every 3 months.

The members of ATOCP are as follows:

Chairperson	Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports		
Secretary	Department of Community Development, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports		
Members	<ol> <li>Director General of Education or representative</li> <li>Pengarah Unit Perundangan Islam, KHEU/ Bahagian Pendakwa Syarie, KHE</li> <li>Head of Criminal Justice Division or representative</li> <li>Director of Criminal Investigation Department or representative</li> <li>Director of Immigrations and National Registration or representative</li> <li>Registrar of Syariah High Court</li> <li>Director General of Medical and Health Services</li> </ol>		

# **5. CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

The Child Protection Committee (CPC) is one of the action teams under ATOCP. The roles and responsibilities are as follows:

- 1. To coordinate locally based services to families, CYPA in cases where he/ she is or suspected to need protection.
- 2. To ensure inter-agency protocols and standard operating procedures are effective and efficient and to calibrate when necessary for continuous improvement.
- 3. To develop and execute child protection plans for CYP cases that have been registered in the Register of Children and Young Persons in Need of Protection (Register).
- 4. To monitor the progress of the CYP's cases that are registered in the Register.
- 5. To identify issues that require high level strategic intervention and to be brought forward to ATOCP.
- 6. To consolidate emerging issues and advocate when needed for action from any relevant parties.
- 7. To report annually to ATOCP.
- 8. The quorum for each ATOCP meeting is 2/3 of the number of its members.
- 9. ATOCP shall convene a meeting as and when needed, and at least once a month.

The members of CPC are as follows:

Chairperson	Director of Department of Community Development, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports		
Secretary	Family, Women and Children's Section, Department of Community Development		
Members	<ol> <li>Deputy Public Prosecutor, Criminal Justice Division, Attorney General's Chambers</li> <li>Police Officer, Women and Children's Abuse Investigation Unit, Criminal Investigation Division</li> <li>Medical Social Worker, Raja Isteri Anak Saleha Hospital</li> <li>Student's Welfare Section, Department of Schools</li> <li>Enforcement Section, Narcotics Control Bureau</li> <li>Religious Enforcement Division, Ministry of Religious Affairs</li> <li>Local Authorities Section, Ministry of Home Affairs</li> <li>Clinical Psychologists, Ministry of Health</li> <li>Medical Doctor, Ministry of Health</li> </ol>		

# 6. REGISTER OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN NEED OF PROTECTION

The CYPA allows the establishment of a Register of Children and Young Persons in Need of Protection (Register) to contain details of every case or suspected case of CYP in need of protection and other related matters to these cases as determined by the Permanent Secretary of MCYS (Section 6, CYPA).

The terms and conditions of the Register is as follows:

- 1. Purpose of the Register
  - 1.1. A centralised national database for the collection and maintenance of child protection investigation records and reports.
  - 1.2. To assist agencies involved in child protection the identification and protection of CYP in need of protection.
  - 1.3. To facilitate and aid inter-agency communication and sharing of information especially on child protection cases with high needs and high risks.
  - 1.4. To assist agencies in the investigation, treatment and prevention of child protection cases.
  - 1.5. To maintain statistical information for staffing and funding purposes.
  - 1.6. To identify trends related to child protection cases as guidance for interventions, services and strategic directions.
- 2. Registrar
  - 2.1. The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports shall appoint a supervisor to be the Registrar of Children and Young Persons in Need of Protection (S4).
  - 2.2. The Registrar will be:
    - 2.2.1. Director of JAPEM
    - 2.2.2. Deputy Director of JAPEM
    - 2.2.3. Assistant Director of Family, Women and Children, JAPEM
- 3. Access to the Register
  - 3.1. Persons granted access to the Register will be appointed by the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (S7(2)(b)).
  - 3.2. Users will be required to complete the Official Secrets Act form (OSA-3) for the purpose of accountability in maintaining the confidentiality of the data accessed in the Register.
  - 3.3. Details entered in the register shall be furnished to any court, when so requested by the court, and to
    - 3.3.1. the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports;
    - 3.3.2. any protector;
    - 3.3.3. any police officer; and
    - 3.3.4. any member of the Action Team on Child Protection (S7(1)),

when any of these persons requires such details for the purpose of any proceedings under the CYPA or for the purpose of taking action in respect of, or providing assistance to, a child or young person in need of protection (S7(1)).

- 3.4. Details contained in the register may be furnished to -
  - 3.4.1. persons engaged in bona fide research, authorised by the Permanent Secretary of MCYS for that purpose; and (S7(2)(a)).

- 3.4.2. persons or classes of persons authorised by the Permanent Secretary of MCYS on the grounds that their access to the register will promote the protection of any child or young person (S7(2)(b)).
- 3.5. Details furnished under this section shall not include any information which discloses or is likely to lead to the disclosure of the identity of any person who has made a notification that a CYP is in need of protection (S7(3)).
- 4. Contents
  - 4.1. The register shall contain details of every case or suspected case of a CYP in need of protection and such other matters in relation to that case or suspected case as the Permanent Secretary may determine (S6).
  - 4.2. The case categories are as follows:
    - 4.2.1. Risk of/ suspected/ confirmed physical abuse
    - 4.2.2. Risk of/ suspected/ confirmed sexual abuse
    - 4.2.3. Risk of/ suspected/ confirmed emotional abuse
    - 4.2.4. Risk of/ suspected/ confirmed neglect
    - 4.2.5. Risk of/ suspected/ confirmed misuse of drugs
    - 4.2.6. Others
- 5. Criteria for Entry into the Register
  - 5.1. CYP needs or suspected to need protection.
  - 5.2. All cases that are in the red category on the Sectoral Assessment Protocol are to be entered into the system.
  - 5.3. Cases that are in the yellow category on the Sectoral Assessment Protocol may be entered into the system depending on the facts of the case.
  - 5.4. Members from the Committee on Child Protection will be required to agree that the CYP's case is to be registered.
  - 5.5. Each case will have a child protection case plan.
- 6. Criteria for De-registration
  - 6.1. Any removal of CYP's case from the register will have to be agreed by the Committee on Child Protection.
- 7. Notification System
  - 7.1. The first agency to receive the case may enter the details of the case in the case referral form that is in the system.
  - 7.2. The brief case information will be emailed to all focal persons through their government emails.
- 8. Monitoring Process
  - 8.1. A notification via government emails will be sent to designated users to remind any action that needs to be taken before the dates that have been set in the system.
  - 8.2. All cases in the Register will be monitored and reviewed through the Committee on Child Protection.
  - 8.3. All cases will be reviewed based on the corresponding traffic lights as set in the Register which is every:
    - 8.3.1. Red: 1 week to 2 weeks
    - 8.3.2. Yellow: between 2 weeks to 4 weeks

- 8.3.3. Green: between 1 month to 3 months
- 8.3.4. Duration between each review should not exceed 2 weeks for red, should not exceed 4 weeks for yellow and should not exceed 3 months for green.
- 9. Offences in Respect of the Register
  - 9.1. Any person who furnishes to any other person any details contained in the Register, other than pursuant to section 3 in this term of reference, is guilty of an offence as stated in the Children and Young Persons Act (S8).

### 7. EVIDENCE-INFORMED ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Evidence-informed assessment tools allows the development of assessment tools to include not only empirical evidence but also other sources such as professional experience, case studies and client's subjective feedback (wishes, values and knowledge)

Due to the nature of child protection cases that has multifactorial needs and interventions that often required from various agencies, it is necessary for such cases to be viewed and assessed in similar ways. Therefore, an objective, standardised and agreed method and means of identification and reporting decisions may facilitate inter-agency communications upon receiving a CYP who may need protection.

Currently, Brunei Darussalam is developing the Sectoral Assessment Protocol (SAP) and the Child Protection Reporting Protocol (CPRP) with the technical assistance provided by the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore (MSF). The SAP and the CPRP is a result of the accumulation of experiences, feedback and contributions of 332 professionals who come into contact with children in their line of work. They represent the relevant sectors namely:

No.	Sector	Roles/ Agencies
1.	Enforcement	<ol> <li>Deputy Public Prosecutor, Criminal Justice Division</li> <li>Police officers from the Women and Children Abuse Investigation Unit, Royal Brunei Police Force.</li> <li>Police officers from police stations at all four districts.</li> <li>Officers from Narcotics Control Bureau</li> <li>Enforcement Officers from Religious Enforcement Section</li> </ol>
2.	Health	<ol> <li>Enforcement Officers from Religious Enforcement Section</li> <li>Health personnel from various departments from government and private hospitals/ clinics.</li> </ol>
3.	Education	<ol> <li>Principals, teachers and counsellors from government and private schools.</li> <li>Officers from Students Welfare Unit, Department of Schools.</li> <li>Officers from Private Education Department, Ministry of Education.</li> <li>Carers from child care centres.</li> </ol>
4.	Social Services	<ol> <li>Officers and social workers from the Department of Community Development.</li> <li>Ketua Kampung.</li> <li>Representatives from NGOs that provide social services to the community.</li> </ol>

# Sectoral Assessment Protocol

The Sectoral Assessment Protocol (SAP) is a sector specific guide that can assist first responders from key sectors to identify possible child protection cases. It also guides them in determining the appropriate next course of action based on the type of cases.

The possible child protection cases are categorised into the three traffic lights - red, yellow and green – to indicate:

- a. the level of risk,
- b. the parties that will need to be involved for each type of case, and
- c. the expected response times.

The SAP is sector specific as it considers situations that are more likely to occur at the respective sectors. Therefore, there are four (4) versions to the SAP which are:

No.	SAP Version	Users
1.	Sectoral Assessment Protocol: Enforcement	<ol> <li>Police officers</li> <li>Narcotics Control Bureau officers</li> <li>Religious Enforcement officers</li> </ol>
2.	Sectoral Assessment Protocol: Health	1. Health personnel
3.	Sectoral Assessment Protocol: Education	<ol> <li>Principals</li> <li>Teachers</li> <li>Counsellors</li> <li>Child care centre carers</li> </ol>
4.	Sectoral Assessment Protocol: Social Services	<ol> <li>Social workers and case workers from the Department of Community Development</li> <li>Penghulu and Ketua Kampung</li> <li>NGOs that provide social services to the community</li> </ol>

# **Child Protection Reporting Protocol**

The Child Protection Reporting Protocol (CPRP) is a complementary guide to the SAP that are to be used by internal experts or focal persons on child protection from each sector. It will guide users on the next course of action for each type of case in relation to other agencies. At present, the CPRP has included the standard operating procedure (SOPs) from each sector for high risk cases. Through further inter-agency engagements and discussions, the CPRP will develop more SOPs based on cases and sectors, where necessary.

# 8. REHABILITATION AND CARE OPTIONS

#### Administrative Supervision

Cases involving CYP can be placed under JAPEM's supervision either administratively or through a court order from the Juvenile Court (section 58, CYPA). This supervision often involves visits to the CYP and his/ her parent's/ carer's homes; monitoring through the school and/ or clinics; and progress on any rehabilitation, counselling, or therapeutic programmes the CYP and/ or his/ her parents/ carers have been attending. The period of supervision is often for a maximum of 3 years.

#### **Probation and Community Service**

The probation and community service are an alternative rehabilitation for CYPs who have been proven in court to have committed a criminal offense.

#### **Foster Care and Adoption**

Foster care is an alternative care option for CYP who need protection as opposed to institutional care. The program allows the CYP to be protected in a family environment that is more beneficial for the CYP's development than staying in a protection home. Although having CYP stay with foster parents and fit persons are currently possible, there is still potential for the scheme to be further enhanced to ensure a better quality of support for both the CYP and the foster parents. Therefore, MCYS is currently aiming to introduce a foster care scheme within the year of 2020.

#### Types of foster care schemes

There will be different types of foster care schemes defined by the length of time the CYP will be under their care. It will range from temporary to long term where a more permanent care option will be official adoption.

#### Selection of foster parents

Interested couples may apply through JAPEM to become foster parents. Applicants will go through a rigorous process of selection to ensure parents are suitable in terms of security background, psychologically, financially and other relevant factors. Successful applicants will be further assessed by a panel of agencies from relevant fields.

# Support

The CYP and foster parents will be continuously supported and monitored through programmes that can help the CYP and foster parents adjust to living together and eventually thrive together.

#### Institutionalisation

#### Welfare Home (Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan; KRK)

The Welfare Home or Kompleks Rumah Kebajikan (KRK) is gazetted under the CYPA as the following homes:

No.	Home	Purpose
1.	Darussakinah Putera/ Puteri	Place of safety for CYP in need protection.
2.	Darussyafaah Putera Puteri	Approved home and approved school for CYP who are undergoing rehabilitation.
3.	Darul Irsyad Putera/ Puteri	Remand home for CYP who is waiting for a final order from the Juvenile Court due his/ her involvement in a criminal offense.

A CYP who is or suspected to need protection can be placed at Darussakinah Putera/ Puteri with the approval of the Director of JAPEM for a maximum of 3 working days [Section 17 (2)]. This is the final option upon receiving a case involving a CYP who is not safe to remain at his/ her current home. Within these 3 working days, JAPEM officers aim to identify other family members and relatives who are deemed as fit carers upon assessment. In the event that a fit carer is not identified within the 3 working days, JAPEM will apply from the Juvenile Court with the assistance of the Deputy Public Prosecutor (DPP) from the Criminal Justice Division, Attorney General's Chambers (AGC). JAPEM would apply for an interim order from the Juvenile Court to give JAPEM more time to identify a fit carer and conduct further investigation on the case.

KRK provides care and temporary protection for CYP until there a fit carer has been identified to care for him/ her or until as specified in the court order. The care services include accommodation, meals, clothing, basic necessities, medical care, counselling, education, and other relevant programmes that can facilitate rehabilitation and support the CYP throughout his/ her stay.

# Pusat Al-Islah

In the case where one of the main reasons why a CYP requires rehabilitation is due to his/ her serious involvement with drugs, these CYP can be considered to undergo rehabilitation program at Pusat Al Islah (PAI) subject to provisions of Misuse of Drugs (Cap 27).

# 9. CLIENT TRAINING CENTRES AND PROGRAMMES

The government organisations provide several programmes and training centres that may benefit CYP based on their individual needs such as:

No.	Programmes and Training Centres	Description
1.	Youth Development Centre (Pusat Pembangunan Belia; PPB), MCYS	• The training centre aims to develop independent and skilled youth so they may benefit from the opportunities in the job market. The courses are certified by City & Guilds Centre since 2015.
		• The development programmes are designed to be inclusive and these include the marginalised and special needs youth whereby the training programmes will ensure that the graduates of the programme are work ready and continue to develop during their career.

No.	Programmes and Training Centres	Description
		• Requirements to enrol into PPB are for those aged 17 years old who can read, write and count. However, for the Skill Proficiency Certificate Basic IT in Office Applications, there is a minimum requirement of 2 'O' & 3 'O' Level/ BTEC Level 2 is required.
		Provides 2 types of training programmes:
		Youth Development Programmes (1-year course) which consists of 3 core modules i.e. Skill Program, Soft Skill (Self Development) Program and Industrial Attachment Program. Under this program, the trainees are provided full lodge accommodation and monthly allowances. Currently there are 9 Skill Programmes where 7 of them are certified City & Guilds.
		Short Courses (less than 1 year) consist of Skill Programmes only.
		• YDC also provide grants and incubation.
		• The YDC have partnership with the private sectors who will be potential employers for the trainees.
2.	Pusat Bahagia	• A training and centre for Persons with Disabilities
		• It provides 2 services: Pusat Bahagia & Community Based Rehabilitation Unit (CBR)
		◊ Pusat Bahagia:
		<ul> <li>Guidance Class (Daily Living Skills, Basic Education, Sports, Arts and Religions)</li> </ul>
		» Employment Training (Handicraft, Handcraft, Basic Skills)
		Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)
		<ul> <li>Industrial Training (Work experience at government or private sectors)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Assistive Device Support (wheel chair, walking stick, hearing and visual aids.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>» NGOs (Persons with Different Ability Councils &amp; 9 NGOs for PWDs)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Volunteer (Preparing and coordinating volunteers to help people with different abilities).</li> </ul>
		» Home Visit (Visit to clients who cannot attend class/ training at Pusat Bahagia).

No.	Programmes and Training Centres	Description
3.	National Service Program (Program Khidmat Bakti Negara; PKBN)	• The National Service Program (PKBN) is the aspiration of His Majesty the Sultan and the Yang di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and is a prerequisite for the nation to produce outstanding youth. It is in line with the goals of the National Youth Policy and to create more responsible and disciplined youth.
		• A training centre for National Service Program and other Motivational and Team-Building Programmes, PKBN is a 3 month program of identity formation through several processes of education, self-confidence and discipline and physical training with guided and based on the national philosophy of Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) as follows:
		i. Non-military (non-armed);
		ii. Involve all citizens and permanent residents of men and women between the ages of 16 and 18;
		iii. Contains curriculum in a variety of settings; and
		<ul> <li>iv. Involve various agencies including government, private and government bodies (NGO's).</li> </ul>
		• It aims to:
		i. Develop Brunei youth towards excellence to align with National Youth Policy.
		<li>ii. Nurture youth towards holistic and spiritual aspects.</li>
		iii. Enhance the spirit of patriotism, determination and self-resilience.
		iv. Instil a sense of unity.
		v. Strengthen the understanding of Brunei Constitution and Malay Islamic Monarchy Concept.
		vi. Create a positive mind-set and character as well as to instil Volunteerism spirit.

No.	Programmes and Training Centres	Description
4.	Centres Supervision under Narcotics Control Bureau	<ul> <li>Admission to the Supervision scheme is subject to the conditions as provided under the Misuse of Drugs Act (Chapter 27).</li> <li>Supervision Division advocates and supports Orang Yang Di Bawah Pengawasan (OYDP) / Supervisees by providing supervision services and rehabilitation programs in the community to prevent relapse.</li> <li>The Supervision Services and Programs are as follows:-         <ul> <li>a) Provides psychological/ risks and needs assessments;</li> <li>b) Random urine screening, home visits and motivational interviewing by Supervision officers (para counselors);</li> <li>c) Provides counseling services                 <ul> <li>Individual counseling,</li> <li>ii. Group counseling,</li> <li>ii. Group counseling,</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>iii. Family support group,</li> <li>iv. Peer support/ Role model,</li> <li>v. Recovery program</li> <li>vi. Orientation &amp; Consultations Program, and</li> <li>vii. Spiritual Program Provides Post-Aftercare services</li> <li>d) Provides Post-Aftercare services</li> </ul>
5.	Counselling Unit, JAPEM	<ul> <li>Provides free counselling services for CYP and their families.</li> <li>The types of counselling services available are as follows:         <ul> <li>Individual</li> <li>Group</li> <li>Family</li> <li>Guidance and motivation</li> <li>Tele-counselling</li> <li>e-counselling</li> <li>Play therapy</li> <li>Art therapy</li> <li>Art therapy</li> <li>Trauma Counselling</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

No.	Programmes and Training Centres	Description
5.	Counselling Unit, JAPEM	» Crisis Counselling
		<ul> <li>» Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>It also has several programmes that are designed to empower youth and support them on mental health issues, bullying, strengthening family relationship.</li> </ul>
6.	Clinical Psychology Division, Ministry of Health	• To assess, treat and manage CYP clinical needs including
7.	Community Psychology Division, Ministry of Health	assessments of psychological risks and protective factors where it impacts on their clinical condition.

# **10. OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES**

# Welfare Assistance

There are several forms of welfare assistance that are available from the government and private sector namely:

No.	Agency	Types of welfare assistance available
1.	Department of Community Development	<ul> <li>Financial assistance - cash benefit for low income families and seniors to lessen their burden</li> <li>Temporary housing - provided to help low incomes families and disaster victims into affordable rental housing.</li> <li>Housing renovations - helping to renovate the house for poor so that their can live in conducive environment</li> <li>Food ration - food rations are given to disaster victims to help ease the burden</li> <li>Empowerment program - helping the poor raise income through work or entrepreneurship.</li> </ul>
2.	Brunei Islamic Religious Council (Majlis Ugama Islam; MUIB)	<ul> <li>MUIB is the central agency that distributes zakat to qualified recipients.</li> <li>Zakat can be distributed monthly or periodically.</li> <li>The types of monthly zakat distribution are: <ul> <li>Monthly</li> <li>For basic necessities</li> <li>For school expenses</li> <li>For monthly house rental payment</li> </ul> </li> <li>The type of periodic zakat distributions are for: <ul> <li>House Building, House Renovation, Electrical Wiring &amp; Water Supply</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

No.	Agency	Types of welfare assistance available	
2.	Brunei Islamic Religious Council (Majlis Ugama Islam; MUIB)	<ul> <li>IPT</li> <li>Medical Equipment Needs and Payments</li> <li>Educational Fees Payment</li> <li>Equipment and Business Capital</li> <li>Disaster Relief</li> </ul>	
3. Yayasan Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah	• All projects and activities undertaken by the Foundation in the field of welfare focus on efforts to enhance the welfare, livelihoods and enhance socio-economic development among the people of Brunei Darussalam.		
		• Some of the initiatives under the Foundation are:	
		Providing Assistance to less fortunate, physically challenged and economically challenged :	
		» Assisting the less fortunate, the needy in time of emergencies and assistance for those who	
		» Experience hardship due to natural disasters	
		» Introducing capital for economically challenged	
	\$	<ul> <li>Through programmes such as entrepreneurship.</li> </ul>	
		rehabilitation p	<ul> <li>Assisting the needs for Developmental and rehabilitation programmes for persons with different abilities.</li> </ul>
		» Providing Medical assistance and treatment for those who do not qualify under the government's medical assistance scheme.	
		Support in Socio-Cultural Activities,	
		<ul> <li>» support to relevant parties in the development of literature, literature, culture and sports</li> </ul>	

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64 NATIONAL FR

### **11. REPORTING MECHANISMS**



On 1st October 2019 JAPEM had launched a 24-hour toll free child helpline named Talian ANAK (Anak Negara Aset Kitani) 121. One of the main objectives was to increase social service access and also to highlight the importance of children's well-being. This number can be contacted by children for any issues they would like to voice out or report.

JAPEM started their welfare helpline services in 1989 with a 6-digit number. In March 2006, JAPEM became a member of Child Helpline International and launched its 3-digit number, 141, on 31st July 2006. It has a toll-free number which is currently receiving calls on all matters relating to the services under JAPEM. The service operates 24 hours and the types of calls received include consultations, report of abuse and information regarding any services provided by JAPEM.

Talian Harapan (Hope Line) 145 is a line that is specifically for mental health issues.

# **ACKNOWL**EDGEMENT

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# NATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON CHILD PROTECTION WORKING COMMITTEE

#### PRIME MINITSTER'S OFFICE

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Nor Hashimah Binti Haji Mohammed Taib Deputy Permanent Secretary Security, Enforcement and Law

Yang Mulia Awang Abdul Hadi bin Haji Husin Senior Special Duties Officer Civil Service, Welfare, International and Media

Yang Mulia Awang Haji Mohd Ideni Bin Hj Ahmad Special Duties Officer Grade I Security, Enforcement and Law

Yang Mulia Awang Muhammad Abdul Raafe' bin Haji Ibrahim Legal Counsel Security, Enforcement and Law

Yang Mulia Dayang Nor Azuana binti Asmalee Special Duties Officer Grade II

#### MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS -

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Nor Ashikin binti Haji Johari Permanent Secretary (Community and Culture)

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Saidah binti Haji Wahid, Deputy Permanent Secretary

Yang Mulia Dayang Siti Zaharah binti Haji Abd Razak Deputy Director Family, Women and Children Section Community Development Department

Yang Mulia Dayang Noor Hidayah binti Haji Osman Community Development Officer Community Development Department

Yang Mulia Awang Muhammad Tauhiduddin bin Haji Rosli Assisstant Community Development Officer Community Development Department

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Siti Zarena binti Haji Ismail Culture, Youth and Sports Senior Officer Social Services Section

Yang Mulia Dayang Noridah binti Haji Ishak Community Development Officer Social Services Section Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Annisah binti Haji Bahar Senior Systems Analyst Information and Technology Unit

Yang Mulia Dayang Norazerina Arisha binti Abdullah Jiram Systems Analyst Information and Technology Unit

#### MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS -

Yang Mulia Awang Haji Ali bin Mat Yassin Senior Administrative Officer

Yang Mulia Dayang Jaimah binti Tuah Acting Senior Special Duties Officer

#### MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

Yang Mulia Awang Haji Hardifadhillah bin Haji Mohd Salleh Acting Director Islamic Legal Unit

Yang Mulia Dayang Mahani binti Haji Suhaili Acting Assistant Director Islamic Legal Unit

Yang Mulia Awang Zuneidy bin Jumat Deputy Chief Religious Enforcement Officer Religious Enforcement Division

Yang Mulia Dayang Noordianahayati binti Haji Awang Syariah Legal Officer Islamic Legal Unit

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Noorhartijah binti Haji Puteh Syariah Legal Officer Islamic Legal Unit

Yang Mulia Awang Muhammad Hanif bin Haji Sha'ri Religious Officer Family Advisory Division

Yang Mulia Dayang Nur Diyana binti Dato Paduka Haji Md Yussop Religious officer Religious Enforcement Division

Yang Mulia Awang Mohamad Haziq bin Mahmud Syariah Legal Officer Islamic Legal Unit



#### MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Yang Mulia Dr Hajah Mawarni binti Haji Abd Hamid Consultant Paediatrician Community Paediatrics, Department of Paediatrics

Yang Mulia Dr Soon Ing Shian Consultant Paediatrician General Paediatrics, Department of Paediatrics

Yang Mulia Dayang Alinah binti Haji Tamin Clinical Psychologist Community Psychology Division

Yang Mulia Dayangku Hajah Nurizni binti Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Sallehuddin Medical Social Worker Medical Social Work Services

#### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Jeriah binti Haji Duraman Head of Students' Welfare Division Students' Welfare Section Department of Schools

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Zaiton binti Haji Damit Head of Students' Welfare Students' Welfare Section Department of Schools

Yang Mulia Awang Mohamad Hatta bin Haji Suhaili Head of Counselling and Career Unit Students' Welfare Section Department of Schools

Yang Mulia Dr Norhijrah binti Haji Ahmad Senior Education Officer Private Education Division

Yang Mulia Awang Desmond Lim King Wee Senior Education Officer International Affairs Unit

Yang Mulia Dayang Emisa binti Samiun, Education Officer Private Education Division Yang Mulia Awang Noor Zahiruddin bin Haji Mohd Tamit, Education Officer Private Education Division

Yang Mulia Day<mark>ang No</mark>rfaezah binti Haji Masri Education Officer Students' Welfare Section Department of Schools

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

Yang Mulia Dayang Norhafizah binti Ahmad Legal Counsel Criminal Justice Division

Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Atiyyah Azzahra binti POKLSDSLJ Awg Haji Abas Legal Officer Criminal Justice Division

#### **ROYAL BRUNEI POLICE FORCE**

Yang Mulia Norkhatijah binti Haji Zainal Acting Deputy Superintendent Police Head of Women and Children Abuse Investigation Unit Criminal Investigation Division

Yang Mulia Hajah Nur Amni Alyani binti Haji Abd Rahman Assistant Superintendent Police Women and Children Abuse Investigation Unit Criminal Investigation Division

#### NARCOTICS CONTROL BUREAU -

Yang Mulia Dayang Siti Norhadinah binti Haji Marsal Acting Assistant Director

Yang Mulia Awang Asulham Rane bin Mohammad Ashrane Chief Narcotics Officer

Yang Mulia Awang Haji Mohammad Faiz bin Haji Mahani Senior Narcotics Officer

Yang Mulia Dayang Siti Fauziah binti Ahmat Senior Narcotics Officer

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK 67

