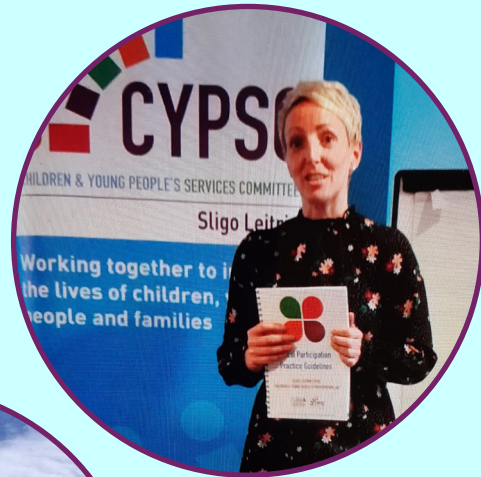




CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES

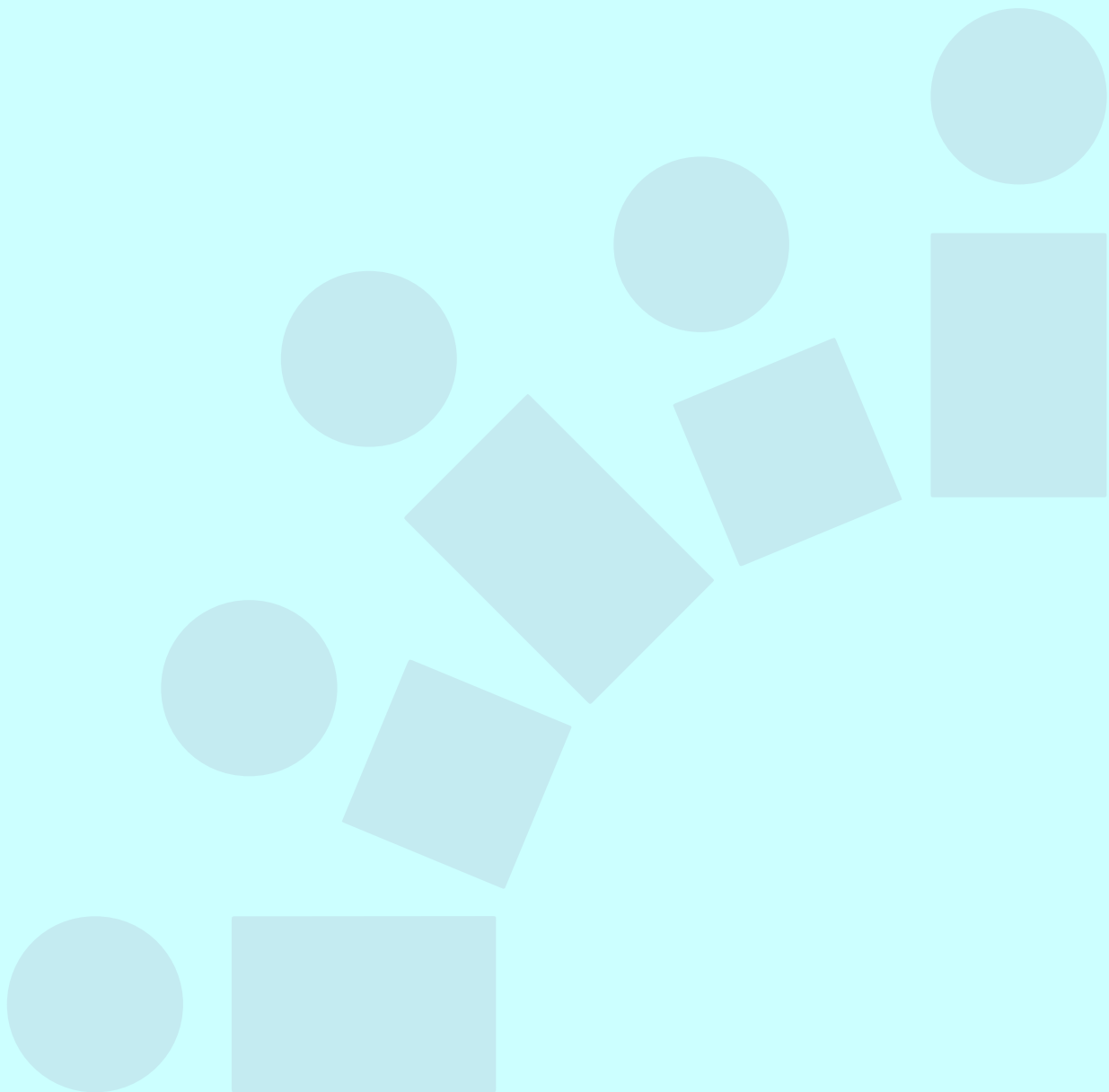
Sligo Leitrim



# SLIGO LEITRIM CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2020-2022

**Front Pages Photos:**

1. *Balance Bike Project with Early Years Services in Sligo & Leitrim*
2. *Elaine Granaghan, Participation Worker, who designed and developed the Sligo Leitrim Local Participation Practice Guidelines, in association with children and young people. Photo shows Elaine at the launch.*
3. *Supping on the Garavogue River, funded by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC in association with Foroige*
4. *Posters created by young people from Comhairle na nOg and Foroige, to support youth mental health across Sligo and Leitrim*
5. *The Covid Word Campaign, created and delivered nationally by young people from Sligo, Leitrim and South Dublin*



## Contact

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

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This plan can be downloaded at [www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie).



*David O' Brien, with his mum Diane, receiving his gift pack on National Playday in 2020, from student Garda Andrew Leydon*



*Community Gardaí in Sligo assisting with National Play Day*

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## Foreword

As chairperson of the Sligo Leitrim Children & Young People's Services Committee, it is my great pleasure and privilege to present to you the Children & Young People's Plan for 2020 – 2022. I would like to acknowledge and give credit to all the members of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC who have worked collaboratively to develop this plan. This three-year plan has been nurtured and developed in a spirit of partnership and participation with all the stakeholders involved.

This is the second Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) to be developed by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC. As new chairperson of the committee I have noted the level of dedication and commitment by colleagues from the Voluntary, Community and Statutory sectors working together to identify the needs of children and young people to achieve the five national outcomes as set out in "Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures" the National Policy Framework for children and young people, 2014 to 2020, and reflected in this three- year plan.

The Sligo Leitrim CYPSC has provided a place and space to enable interagency co-operation and planning to take place. The work undertaken by the CYPSC Coordinator and the development of the five working groups within the CYPSC have influenced both the delivery and implementation of services with a clear focus on meeting the needs of children and young people. This was achieved through a spirit of shared learning and the pooling of collective knowledge and experience. The work and engagement of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC is a fine example of how effective inter-agency collaboration can be developed.

Nevertheless, the challenge going forward with this Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Plan will be to maintain and indeed further develop the aims, objectives and specific goals set out in the plan. Furthermore, continued endeavours will be required to ensure, through the use of the Lundy Model of participation, that the views and input of children and young people are a central facet to the full implementation of the plan. Ultimately, the work of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC will strive to ensure that children and young people in this area are happy and safe and able to reach their full potential in their life course.

**Dr Liam Whyte,**  
**Tusla Area Manager**  
**Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan**



*The Covid Word Campaign, created by young people from Sligo, Leitrim and South Dublin, in association with Foróige, funded through the National CYPSC Office*

## 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 co-operation and collaboration by existing services and through interventions at local level.

CYPSC work towards the Five National Outcomes for children and young people in Ireland. These are 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**

This document introduces the work of the Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee. This introduction gives the context for this work, detailing the background to the Committee, a review of the work of the Committee since the 2017 – 2019 plan was created and an explanation on how the plan was developed.

The following sections provide the context in terms of the socio-demographic profile of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area, the services provided to children and families and the needs of children and families. Finally, detailed actions for the 2020 – 2022 plan are outlined with an overview of how the implementation of those actions will be monitored and reviewed.

## 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, established the Children and Young People's Services Committees (formerly Children's Services Committees) in 2007 with the purpose of improving outcomes for children and families at local and community level. Since then, CYPSC have increased incrementally in number and are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years, in every county in Ireland.

CYPSC bring a diverse group of agencies across the statutory, community and voluntary sectors in local county areas together 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 collaborative planning and improved service delivery.

*Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014 – 2020* underscores the necessity of interagency working and tasks Children and Young People's Services Committees with a key role in this regard.

CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019–2024 is a document to assist CYPSC to further develop in a strategic, integrated and sustainable manner to support the co-ordination and planning of efficient and effective services for children and young people. It sets out to further structure and support the capacity of CYPSC to reflect relevant policies and emerging developments and respond to emerging needs, both national and local.

'The shared vision for CYPSC over the next five years is to consolidate and build upon the positive work to date. The CYPSC infrastructure and intelligence of inter-agency working will be used to create the optimum circumstances to advance local and national priorities to enable effective systems change in local communities. Cultivating leadership through 'joined-up working' and 'joined-up thinking', both locally and nationally, will be at the forefront of our efforts. CYPSC will be supported in their mission to improve outcomes for children and young people through coordinated, responsive and innovative services'.<sup>1</sup>

## **Children and Young People's Services Committee in Sligo Leitrim**

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 Coordinator, 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 and 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.

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<sup>1</sup> About CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 – 2024, Department of Children and Youth Affairs 2019

To assist with the development and implementation of the Plan, the Sligo Leitrim 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 (see Appendix B). A CYPSC Planning Working Group, comprised of the chairperson of each working group (with co-options as required) meets regularly to consider detail in relation to the overall strategy and implementation of the plan. This would not be possible at the full CYPSC meetings as the committee only meets at six fixed dates in the year.



A selection of Mental Health posters created by young people, from Comhairle na nOg, Sligo; Foróige, Leitrim to support young people.



**Figure 1 Structure of CYPSC Sligo Leitrim**



## Who we are

### Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Membership 2019

- Liam Whyte                      Chairperson                      Tusla Area Manager, Sligo Leitrim West Cavan
- Mary Quinn                      Vice-Chair                      Leitrim Co Council
- Dorothy Clarke                      Vice-Chair                      Sligo Co Council
- Cara O'Neill                      HSE, CHO 1
- Brid Brady                      HSE, CHO 1
- Michelle Ni Thiarnain                      Tusla PPFS
- Aedamar Keenan                      Tusla PPFS
- John Feerick                      Sligo Leader Partnership Co Ltd
- Donal Fox                      Leitrim Integrated Development Company
- Elizabeth King                      FRC Representative Sligo and Leitrim
- *Vacant*                      National Assoc. of Principals and Deputy Principals
- Alan O'Ceallaigh                      Irish Primary Principals' Network
- Trevor Sweetman                      Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board
- Sharon Boles                      Sligo Co Childcare Committee
- Tommy Lavelle                      Leitrim Co Childcare Committee
- Karen Devine                      Carrick Education Centre
- Daragh Mc Daid                      Sligo Education Centre
- Carla Curley                      Sligo Leitrim Gardai
- Helena Morrin                      Probation Services
- Claire Gavigan                      Sligo Leitrim Voluntary Network
- Kate Donnelly                      Sligo Leitrim Voluntary Network
- Niall Rabbitt                      Tusla Educational Welfare Service
- Georgina O'Brien                      MACE Project
- Sinead Barrins                      Sligo Institute of Technology

*Mary Kellegher, Chairperson to August 2019, Interim Tusla Area Manager*

*Chris Gonley, Sligo Leader Partnership Co CLG, resigned 2020*

*Danielle Flynn, Tusla Educational Welfare Service, resigned 2020*

## Review of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Plan 2017-2019

An online survey of members of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC and working groups was carried out to review the working of CYPSC to date and to identify priorities for this plan. 49 out of 98 members responded. The findings are presented below under two key headings:

1. Progress and achievements to date.
2. How CYPSC structures and processes impact implementation.

### Progress and achievements to date

The high level of commitment and engagement among CYPSC members has resulted in a significant amount of progress being made in relation to actions from the 2017-2019 CYPP. A key learning from reviewing the implementation of the last plan is that some of the actions were too broad and were reflecting existing operational work within agencies, outside of the direct responsibility of CYPSC. Progress detailed here relates to specific achievements for which CYPSC had a key role. The main areas are listed in relation to

1. Developing structures and processes for interagency working
2. Supporting CYPSC members in responding to identified gaps in service
3. Implementing collaborative projects

### Developing structures and processes for interagency working

As detailed above the CYPSC structure and associated working groups have emerged and developed over the course of the last plan. Inter-agency relationships among member organisations have been strengthened and there is enhanced understanding among member organisations of the role and value of the CYPSC. CYPSC has developed 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. Some specific areas of development in terms of CYPSC structures and processes include:

- Development and publication of the Children and Young People's Plan 2017 – 2019, launched in 2017 and undertaking re-alignment of the Sligo Leitrim Working Groups, as recommended in the CYPSC Quality Assurance Assessment process. The working group process has been successful in facilitating the implementation of actions from the plan.
- The development of a collaborative working relationship with the Sligo Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative between 2014 to 2019. Early in 2019, this initiative was reformed as the Child and Youth Mental Health sub-group of the CYPSC Active and Healthy Working Group. Key individuals in the two counties and from CHO 1 participate in this group to consider the needs and gaps in services throughout the two counties and to respond to the services identified by young people in the 2014 'Mind Your Head' study. This outcome of this work has informed

the Sligo Leitrim CYPP 2020-2022. The impact of this is the securing of Healthy Ireland Funding to deliver a Brief Intervention Therapy over the two counties during 2020 and 2021.

- Sligo Leitrim CYPSC was selected by Tusla as one of seven national Pilot Commissioning Areas thus improving the commissioning of services by Tusla for children and young people in the two counties.
- Sligo Leitrim CYPSC secured funding from HSE Health and Wellbeing in 2016 for the Triple P Parenting Programme, enabling the training of 15 trainers in Triple P Parenting Programmes. These trainers come from the HSE and the Community and Voluntary sector and are delivering programmes in Sligo and Leitrim with an annual target of delivering to over 1,000 parents/carers per annum. The impact of this has been that in the last four months of 2019, 468 parents/carers have received the programmes.
- Participation along with eleven other CYPSCs nationally, in a Tusla and DCYA pilot project 'Outcomes for Children, National Data and Information Hub'. This information has informed the development of the 2020-2022 CYPP and the work of other agencies.
- Development and management of CYPSC Sligo Leitrim Facebook Page and support of the Parent Hub Sligo Leitrim Facebook Page. These have been popular with other agencies as a means of sharing their events and information on services. Sligo Leitrim CYPSC secured funding for the employment of a Parent Hub Coordinator, part of who's role it is to progress social media engagement of parents with CYPSC.

### **Supporting CYPSC members in responding to identified gaps in service**

A key impact of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC structure has been the development of a range of supports to assist services to respond to identified gaps in relation to outcomes for children and young people. These include:

- Supporting the Home Youth Liaison Service to expand to four post-primary schools in Co. Leitrim, funded by Tusla, the Child and Family Agency.
- Assisting Tusla Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) in the establishment of three Child and Family Support Networks (CFSN) in the Sligo/Leitrim counties.
- Supporting PPFS in the provision of training for trainers in the Parents Plus Parenting Programme.
- Facilitating initial discussions to develop a Youthreach service and a Community Training Centre in Leitrim. These services were subsequently established in 2018.
- Supporting Sligo Family Support CLG and Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Champions in an application to the Quality & Capacity Building Initiative (QCBI), 'Network Support Fund' under the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA), to support disability services in Sligo and Leitrim.

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<sup>2</sup> Parenting Support Champions is a collaborative network formed by Tusla to promote shared learning in relation to parenting and supports for parents.

## Implementing Collaborative Projects

The following projects have been successfully delivered through the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC.

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funder
<p>Development and promotion of the <a href="http://www.sligoleitrimdirectory.ie">www.sligoleitrimdirectory.ie</a> 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, in collaboration with the Sligo Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative and supported by member organisations of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC.</p> <p>Regular reports on usage of the website provided through Google Analytics are presented at CYPSC meetings highlighting topics accessed. Between 2016 and 2019 there was almost 100,000 page views. Particularly popular were early intervention services, child and adolescent mental health and counseling and therapy. Upgrading of the Directory will continue into 2020 so that new services may be added and engagement improved.</p>	<p>Tusla, HSE, MSL ETB, Sligo Leader Partnership Company, Leitrim Development Company, Sligo County Council, Leitrim County Council, Sligo County Childcare and Leitrim County Childcare</p>
<p>Development of the Parents App (Parents Own Plan) 2017. This App has been marketed to parents and services across the two counties. A review of the App resulted in translation into six languages and the development of an audio version. This is being actively promoted to service providers throughout Sligo and Leitrim. Since 2019 usage of the App is being tracked and initial results suggest reasonable engagement. For example, during quarters 2 and 3 of 2019 there were 1,100 hits. This can be improved upon in the coming years.</p> <p>The Parent App has been promoted to other CYPSC. This has resulted in the purchase of the App by seven other CYPSC nationally.</p>	<p>Tusla Seed Grant</p>
<p>Development of a Participation Lab Toolkit for children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim called '<a href="#">The Local Practice Guidelines for Children and Young Peoples' Participation</a>' 2018. This was developed with children and young people and was distributed among service providers within the two counties as well as to other CYPSCs nationally. The Toolkit is now available in Hub na nÓg library, which is a comprehensive collection of national and international good practice, policy, legal and academic publications, reports and resources on children and young people's participation in decision-making.</p> <p>Feedback from services indicate that the Toolkit is being utilised widely with high levels of satisfaction. €9,000 has been secured to train young people as trainers. They will deliver training on use of the Guidelines to</p>	<p>Tusla Seed Grant</p>

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funder
<p>staff working with children and young people thus improving participatory practices across all services.</p>	
<p>A Safeguarding Event was held with service providers throughout the two counties to prioritise safeguarding of children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim 2016.</p> <p>An outcome of the event was the undertaking and publication of a significant piece of research titled '<a href="#">Reviewing the Safety of Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim</a>' in 2018. A research assistant was employed to collate the data.</p> <p>The impact of this has been the dissemination of research results to agencies who have a key role in responding to the findings with a recommendation that the research is included in the agencies' planning processes as a means of ensuring that the voice of the child is being heard and responded to by those agencies. To date the research has been shared with the Sligo and Leitrim Joint Policing Committees, Sligo Gardaí and Leitrim Gardaí, Sligo County Council and Leitrim County Council. Other relevant agencies are scheduled to receive the research in 2019.</p>	<p>DCYA Seed Fund NWRDATF</p>
<p>Provision of a 'Mental Health Decider Programme' training for 40 front-line staff, working with children presenting with anxiety/mental health concerns, to support their resilience 2016. The impact of this is that staff report using the skills on a daily basis with children and young people presenting with anxiety.</p>	<p>DCYA Seed Grant</p>
<p>Local Communities for Healthy Ireland funded projects which were delivered early in 2018 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Buntús' Sport for Early Years Project.</li> <li>• 'Let's B Fit' Project for School Age Childcare Projects.</li> <li>• 'Health and Wellbeing Programme' for young people.</li> <li>• 'Breastfeeding Support'.</li> <li>• 'Nutrition and Weaning'.</li> <li>• 'Decider Programme' for Teachers at Primary School level, for 8 – 11 year olds.</li> </ul> <p>A report on the outcomes of these projects was provided to Pobal.</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Fund, Department of Health, supported by Pobal, 2017/2018</p>
<p>Local Communities for Healthy Ireland funded projects which were delivered 2018 - 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Buntús' Sport for Early Years Project.</li> <li>• 'Balance Bike's Project for Early Years.</li> <li>• 'Health and Wellbeing Programme' for young people.</li> <li>• LGBTI project.</li> <li>• Intercultural Worker</li> <li>• 'Breastfeeding Support Nutrition and Weaning'.</li> </ul> <p>A report on the outcomes of these projects is provided to Pobal. Over 286 staff and over 567 children in Early Years sectors received support</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Fund, Department of Health, supported by Pobal, 2018/2019</p>

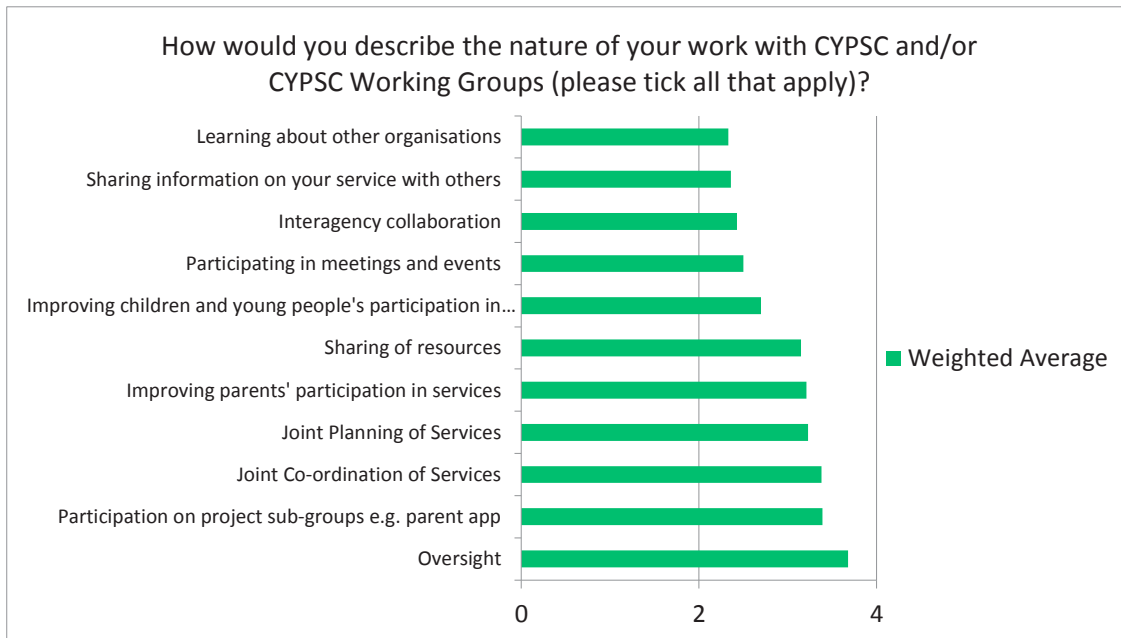
Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funder
<p>through these programmes. 668 adults and young people received direct support and a further 498 received indirect support.</p>	
<p>A programme called 'Circle of Friends' was established in association with Childhood Days, a Childcare Service, Laird House, in Drumshanbo, Co Leitrim. An external facilitator trained Childhood Days staff to enable them to meet the various needs of the group. The group commenced on the 4th October 2019 and places were offered to seventeen Children, aged 8 - 18 years, with both intellectual, physical and sensory disabilities. The group was a huge success as it enabled the children to meet other children with similar needs and interests and expand their " Circle of Friends". The Funding incorporated transport, collecting children in Manorhamilton, in North Leitrim and in Ballinamore, Mohill and Carrick - on -Shannon in South Leitrim.</p> <p>The group met for five sessions prior to Christmas. The children attended bowling and the cinema in Carrick-on-Shannon, cookery class, disco and dance exercise in Laird House, Drumshanbo. They also attended the Christmas panto, Aladdin, in the Hawkswell Theatre, Sligo. On average 15 out of the 17 children attended each night and thoroughly enjoyed this experience. Childhood Days Childcare Service has committed to continue with this initiative for this cohort of children.</p>	<p>Quality and Capacity Building Initiative, Department of Children and Youth Affairs 2018</p>
<p>A seminar entitled <i>Continence Promotion for Children with Disabilities</i> was hosted for parents and carers, health service providers and other professionals in Sligo. A day-long seminar was held on November 26<sup>th</sup> and an information session on the evening of 25<sup>th</sup> November. June Rodgers, Paediatric Continence Specialist, Bladder and Bowel UK was the speaker on both days. June has over 30 years' experience in working with children and young people with bowel and bladder problems. Topics included Toilet Training, Constipation, Aids and Equipment. On 25<sup>th</sup> November, June hosted the information session entitled <i>Positive Focus on Toileting Children with Disabilities</i> for those unable to attend the full-day seminar.</p> <p>Over 130 parents and carers, health service providers and other professionals attended both events and the evaluations received from attendees were very positive and confirmed that the information received was useful and would effect changes in practice for parents and professionals.</p>	<p>Quality and Capacity Building Initiative, Department of Children and Youth Affairs 2018</p>
<p>Art Workshops were held in Sligo and Leitrim. These took place on 27th and 28th November 2019, in Carrick on Shannon, Co Leitrim and in the Education Centre, Sligo IT Campus. There were four workshops in total - two in Leitrim and two in Sligo. Four practitioners from two services attended the first workshop and thirteen practitioners from eight services the second, in Co Leitrim. In Sligo, three staff from three services attended the first workshop and eighteen staff from eight services attended the second. Overall comments were that the workshops were most useful with service providers stating they would put the learned skills into practice.</p>	<p>Quality and Capacity Building Initiative, Department of Children and Youth Affairs 2018</p>

## How Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Structures and Processes Impact Implementation

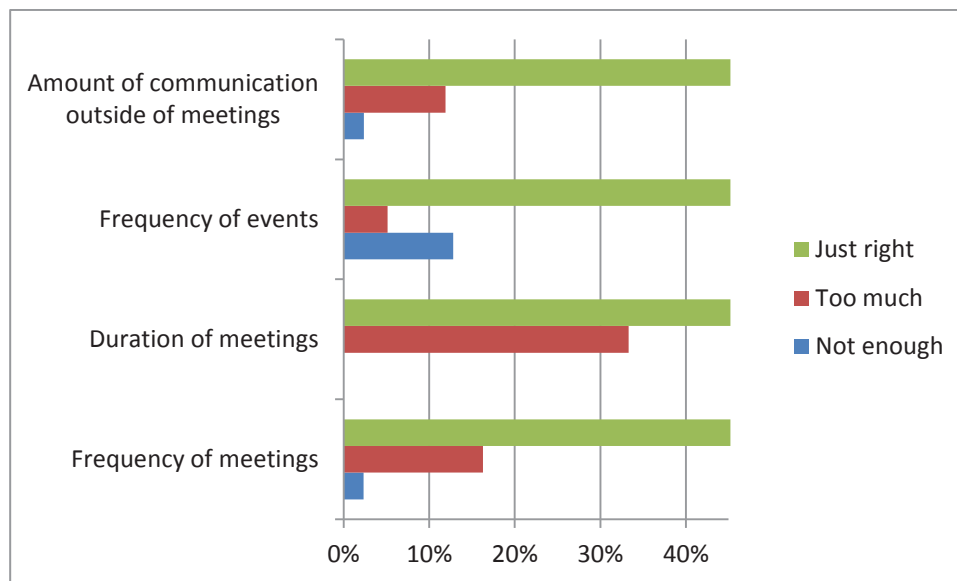
Sligo Leitrim CYPSC works closely with all statutory, community and voluntary agencies who provide services and supports to children, young people and families in the counties in order to ensure better outcomes. Cooperation, collaboration and partnership working is achieved through the working group structure. Members represent a wide range of organisations who engage in CYPSC at a range of levels. The Chairs of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC working groups highlighted that members' perspectives on CYPSC structures and processes were an important consideration on how CYPSC does its work. Therefore, the online survey included a question on member's perspectives.

As can be seen from Figure 2 a wide range of activities were identified suggesting an active and engaged membership.

**Figure 2 Activities of CYPSC members**



**Figure 3 Members' perspective on CYPSC meetings**



CYPSC members overall have been very engaged in meetings, however an analysis of attendance records and feedback from members indicate that there are some agencies who have not been as well represented as others. For some, this has been an issue of lack of staff time to attend, for others the reason is not clear. Most of those who responded to our survey are actively engaged and their perspective on how CYPSC is operating was very positive.

### Benefits and Challenges to being a member of CYPSC

A wide range of the benefits were identified by members in relation to participation in CYPSC. These included improvements in:

- Awareness of the breadth of work and services available for children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim
- Interagency networking and cooperation
- Joined up thinking' leading to less duplication of work
- Knowledge of and respect for the work of other organisations
- Development of local guidelines and responses
- Knowledge and understanding of national and local issues
- Working together on funding applications

*“I’m enjoying new colleagues. I have gained knowledge on, and huge respect for community and voluntary sector”.*

*“We are sharing information and highlighting gaps in services to children, young people and their parents in Sligo/Leitrim and looking at ways to address them”.*

A number of challenges in relation to membership of CYPSC also arose. In the main, they related to

- Staff shortages making it difficult for members to attend meetings
- Getting the actual voice of the child included on decision making at CYPSC level
- Absence of key organisations



*“Time.....it takes time to build relationships and really tease things out and work together - and time is limited resource”*

*“Positive experience of interagency working with attendee organisations but challenged when key organisations are absent/not represented”*

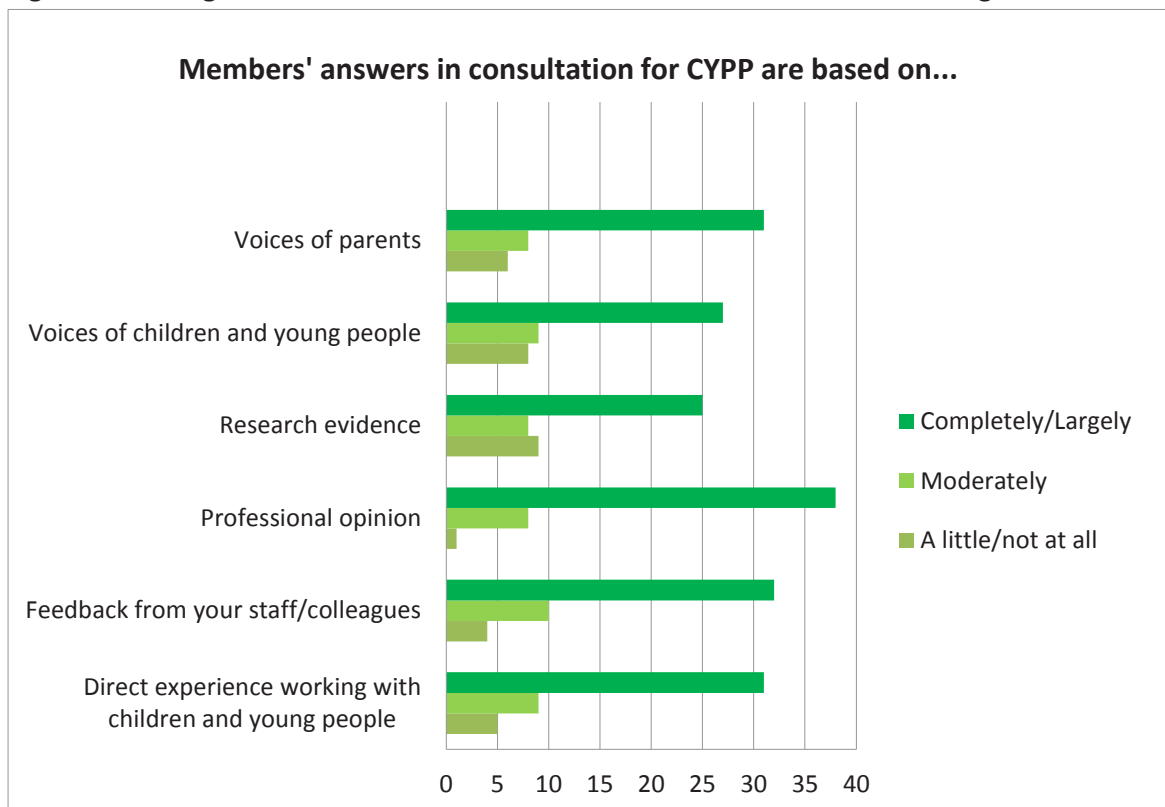
Overall, members highlighted the positive aspects to interagency working and there was evidence of impact on ways of working, use of knowledge and resources and impact on outcomes for children. The only challenge identified was the absence/non-attendance of some members. Members identified the CYPSC interagency collaboration as facilitating efficient use of time and resources. In particular, the learning involved both about issues and supports available locally was a strong theme.

*“Working at interagency level works really well overall. I find having all the appropriate agencies around the table enables for a more efficient, professional approach to service delivery, maximising output and minimising duplication.”*

*“Very beneficial especially in terms of getting better outcomes for children. Otherwise we would never have an opportunity to sit around a table together to discuss what’s going on in different services/agencies. Great for networking too. I have learned a lot.”*

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC is building its partnership and participatory processes with children, young people, parents and the wider community. As can be seen from the chart below, bringing the voice of children, young people and parents to CYPSC is integral to members’ participation in CYPSC.

**Figure 4 How Sligo Leitrim CYPSC members are informed in their decision making**



## How the Children and Young People's Plan was Developed

Date	Process	Stakeholders Consulted	Outputs
2018	Three-phase research process to identify areas of concern pertaining to Safety of Children and Young People in Sligo/Leitrim.	80 professionals representing more than 30 organisations.  491 children and young people aged 8 - 24 years.  55 parents.	Research Report <a href="#">Reviewing the Safety of Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim</a> .  Detailed breakdown of recommendations by children, young people and parents by local area and relevant organisation responsible.
2018	Research and development of CYPSC Children and Young People's Participation Lab	6 groups of children and young people (aged 3 - 18).	Research Report on Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Participation Lab  <a href="#">The Local Practice Guidelines for Children and Young Peoples' Participation</a>
2016 - 2019	Schools 'Make 1 Change' Initiative	25 primary schools	Internal evaluation forms collated
2019	Review of feedback data from parents involved in Parenting Programmes in 2018	Over 500 Parents/Guardians who attended parenting training programmes and events during 2018	Presentation to CYPSC June 2019.
2019	Online survey of CYPSC and CYPSC working group members.	49 service providers representing the views of working groups, organisations, teams and networks.	Survey report.
2019	Consultation stand at North West Career Fest, IT Sligo.	350 young people aged 15 - 24.	Summary report.
2019	Consultation with Comhairle na nÓg in Sligo and in Leitrim	30+ young people aged 10 - 18.	Summary report and young volunteers to participate in development of youth friendly version of CYPSC plan.
2019	Externally facilitated workshops and meetings with CYPSC members and Working Group chairs.	CYPSC members.	Meeting minutes.
2019	Analysis of usage of CYPSC Parenting Apps	Individuals engaging the Parenting App	Monthly data reports.

## Section 2: Socio-Demographic Profile of Sligo Leitrim

**Table 1: Summary Demographic Indicator Table for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area**

Indicator*	Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area	National Comparator	
Child and youth population (0 – 24)	31,427	1,583,004	
Child population (0 – 17)	24,149	1,190,502	
Young adult population (18 – 24)	7,278	392,502	
Infant mortality	3	2.7	
Child mortality (0 – 19 years 5 year standardised 2013-2017)	Sligo: 2.2 Leitrim: 3.9	2.7	
Ethnicity other than White Irish (% and no. of 0 – 24)	White Irish Traveller	1.5%; 363	1.1%; 18,018
	Other White Background	6.7%; 2093	7.7%; 121,851
	Black or Black Irish	1.0%; 319	2.2%; 34,687
	Asian or Asian Irish	1.7%; 532	2.5%; 39,930
	Other Background	1.4%; 444	2.0%; 32,492
	Not Stated	2.1%; 672	2.5%; 40,177
Non-Irish national children and young people (% and no. of 0 – 24)	8.4% 2649	9.8% 155,986	
Family structure: (% and no. of Children in One Parent Family Units)	20% 6702	21.2% 356,203	
Parental education level (% of children under 18 whose mother has attained)	Primary	6.2%	8.1%
	Lower secondary	10.4%	13.3%
	Upper secondary	37.7%	37.3%
	Third-level education	42.9%	38.3%
The number of Traveller children and young people (0 – 17 years)	299	14,223	
Number of children in Direct Provision	77	1564	
Children and young people with a disability SONC 2015	Physical and sensory	69	6230
	Intellectual	207	9066

\*Source Census 2016 unless otherwise stated.

## Demographic Profile of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area

As Sligo Leitrim CYPSC covers two counties, the data presented here will in the main, give details for each county individually. The relevant HSE and Tusla local area is Sligo Leitrim and West Cavan. The combined 2016 population of Sligo and Leitrim region is 97,578, representing 2.05% of the national population. In 2016, the population of County Sligo was 65,357 representing a relatively low population density of 36 persons/km<sup>2</sup> as compared to the national average of 66 persons/km<sup>2</sup>. Sligo City is the most significant urban settlement in the County. Leitrim is the most rural county in Ireland, with nine out of ten people in Leitrim live in rural areas. County Sligo underwent the biggest change in Ireland in rate of urbanisation since 2011 (from 37% urban to 40%). This can be largely attributed to the re-classification of Collooney from rural to urban.

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

This section presents socio-demographic data that includes the basic indicators extracted from Part 1: Socio-Demographics, of the State of the Nation's Children summary. More detailed data has been reported on (Appendix D). Commentary on this data is presented in the needs analysis in Section 4.

**Table 2: Age Profile of Population**

Age range	Sligo	% of county population	Leitrim	% of county population	Sligo Leitrim	% of CYPSC area population	State	% of country population
<b>0-24</b>	21,330	<b>32.5</b>	10,097	<b>31.5</b>	<b>31,427</b>	<b>32.2</b>	1,583,004	<b>33.3</b>
<b>0-17</b>	15,961	<b>24.4</b>	8,188	<b>25.6</b>	<b>24,149</b>	<b>24.7</b>	1,190,502	<b>25.0</b>
<b>18-24</b>	5369	<b>6.0</b>	1909	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7,278</b>	<b>7.5</b>	392,502	<b>8.2</b>

In 2016 there were 31,935 children, young people and young adults 0-24 years living in Sligo Leitrim representing 32.8% of the population compared to 33.24% of the population in the state in that age group. The 2016 Census showed that Leitrim had the 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) of any county at 62.6 % compared to a national rate of 52.7%. County Sligo also had a high dependency ratio at 57.5%. The age dependency ratio (0 - 14 year olds) for Sligo was 23.0 and for Leitrim was 35.1. For the State it was 32.3.

There are 1,272 lone parent households in Leitrim; 87% lone mothers, 13% lone fathers. One-parent families make up 22.7% of all households in Leitrim. There are 2,926 lone parent households in Sligo; 86% lone mothers, 14% lone fathers. One-parent families make up 25.8% of all households in Sligo<sup>3</sup>. The lone parent rate for 2016 was 19.9 for Sligo, 15.4 for Leitrim and 19.9 for the State.

<sup>3</sup><https://onefamily.ie/media-publications/facts-figures/> accessed July 23, 2019

**Table 3: Children in Family Units**

		Leitrim	Sligo	Sligo Leitrim	State
<b>All family units</b>	Children in Family Units (Number)	11317	22231	33548	1682601
<b>One parent mother with children</b>	Children in Family Units (Number)	1781	4098	5879	312241
<b>One parent father with children</b>	Children in Family Units (Number)	241	582	823	43962
				6702	356203

It is projected that nationally falling fertility, combined with the projected decline in the number of women aged 20-39 will lead to a decline in the total number of births from the 2011 level of 74,000 to just over 55,000 in 2031, a decrease of 25.8 per cent. In the border region births will decline by just over 28.0 per cent.

## Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

**Table 4: Infant and neonatal mortality 2016**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
No. of infant mortalities	2	1	194
No. of neonatal mortalities	0	1	147
Rate of infant mortality per 1,000 live births	2.6	2.4	3
Rate of neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births	0	2.4	2.3

**Table 5: Child mortality rates 2017 and 5 year standardised 2013-2017**

Rate (per 100,000 1-19 year olds - European Standardised Population)	Sligo	Leitrim	State
5 year rate	2.2	3.9	2.7

The following key facts were highlighted in a child health profile covering the Sligo Leitrim area<sup>4</sup>:

- Leitrim had the highest child mortality rate in the country (9.7/100,000 vs 2.4/100,000 nationally). Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan LHO met the 95% target for the MMR Vaccination at 24 months (95.8%), the 6-in-1 vaccination at 24 months (97.1%), and was close to meeting the target for the MMR second dose in Junior Infants (94.6%).
- Sligo had significantly lower rates of breastfeeding than the national average (54.3%); Data was only available for exclusive feeding (43.8%) in Leitrim due to the small sample of those combination feeding. As such, it is assumed that the total figure of breastfeeding in Leitrim would likely be one of the lowest in the country.
- Leitrim had the lowest rate of teenage pregnancy in the country (0.5% of births vs 1.7% nationally).
- The rate of hospital discharges for injuries in children aged 0-14 was significantly higher in Sligo (100/10,000) than the national average (82/10,000).

**Table 6: Children with disabilities<sup>5</sup>**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	Total
Total number of children with a disability <sup>6</sup> , aged 0-18 years	588	126	714
No. of children engaged in EIT (Early Intervention Team)	142	76	218
No. of children engaged with SAT (School Aged Team)	454	42	496

The rate per 1000, of children with physical and sensory disabilities (2015) was lower in Sligo (2.9) and Leitrim (3) than for the State (5.4). The rate per 1000, of children with intellectual disabilities (2015) was higher in Sligo (10.3) than in Leitrim (5.8) and the State (7.9).

<sup>4</sup> HSE Child Health Profile 2018 CHO 1 – Donegal, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan, Cavan/Monaghan

<sup>5</sup> HSE 2019 (email correspondence)

<sup>6</sup> include Intellectual disability, physical and sensory and autism.

## Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development

95.5% of children in County Sligo and 96.4% in County Leitrim, aged between 0-5 yrs are in early learning and care services including centre based services and childminding.

**Table 7: Early Childhood Care and Education<sup>7</sup>, 2018 - 2019**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	Total
Total number attending 0 – 5 years	2,668	1,344	4,012
No. of children availing of ECCE free pre-school	1,371	768	2,139
No. of services	76	37	113

11,364 attend primary school level education in Sligo Leitrim and 7,454 young people in second level education in Sligo Leitrim. There are 4 PLC registered providers in Sligo Leitrim with 718 pupils.

**Table 8: The mean percentage of student/days lost, 20-day absences, expulsions, and suspensions by county for primary and post primary schools**

	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Absenteeism rates, Primary schools: 2016/17	9.1	6.4	10.9
Absenteeism rates, Post-Primary schools: 2016/17	18.1	20.2	15.8

Absenteeism rates for post-primary schools in Sligo (18.1%) and Leitrim (20.2%) are higher than national rates (15.8%). However, the 2012 retention rates to the Leaving Certificate are a measure of the percentage of pupils who entered first year of post-primary schools in 2012 and who sat the Leaving Certificate exam in 2017 or 2018. 2012 rates for Sligo and Leitrim compare favourably to 2009 rates. Sligo had the second highest retention rate in the country in (93.5%).

**Table 9: Retention rate to Leaving Certificate 2009 and 2012 entry cohorts**

	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Retention rate to Leaving Certificate (of 2009 entry cohort)	91.1	90.1	90.2
Retention rate to Leaving Certificate (of 2012 entry cohort) <sup>8</sup>	93.5	92.2	91.5

The percentage of the local population aged 15+ whose education ceased before the age of 15 is higher in Leitrim (12.5%) than in Sligo (10.1%), and nationally (11.1%).

**Table 10: The percentage of children under 18 by mother's education level**

Highest Level of Education Attained	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Primary	6.3	6.1	8.1
Lower Secondary	10.4	10.5	13.3
Upper Secondary	41.4	37.9	37.3
Third Level	42.8	43.0	38.3
Other/not stated	3.0	2.4	2.9

<sup>7</sup>Sligo and Leitrim County Childcare Committees personal communication

<sup>8</sup> Retention Rates of Pupils in Second Level Schools Entry Cohort 2012 [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie) 2020

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Of the 1,033 referrals that were received during 2017, 210 proceeded to initial assessment. As of 31 February 2019, 108 children were in Tusla care, 95% of whom were in foster care.

**Table 11: Children in Care**

Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan			
No. of children in Tusla care:	As of 31/12/17	As of 31/12/18	As of 31/02/19
<b>Total</b>	108	108	108
<b>Residential Care</b>	5	4	4
<b>Foster Care General</b>	79	77	77
<b>Foster Care Relative</b>	23	26	26
<b>Other</b>	1	1	1

Children and young people's perspectives on their safety was more positive than parents, particularly in relation to how safe children and young people are in their community.

**Table 12: Perceptions of children and young people's safety<sup>9</sup>**

Yes children and young people are safe...	Responses from Children and Young People %	Responses from Parents %
...in their community	87	60
...in their school/educational environment	90	82
...in their home	88	71

293 young people in Sligo Leitrim were referred to the Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme in 2017<sup>10</sup>. This represented a +22% change on the previous year. Of these referrals, 193 were 18 years or under, six were restorative cautions and eight were deemed unsuitable for the programme.

**Table 13 Young People involved in YAPS 2018 (Youth Action Project Sligo – A Garda Diversion Project)**

	Sligo	Leitrim
<b>Number of young people involved in YAPS</b>	33	4

<sup>9</sup>CYPSC Review of the Safety of Children and Young People Sligo Leitrim 2018

<sup>10</sup>Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme 2017



## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

The experience of disadvantage in Sligo and Leitrim is marginally below average. Income and poverty rates for the region in which Sligo Leitrim CYPSC is located were higher than for the State.

**Table 14: Pobal HP Deprivation Indices**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Pobal HP Index 2016	-1.6	-3.2	0.6
Pobal HP Description 2016	Marginally below average	Marginally below average	Marginally above average

**Table 15: Unemployment**

Number on Live Register (June 2019)	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Total	2817	1756	197108
Under 25 years	309	1099	151579

**Table 16: Poverty rates**

Category Rate % 2016	Border Region	State
At risk of poverty	23.7	16.5
Deprivation	25.9	21.0
Consistent poverty	13.4	8.3

The at risk of poverty rate for the border region is considerably higher (23.7%) than for the state (16.5%).

**Table 17: Families approved for social housing**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim
Families with dependent children approved for social housing support/ transfer to alternative forms of social housing support <sup>11</sup>	162	406

The number of households with children in need of social housing in 2016 in Sligo was 294 and in Leitrim was 110. There is a significant social housing provided by Clúid and Respond in Sligo, however there is no such provision in Leitrim.

**Table 18: Households in Sligo Leitrim supported by North West Simon Community in 2018<sup>12</sup>**

County	Total Adults	Total Children	Couples + Child	Female + Child	Male + Child	Couples + No Child	Single Female	Single male
Leitrim	62	63	10	14	2	4	8	10
Sligo	70	67	25				12	10

<sup>11</sup>Leitrim County Council and Sligo County Council, 2016

<sup>12</sup> North West Simon Community Overview of Service Provision in 2018

## Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area has a higher percentage of children from White Irish Traveller background than the State and lower percentages of other ethnic backgrounds.

**Table 19: Children from new communities 2016**

	Sligo	%	Leitrim	%	Sligo/ Leitrim	%	State	%
White Irish	17852	83.7	8705	86.2	26557	<b>84.5</b>	1277486	<b>80.7</b>
White Irish Traveller	242	1.1	121	1.2	363	<b>1.5</b>	18018	<b>1.1</b>
Any other White background	1275	6.0	818	8.1	2093	<b>6.7</b>	121851	<b>7.7</b>
Black or Black Irish	267	1.2	52	0.5	319	<b>1.0</b>	34687	<b>2.2</b>
Asian or Asian Irish	412	1.9	120	1.2	532	<b>1.7</b>	39930	<b>2.5</b>
Other including mixed background	284	1.3	160	1.6	444	<b>1.4</b>	32492	<b>2.0</b>
Not stated	476	2.2	196	1.9	672	<b>2.1</b>	40177	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Total 0 - 24</b>	<b>21330</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>10097</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>31427</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1583004</b>	<b>100</b>

In March 2020 there were 25 children resident in the Direct Provision Centres in Sligo and 52 in Leitrim<sup>13</sup>.

**Table 20: Traveller population<sup>14</sup>**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
No. of Traveller children (under 18 years)	202	97	14,223
Rate per 1,000 children	12.7	11.8	11.3
Traveller population (all) rate per 1,000 of population	5.9	6.6	6.5
Traveller population (all) percentage of population in county	0.59%	0.66%	0.65%

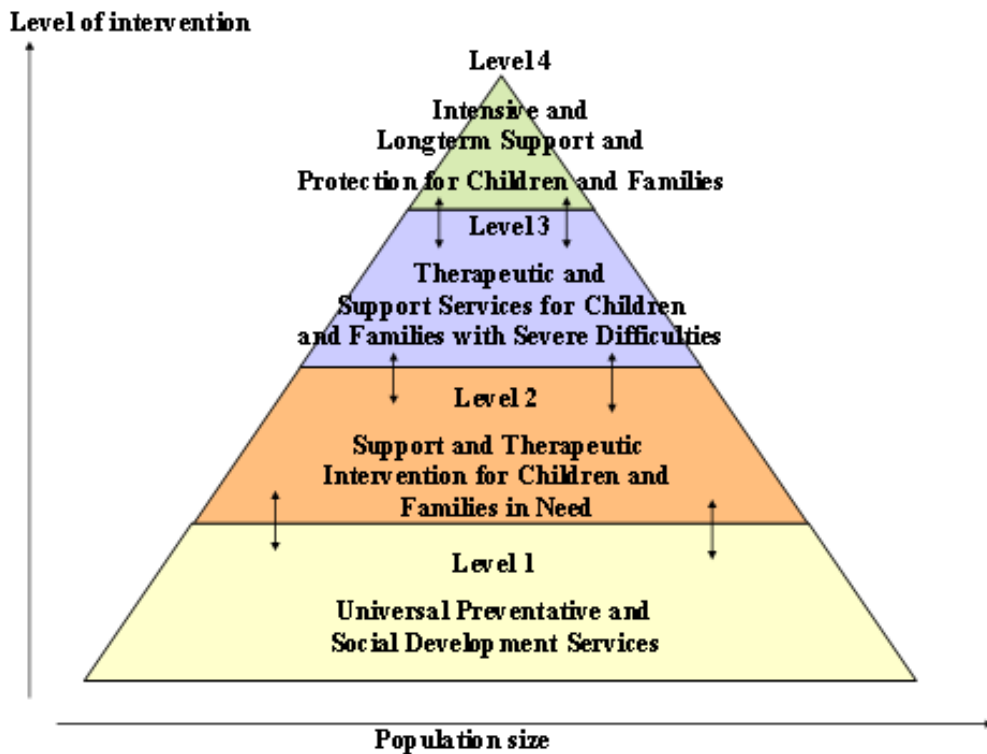
In 2016, the rate of Traveller children was higher in Sligo (12.7 per 1000) than in the State (11.3). Leitrim (11.3) was closer to the national rate.

<sup>13</sup> Personal communication with Tusla March 2020

<sup>14</sup> HSE, Designated PHN for Travellers, (2016)

## Section 3: Overview of Services to Children and Families in Sligo Leitrim

This section presents an overview of the range of statutory and voluntary services provided for children and families in Sligo and Leitrim indicating whether universal or targeted and the level of intervention as per the Hardiker Model<sup>15</sup> - see below:



The model outlines four levels of intervention:

- Level 1 refers to those mainstream services that are available to all children – health care, education, leisure and a range of other services provided in communities.
- Level 2 represents services to children who have some additional needs. Services at Level 2 are characterised by referral, and full parental consent and negotiation.
- Level 3 represents support to families or children and young people where there are chronic or serious problems.
- Level 4 represents support for families and individual children or young people where the family has broken down temporarily or permanently where the child or young person may be looked after by social services. It can also include young people in youth custody or prison or as an in-patient due to disability or mental health problems.

The following table details the range of services to children and families in Sligo and Leitrim provided by the Statutory (S) and the Community and Voluntary (C&V) sector and an indication of the level of intervention (1, 2, 3 or 4) and whether it is targeted or universal.

<sup>15</sup>Hardiker, P., Exton, K. and Barker, M. (1991). Policies and Practices in Preventive Child Care. Aldershot: Ashgate

Health and Social Services			
<b>Health Service Executive</b>	Offers a range of public primary care, health and social care services through clinics, hospitals, local health teams and health centres. These services include eye; dental; dietician; GPs and family doctors; GP out of hours; public health nurses; and more specialised services - speech and language therapy, psychological and psychology services; disability, homelessness, and mental health services.  In Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan there are: 10 Primary Care Teams; 12 Primary Care Centres and 12 Health Centres.	S	Universal & Targeted  1-4
<b>Tusla Child and Family Agency</b>	The statutory agency is responsible for improving wellbeing and outcomes for children and young people. It offers a range of support services including Alternative Care <sup>1</sup> ; Family and Community Support including Family Resources Centres; Meitheal <sup>2</sup> and Family Support Services; Child Protection and Welfare; Education Welfare Services; Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Service; Prevention, Partnership and Family Support <sup>3</sup> ; Pre- School Inspections.	S	Universal & Targeted  1-4
<b>Local Authorities</b>	Sligo and Leitrim local authorities provide a range of social, housing, community and welfare services including: Homelessness supports; Traveller accommodation and supports; Social Work; sports and playground facilities; Leitrim Sports & Recreation Partnership and Sligo Sports & Recreation Partnership; Libraries: 4 (Sligo); 9 (Leitrim); Park/Amenity Area, 12 (Sligo); Park/Amenity Area, 28 (Leitrim); Sports Centres- 2 (Sligo); 3 (Leitrim); Arts Officers- 1 (Sligo) 1 (Leitrim); Comhairle na nÓg- 1 (Sligo) and 1 (Leitrim); Public Participation Network – 1 (Sligo) and 1 (Leitrim.)	S	Universal & Targeted  1-4

1 The Child and Family Agency has a statutory responsibility to provide Alternative Care Services under the provisions the Child Care Act, 1991, the Children Act, 2001 and the Child Care (Amendment) Act, 2007. Children who require admission to care are accommodated through placement in foster care, placement with relatives, or residential care. The Agency also has a responsibility to provide Aftercare services. Aftercare services are support services that build on and support the work that has already been undertaken by many including, foster carers, social workers and residential workers in preparing young people for adulthood. It is a service that builds on the skills and capacity that young people have learned and developed during their time in care. In addition, services are provided for children who are homeless or who are separated children seeking asylum. The Agency also has responsibilities with regards to adoption processes.

2 Tusla has developed the Meitheal approach to help children where they may need the support of more than one service. Meitheal is a case co-ordination process for families with additional needs who require multi-agency intervention but who do not meet the threshold for referral to the Social Work Department under Children First.

3 The Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) Programme is a comprehensive programme of early intervention and preventative work which has been undertaken by Tusla.

<b>Family Resource Centres including family support to families delivered in their own homes</b>	There are 6 x Family Resource Centres (FRC) in Sligo and Leitrim, funded by Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, as part of the national family resource centre programme. These are providing a range of community, family, and child supports. Location, in Co Sligo: Sligo Town, Ballymote, Tubbercurry, Enniscrone serving West Sligo; Location, in Co Leitrim: Mohill and Breffni, Carrick on Shannon.	S	Universal and Targeted 1 - 4
<b>Lifestart, Leitrim Sligo West Cavan</b>	Lifestart is a home based family support service which delivers the evidence based Lifestart Growing Child Programme, monthly (universally) to all first time parents of children from birth to three years.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Springboard Resource House Project</b>	This is a community based family support project which offers professional Family Support Programmes and Services and focussed interventions at all levels of Hardiker scale (2+3+4). It serves Sligo town and environs.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 4
<b>Community &amp; Voluntary funded Organisations</b>	A detailed list of community & voluntary funded organisations in Sligo and Leitrim is provided on <a href="http://www.sligoleitrimdirectory.ie">www.sligoleitrimdirectory.ie</a> .	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 4
<b>CLASP</b>	The Community of Lough Arrow Social Project (CLASP) provides services to people living in the east Co. Sligo area including a Rural Transport Programme; and a Clasp Youth Programme.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3

Homelessness			
<b>Sligo Social Services Council CLG, Co. Sligo</b>	Provides a Pre-school, School Age Childcare, Counselling for young people and adults, an Open Access Service, Substance Misuse Service for people with addiction and at risk of becoming homeless, a number of Homeless Services including homeless hostels for single adults, and short-term family accommodation, a Meals on Wheels service in both Co Sligo and Co Leitrim, a Befriending Service for the elderly in the Sligo area.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Sophia Housing Association, Co. Sligo</b>	Sophia Housing Association works with people in Co Sligo who find themselves out of their own home. There are 3 sites in Sligo; in Tubbercurry - 56 accommodation units, 24 units and 32 apartments; in Sligo town, the accommodation located in Cairns Hill and Ballincar is for people with an intellectual disability.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>Simon</b>	North West Simon Community works with those at risk of homelessness in Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo. The aim is to enable people to sustain and secure their own home and have access to appropriate housing. Support is provided to individuals and families who are either homeless or need support to maintain their tenancy. The Support offered: Information/Advocacy around housing; Prompt support to deal with threat of eviction; Assistance with access to welfare entitlements and information on rent arrears/budgeting/ utilities. Provides access to a range of homeless supports in Co. Leitrim	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>Focus</b>	Provides a range of preventative and support services for children and families at risk or currently homeless, including holding advice and information clinics throughout the town and county. Supported housing is also provided in Co. Sligo.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 2
<b>St Vincent De Paul</b>	Provides a practical approach to dealing with poverty, alleviating its effects on individuals and families through working primarily in person-to-person contact.  In addition to providing direct assistance to those in need, caring for the homeless, providing social housing, operating holiday homes and other social support activities, the Society promotes community self-sufficiency, enabling people to help themselves. The Society supports are available in both counties.	C&V	Universal 1 - 4
<b>Social Housing Bodies</b>	There are social housing estates and one-off housing in Sligo provided by approved housing bodies, Focus, Clúid, Respond, Tuath and Oaklee. There are social housing estates and one-off housing in Leitrim provided by approved housing bodies, Clúid, Respond, Tuath, Oaklee and Simon.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services			
<b>Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan Rape Crisis Centre</b>	Rape Crisis and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan. Provides counselling and support to men, women and young people who have experienced sexual violence. Core funding is provided by Tusla.	C&V	Targeted 2 - 3
<b>Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS) Sligo &amp; Leitrim and West Cavan</b>	DVAS services are targeted at women who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence and other forms of gender based violence through a range of free, confidential and accessible front-line services that focus on maximizing women and children's safety.	C&V	Targeted 2 - 3

<b>Move Ireland</b>	MOVE – Men Overcoming Violence works in the area of domestic violence, with a primary aim of supporting the safety and wellbeing of women and their children who are experiencing or have experienced violence/abuse in an intimate relationship. Provides a combination of group support and intervention work through CHOICES programme coupled with individual sessions. Support also offered to ex-partner or partner. 1(Sligo).	C&V	Targeted 2 - 3
<b>Travellers and Migrants</b>			
<b>Sligo Traveller Support Group</b>	The group provides and supports a number of services to Sligo Travellers including a Healthcare Team, Childcare, Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS), Mediation, Counselling, Young Men's Support Group and Educational Supports.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>HSE Social Inclusion</b>	Traveller Health Projects 1 (Sligo), 1 (Leitrim). The CHO 1 Traveller Health Strategy has been prepared by working closely with Travellers and Traveller organisations across the CHO 1 area, which covers the Counties Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan and Monaghan. Guidance was also sought nationally about what should be included in the plan.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Leitrim Integrated Development Company</b>	Leitrim Development Company manages the Shannonside Community Childcare Centre in Carrick on Shannon. The Centre provides and promotes a number of supports to the Traveller Community in Leitrim, including: An Early Years' Service, five days a week; School Age Childcare Programme, five days a week; Traveller Primary Health Care Project which employs five part-time Traveller Community Healthcare Workers; Development Workers provide support to Traveller men, women and young people through various programmes; Support for individual Travellers and families in accommodation, education and health.	C&V	Universal 1 - 2
<b>Direct Provision Centres/International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS)</b>	There is an Accommodation Centre contracted by the Reception & Integration Agency to house refugees and asylum seekers in Sligo town. It has capacity for 218 people. There are two facilities in Co. Leitrim, one in Carrick-on-Shannon and one in Ballinamore.	S	Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Diversity Sligo</b>	Diversity Sligo offers support to parents and their children living in direct provision in the form of a listening service, information about parenting courses and support groups, referrals to relevant agencies, financial support for educational needs, Summer Camps and after-school activities. Diversity Sligo offers support to asylum seekers and refugees living in Sligo in their inclusion into Irish society. A part-time Family Coordinator is available to work with parents and children.	C&V	Universal 1 – 2
<b>Sligo FRC Intercultural Project</b>	Sligo FRC Intercultural Project promotes social inclusion through direct support to new communities including the Syrian Families Befriending Service, one -to-one support with language and social supports, annual cultural food and arts events as well as workshops/ seminars/webinars and conferences to build capacity, share information and to highlight the positive contribution of migrants to the community.	C&V	Universal 1 – 2
<b>Failte Isteach- Sligo Leader Partnership</b>	Failte Isteach is a community project welcoming migrants through conversational English classes. The project provides the necessary language skills to new migrants in a student-centred welcoming and inclusive manner while involving older volunteers and recognising their skills, expertise and contribution to the community. Supported by Sligo Leader Partnership Co CLG.	C&V	Universal 1
<b>International Cultural Group, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim (LICG)</b>	This group raises awareness of different cultures in Leitrim, to bring all cultures together in a shared space, to reduce racism and make presentations in community settings to learn about different cultures.	C&V	Universal 1

<b>North Leitrim Intercultural Group</b>	A community based group composed of representatives from migrant communities living in Leitrim. The group offers a range of services to the migrant communities who have come to reside in County Leitrim. There are two branches, one in North Leitrim and one in South Leitrim.	C&V	Universal 1
<b>Mohill FSC Carraig Accommodation</b>	Mohill FSC provides a part-time Family Support Worker in Ballinamore, Co Leitrim. The worker provides information on Parenting Programmes, form filling, routines, behaviour management etc. A Toy Library has also been created.	C & V	Universal 1

### Transport

<b>The Rural Transport Programme - Donegal Sligo Leitrim Local Link</b>	Local link is a rural transport programme. The service, on behalf of the National Transport Authority, addresses issues of unmet transport need from a social inclusion and community-based perspective. It focuses on responding to rural isolation and enhancing the mobility, accessibility and community participation of local people, particularly those at risk of social exclusion. It is available across Sligo and Leitrim.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>CLASP</b>	The community of Lough Arrow in rural Sligo provides a transport service that serves the needs of residents using both scheduled and unscheduled bus and voluntary car services on a weekly basis.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>HSE</b>	The HSE provides a variety of transport support to people attending day hospitals, day centres, outpatients and other outpatient appointments.	S	Targeted 2 – 3

### Drug and Alcohol Services

<b>North West Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force:</b>	<p>Multiple services are provided in Sligo and Leitrim through the NWRDATF including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Drug and Alcohol workers in Sligo/Leitrim</li> <li>Assertive Outreach Workers: Sligo/ North Leitrim- new service: Sligo &amp; South Leitrim: North Leitrim/South Donegal</li> <li>Young Men's Programme, Sligo Travellers Support Group</li> <li>Substance Misuse Worker for the Homeless- Sligo</li> <li>Drug and Alcohol Family Support worker- North Leitrim/South Donegal (New Service)</li> </ul>	C&V	Targeted 2 – 4
<b>North West Alcohol Forum</b>	M-Pact Programme- Moving parents and children together - is a programme working with families affected by parental substance misuse in Sligo Leitrim and West Cavan.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3



<b>HSE Alcohol and Substance Misuse Service Sligo/Leitrim</b>	Counselling Service for adults and young people and those affected by family member's with alcohol and substance misuse problems	S	Targeted 2 – 4
<b>Residential/ Detox</b>	White Oaks Addiction and Treatment Centre in the North West Region. A 30-day residential programme, underpinned by the 12 step model of treatment. Access to Residential detox beds available at a number of centres throughout the country as needed by HSE.	C&V	Targeted 2 – 4
<b>Mental Health Supports</b>			
<b>HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service</b>	CAMHS team consists of psychiatrist, psychologists, nurses, social workers, occupational therapists and speech & language therapists. National Counselling Service (12-24 years) , Self- Harm Clinical Care Programme (3 Nurses based in Sligo University Hospital Emergency Department) and a Suicide Bereavement Liaison Officer 1.	S	Targeted 2 - 4
<b>Community Mental Health</b>	GROW, AWARE, NW STOP Suicide Leitrim, Grasplife, Rennafix, Mental Health Promotion Rainbows Programme for children and teenagers.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 4
<b>Youth Community Mental Health Support</b>	NEPS, Suicide Resource Office, School Guidance Teachers, Counselling available in the Carrick- on- Shannon Family Life Centre, Co. Leitrim, for 6-17 year olds, Foróige, North West Hospice, Sligo, Sligo Social Services, St Michaels's Centre, Sligo, for 9-17 Year Olds, Youth Services, Pieta, Samaritans, StopSuicide.	S & C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 4
<b>Disability - Specific Interventions</b>			
<b>Disability Services HSE</b>	Provides supports to children 0 to 18 years of age and their families to access suitable services for physical, sensory and intellectual disability. There is a Counsellor for Special Needs Service who provides home based support to children who have a learning, physical & sensory disabilities. Community-based Early Intervention team assess and help children (0-6 years) who may have delayed development or disabilities. Provide clinical and supportive therapeutic interventions to support children's development. The Autism Service assists children and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder to develop independence and social skills in daily living.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 4

<b>Community and national information support</b>	National organisations and multiple local community and private services provide information support on education, family support, programmes, respite, and supportive services throughout Sligo and Leitrim. These include Irish Autism Action, Irish Society for Autism, ASPIRE, Enable Ireland, National Learning Network, National Council Blind of Ireland, RehabCare, Deaf Hear.ie, Sligo Hard of Hearing Group, Irish Wheelchair Association, Centre for Independent Living and Acquired Brain Injury Ireland.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 4
<b>North West Parents and Friends Association</b>	Provides services for children and adults with Intellectual Disabilities in Sligo and Leitrim. Services include pre-school, day services, respite care, educational, community, social and recreational and enterprise.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Education and Support Services</b>			
<b>Sligo Co Childcare Committee</b>	There are 29 Community Childcare Providers, 45 Private Childcare Providers and 15 Parent & Toddler Groups and 18 childminders in Sligo. There are 65 providers in contract for ECCE and 68 providers in contract for CCSP. There are 74 Early Years Services, 34 School Age Services (with a Pre-school), and 7 stand-alone School Age Services.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Leitrim Co Childcare Committee</b>	There are 22 Community Childcare Providers, 15 Private Childcare Providers, 10 Parent & Toddlers groups and 17 Childminders in Leitrim. There are 30 providers in contract for ECCE and 37 providers in contract for CCSP. There are 31 Early Year Services, 19 School Age Services (with a Pre-school), and 6 stand-alone School Age Services.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Leitrim Integrated Development</b>	Rosebank Crèche- a Crèche for members of the Traveller Community.	C&V	Targeted 1 - 2
<b>Sligo Social Services Council CLG, Sligo</b>	Crèche provided to children of pre-school age.	C&V	Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Springboard, Sligo</b>	Crèche provided to children 6 months - 3 years. Service provided to Tusla referrals from CFSN4.	C&V	Targeted 1-3

4 CFSNs are the unit building blocks of the National Service Delivery Framework (NSDF) and the frontline operational structure that will ensure integrated service delivery. Families should experience services as easily accessible and integrated at the front line in their own communities. CFSNs will help support this by taking a localised, area based approach. CFSNs serve geographical areas that are smaller than Area Management areas or Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) areas in order to provide a cluster of support effectively. CFSN consist of all services that play a role in the lives of children and families in a given area, including local statutory children and families service providers (e.g. psychology, public health nurses, social work, justice, education and welfare) and local voluntary and community children and families' services. There are 3 CFSN in Sligo Leitrim West Cavan.

<b>Community Education Supports</b>	Multiple programmes available throughout Co. Sligo and Co. Leitrim provided by a range of youth services, after-school programmes, transition programmes, educational and family supports, homework clubs, child-minding and early years services.	C&V	Universal 1 - 2
<b>Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board</b>	MSLETB educational provision includes 19 second level schools, while further education and training services are provided through education colleges, training centres and a range of adult and further education and training centres. These locations deliver education and training services such as, Post Leaving Certificate Courses (PLCs), VTOS, Youthreach, Outdoor Education, Youth Services, Career Traineeship and Apprenticeships.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Community Training Centres</b>	Provides training, educational and employment related services for young people (16-21) in Sligo and Leitrim.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Mainstream Primary and Secondary Schools Education Centres</b>	68 Primary Schools in Sligo, (4 DEIS); 12 Secondary Schools in Sligo. 40 Primary Schools Leitrim, (9 DEIS); 7 Secondary Schools Leitrim. Special Schools – 2 (Sligo) St Cecilia's, Cregg, Sligo and St Joseph's, Ballytivnan, Sligo. Education Centres, 1 in Sligo and 1 in Carrick-On-Shannon, Co Leitrim.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>National Educational Psychological services (NEPS) Sligo/Leitrim</b>	The National Education Psychological Service, Department of Education & Skills (NEPS). NEPS psychologists work with both primary and post- primary schools, and are concerned with learning, behaviour and social and emotional development.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Tusla Education Welfare Services</b>	The statutory and school support services of the Child and Family Agency's Educational Welfare Services works collaboratively and cohesively with schools and other relevant services to secure better educational outcomes for children and young people. Provides 1.5 Educational Welfare Officers; A School Completion Project in Sligo and to 1 school in Co. Leitrim (from the Roscommon/Leitrim School Completion Programme)	S C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Youthreach</b>	Full- time Training and Education Programme for early school leavers aged between 16 and 20 years. 1 in Sligo and 1 in Mohill, Co. Leitrim	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3

<p><b>Home Youth Liaison Services</b></p>	<p>The HYLS works in all post primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim and a number of primary schools in Sligo. It provides one to one support to young people referred who are in need of support. Staff link young people to community and statutory services, following consultation with the parents on home visits. HYLS also delivers programmes within the school, e.g. anti-bullying, internet safety and parenting programmes. It provides residential weekends twice each month for young people linked with and referred by the Tusla Social Work Teams. Some members of the staff team are working directly with the Child Protection, Children in Care and duty teams. During summer month HYLS provides summer camps and camping trips to young people referred by Tusla.</p>	<p>C&amp;V</p>	<p>Universal &amp; Targeted 1 – 3</p>
<p><b>Third Level Institutions</b></p>	<p>There are 2 third level in Co Sligo, the Institute of Technology Sligo and St Angela's College of Education (NUIG). Both colleges have active access initiatives, for example the part-time Access Programme /Foundation Course at St Angela's for school leavers and mature students and the Cranmore Education Mentoring community based programme run by IT Sligo in conjunction with the Cranmore Regeneration Project.</p>	<p>S</p>	<p>Universal &amp; Targeted 1 – 3</p>

## Youth Clubs and Projects/Resources

<b>Youth Clubs/Projects</b>	There are multiple youth clubs, projects and resources in Sligo and Leitrim including those provided by: Youth Work Ireland, North Connaught, Sligo and Leitrim; Home Youth Liaison Service- Sligo and Leitrim; Foróige- Sligo and Leitrim; Springboard Project, Sligo; West Sligo FRC Youth Project; Tubbercurry FRC Youth Project; Ballymote FRC Youth Project; Mohill FSC Youth Service; Breffni FRC Youth Service. Volunteer-led and operated youth groups (e.g. Scouting Ireland, Foróige Clubs, Boys Brigade, Girls Brigade, Girls' Friendly Society, Macra, Order of Malta Cadets).	C&V	Universal 1 - 3
<b>Youth Work Ireland North Connaught Sligo &amp; Leitrim</b>	Supports the development of young people, to enable them to take greater control of their own lives by making decision, exercise responsibility and contribute to the development of both their community and their society. Their Youth Information Centre in Sligo provides free confidential information and is available to young people in Sligo and Leitrim. Smily LGBTI provides a safe, fun and accepting environment, where young LGBT (Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered) people can be themselves. Based in Sligo town, south, east and west Co Sligo and in various locations in Co Leitrim. The project focuses on young people aged 14-23	C&V	Universal 1 - 3
<b>Foróige (Sligo and Leitrim)</b>	Foróige is a youth development organisation and provides various services and programmes in both Sligo and Leitrim. Some of these include: Youth Education Projects; A Life of Choices Programmes; Drug Education Programmes; Big Brother Big Sister; Relationships and Sexuality Programmes; Leadership for Life Programmes; Youth Entrepreneurship Programmes. Age profile: 10 to 24 years.	C&V	Universal 1 - 3
<b>Breffni Family Resource Centre</b>	8 Rays Leitrim is a social and community LGBTI+ group aim to promote rights and awareness in Leitrim and surrounding areas.	C&V C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3

## Policing and Youth Justice

<b>An Garda Síochana</b>	17 Garda Stations across Sligo and Leitrim provide a range of safe and secure services to residents and communities. Services operating from Garda Stations include but are not limited to Juvenile Liaison Officers (JLO) and Community Gardaí	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 4
<b>The Probation Service</b>	The Probation Service is the lead agency in the assessment and management of offenders in the community. (Juvenile – 12 – 18 years)	S	Targeted 2 - 3

<b>Garda Youth Diversion Projects Sligo and Leitrim (Youth Work Ireland, North Connaught)</b>	<p>The Garda Youth Diversion Project, Youth Action Project Sligo Leitrim (YAPSL), provide community based educational, recreational, skills building interventions for junior projects 8 – 11 years and YAPSL for 12-18 years at the risk of criminal behaviour in both counties.</p> <p>Programmes include: Life of Choices, Decider Skills, Drug &amp; Alcohol Programmes and Personal Development Programmes.</p>	C&V	Targeted 2 – 3
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## Social Welfare

<b>Local Area Partnerships</b>	<p>2 Partnerships established: Sligo LEADER Partnership Co CLG; Leitrim Integrated Development Company. Both provide a range of employment, education, training and support services to communities, including Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)</p>	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection</b>	<p>Provides Intreo offices located in Sligo &amp; Leitrim. Employment services supports access to the labour market for jobseekers at local, regional and national level and assists employers who are seeking to fill job vacancies</p>	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Local Employment Supports Services</b>	<p>Various Community Employment Projects; Employment Response North West which supports people with disabilities; Sligo Youth Information Centre; Foróige Youth Employability South Sligo; North Connaught Youth Employment Programme; Personal Youth Development Programme, Leitrim;</p>	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>Money Advice and Budgeting</b>	<p>MABS offices in Sligo and Leitrim provide support for those concerned about or experiencing problems with debt.</p>	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 4
<b>Legal Aid</b>	<p>The Board is responsible for the provision of legal aid and advice on matters of civil law to persons unable to fund such services from their own resources. They also provide a family mediation service.</p>	S	Targeted 1 - 4
<b>Citizens Information Centres</b>	<p>There are four CICs, 2 in Sligo and 2 in Leitrim.</p>	S	Universal 1-3

## Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in Sligo Leitrim

The data presented in this section is as a result of an analysis of:

- Socio-demographic data for the region (Appendix 1).
- Online survey of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC and working group members.
- Consultaion with children and young people as detailed on page 16.
- Planning workshops with Sligo Leitrim CYPSC.
- Review of relevant research reports.

For each outcome the following questions are answered:

- How are Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area doing?
- What did the consultaions tell us?
- Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?

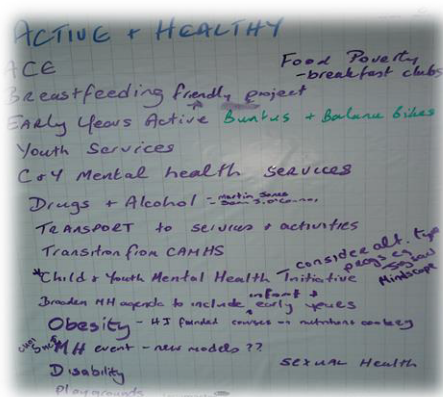
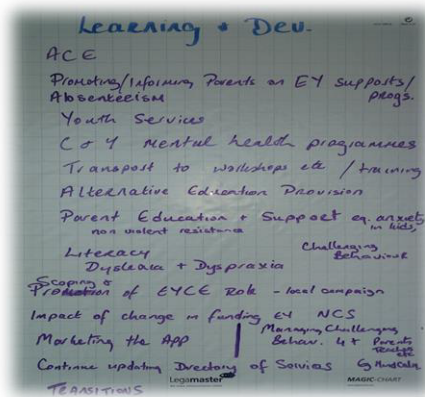
This is then followed by a summary of the priorities for this plan based on this analysis.



A consultation stand in Sligo IT, fronted by Dr Celia Keenaghan, Consultant and Maeve Whittington, Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Coordinator



Group of young people engaged in the consultation process in The Crib, Sligo with Elaine Granaghan, Foroige staff member.



Flip chart notes from CYPSC working groups, preparation for the new plan.

## Outcome 1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

### How are Children & Young People in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area doing?

- Most children in Sligo and Leitrim are doing well.
- Vaccination rates are high. Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan LHO met the 95% target for the MMR Vaccination at 24 months (95.8%), the 6-in-1 vaccination at 24 months (97.1%), and was close to meeting the target for the MMR second dose in Junior Infants (94.6%).
- Sligo had significantly lower rates of breastfeeding than the national average (54.3% vs 59.9%). The increase in exclusive breastfeeding in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan is better than the national average, but there is a large drop-off in breastfeeding between the first PHN visit to new babies and the PHN visit within babies are 3 months- with 10 - 12% of mothers stopping breastfeeding during that time. Nationally the drop has tended to be between -4% and -5%. Data presented in a recent child health profile suggests that the total figure of breastfeeding in Leitrim would likely be one of the lowest in the country.
- The percentages of children born with low birthweight in Sligo (5.7) were higher than the national average (5.5).
- The rate of hospital discharges for injuries in children aged 0-14 was significantly higher Sligo (100/10,000) than the national average (82/10,000). The rate in Leitrim (66/10,000) was lower than that national average.
- Leitrim had the lowest rate of teenage pregnancy in the country (0.5% of births vs 1.7%).
- 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.

### What did the consultations tell us?

- This outcome area is a priority for all stakeholders. In particular, the issue of mental health, both in terms of access to CAMHS and for parents who are particularly concerned with managing children's anxiety and challenging behaviour.
- Children and young people have expressed a need for a wider range of locally accessible supports, including information and counselling for general mental health concerns.
- Food poverty and access to healthy food is a growing concern among all stakeholders.
- The impact of parental drug and alcohol misuse was a concern of service providers and child and youth drug and alcohol misuse was a concern of all.
- All stakeholders identified lack of rural transport options as a contributor to social isolation and as a major barrier to access to services and participation in activities.

### Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?

- CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018-2023 has been launched and a Child Health Strategy is in development.
- The Mental Health Commission CAMHS Inspection Report for CHO1 2017 highlighted that there are significant issues in access to mental health supports. The per capita funding for under 18 year olds for CAMHS services for CHO1 was the third lowest funding in all CHOs. In Sligo in 2017, the waiting list for CAMHS was closed to referrals (unless assessed as an emergency). This was in order to manage cases already on the waiting list within a diminished staff complement. At the end of September 2017, there were 40 young people waiting for initial appointments for more than one year.
- A Report in 2017 by Tusla Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan called 'Better outcomes measurement for Tusla service provision to children and their families' noted improvements in the physical health of children in the care of the State and those in child protection services.
- There are some community food initiatives tackling food poverty in the area but there is a lack of information on awareness levels.



## Outcome 1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

### Priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

#### **Nutrition and food poverty**

- To support a cultural change in relation to breastfeeding by normalising breastfeeding amongst the general public.
- Children, young people and their families have improved health and wellbeing, through improved cooking skills, healthier food choices.
- Children and young people in disadvantaged areas have access to quality nutritious food in School / After-School settings.
- Raise awareness of local food initiatives and reduce the stigma related to uptake.

#### **Child and Youth Mental health**

- To promote and support the development of a collaborative and coordinated response to the needs of children and young people with mental health difficulties.
- To promote resilience in children and young people.
- To increase community awareness of Infant Mental Health (IMH) and the strategies to support and improve it.

#### **Healthy Choices**

- To increase levels of physical activity in children and young people.
- To support young people's sexual health and wellbeing and reduce negative sexual health outcomes.
- To reduce the impact on children's lives from parental alcohol and substance misuse.
- To support agencies to reduce the misuse of alcohol and drugs by children and young people.

## Outcome 2. Achieving full potential in learning and development

**How are Children & Young People in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area doing?**

- 95.5% of children in Sligo and 96.4% in Leitrim, aged between 0-5 yrs are in early learning and care services including centre based services and childminding.
- 11,364 attend primary school level education in Sligo and Leitrim and 7,454 young people in second level education in Sligo and Leitrim.
- There are 4 PLC registered providers in Sligo and Leitrim with 718 pupils.
- The rates of absenteeism for 2016/17 are
  - Primary schools in Sligo: 9.1, Leitrim: 6.4, State: 10.9
  - Post-primary schools in Sligo: 18.1, Leitrim: 20.2, State: 15.8.
- The retention rate to the Leaving Certificate in Sligo is 93.5 (second highest in the State), Leitrim is 92.2 compared a State rate of 91.6.
- 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%).
- During 2018, 24 Parent Plus group work interventions were delivered to 174 individuals in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan and 99 individuals were worked with using partial or full reference to the Parent Plus model.
- HSE target for delivery of Triple P Parenting Programme is 12 groups (approx. 70 parents), 25 workshops (approx. 150 parents) and 13 seminars (approx. 1000 parents).

**What did the consultations tell us?**

- Sligo and Leitrim County Childcare Committees are awaiting a mandate from DCYA to undertake a scoping exercise to demonstrate the impact to the sustainability of local services with reference to the implementation of the National Childcare Scheme.
- Young people identified education as an area of concern and in particular the stress associated with the exam based system.
- Participants in parenting programmes indicated a wide range of learning and skills development. They confirmed the need for these supports and identified additional needs in relation to supporting their children with social media and dyslexia.
- There is concern about the 16 – 18-year-old age group who may be registered as attending school but not in attendance.
- Service providers identified low levels of literacy among early school leavers is an area of concern.

**Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?**

- Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area is almost at full childcare capacity (day care is at 93.7%, ECCE is at 94.2% and school aged childcare 83.1%). While birth rates are due to decrease there is concern at the availability of childcare spaces in the short term. In September 2018 there were 397 staff working directly with children across all settings including notified childminders.
- A review of Out-of-school Education Provision in Ireland (May 2018) identified a gap in the North West.
- Funding and delivery of evidence based parenting support programmes have been increased in recent years.

## Outcome 2. Achieving full potential in learning and development

### Priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

#### **Education and Learning**

- To increase awareness among other services of the role of the ELC sector.
- To explore Out-of-school Education Provision and support options through inter-agency collaboration.

#### **Parent/Guardian Support**

- Promote a co-ordinated approach to the universal delivery of evidence based support to parents including parenting programmes.
- Support Tusla in the promotion of fostering.

## Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm

### How are Children & Young People in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area doing?

- The CYPSC Review of the *Safety of Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim* in 2018 found that the majority of children, young people and parents in Sligo Leitrim feel that children and young people are safe in their community (87% of children and young people 60% of parents), their school (90% of children and young people/82% of parents) and their home (88% of children and young people/71% of parents).
- 293 children were referred to the Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme in 2017 a 22% increase on 2016.
- There were 108 children in care in Sligo Leitrim West Cavan as of 31/02/19. 5.8% (2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the country) of children in care were in their third placement compared to 2.7% in the State.
- During 2017 there were 263 child abuse and 784 child welfare referrals to Tusla in Sligo Leitrim West Cavan.
- There were 77 treated episodes of self-harm in the under 25 age group recorded in 2017 in Sligo Regional Hospital (accounting for 32.6% of all episodes).

### What did the consultations tell us?

- Parents, children and young people feel that more activities, clubs and amenities for children and young people would assist in reducing isolation, mental health problems, anti-social behaviour and issues with alcohol and drug misuse.
- Having trusted people in their lives and communities as well as talking and counselling opportunities was identified by children and young people as important to their feelings of safety as was more positive engagement with Gardaí. Parents placed greater emphasis on engagement from agencies such as Tusla, Social Services, Gardaí and Family Support in ensuring the safety of children and young people.
- All stakeholders identified the need for continuous development of supports in relation to bullying, online safety and resilience building.

### Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?

- There is a need for more safe spaces for children and young people to engage in social activities.
- Transport is an additional barrier for rural youth.
- Gaps in mental health service provision is another factor impacting on the safety of children and young people.
- In a review conducted by Tusla of service provision to children and their families, the vast majority of young people in the Care System in the Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan area have been found to live in stable foster care placements, both general and relative, and this was considered a safe and secure environment for them.
- 2,023 children were in receipt of family support services in 2017. There were 20 Meitheal requests in 2017.
- There are some innovative projects addressing bullying, online safety and resilience building developing in Sligo and Leitrim, for example Leitrim Comhairle na nÓg, 'Use Your Brain not Your Fist' campaign.
- There is a gap in services (e.g. CARI) for children and families affected by child sexual abuse.
- While DVAS provide services to mothers and support them to access some counselling and play therapy for their children, there is no dedicated service provision for children experiencing domestic violence in the home.
- DVAS provides safe crisis accommodation in Safe House units but there is no Refuge in the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area.

## Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm

### Priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

<b>Safety</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To implement findings of the CYPSC 'Reviewing the Safety of Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim 2018' (Safety Review).</li> </ul>
<b>Trauma awareness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the implementation of Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences (MACE) Supporting Families Strengthening Communities EU INTERREG VA programme.</li> </ul>
<b>Violence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote greater awareness among agencies of anti-bullying supports available across Sligo and Leitrim.</li> <li>To equip parents with the strategies and skills to deal with violence from their children.</li> </ul>

## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

### How are Children & Young People in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area doing?

- In May 2019 312 young people (under 25) in Sligo and 168 in Leitrim were on the live register.
- Sligo had the lowest employment growth rate in the country at 2.2% between 2011 and 2017 when the national average was 11%. Leitrim is also among the lowest rates in the country at 6.3%.
- The percentage of people on the live register at June 2019 under 25 is slightly higher in Sligo (11%) than Leitrim (10.2%) and nationally (10.2%)
- Statistics available for the Border Midlands Region 2017 indicate that Sligo Leitrim is in an area (Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo) that had the highest proportion of the population living below the National Poverty Line (25.7% compared to 15.7% for the State).
- There were 170 young people in Sligo and 110 young people in Leitrim not in employment, education or training (NEETs) (Pobal 2017).
- Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan has a higher proportion of the population categorised as disadvantaged (56.3%) than the national average (47.8%). The Pobal HP Deprivation Index reports that, in 2016, Sligo (at -1.6) and Leitrim (at -3.2) were marginally below average compared to the overall state score which was 0.6.

### What did the consultations tell us?

- Poverty among families in the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area is a priority area of concern for all stakeholders. The impact of food poverty on children's wellbeing and education has been noted by many agencies.
- There is a need for more outreach support to young people who are not in education, employment or training.
- While there are specific supports available for children and young people such as literacy and dyslexia programmes, concerns were expressed across agencies about low levels of literacy among NEETs.

### Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?

- Over the period 2015-2017, 1,857 people experiencing disadvantage in Sligo and 1,497 people in Leitrim were supported under Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP).
- Successful initiatives have been funded through IFI and PEACE IV but this funding is coming to an end and will leave a gap in provision.
- Employment Response North West provides employment support to people with disabilities, injury or illness.
- Sligo and Leitrim have a wide range of agencies providing educational support to children and young people who experience disadvantage. Continued and greater collaboration in relation to preventing and supporting NEETs is needed.

## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity Priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

<b>Transitions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To promote existing and new initiatives that support vulnerable young people in their transition from youth to adulthood.</li> </ul>
<b>NEETs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify gaps and opportunities for collaborative responses to the needs of NEETs.</li> <li>To support innovative education, employment and training pathways for 16 - 24 year olds.</li> </ul>
<b>Overcoming Barriers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support agencies to improve literacy and English language levels among children and young people.</li> <li>To encourage employment of young people with disabilities.</li> </ul>

## Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world

### How are Children & Young People in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area doing?

- Comhairle na nÓg are active in Sligo and Leitrim. Recent activities have focused on safety in the community, pathways to education and participation.
- Tusla has been active in developing participation projects across Sligo and Leitrim and achieving Investing in Children awards. Through the CFSNs, Tusla is promoting and encouraging organisations and services to apply for Investing in Children awards.
- Local Link rural transport scheme is operating in Sligo and Leitrim.
- A number of innovative youth services are in place in Sligo and Leitrim but there is not geographical equity of provision across Sligo and Leitrim and many of the services are operating on unsustainable funding.
- Maryville Hostel run by Sligo Social Services catered for 11 young people out of total of 98 service users in 2017 and 10 young people out of total of 97 service users in 2018. The percentage of young people using the hostel has been very consistent since 2014 with the lowest being 9% in 2015 and the highest being 13% in 2016. The service suggests that this is almost certainly an under-estimation of the number of young homeless people as the phenomenon of “couch-surfing” is probably highest in this age group.

### What did the consultations tell us?

- Children and young people are becoming more involved in decision-making processes in Sligo and Leitrim and are keen to have greater participation.
- A focus is needed on developing participation for very young children.
- Services are becoming more aware of the importance of child and youth participation.
- To ensure meaningful participation, it must be embedded in policies and supported through formal structures from a whole-organisation point of view including managers and key stakeholders.
- Conversations and continued dialogue with children and young people is essential to ensuring that youth participation practises are achieving the desired outcomes.
- Children and young people should be supported to recognise their voice and contributions as “Youth Participation”.
- Transport is a major barrier to access to and participation in services and in community life.
- Voluntary agencies are seeing an increase in homelessness and risk of homelessness among families and young people in Sligo including young single parents and young Traveller couples.

### Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?

- Local [guidelines](#) have been developed for Child and Youth Participation (0 - 24 years).
- Tusla is promoting participatory practice through the PPFS programme and a number of services in Sligo and Leitrim have received the Investing in Children quality award.
- Further investment across agencies is needed to ensure child and youth participation structures are in place.
- Work is needed to improve how young people can engage with all services, particularly in relation to social media.
- The challenge of rural isolation is a significant issue for children, young people and families in Sligo and Leitrim. Accessing services outside the main urban centres with limited public transport is a recurring theme across all outcome areas.
- An interagency proposal for a youth centre in Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim has been developed and submitted for funding.
- Sustainable and equitable provision of youth services across Sligo and Leitrim is a priority.



## Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world

### Priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

#### **Participation (0 - 25 years)**

- To enhance the inclusion of children and young people (0-25) in the planning, development, delivery and evaluation of children's services.
- To build on and strengthen the relationship between CYPSC and Comhairle na nÓg through participation in each other's structures and processes.

#### **Connection (0 - 25 years)**

- To improve children and young people's participation in community life through improved transport provision.
- To collaborate to increase accessibility to youth services in Sligo and Leitrim.

#### **Social Inclusion (0 - 25 years)**

- To identify and support interagency opportunities to respond to the needs of children and young people who are
  - New Communities
  - LGBTI+
  - Homeless
  - Travellers

## Change Management

### How is Sligo Leitrim CYPSC doing?

- There is a significant level of interagency working in the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area.
- Participation in CYPSC is high among some agencies but challenges exist in relation to membership and participation among others.
- Over 100 people are engaged in CYPSC structures through working groups and sub groups.

### What did the consultations tell us?

- Young people were happy to discover that CYPSC existed.
- 49 people responded to a survey of CYPSC and CYPSC working group members. They indicated the greatest amount of activity is in relation to learning about other organisations, sharing information on their service with others and interagency collaboration.
- By far the greatest challenges to CYPSC and working group members' participation are logistical issues in attendance at meetings (time, organisational capacity, timing). Other challenges related to CYPSC structures, processes and agenda.

### Are there sufficient services in this area?

- Engagement of some organisations needs to be improved.
- Administrative support to the CYPSC is needed.
- Alignment of other organisational plans to CYPSC working group activity is progressing to reduce duplication of effort and maximise use of resources.
- A facilitated discussion among CYPSC members and clear project plans for working groups (clearly aligned to CYPSC plan) will build on the progress being made by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC.

## Change Management Priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

### Collaborative Working

- To enhance effective and efficient working of CYPSC structures and processes.

### Senior Level Commitment

- To encourage full engagement of relevant agencies at senior level.

### Policy Alignment

- To align all CYPSC members' local and national business plans.

## Section 5: Summary of Children and Young People's Plan for Sligo Leitrim

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nutrition and Food Poverty</li> <li>2. Child and Youth Mental Health</li> <li>3. Healthy Choices</li> </ol>
2. Achieving full potential in learning and development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Education and Learning</li> <li>2. Parent/Guardian Support</li> </ol>
3. Safe and protected from harm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Safety</li> <li>2. Trauma awareness</li> <li>3. Violence</li> </ol>
4. Economic security and opportunity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transitions to adulthood for vulnerable young people</li> <li>2. Young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs)</li> <li>3. Overcoming barriers</li> </ol>
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation (0 - 25 years)</li> <li>2. Connection (0 - 25 years)</li> <li>3. Social Inclusion (0 - 25 years)</li> </ol>
Change Management Actions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collaborative Working</li> <li>2. Senior Level Commitment</li> <li>3. Policy Alignment</li> </ol>

## Section 6: Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
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 or Transformational Goal(s)
Nutrition and Food Poverty	To support a culture change in relation to breastfeeding by normalising breastfeeding amongst the general public.	Analysis of reach of the Breastfeeding Friendly Sligo initiative.  Number and type of publicly accessible places participating in the initiative.  Mechanism in place to enable feedback through Social Media.	Minimum of 60 businesses/services participating in Co. Sligo.	Convene interagency Steering group.	2020 - 2022	Lifestart HSE – Health Promotion and Improvement Sligo LCDC CYPSC Sligo FRC	Support parents.  Earlier intervention and prevention.  Cross-government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.
			Report outlining outcomes from initiative.  75% of participating businesses/services agree to continue with the initiative.  75% of responding parents will indicate satisfaction with the initiative.	Recruitment of the Programme Facilitator.  Procure Sligo specific materials /video.  Engage with businesses/services.  Promote awareness at CYPSC events.			
	Children, young people and their families have improved health and wellbeing, through improved cooking skills and healthier food choices.	Number of community-based cooking programmes delivered.	Delivery of 6 programmes each in Sligo and Leitrim in 2020 and 2021.	Delivery of Healthy Food Made Easy, a community based health promotion programmes around cooking skills and healthier food choices, using community facilities.	2020-2021	Sligo Social Services HSE CYPSC Active & Healthy Working Group CCCs, MSL ETB, St. Angela's NUIG, IT Sligo	CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 – 2023

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
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 or Transformational Goal(s)
	Raise awareness of local food initiatives and promote use of local food initiatives.	Number of services who receive a list of organisations participating in Fead.	60 services will receive the listing.	Compile listing of available food initiatives in Sligo and Leitrim.  Disseminate the list to the services.	2020-2022	CYPSC Working Groups; HSE services; FRC Community & Voluntary Agencies in Sligo Leitrim	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Child and Youth Mental Health	To support and promote the coordinated and effective provision of a continuum of community-based, primary care and mental health services to young people.	Number of recommended actions from the Sligo Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative (YMHl) Strategic Plan to be included in the HSE CHO1 plan for youth and young adult mental health.	50% of the actions identified in the Sligo Leitrim YMHl included in the HSE CHO1 plan including the action on the Brief Intervention Service.  Availability of Brief Intervention Services established in minimum of 4 locations in Sligo and Leitrim, as part of mainstream provision.	HSE to consult with CYPSC and CYPSC working groups on Plan for Youth and Young Adult Mental Health.  CYPSC and CYPSC working groups to contribute to HSE Plan for youth and young adult mental health.	2020 – 2022	HSE; CYPSC Active & Healthy Working Group - Child and Youth Mental Health sub-group All CYPSC member organisations FRCs Mental Health Promotion Programme and Connecting for Life partners.	Listen to and involve children and young people.  Ensure quality services.  Strengthen transitions.  Cross-government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
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	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Child and Youth Mental Health contd.	To promote resilience in children and young people.	Evidence-based resilience programmes available in Sligo and Leitrim.  Number of children and young people who participated in resilience programmes.  Young people will have spoken to 'one good adult' in an individual or a group setting and identified ways of managing their exam stress.	2 evidence-based programmes across the age range delivered in each county.  120 children and young people participated in a resilience programme.  2 drop-in clinics/programmes per year in each county in lead up to and during exam periods.  55 young people who have participated.	Map current availability and uptake of evidence based programmes including geographical spread.  Promote programmes through all CYPSC agencies.  Identify and implement measures to support participation of children and young people in these programmes.  Support youth services in the delivery of exam stress programmes.	2020 – 2022	CYPSC Youth services		

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
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 national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	To increase community awareness of infant mental health (IMH) and the strategies to support and improve it.	Availability of IMH resources to statutory, community and voluntary settings. Parents reporting increased awareness of IMH. Number of children and practitioners in Early Learning and Care Services (ELCS) participating in IMH programmes.	3 services in Sligo and Leitrim participating in IMH programme 9 staff, 40 children and their parents. 50% of parents surveyed report increased knowledge on infant mental health, through the Parent Hub. 30 non-HSE practitioners will up-take the IMH on-line training.	Promotion of infant mental health training at CYPSC events. Promote of the IMH on-line material. Facilitate/support local campaign activities to coincide with national campaigns. Parent Hub Coordinator will conduct a survey of parents.	2020	HSE Sligo and Leitrim Co Childcare Committees Tusla CFSNs FRCs Lifestart	CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 – 2023 First Five – A Whole of Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019 - 2028 Support parents. Earlier intervention and prevention. Cross-government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.
Healthy Choices	To promote awareness of physical activity for children and young people	Knowledge among agencies of the range and scope of physical activity initiatives.	70% of CYPSC members have access to information on the range and scope of physical activity initiatives.	Promote GetIrelandActive through the Parent Hub and CYPSC Face Book and monitor engagement.	2020 - 2022	Sligo & Leitrim Sports Partnerships HSE IT Sligo Sligo and Leitrim Co Childcare Committees Local sporting and	CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 – 2023 Healthy Ireland National Sports Policy National Physical Activity Plan Earlier intervention and prevention. Listen to and involve children and young people.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
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 national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	To support young people's sexual health and wellbeing and reduce negative sexual health outcomes.	Number of staff who received training. Number of children and young people participating in initiatives.	2 interagency training events for staff e.g. Real U. 20 staff trained. 60 children and young people participating in initiatives.	Support delivery of sexual health related training to staff and local service providers. Support national HSE sexual health campaigns and websites	2020-2022	community organisations HSE Health and Wellbeing MSL ETB, Foróige, IT Sligo, St Angela's, NUIG.	Earlier intervention and prevention. Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination. Support Parents
	To reduce the impact on children's lives from parental alcohol and substance misuse.	Number of services trained in Hidden Harm and Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorders (FASD). Information on supports available to families.	30 services will have participated in training in relation to parental alcohol and substance misuse. 5 campaigns and/or programmes promoted via Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Sligo Leitrim Parent Hub Facebook pages.	Promote the delivery of Hidden Harm training. Promote the Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Workshop (FASD). Promote via social media, information on supports available to families where a parent is misusing alcohol or substances, including M-Pact, askaboutalcohol.ie, 'Think before you buy' campaign.	2020-2022	Tusla HSE North West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force Alcohol Forum.	CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 – 2023 Healthy Ireland Healthy Campus CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 – 2023 Sligo City Alcohol Strategy National Drugs Strategy BOBF 2014 - 2020



Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
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	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	To support agencies capacity to reduce the misuse of alcohol and drugs by children and young people.	Number of information sessions which take place with agencies. Number of people who attend information sessions.	Delivery of 2 Information sessions per annum to CYPSC agencies.	Deliver information sessions on low risk drinking guidelines.	Ongoing	CYPSC Connecting for Life Sligo Leitrim Healthy Ireland North West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force. Safe and protected from harm working group.	Connecting for Life Sligo Leitrim Healthy Ireland Sligo City Alcohol Strategy	Early intervention and prevention Interagency collaboration and coordination

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Education and Learning	To increase awareness among other services of the role of the Education, Learning and Care (ELC) sector.	The voice of 180 young children in Sligo and Leitrim will be captured and presented in a report in relation to their experience of the value of ELC.	60 children's views on early learning and care will be gathered each year across both counties.	Sligo and Leitrim County Child Care Committees will develop an appropriate methodology to engage in dialogue with young children about what they value about their early learning and care setting. A report on the outcome will be produced in both counties.	2020 - 2022	Sligo and Leitrim County Childcare Committees	First Five – A Whole of Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019 - 2028 CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 – 2023	Listen to and involve children and young people  Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
	To support teachers and classroom support staff in dealing with anxiety among primary school children.	2 Decider training programmes delivered in Sligo and Leitrim.	80 primary school staff trained in the Decider programme across Sligo and Leitrim. Up to 2000 children will have teachers or support staff who are trained in CBT.	To support the delivery of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy Skills to teachers and classroom support staff through the Decider programme.	2020 - 2021	Sligo and Carrick Education Centres		
	To explore Out of School Education Provision and support options through inter-agency collaboration.	One new model of support is piloted with 10 children under 18 years of age who are not in school across Sligo and Leitrim.	10 children under 18 who are not in school have access to a new model of support on a pilot basis.	Explore models of best practice currently available nationally e.g. i-Scoil. Review recommendations from the DoES Review of Out of School Education Provision when published. Pilot a new model of support to children under 18 who are out of school. Consult children on their experience of the model.	Ongoing.  Dependent on publication date.	Learning and Development Working Group. Sligo and Carrick Education Centres, Training and Life Long Learning Network LCDC	DEIS Plan 2017 Goal 4. Dept. of Education & Skills Review of Out of School Education Provision.	Ensure quality services.  Strengthen transitions.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans or national outcome(s) and Transformational Goal(s)	
Parent/Guardian Support	Promote a co-ordinated approach to the universal delivery of evidence based parent support including parenting programmes.	A strategic approach to parent support in Sligo and Leitrim.	Publication of a Sligo Leitrim Parenting Strategy.	Parenting hub Co-ordinator will support the development of a parenting support strategy.  Continue to promote the Parent Support Champion initiatives.	2020 - 2021	Parent Hub Co-ordinator. Learning and Development Working Group. Tusla PPFs, HSE Health and Wellbeing	First 5 Investing in Families  CHO1 Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 – 2023  Tusla Corporate Plan 2019 - 2023	Support parents.
Parent/Guardian Support	Support Tusla in the promotion of fostering.	Increased usage of Parent App.  Increased usage of Directory of Services in Sligo and Leitrim.  Quarterly promotions on CYPSC social media pages on the theme of fostering.	20% increase on current usage (470 users during September 2019)  20% increase on current return visits (21% at March 2019)  Four promotions a year on CYPSC Facebook Page supporting Tusla community engagement in relation to fostering.	Train service providers to promote the use of the Parent App and in particular with new communities, Travellers and other hard to reach groups.  Continue updating of the Directory of Services.  Support Tusla Fostering Team in engaging with the community in relation to fostering across Sligo and Leitrim.	2020 - 2022	Community and voluntary organisations.  CYPSC. Parent Hub Co-ordinator	Tusla Corporate Plan 2019 - 2023	Support parents. Ensure quality services.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
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 or Transformational Goal(s)
Safety	To progress the implementation of the recommendations of the CYPSC 'Reviewing the Safety of Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim 2018' (Safety Review).	Annual interagency meeting held to review progress on recommendations of the Safety Review.  Number of recommendations progressed.	One annual meeting across Sligo and Leitrim  5 Recommendations implemented	Update on progress in relation to CYPSC Safety Review from each agency.  Inclusion of findings from the Safety Review in the strategic plans of each of the named agencies.  Promote the School Garda Programme to all schools to build positive relationships between children, young people and Gardaí.	2020, 2021, 2022	Safe & Protected from Harm Working Group An Garda Síochána Sligo & Leitrim Sligo & Leitrim County Councils (including PPN and Comhairle na nÓg in Sligo and Leitrim) Schools Youth Organisations	Earlier Intervention and Prevention Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.  Sligo and Leitrim LECPs Joint Policing Committee Strategy in Sligo and Leitrim.
Trauma Awareness	To increase awareness of Trauma Informed and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Aware Practice	Number of agencies who have received MACE training Number of agencies who are actively referring to MACE	20 agencies/services actively referring to MACE  Participation in quarterly Network meetings. Attendance at the monthly Training Needs Analysis meeting.	Engagement of CYPSC members to engage with the MACE programme.  Attendance at Trauma Informed Cross Border Community Network. Attendance at the monthly Working Group Training Needs Analysis meeting. Inclusion of MACE on the CYPSC agenda.	2020 - 2021	MACE CYPSC Trauma Informed Cross Border Community Network. Working Group - Training Needs Analysis	Support parents. Early intervention and prevention. Listen to and involve children and young people.
	To deliver Trauma Informed and Trauma Specific	Trauma informed and trauma specific	206 interventions for 0 – 3 year olds 206 interventions for	MACE universal, targeted and specialist interventions for 0 - 3 year olds and 11 –	2021 (December)	MACE Trauma Informed Cross	MACE Scoping Report for Sligo Leitrim

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
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 or Transformational Goal(s)
	Interventions in both counties, focussing on 0 – 3 year olds, 11- 13 year old and their parents and carers.	interventions commissioned for 0 – 3 year olds and for 11 – 13 year olds	11 – 13 year olds	13 year old – MACE Project projections, including workshops for parents, transition programmes, resilience, empathy, wellbeing and hope building programmes, trauma informed workshops, Recovery Programmes, Attachment and Infant mental health programmes		Border Community Network. Working Group - Training Needs Analysis CYPSC	Fermanagh, 2019
Violence Physical, Emotional and Psychological	Anti-bullying programmes (including online) and supports are available across Sligo and Leitrim.	Number and range of anti-bullying programmes implemented.	2 anti-bullying programmes across Sligo and Leitrim.  Up to date information on anti-bullying supports and training available across Sligo and Leitrim.	Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group members gathering information from schools and youth organisations on anti-bullying supports available. Conduct a needs analysis of anti-bullying supports in Sligo and Leitrim.  Provide information on supports available.  Continue to promote 'Use Your Brain, Not Your Fist' Leitrim Comhairle campaign.	2020 - 2022	Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group Schools HSE Youth Services An Garda Síochána	Department of Education & Skills Anti-Bullying Strategy Sligo LECP
	To equip parents with the strategies and skills to deal	Number of staff who have received training	10 staff trained	Supporting delivery of non-violent resistance training to staff working with families.	2020 - 2022	CYPSC Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group.	Investing in Families
							Earlier intervention and prevention. Listen to and involve children and young people.
							Support parents.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
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	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	with violence from their children.	programmes in Non-violent Resistance for staff to support parents.				Tusla. Family Support Services.		
Violence: Carrying of knives/offensive weapons.	Build the evidence base on how to address possession among children and young people of knives/offensive weapons.	Knowledge of the issues and effective interventions.	Report on research on carrying of knives/offensive weapons in Ireland and internationally.	Commission of literature review.	2020 to 2022	Youth Action Project Sligo An Garda Síochana Safe & Protected from Harm WG IT Sligo	Sligo Leitrim Joint Policing Strategy Youth Action Project Sligo Annual Plan	Early Intervention and Prevention Listen to and involve children and young people
Children of service users experiencing domestic violence	To identify the support needs of children of mothers experiencing domestic violence	Number of support needs identified.	A comprehensive list of support needs.	Encouraging member agencies to engage with Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS) in identifying and collating support needs.	2021	Domestic Violence Advocacy Service to lead out; other organisations to engage in review process	DVAS Strategic Plan 2019-2023	Keeping children safe and free from harm/violence

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity							
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans or Transformational Goal(s)
Transitions	To facilitate the engagement of marginalised youth to be engaged in education, training and employment. Increased awareness of the mentoring services.	Number of young people supported to make a successful transition to education, training and employment.	40 young people supported 50% of CYPSC agencies will be aware of Mentoring Programme..	Document a model of good practice which has been developed locally in relation to supports for NEETs  Work collaboratively with youth services to secure extended funding to continue programmes working with NEETs age 18-24 years.  Promote mentoring programmes available in Sligo and Leitrim.	2021  2020-2021  2020-2021	Tusla Sligo and Leitrim LDCs Foróige Youth Work Ireland North Connaught MSLETB SICAP under the Social Inclusion Partners	Sligo and Leitrim LECP  IT Sligo Strategic Plan  Kickboxing, Kindness and Going the Extra Mile Good practice for NEETs under SICAP 2017
	To support young people (16-18) to stay in school.	Retention rate in second-level education.  No. of potential early school leavers supported.	To identify 20 specific young people who are at risk of leaving school.  All identified young people linked to relevant supports and services.	Working collaboratively with schools, services will identify young people aged 16 – 18 years who are not attending school/early school leaving and work together to respond to their needs.  Individual plans with progression pathways put in place for identified individuals. Develop inter-agency response to identified needs.	2020  2021	Youth services Second-level schools CYPSC Economic Security and Opportunity Working Group Schools and Colleges Tusla	Strengthen transition. Support parents; Ensure quality services; Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	To support 16 – 24 year old young people from the Traveller Community who are not in school to progress to training provision.	Number of young Travellers taking part in training programmes.	12 young Travellers to participate in pre-training programme and progress to mainstream training provision.	Development of links between Sligo Traveller Support Group and ETB. Development and implementation of pre-training and training programme, based on model of good practice in Ballina, Co. Mayo.	2022	MSLETB Sligo Traveller Support Group Youth Services		
	To assist young people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to progress to further / higher education, training or employment.	Development of ASD transition support programme. Number of young people with ASD successfully transitioning to further / higher education, training or employment.	12 young people with ASD will successfully transition to further / higher education, training or employment.	Investigation of funding options for such a programme (e.g. PEACE Plus), securing funding for same. Development and implementation of programme.	2022	HSE Autism Services MSLETB Sligo County Council PEACE programme Youth Services Disability Services.	Sligo and Leitrim LECP IT Sligo Strategic Plan Kickboxing, Kindness and Going the Extra Mile Good practice for working with NEETs under SICAP 2017	Strengthen transition. Support parents; Ensure quality services; Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.



Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee									
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
Overcoming Barriers	To improve literacy and English language levels among children and young people.	Number of agencies aware of range of literacy supports Number of organisations who attend awareness events.	50% of services will be aware of literacy services available to support children and young people.	Host interagency event(s) to promote awareness of literacy and English language programmes and supports.	2020/21	MSLETB Education Centre Library Service LDCs HSE Tusla Youth Organisations CCCs FRCs	Literacy & Numeracy For Learning and Life National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy among Children and Young People 2011-2020		

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
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 national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
Participation (0 - 25 years)	To enhance the inclusion of children and young people (0-25) in the planning, development, delivery and evaluation of children's services.  To build on and strengthen the relationship between CYPSC and Comhairle na nÓg through participation in each other's structures and processes.	CYPSC members are using Sligo Leitrim Local Participation Guidelines.  Training across all agencies in the use of Local Participation Practice Guidelines.  CYPSC Children and Young People's Advisory Forum established.	6 young people trained as trainers who will deliver training on use of the Guidelines to staff working with children and young people.  2 training events per year in Sligo and Leitrim.  Achieve an Investing in Children Award for a CYPSC Project.  2 young people participating on CYPSC.  Bi-annual 'Comhairle na Páistí' event.	Establish a Children and Young People's Advisory Forum.  Train 6 young people in the use of the Participation Guidelines to deliver to staff working with children and young people to build on the CYPSC Participation Lab.  Involve children and young people (0-25) in all CYPSC projects.  Establish a Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Bi-annual 'Comhairle na Páistí' to consult directly with young children in an age appropriate way about service plans that impact on their lives.	2020 - 2022	CYPSC Connected, Respected and Contributing to the World Working Group Sligo Leitrim County Childcare Committees Youth Services Local Authority Tusla-PPFS, Schools PPN LCDCs LDC Leitrim Integrated Development Co	Tusla Child and Youth Participation Strategy 2019-2023  National Strategy for the Participation of Children and Young People in decision-making  Healthy Ireland	Transformational Goals: Listen to and involve children and young people Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
Connection (0 - 25 years)	To improve children and young people's participation in community life through improved transport provision.	Greater awareness of transport options available to children and young people.	A 'Youth Mobility' map and live schedule.	Work with the three CFSNs in Sligo and Leitrim to promote existing transport options and accessibility to young people in rural areas.  Promote the use of Sligo Co Council Walkability Audit tool.	2020 - 2022	CFSN Donegal Sligo Leitrim Local Link, CLASP Comhairle na nÓg Youth Services	Local Link Rural Transport Programme Strategic Plan 2018 - 22 Sligo County Council Age Friendly	Listen to and involve children and young people. Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
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 national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	To collaborate to increase accessibility to youth services in Sligo and Leitrim.	A strategic approach to increasing accessibility of youth services.	A plan for establishing youth hubs in rural towns / areas.  An agreed plan for the delivery of outreach programmes and services.	Support the development of the proposed youth centre in Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim, through interagency collaboration.  Collaborate to promote the development of youth hubs in other rural towns / areas.  Advocate for the extension of existing effective programmes and services.	2020 - 2022	Connected, Respected and Contributing to the World Working Group Youth Services LCDCs Sligo & Leitrim County Councils MSL ETB	Listen to and involve children and young people.  Ensure quality services.
Social Inclusion (0 - 25 years)	To identify and support interagency opportunities to respond to the needs of children and young people in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Communities</li> <li>• LGBTI+</li> <li>• Homeless</li> <li>• Travellers</li> <li>• Disability</li> </ul>	Facilitate learning and development in relation to social inclusion.	6 learning events across Sligo and Leitrim.	Host and promote a creative collaboration with children and young people to promote positive images of diversity across Sligo and Leitrim.  Co-host a workshop on each of the following topics: new communities, LGBTI+, Homeless Travellers and Disability.	2020-2022	CYPSC Connected, Respected and Contributing to the World Working Group FRCS Youth Organisations and Services Sligo & Leitrim County Councils HSE	Support parents.  Ensure quality services.  Listen to and involve children and young people.  Ensure quality services.

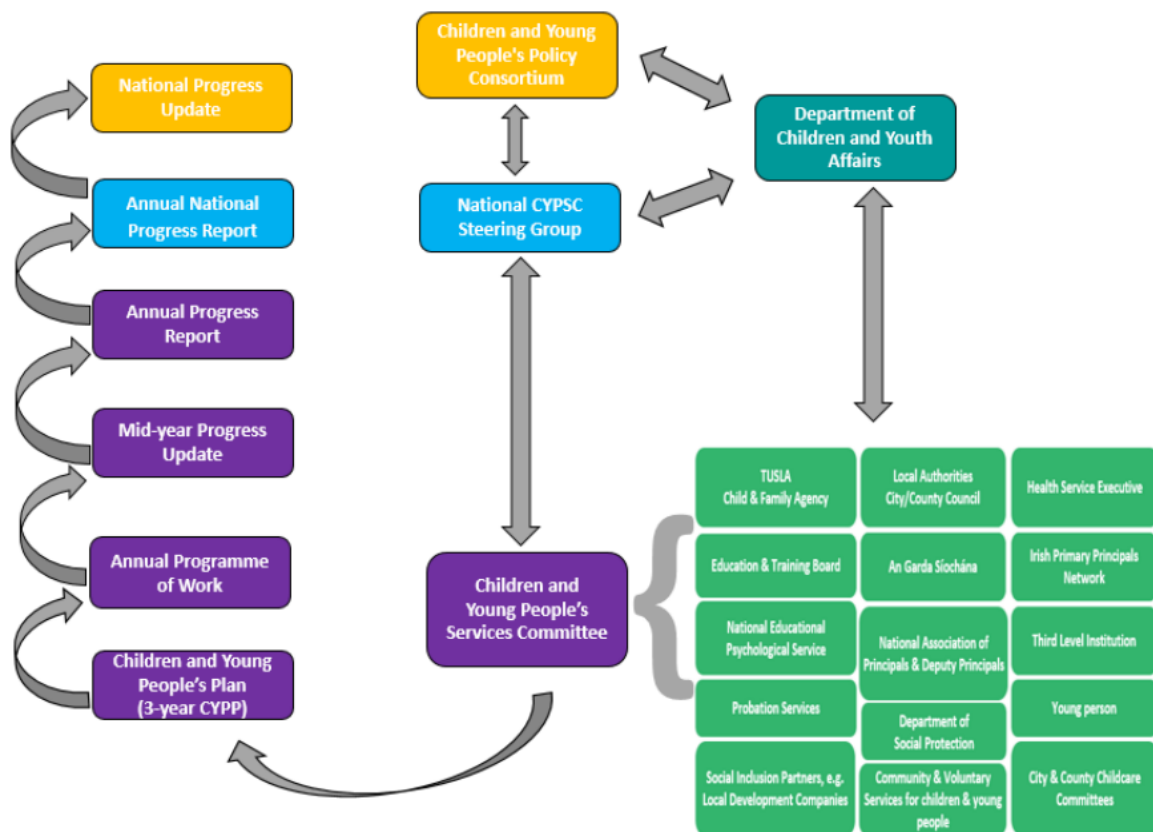
Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Change management								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Collaborative working.	To enhance effective and efficient working of CYPSC structures and processes.	Working Group Terms of Reference and Work Plans. Resources available to CYPSC additional to the Co-ordinator. A Child and Youth Advisory Forum is established.	Renewed programme of work, meetings and events directly related to the CYP 2020 - 2022. Participation of children and young people in at least two CYPSC meetings per year.	Build CYPSC committee capacity, clarify roles and responsibilities, communication channels and decision making structures. At every meeting lead agency updates on progress in relation to their lead actions from the CYPSC plan. To recommend that CYPSC would be constituent members in the review of LCDCs. Develop and support a Child and Youth Advisory Forum.	2020  Ongoing  2020	CYPSC	CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 - 2024  Tusla Child and Youth Participation Strategy for 2019 - 2023	Cross-government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination Listen to and involve children and young people.
Commitment of senior personnel across member agencies to CYPSC	To encourage full engagement of relevant agencies at senior level.	Full CYPSC membership at appropriate level. Attendance rates.	Membership attendance at CYPSC and working group meetings is 90%.	Identify alternative formats for meetings to improve attendance. Information sharing between agencies and between agencies and CYPSC.	Ongoing	All member agencies represented on CYPSC	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020	Transformational Goal: Cross-government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
Strategy and corporate business plan alignment (both national and local)	To align all CYPSC members' local and national business plans.	Local and national business plans reflect CYPSC priorities.	CYPSC named as a partner or lead in relation to any interagency plans relating to children and young people.	All CYPSC members to ensure alignment of their respective business plans with the CYP. All CYPSC members will support staff to attend CYPSC meetings and engage in collaborative working. Individual agencies seek to influence national plans relevant to children and young people.	Ongoing - annual reviews	Oversight Working Group Partners: individual CYPSC members	DECAC-National Implementation Plan for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.	Transformational Goal: Cross-government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination

## Section 7: Monitoring and Review

This Sligo Leitrim CYPP covers the three-year period 2020-22, 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 CYPP.

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC is committed to implementing the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework 2017. This provides the basis for a bi-annual review of progress carried out through the Working Group structure.

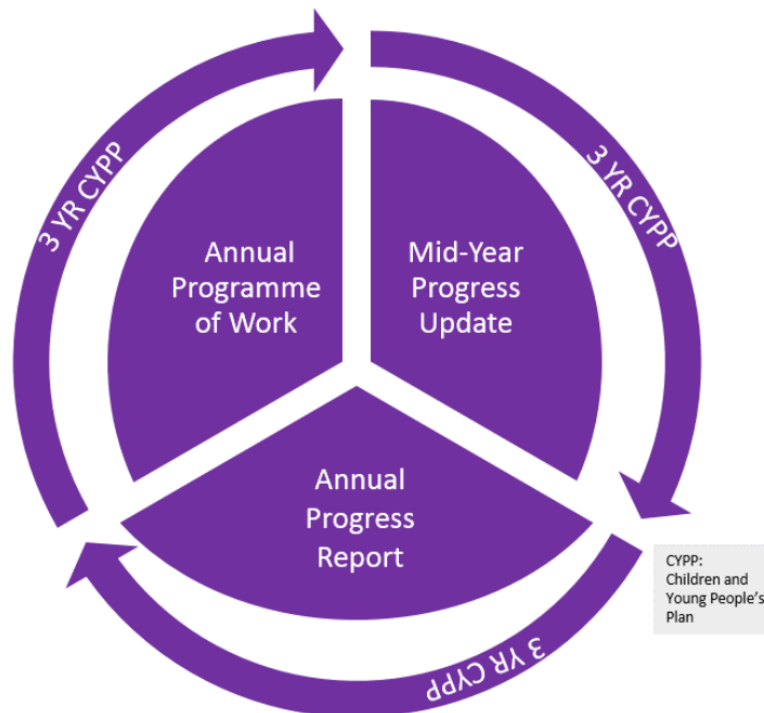
**Figure 5 CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework**



In addition, the Annual Programme of Work template provided as part of the framework is used to focus members on work planned each year and is used as a tool to support a CYPSC bi-annual review of progress. This involves Sligo Leitrim CYPSC producing an annual statement of intent / action outlining the work to be undertaken and achieved in each calendar year. This statement of intent will be called the Annual Programme of Work and it will be derived from the CYPSC's three-year Children and Young People's Plan. It will provide a high level overview of what and how the CYPSC will deliver against each of the agreed local objectives and strategic actions for that calendar year.

The performance of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC will be monitored by the CYPSC itself on an ongoing basis, applying the principle of mutual accountability, and annually by TUSLA - Child and Family Agency, on behalf of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, through the CYPSC's submission of an annual progress report.

**Figure 6 Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Planning and Reporting Cycle**



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 CHO 1 Plan and Sligo and Leitrim Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). Children and young people will be involved in this cycle through the development of a Children and Young People's Advisory Forum and a bi-annual 'Comhairle na Páistí'.

## Section 8: Appendices

### Appendix A: Glossary

BOBF	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CARI	Provides services for children affected by sexual abuse
CCC	County Childcare Committee
CCS	Community Childcare Subvention
CES	Centre for Effective Services
CFA	Child and Family Agency
CFSN	Child and Family Support Network
CHO	Community Health Organisation
CSC	Children's Services Committees
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CYPP	Children and Young People's Plan
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committee
DECAC	Department of Environment, Climate Action and Communications
DCYA	Department of Children and Youth Affairs
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
DoES	Department of Education & Skills
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
ELC	Early Learning and Care
EIS	Early Intervention Service
ETB	Education Training Board
EWS	Education Welfare Service
FRC	Family Resource Centre
GP	General Practitioner
HSE	Health Service Executive
ITS	Institute of Technology Sligo
IPPN	Irish Primary Principals Network
JLO	Juvenile Liaison Officer
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 and Community Plan
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex
MACE	Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences
NAPD	National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals
NDA	National Disability Authority
NDS	National Drugs Strategy

NWRD&AF	North West Regional Drug and Alcohol Forum
NWRDATF	North West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force
NEETs	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NEPS	National Educational Psychological Service
NFTE	Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship
OMYCA	Office of Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
PCT	Primary Care Team
PHN	Public Health Nurse
PPFS	Prevention, Partnership and Family Support
PPN	Public Participation Network
SCC	Sligo Co Council
SCCC	Sligo Co Childcare Committee
SICAP	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
SLPC	Sligo Leader Partnership Co Ltd
SONC	State of the Nation's Children
STSG	Sligo Traveller Support Group
TEC	Training and Employment Programme
YAPSL	Youth Action Project Sligo Leitrim



## Appendix B: Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Terms of Reference



### Terms of Reference for the Sligo Leitrim Children & Young People's Services Committee

#### **Mandate and Purpose:**

Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people (0-24) in every county in Ireland. The overall purpose is to improve outcomes for children and young people through local and national interagency working. The shared vision for CYPSC over the next years is to consolidate and build upon the positive work to date. (CYPSC 'Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 – 2024, DCYA 2019)

CYPSC bring together the main statutory, community and voluntary providers of services to children, young people and families. Their role is to enhance interagency co-operation and to realise the national outcomes and transformational goals set out in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for children and young people 2014 - 2020*. The work of CYPSC is informed by these five national outcomes and six transformational goals for children and young people.

#### **Objectives of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC:**

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC works with its strategic partners and through its working groups to:

- Ensure that the needs of children and young people are identified and addressed;
- Plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people;
- Ensure effective collaboration and interagency working;
- Promote quality, evidence-informed actions and outcomes-focused planning and practice;
- Optimise the use of resources;
- Promote best practice in the participation of children and young people in decision-making.
- Influence and shape practice and policy development at local, regional and national level.

#### **Term:**

These Terms of Reference are effective from June 2020 and will continue until end of May 2021 when they will be reviewed by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC or when they will be terminated by agreement between all parties.

#### **Membership**

Membership of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC is as determined in the Blueprint for Children and Young People's Services Committee (DCYA, 2015). A full list of current members is attached.

Additional members may be proposed and approved by the Committee.

### ***Co-opted Members***

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC may co-opt additional members from other agencies that it may consider relevant to its operations. Other persons may be invited to attend the meetings at the request of the Chairperson to provide technical advice and assistance where necessary.

### ***Resignation***

Individual committee members will cease to be members of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC if they:

- Resign from the committee.
- Fail to attend three consecutive meetings without apologies (legitimate excuse of absence submitted to the Chairperson). After three consecutive meetings where non-attendance of a member is recorded that they may be asked to resign and their nominating body or organisation may be asked to nominate somebody else in their place.

### ***Membership responsibilities***

As the development of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is the responsibility of the CYPSC, the Committee will aim to:

- Ensure the drawing up and effective implementation of the CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)
- Ensure individual organisational members adhere to the responsibilities and activities described in the CYPSC Blueprint for the Development of CYPSC 2015 – 2017, and the Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 – 2024, and through Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Plan 2020 - 2022, when operational.
- Ensure regular attendance at ordinary and extraordinary meetings, and participation in technical and policy discussions to achieve the agreed CYPP 3- year plan objectives towards Better Outcomes Brighter Futures for Children and Families, in the Sligo Leitrim Area.
- Ensure integration with and awareness of Sligo Leitrim CYPP 3-Year plan objectives through CYPSC individual member organisations and their strategic priorities, decisions and activities directly concerned with children, young people and their families in Sligo and Leitrim.
- To seek, and respond to, opportunities for funding related to the CYPP or other emerging issue relevant to children, young people and their families.
- Seek members to take on the role of Chairperson of a working group; to represent this group at the main CYPSC meetings. The Chairperson will be accountable for their working group's actions, and relevant action plan progression. Decision making at subgroup level will be made by consensus. Where required, these decisions may be taken to the CYPSC for consideration, where relevant and appropriate.
- To share information and data that may be helpful to CYPSC in its undertakings.

### ***Meetings***

#### ***Regular and Special Meetings***

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC meetings shall be held six times per year.

Meetings will be agreed in advance, and as necessary, to ensure completion of objectives as detailed above.

Meetings will be chaired by Tusla's Area Manager for Sligo Leitrim West Cavan.

In the Chairperson's absence, this role will be fulfilled by the Vice-Chair, Leitrim Co Council/Sligo Co Council.

Decisions will be made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice), balanced with the need to make quick and timely decisions. If consensus isn't possible, a majority decision will be sought from members using a voting mechanism agreed by members at the meeting. In the event of a tie, the chairperson will have the deciding vote.

Other meetings such as working groups and subgroups will be scheduled outside of these times, as convenient for those groups

Agendas will be drawn up by the Chairperson and Coordinator of CYPSC in advance of each meeting.

Notes from each meeting will be recorded by the Coordinator or other nominated person, and distributed in advance.

A special or extraordinary meeting may be convened by:

- The Chairperson of the Committee
- or
- Half of the Committee members request to call such a meeting

#### **Quorum**

40% plus 1

#### **Functions:**

Refer to the Governance Framework: *The Governance Framework for the Working Together for Children initiative (OMYCA)*

#### **Chairperson (As per the 'Governance Framework Doc re: Working together for Children)**

The Chairperson's responsibilities shall, with the support of the CYPSC Coordinator, include in consultation with the Committee:

- Facilitate open and balanced discussion and guide the meeting according to the meeting agenda and time available;
- Ensuring all discussion items end with a decision, action or definite outcome;
- Reviewing and endorsing the draft minutes for distribution;
- Being the official spokesperson of the Committee or nominate a representative;
- Leading the development of any annual or other reports to be submitted to the DCYA
- Inviting experts to attend meetings when required by the Committee;

#### **Secretariat**

The Coordinator is responsible for:

Preparing meeting agendas in consultation with the Chairperson; issuing notices for meetings; and ensuring all necessary documents requiring discussions or comments are attached to the agenda sent in advance to all members along with meeting invitations;

- Taking notes of proceedings and preparing minutes of meetings in co-operation with the CYPSC Administration Support;
- Sending out minutes of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC meetings within a reasonable timeframe for each meeting;
- Distributing all correspondence relating to the affairs of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

### **Working Groups/Sub-Groups**

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC shall from among its members, appoint a person to act as Chairperson on each working group and sub group. Sligo Leitrim CYPSC shall establish working groups and sub-groups to facilitate the implementation of the CYPP. The responsibilities of the various groups shall be in reference to those stated in their Terms of Reference. Membership of the Working Groups/Sub-Groups shall be by invitation from Sligo Leitrim CYPSC with reference to engaging the expertise and skills relevant stakeholder groups can contribute to the delivery of a specific task theme under the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC 3- year plan.

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC will provide a template Terms of Reference in support of the establishment of CYPSC Working Groups/Sub-Groups to include membership, function, communication and reporting.

### **Amendments**

The Terms of Reference can be amended, modified or varied in writing after consultation and agreement by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC members.

### **Appendices:**

Membership

5 National Outcomes

6 Transformational Goals

Working Group titles

## SLIGO LEITRIM CYPSC MEMBERSHIP (November 2020)

• Liam Whyte	Chairperson	Tusla, Sligo Leitrim West Cavan
• Mary Quinn	Vice-Chair	Leitrim Co Council
• Dorothy Clarke	Vice-Chair	Sligo Co Council
• Cara O'Neill		HSE, CHO 1
• Brid Brady		HSE, CHO 1
• Michelle Ni Thiarnain		Tusla PPFS
• Aedamar Keenan		Tusla PPFS
• John Feerick		Sligo Leader Partnership Co Ltd
• Donal Fox		Leitrim Development Company
• Elizabeth King		FRC Representative Sligo and Leitrim
• <i>Vacant</i>		National Assoc. of Principals and Deputy Principals
• Alan Kelly		Irish Primary Principals' Network
• Trevor Sweetman		MSL ETB
• Sharon Boles		Sligo Co Childcare Committee
• Tommy Lavelle		Leitrim Co Childcare Committee
• Karen Devine		Carrick Education Centre
• Daragh Mc Daid		Sligo Education Centre
• Carla Curley		Sligo Leitrim Gardai
• Helena Morrin		Probation Services
• Claire Gavigan		Sligo Leitrim Voluntary Network
• Kate Donnelly		Sligo Leitrim Voluntary Network
• Niall Rabbitt		Tusla Educational Welfare Service
• Georgina O'Brien		MACE Project
• Sinead Barrins		Sligo Institute of Technology

### 5 National Outcomes

CYPSCs work towards the five national outcomes for children and young people in Ireland. These are 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**

### 6 Transformational Goals

1. **Support Parents**
2. **Early Intervention & Prevention**
3. **Listen to and involve children and young people**
4. **Ensure quality services**
5. **Strengthen transitions**
6. **Cross-Government and inter-agency collaboration & collaboration**

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## Working Group Titles

- **Active and Healthy Working Group**
- **Achieving in Learning and Development Working Group**
- **Safe and Protected from Harm Working Group**
- **Economic Security and Opportunity Working Group**
- **Connected Respected and Contributing to their World Working Group**

## Appendix C: Membership of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Working Groups

### CYPSC Active & Healthy Working Group

NAME	ORGANISATION
Brid Brady (Chair)	HSE
Aedamar Keenan	Tusla
Anne Marie Regan	Foróige
Ciara Colreavy	HSE
Mary Kilroy	Tubbercurry Family Resource Centre
Declan Boyle	Leitrim Sports & Recreation Partnership
Deirdre Lavin	Sligo Sports & Recreation Partnership
Joan Mc Grath	Sligo Co Childcare Committee
Kate Donnelly	Lifestart Supporting Parents Leitrim Sligo & West Cavan (Sligo Family Support CLG)
Kate Mc Goldrick	Home Youth Liaison Service
Kathleen Mc Gowan	Sligo Social Service Council CLG
Kathy Taaffe	HSE
Mary Connolly	HSE
Floradh Dunn	HSE
Muireann Tobin	HSE
Nancy Healy	Leitrim Co Childcare Committee
Natasha Philips	HSE
Philip Maree	M-PACT
Roisin Moyles	West Sligo Family Resource Centre
Sean J O'Connor	North West Regional Drug & Alcohol Forum
Thomas Mc Bride	HSE

### CYPSC Learning & Development Working Group

NAME	ORGANISATION
Sharon Boles (Chair)	Sligo Co Childcare Committee
Anne Marie Regan	Foróige
Anne M Tully	HSE
Sandra Cribben	Tubbercurry Family Resource Centre
Niamh Flaherty	Ballymote Family Resource Centre
Christina Corrigan	HSE
Jeanette Leydon	Leitrim Integrated Development Co
Kate Donnelly	Lifestart Supporting Parents Leitrim Sligo & West Cavan (Sligo Family Support CLG)
Elizabeth King	Sligo Family Resource Centre
Nessa Cosgrove	Home Youth Liaison Service
Robbie Townsend	Tusla
Mary Mc Hugh	Sligo School Completion Programme
Teresa Cawley	HSE

### Safe & Protected from Harm Working Group

NAME	ORGANISATION
Claire Gavigan (Chair)	Foróige
Adrian Mc Goldrick	Garda Youth Diversion Project/YAPSL
Angela Cummins	Sligo Gardai
Anne Marie Regan	Foróige
Arleen Mc Grath	Tusla
Carmel Mc Namee	Domestic Violence Advocacy Service
David Madden/Shauana Kelly	Sligo Leitrim Rape Crisis Service
Georgina O'Brien	MACE Project (Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences)
Ide Nic Dhonncha	HSE
Majella Mc Govern	Mohill Family Support Project
Martin Jones	HSE
Sile Boles	HSE
Sharon Elliott	Home Youth Liaison Service
Orla Mc Grath	Leitrim Gardai

### Economic Security & Opportunity Working Group

NAME	ORGANISATION
Trevor Sweetman (Chair)	Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB
Claire Gavigan	Foróige
Donal Fox	Leitrim Integrated Development Co
Mick Hedigan	Home Youth Liaison Service
Mary O'Hara	Sligo & Leitrim Community Training Centre
Margaret Mc Connell	Sligo Co Council
Michelle Ni Thiarnain	Tusla
Donna Taaffe	Sligo Leader Partnership Co LTD
Suzanne Duffy	Leitrim Co Council
Sharon Boles	Sligo Co Childcare Committee
Tommy Lavelle	Leitrim Co Childcare Committee
Tony Comiskey	Tusla
Pat Forde	Youth Work Ireland North Connaught

### Connected Respected & Contributing to their World Working Group

NAME	ORGANISATION
Tommy Lavelle (Chair)	Leitrim Co Childcare Committee
Anne Marie Regan	Foróige
Aoife O'Hara	Tusla
Sandra Cribben	Tubbercurry Family Resource Centre
Niamh Flaherty	Ballymote Family Resource Centre
Joe Griffin	Home Youth Liaison Service
Pat Fallon/Patricia Garland	HSE
Roisin Moyles	West Sligo Family Resource Centre
Pat Forde	Leitrim Comhairle na nÓg
Suzanne Duffy	Leitrim Co Council



## Appendix D: Demographic Reference Data<sup>20</sup>

**Table A1: General Population**

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

**Table A2: Age Profile of Population**

Age range	Sligo	% of county population	Leitrim	% of county population	Combined population	State	% of country population
0-4	4,310	6.58	2,188	6.84	7,050	331,515	7.0
5-9	4,733	7.20	2,416	7.54	6,490	355,561	7.5
10-14	4,270	6.52	2,391	7.46	6,448	319,476	6.7
15-19	4,420	6.74	1,881	5.54	6,157	302,816	6.4
20-24	3,597	5.49	1,293	6.07	5,790	273,636	5.7
0-24	21,330	32.50	10,097	31.51	31,935	1,583,004	33.3
0 - 18	15,961	24.40%	8,188	25.6%	24,149		

**Table A3: Age Dependency Ratio 2011 and 2016**

		2011	2016
State	All Ages (Ratio)	49.3	52.7
	Persons aged 0-14 (Ratio)	31.9	32.3
	Persons aged 65 years and over (Ratio)	17.4	20.4
Sligo	All Ages (Ratio)	51.2	57.5
	Persons aged 0-14 (Ratio)	30.3	32.0
	Persons aged 65 years and over (Ratio)	20.9	25.5
Leitrim	All Ages (Ratio)	57.3	62.6
	Persons aged 0-14 (Ratio)	34.0	35.1
	Persons aged 65 years and over (Ratio)	23.3	27.4

<sup>20</sup>Data from Central Statistics Office unless otherwise stated.

## Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

**Table A4: Birth Rate based on usual residence of mother 2018**

Births per year per 1,000 population	Sligo	Leitrim	State
	11.7	12.2	12.6

**Table A5: Age profile of mothers at time of child's birth (number) 2018**

Age range	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Under 20 years	11	8	980
20 - 24 years	65	29	5057
25 - 29 years	126	68	10428
30 - 34 years	269	140	20934
35 - 39 years	241	117	18947
40 - 44 years	51	37	4343
45 years and over	10	..	327

**Table A6: Child mortality rates 2017 and 5 year standardised 2013-2017**

Rate (per 100,000 1-19 year olds - European Standardised Population)	Sligo	Leitrim	State
5 year rate	2.2	3.9	2.7

**Table A7: Infant and neonatal mortality 2016**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Rate of infant mortality per 1,000 live births	2.6	2.4	3
Rate of neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births	0	2.4	2.3

**Table A8: % of children who have received schedule of vaccination 2017<sup>21</sup>**

	Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	Ireland
MMR Vaccination (first dose) by age 2	95.8	92.2
MMR vaccination uptake (second dose) in Junior Infants	92.9	94.4
6-in-1 vaccination (three doses) by age 2	97.1	94.7
HPV vaccination in girls in First Year	48.5	51

<sup>21</sup>Child health data source: Child Health Profile 2018 CHO1, HSE.

**Table A9: Other child health indicators 2017**

Other Child Health Indicators	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Birth rate (per 100) to mothers aged 13-19 years	1.9	0.5	1.7
Percentage of low birthweight births	5.7	5.0	5.5
Rate (per 10,000) of hospital discharges for injuries in children (0-14)	100	66	82
Rate (per 100,000) of hospital emergency admissions for asthma in children (0-18)	184	105	134

**Table A10: Breastfeeding Rates 2017 Average<sup>22</sup>**

	Sligo/Leitrim/W.Cavan	State
Total breastfeeding rate at first PHN visit	53.5	54.5
Exclusive breastfeeding rate at first PHN visit	38.3	41.2
Combination feeding rate at first PHN visit	15.2	13.3
Total breastfeeding rate at 3 month PHN visit	29.4	38.9
Exclusive breastfeeding rate at 3 month PHN visit	26.4	30
Combination feeding rate at 3 month PHN visit	3%	8.9
Drop in total breastfeeding between first and 3 month PHN visit*	-24.1	-15.6
Drop in exclusive breastfeeding between first and 3 month PHN visit*	-11.9	-11.2
Drop in combination feeding between first and 3 month PHN visit*	-12.2	-4.4

**Table A11: Children walking/cycling to school**

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%

<sup>22</sup> Profile of Breastfeeding 2015-2018 CHO1, HSE

**Table A12: Self-Reported Mental Personal Stressors<sup>23</sup>**

Young people 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%

**Table A13: Treated Episodes of Self-Harm in Sligo Regional Hospital 2017<sup>24</sup>**

Treated Episodes of Self-Harm by Age	Number
<16	18
16 – 17	20
18 – 24	39
<b>Total &lt;25</b>	<b>77</b>
Total all ages	237

<sup>23</sup> Sligo Leitrim Youth Mental Health Initiative, Mind Your Head: Study of Youth Mental Health (2014)

<sup>24</sup> National Self-Harm Registry Ireland 2017

## Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development

**Table A15: CCS Registrations by Band 2018**

Band	Sligo	Leitrim
A	1362	203
AJ	139	35
B	341	98
D	17	6

**Table A16: National School Pupils in Sligo and Leitrim by School Programme, 2019**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim
Pupils with special needs in mainstream national schools	71	12
Pupils in special national schools	98	0
All mainstream national school programmes	7627	3713
All first level school programmes	7796	3725

**Table A17: Pupils receiving Second Level Education (Number) in Sligo and Leitrim by type of School 2019**

Type of School	Sligo	Leitrim
Secondary schools	3278	...
Vocational schools	1082	1114
Community schools	671	973
Comprehensive schools	..	481
Second level education institutions aided by the Department of Education and Skills	5031	2568

**Table A21: Post Primary PLC Pupils 2017-18**

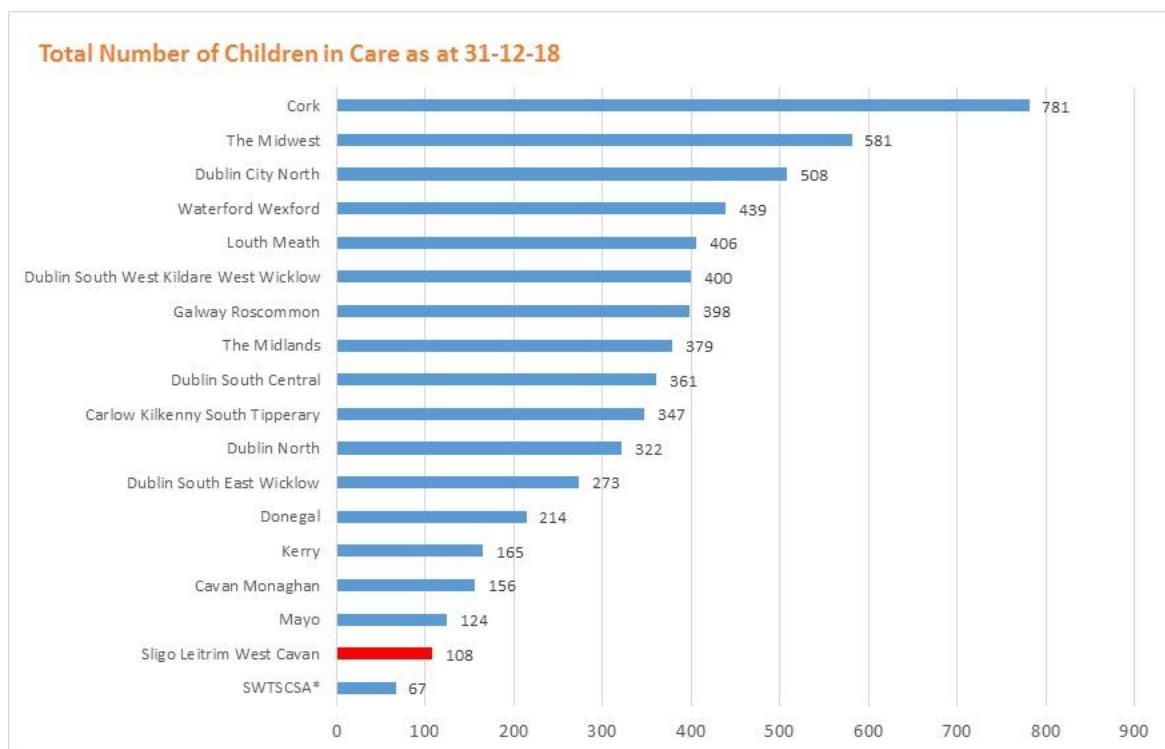
	Number
Sligo	747
Leitrim	71

## Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

**Table A22: Child Protection and Welfare Referrals to Tusla<sup>25</sup>**

Child Protection and Welfare Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan		
Number of Referrals (received during the reporting period)		
	2016	2017
Abuse	259	263
Welfare	512	784
<b>Total</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>1,047</b>
Abuse	240	255
Welfare	502	778
<b>Total</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>1,033</b>
Of the number of Referrals (received during the reporting period), that had a Preliminary Enquiry (National Intake), the number that proceeded to Initial Assessment		
Abuse	86	89
Welfare	94	121
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>210</b>

<sup>25</sup> TUSLA Publications, Performance Reports, Quarterly Performance and Activity Data, Outcomes4Children.tusla.ie



**Table A24: Perceptions of children and young people's safety<sup>26</sup>**

Yes children and young people are safe...	Responses from Children and Young People %	Responses from Parents
...in their community	87	60
...in their school/educational environment	90	82
...in their home	88	71

**Table A26: Young people referred to Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme 2017<sup>27</sup>**

Category	Sligo Leitrim	% Change 2016
Number of young people referred to Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme 2017	293	+22%

Of these referrals, 193 were 18 years or under, 6 were restorative cautions and 8 were deemed unsuitable for the programme.

**Table A27 Young People involved in YAPS 2018 (Youth Action Project Sligo – A Garda Diversion Project)**

<sup>26</sup>CYPSC Review of the Safety of Children and Young People Sligo Leitrim 2018

<sup>27</sup>Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme 2017

	Sligo	Leitrim
Number of young people involved in YAPS	33	4

**Table A25: Youth Crime Statistics for Sligo/ Leitrim Garda Division<sup>28</sup>**

Category	2016	2017	2018
Drug & Alcohol related offences in Sligo & Leitrim	784	714	753
Drug and alcohol related crimes committed by children and young people Aged between 12 and 17 years in Sligo and Leitrim	75	68	50
Total number of youth referrals	201	269	185

<sup>28</sup>Source: By email: Sligo Divisional Office (by email correspondence), July 2019



## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

### 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).

**Table A31: Absolute and Relative HP Deprivation Index Scores<sup>29</sup>**

	Absolute HP Index Score			Relative HP Index Score			
	2006	2011	2016	2006	2011	2016	2006-16
<b>Sligo</b>	-7	-6.7	-5.6	-7	-1	-1.6	-8
<b>Leitrim</b>	-2.1	-9.0	-7.1	-2.1	-2.6	-3.2	-1.1
<b>Ireland</b>	-.4	-6.4	-3.6	-.4	.2	.6	.9

	Sligo	Leitrim	State
<b>Number receiving Back to School Clothing &amp; Footwear Allowance (2017)</b>	2,046	1,099	151,579

**Table A36: Number of Households (HH) Qualified for Social Housing Support by Local Authority<sup>30</sup>**

Local Authority	2017		2018		Change 2017/2018	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
<b>Sligo</b>	611	0.7	442	0.6	-169	-27.7
<b>Leitrim</b>	327	0.4	302	0.4	-25	-7.6
<b>State</b>	85,799	100.0	71,858	100.0	-13,941	-16.2

<sup>29</sup>The 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index for Small Areas (SA) Haase and Pratschke 2017

<sup>30</sup> Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2018

## Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world

**Table A33: Children from new communities 2016**

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Non-Irish National Children Aged 0-14	986	571	85,756
Non-Irish National Children Aged 15-24	731	361	70,230
<b>Total 0 - 24</b>	<b>1717</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>155,986</b>
<b>No. of Children Resident in Direct Provision Centres</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1564</b>

**Table A34: Nationalities of children in Sligo/Leitrim 2016**

Nationality	Leitrim 0 - 24	Sligo 0 - 24
French	6	26
German	8	33
Italian	5	7
Latvian	46	50
Lithuanian	61	45
Polish	259	403
Romanian	7	19
Spanish	9	22
UK	229	310
Other EU28	40	91
Other European	4	22
African	5	112
Indian	4	17
Other Asian	29	139
American (US)	35	43
Brazilian	1	4
Other American	1	16
Other nationalities	20	35
Not stated, including no nationality	163	333
	<b>932</b>	<b>1727</b>



*Selection of photographs from services and projects supported by CYPSC across Sligo and Leitrim. Activity packs provided by Foroige to young people during lockdown in 2020; return to early years service in Tubbercurry FRC; 'Community Filing Cabinet Project' in Mohill FSC; outdoor activities with young people; supporting National LGBTI week; young Syrian girls supping on the Garavogue River, while on a Foroige project, supported by CYPSC; 'I AM BABA' project with mothers and babies in Enniscrone; A Leitrim group, hosted by Lifestart Supporting Parents, Leitrim Sligo & West Cavan CLG, taking part in the 'Shaping Ourselves and our Children' Peace IV SEUPB funding programme. (The photos above were approved by the families for media use)*

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CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES

Sligo Leitrim

