



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES

Sligo Leitrim



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN
2017 – 2019

Contact

The Sligo/Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee welcomes comments, views and opinions about our Children and Young People's Plan. Please contact:

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Copies of this plan are available on: www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/sligo-leitrim.249.html

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FOREWORD

Foreword by the Co-Chair of the Sligo/Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee, Mr Gerry Hone, Area Manager, Tusla Children and Family Services, Sligo/Leitrim.

As joint Chairperson of the Sligo/Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee, I am delighted to propose, along with my colleague Frank Curran (CEO, Leitrim County Council), the publication of our first three-year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). Since my arrival to the region as Area Manager in September 2014, I have observed the impressive dedication of statutory, community and voluntary services working together in identifying the needs of our children and families through the sharing of experiences and knowledge.

This process has been greatly assisted by our Co-ordinator, Maeve Whittington, and the various working groups of the CYPSC. The commitment of all working group members and chairpersons has ensured that we have maximised local knowledge and experience to ensure that the Plan is meaningful and well informed in its proposed responses to identified need. The extra time taken in developing the Plan has also ensured that the views of young people and their carers have been fully taken into account in identifying priority areas for service development. The Planning Working Group and our research partners in Sligo IT (CRISP), deserve particular mention for their sterling work in helping to steer us towards the publication of this Plan.

The establishment of the CYPSC, and ongoing strategic and policy support from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, provides an opportunity for all service providers to share strategic objectives and agree priorities for improving outcomes for the children and families of our region. In increasing our understanding of the needs of our children, the opportunity to jointly plan and target interventions will assist the region in moving forward in a collaborative manner and help to align all our efforts in achieving this shared vision.

This implementation of this Plan provides a platform for better understanding of the needs of our children across agency boundaries and will assist in prioritising, planning and commissioning services which are meaningful in improving their quality of life. The development of the Plan identifies and maps much of the good work already being undertaken within the region and I look forward to learning from, and building upon this good work through its lifetime.

The ultimate test of our Plan will be how it has contributed to *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures* for our children. Therefore, let us ensure we listen to the voices of our children and work collaboratively with parents/carers in all of our actions towards achieving this goal.

Gerry Hone

Chairperson – Children and Young Peoples Services Committee, Sligo/Leitrim

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) is to secure better outcomes for children and young people through more effective integration of existing services and interventions at local level.

CYPSCs work towards the Five National Outcomes for children and young people in Ireland, which are aimed at ensuring that children and young people:

1. Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental wellbeing
2. Are achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development
3. Are safe and protected from harm
4. Have economic security and opportunity
5. Are connected, respected and contributing to their world



Background to Children and Young People's Services Committees

Children and Young People's Services Committees in Ireland

The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA), now the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA), established the Children Services Committees (CSCs) in 2007 with the purpose of improving outcomes for children and families at local and community level. 22 Children & Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) have now been established across Ireland. The age range for CYPSCs has been extended to 0-24 years of age, in order to align with *Better Outcomes Brighter Futures: National Policy Framework for Children & Young People 2014 - 2020* and to ensure a more connected and co-ordinated response by services to the needs and aspirations of children and young people.

CYPSCs bring together a diverse group of agencies in local county areas to engage in joint planning of services for children and young people. All major organisations and agencies working locally on behalf of children and young people are represented. These committees work to improve the lives of children, young people and families at local and community level through integrated planning and improved service delivery.

Children and Young People's Services Committee in Sligo-Leitrim

The National Policy Framework as outlined in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures* presents a challenge to see beyond the boundaries of respective agencies and share what we have all learned about the needs of children and young people in the region; with a view to providing services that will improve their lives as per the *Five National Outcomes*. The establishment of the Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC as the main forum responsible for integrated service delivery to children and young people in the region represents that horizon. Interagency collaboration is key to the successful development and implementation of needs-led services throughout the region.

Since 2014, the Sligo/Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee (Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC) has worked to ensure that all statutory, community and voluntary organisations involved in the delivery of services to children and families across the region are aware of the existence of the local committee. Recognising the importance of their support, input and guidance, the senior managers of those organisations responsible for the delivery of services for children and families were invited to attend a pre-implementation meeting held in June 2014. This event was followed by the first meeting of the Committee in September 2014, which was chaired by Frank Curran, CEO of Leitrim County Council.

Membership of the CYPSC is drawn from the wide range of statutory, community and voluntary organisations agencies in Sligo and Leitrim. The range of those engaging with the Committee will ensure a real commitment to making decisions and implementing change in line with the *Five National Outcomes* for children and young people. Supported by the Co-ordinator, the CYPSC works with key partner bodies

operating at local levels, including both Sligo and Leitrim Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs), and reports nationally to the Department of Children & Youth Affairs.

The Committee is committed to meaningful engagement with children and young people in the region to ensure its work into the future is underpinned by comprehensive needs assessment and the development of needs-led services. It will oversee and direct the priority actions areas arising from the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) to achieve better outcomes for children and young people throughout the region. To assist with the development and implementation of the Plan, the CYPSC has established working groups, comprised of frontline staff from across the range of member organisations and geographic region, which meet regularly to address identified and emerging need across the two counties. Current working groups include:

- Planning Working Group
- Education and School Age Childcare Working Group
- Parenting Support Working Group
- Early Years Working Group
- Local Area Pathways (LAP)/Meitheal Working Group
- Safeguarding Children and Young People Working Group

The role and the function of the Planning Working Group is to oversee and advise the CYPSC on the preparation of the 3 year CYPP from the perspective of local governance and accountability. As part of this role, the Planning Working Group adopted a number of core responsibilities toward the development of the Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC including ensuring that the scope of the plan is in line with the national objectives of *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures* national policy framework. The specific functions of the Planning Working Group are as follows:

- Lead and support the development of the 3-year Plan
- Inform the CYPSC of emerging action areas, gaps and needs to support the development of an integrated plan
- Gather information and make recommendations to CYPSC
- Ensure the voice of children/ young people are included in the CYPP
- Ensure the Plan is developed in line with the National Policy Frameworks and constituent strategy documents

It is envisioned that the group's terms of reference will develop in light of, and alignment to, the evolving work of CYPSC and the first and second CYPP for Sligo/Leitrim. Reporting to the CYPSC, the work of the Planning Working Group acts as a conduit through which emerging gaps and local needs flow from the 'ground up' toward the development of an integrated plan for the region.

Who We Are

Sitting members of the Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC are as follows:

Membership of Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC	
Chair: Tusla, Child and Family Agency	Gerry Hone (Area Manager, Tusla)
Co-Chair: Leitrim County Council	Frank Curran (CEO)
Health Service Executive	Cara O'Neill (Head of Service, Health and Wellbeing)
Tusla, Child and Family Agency	Michelle Ni Thiarnain (Senior Manager, PPFs) ¹
Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim Education Training Board	Trevor Sweetman (Youth Officer)
An Garda Síochána	Paul Kilcoyne (Inspector)
Irish Primary Principals' Network	Jean McGowan (Principal) ²
National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals	Paul Byrne (Deputy Principal)
Sligo County Childcare Committee	Sharon Boles (Manager)
Leitrim County Childcare Committee	Tommy Lavelle (Manager)
Leitrim Development Company	Donal Fox (CEO)
Sligo Leader Partnership Co Ltd	Chris Gonley (CEO)
Sligo County Council	Dorothy Clarke (Director of Services)
Tusla, Child and Family Agency	Aedamar Keenan (Coordinator CFSN)
Educational Welfare Services, Tusla	Fionnuala MacAonghusa (Senior Officer) ³
Probation Service	Anne Duke (Senior Probation Officer) ⁴
Family Resource Centres Representative	Elizabeth King (Manager Sligo FRC) ⁵
Voluntary Network for Sligo/ Leitrim	Claire Gavigan (Regional Manager Foroige)
Voluntary Network for Sligo/ Leitrim	Tricia Mc Laughlin (Regional Manager Lifestart) ⁶
Sligo Institute of Technology	Dr Breda McTaggart (Head of Department, Social Sciences)
Sligo Education Centre	Mary Hough (Director)
Leitrim Education Centre	Catherine Martin (Director)

¹ Formerly Des Keaney (retired October 2015)

² Jean McGowan (resigned; post is currently being filled, February 2017)

³ Fionnuala Mac Aonghusa (resigned; post is currently being filled, February 2017)

⁴ Formerly Maeve Brett

⁵ Formerly Conor Fitzgerald (Manager)

⁶ Formerly Paula Gorman (deceased; Manager, Springboard Resource House Project)

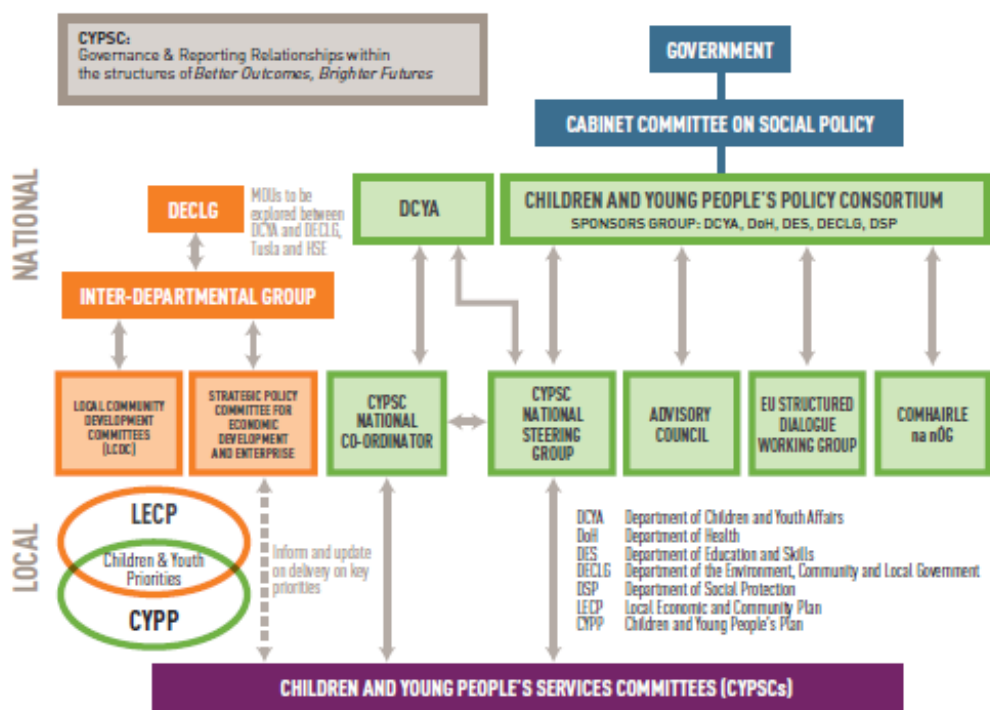
Achievements since 2014 to date

Since its establishment in mid-2014, Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC has achieved the following:

- Establishment of the CYPSC structure and associated working groups
- Continuing commitment of member organisations to progress the work of the CYPSC in the context of increasing demands, reduced resources & changing environment
- Strengthening of inter-agency relationships among member organisations
- Enhanced understanding among member organisations of the role and value of the CYPSC
- Development of the CYPSC as a forum for highlighting the needs, issues, gaps and successes in terms of service provision for children and families in counties Sligo and Leitrim
- Development of a collaborative working relationship with the Sligo Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative
- Development of the www.sligoleitrimdirectory.ie website, an online directory of services for children, young people and families in Sligo and Leitrim including information on health, mental health, education, disability, youth, childcare and other services
- Securing seed funding from the DCYA towards gathering further information and identification of gaps in services, with particular emphasis in South Leitrim
- Expansion of the Home Youth Liaison Service to four post-primary schools in Co Leitrim, funded by Tusla the Child and Family Agency
- Identification by Tusla of Sligo/ Leitrim as a Pilot Commissioning Area and development of a draft Market Position Statement
- Establishment of a Child and Family Support Network (CFSN) in two of three Sligo/Leitrim areas
- Accessing of Seed Funding Grant from Tusla to develop an App for parents' participation
- Securing of Seed Funding from Tusla to develop a participation lab for children and young people
- Submission of a business plan to HSE Health and Wellbeing for the Triple P Parenting Programme
- Securing of funding for the training of 4 participants to attend Parents Plus training
- Securing seed funding from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs for the following:
 - Publication of the first Children and Young People's Plan for Sligo/ Leitrim
 - Safeguarding Event to prioritise safeguarding of children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim
 - Participant training for the Parents Plus Parenting Programme
- Provision of a Mental Health Decider Programme for front-line staff working with children in the area of mental health
- Develop a management system to interface with current systems and to support planning and measurement of outcomes

Governance and Accountability

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) provides strategic and policy direction toward the development of CYPSCs. As the CYPSCs form an integral part of the new structures provided for in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*, they will be accountable to the CYPSC National Steering Group and the DCYA, and in turn to the Children and Young People’s Policy Consortium. The national governance and reporting relationships of CYPSC are described below.



How the Children and Young People’s Plan Was Developed

The CYP, developed in line with the template provided by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, brings together evidence and information from a range of sources including socio-demographic statistics and service mapping. In developing this Plan, Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC carried out an audit of services available to children, young people and families in the Sligo/ Leitrim region, as well as a needs analysis, during the period 2015-2016. This provided the CYPSC the opportunity to identify and map local statutory, community and voluntary services available to the target groups. This research, combined with learning from a range of inter-agency groups, consultations with the CYPSC and its various working groups, and the professional observations of management and frontline staff, helped to inform the planning process. The Planning Working Group coordinated the development of the CYP in collaboration with CRISP, IT Sligo’s Centre for Research in the Social Professions, who assisted in preparing the first draft of the Plan. Following a review workshop conducted with the CYPSC, and the revising of the draft by the Planning Working Group in association with other working groups, the final version was approved by the CYPSC in February 2017.

Methodology for the Plan

The methodology for the Plan, which included a review of statistics, service mapping and stakeholder feedback is described in detail below.

The Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC first met in 2014, with senior managers, directors and chief executive officers from the main statutory providers of services to children, young people and families in the area and decision makers from non-statutory bodies invited to participate in line with the DCYA blueprint outlining the establishment of CYPSCs. Once a terms of reference was drawn up by the Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC the need to develop working/task groups was viewed as the next step for the CYPSC along with the need to develop the 3 year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for the two counties.

A Planning Working Group was established to assist with the development of the CYPP, membership of which was drawn from the CYPSC or nominated by the respective senior managers on CYPSC to assist in developing the CYPP.

Alongside the development on the CYPP, it was agreed to arrange a meeting with CRiSP, the Centre for Research in the Social Professions at Sligo IT, to discuss what assistance this body might be willing to provide with the collection of data, research and evaluations to the CYPSC. CRiSP offered to collate data provided; create an audit of services; review evaluations; collate the priority areas, gaps and needs highlighted by the statutory and community and voluntary organisations in the two counties. This process was provided without cost to the CYPSC and continued throughout the summer and early autumn of 2015.

Members of the Planning Working Group agreed to discuss priority areas of need and gaps with the organisations they represented, and a similar request was made to the members of the subsequent CYPSC working groups established (Parenting Support Working Group; Early Years Working Group; Education/School Age Working Group; LAP/Meitheal Working Group; Safeguarding Children and Young People Working Group). Further evaluations, research or relevant information was requested through the members of CYPSC from organisations both statutory and community and voluntary in both counties. A sample of the methodology involved in responding to this request includes the following:

1. Input/commentary from Comhairle na nÓg in both counties was through their respective AGMs. The Coordinator was invited to attend the strategic committees for both Sligo and Leitrim Comhairle na nÓg.
2. Sections within the draft plan were brought to the various working groups for continuous review and commentary.
3. The HSE representative on the Planning Working Group conducted a survey within the HSE in Sligo and Leitrim which provided an overview of services for children and families; requested that senior managers would identify what needs families were presenting to the organisation and to identify gaps in service provision and delivery

In December 2015 the first draft CYPP for Sligo/ Leitrim was circulated to all members of CYPSC for consideration and, in February 2016, the draft plan for Sligo/ Leitrim was forwarded to the National Coordinator for consideration. In April 2016, the National Coordinator provided informal commentary of the draft CYPP.

A facilitated session for the CYPSC members was subsequently arranged with an external facilitator which considered the commentary provided by the National Coordinator; looked at key areas and the emerging needs and gaps in service provision in Sligo and Leitrim and identified that more up to date data was required. Arising from this session, a small sub group was formed from within the Planning Working Group, along with a member of the CYPSC and the Coordinator, to gather up-to-date statistics on services and gaps in services as it was recognised that the results of the 2016 Census would not be available from the CSO until early 2017.

Regular consultation and facilitated sessions have since been held throughout 2016, led by the sub group and the coordinator. These have enabled the identification of actions, needs and gaps in service provision, the identification of lead organisations, links to other plans and mapping of services throughout the two counties.

The final draft was reviewed and signed off by the CYPSC in early 2017 and submitted to the DCYA for consideration.

SECTION 2: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF SLIGO/LEITRIM

This section presents an overview of socio-demographic information for Sligo and Leitrim under a number of headings. Sources include CSO 2011 and 2016; Vital Statistics 2014; The State of the Nation’s Children, Ireland (SONC) 2014; Sligo LCDC Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2015; Leitrim LCDC Local Economic & Community Plan 2015; Pobal 2013 and HSE 2016.

Population Demographics

General Profile

In 2016, the population of County Sligo was 65,357 representing a relatively low population density of 36 persons/km² as compared to the national average of 66 persons/km². Sligo City is the most significant urban settlement in the County with 30% of the population living in the Sligo urban area and its environs in 2011. According to the Sligo LECP, between 2006 and 2011 ‘significant growth occurred in areas such as Coolaney, Ballygawley, Ballintogher and Carney, whilst the populations of Sligo City, Mullaghmore and Rosses Point have reduced.’⁷

According to the CSO, in 2011 Leitrim was the most rural county in the country with a population density of 20 persons per km² as almost 90% of the population were reported as living in rural areas, a situation that remains unchanged. The 2011 population of Leitrim, following a period of growth, stood at 31,798 and this figure has increased by 174, to 31,972, according to Census 2016 reports. Most of this growth is urban-based with increases reported in areas including Dromod (+106%), Leitrim Village (+88%), Dromahair (+49%), Kinlough (+47%), Drumshanbo (+29%), Carrick on Shannon (+28%), Carrigallen (+27%), Manorhamilton (+15%) and Ballinamore (+10%). The combined 2016 population of the Sligo/Leitrim region is 97,329, representing 2.05% of the national population.

Table 1: General Population⁸

County	2011 Persons	2016 Persons	2016 Male	2016 Female	Change in population, 2011-2016	% of national population (2016)	Population density (persons per sq. km)
Sligo	65,393	65,357	32,304	33,053	-36 (-0.1%)	1.37%	36
Leitrim	31,798	31,972	16,032	15,940	174 (0.5%)	0.67%	20
Combined	97,191	97,329	48,336	48,993	138 (-0.3%)	2.05%	
National	4,588,252	4,757,976	2,352,240	2,405,736	169,724 (3.7%)	100%	66

As indicated by the table above, most counties in Ireland experienced a level of population growth between 2011 and 2016. However, three counties experienced decline, Sligo being one of those albeit with a

⁷ Sligo County Council, Local Economic and Community Plan (2015)

⁸ CSO (2011)

marginal decrease of -0.1%. Three other counties grew by less than 1%, including Leitrim which grew by just 0.55%.

Table 2: Age Profile of Population⁹

Age range	Sligo	% of county population	Leitrim	% of county population	Combined population
0-24	21,802	33.3%	10,133	31.9%	31,935
0-4	4,594	7%	2,456	7.2%	7,050
5-9	4,196	6.4%	2,294	6.7%	6,490
10-14	4,319	6.6%	2,129	5.6%	6,448
15-19	4,379	6.7%	1,778	4.6%	6,157
20-24	4,314	6.6%	1,476	7.2%	5,790

As shown above, in 2011 there were 21,802 children, young people and young adults 0-24 years living in Sligo. The County had a lower proportion of 0-14 year olds (20.0%) than the national average (21.3%), and a higher proportion of 15-24 year olds (13.3%) compared to the national average of 12.6%.¹⁰ There were 10,133 children and young people aged 0-24 years recorded in the 2011 census as living in Leitrim of which 23% were aged 14 years or younger, compared with the national average of 21%. The 2011 Census also showed that, at 57.3%, County Leitrim had the nation's highest *dependency ratio* (i.e. persons aged 0-14 and those 65 and over, as a percentage of the number of persons aged 15-64) compared to a national rate of 49.3%. County Sligo, with a dependency ratio of 51.2%, ranked 22nd out of 34 local authority areas in the country in 2011.

Table 3: Births by County¹¹

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Babies born:			
2011	927	461	74,033
2015	808	414	65,909
% of births in state:			
2011	1.25%	0.62%	-
2015	1.23%	0.63%	-

Table 4: Infant and neonatal mortality¹²

Category	Sligo 2010	Sligo 2011	Leitrim 2010	Leitrim 2011	State 2010	State 2011
No. of infant mortalities	0	6	6	4		
No. of neonatal mortalities	1	4	0	4		
Rate of infant mortality per 1,000 live births		6.5	12.4	8.6	3.8	3.5
Rate of neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births		4.3	0	8.6		2.5

⁹ CSO (2011)

¹⁰ Sligo County Council Local Economic and Community Plan (2015)

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² CSO (2011)

Table 5: Age profile of mothers at time of child's birth¹³

Age range	Sligo 2015	Leitrim 2015
0-16 years	1	0
17-19 years	13	6
20-24 years	71	30
25-39 years	712	382
40+ years	64	34

The table above indicates the age of mothers giving birth in 2015 (discrepancies between figures in Tables 3 and 5 can be accounted for by the movement of families in and out of the two counties).

Table 6: Traveller population¹⁴

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
No. of Traveller children (under 18 years) in 2016	237	113	14,245 in 2011
Rate per 1,000 children (2011)	15.4	17.3	12.4
Traveller population (all) rate per 1,000 of population (2011)	6.5 (13 th highest in state)	8.3 (7 th highest in state)	6.4
Traveller population (all) percentage of population in county (2011)	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%

Table 7: New communities (Reception & Integration Agency¹⁵)

	Sligo	Leitrim	State
No. of foreign national children (2011)	1,110	750	93,005
Rate per 1,000 of population (2011)	77.2	94.5	82.5
No. of asylum seeker children, 0-17 years (2011)	44	<i>No direct provision centre in Leitrim</i>	1,771

In County Sligo, 7,922 people (1 of 8 people, i.e. 12% of the population) are members of ethnic minority groups and 0.30% of the County's population are asylum seeker children, a percentage which is higher than the national mean of 0.12%. This can be accounted for by the location of Globe House, a Direct Provision Centre, in Sligo town. In Leitrim, there has been significant inward migration in recent periods particularly from the UK and Poland.

¹³ HSE, Personal Health Record System (2016) (email correspondence)

¹⁴ HSE, Designated PHN for Travellers, (2016)

¹⁵ RIA / SONC (2014)

Table 8: Direct Provision Numbers (2016)

Location	Adults in residence	Minors in residence	Total
Globe House (Sligo)	148	31	179

As presented in the table below, there were 179 persons living in Globe House in Sligo in 2016, of which 31 were then minors. As the 2016 Census reports 65,357 persons live in Sligo, almost .3% of the County's population at that time were classed as Asylum Seekers.

Family Structure

Table 9: Families and households

Category	Sligo	Leitrim
Children born outside of marriage: ¹⁶		
2011	318	122
2015	286	127
Children (under 18 years) living in Lone Parent households in 2011 ¹⁷	2,380	988
No. of households with children in need of social housing in 2011 ¹⁸ (State: 43,578)	294	110

Table 10: Social Housing and Lone Parent Households

Category	Sligo	Leitrim
Families with dependent children approved for social housing support/ transfer to alternative forms of social housing support ¹⁹	162	406
Lone Parent households in 2016	N/A	78
Children living in Lone Parent households in 2016	N/A	122

¹⁶ CSO (2011)

¹⁷ SONC (2014)

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Leitrim County Council and Sligo County Council, 2016

Children with Disabilities

In 2011, the rate of children with disabilities living in Sligo was 59 per 1,000 children in the county and in Leitrim the rate was 56 per 1,000. These figures compared with a national rate of 58 per 1,000 children (rounded).²⁰

Table 11: Children with disabilities²¹

Category	Sligo		Leitrim		Combined	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
Total number of children with a disability, aged 0-18 years	346	432	171	212	517	644
No. of children engaged in EIT (Early Intervention Team), aged 0-6 years:						
No. of children engaged with SAT (School Aged Team), aged 6-18	110	135	52	67	162	202
Children aged 0-6 years (engaged with EIT):						
Intellectual disability	78	95	35	49	113	144
Physical & sensory disability	20	16	15	10	35	26
ASD (Autism Spectrum disorder)	12	24	2	8	14	32
Children aged 6-18 years (engaged with SAT):						
Intellectual disability	110	113	61	42	171	155
Physical & sensory disability	24	33	24	25	48	58
ASD (Autism Spectrum disorder)	102	151	34	78	136	229

The increase in the numbers of children with ASD between 2011 and 2016 may be partially explained by the increase in both population and diagnosis of children eligible for Early Intervention Team and School Age Team services. Furthermore, the Autism Service is now accepting diagnoses from private assessments, whereas historically this was only accepted from the local CAMHS team.

Education

An Institute of Public Health in Ireland literature review outlined that higher parental education levels can positively influence child and family health related behaviours. This includes positive impact on health diet, likelihood of adolescents using illegal drugs and children's health care.²² In 2011, the mothers of 583 children in County Sligo had either no formal education or primary education only. In addition, 1,523

²⁰ SONC (2014)

²¹ HSE, Community Facilitators for Disability (2016) (email correspondence)

²² Health Impacts of Education: A review, Institute of Public Health in Ireland (2008)

children had mothers who attended lower secondary school only, 5,522 mothers who attended upper secondary school, and 5,653 children whose mothers attended third level education. No data is currently available in relation to male parents.²³ In County Leitrim in 2011 a total of 269 children lived in families where the mother had either no formal education or primary education only.

Table 12: Early Childhood Care and Education, 2016 - 2017

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	Total
Total number attending	1,947	921	2,868
No. of children availing of ECCE free pre-school	995	420	1415
No. of services	68	33	101

Table 13: School population, attendance, and retention

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Primary school (5-12 years): ²⁴			
2010-2011	6,795	3,602	509,652
2015-2016	7,387	3,654	545,310
Post-Primary (12-18 years):			
2010-2011	5,099	2,333	357,459
2015-2016	5,483	2,608	379,160
Absenteeism rates (20 days or more): ²⁵			
Primary schools:			
2011-2012	8.7%	10.9%	10.4%
2012-2013	9.8%	8.8%	10.9%
Post-Primary schools:			
2011-2012	20.1%	14.9%	17.7%
2012-2013	21.3%	14.2%	17.1%
Retention rate to Leaving Certificate (of 2006 entry cohort) ²⁶	93.04%	91.4%	90.22%
% of population aged 15+ whose education ceased before the age of 15 years ²⁷	10.1%	12.5%	11.1%
Rate of Special Needs pupils in mainstream schools, 2013 / 2014	6.0	0.8	6.5

As shown in the table above, recent retention rates to Leaving Certificate level are higher for both Counties when compared to the national level, however the absentee level for primary school students in Leitrim, and for post-primary school children in Sligo, is higher than the State average. More notably, the percentage of the local population aged 15+ whose education ceased before the age of 15 is higher in County Leitrim (12.5%) than in Sligo (10.1%), and nationally (11.1%).

²³ SONC (2014)

²⁴ Dept. of Education and Skills (2016), accessed 28/06/16

²⁵ Tús, Annual Attendance Report (2016)

²⁶ Dept. of Education and Skills (2016), accessed 28/06/16

²⁷ SONC, 2011

Health and Wellbeing Indicators

The height and weight of Junior Infants students is measured by HSE school public health nurses. Using Body Mass Index and centile calculations, these measurements can be expressed as percentage of all children of similar age. The data displayed below shows that almost 1 in 5 Junior Infants students in the region is considered to be outside of the recognised healthy range for growth, with 6.5% of the children being obese or severely obese.

Table 14: Growth Measurement Junior Infants – School Year 2014-2015²⁸

No. of children	Total number children measured	Very thin	Low BMI	Healthy Weight (9 th – 75 th Centile)	Overweight	Obese	Severely Obese
Sligo	913	11	6	738	93	40	25
Leitrim	441	13	2	355	44	15	8
Sligo & Leitrim Combined	1,354	24	8	1,093	137	55	33
As % of all children measured	100%	1.8%	0.6%	80.7%	10.1%	4.1%	2.4%

Table 15: Percentage uptake of immunisation²⁹

The table below provides information regarding the overall uptake of immunisation by children in the region, which is comparable to the national target.

Immunisation	Sligo / Leitrim	National target
3 rd 6-in-1 at 12 months of age	94%	95%
MMR	95%	95%
4-in-1 School Booster	94.1%	95%

Maintaining high levels of immunisation uptake requires significant ongoing effort by all involved. There is potential within the relevant CYPSC working groups to work in partnership in encouraging parents to ensure that their children receive the complete immunisation schedule.

Table 16: Breastfeeding rates 2015

Details	State 2015	Sligo/ Leitrim 2016	National Target 2016	State 2016	Sligo/ Leitrim 2016
% of babies breastfed at first PHN visit*	53.6%	50.6%	56%	56.8%	50.4%
% of babies breastfed at 3-month PHN visit	35.4%	27.9%	38%	38.8%	28.6%

* This is the first visit of the public health nurse to the mother and new baby - it usually takes place within 72hrs of discharge from midwifery care

²⁸ HSE, Child Health Development Officer (by email correspondence), November 2016

²⁹ HSE, Child Health Development Officer (by email correspondence), November 2016

There is clear published evidence in scientific literature highlighting the benefits of breastfeeding for children. There is a continuing need to encourage and support mothers to breastfeed their babies and for the CYPSC process to work with agencies in ‘normalising’ and promoting breastfeeding as ‘best for mum and baby’. While breastfeeding at time of first contact by Public Health Nurses is higher in the region (49.5%) than nationally, there is a significant drop-off in breastfeeding levels by the time the baby is 3 – 4 months of age. Mothers need to be encouraged and supported in continuing to breastfeed their babies and it is essential that the relevant CYPSC working groups collaborate in addressing this problem.

Table 17: Other health and wellbeing indicators

The following table presents health and wellbeing indicators for the region, compared to national findings. In relation to children and young people walking or cycling to school, the region lags considerably behind the national average of almost 26% for those age 5-18 years.

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
% of children / adolescents walking or cycling to school:			
5-12 years	16%	15.1%	25.8%
13-18 years	16.1%	15%	25.5%
Youth mental health³⁰Percentage self-reporting personal stressors of:	Sligo / Leitrim		
Lack of self-confidence / confidence in own abilities:			
12-18 years		26.1%	
18-25 years		37.1%	
Body image			
12-18 years		38.8%	
18-25 years		53.6%	
Exams			
12-18 years		33.6%	
18-25 years		49.3%	
No. of 10-17 year olds presenting at hospital Emergency Department following deliberate self-harm, 2008-2013³¹	HSE West region		State
	194		986
Hospital-treated episodes of deliberate self-harm in Sligo General Hospital, 2013³²	Male		Female
Under 15 years	<5		5
15-19 years	7		22
20-24 years	12		16

30 Sligo Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative, Mind Your Head: Study of Youth Mental Health (2014)

31 SONC (2014)

32 National Registry of Deliberate Self-Harm Ireland, Annual Report (2013)

Child Protection, Child Welfare, Children in Care

The table below provides information regarding the number of child protection and welfare referrals to Tusla received in the region (including West County Cavan) in the period 2014-2016 (partial), and those requiring Initial Assessment.

Table 18: Child Protection and Welfare Referrals to Tusla

Category	Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan								
	2014			2015			2016 (first quarter only)		
	Child Protection	Child Welfare	Total	Child Protection	Child Welfare	Total	Child Protection	Child Welfare	Total
Total number of referrals received during reporting period ³³	453	651	1,104	313	736	1,049	70	102	172
No. of referrals received requiring an Initial Assessment following a Preliminary Enquiry (national Intake Form)	141 (31%)	122 (19%)	263 (24%)	111 (35%)	135 (18%)	246 (23%)	30 (43%)	11 (11%)	41 (24%)

Table 19: Children in Care

	Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan		
	As of 31/12/14	As of 31/12/15	As of 30/06/16
No. of children in Tusla care: ³⁴			
Total	90	110	105
Residential Care	9	6	7
Foster Care General	64	84	76
Foster Care Relative	16	19	19
Other	1	1	3

The population of the Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan region in 2011 was 23,862, of which 70 children were in care which represents 1.1% of all children in care in Ireland at that time. However, based on the above data, in 2015 there were 110 children in care in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan accounting for 1.7% of children in care in at that time.

³³ Tusla Performance Measurement Report Monthly Returns: Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan

³⁴ Ibid.

Meitheal in Sligo / Leitrim

Table 20: Information on Meitheal in Sligo / Leitrim³⁵

	2015 (full year)	2016 (Jan-June)	Note
Referrals / requested	29	24	'Referrals / requested' reflects referrals / requests for Meitheals from all agencies, including notifications for potential Meitheals from Tusla Social Work
Open	38	51	'Open' reflects Meitheals that are active, i.e. progressed to delivery stage with meetings set up and held. Includes some ongoing Meitheals initiated in previous years.
Closed	24	22	'Closed' reflects the number of processes closed within the period.

Meitheal is a national practice model that enables the needs and strengths of children and their families to be properly identified and understood.

Children as Carers

Young Carers are children or young people whose life is affected in a significant way by the need to provide care for a family or household member who has an illness, disability, addiction or another care requirement. Census 2011 identified 4,228 children aged less than 15 years who were engaged in providing care to others, accounting for 2.3% of all carers nationally. In total, the Census reported 14,205 Young Carers in Ireland aged under 24 years (**103** in Sligo), but this may mask the reality of the prevalence of Young Carers as a study undertaken by Dr. Saul Becker, a leading international specialist on Young Carers, estimates that Ireland could have as many as 28,000 Young Carers aged under 18 years, and 52,700 aged under 25 years. A more recent study commissioned by the Department of Health published in 2016 shows that 11.9% of 10-17 year olds surveyed (n= 11,870) stated that they provide regular unpaid personal help for a family member with a long-term illness³⁶, health problem or disability. If extrapolated out to the population of County Sligo, it can be suggested that approximately **1,189** young people in the 10-17 year's age group could care for a family member.

³⁵ Source: Meitheal office, Sligo Social Service Council Ltd., October 2016

³⁶ Callaghan, M. and Keane, M. (2016) HBSC Ireland: Young Carers in the 2014 HBSC study. National University of Ireland, Galway: HBSC Ireland, Health Promotion Research Centre

Young People's Involvement in Crime

The following table presents regional data relating to Probation Service referrals for young people under 18 years of age during 2014 and 2015.

Table 21: Referrals to Probation Service in Sligo / Leitrim³⁷

	No. of young people under 18 years of age referred from Circuit Court	No. of young people under 18 years of age referred from District Court
2014	2 (both male)	6 (5 male / 1 female)
2015	0	5 (all male)

Table 22: Youth Crime Statistics for Sligo/ Leitrim Garda Division³⁸

Category	2014	2015
Drug & Alcohol related offences in Sligo & Leitrim	285	307
Crimes committed by children and young people Aged between 12 and 17 years in Sligo and Leitrim	16 drug related 29 alcohol related	17 alcohol related 21 alcohol related
Total number of referrals	283	282

Young people involved in YAPS (Garda Diversion Project)

Table 23: Young people involved in YAPS³⁹

Category	Sligo		Leitrim		Combined	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Number of young people involved in YAPS	41	41	N/A	4	41	45

³⁷The Probation Service, Probation Officer (by email correspondence), November 2016

³⁸Source: By email: Sligo Divisional Office (by email correspondence), December 2016

³⁹YAPS project, North Connaught Youth and Community Service Ltd., October 2016

Deprivation Indices

The Pobal HP Deprivation Index (Haase and Pratschke, 2012) is a method of measuring the relative affluence or disadvantage of a particular geographical area using data compiled from various censuses. A scoring is given to the area based on a national average of zero and ranging from approximately -35 (being the most disadvantaged) to +35 (being the most affluent). In addition to this, percentage data for the area is given under the following categories:

- Population Change
- Age Dependency Ratio
- Lone Parent Ratio
- Primary Education Only
- Third Level Education
- Unemployment Rate (male and female)
- Proportion living in Local Authority Rented Housing

The relative index scoring and the above percentage data focuses particularly on the previous two censuses, enabling easy comparison of data between 2006 and 2011. This index is of particular significance given the economic changes that have occurred nationally during this period. The change in the index scoring and in each measured category is also calculated, meaning that to a national, regional, and local level the increase or decrease can be easily viewed. The Pobal HP Deprivation Index reports that, in 2011, Sligo is the 12th most affluent local authority area in Ireland and Leitrim is the 12th most disadvantaged local authority area (out of 34 areas).

Table 24: Pobal HP Deprivation indices

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Pobal HP Index 2011	-0.17	-2.57	
Pobal HP Description 2011	Marginally below average	Marginally below average	
Lone parent ratio 2011 (%)	20.03	16.18	
Primary education only 2011 (%)	16.55	18.49	
Third level education 2011 (%)	29.97	26.34	
Unemployment rate - male 2011 (%)	22.3	24.93	
Unemployment rate - female 2011 (%)	13.12	14.32	
Total number on Live Register (June 2016) ⁴⁰	4,342	2,571	307,059 (May 2016)
% receiving Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance (SONC, 2014)	12.6	15.6	14.5

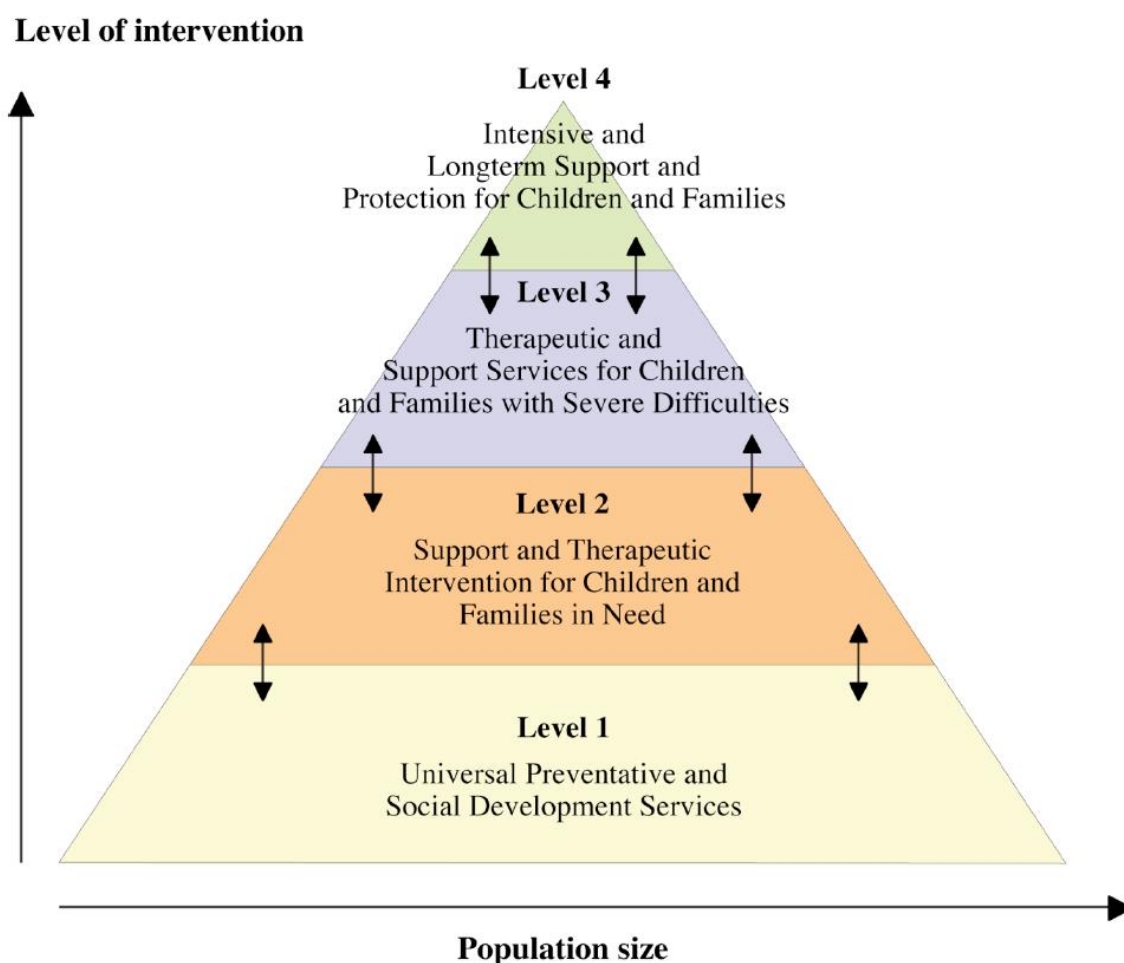
⁴⁰ CSO, June 2016. (Note: The Live Register is not designed to register unemployment. It includes part-time workers (those who work up to three days per week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Jobseekers Benefit or Jobseekers Allowance.)

SECTION 3: OVERVIEW OF SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN SLIGO/LEITRIM

Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC undertook an audit of services available to children, young people and families along with a needs analysis during 2015 and 2016. This provided an opportunity for the working groups to map currently available statutory, community and voluntary organisation services targeting children, young people and families in the Sligo/ Leitrim region.

The mapping exercise identified gaps in service delivery and a requirement for further analysis of the needs of children, young people and families in South/ Leitrim, which is currently being conducted among Early Years Services and services to young people.

The services have been further categorised into the relevant Hardiker Level, as per the Hardiker Model below.



Source: Hardiker et al, 1991

Overview of services

The list of services below provides an overview of the main service providers working with Children, Young People & Families in the Sligo/Leitrim area and the level of service provision on the Hardiker model.

Organisation/ Agency	Service	Statutory/ Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both	Hardiker Level
Community & Voluntary Funded Organisations	A detailed list of community & voluntary funded organisations in Sligo and Leitrim is provided on the Sligoleitrimdirectory.ie website.	Community and Voluntary	Universal & Targeted	1-3
Disability Support Services	Enable Ireland National Learning Network National Council Blind of Ireland Rehab Deaf Hear.ie, Sligo Hard of Hearing Group	Community	Universal	1-2
Domestic & Gender Based Violence	Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS) Sligo Rape Crisis and Sexual Abuse Service	Voluntary	Targeted	2-3
Drugs and Alcohol	HSE Alcohol and Substance Misuse Services North West Regional Drugs & Alcohol Task Force funds 16 projects Drugs Outreach Projects x 1 in Sligo town and its environs Foróige Youth Drug and Alcohol Worker x 2 Holistic Services x 1	Community	Targeted	2-4
Early Childcare Services	Childcare Committee x 2 Sligo and Leitrim Childcare Providers (total) 98 53 Private services 45 Community services 31 parent & toddler groups	Community and Private	Universal & Targeted	1 – 3
Education	Primary Schools, 68 Sligo (4 DEIS) Secondary Schools 12 Sligo 40 Primary Schools Leitrim (9 DEIS) 7 Secondary Leitrim Special Schools – 1, Sligo National Education Psychology Service (NEPS), Sligo/ Leitrim Sligo Institute of Technology St Angela’s College, NUIG Education Welfare Service 1.5 EWOs Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board School Completion Project x 2 YouthReach 1 Sligo	Statutory	Universal & Targeted	1-3
Family Resource Centres (FRCs)	FRCs x 6, Sligo Town, Ballymote, Tubbercurry, West Sligo, Mohill and Carrick on Shannon	Community	Universal & Targeted	1-3

Organisation/ Agency	Service	Statutory/ Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both	Hardiker Level
Family Support Services	Lifestart Sligo Leitrim Springboard Resource House Project Sligo Social Service Council Ltd	Community and Voluntary	Universal & Targeted	1-3
HSE Community Services & Primary Care Teams(PCT) 10 PCT in Sligo/Leitrim	Main Health Centres x 3 PHN, GP, Occupational Therapy Physiotherapy, Speech & Language Therapy, Child Psychology Early Intervention Team (Disability) Audiology, Immunisations, Dental and Orthodontic service, Ophthalmology, Health Promotion, Community Medicine, Dietetics	Statutory	Universal & Targeted	1-4
HSE Mental Health	CAMHS Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services Self-Harm Clinical Care Programme (3 Nurses based in Sligo University Hospital Emergency Department) Suicide Bereavement Liaison Officer 1	Statutory Statutory Statutory	Targeted Targeted Targeted	2-4 2-4 2-4
Community Mental Health	GROW AWARE STOP Suicide Leitrim Rennafix, Mental Health Promotion Rainbows Programme for children and teenagers	Voluntary	Universal and Targeted	1 – 4
HSE Social Inclusion	Homeless services Traveller Health Project Intercultural Development Worker (Sligo FRC)	Statutory Also funds Voluntary Organisations	Universal & Targeted	1-3
HSE Substance Misuse	Counselling Service for adults and young people and those affected by family members with alcohol and substance misuse problems HSE funds community and voluntary services	Statutory Voluntary	Targeted Universal & targeted	2-4 1 – 2
Local Authorities	Housing Libraries: 4 (Sligo) 9 (Leitrim) Park/Amenity Area, Co. Sligo - 12 Park/Amenity Area, Co Leitrim - 28 Sports and Recreation Partnership, 1 in Sligo, 1 in Leitrim Sports Centres 2 in Sligo, 3 in Leitrim Comhairle na nÓg, 1 in Sligo, 1 in Leitrim	Statutory	Universal & Targeted	1-2

Organisation/ Agency	Service	Statutory/ Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both	Hardiker Level
New Communities and Cultural and Ethnic Groups	Globe House Direct Provision Centre	Private	Universal	1-2
	Globe House Early Years' Service	Community	Universal	
	Sligo Intercultural Forum	Community	Universal	
	Diversity Sligo	Community	Universal	
	International Cultural Group, Carrick on Shannon	Community	Universal	
Policing and Justice	Gardai	Statutory	Universal	1 – 4
	Community Garda (JLO)	Statutory	Targeted	2 – 3
	Garda Youth Diversion Projects x 1 (YAPS)	Community		
	Probation Services	Community		
		Statutory		
Services to support Youth Mental Health	Psychology	Statutory	Targeted	2-4
	CAMHS	Statutory		
	NEPS	Statutory		
	Suicide Resource Office	Statutory		
	School Guidance Teachers	Statutory		
	Counselling – Youth Services	Statutory Voluntary		
Social Housing	Focus Ireland	Voluntary	Universal and Targeted	1-2
	Simon			
	Sophia Housing Association			
	Clúid Social Housing Association			
Transport	Local Link Sligo Leitrim (and Roscommon). Provision of sustainable rural public transport services in rural areas	Community	Universal and Targeted	1 – 2
Travellers	Sligo Traveller Support Group	Voluntary	Universal	1
	Leitrim Development Company	Voluntary	Universal	1
	Social Worker Sligo Co Council	Statutory	Universal	2-3
	HSE Designated PHN for Travellers	Statutory	Universal	1
	School Age Childcare Project	Voluntary	Universal	1
	Young Men's Programme x 1 in Sligo			
	Homework Programme x 1 in Sligo			
	Substance Misuse Worker x 1			
	Training and Development Programme (North West)			
Tusla Child and Family Agency	<u>Social Work</u>	Statutory	Targeted	3-4
	Child Protection			
	Fostering & Alternative Care			
	Aftercare services			
	<u>Family Support</u>	Statutory	Universal & Targeted	1-3
	PPFS			
Child & Family Support Networks				
Meitheal				
	Early Years Inspectorate Sligo/Leitrim	Statutory	Universal	1

Organisation/ Agency	Service	Statutory/ Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both	Hardiker Level
Youth Projects	North Connaught Youth and Community Services Foróige	Community and Voluntary	Universal & Targeted	1-3
	Volunteer-led and operated youth groups (e.g. Scouting Ireland, Foróige clubs, youth clubs, Boys Brigade, Girls Brigade, Girls' Friendly Society, Order of Malta Cadets)		Universal & Targeted	1-2
Others	Sligo LEADER Partnership SICAP	Community	Universal	1 – 2
	Leitrim Development Company SICAP	Community		1-2
	MABS Money Advice and Budgeting	Statutory		1
	St Vincent De Paul Society	Voluntary		1-4

Online Directory of Services

As previously noted, a Sligo/ Leitrim Directory of Services website (www.sligoleitrimdirectory.ie) was launched in January 2016. This provides on-line an official listing of available services for children, young people and families in Counties Sligo and Leitrim including health, mental health, education, disability, youth, childcare and other services. Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC compiled the directory in association with the Sligo Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative and the website was developed with the support of the CYPSC statutory and voluntary agencies. It is operated and maintained by North Connaught Youth and Community Service.

SECTION 4: LOCAL NEEDS ANALYSIS IN SLIGO/LEITRIM

Introduction

In the development of the local needs analysis, the CYPSC brought together the evidence and key information from a range of sources. Section 2 of this Plan, the Socio-demographic Profile, highlights factors, some of which may reflect an existing need and some which have the potential to contribute to the creation of areas of need in services to children in Sligo and Leitrim. Section 1 provides an overview of the **Methodology** involved in the preparation of this plan, which includes:

- (a) Comprehensive service mapping - showing the gaps in services for children and young people and also identifying duplication of some services
- (b) Review of needs analysis and research conducted by the CYPSC agencies – further highlighting and confirming the needs in both counties
- (c) Feedback from children and young people through formal research/evaluations and informal channels – this ensures that the voice of children and young people is reflected in the needs analysis; however, it is not comprehensive and further consultation with children and young people is included as an Action within the CYPP
- (d) Consultation with key managers and staff through surveys and the work of the various working groups – this ensures that account is taken of experience on the ground, documented staff practice and internal organisation information on service gaps, needs and priorities.

The Planning Working Group collated and mapped the information using the Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures' five Outcomes for Children and Young People and the six Transformational Goals, as overarching themes. There was a high level of consistency and consensus in the gaps, needs and issues identified across the range of sources; suggesting that the needs analysis adequately reflects children and young people's services in Counties Sligo and Leitrim.

All of the key areas described on the subsequent pages have been based upon the needs analysis arising from the demographic information and feedback from the wider methodology.

Outcome 1 Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

The following sections refer to the key areas of need identified in the comprehensive local needs analysis of Sligo/ Leitrim; relevant to Outcome 1 of Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures.

Breastfeeding

Sligo has one of the lowest breastfeeding rates of (33.1%). National (46.6%). The 2015 breastfeeding rates for Sligo/ Leitrim at the time of the first PHN visit after birth and when the baby is 3 months old are well below the national target and also below the national rates. Analysis of research indicates that the effects of breastfeeding children for longer periods include protection against child infection and the occurrence of dental malocclusions, and higher intelligence when compared to those breastfed for shorter periods or not at all. This inequality persists past childhood and it is probable that breastfeeding also protects against being overweight and developing diabetes later in life (Victora et al, 2016). Improvement in breastfeeding rates is set out as a key action in Healthy Ireland and at HSE national, CHO1 and in the Sligo/Leitrim operational service plan. ***Activities to be implemented to meet this need include an increase in the promotion of breastfeeding, the promotion of the continuation of breastfeeding and improved support for the early identification and management of breastfeeding difficulties.***

Obesity

The Government's *Healthy Ireland* and *A Healthy Weight for Ireland – Obesity Policy and Action Plan (2016 - 2025)* recommends a reduction in overweight and obesity in babies and children by promoting the healthy weaning of babies and provision of information and support to parents. In Ireland, a quarter of all 3-year olds are reported to be overweight or obese and in Sligo/ Leitrim 1 in 5 Junior Infants children is outside of the healthy range for growth, 6.5% being obese or severely obese. In addition, the region has significantly low numbers of children (15–16%) walking or cycling to school when compared with the National average (26%). Services for children in the Sligo/ Leitrim region will work together to support parents to achieve improvements in their children's health and wellbeing. ***Activities that have been identified to meet this need include the promotion of healthy weaning of babies, improving breastfeeding rates and supporting parents in the Traveller Community.***

Prevention and Early Intervention

In relation to services for children 18-24 months, ***there is an identified need for a comprehensive assessment of children to be carried out at the key developmental age of 18-24 months, in partnership with parents. Children will be referred, if required, to specialist services prior to entering the preschool services.***

Child and Youth Mental Health

A study of Youth Mental Health in Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan was carried out in 2014 by researchers in St Angela's College of Education. Entitled, *Mind Your Head*, the study was conducted on behalf of the Sligo/ Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative (YMHI, 2014) and over 1,000 participants were consulted. In their business plan, the YMHI Steering Group proposes to provide additional and enhanced services for young people in the region to address immediate needs and to implement a longer-term strategy for supporting young people's mental health in the region. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) carried out a comprehensive review in 2014 to ensure best service provision and practice for child and young people in Sligo/Leitrim. In 2013, Foróige conducted a survey to explore the views, feelings and opinions of young people who have used the *Mindfull of Health: Youth Doctor @ the CRIB service*, operating in Sligo. A summary of findings highlighted the Mental Health and Well-Being aspect of the survey which emphasised that, overall, respondents who used the service indicated an improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem, social skills, well-being and mental health and managing their behaviours. The survey highlighted an increased likelihood by respondents to get involved with the community and try new things. In addition, it was noted that a large proportion of respondents felt that the CRIB had increased their sense of belonging within the service. ***Based on the above, and further consultations, the priority areas identified for CYPSC include the provision of a brief intervention/ brief counselling services for young people 12-25years and actions to support the reduction in waiting times for CAMHS appointments.***

Drugs and Alcohol

In line with the evidence as set out in the North West Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force Strategic Plan, CYPSC has identified the need to work collaboratively to extend existing youth and alcohol community based education and prevention programmes throughout Leitrim and Sligo.

Services for children with additional needs

Service providers in the region have identified priority actions for children with additional needs. These include providing support to ensure that all parents, care givers and children experience improved access and coordinated service provision. Parents will also be supported to fully participate in their child's care and management in the Children's Disability Service. Children and parents/care givers will also be supported to access Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). ***Activities aimed at this priority area will include promoting the use of national referral forms among all services, reducing delays in accessing Early Years Places and supporting coordinated service provision for parents and care givers.***

Outcome 2 Achieving full potential in learning and development

The following sections refer to the key areas of need identified in the local needs analysis of Sligo/ Leitrim; relevant to Outcome 2 of Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures.

Children with additional needs

The Early Years Working Group aims to secure adequate individual (one-to-one) supports for early year providers who are engaging children with additional needs to ensure their integration and that developmental needs are met. ***Based upon the needs identified during the Plan's consultation phase, CYPSC is advocating for the provision of extra places for children with additional needs in Services delivering out-of-school and school age childcare. The plan will also support the integration of planned initiatives for Universal School Aged Childcare Provision in Counties Sligo and Leitrim.***

Early Years Care and Education, and School Age

The Early Years Working Group is committed to securing better developmental outcomes for children within the 0-6 years of age cohort, and their families, through services and initiatives. The Working Group has responsibility for endeavouring to improve the lives of children, young people and families through the planning, coordination and delivery of services throughout the region. ***The Early Years Working Group, supported by both the Sligo and Leitrim County Childcare Committees, aims to increase uptake to ECCE programme under the expanded national ECCE programme in the Sligo/Leitrim region; as well as increasing the level of data collection and empirical evidence available to inform service development.***

Transitions

One of the 6 Transformational Goals in *Better Outcomes Brighter Futures* is Strengthening Transitions such as the transition from home to preschool, from preschool to primary school, and from primary to post-primary school, which are all key priorities for services in Sligo/Leitrim. The Early Years Working Group aims to monitor and develop best practice principles/practices incorporating transition periods from home to pre-school and from pre-school to primary school. There are already some very good transition programmes existing in the two counties, for example, *The Ready for School Programme* for transitioning of children from pre-school to primary school and the programmes offered through the School Completion Project and the Home Youth Liaison Project. ***As the delivery of these programmes is currently limited, the CYPSC aims to expand their delivery throughout the two Counties, and to further promote newly established programmes aiming to improve transition for children and young people to the next level of education provision and at key education transitioning times. In relation to transitions for young people with Autism Disorder, the plan will support the transition of young people on the Autistic Spectrum Disorder in their transition into adulthood throughout Sligo/ Leitrim and West Cavan. Actions will also***

be implemented to support transition from CAMHS to in-patient or adult mental health services are child-centred with good communication and pathways.

Early school leaving/absenteeism

It is well documented that low education attainment and educational inequality are key factors in the experience of social exclusion and the risk of long-term unemployment. One in five children attending Primary School in Sligo have been absent for 20 days or more during the 2012/2013 school year. Organisations that provide services to children and young people aim to reduce this level of absenteeism by schoolchildren attending primary and post-primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim in line with the national average. Tackling absenteeism in Primary School is a key priority for the Education and School Age Childcare Working Group which aims to support early school leavers in having access to targeted interventions and training with particular emphasis in rural areas throughout the region. The Working Group has identified that early school leavers (under 16 years) who experience anxiety or mental health issues, or who refuse to go to school may well benefit from programmes such as the Driving Forward programme in County Leitrim, which is supported by Leitrim Development Company. ***To that end the Group is continuing to strengthen links to such programming so as to integrate services and make available both training and supports to those young people under sixteen who are most in need of on-going support.***

Mapping of services/Identification of need

Data collection and empirical evidence to inform service development is a priority action in the CYPP, as earlier stated in the overview of services in Counties Sligo and Leitrim. ***In commencing this process, research is currently being conducted in South Leitrim by CRISP in order to provide clear evidence of service need in this specific area and Early Years and Youth sectors focus groups have been established there for this purpose.*** The analysis of this research will form the foundation for establishing additional supports to families, will ensure good inter-agency cooperation and working, and will lead to improved outcomes for children, young people and families in South Leitrim.

Parenting and Parenting Support

Providing support to parents is one of the six key Transformational Goals outlined in *Better Outcome Brighter Futures*:

‘The Government is committed to supporting parents to parent confidently and positively, and to see this as one of the primary, universal and most effective supports that the State can provide along the continuum of family support’. (BOBF, 2014).

The Parenting Support Working Group ethos is firmly embedded in national guidance and local implementation policy including *50 Key Messages, Supporting Parents to improve Outcomes for Children*,

Lifecourse and Parenting24Seven Campaign, all of which guide and inform its work. **To address this need, the CYPP will strive to ensure that parents have access to quality, universal parenting support so that their children will enjoy good health and wellbeing; as well as the CYPP supporting the increased uptake of existing evidence-informed parenting support programmes in the Sligo/Leitrim region.**

Fostering

The local offices of Tusla, the Child and Family Agency's Alternative Care Services carried out research into young people's experiences of foster and residential care in the North West of Ireland (McMahon, 2012). The research explored the social networks of a group young people who had experience of long term foster care. Findings indicated that foster care impacts on the young people's social network experience in the following ways: losing contact with extended family; greater challenges in making and sustaining friendships; an impact on education and an inability to maintain contact with groups and activities that are of significance. **The Sligo/Leitrim CYPP aims to increase the number of alternative care options for young people requiring out of home care within their local communities. It further aims to reduce the disruption for young people who enter care by maintaining them in placements within their communities.**

Outcome 3 Safe and protected from harm

The following sections refer to the key areas of need identified in the local needs analysis of Sligo/ Leitrim; relevant to Outcome 3 of Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures.

Safeguarding children and young people

One of the five National Outcomes is to keep children and young people safe and protected from harm. Established under the Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC, the Safeguarding Children and Young People Working Group aims to prioritise the key safety needs of children and young people in Sligo/ Leitrim. **The CYPSC has recommended that agencies funded by Tusla who are working with children and young people will have a safeguarding statement, Children First: Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children & Young People, and Garda vetting policies and procedures. Other actions include the delivery of information workshops, the use of an evidence-based tool for needs assessment, collating of information among services and the holding of consultation events aimed at prioritising the key safety needs of children and young people in Sligo/ Leitrim.**

Bullying

During consultations with the Safeguarding Working Group, the issue of bullying was raised and internet safety and cyber bullying were named as significantly affecting the lives of young people. In focus groups and research carried out by Sligo VEC in 2012, young people were aware of issues such as bullying and the safe use of electronic media. There is a need for information delivery and sharing as well as resilience skills and solutions to assist young people and front-line workers dealing with young people on a daily basis in

dealing with bullying. *In Sligo and Leitrim, the CYPP will support efforts to raise awareness of the issue of bullying for children and young people.*

Outcome 4 Economic security and opportunity

The following sections refer to the key areas of need identified in the local needs analysis of Sligo/ Leitrim; relevant to Outcome 4 of Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures.

Family Support

Early Intervention and prevention, a key Transformational Goal, is central to the work of Tusla and Tusla-funded agencies. To date, in the region two Child and Family Support Networks (CFSN) has been established in CFSN Area 2 as mentioned in an earlier section of the plan. *Agencies involved in the provisions of services to families will promote the use of outreach and other innovative delivery processes in order to better engage with hard to reach families. One further CFSN will be established in the region and one additional CFSN Coordinator will lead out on the actions and service provision. In turn, gaps will be identified in meeting the needs of children and young people, 0-24 years, and in so doing, to meet the commissioning process.*

Youth employment

The new SICAP Programme being delivered by Leitrim Development Company and Sligo Leader Partnership Company will specifically target young people at risk of early school leaving, and not currently in education, employment or training. There is a history of developing services to meet the needs of young people in Sligo and Leitrim.

Support Young People not in education, training or employment

Leitrim Development Company and Sligo Leader Partnership Co Ltd aim to support life-long learning opportunities; to provide supports to children and young people who are at risk of early school leaving and are/are not in education, employment or training; a Youth Employability Initiative for unemployed young people; and a local training initiative for early school leavers

Early Childhood activities

The CYPSC recognises that families need support, particularly young parents and those parenting alone, and for this reason will aim to assist with accessing affordable childcare, with the support of both the Sligo and Leitrim County Childcare Committees through the implementation of the National Childcare Programme 2017 DCYA.

Early school leaving/absenteeism

It is well documented that low education attainment and educational inequality are key factors in the experience of social exclusion and the risk of long-term unemployment. One in five children attending

Primary School in Sligo have been absent for 20 days or more during the 2012/2013 school year. Organisations that provide services to children and young people aim to reduce this level of absenteeism by schoolchildren attending primary and post-primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim in line with the national average. Tackling absenteeism in Primary School is a key priority for the Education and School Age Childcare Working Group which aims to support early school leavers in having access to targeted interventions and training with particular emphasis in rural areas throughout the region. The Working Group has identified that early school leavers (under 16 years) who experience anxiety or mental health issues, or who refuse to go to school may well benefit from programmes such as the Driving Forward programme in County Leitrim, which is supported by Leitrim Development Company. ***To that end the Group is continuing to strengthen links to such programming so as to integrate services and make available both training and supports to those young people under sixteen who are most in need of on-going support.***

Outcome 5 Connected respected and contributing to their world

The following sections refer to the key areas of need identified in the local needs analysis of Sligo/ Leitrim; relevant to Outcome 5 of Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures.

Youth services

In consultation with children and young people, additional facilities have been prioritised, with particular emphasis on need in rural areas. The Education and School Age Childcare Working Group recommended the provision of a range of support services for young people particularly in Leitrim, supported by the Home Youth Liaison Service small scale case study. Research carried out in 2011 by the then Sligo VEC to assess youth provision in Sligo and identify what young people needed from the community identified gaps in service provision in rural areas and for marginalised or hard to reach communities, such as Travellers, young carers, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual Community (LGBT), young parents, new communities and early school leavers. ***The activities identified for implementation in this priority area include the expansion of youth service provision for young people at Levels 2 and 3 of the Hardiker Scale, collaboration among training initiatives, increased availability of youth facilities and supporting CFSNs and ETB Youth Work Committee to identify and respond to service needs and gaps.***

Transport

The provision of public transport, particularly in rural parts of both Counties Sligo and Leitrim, has been identified as a priority need by both statutory and community and voluntary service providers. Transport issues and high dependency on parents for attendance at services, especially Youth Services, were also highlighted by young people in research carried out in both counties. Local Link Sligo, Leitrim and Roscommon provides transport for families and for children where this need is identified; from either a

social inclusion focus or a child protection focus. ***The CYPSC action in this area will include advocating for the increased availability of transport services and further collaboration among lead partners.***

New communities

In the Social Inclusion, Quality and Poverty section of the Sligo Local Economic and Community Action Plan (LECP), Sligo County Council recognises the need to promote social inclusion by tackling social exclusion and poverty. One of the target groups identified in the LECP is new communities and Action 2.4.6. of the LECP aims to provide education supports for those living in direct provision centres and for new communities, and to improve access to education for new communities.

The members of the CYPSC are cognisant of the high numbers of foreign national children and children in direct provision in both Sligo and Leitrim (0.30%) compared to state average of (0.12%); as well as the need to support greater integration of all the people in Sligo and Leitrim. The CYPSC will work with agencies involved in the delivery of services to ensure that resettled families are supported in integrating into Sligo and Leitrim society. ***The plan will also support the resettlement of Programme Refugees in Sligo and Leitrim. It will also support the provision of services that are socially inclusive and meet universal and targeted need for all members of the community through current service provision.***

Participation of children and young people

The Planning Working Group has undertaken to ensure the voice of the child/young person is included in the Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP) for Sligo/Leitrim. There is real challenge for the CYPSC and those working with children and young people to ensure that there is an increase in the participation of children and young people in service planning, implementation and review. In a recent Seed Funding application (May 2016) to Tusla the Child and Family Agency, the Early Years and Education/SAC Working Groups recommended the creation of a 'Participation Lab' to enable consultation with children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim to ensure their voices are heard in relation to the quality of services they receive, their involvement in the planning of services and decision making in relation to the development of services. ***The CYPP activities identified to meet this priority area include the analysis of current practice and policy of member services, developing an evaluation template, piloting the implementation of the template and planning for its roll-out to other services.***

Youth

The Sligo Leitrim YMHI proposes to ensure the participation of young people in the design of Mental Health Programmes in Sligo and Leitrim. As previously stated, over 1,000 young people participated in the research undertaken in Sligo Leitrim (Mind Your Head), which indicated the willingness and need to have young people having a say in what they perceive their greatest needs to be in relation to their mental health. ***Activities identified in this regard include the establishment of a Youth Advisory Forum and incorporating such feedback from young people into wider programmes.***

Oversight/ Implementation

The priority will be to resource CYPSC development, ensure good inter-agency working, training, information sharing and influencing policy and practice. CYPSCs may identify priority areas relating to change management and supports needed to enable interagency collaboration at local level, e.g. development of information sharing protocols and interagency training.

The CYPSC membership recently applied for a Department of Children and Youth Affairs Seed Funding Grant to establish a framework which enables regular data collection and collation. In addition, CYPSC Working Groups will carry out consultations with children and young people so that the on-going work of the plan is informed by the voice of the child and young person in the decision making process. The CYPSC Working Groups will identify how agencies/ organisations can contribute to the achievement of each action in the Plan, and support processes in place regarding the management of outcomes arising from the actions across all agencies.

As part of the on-going identification of need, the CYPSC is advocating for evidence based services which will have evaluation tools and resources made available to ensure the voice of the child and their families is clearly represented. Through the review, consultation and planning methods, the Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC will continue to address and inform identified and emerging needs.

Increasing awareness

As previously stated, the CYPSC in association with the Sligo/ Leitrim YMHI developed a Directory of Services and the CYPSC Coordinator is a member of Sligo Comhairle na nÓg and Leitrim Comhairle na nÓg steering groups. A request to support the promotion of the Directory has been well received by both groups. Recent media promotion of the Directory is aimed at increasing the usage of *the Sligo/ Leitrim Directory of Services*.

Recognising the need to consult with parents, the Parenting Support Working Group recommended in a recent Seed Funding application (May 2016) to Tusla the Child and Family Agency, the creation of an App to empower parents, enabling them to navigate appropriate services and manage those they are involved with using mobile technology. The App will support and enable parents to take ownership of the quality of care afforded to their families/children; it will assist them to gain a sense of control and help them organise the various supports so as to ensure they understand 'who does what' with their child and family. It will assist the parent in identifying which needs are being met by which agencies and also support the identification of other possible interventions required.

Section 5: Summary of Children and Young People’s Plan for Sligo/ Leitrim

The preparation the first Sligo/ Leitrim CYPP, has included the collection, collation and analysis of needs-led data, resulting in a series of evidence based indicators and priority action areas. As a result, the CYPP supports a series of action areas built from the audit of services, socio-demographic data along with existing and evolving local needs, knowledge and expertise; while understanding the need for further needs analysis to continue to support and improve service provision across the region.

The Sligo/ Leitrim CYPP operates within an inter-agency structure that aligns with a number of key principles for the Sligo/ Leitrim CYPSC:

- The value of a shared and inclusive vision across and for service provision in the region; and
- The fair and equal representation of all voices in the on-going development of service provision; and
- The understanding that the established and evolving working groups are actively involved in, connected to and guided by the on-going data collection and analysis toward the development of identified actions; and
- The acknowledgement that the work of statutory services, along with combined community and voluntary planning are deeply aligned with, connected to and running parallel to the CYPP.

Summary of Outcome Areas and Local Priority Areas

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas (Identified following the local needs analysis and the audit of services)	
Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breastfeeding Obesity Prevention and early intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child and youth mental health Drugs and alcohol Services for children with additional needs
Achieving full potential in learning and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children with additional needs Early Years Care and Education, and School Age Fostering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transitions Early school leaving/absenteeism Parenting and Parenting Support
Safe and protected from harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding children and young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bullying
Economic security and opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth employment Support young people not in education, training or employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early Childhood activities Family Support Early school leaving/absenteeism
Connected respected and contributing to their world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New communities Participation of children and young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Services Transport
Oversight/ Implementation		
The priority will be to resource CYPSC development, ensure good inter-agency working, training, information sharing and influencing policy and practice.	Local Priority Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CYPSC will identify and address supports needed to enable interagency collaboration; information sharing; create opportunities for shared training; nurturing policy and practice CYPSC to work towards supporting greater awareness of services over the lifetime of the Plan CYPSC working groups to identify how agencies/organisations can contribute to achievement of each action CYPSC working groups support processes in place regarding management of outcomes across agencies Collection of data across all agencies and work practices to inform development of future CYPSC plans 	

SECTION 6: ACTION PLAN FOR SLIGO/LEITRIM CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Breastfeeding	Increase the rate of breastfeeding in Sligo and Leitrim	Increase in numbers breastfeeding as recorded by PHN returns and national indicators	Increase numbers of mothers breastfeeding to achieve national average of 46.6% (Current Sligo 33.1%, Leitrim 35.5%)	Establish additional breast feeding clinics run by PHNs/lactation consultants (1 in Sligo and 1 in Leitrim)	Leitrim 2017 Sligo 2018	HSE (Public Health Nurse) Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	HSE Health Promotion and Public Health Survey Overview- HSE Services to Children and Young People Sligo/Leitrim (2015) Sligo Leitrim West Cavan HSE Service Plan (2016)	Outcome 2 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention
Breastfeeding	Increase promotion regarding the continuance of breastfeeding	Increase level of continuance of breastfeeding in Sligo/Leitrim to national average.	100% engagement by Lifestart family visitation programme workers	Lifestart workers will promote continuance of breastfeeding up to 6 months, and signpost mothers to additional supports (breastfeeding clinic, peer support groups)	2017-2019	HSE Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	See above	See above

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Breastfeeding	Improve support for early identification and management of breastfeeding difficulties	Breastfeeding Observation Assessment Tool (BOAT) by PHNs used by all PHN's	80% compliance with BOAT tool being used by PHNs with breastfeeding mothers	Implement use of BOAT by all PHNs	2017-2019	HSE (PHN) Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	See above	See above
Obesity	To reduce overweight and obesity in children by promoting healthy weaning of babies and providing information and support to parents	Parents in PHN area will receive support and evidence-based information on healthy weaning practices. Weaning of babies will be delayed until 5-6 months of age.	50% of babies in 2 PHN areas will not be weaned until they are at least 5 months of age – this will increase to 60% in 2018 & 70% in 2019	Offer Solid Start weaning programme in one PHN area each in the North Sligo and South Leitrim Network areas (already in one PHN area in South Sligo) Monitor statistics on numbers of babies not weaned until they are at least 5 months	2017-2019	HSE – PHN Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	Healthy Ireland A healthy weight for Ireland – Obesity Policy and Action Plan (2016 - 2015)	BOBF 2014 2020 Outcomes: 1 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Obesity	To promote and to continue to implement best practice in our children's overall health and well-being through the local primary schools.	To introduce children to increased participation opportunities and a greater choice of multi-sports programmes in our schools.	To target five primary schools in year one and to extend and implement this programme out to 20% more schools in year two. Timeframe for completion: 2017 -2018.	Multi-Sports Programmes as per Leitrim Sports Partnership Towards a fitter and healthier Leitrim 2014-2017	2017	HSE Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group Leitrim Sports Partnership	Leitrim Sports Partnership, Towards a Fitter & Healthier Leitrim 2014 -2017 Health Ireland, A healthy weight for Ireland.	BOBF 2014 2020 Outcomes: 1 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality services Strengthen transitions

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Obesity	Reduce overweight and obesity in Traveller children by educating and supporting Traveller parents	The numbers of parents that receive an interactive Health Education Programme on healthy eating for children from Community Health Workers (Sligo Traveller Support Group and Leitrim Development Company) will increase by 20% The number of CHWs that receive training in relation to the key messages to support the prevention and management of overweight and obesity of children will increase by 10%	50% of Traveller families with preschool and school age children will receive the programme The Safe Food 5 Key Messages are integrated into Health Education Information given by all CHWs to Traveller parents.	2 Education sessions with Community Health Workers (CHW) Develop programme for delivery by CHWs CHWs deliver programme and provide follow-up support to parents Education session with CHWs exploring the 5 Key Messages (Safe Food) for parents Integration into CHWs in their contact with parents	2017 2017 - 2019	HSE-PHN & Dietetic Service Sligo Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group Sligo Traveller Support Group Leitrim Development Company	All Ireland Traveller Health Study, September 2010 Safe Food Ireland	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 2, 3 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention Ensure Quality Services
Prevention and early intervention	A comprehensive assessment of children will be carried out at the key developmental age of 18-24 months, in partnership with parents Referral onward if required to specialist services prior to children entering the preschool services	Increase in the number of children in the target group for whom an Ages and Stages Questionnaire has been completed	100% of children in the target group (18-24 months) will have an Ages and Stages Questionnaire completed by their parent/s, in partnership with the Public Health Nurse	Implement the use of the Ages and Stages questionnaire with parents at the 18-24 month's developmental assessment Audit use and outcomes for children from same.	2017-2018 2019	HSE – Public Health Nursing (PHN) Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	Children First 2011 Best Health for Children (BHFC) 1999, 2005 Childcare Act, 1991 Children's Act, 2001 Survey Overview-HSE Services to Children and Young People Sligo/Leitrim (2015) Sligo Leitrim West Cavan HSE Service Plan (2016)	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcome: 2 Transformational Goal: Support for Parents Early Intervention Ensure Quality Services

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Child and youth mental health	To provide a brief intervention /brief counselling service for young people 12-25yrs in Sligo/Leitrim	That a brief intervention/ counselling service will be available for young people across Sligo and Leitrim	450 young people will avail of a brief intervention/ counselling service in 3-4 locations	Identify Senior clinician (such as senior clinical psychologist), Coordinator and individual Therapists. Identify 3-4 locations for service delivery Roll out service	2017-2019, depending on fund – sought from HSE Mental Health Services	HSE Sligo/Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures (2014) Mind Your Head (2014) Healthy Ireland (2013)	BOBF 2014-2020 Outcomes: 3 & 5 Transformational Goal: Early Intervention and Prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination
Child and youth mental health	That children and young people will be seen promptly following referral to HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	A 50% reduction in the waiting times for CAMHS appointments	Current number and percentage of children on CAMHS waiting list over 12 months to be reduced by 50% in 2017	Children on current waiting list prioritised and assessed as part of CAMHS blitz Action plan to implement Choice & Partnership Approach (CAPA) developed Actively manage referrals in line with CAMHS Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Develop pathways for neuro-developmental disorders in cooperation with partners	2017-2018 2017-2019 2017-2019 2017-2018	HSE (See HSE Operational Plan) Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Review (2014) Better Outcomes Brighter Futures (2014) Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services SOP (2015)	Outcome 2,3 & 5 Transformational goals: Support parents Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality services Cross-Government and inter-agency collaboration and coordination

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Drugs and Alcohol	To reduce the impact on children's lives from parental alcohol and substance misuse	Increase in the provision of training programmes being implemented, which are linked to the national joint strategic statement on 'Hidden Harm' from HSE and Tusla	Training to have commenced with HSE key services (Addiction, PHNs, Primary Care Social Work, Mental health and Maternity Staff), Community & Voluntary agencies	Develop different levels of (Hidden Harm) training targeted for specific audiences Commence training with identified services and agencies	2017 2018 - 2019	HSE Addiction Services North West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force Alcohol Forum Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group ETB	National Drugs Strategy 2009-2016, awaiting publication of new strategy in 2017	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 3 & 5 Transformational Goal: Support Parents Early Intervention & Prevention Cross Government and Interagency collaboration and coordination

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Services for children with additional needs	Increase support of the implementation of the National Access Policy through promoting the use of the national referral forms across all referring agencies and services	Provision of clear referral pathway to parents and care givers of children (0-18 years) with a complex disability /developmental delay	By 2019, 100% of referrals will be on the national referral form	Communicate with all referring agencies and services Referrals to Early Intervention Team (EIT) and school aged teams (SAT) will only be accepted on the agreed national referral forms Monitor the number of referrals received that are not on national referral form	2017	HSE Disability Services Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	Disability Act (2005) National Programme for Progressing Children's Disability Services 0-18yrs (2015) Interagency Departmental Group: Supporting Access to the Early Years Childcare Care & Education (ECCE) Programme for Children with a Disability (2015) Access and Inclusion (AIM) DCYA 2016 Model will ensure that all ECCE children will be supported to access ECCE settings.	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 2, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention Strengthening Transitions Cross government and interagency and collaboration and coordination
Services for children with additional needs	Reduce delays experienced by families in taking up of an Early Years Place	No child will experience delay in take up of ECCE place	Children applying for supports under AIM will not experience any delay in taking up their Early Years place	Establish links with Pobal Early Years Inclusion Specialist	2017 - 2019	HSE – Children's Disability Services HSE CHO 1 representative for AIM Sligo and Leitrim County Childcare Committees	Disability Act (2005) National Programme for Progressing Children's Disability Services 0-18 years (2011) Access and Inclusion (AIM) DCYA 2016 Model will ensure that all ECCE children will be supported to access ECCE settings.	As above

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Services for children with additional needs	Improved access and coordinated service provision to be experienced by all parents and care givers	As per key performance indicator under the HSE National Plan – there will be a reconfiguration into a children’s disability network team. All children (0 – 18 years) with a complex disability/developmental delay will be incorporated into a disciplinary team, building on the existing 0 - 6 years EIT	Children Disability Network Team established	Source accommodation for members of the School Aged Team Secure staff for additional development posts Develop and implement a communication strategy for parents and caregivers, community and voluntary providers, HSE and Tusla staff and CYPSC Early Years Working Group	2017	HSE – Children’s Disability Services	Access and Inclusion (AIM) DCYA 2016 Model will ensure that all ECCE children will be supported to access ECCE settings.	As above
Services for children with additional needs	Increased support to parents to facilitate their participation in their child’s care and management in the Children’s Disability Service	As per key performance indicator under HSE National Plan Audit of records will be carried out to review numbers and percentages	100% of children in receipt of Early Intervention (EIT) and School Aged Team (SAT) services will have individual Family Service Plan in place	The development of an individual family service plan will be initiated at the first joint assessment for all children receiving either EIT or SAT services	2017	HSE – Children’s Disability Services	Disability Act (2005) National Programme for Progressing Children’s Disability Services 0-18yrs (2015)	As above

OUTCOME 1: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY, PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Youth Mental Health	Build the capacity of young people to engage in and influence the design of Youth Mental Health Initiative programmes	Participation of young people in the design of Mental Health Programmes	Youth Mental Health Programmes will have been informed by young people in Sligo and Leitrim	Establish Youth Advisory Forum Engage with young people Incorporate feedback from young people into programmes	2017 – 2019 Dependent on funding – sought from HSE Mental Health Services	Youth Mental Health Initiative Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	Mind Your Head, Sligo/ Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative HSE National Mental Health Strategy Connecting for Life, Sligo and Leitrim	As above

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Children with additional needs	Support the integration of planned initiatives for Universal School Aged Childcare Provision in Sligo & Leitrim, aimed at children with additional needs	A 10% increase in the number of places in out of school and school age childcare services for children with additional needs	10% increase in the number of places in out of school and school age childcare services for children with additional needs	Support the delivery of additional places for children with additional needs in services delivering out of school and school age childcare through capital & programme supports under DCYA programmes.	2017 – 2018	Early Childhood Working Group Sligo and Leitrim Co Childcare Committees	Sligo and Leitrim Co Childcare Committees Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 1, 4, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality services Strengthening Transitions Cross governmental and interagency collaboration and coordination

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Early Years Care and Education	Increase uptake to ECCE programme under the expanded national ECCE programme	Number of Children accessing places Informed by the number of children eligible to access ECCE places	Increase by 5% the number of children up-taking the ECCE	Promote the delivery of the free preschool year to parents(ECCE) through 1 information session in each county. Media campaign, including web site/ social media information	2017- 2019	Sigo and Leitrim County Childcare Committees Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group	National Childcare Programme 2017 DCYA ensure 100% of all eligible children have access to ECCE programme (LECP) objective 2.4 action 2.4.2 AIM 2016 - 2019	As above
Early Years Care and Education, and School Age And Mapping	Increase the level of data collection, and empirical evidence available, to inform service development as per local needs analysis in South Leitrim	Provision of clear evidence of service need in South Leitrim to inform programme and project planning.	Compile a current needs assessment, which will be available to inform planning services	Consultations with three Early Years focus groups in South Leitrim Development of formal planning process.	2017	Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group Sligo IT, CRISP	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures (2014) National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making 2015-2020 Growing Up in Ireland (2015) Advisory Group to the Early Years Strategy 2012 Report of Inter-departmental (2015) Supporting Access to the ECCE Programme for Children with a Disability National Childcare Programme 2017 DCYA ensure 100% of all eligible children have access to ECCE programme	As above

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Transitions	Provision of educational transitions supports available to children and families in Sligo/Leitrim	Children and their parents are prepared for the transition to school Children school at the same developmental stage as their peers Improve transition for children and young people to the next level of education provision Young people aged 16 to 24 years will be engaged in each of the specific programmes named	All children who are not accessing preschool services Children and young people will be provided with a clear pathway to next level education Those identified at risk of early school leaving will be offered additional dynamic supports. 10 to 15 young people in South Leitrim /West Cavam15 young people in South Sligo	Provision of the Lifestart At Home in School Programme Provision of the Toy Box Project specifically to Traveller Families not accessing preschool services Establish rates of transfer from Primary to post primary education in relation to young Travellers Delivery of the NCYCS New Beginnings Programmes in South Leitrim/West Cavan. Delivery of the Foroige South Sligo Personal Youth Development Project in South Sligo One to one support through other Foroige services for 10-18 year olds to enable young people to return to or stay in school.	2017 - 2019 Dec 2017 2017 - 2019	Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group Lifestart Education Welfare Service; HYL; SCP; HSCLS; STSG; Leitrim Development Co Foroige, NCYCS Education Welfare Service, Tusla; Home Youth Liaison Service School Completion Programme Home School Community Liaison Programme Sligo/Leitrim County Childcare Committees	BOBF 2014 LECP objective 2.4 action 2.4.2	Outcome 2, 3, 4, 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Transitions Support Young people aged 15-24 years with a diagnoses of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	Expand support available during the transition of young people on Autistic Spectrum Disorder in their transition into adulthood throughout Sligo / Leitrim and West Cavan	15 plus young people will participate in the Big Brother Big Sister Autism specific project per year	15-25 young people per year will participate on the Big Brother Big Sister Autism Specific programme	Individualised supports and mentorship Recruitment and training of tutors, facilitators and volunteers Roll out of the programme	2017 – 2019 Funding available to June 2017	School Age Childcare Working Groups Foróige and HSE Dependent on extension of current Dormant Account	HSE Foróige	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention Listen to and involve children and young people
Early school leaving/ absenteeism	Reduce the level of absenteeism in Sligo and Leitrim in line with the national average	Reduction in the number of children absent from post-primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim	2% decrease in the level of absenteeism from post primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim	Coordinate and strengthen the Interagency Networks to support children to attend school.	2017 - 2019	Tusla, Education Welfare Service Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group HYLS Sligo & Leitrim School Completion Programme Home School Community Liaison Service Education Centres Foroige NYP and CRIB	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures (2014) Participation Strategy for Children and Young People Tusla, (2015) National Strategy on Children's and Young Peoples Participation in Decision Making, DCYA, (2015-2020) Comhairle Na nÓg (2015)	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcome: 3, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention Listen to and involve children and young people Strengthening Transitions

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Early school leaving/ absenteeism Alternative education provision	To develop in Leitrim sustainable provision for young people who have left second level school before completion of Leaving Certificate.	Development of a Youthreach or Community Training Centre facility in Leitrim.	To develop a Youthreach or Community Training Centre facility in Leitrim.	Through the CFSN, meet with Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB to discuss such provision. Work with ETB to support development of same.	December 2017	Economic Security & Opportunity Working Group Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB	BOBF	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Parenting and Parenting Support	Increase the number of parents accessing quality, universal parenting support for their children	Increase in the number of parents availing of universal parenting support	20 staff will be trained and accredited to deliver the Triple P Parenting Programme 50 parents to receive the 0-12 year age group programme, Triple P 50 parents will have received the Teenager programme, Triple P 4 staff from the Community & Voluntary sector have been trained in the Parents Plus Parenting Programme 8 programmes will be rolled out 64 parents will receive the Triple p programme	Application to HSE Health and Wellbeing Division from CYPSC Parenting working group for funding for train the trainers in Triple P parenting programme One set of 20 staff (statutory/ community/ voluntary sector trained and accredited to deliver Triple P programme Roll-out of delivery of Triple P parenting programmes in Sligo and Leitrim 4 staff will deliver 8 programmes in Sligo and Leitrim	2017 Dependent on funding – sought from HSE Health & Well-being 2018-2019 2017 - 2018	Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group	TUSLA Parenting Support Strategy 2014 BOBF 2014 – 2020	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 1, 3, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Parenting and Parenting Support	Support the increased uptake of 5 specific existing evidence –informed parenting support programmes. (Lifestart, Parents Plus, Incredible Years, Common Sense Parenting, Odyssey)	Increase in uptake of Lifestart Programme by first- time parents Increase in the number of parents attending parenting support programmes	There will be a 10% increase in Sligo and a 50% increase in Leitrim in the up-take of the Lifestart Programme by first-time parents 50 parents will attend parenting support programmes annually	Agencies providing services to families, including PHN's, psychology, CAMHS, will actively promote uptake of the 5 specific parenting programmes with parents Information on programmes will be channelled through CYPSC Parenting Support Working Group Workshop will be provided for practitioners to communicate the key messages of the 5 parenting programmes PHN's will actively promote the Lifestart Programme with all first time parents and families requiring additional support	2017 to 2019	Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group	BOBF 2014 – 2020 TUSLA Parenting Support Strategy 2014 Growing Child Programme	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 1, 3, 4 Transformational Goal: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention Strengthening Transitions

OUTCOME 2: ACHIEVING FULL POTENTIAL IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT						
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners
Fostering	<p>To increase the number of alternative care options for young people requiring out of home care within their local communities</p> <p>To reduce the disruption for young people who enter care by maintaining them in placements within their communities</p>	<p>More children requiring care away from home will be placed within their own families and/or local communities</p>	<p>A plan will be developed and implemented by Quarter 2 2017</p>	<p>Work with local community to identify suitable Alternative Care placements for children</p> <p>Development of Family Welfare Conference Service within the Child & Family Support Network</p>	<p>2018</p> <p>2018</p>	<p>Tusla - PPFS</p>

OUTCOME 3: SAFE AND PROTECTED FROM HARM

OUTCOME 3: SAFE AND PROTECTED FROM HARM									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
Safeguarding children and young people	Have a 'common language' and 'clear understanding' for all agencies regarding thresholds for safeguarding children	Awareness guidance of the threshold for referral to Tusla the child and family agency	Two workshop for 10 non-Tusla funded providers/ services Workshops for all Tusla funded providers/ services	Delivery of information workshops by Tusla Workforce Learning Development Officer	2017 - 2019	TUSLA	Children First 2011 Tusla Strategic Plan Tusla Meitheal Toolkit	As above Cross governmental and interagency collaboration and coordination	
Safeguarding children and young people	Tusla funded agencies will have Safeguarding Statements	All agencies funded by will have a Safeguarding Statement	100% compliance by agencies funded by Tusla	Tusla will provide template safeguarding statements Tusla will provide training	2017 -2019	TUSLA Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group	Children First 2011	As above	
Safeguarding children and young people	Support the use of standardised evidence-based tool for family needs assessment and safeguarding children	Use of tool by all PHNs Will be measured by audit of PHN records	100% of PHNs in Sligo/ Leitrim will use the Child and Family Needs Assessment Tool	Training for Public Health Nursing (PHN) Management Team on supervision Roll out the use of Child & Family Needs Assessment tool by PHNs in Sligo and Leitrim	2017 2018 – 2019	HSE Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group	HSE National Strategy Children First 2011	As above	

OUTCOME 3: SAFE AND PROTECTED FROM HARM								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Safeguarding Children and Young People	To identify and prioritise the key safety needs of children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim	Key safety needs for children & young people will be identified and prioritised	One consultation event will take place for services Four focus groups will take place with children & young people A broad consultation event will take place with parents	Consultation event for service providers will take place. Consultation focus groups with children/young people/parents will be held. Consultation focus groups will be held for parents	2017	Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group	Children First 2011 Sligo LECP Objective 3.6 – Action 3.6.1	As above Listen to and involve children and young people
Safeguarding Children and Young People	To collate information on whether agencies and services represented on CYPSC have Children First, Garda Vetting policies/ procedures in place	All CYPSC agencies and services will provide information on their respective policies and procedures on Children First and Garda Vetting	All CYPSC agencies and services will possess policies and procedures on Children First and Garda Vetting	A template will be developed and circulated to all CYPSC services and agencies. Returns will be collated and reported to the Safeguarding Working Group	2017 – 2018	Tusla - PPFS	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures (2014) Joint Policing Committee Sligo/Leitrim (2015) Children First: Guidelines for the care and welfare of Children and Young People 2010 Listen to Me! Children's experience of Domestic Violence (2006)	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention Ensure Quality Service

OUTCOME 3: SAFE AND PROTECTED FROM HARM								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Bullying	To support awareness raising on the issue of bullying for children and young people in Sligo/Leitrim. To support a coordinated response towards the victims of bullying as those engaged in bullying behaviour for Sligo/Leitrim	Increase the number of children, young people and parents who will have received awareness raising on bullying Range of programmes in relation to bullying quantified and documented Degree of coordination of same	5 awareness-raising events will be held in February 2017 for children, young people and parents To reduce the figure of 25.3% (West) (SONC 2012) of children reported being bullied at school through the life of the plan and taking into account the 2016 CSO figures and SONC figures	Anti – bullying awareness workshops in youth and community based projects in Feb 2017. Access the scope and reach of existing programmes in relation to bullying Facilitate the coordination of programmes in relation to bullying	2017 – 2019	Foróige, NCYS, Sligo /Leitrim Education Centres, HYLS Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group	Department of Education and Skills anti-bullying strategy (2014) Young People’s Response to Bullying and Cyber Bullying (Foróige, 2012)	Outcomes 2,3,4,5 Transformational Goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality services

OUTCOME 4: ECONOMIC SECURITY AND OPPORTUNITY

OUTCOME 4: ECONOMIC SECURITY AND OPPORTUNITY									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
Family Support	To identify gaps in meeting the needs of children and young people 0-24 years in line with TUSLA strategy to meet the commissioning process Increase in the promotion of the use of outreach and other innovative processes in the delivery of services for hard-to-reach families	Monitoring and statistical data collection of national and local indicators to reflect service provision and status, including referral pathways, uptake and numbers of service users.	Establish 1 additional Child & Family Support Networks (CFSN) in Sligo/Leitrim	1 additional CFSN will be established in Sligo and Leitrim Employ an additional CFSN Coordinator Complete research to identify need- CRISP	2017-2019	Tusla Economic Security & Opportunity Working Group	Tusla Meitheal Tool Kit Better Outcomes Brighter Futures (2014) Tusla Suite of Documents National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making (2015-20) National Strategy for Research and Data on Children's Lives 2011 – 2016 Tusla Participation Strategy for Children and Young People	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 1, 3, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention Strengthening Transitions Ensure Quality Service	
Youth Employment	Increase the level of employability of targeted young people who are not in employment, education or training	5% increase in the number of young people whose employability has been improved	Ensure the successful implementation of new programmes in relation to youth employability	Implementation of programmes funded by IFI in Leitrim and South Sligo (1-year initial period)	Dec 2017	Economic Security & Opportunity Working Group NCYCS, Leitrim Foróige South Sligo Foróige NCYCS ETB	National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 (DCYA)ETB Youth Work Plan	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality	

OUTCOME 4: ECONOMIC SECURITY AND OPPORTUNITY									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
Support young people who are not in education, training or employment	Provide additional supports through the SICAP Programmes in Sligo and Leitrim to engage young people not in education & training or employment.	Evidence of 40% increase in the numbers of young people availing of education, training and employment	Increase of 40% in the number of young people availing of education, training and employment	Delivery and promotion of the SICAP programmes in Sligo and Leitrim with specific focus on education training and employment	2017 -2019	Economic Security & Opportunity Working Group Sligo Leader Partnership Company Ltd Leitrim Development Company Forde and NCYS	Sligo and Leitrim Social and Economic Plans	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality	
Early Childhood Activities	To support parents in accessing affordable childcare	98% of children in Sligo/Leitrim accessing the single affordable childcare programme	Increase of 8%	Promote the single affordable childcare programme	2017-2018	Sligo and Leitrim Co Childcare Committees Economic Security & Opportunity Working Group	National Childcare Programme 2017 DCYA ensure 100% of all eligible children have access to ECCE Programme	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality Strengthen Transitions Cross governmental and interagency collaboration and coordination	

OUTCOME 4: ECONOMIC SECURITY AND OPPORTUNITY									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
Early school leaving/ absenteeism	Reduce the level of absenteeism in Sligo and Leitrim in line with the national average	Reduction in the number of children absent from post-primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim	2% decrease in the level of absenteeism from post primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim	Coordinate and strengthen the Interagency Networks to support children to attend school.	2017 - 2019	Tusla, Education Welfare Service Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group HYSL Sligo & Leitrim School Completion Programme Home School Community Liaison Service Education Centres Foróige NYP and CRIB	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures (2014) Participation Strategy for Children and Young People Tusla, (2015) National Strategy on Children's and Young Peoples Participation in Decision Making, DCYA, (2015-2020) Comhairle Na nÓg (2015)	BOBF 2014 – 2020 Outcome: 3, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early intervention Listen to and involve children and young people Strengthening Transitions	
Early school leaving/ absenteeism Alternative education provision	To develop in Leitrim sustainable provision for young people who have left second level school before completion of Leaving Certificate.	Development of a Youthreach or Community Training Centre facility in Leitrim.	To develop a Youthreach or Community Training Centre facility in Leitrim.	Through the CFSN, meet with Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB to discuss such provision. Work with ETB to support development of same.	December 2017	Economic Security & Opportunity Working Group Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB	BOBF	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality	

OUTCOME 5: CONNECTED, RESPECTED AND CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR WORLD

OUTCOME 5: CONNECTED, RESPECTED AND CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR WORLD									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
New Communities	To support the resettlement of Refugees in Sligo and Leitrim as set out by Department of Justice	Resettled families will be supported to integrate into Sligo and Leitrim society School attendance rate for children reflect integration figures Increased Immunisation uptake. New communities Access public health screening and surveillance services	100% School attendance rate for children. 90% Immunisation uptake. Access to public health screening and surveillance services (Dental, PHNs, GPs).	Develop a programme of resettlement. Convene interagency meetings Recruit volunteers to support the delivery of the programme	2017 - 2019	Sligo Co Council Leitrim Co Council Connected, Respected & Contributing to their World Working Group	The EU Initiative on the Resettlement of Refugees in Ireland The UNHCR resettlement handbook August 2016 Sligo LECP Leitrim LECP	BOBF 2014-2020 Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality Strengthen Transitions Cross governmental and interagency collaboration and coordination	
New communities	To support greater integration of new indigenous communities in Sligo and Leitrim	An increase in the participation of new communities and indigenous communities in social and cultural events	2 Inter-cultural events in Sligo/Leitrim each year	Host 2 Intercultural events	2017 - 2019	Sligo Co Council Leitrim Co Council Sligo and Leitrim FRCS Sligo Inter-cultural Forum	LECP Sligo Co Council 4.4.2 and 4.4.4 LECP Leitrim Co Council LECP Strategy for Economic, Social and Cultural Development 2002 – 2012 Racist Incident Reporting Service for Sligo (2012) Report Towards Integration in Sligo (April 2011) Healthy Ireland 2013-2015	As above	

OUTCOME 5: CONNECTED, RESPECTED AND CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR WORLD									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
Participation of children and young people	CYPSC member services will utilise a process to include children and young people in planning, implementation and review of services	An increase in the participation of children and young people in service planning/ implementation/ review	5 member services will have children and young peoples' participation structures in place	Analysis of current policy and practice of 5 member services. Develop an evaluation template Pilot its implementation in 5 member services in Sligo and Leitrim Plan for roll out to other services	2017 – 2019 Pilot to finish in 2017 - apply for additional funding	Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group	Tusla Participation of Children and Young People	BOBF 2014-2020 Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality Strengthen Transitions Cross governmental and interagency collaboration and coordination	
Youth services	To expand the scope of youth services provision across the region for young people at Levels 2 and 3 of the Hardiker Scale.	Increased number of youth service projects for young people at Levels 2 and 3 of the Hardiker Scale.	Develop additional youth service interventions targeted at Levels 2 and 3 of the Hardiker Scale in the following priority areas: North Leitrim, South Leitrim, South Sligo	To develop additional services for young people and families at Levels 2 and 3 of the Hardiker Scale in the following areas: CFSN Area 2 (HYLS and Foroige) Leitrim County, for 1 year only, initial period. Development of new proposals to respond to identified needs in these areas	December 2017 December 2018	Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World Working Group HYLS/ Foroige Funder: Tusla NCYCS Funder: International Fund for Ireland ETB, youth services	Value for Money and Policy Review of Youth Programmes (2014) National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 (DCYA)ETB Youth Work Plan	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality services	

OUTCOME 5: CONNECTED, RESPECTED AND CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR WORLD									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
Youth services	To expand collaboration in the implementation of training initiatives for youth services personnel (employed and voluntary)	Increased number of collaborative training activities x2 Attendance rates at collaborative training activities among youth service personnel (employed and voluntary)	Two collaborative training activities to be identified and run	Organise 2 training activities to meet identified training needs of youth service personnel, employed and voluntary	December 2018	Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development Working Group ETB, Youth Services	National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 (DCYA) ETB work plan	As above	
Youth services	To increase availability of youth facilities to meet identified and emerging needs in relation to youth service provision	Plans prepared for the development of youth facilities, based upon identified needs.	Capital investment needs of existing youth facilities identified and development plans compiled	Carry out scoping exercise secure funding for the development of plans to meet capital investment needs	Dec 2017	Connected, Respected & Contributing to their World Working Group Youth Services, ETB	National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 (DCYA) ETB Youth Work Plan	As above	
Youth services	Continue and expand the ability of the CFSNs and the ETB Youth Work Committee, to identify and respond to gaps in service provision	Measurable increase in the number of gaps identified and responses put in place	Identify and respond to two areas of need in relation to youth service provision	Identification of need through CFSN and ETB Youth Work Committee	Dec 2018	Connected, Respected & Contributing to their World Working Group Youth Services, ETB	National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 (DCYA)ETB Youth Work Plan	As above	

OUTCOME 5: CONNECTED, RESPECTED AND CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR WORLD									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals	
Transport	Increase availability of transport services to meet identified and emerging needs in relation to youth service provision	Additional transport services to be put in place	Provide increased level of transport for youth service activities	Collaboration with Local Link Sligo/ Leitrim and Roscommon and Clasp Community Transport in relation to provision of transport for youth services	Dec 2017	Education and School Aged Childcare Working Group Youth Services, Local Link Sligo/ Leitrim and Roscommon Clasp Community Transport	National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 (DCYA) ETB Youth Work Plan	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality services	

OVERSIGHT/ IMPLEMENTATION

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Information sharing and updating	Ensure information sharing among data to CYPSC members to support planning & decision making, reducing duplication and repetition	Ongoing updating of the CYPSC plan, as well as regular sharing of the updates and the sources of information among all CYPSC members	Updating of the CYPSC Plan on a bi-annual basis regarding data Sharing of all updates among members Sharing of all information sources among members	To collate relevant national, regional and local data from a variety of sources Identify trends and issues arising for children, young people and families	Lifetime of the Plan Bi-annual update	CYPSC	Sligo and Leitrim LECP	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality
Increase awareness	Increase in the usage of the Sligo/ Leitrim Directory of Services	Ensure that children, young people and families have easy access to information on services available and where they are located.	20% increase in usage of the Sligo/ Leitrim Directory of Services Maintenance of existing volume of traffic to the website Develop one new aspect to the website Increase the use of social media in promotion of the website	On-going update and promotion of the Directory of Services Secure funding to continue with updating and upgrading the Directory Development of new aspects of the website Use creative, dynamic and attractive methodology	Lifetime of Plan	CYPSC Tusla, PPFS North Connaught Youth & Community Services.	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014 National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 (DCYA) ETB Youth Work Plan	As above

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and Partners	Link to other plans	Link to other Outcomes/ Goals
Increase awareness	Provision of an App for parents to enable them to track services their child is receiving	Provide a structure which allows easy navigation by parents and families of the services they are accessing	20% uptake by parents and families of the App	Commission the development of an App for parents Workshops to support the roll out of the use of the APP	Lifetime of Plan	Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-Being Working Group	Sligo/ Leitrim Directory of Services	Outcome 2, 3, 4 & 5 Transformational goals: Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality
Interagency Working & Collaboration	Support interagency Working & Collaboration among CYPSC members, reducing duplication and repetition Promote an integrated approach to developing services at local level	Interagency policies & protocol are developed Promote innovative approaches among CYPSC in meeting needs and implementing actions	2 workshops will be delivered to promote interagency working	Roll out a series of workshops on interagency protocols across all agencies & organisations Roll out workshops on data sharing protocols	Lifetime of Plan	CYPSC	Sligo and Leitrim LECP Annual Action Plans of the CYPSC member agencies	BOBF 2012020 Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Transformational Goals: Support Parents Earlier intervention and prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Ensure quality Strengthen Transitions Cross governmental and interagency collaboration and coordination

SECTION 7: MONITORING AND REVIEW

This Sligo/Leitrim CYPP covers the three-year period 2017-19, outlining our objectives across all identified priority action areas. Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC will work with all its partner agencies and children, young people, families and communities to implement the actions outlined in this Work Plan.

Review

Ongoing reviews of regular progress will be carried out through a Workplan Progress Report, which will be presented at each CYPSC meeting.

In addition, an Annual Review will be completed during the first quarter of the subsequent year, which will list the targets identified, summarise achievements and highlight learning outcomes.

Monitoring at Local County Level

Links will be maintained with other local statutory and community service plans, which deliver supports to children and families in Sligo and Leitrim, including, for example, the Health Service Executive (HSE); Sligo and Leitrim Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP) and Sligo/Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative.

Monitoring at National Level

Sligo/Leitrim CYPSC will report, as required, on a quarterly basis, regarding progress across all Five National Outcomes to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) through the Centre for Effective Services (CES) and the National CSC Steering Group.

LIST OF PRIMARY ACRONYMS

BOBF	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures
CAMHS	Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service
CCS	Community Childcare Subvention
CES	Centre for Effective Services
CFA	Child & Family Agency
CSC	Children’s Services Committees
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CYPP	Children & Young People’s Plan
CYPSC	Children & Young People’s Services Committee
DCYA	Department of Children & Youth Affairs
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
ECCE	Early Childhood Care & Education
EIS	Early Intervention Service
ETB	Education Training Board
EWS	Education Welfare Service
FRC	Family Resource Centre
HSE	Health Service Executive
ITS	Institute of Technology Sligo
JPC	Joint Policing Committee
LA	Local Authority
LAP	Local Area Pathway
LCC	Leitrim Co Council
LCCC	Leitrim County Childcare Committee
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LDC	Leitrim Development Company
LECP	Local Economic & Community Plan
NDS	National Drugs Strategy
NWRD&AF	North West Regional Drug & Alcohol Forum
NEPS	National Educational Psychological Service
OMYCA	Office of Minister for Children & Youth Affairs
SCC	Sligo Co Council
SCCC	Sligo Co Childcare Committee
SICAP	Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme
SLPC	Sligo Leader Partnership Co
SONC	State of the Nation’s Children
STSG	Sligo Traveller Support Group
TEC	Training & Employment Programme

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