

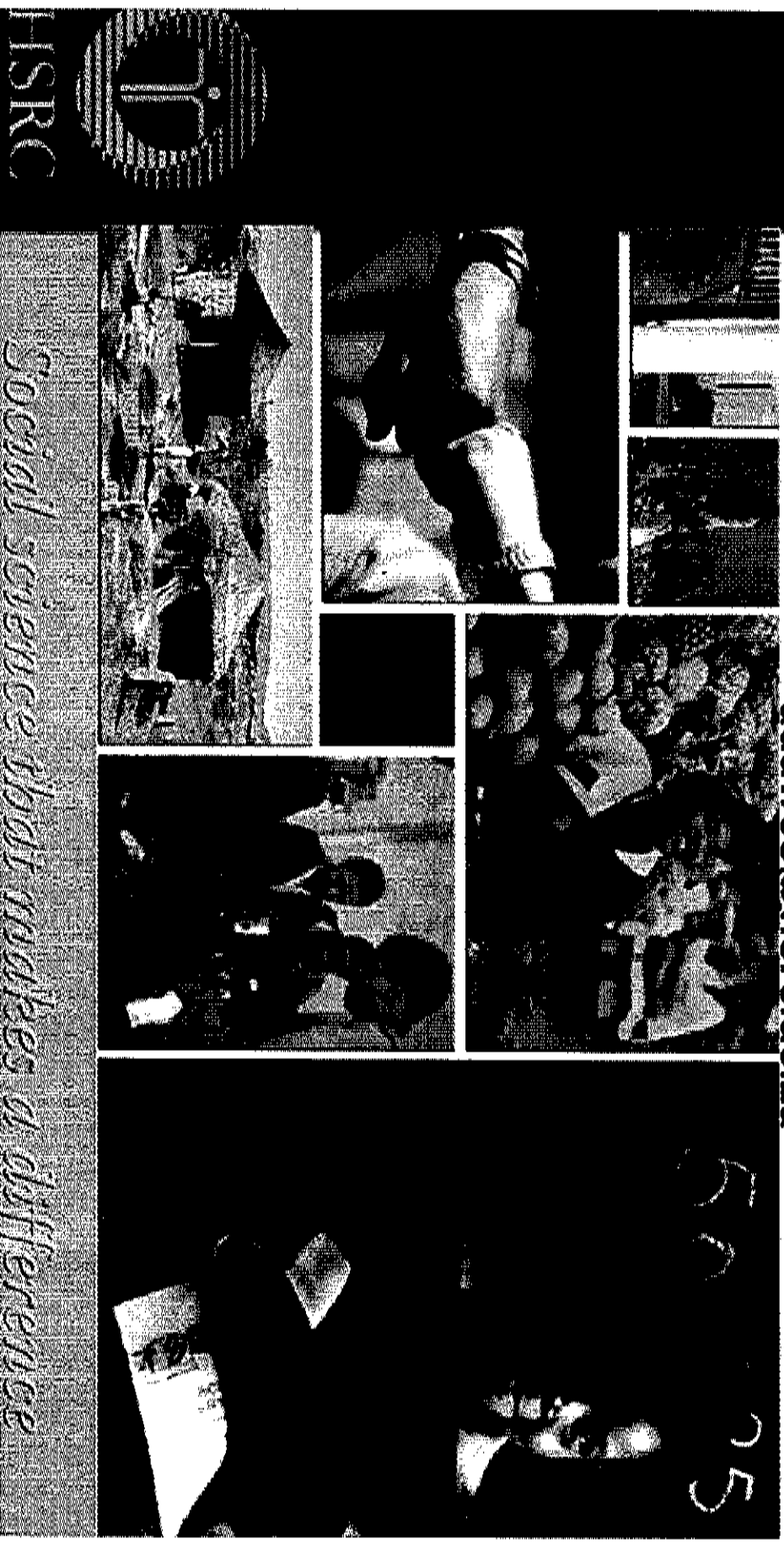
# The Integrated Care and Protection Plan for children in the Western Cape

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HSRC RESEARCH OUTPUTS

5079



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*Social science that makes a difference*

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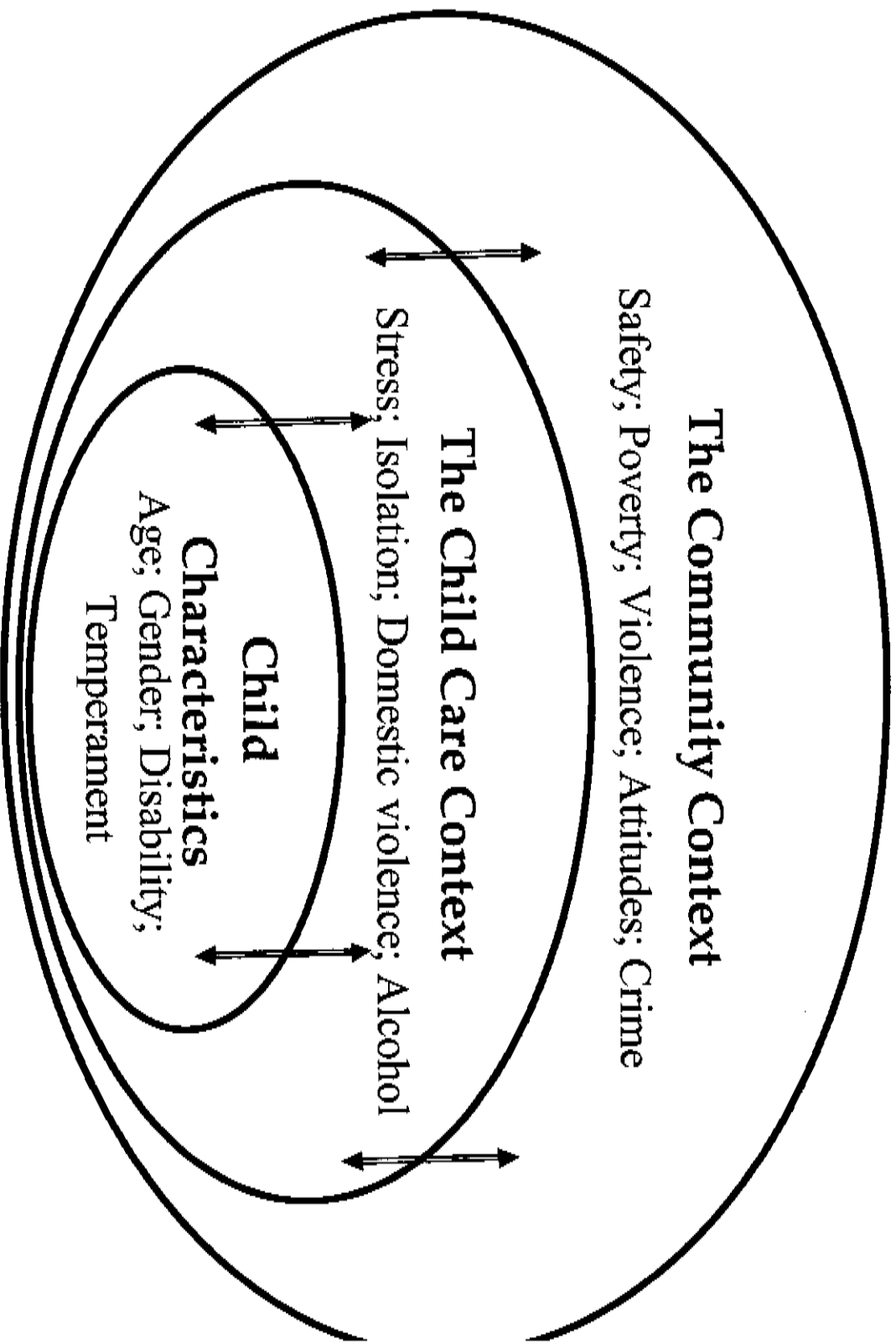
## **Outline of Presentation**

- 1. A little history**
- 2. Sources of risk for Child Abuse and Neglect**
- 3. The Focus of the Plan**
- 4. Strategic Goal, Vision and Mission**
- 5. Principles**
- 6. Commitments**
- 7. What will it take?**

## **A little History: What guides us?**

- 1. UNCRC (1995).**
- 2. The Constitution 1996.**
- 3. The Western Cape Protocol for the Multidisciplinary Management of Child Abuse and Neglect (1990s).**
- 4. ACRWC (2000).**
- 5. National policy and strategic plan for the prevention & management of child abuse, neglect & exploitation (2004).**
- 6. Children's Act 2005 as amended (2007).**
- 7. This Integrated Plan (2008).**

# Sources of Risk for Child Abuse & Neglect



## **The Plan**

- **Focuses on the roles and responsibilities of the Provincial DSD.**
- **Emphasises inter-sectoral coordination with government departments, Child Protection Organisations and civil society as essential for child protection.**
- **The primary DSD responsibilities for the protection of children: awareness and prevention, early intervention, statutory services and re-integration.**

# **Strategic Goal, Vision & Mission**

## **Strategic Goal**

- To facilitate resilient, optimally functioning families and communities that care for, protect and develop children appropriately.

## **Vision**

- Resilient families and the well being of all children.
- Aims to ensure that all children in the Western Cape grow up in an environment that is safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

## **Mission**

- Ensure provision of a *comprehensive network of social development services.*
- The protection of children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation through accessible, integrated and coordinated services.

# **Principles**

- **The rights of children are upheld;**
- **The best interests of children, are primary;**
- **The child protection system should be child-centred;**
- **Children's views should be heard;**
- **Programmes should be responsive to the diversity of children's cultural backgrounds and circumstances ;**
- **Services should be intersectoral, integrated and based on partnerships between government and civil society;**
- **Government and civil society should take joint responsibility for the protection of children;**
- **Services for children should be in line with Batho Pele and UBUNTU principles.**

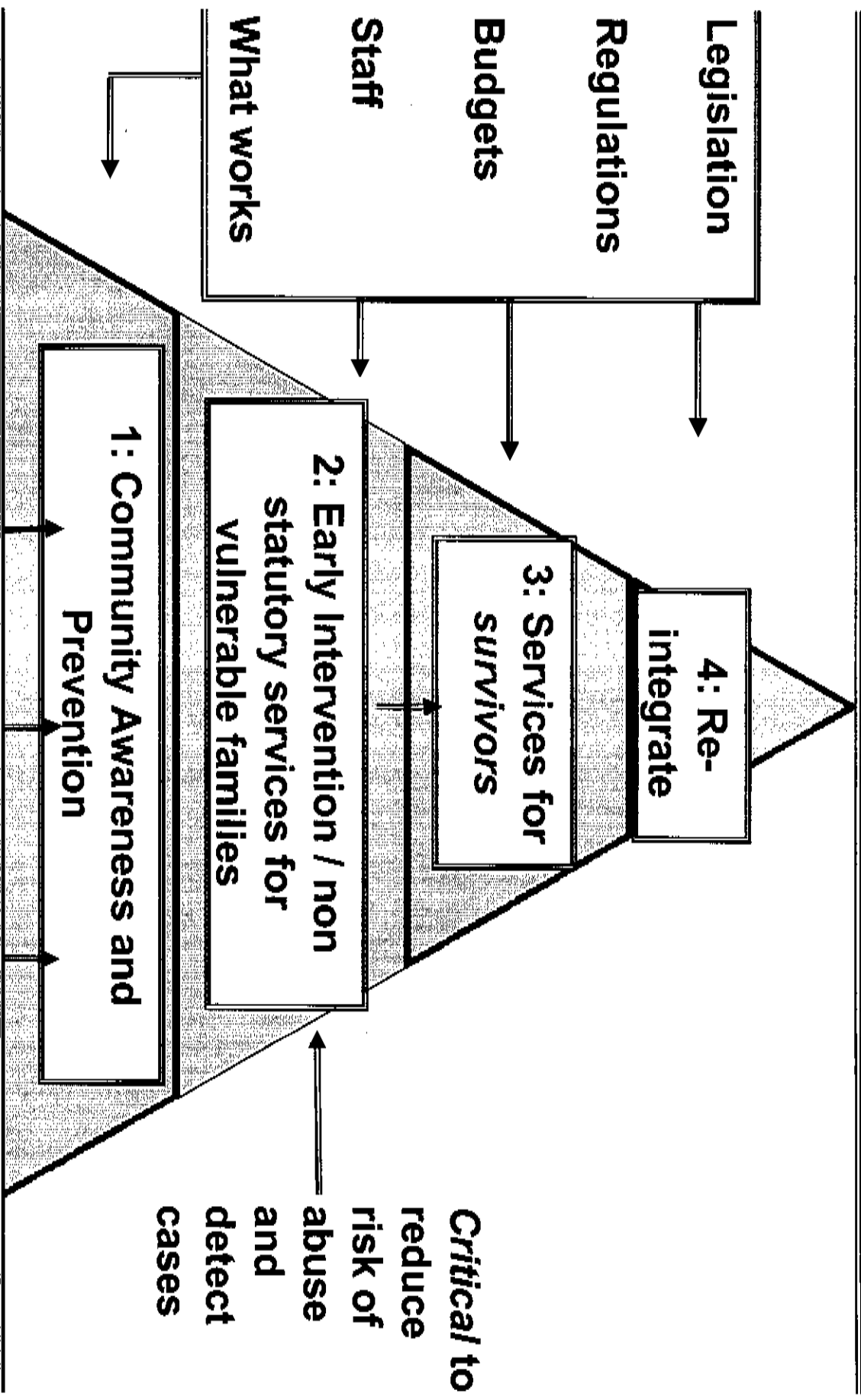
## **Some Commitments in the Plan**

***The Province will:***

- generate good quality information;
- address the human and technical resource limitations;
- strengthen existing Provincial and District level support for local child protection services;
- improve the integration of child protective services to ensure holistic and inter-sectoral delivery (as laid out in the Protocol);
- progressively realise the Vision and Mission for child protection;
- ensure that the strategic objectives and outcomes for child protection are met;
- provide an integrated services system.



# Four Levels of Intervention to Improve Child Protection



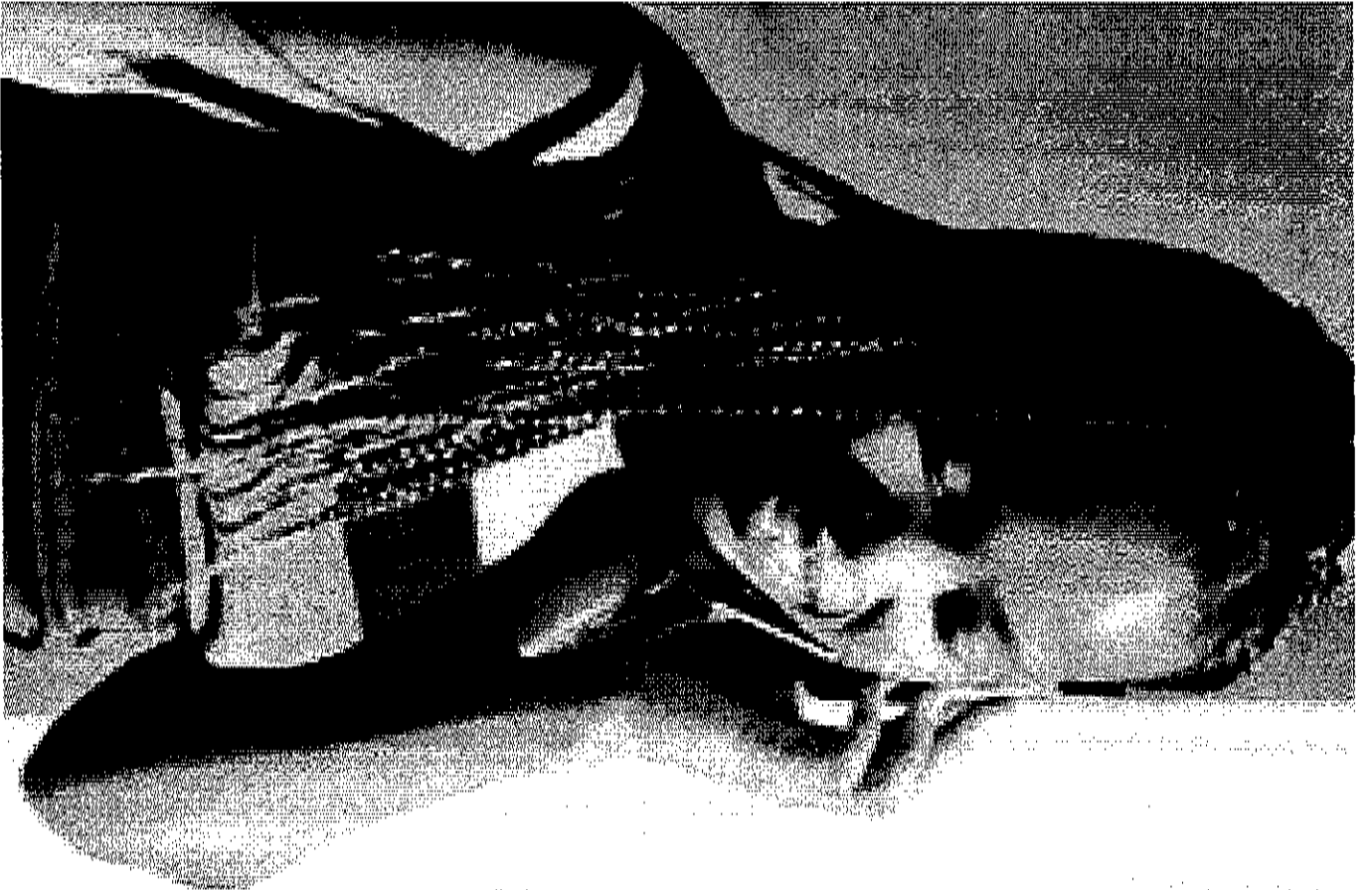
**Educate; Advocate; Enforce Legislation; Child Rights Policies; Strengthen Families & Communities; Improve social protection; Budget**

## **What will it take?**

- **The design and development of programmes that *will improve service benefits* for all children in our province.**
- **Standards and guidelines for child protection services based on legislation and practice must be developed and observed.**
- **Particular need for support of vulnerable families & new families living in difficult circumstances.**

## **What will it take?**

- **Political will.**
- **Substantially increased resources (Financial and Human).**
- **Community will.**
- **True integrated action at local level (across DOH; DSD; DoED & SAPS).**
- **Support for staff and volunteers.**
- **Specialised services for maltreated children in terms of the Protocol.**
- **Specialised police services.**
- **Specialised court services.**



*Thank You*

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