

Co. Wicklow Children and Young People's Services Committee

Fionnuala Curry
Co-ordinator



Background

- Champions in Co. Wicklow came together at the end 2010
- Part of Phase 3 CSCs (in 2014 became CYPSCs)
- Co-ordinator Appointed in March 2012
- First workplan submitted October 2012
- Second workplan submitted October 2016
- Current CYPP 2016-2019

Principles – Children, Young People & Families

- Wicklow CYPSC is children and young people centred, not agency driven
- All of our work and decisions are based on supporting children's development
- We commit to making a difference to the lives of children and young people through our work

Collaboration & Operation of Wicklow CYPSC

- We will learn from other CYPSCs
- All involved will have a clear understanding of the role of CYPSCs and of Wicklow CYPSC
- We will build understanding of each other's roles, open doors and work flexibly
- We are committed to and open to the process
- We are open to change and realise that change is often necessary to ensure better outcomes

Collaboration & Operation of Wicklow CYPSC

- We will openly communicate and cascade the work of the CYPSC into our organisations
- Wicklow CYPSC will act as an inclusive body and will work with the wider community to input into plans and implementation
- We will agree on how decisions will be reached
- We will maximise and share resources, funding and other resources to reach shared goals



Our Plans and Delivery

- Our work and plans will be based on data, fact and evidence
- They will be realistic and set goals and targeted outcomes
- We are committed to delivery, implementing plans and ensuring that action happens
- We will share and transfer good practice across our work together and into our organisations at large
- Our plans will be reviewed and evaluated which will inform future plans and working

Children & Young People's Services Committee

- CYPSC Work underpinned by 'Better Outcome, Brighter Futures – the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020'
- *Our vision is for Ireland to be one of the best small countries in the world in which to grow up and raise a family, and where the rights of all children and young people are respected, protected and fulfilled; where their voices are heard and where they are supported to realise their maximum potential now and in the future.*
- 5 National Outcomes and 6 Transformational Goals
- 0-24 Years

TRANSFORMATIONAL GOALS

SUPPORT PARENTS

EARLIER INTERVENTION
& PREVENTION

LISTEN TO AND
INVOLVE CHILDREN
& YOUNG PEOPLE

ENSURE QUALITY SERVICES

STRENGTHEN TRANSITIONS

CROSS-GOVERNMENT AND
INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION
& COORDINATION

CROSS-CUTTING

STRENGTHENS THE SUPPORT
SYSTEM AROUND THE CHILD
AND YOUNG PERSON

BETTER OUTCOMES

ACTIVE &
HEALTHY

ACHIEVING
IN ALL AREAS OF
LEARNING &
DEVELOPMENT

SAFE &
PROTECTED
FROM HARM

ECONOMIC
SECURITY &
OPPORTUNITY

CONNECTED,
RESPECTED &
CONTRIBUTING

BRIGHTER FUTURES

Co. Wicklow CYPSC

- Interagency Committee – Chaired by Tusla and Vice-Chairing by Wicklow County Council
- Decision makers across the education, health, child protection & welfare, family support, local development companies, drugs & alcohol, justice, community and voluntary groups
- 3 Year Children and Young People's Plan [CYPP] 2016/19 - Priorities Identified based on local needs, national policy, consultation with children and young people
- Work overseen by seven subgroups one of which is focussed on the area of West Wicklow

Membership

- Agencies: Tusla, HSE, Wicklow County Council, Partnership Companies, An Garda Siochana, KWETB (formerly VEC), Lucena Clinic, Education Welfare Services, Wicklow County Childcare Committee, IPPN and NAPD Reps, Drug & Alcohol Task Forces Rep (3)
- One PPN Representative (Alice O'Donnell)
- Three Voluntary Group Representatives (ISPCC, Crosscare - East Wicklow Youth Services and Daughters of Charity)



Development of CYPP

- Socio-demographic Profile for Co. Wicklow
- Audit of Services
- Local Needs Analysis (identifying priority areas)
- Voice of Children and Young People

Socio-Demographic Profile

- Majority of population live on the East Coast (65%)
- Majority of services and admin centres on East Coast
- Population 136,640 and 47,686 24 or under i.e. 35% of the population (38k 0-18 i.e. 28%)
- High numbers of pre-school and early school children
- 313 Traveller children
- High numbers of lone parent families
- Only 4 DEIS primary schools & high class numbers
- 1,154 young people on live register Jan 16
- 2,365 children in the county have a disability
- Deprivation – needs to be looked at by small area

Audit of Services

- Services weighted to the East Coast and the dense areas of population in the urban centres
- Lack of services in West Wicklow including Youth Service
- Adequacy of current education provision in light of high numbers of children in pre-school and primary school age groups
- Long waiting lists for therapeutic services
- Lack of specialist family support service in Bray
- Lack of specialist substance misuse services for young people up to 18 years of age for the county
- Lack of employment opportunities for young people and Travellers
- Lack of funding/resources to meet growing demands
- Travelling Community: education/ employment /discrimination
- Lack of Public Transport in rural areas
- Lack of Domestic Violence services in the South and West of the county
- Homelessness- lack of social housing, limited private rental, high cost of existing private rented accommodation, low level of rent supplement, overcrowding

Voice of Children and Young People

- Comhairle Survey 2015 (1,001)
- Consultation with seldom heard young people 2014 (60 from 7 groups)
- Survey of young people in relation to priority areas identified within the plan undertaken in May 2016 (1,028)

Outcome 1 Active & Health

Physical Health Priorities:

- **Physical Activity** – (a) improving recreational infrastructure (b) increasing participation in physical activity by identified target groups (c) sports leadership programme for young women (d) promoting physical activity and use of outdoor spaces
- **Physical Health** – (a) promoting vaccination (b) Nurture Programme 0-3years (c) healthy eating
- **Disability** – monitoring impact of new disability networks and briefing HSE

Mental Health Priorities:

- **Youth Mental Health and Emotional Well-being** – (a) improving information on services (b) positive YMH promotion (c) supporting a Jigsaw project for Co. Wicklow
- **Drugs & Alcohol** – (a) securing a specialist substance misuse service for under 18s (b) education and prevention (c) alcohol reduction

Outcome 2: Achieving in all areas of Learning and Development

- **Literacy and Numeracy**
 - (a)improving awareness for parents on oral language development (b) encourage engagement between P&T groups and libraries
- **Transitions** – (a) pre-school to primary and (b) primary to secondary
- **Access and Inclusion** – improving access to pre-school for children with disability
- **Progression Pathways** – into education and training for those with disabilities

Outcome 3: Safe and Secure

- **PPFS & Meitheal** – 1 steering committee and 4 networks
- **Parental Participation** – 2 projects (Dunlavin/Carnew)
- **Training** – identifying and addressing training needs
- **Parenting Courses** – ongoing co-ordination of courses and training for trainers
- **SPECS** – ABC project in Bray supporting and advocating for mainstreaming of project
- **Domestic Violence** – training for target groups
- **Mandatory Reporting** – supporting roll-out
- **Refugee Reunification** – establishing interagency committee to address arising issues
- **Homelessness** – monitor impact and share information with Local Authority
- **Online Safety** – promoting online safety to young people and parents
- **Garda Youth Awards** – support GYA as means of recognising young people in Co. Wicklow

Outcome 4: Economic Opportunity & Change Management

- **Link with LCDC** on issues of concern for children, young people and their families
- **Reducing Poverty** – reducing number of young people experiencing poverty
- **Youth Unemployment** (a) reducing number of young people on live register (b) promoting learning from pilot interagency youth employment initiative (c) use of social clause in public contracts

Change Management:

- Link with LCDC
- Addressing impact of public transport gaps on young people
- Data Collection
- CYPSC Network and Events and Website
- Community Directory
- Aftercare Steering Committee
- Commissioning
- West Wicklow

Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing

- **Active Participation of Children and Young People** (a) engage young person 18-24 onto CYPSC (b) Comhairle Steering Committee (c) participation models in Co. Wicklow (d) exploring impact of public transport gaps on young people (e) participation in Meitheal
- **Youth Services** for West Wicklow and South Wicklow
- **Equality** (a) LGBT training (b) extending 'shelf-help' in libraries in Co. Wicklow (c) improving diversity, equality and inclusion in early years' settings
- **Healthy Relationships** making information available on healthy relationships in user-friendly format to stakeholders

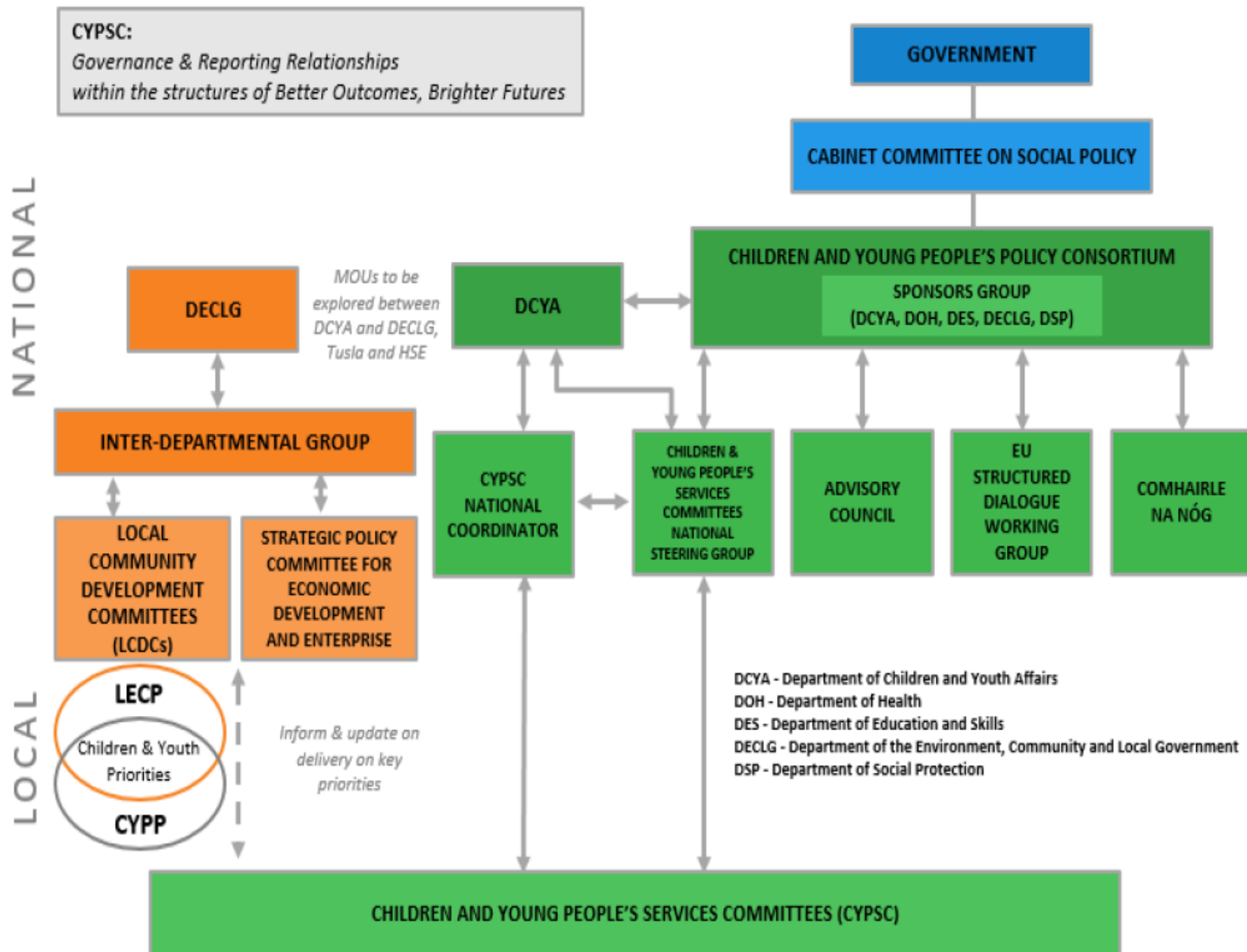
Achievement to Date

- Children and Young People in Co. Wicklow have more places to play and be active
- Children and Young People know more about healthy eating
- ECCE workers in Co. Wicklow know how to support literacy and numeracy in their settings
- Better structures have been established to support the welfare of children and young people in Co. Wicklow
- We helped to secure an ABC funded programme in Bray to support children and their families and continue to support the roll out of this programme
- We have created a structure to address the gaps in services in West Wicklow and supported the introduction of a Youth Work Service in West Wicklow
- ASD Conference October 2017

Added Value of CYPSC



Figure 3: National governance and reporting relationships



Challenges

- Up to start of 2016 Co-ordinator role Part-time
- Reduction in funding to all agencies
- Restructuring: VEC/ETBs, HSE/Tusla, Local Authorities, Community Fora
- Boundaries: HSE, Tusla
- Getting the right people at the table and **keeping them there!**
- Getting buy-in and becoming CYPSC Champions
- Keeping everyone in the loop

Role of PPN

- Representative sits directly on the CYPSC
- Communique following each CYPSC meeting
- Opportunity to raise issues of concern for Children and Young People in your area and in Co. Wicklow
- Experience of those working directly with children and young people essential
- It is possible to raise issues through the national structure

Co. Wicklow CYPSC Contact

For more information on Co. Wicklow CYPSC contact:

Fionnuala Curry

Co-ordinator Co. Wicklow CYPSC

Tusla – Wicklow Primary Healthcare Centre

Knockrobin

Wicklow Town

087 6043511

<http://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/wicklow.254.html>

