

Co. Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee



Children and Young People's Plan 2019 - 2021



**Inter-agency working to improve the lives of children,
young people and families in Co. Clare**



An Roinn Leanaí
agus Gnóthaí Óige
Department of Children
and Youth Affairs

Foreward

Welcome to the Clare Children and Young People's Plan 2019-2021 (CYPP) developed by the Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC).

Our new Plan 2019-2021 is ambitious and aims to improve the relationships between inter-agency services in Co. Clare to address the needs of children, young people, families and communities.

The vision of our CYPSC is that all children and young people of Clare are valued, thriving, safe, content, have equal opportunity, are respected in their lives and are connected to their communities.

This Plan is testimony to the commitment shown by of local stakeholders who strive towards making this vision a reality for children and young people in our County.

We believe that children, families and communities should be actively involved in the decisions that affect their lives. We are committed to working with them to maximise their dignity, autonomy and self-determination whilst providing services that are timely and appropriate for their specific needs. In order to deliver on this ambition, our core principles have been set out in this plan to guide us on our decision-making for the coming years:

- a) Demonstrate leadership
 - Identify pieces of work / initiate action where we can show leadership
 - Demonstrate leadership on improving outcomes for children and young people
- b) Facilitate interagency collaboration
 - Clarifying roles and responsibilities of stakeholders
 - Clarifying internal leadership and authority
- c) Enable a voice for children and young people
- d) Being evidence-informed
- e) Prioritise identified gaps (avoiding duplication)
- f) Optimise available resources
- g) Ensure quality responses

The Action Plan reflects a set of informed actions gathered from local knowledge, shaped by evidence whilst using the combined knowledge of members of strategic partners working within the wider community of County Clare. The goals and targets set out in the Action Plan are realistic, attainable and meaningful.

I look forward to assessing its success through the established working groups and seeing the improved outcomes for children and young people in Clare.

I would like to thank all who contributed to the development of the CYPP 2019-2021 in particular Mr. Ger Brophy, CYPSC Chairperson (2016-2017).

I would also like to thank all our partners and stakeholders, including the children, families and young people who have made such a valuable contribution to the development of our new CYPP 2019-2021.



Dr. Caroline Cullen
Chairperson Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee

Contact

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

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Copies of this plan are available on: www.cypsc./clare

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Glossary of terms

BOBF	Better Outcomes Better Futures, National Policy Framework. DCYA 2014-2020
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CFL	Connecting for Life H.S.E Mental Health Strategy
CFSN	Child and Family Support Network CHO area Community Health Organisation CYPP Children and Young People's Plan DCYA Dept. Of Children and Youth Affairs
DHPLG	Dept. Of Housing, Planning and Local Government
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
DES	Dept. Of Education and Skills
CLDC	Clare Local Development Company
DOH	Dept. Of Health
DEASP	Dept. Of Employment Affairs and Social Protection
DRCD	Dept. Of Rural and Community Development
CYS	Clare Youth Service
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
ESL	Early School Leaving
LCETB	Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board
EWS	Educational Welfare Services FET Further Education and Training FRC Family Resource Centre
HI	Healthy Ireland, A framework for improved Health and Well-being 2013-2015
HPI	Health Promotion and Improvement
HIQA	Health Information and Quality Authority
HSE	Health Service Executive
IPPN	Irish Primary Principals' Network
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
LHO	Local Health Organisation
Meitheal	Collaborative model forming a multi-disciplinary team around the child, Tusla
NAPDP	National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals
NDS	National Drugs Strategy
NEETS	Refers to Young people who are Not in Employment, Education or Training
NEPS	National Educational Psychological Service
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NOSP	National Office for Suicide Prevention
NSDF	National Service Delivery Framework for Tusla NSRF National Suicide Research Foundation MWRDATF Mid-West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force OMYCA Office of Minister for Children and Youth affairs PHN Public Health Nurses
PPFS	Prevention Partnership and Family Support
SCP	School Completion Programme
SICAP	Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme
SPHE	Social Personal Health Education
Tusla	Tusla Child and Family Agency

Section 1: Introduction

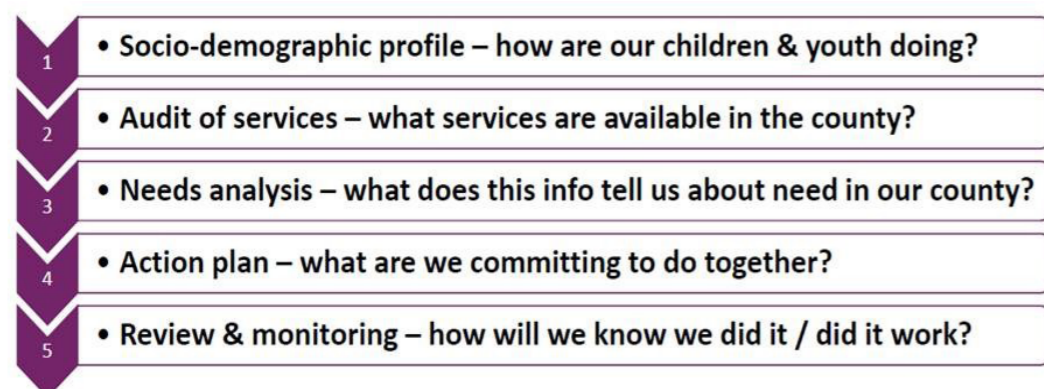
The purpose of the Children and Young People's Services Committees is to secure better outcomes for children and young people through more effective co-operation and collaboration by existing services and through interventions at local level.

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

Each Committee develops and implements an interagency 3 year Children and Young People's Plan for the County (CYPP), which is designed to improve outcomes for children and young people in their area based on the 5 National Outcomes for children and young people in Ireland.

The Clare CYPP includes:



1.1: Background to Children and Young People's Services Committees

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.

1.2: Who we are

Children and Young People's Services Committees National Steering Group

The main function of the CYPSC National Steering Group is to support the effective operation and practical implementation of CYPSC at local level.

The CYPSC National Steering Group addresses issues and obstacles that need resolution at national level. The Chair of the CYPSC National Steering Group is a member of the Children and Young People's Policy Consortium and utilises that forum to promote the work of CYPSC and escalate any pertinent issues that require a national response.

The CYPSC National Steering Group provides guidance and advice on strategic, policy and operational issues relevant to the local committees.

Membership of the Steering Group comprises of senior representatives from

- Tusla-Child and Family Agency,
- Health Service Executive,
- City/County Councils,
- Education and Training Board Ireland,
- Community and Voluntary sector,
- Department of Children and Youth Affairs,
- Department of Education and Skills,
- Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government,
- A young person aged 18-24 years,
- Personnel from local CYPSCs (Chairperson, vice Chairperson and CYPSC Co-ordinator),
- The National Co-ordinator for CYPSC and an Independent Chairperson.

Membership of the Clare CYPSC

CYPSC membership comprises of senior management from the statutory, community and voluntary providers in any county, that are working to provide services and to deliver better outcomes for children and young people aged 0 to 24 years. The CYPSC chairperson is drawn from Tusla Child and Family Agency with the CYPSC Vice Chairperson drawn from the local authority. See figure 1 for CYPSC membership. A copy of the Clare CYPSC Terms of Reference and Terms of Reference for all the CYPSC subgroups can be found in the appendix section of the plan.

The Clare CYPSC Coordinator is a CYPSC representative on the Clare Comhairle na nÓg steering committee and will be developing communication protocols between the Comhairle steering committee and CYPSC steering committee.

Other youth based infrastructures such as the Clare Youth Services Younger Voices group, school based student councils, Scouting Ireland youth representative structures may also be explored as vehicles for youth participation on the CYPSC structures in adherence with the principles of the supporting the Lundy model of youth participation. The Clare CYPSC endeavours to offer a **space** at the table for young people, give young people a **voice**, be open to young people holding positions of **influence** on the CYPSC and being an **audience** for the young people of Co. Clare to bring their issues and recommendation to.

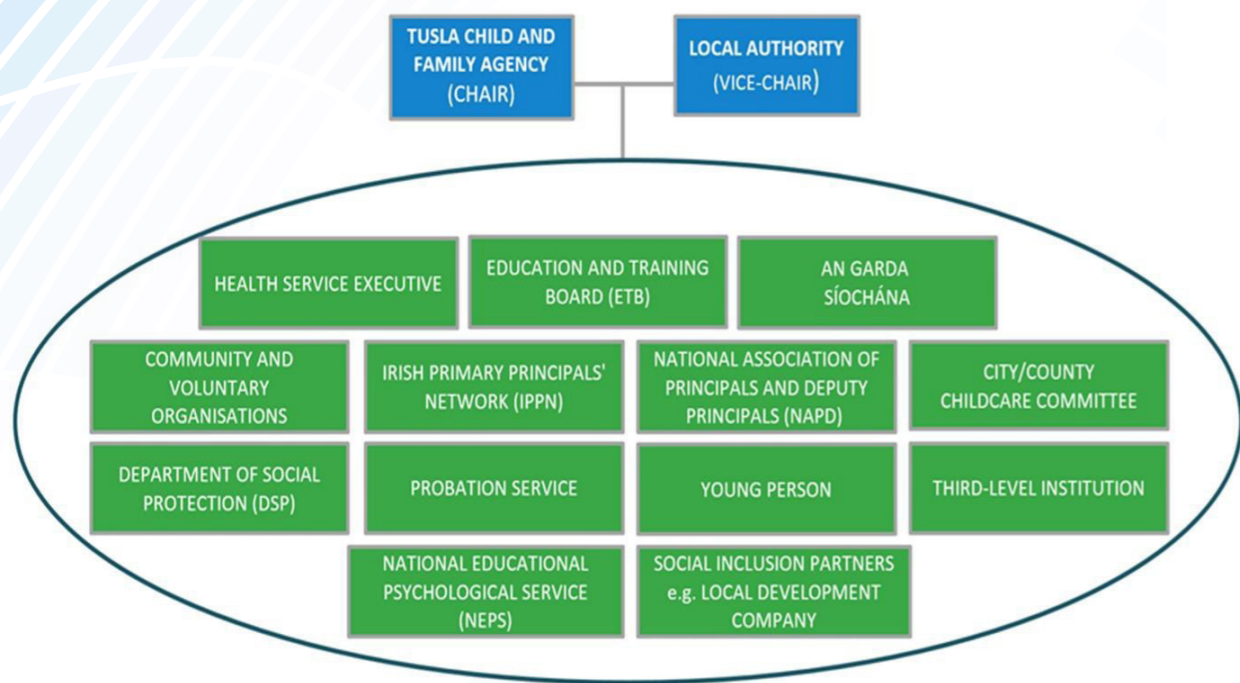


Fig. 1: CYPSC membership structure

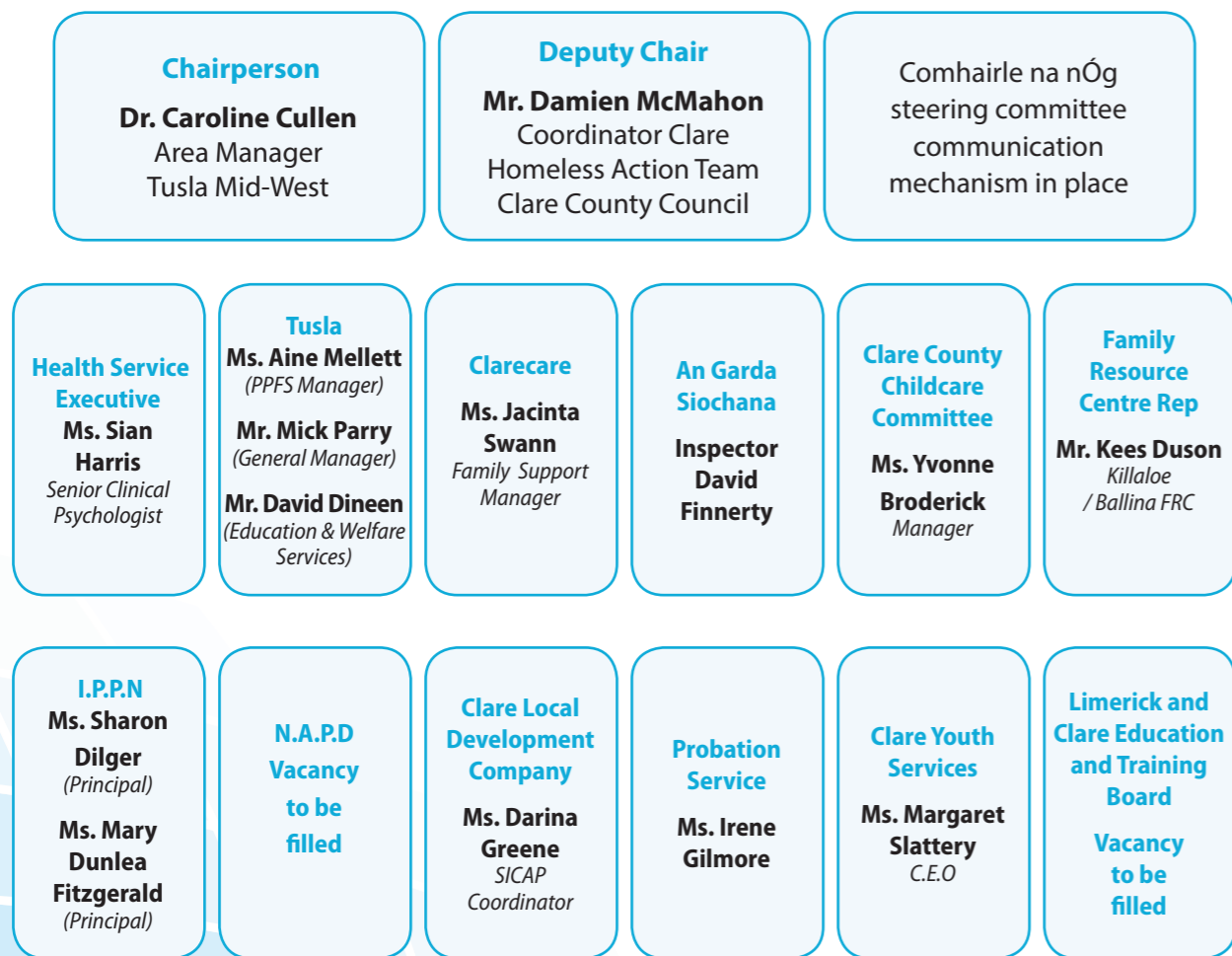


Fig. 2: Co. Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee membership

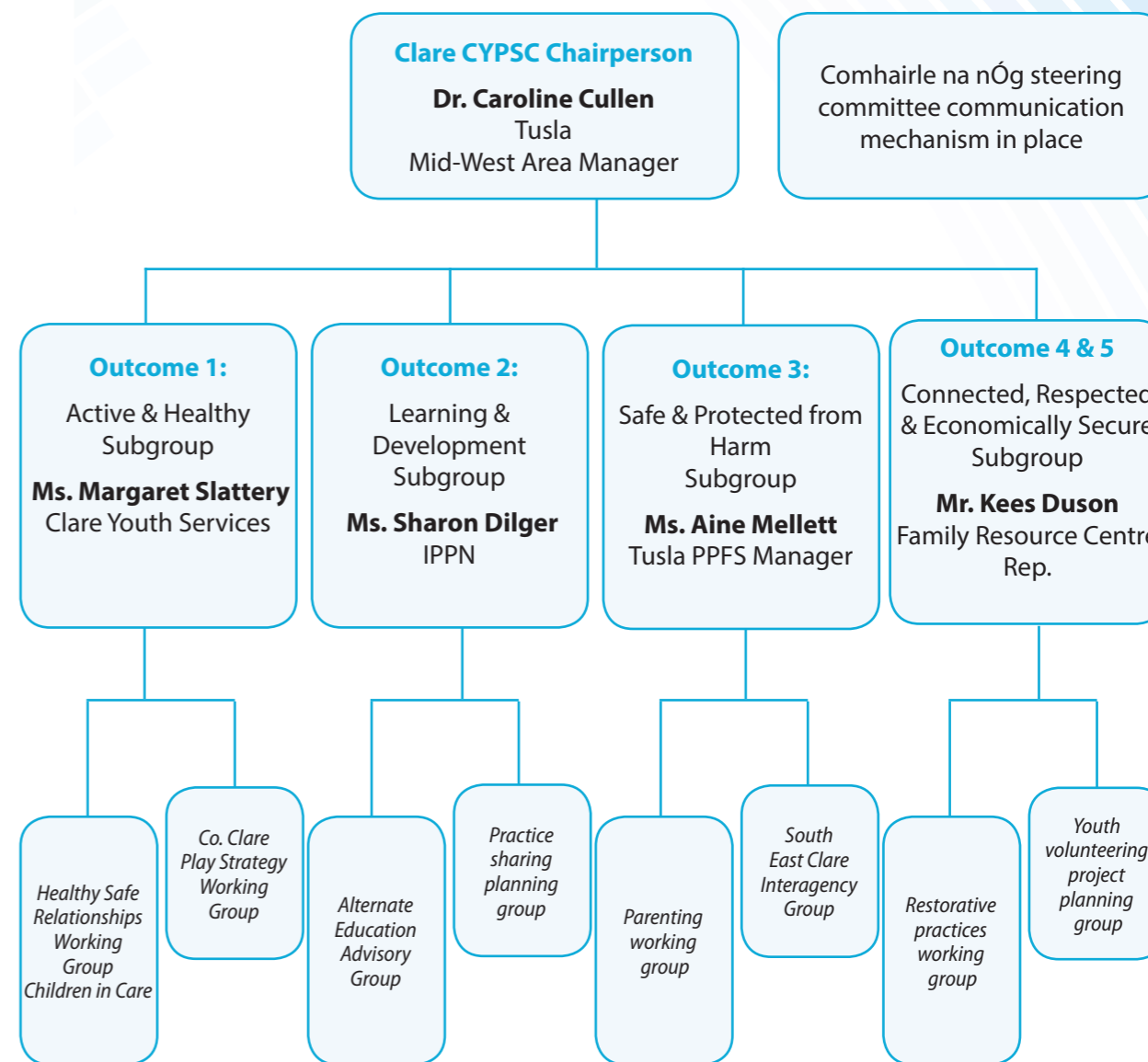


Fig. 3: Co. Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee Subgroup Structure & Chairpersons

1.3: CYPSC achievements to date

The Clare CYPSC was established in 2016. The Clare CYPSC has received two main funding streams over the past three years: seed funding from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Healthy Ireland Funding from the Department of Health. The table below highlights a number of interagency initiatives that the CYPSC has initiated and/or supported through these main funding streams. The Clare CYPSC allocated financial support on the basis that the initiatives adhered to the CYPSC priority areas and principles. Each CYPSC subgroup acts as the governance structure over the seed fund and ensures monitoring and feedback mechanisms are in place once funding support is agreed. The Clare CYPSC has been working in partnership with the Clare LCDC whereby we have submitted joint Healthy Ireland funding applications in 2018 and 2019.

Clare CYPSC Seed funded initiatives 2016 – 2019	Amount 2016-2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * (Socio-economic data analysis baseline report for Co. Clare) Incredible Years Parent and Baby programme Ennis Youth Leadership Programme Circles of Security Adoption Initiative Therapeutic Horse Riding Programme * Clare Local Development LEADER Youth Needs Analysis Study (CYPSC led initiative) ** "Explore, Play, Learn" parent and child showcase events: Promoting learning in the home through Aistear Circles of Security practitioner training * Baseline study on the needs and experiences of families in South East Clare where drugs and/or alcohol misuse has been a factor in the home * Parent Planner App designed * Supporting immigrant children to engage in community arts initiatives * Restorative practices training/seminar for agencies across Co. Clare * Youth Health and Wellbeing Service: Research efficacy of a sample of current models in existence * Affordable access to sports for families: Jersey and boots "Swap Shop" initiative promoted with clubs in the county in partnership with the Clare Sports Partnership * Countywide profile of parenting initiatives with recommendations for future coordination Youth led anti-bullying initiative – North Clare 	€67,000

Initiatives marked with an * were initiated and led by the Clare CYPSC.

*Clare CYPSC Healthy Ireland funded initiatives 2018 – 2020	Amount 2018 – 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mind Body and Soul health promotion initiative – Intergenerational project Imagination Playground DEIS Schools Initiative: Promoting play and development for children under 12 years (5 schools received the Imagination Playground resource for their school) Trauma Informed Healthy Safe Relationships Toolkit for young people in the Care system: Interagency working group in Clare & Limerick in place. Up scaling of the Imagination Playground scheme to include Early Years Services based in positive evaluation of the 2018 fund: 14 schools & Early Years Services across the county to receive the resource in partnership with Clare County Childcare Committee. By 2020, over 7,000 children will be accessing the resource across the county. Edible gardens nutrition project: Ennis Family Homeless Hub – Interagency working group in place. Supporting mental wellbeing for families parenting under pressure in temporary accommodation. The model designed and piloted with families accessing homeless support services in Clare. Recommendations from the pilot to be delivered to mental health service providers nationally and locally. Interagency working group in place. 	€176,000

*In 2017 CYPSC Healthy Ireland funding was administered by the Clare LCDC

The Clare CYPSC has also established subgroups aligned to the five national outcomes and working group structures to oversee the delivery of actions contained within the plan and feedback to the CYPSC on any challenges that may arise during the implementation phase. Each subgroup and working group has established its own terms of reference and is chaired by a member of the CYPSC. (see appendices). From 2016 – 2019, the Clare CYPSC has supported the development of interagency initiatives across the county to the value of €243,000.

1.4: CYPSC strategic linkages and key relationships

Since the establishment of Local Community Development Committees (LCDC), CYPSC and LCDC relationships have developed. The *Local Community Development Committees (LCDC) – Children & Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) Guidance Document (2016)* describes how Local Community Development Committees (LCDC) and Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) should work together and sets out how engagement between the structures should be progressed.

Figure 4 indicates the governance structure for CYPSC including the relationship between the CYPSC Children and Young People's Plans and the LCDC Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP).

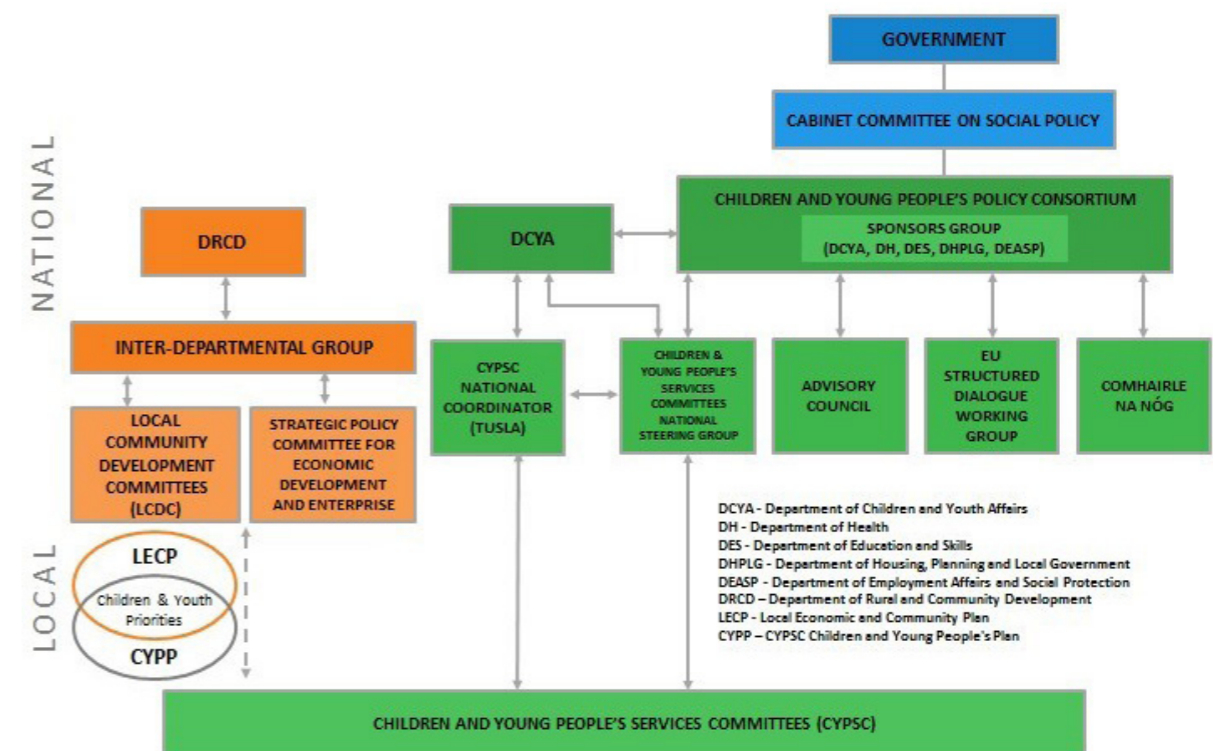
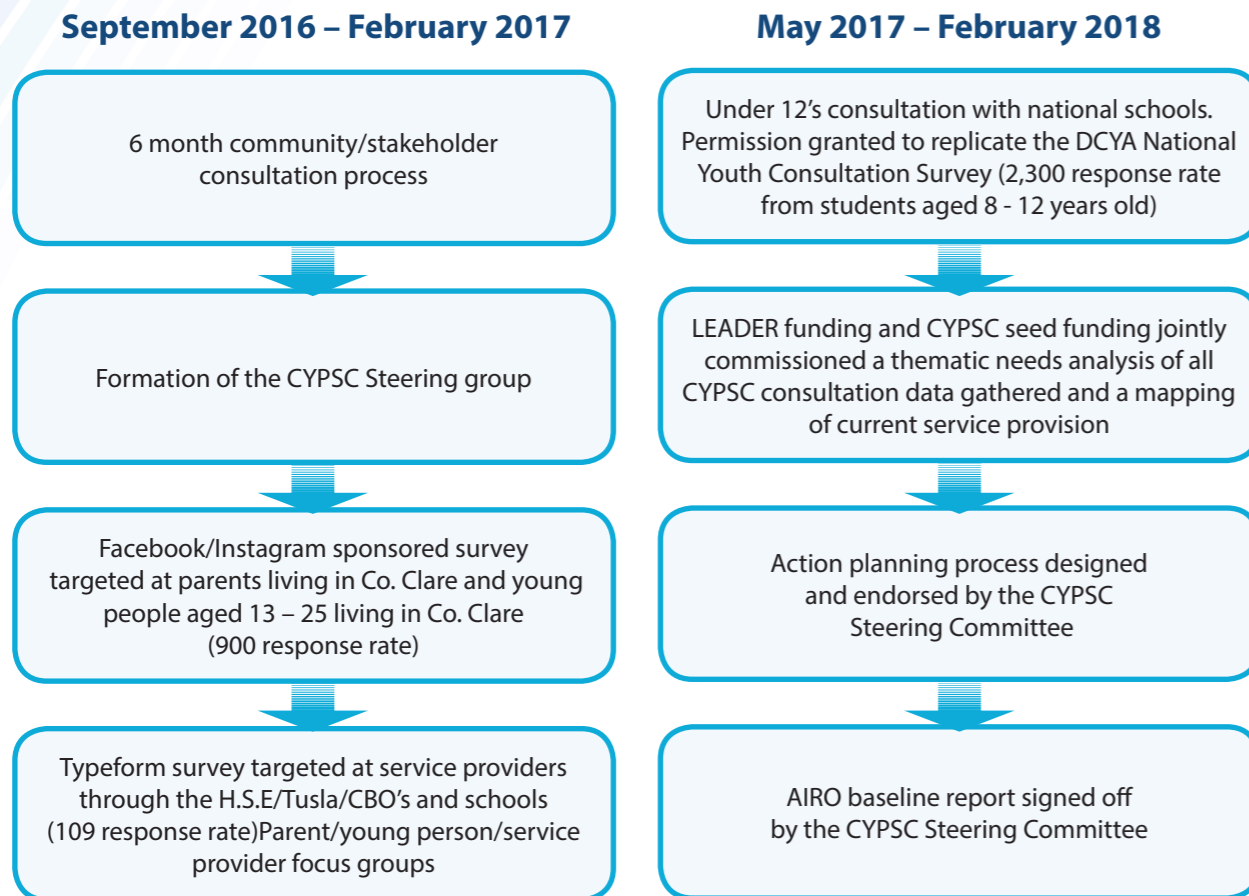


Fig 4. CYPSC governance and relationship between LCDC LECP and CYPSC CYPP

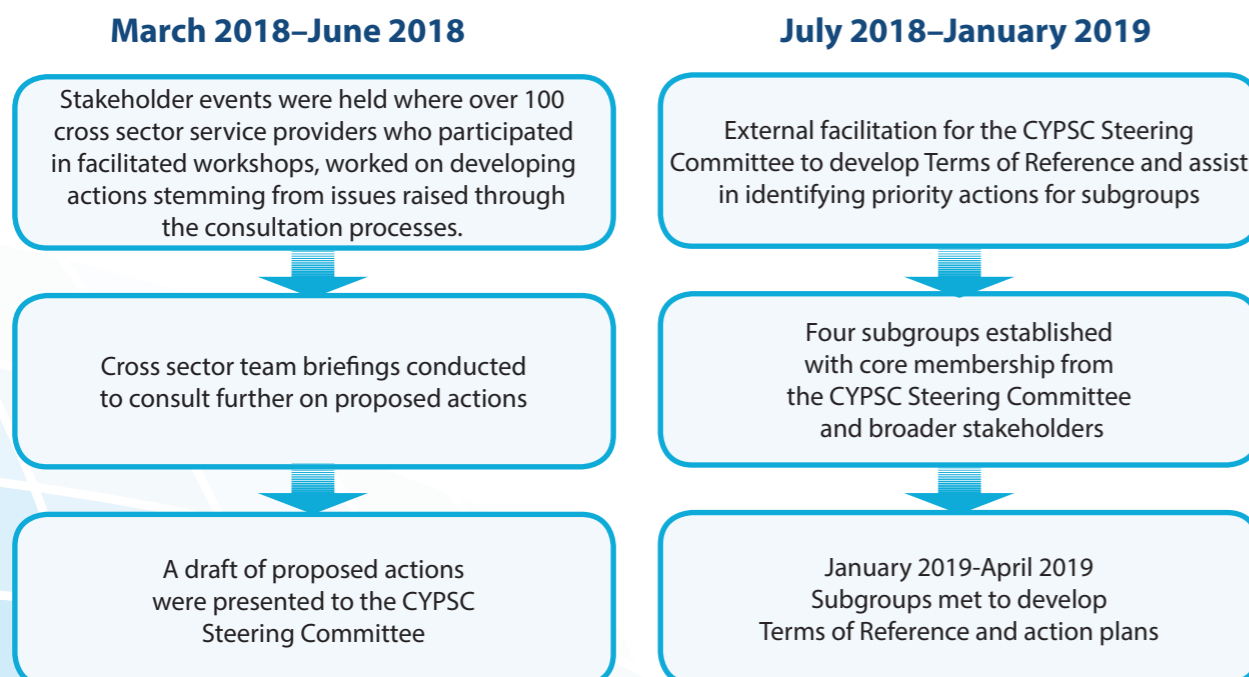
Continued efforts to strengthen these strategic alliances needs to be fostered and supported by CYPSC and the LCDC at local level.

1. How the Children and Young People's Plan was developed in Co. Clare

Strategic development process:



Strategic development process:



Section 2: Socio-Demographical Profile of County Clare

Introduction: Background to Co. Clare

County Clare (Irish: *Contae an Chláir*) is a county in Ireland, in the Mid-West Region and the province of Munster, bordered on the West by the Atlantic Ocean. The county town and largest settlement is Ennis.

Clare is north-west of the River Shannon covering a total area of 3,400 square kilometres (1,300 sq. mi). Clare is the 7th largest of Ireland's 32 traditional counties in area and the 19th largest in terms of population. Co. Clare is noted for its agriculture, tourism and, highly scenic and environmentally important landscapes.

It is home to the Burren National Park and is renowned for both its physical and cultural heritage (*ref: County Clare development plan 2011-2017 p.21*).

The County has an extensive Atlantic coastline, all of which is included on the Wild Atlantic Way. This recent marketing initiative by Fáilte Ireland has been successful in adding to Co. Clare's already strong coastal tourism industry.

There are also tourism sector opportunities along Clare's southern boundary, the Shannon Estuary, on the shores of Lough Derg on the County's eastern border, and throughout the inland areas which maintain traditional, rural ways of life.

Shannon Airport is located in the south of the County and there are substantial employment opportunities within the Galway – Ennis – Shannon – Limerick corridor. Add to this that Co. Clare is very accessible by air, road, and rail and it is clear why tourism is a sector of great importance and opportunity (SICAP Programme Clare Local Development Company 2018 – 2022)

Commerce and trade are the greatest sources of employment in the County. Outside of the industrial/business, retail and administrative employment centres of Shannon, Ennis and Kilrush, tourism and agriculture are two of the primary industries in the County. (*ref: County Clare development plan 2011-2017 p.22*).

Co. Clare has a considerable ageing population who are residing primarily in rural areas, as well as a growing under 25 years old population residing in more urban centres. Population decline in rural areas has been impacted by transport challenges as well migration to urban centres for greater employment and training opportunities. Despite facing population dispersal challenges, Co. Clare has one of the highest rates of volunteerism in the Country. Community identity has been built in rural Clare around the County's traditional parishes and town lands of which there are more than 2,000. This shared community identity has helped align the many diverse identities of the County's sporting clubs (particularly GAA) and organisations (farming, political and cultural). Research conducted by the Clare Rural Development Forum estimates that fundraising for sporting, community, school, church and cultural purposes exceeds €100,000 annually on average for each parish or €3.2 million for the 32 parishes in rural Clare. The community asset base would extend to multiples of this. In most of rural Clare, the extent of community-owned assets exceeds that of State owned assets.

Whilst Co. Clare faces challenges regarding rural depopulation and areas of rural disadvantage, the County has a long history of parish level community development which fosters a strong sense of identity amongst the young people in the County.

Socio-demographical profile: background

Section 2 provides a socio demographical overview of Co. Clare focusing on the following five indicators:

- 2.2 Demography
- 2.3 Economy
- 2.4 Education
- 2.5 Health
- 2.6 Security

The All-Island Research Observatory (AIRO) at Maynooth University were commissioned by the Clare CYPSC to undertake a detailed mapping and statistical analysis of the socio-demographic trends within a Children's and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) area.

The analysis was based on a combination of 2016 Census indicators from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) and from a variety of other authoritative child related data sources in Ireland. All Census indicators were based on either a Small Area (SA) or Electoral Division (ED) level. The study had a particular focus on children's data and the final output provided a clear and accurate evidence base to support the development and monitoring of a CYPSC strategic work programme. A full copy of the AIRO baseline data report can be downloaded on www.cypsc/clare. Section 2 provides an overview of the most pertinent data emerging from the AIRO report.

One of the greatest challenges in relation to generating an accurate socio-demographic profile for the County is in obtaining County level statistics across a range of agencies. Mid-West data was only publicly available for certain indicator sets.

Table 1 offers a demographical summary of the statistics gathered focusing (where available) on data pertaining to the 0-24 year old population cohort.

Table 1: Co. Clare socio-demographical overview (2016 C.S.O data unless otherwise stated)

Indicator	Measure – Local and National Comparator
Child and youth population 0-24 years	11,276 (33%) ; 1,583,004 (33.2%) Total Clare population = 118,817
Child population 0-17 years	9,152 (25.7%) ; 1,190,502 (24%)
Young adult population 18-24 years	2,124 (7.2%) ; 392,502 (8.2%)
Infant mortality	7 infant deaths occurred in 2016 equating to 4.7 per 1,000 births. By 2018 this figure had dropped to 3.7 (5). National: 3.3 per 1,000 births
Child mortality	7 deaths of children aged 1year-19 years (6 deaths occurring in the 15 years-19 years category) in 2018. 5 registered deaths of young people aged 20-24 years. Child and youth deaths 1-24 years equate to 1.3% of the 866 registered deaths in 2018
Ethnicity	4,507 (10.5%) ; National 14.4%
Non-Irish national children and young People	3,936 (9%) ; National 13.2%
Family structure	17.6% of Clare families are lone parents ; National 20%
Parental education level	The percentage of children under 18 whose mother has attained (a) primary 3.6%, (b) secondary 56.1%, (c) third-level education 38.2%
Traveller children and young people	571 (1.3%) ; National 0.7%
Separated children seeking asylum	0

2.1: Demography

All the statistical charts that provide a regional and national comparative in the Co. Clare Children and Young People's Plan are colour coded in order to provide a clear visual whereby the Co. Clare statistic is highlighted on the graph.

Most pertinent data emerging:

- 74% of young people under the age of 24 years live in urban areas in the County
- Children aged 5-12 years old is the largest age group in the County
- By 2031 31% of the population will be made of 18-24 year olds
- Clare has a higher than state average of people coming from the Traveller community

According to Census 2016, there were 118,817 people residing in Clare in April 2016. This demonstrates a population change and increase of 1.4% between 2011 and 2016. Clare had the second highest population growth in the Mid-West region. Shannon (3.1%) had the highest population growth in Clare. Most relevant to these findings is that fact that 33% of the population in Clare were aged 0-24 years in 2016. The 5 – 12-years old group have the highest proportion at 12%. This supports the projected growth in youth and young adults from 2016 to 2031.

However, the high average population growth may mask significant intergenerational (1981-2016) decline across much of the County. While the large corridor from Ennis, through Shannon, to Limerick and Killaloe, experienced population growth of 61% between 1981 and 2016, the more rural parts of Clare experienced population decline of 3%.

In terms of population structure, rural Clare contains 29% of the county's population but 40% of the county's population aged '65+'. Only 26% of the county's young people live in rural areas. (Clare Rural Development Strategy 2026). Figure 6 highlights the areas of Ardnacrusha (East Clare) and Sixmilebridge (South East Clare) as being areas with the highest population of 0-24 year olds.

The proximity of Limerick City to Ardnacrusha for employment purposes and Sixmilebridge gaining a commuter rail link to Limerick as well as it being close to the Shannon Industrial Estate, may be contributing factors to the high youth statistics in these two specific areas.

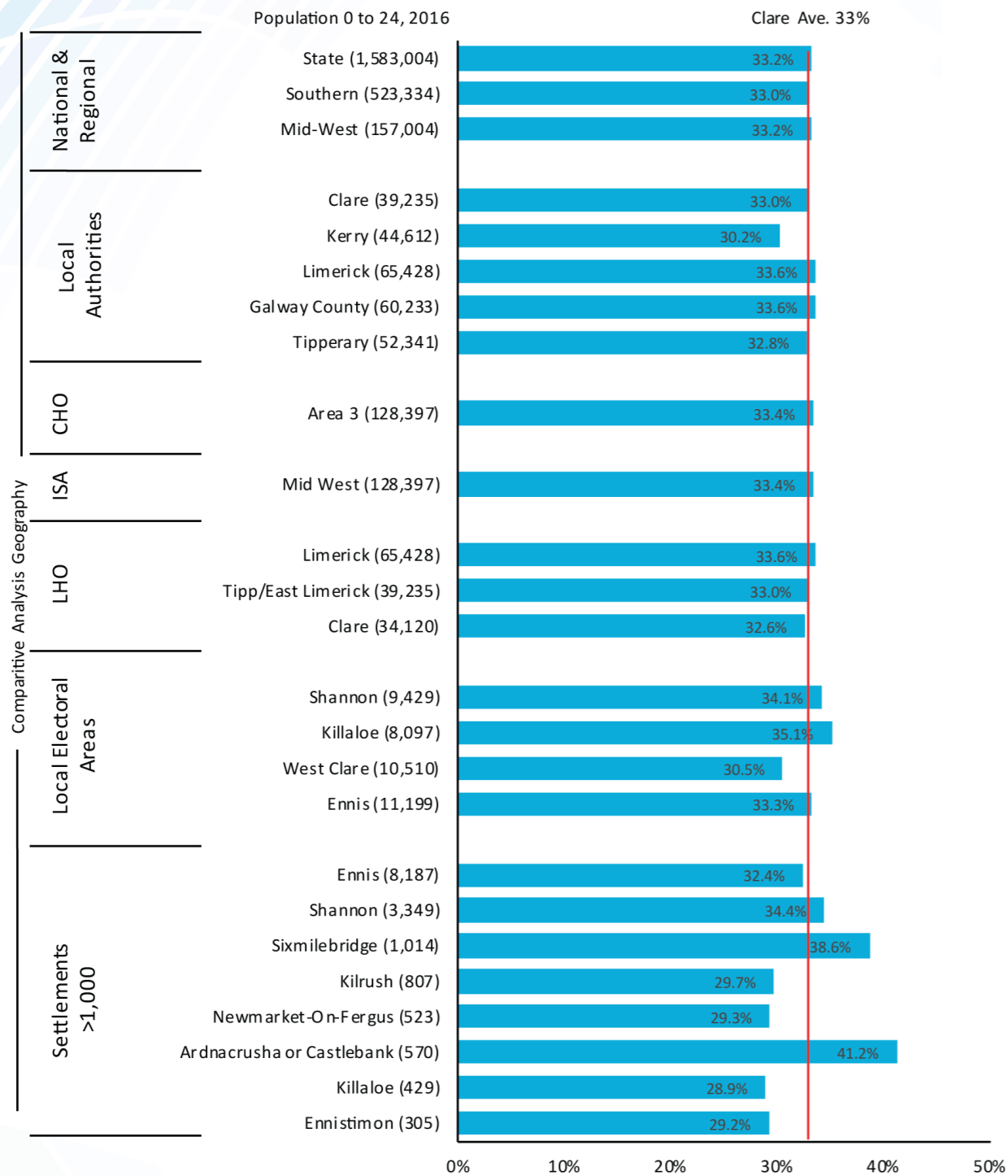


Fig 6: Population aged 0-24, 2016, AIRO Report

Age breakdown by electoral areas
(2016 Census data)

0-4 years		18-24 years	
Shannon	2,328	Shannon	1,874
Killaloe	1,895	Killaloe	1,498
West Clare	2,263	West Clare	2,056
Ennis	2,124	Ennis	2,473
	(Total 7,901 or 6.6%)		(Total 8,610 or 7.2%)

5-12 years		Projected growth/decline 2031	
Shannon	3,277	0-4 years	(- 26%)
Killaloe	2,954	5-12 years	(-15%)
West Clare	3,818	13-17 years	(+10%)
Ennis	4,206	18-24 years	(+31%)
	(Total 14,255 or 12%)		(Total 8,610 or 7.2%)

13-17 years	
Shannon	1,874
Killaloe	1,498
West Clare	2,056
Ennis	2,473
	(Total 18,469 or 7.1%)

Table 2: Age breakdown by electoral areas (2016 Census data)

Ethnicity Population 0-24

Travellers	
Ennis Rural	262
Doora	65
Ennis No.1 Urban	47
Ennis No.2 Urban	60
Clareabby	109
Ennistymon	120
Clenagh (Shannon)	89

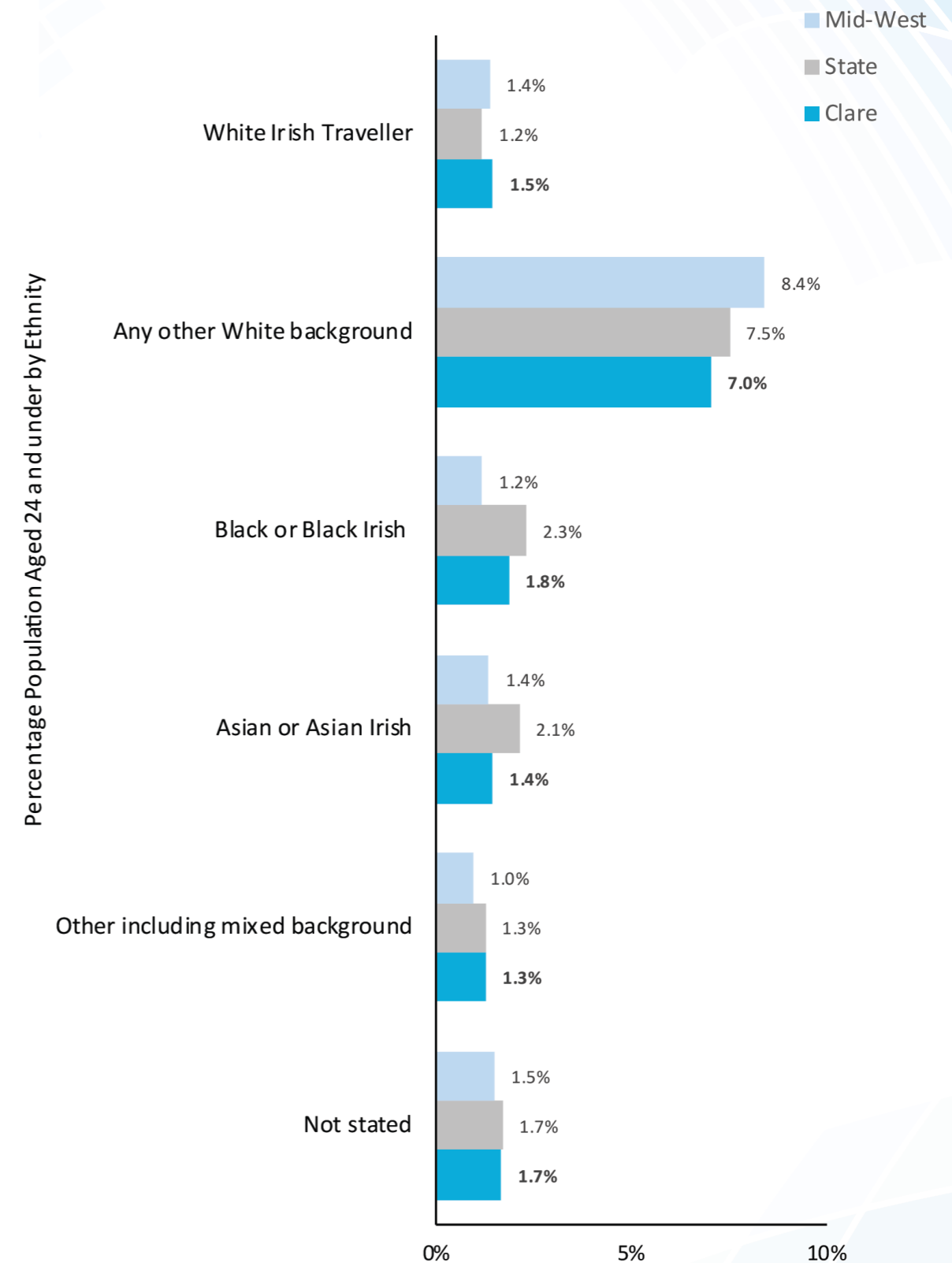
2016 Census shows 905 Travellers living in Clare. They predominately live in the Ennis area, Ennistymon and Shannon.

Table 3: Traveller population in Co. Clare 2016 (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme 2018 – 2022)

63% of the traveller population are aged 0-24.

- White Irish Traveller: 571 (1.5%)
- Other White Background: 2,643 (7%)
- Black or Black Irish: 726 (1%)
- Asian or Asian Irish: 567 (1.4%)

Findings in relation to specific groups show that 83.5% of population identified as 'White Irish'. For ethnic groups 1% can be identified as 'Black or Black Irish' which is higher than the Mid-West Regional Average and 1.5% as 'White Irish Travellers' which is slightly higher than the State and Mid-West Regional averages. Ennis had the highest proportion of travellers, half of the total travellers in Clare. Shannon and West Clare are also considerably higher than other areas in the county.



The largest proportion of young people from an ethnic background in Co. Clare, are classified in the census as "Other White background" which would account for largely Eastern European populations. 34% of people classified as "Other White background" in the census, are under the age of 24 years. Clare Immigrant Support Centre (CISC) estimate the Roma community in Clare to have increased from 200 in 2014 to 220 in 2017. All live in Ennis.

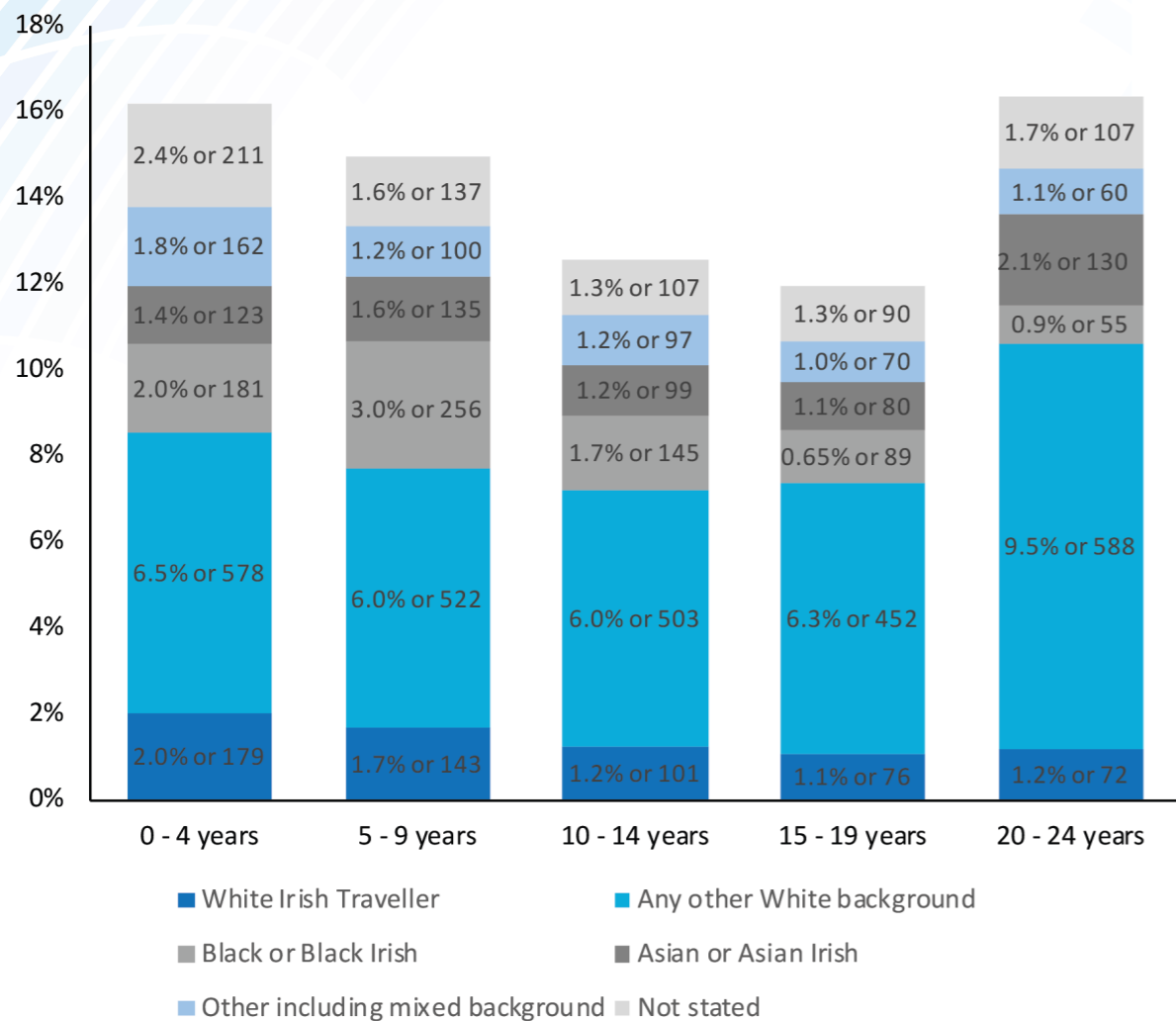


Fig 7: Ethnicity by age, 2017, AIRO report

2.2 Economy

Most pertinent data emerging:

- Areas of high deprivation are contained to primarily parts of Ennis town, parts of West Clare and parts of Ennistymon town in North Clare.
- Kilrush and Ennistymon have the highest levels of youth unemployment in the County
- Clare has the eighth highest number of homeless people in the State
- The highest proportion of privately rented houses in the County are in Kilrush, Killaloe and Ennistymon.

Two of the four Electoral Divisions (EDs) in Ennis Town record considerable levels of deprivation, and there are further concentrations of deprivation in other urban neighbourhoods in Newmarket-on-Fergus and Shannon. One-in-eight people in County Clare (12.5%) live in an ED that is classified as 'deprived' or 'very deprived.'

A furthermore sizeable proportion of people (28.5%) live in areas that are below average on the affluence and deprivation index as seen on the table below.

Table 4: Distribution of population by band on the Haas-Pratachkte Index in Co. Clare, 2016

Label	No. Persons	% of Country Population
V. Deprived	7,426	6.2%
Deprived	11,067	9.3%
Below Average	33,897	28.5%
Above Average	50,649	42.6%
Affluent	15,191	12.8%
Very Affluent	587	0.5%

When the County Clare data on affluence and deprivation is analysed over time (since 2006), it shows that deprivation is persistent; those areas that were classified as deprived and below average ten years ago continue to be the most deprived areas in the county. These areas also manifest the highest levels of self-declared health problems. In relation to economic security approximately 16.1% of children living in the Mid-West in Ireland are at risk of poverty. Based on Pobal HP Deprivation Index, 2016, there is a population of 15,572 (12.3%) residing in areas classed as being 'disadvantaged' or 'very disadvantaged' in Clare. Of those residing in these areas, 4,428 (30.4%) were aged under 24 years. A total of 17.6% of families in Clare were lone parents in 2016 with Ennis having the highest proportion (18.8%). Certain communities in West Clare, Ennis, the town of Ennistymon and village of Newmarket-on-Fergus are highlighted in the table below as the areas of highest deprivation.

**Areas classified disadvantaged/very disadvantaged 2016
Pobal HP Deprivation Index**

Small Area	Electoral Division	Deprivation Score	Population aged <24 years	
37118010	Milltown Malbay	-14.8	56	or 33.5%
37077007	Kilkee	-14.8	18	or 18.2%
37154007	Ennis No. 1 Urban	-14.9	33	or 25.6%
37026003	Clareabbey	-15.6	63	or 22.2%
37057055	Ennis Rural	-15.6	133	or 50.4%
37080008	Killaloe	-16.1	33	or 15.6%
37070001	Kilballyowen	-17.1	41	or 33.1%
37156003	Ennis No. 4 Urban	-18.4	39	or 25.0%
37026004	Clareabbey	-18.5	91	or 39.7%
37099009	Kilrush Urban	-18.5	27	or 16.9%
37057029	Ennis Rural	-18.7	48	or 28.7%
37099010	Kilrush Urban	-19.0	27	or 24.5%
37058008	Ennis No. 2 Urban	-19.6	64	or 35.0%
37099011	Kilrush Urban	-19.6	55	or 41.7%
37099014	Kilrush Urban	-19.7	45	or 17.7%
37077009	Kilkee	-19.8	70	or 29.0%
37128003	Newmarket	-19.8	95	or 34.4%
37099013	Kilrush Urban	-20.2	144	or 43.1%
37077013	Kilkee	-20.3	7	or 8.0%
37099004	Kilrush Urban	-20.5	31	or 18.1%
37073004	Kilfearagh	-21.0	43	or 44.8%
37057030	Ennis Rural	-21.1	67	or 36.6%
37058011	Ennis No. 2 Urban	-21.3	38	or 23.6%
37154002	Ennis No. 1 Urban	-21.5	68	or 28.1%
37156007	Ennis No. 4 Urban	-21.6	14	or 13.1%
37154003	Ennis No. 1 Urban	-21.7	123	or 35.9%
37058010	Ennis No. 2 Urban	-21.9	113	or 45.6%
37099012	Kilrush Urban	-23.8	74	or 30.7%
37058007	Ennis No. 2 Urban	-25.6	44	or 32.6%
37059012	Ennistimon	-25.7	51	or 32.5%

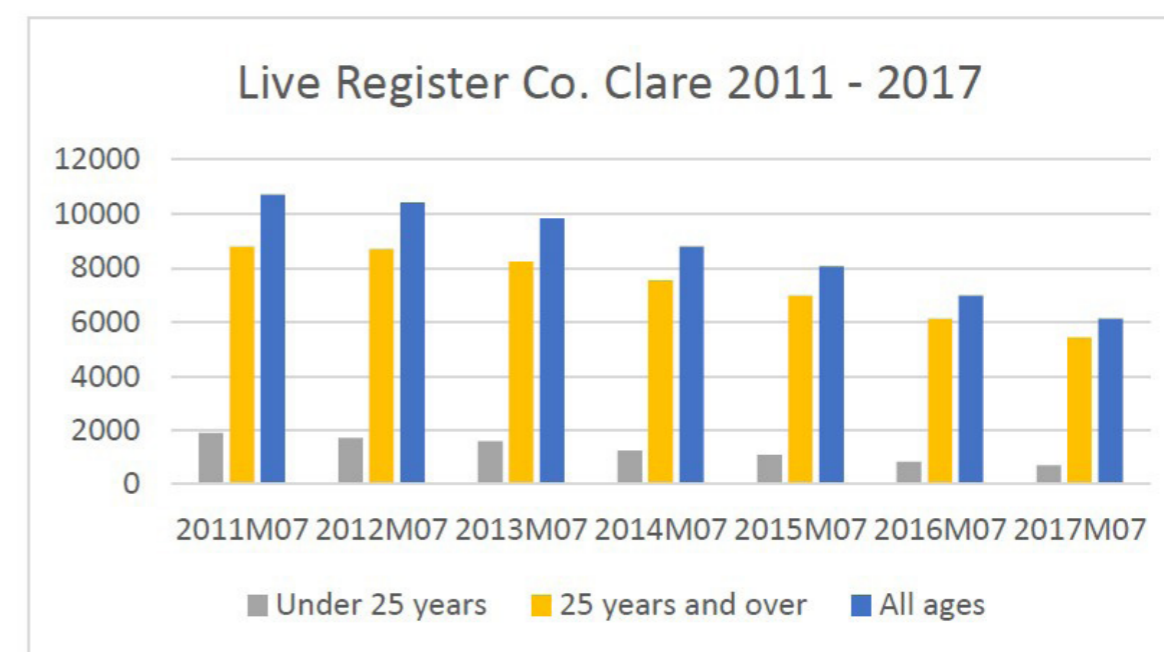
Table 5: Areas classified as disadvantaged in Co. Clare, 2016, AIRO report

Labour force unemployment Rate 2016 – 2019

There has been a steady decline in people on the Live Register in Clare.

The total number of claims in July 2017 was 6,127, down from 10,708 in July 2011. There is a lower proportion of younger working age cohort (20-29 years) in Clare compared to the state average. Kilrush and Ennistymon are two areas of particular concern. As of July 2017, there were 697 young people (under 25 years) on the Live Register in Clare. This figure represents approximately 6.2% of the total live register recipients in the area. The majority of these young people are recipients at Ennis (20.5%) SWO and Tulla (11.2%) SWO with a lower number in Ennistymon (8.2%) SWO and Kilrush (4.9%) SWO.

Clare is ranked as 20th nationally in relation to rates of youth unemployment in 2016. Whilst youth unemployment figures are slowly declining nationally, standing at 12.7% in 2019, the numbers of young people unemployed for longer than 12 months is concerning. In Clare, 443 young people under 25 years old are in receipt of Jobseekers Allowance, 37% of those being unemployed over 12 months in 2019 (See Table 6)



County	<3mths	3-6mths	6-12mths	> 12 Mths
Carlow	105	58	92	166
Cavan	76	62	80	182
Clare	118	63	99	166
Cork	365	221	312	523
Donegal	273	166	250	447
Dublin	1,238	729	1,055	1,690
Galway	173	110	193	346
Kerry	146	78	132	209
Kildare	160	115	205	249
Kilkenny	62	50	81	129
Laois	90	87	111	214
Leitrim	50	26	40	70
Limerick	242	155	235	469
Longford	89	37	66	140
Louth	226	141	198	311
Mayo	98	78	122	218
Meath	98	70	105	204
Monaghan	55	42	60	79
Offaly	119	90	112	215
Roscommon	42	44	53	118
Sligo	78	45	78	102
Tipperary	244	160	231	403
Waterford	186	138	148	273
Westmeath	151	80	131	233
Wexford	211	143	214	412
Wicklow	105	73	97	194

Table 6: Youth unemployment by county, 2019

(Parliamentary questions raised on behalf of the National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI))

Housing

In 2016, there were 179 young people under the age of 25 on the social housing waiting list in Clare. This figure represented a rate of 20.8 per 1,000 young people under the age of 25. It was the eighth highest in the state.

As of May 2019, there were 50 young people under the age of 18 years registered as homeless with their parents. Clare has the eighth highest number of homeless persons in the State. The proportion of residents in certain areas of the County that are dependent on private rented accommodation is decidedly higher than the State average which stands at 18.2% and the Mid-West average of 15%. Ennistymon (28.3%), Killaloe (28.9%), Ennis (23.7%) have the highest rates of private rented accommodation in Co. Clare.

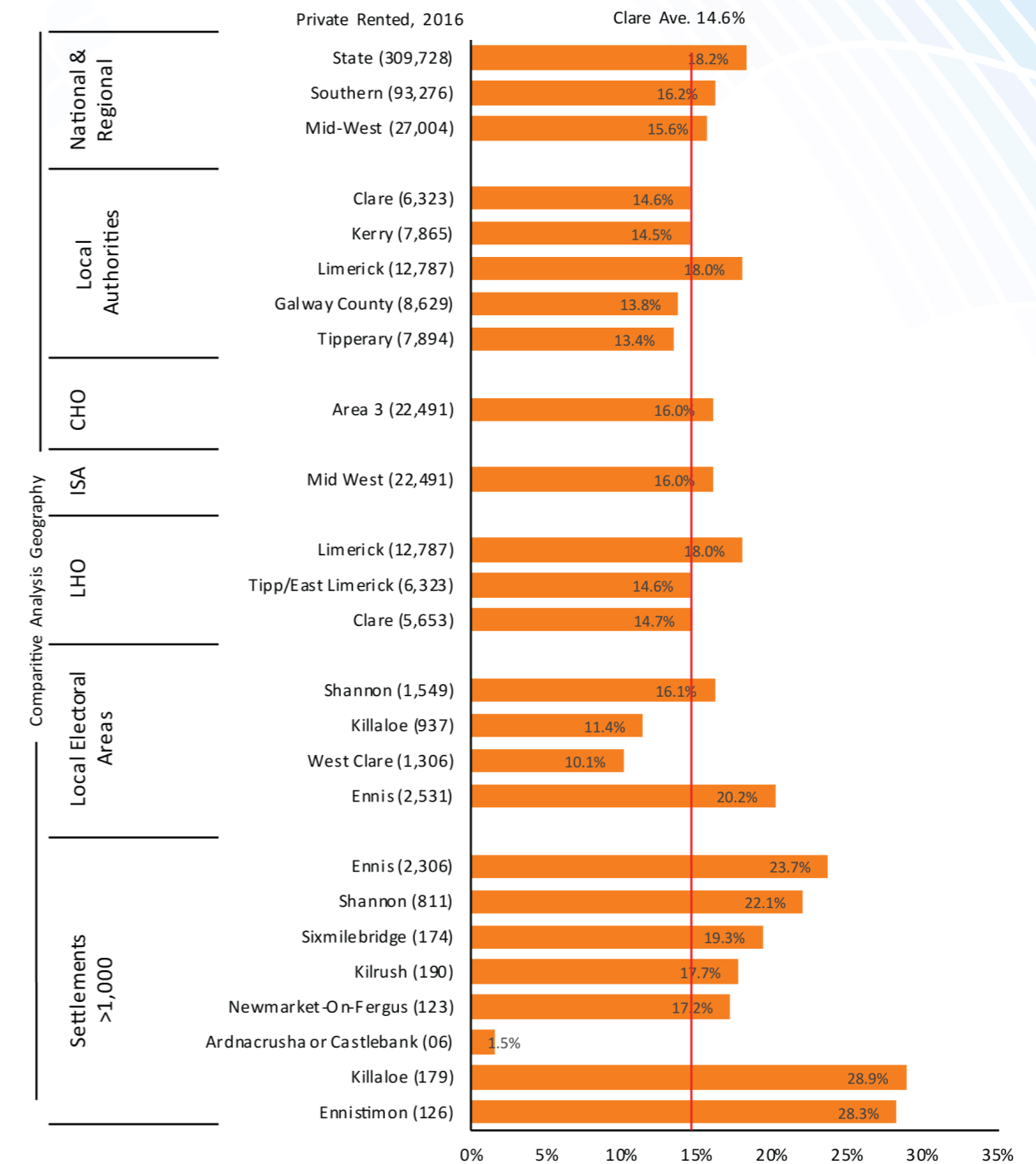


Fig 8: Private Rented Market, 2016, AIRO report

Lone parent families

A total of 17.6% of families in Clare were lone parents in 2016, with Ennis having the highest proportion (17.4%). This figure is marginally below the state average of 18.5%. Shannon town has the second highest number of lone parents in the county.

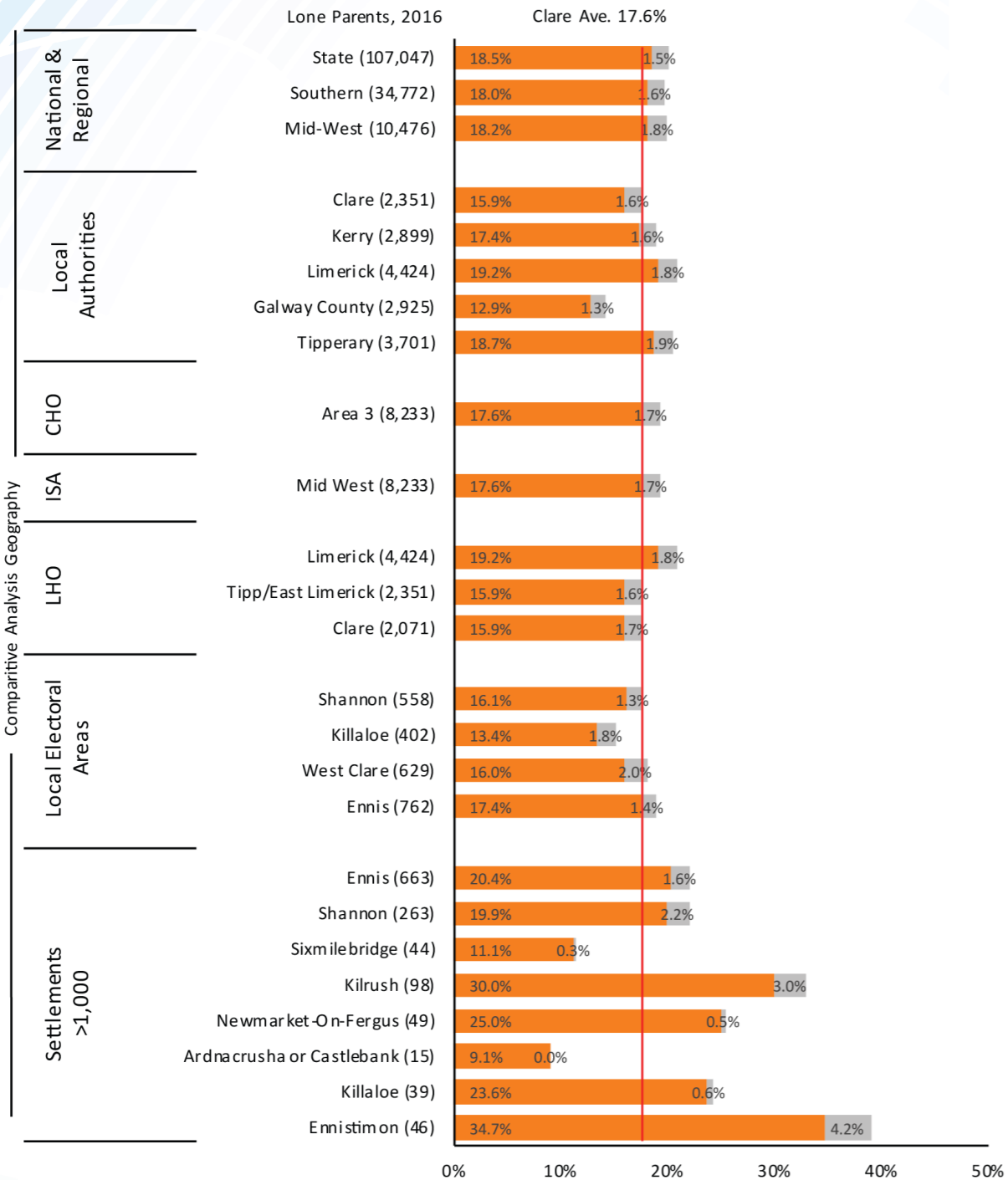


Fig 9: Lone Parent families by area, 2016, AIRO report

2.3 Education

Most pertinent data emerging:

- In 2014/15, 9.3% of the students in mainstream primary schools in Clare were absent for 20 or more days which is below the state average of 10.4%. In 2014/15, 13.6% of the students in mainstream post primary schools in Clare were absent for more than 20 days. This is below state average of 17.3% and second lowest in the State.
- In 2016, the total students that sat the Leaving Certificate examination in Clare was 1,199. Of this figure, 82.5% or 989 of the students progressed to third level. Broad findings in relation to the national outcome area show that a total of 11.3% (8,814) of the population in Clare had no formal or primary only education, yet a total of 31.6% of the population in Clare had third level education in 2016.
- West Clare (Kilrush) had the lowest proportion of population with third level education and the highest population of people (21.76%) with primary only education.
- In the year 2015/16, there were 4,357 childcare places in Clare. This figure includes enrolled and vacant spaces and equates to a rate of 181.3 spaces per 1,000 children aged 0 -4 years residing in Clare. Relative to other local authorities, this was the fifth lowest rate in the State.

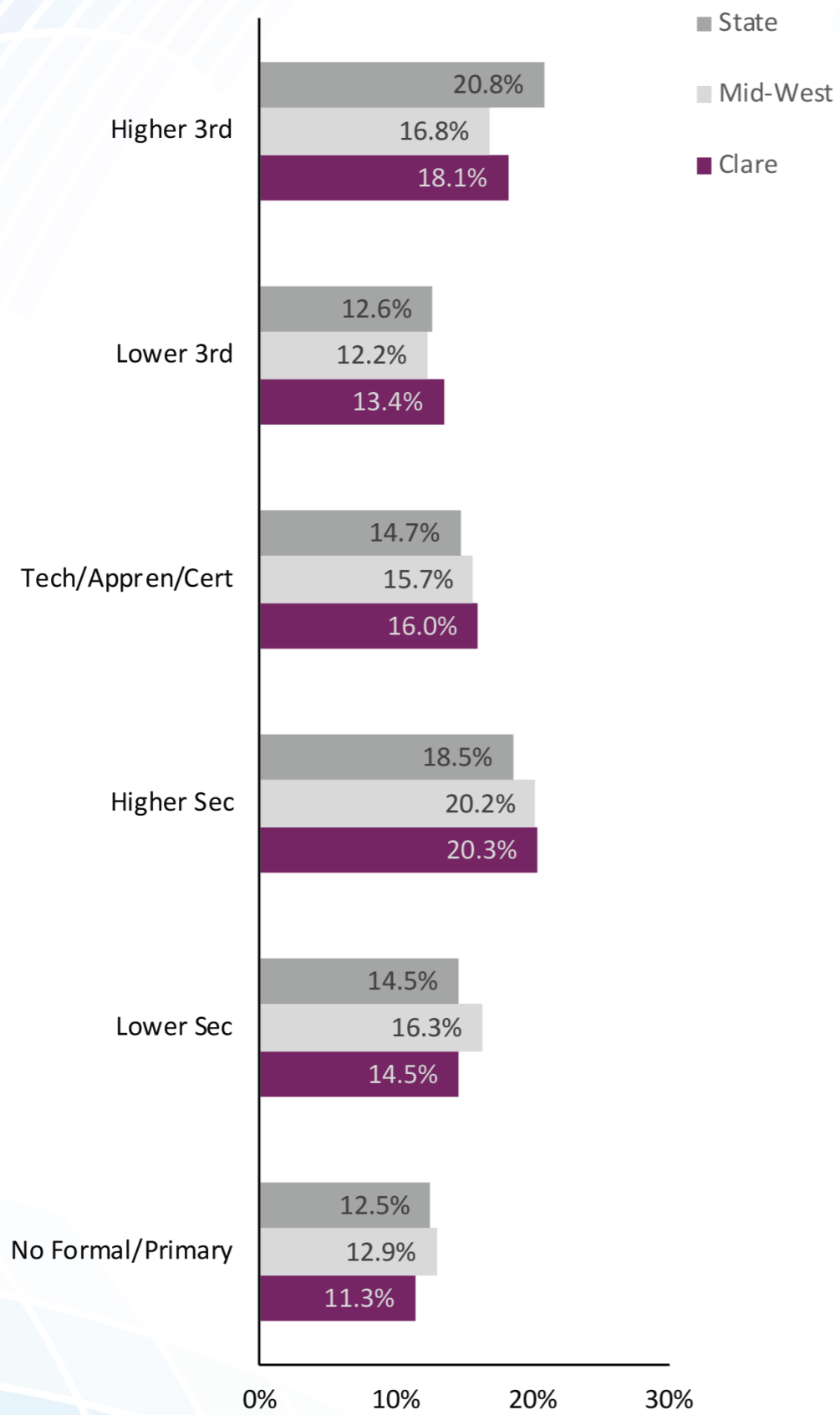


Fig 10: Educational attainment levels general population, 2016. AIRO report

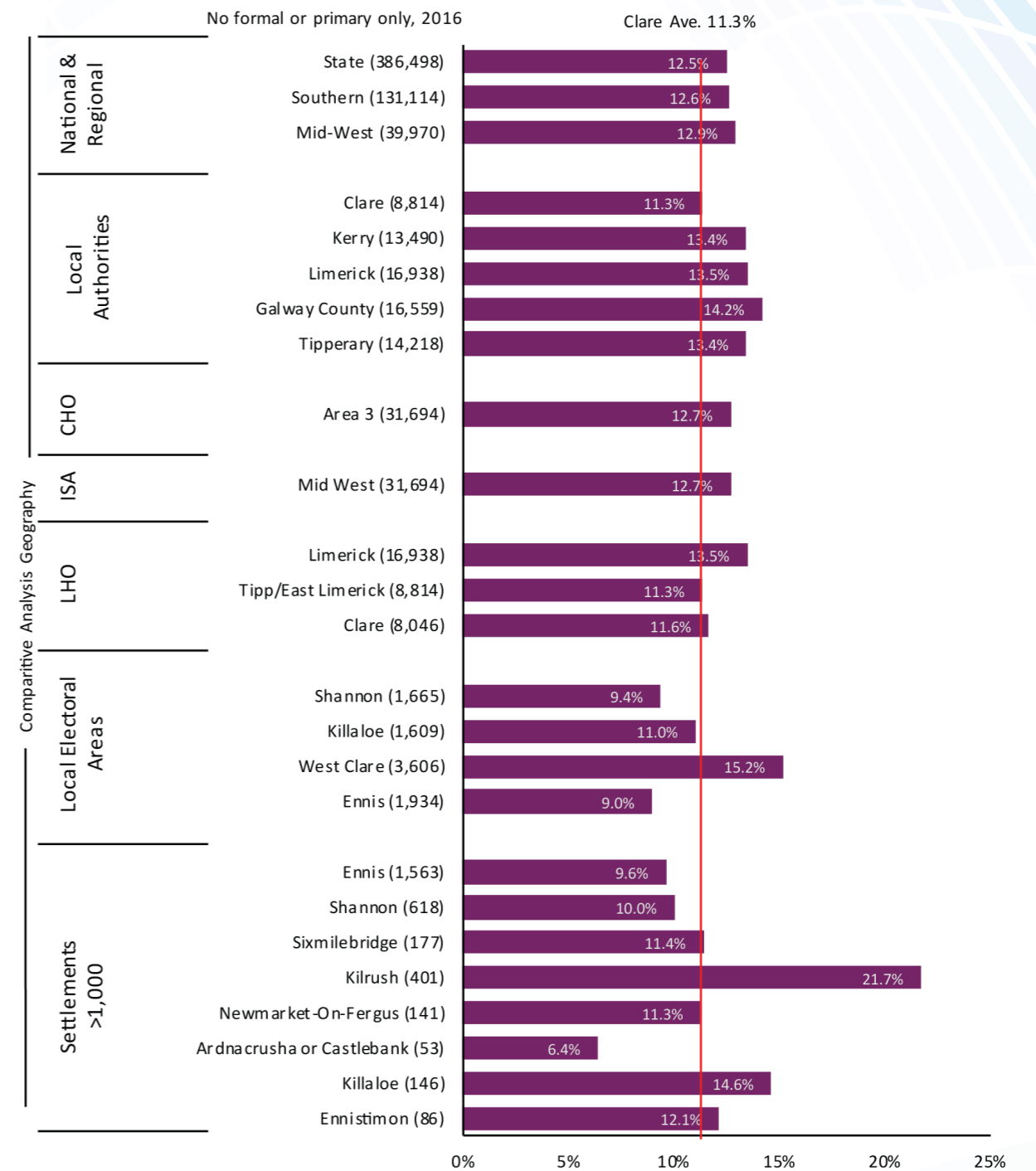


Fig 11: Primary only educational attainment, 2016, AIRO report

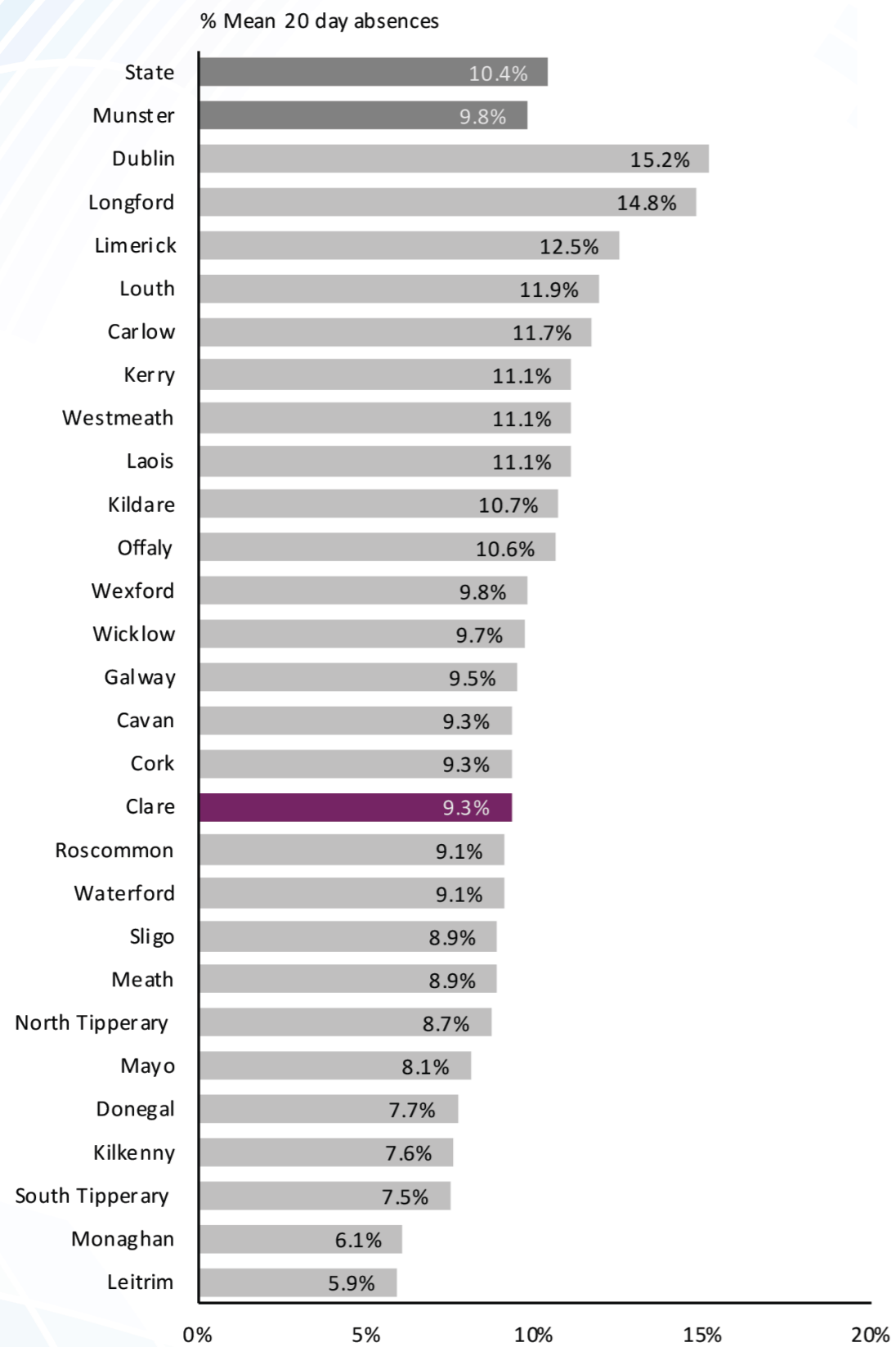


Fig 12: Primary school absenteeism rates 2016, AIRO report

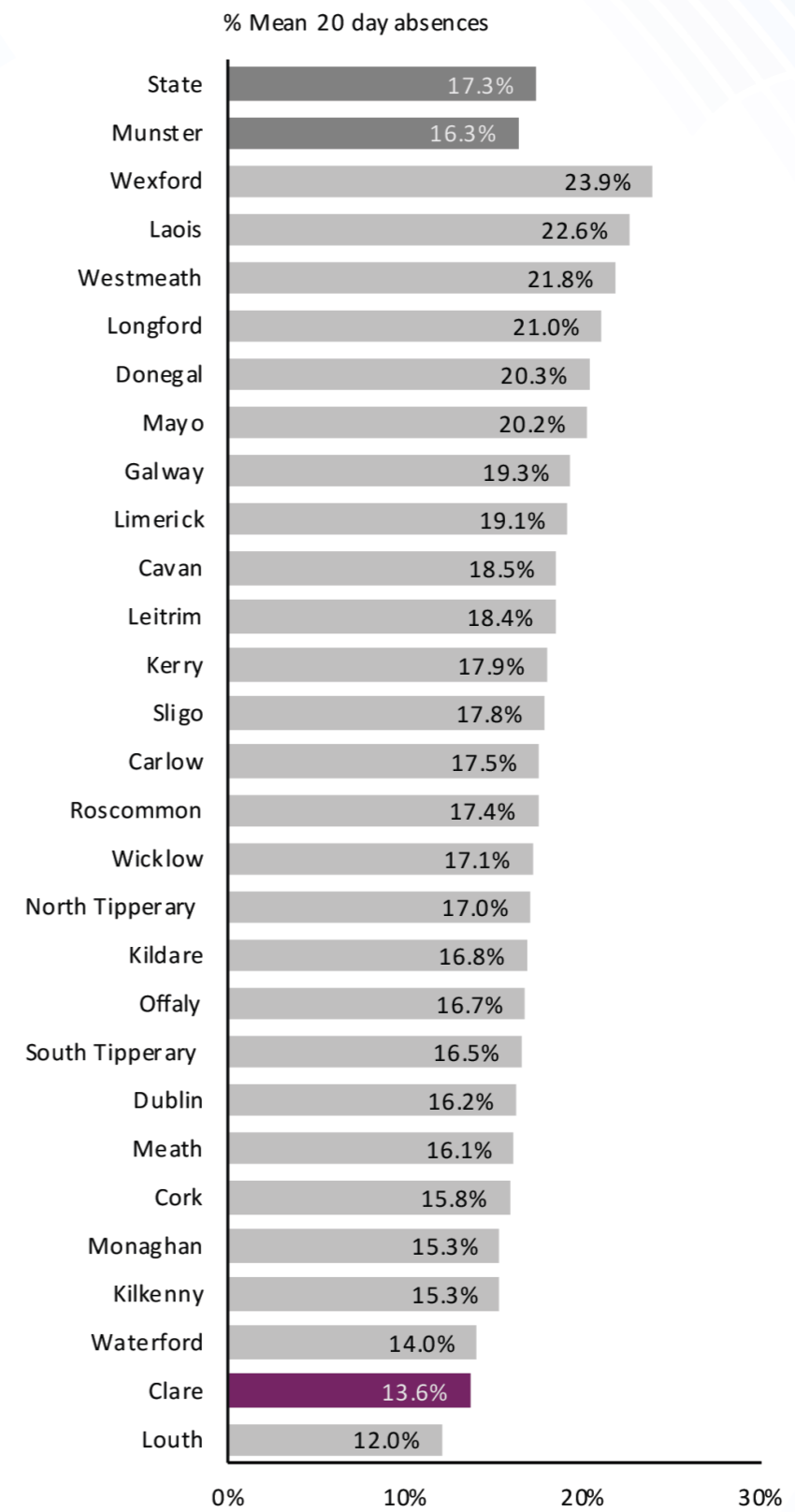


Fig 13: Secondary school absenteeism rates 2016, AIRO report

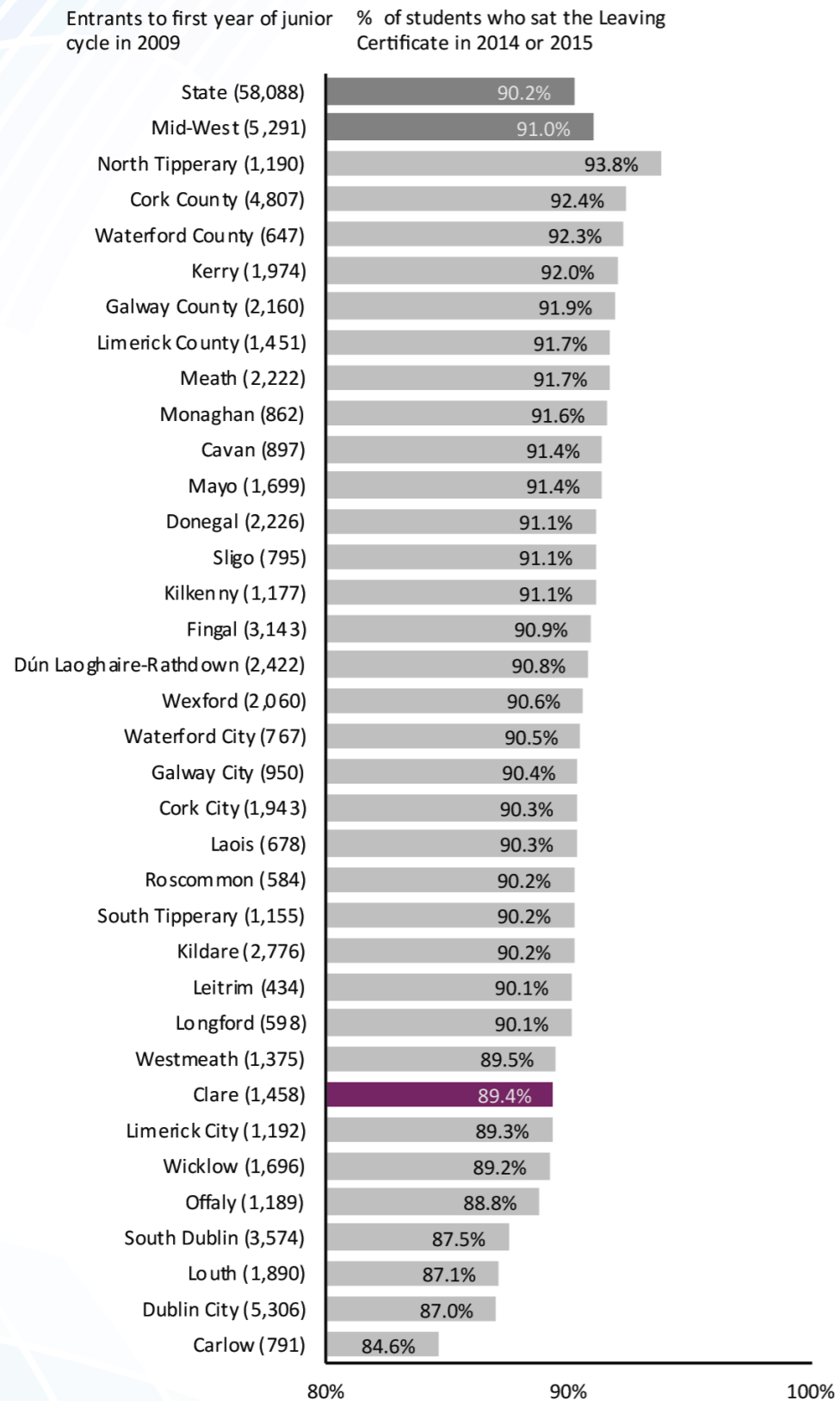


Fig 14: Leaving Certificate Retention Rates, 2015, AIRO report

Co. Clare is marginally below the Mid-West average in relation to Leaving Certificate retention rates.

2.4 Health

Most pertinent data emerging:

- Young people seeking drug treatment services are primarily aged between 20-24 years old
- Clare has the 5th highest rate of suicide in the country
- There were 515 children and young people registered with an intellectual disability in the Mid-West region and 64 children and young people registered with a physical disability in Clare
- Breastfeeding rates in Clare are lower than the State average

Self- Reported Health Status of the Clare population (Irish Health Survey C.S.O, 2015)

- Very Bad: 21 or 0.05%
- Bad: 88 or 0.22%
- Fair: 633 or 1.61%
- Good: 5,605 or 14.29%
- Very Good: 31,638 or 80.64%
- Not Stated: 1,250 or 3.18%

Attending antenatal care

86.2% of expectant mothers residing in Clare attended antenatal care in the first trimester. This is lower than state average of 88%. However, it has increased from 64.7% in 2010.

Infant mortality rates

In 2016, 7 infant deaths occurred in Clare, this represents an infant mortality rate of 4.7 per 1,000 births. This rate is higher than the State average of 3.3 and the Mid-West Regional average of 3.6.

Low birth weight

In 2015, there were 81 infants born in Clare weighting less than 2,500 grams. This figure represented 5.5% of the total births in 2015. This proportion was slightly lower than the state average of 5.9%.

Public Health Nurse Visits

In 2015, 96.9% of babies in Clare were visited within 72 hours of being discharged from hospital.

Breastfeeding

In 2015, there were 584 mothers from Clare who exclusively breastfed on discharge from hospital. This figure equates to 40.1% of all discharged mothers in that year. This is lower than the state average of 47.7%

In June 2017, 46.7% in the Clare LHO of mothers visited by the public health nurse for the first time were reported to be breastfeeding exclusively and 33.2% of mothers at their three-month visit.

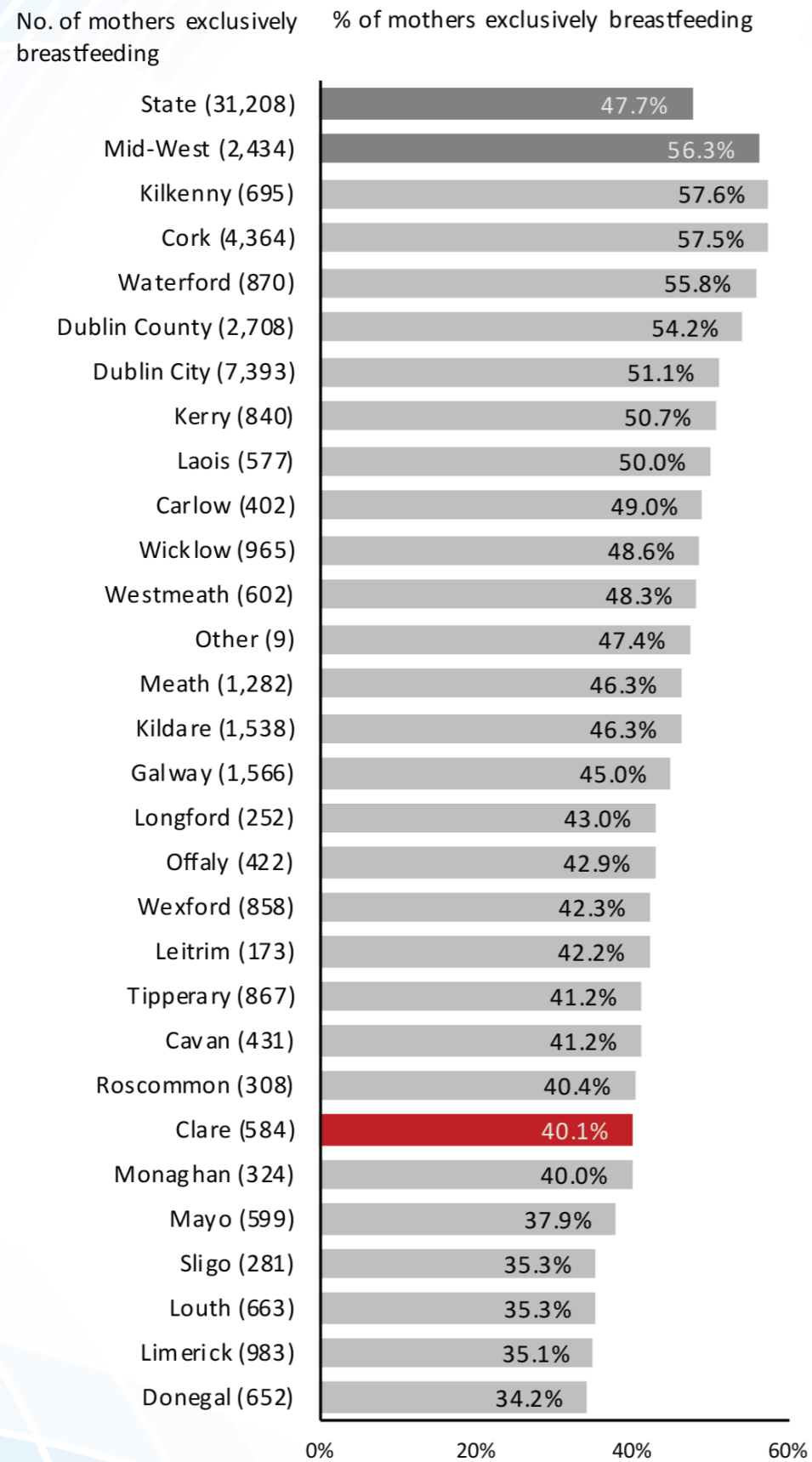


Fig 15: Percentages of mothers breastfeeding, 2017, AIRO report

Immunisation Rates

In 2015, 93% of the children in the Clare LHO had received their 12-month vaccinations at 12 months. This proportion was above the State (91%) and HSE Mid-West (90%) regional average. 95% had received their vaccinations at 24 months. This proportion is slightly lower than the State average of 96% and above the Mid-West Regional average of 35%. However, Clare meets the national target of 95%.

Referrals to CAMHS

In 2016, there were 2,081 children and young people referred to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) in the H.S.E Mid-West area (CHO Area 3). 140 were not admitted into the service in CHO 3 due to not meeting service criteria. County level data was not available from the H.S.E. This lack of publicly available county level data is a challenge for the CYPSC when it comes to planning a response to identified need in a specific area.

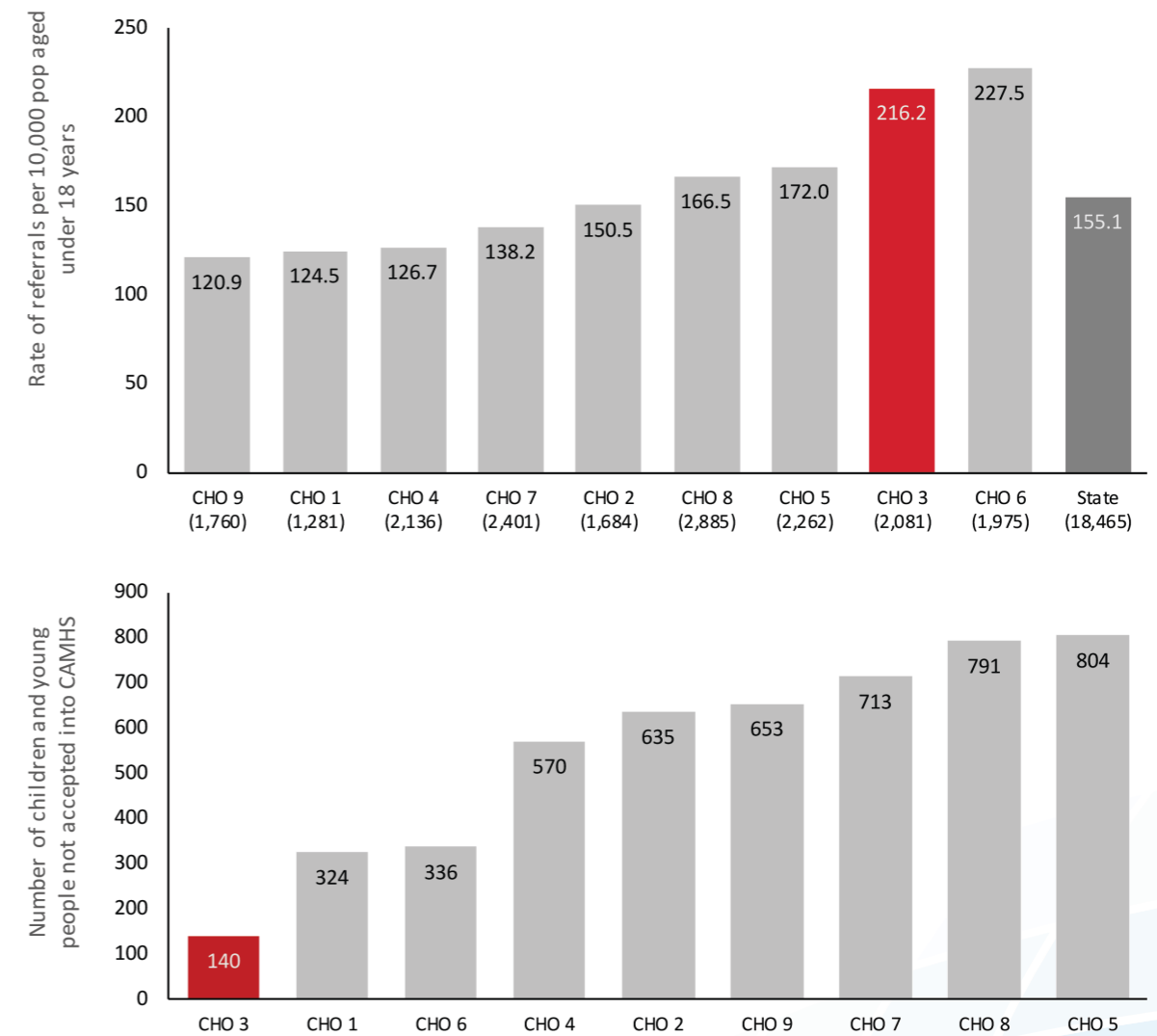


Fig 16: Referrals to CAMHS Mid-West 2016, AIRO report

Treatment for Substance Misuse

In 2018, 76 young people under the age of 25 presented for treatment support from Co. Clare. This was 25% of the total number of referrals for the County with 76% of those presenting falling into the 20-24 year old age category. The most common drugs identified by those seeking treatment were;

1. Alcohol
2. Heroin
3. Cannabis
4. Cocaine

Sex	Total	Clare	Limerick	Tipp/East Limerick
Male	977	210	568	199
Female	483	83	309	91
Total	1463	293	879	291
Transgender	0	0	0	0

Table 7: People who received a treatment intervention in the Mid-West, 2018. H.S.E , MWDAF

Grouped Age	Total	Clare	Limerick	Tipp/East Limerick
17 years or under	73	10	42	21
18-19	65	8	39	18
20-24	207	58	109	40

Table 8: Age profile under 25 years of people who received a treatment intervention in the Mid- West, 2018, H.S.E MWDAF (Mid-West Drug and Alcohol Forum)

CSMT (Community Substance Misuse Team) aims to assist youths, families and communities to develop effective and supportive coping strategies to deal with substance misuse in the Mid-West. In 2018 they received 38 referrals for Co. Clare, 28 for young people under 25 years old and carried out 220 interventions.

Rates of self harm and suicide

Self-harm figures for males (79.5) and females (162.3) under 24 years are well below the State averages of males (161.6) and females (253.2) as reported by the NSRF (National Suicide Research Foundation). The suicide rates for Co. Clare however are in contrast to the low self harm figure. Co. Clare has the 5th highest rate of suicide in the country, the third highest in the Tusla West area as per Table 9. Nationally, the highest age category for suicide is categorised as 45-54 year olds at 12.6%. Presuming Clare is following the national trend, parental suicide may be a factor given the age range reported.

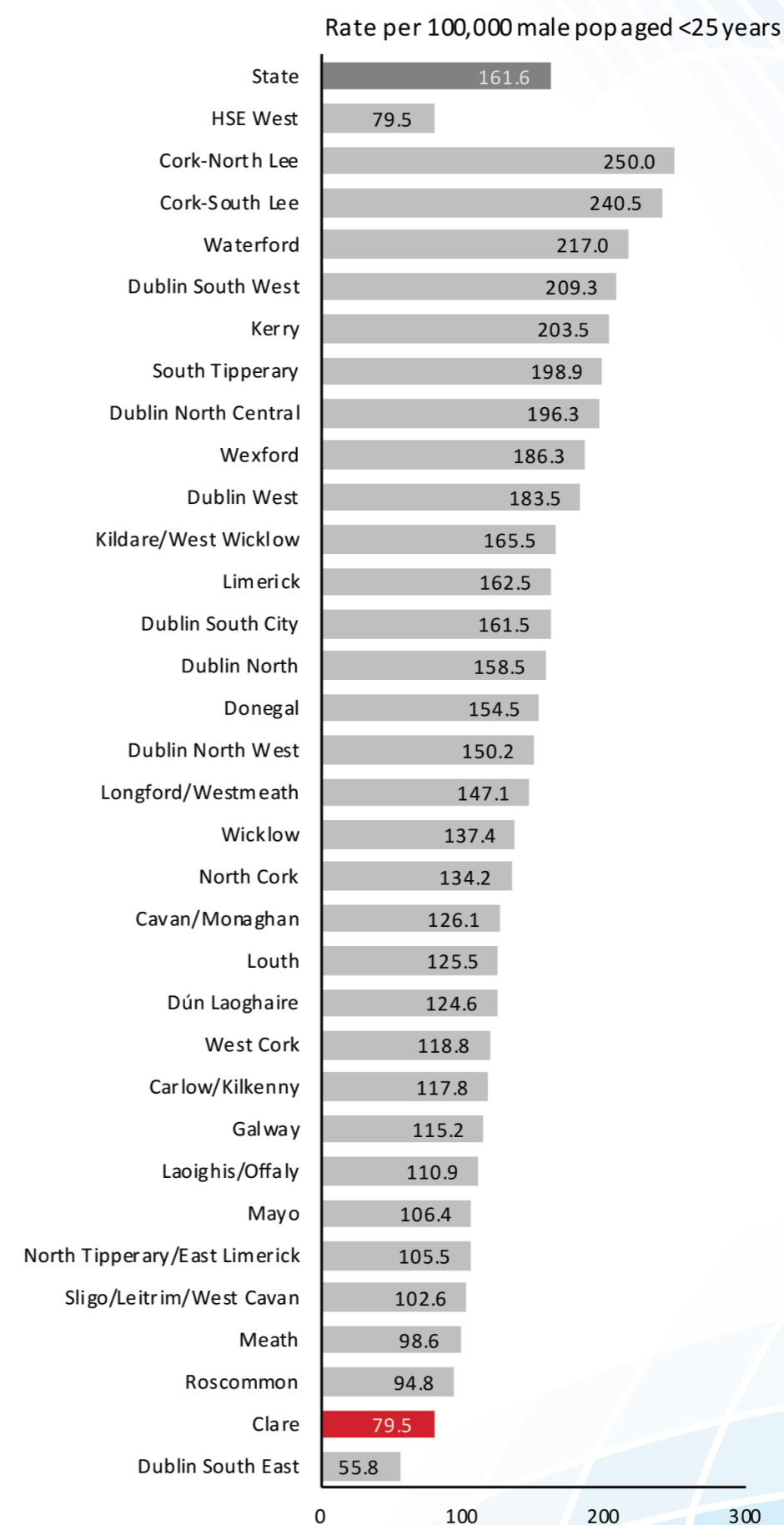


Fig 17: Rate of Self-Harm in males (under 25), 2016, NSRF

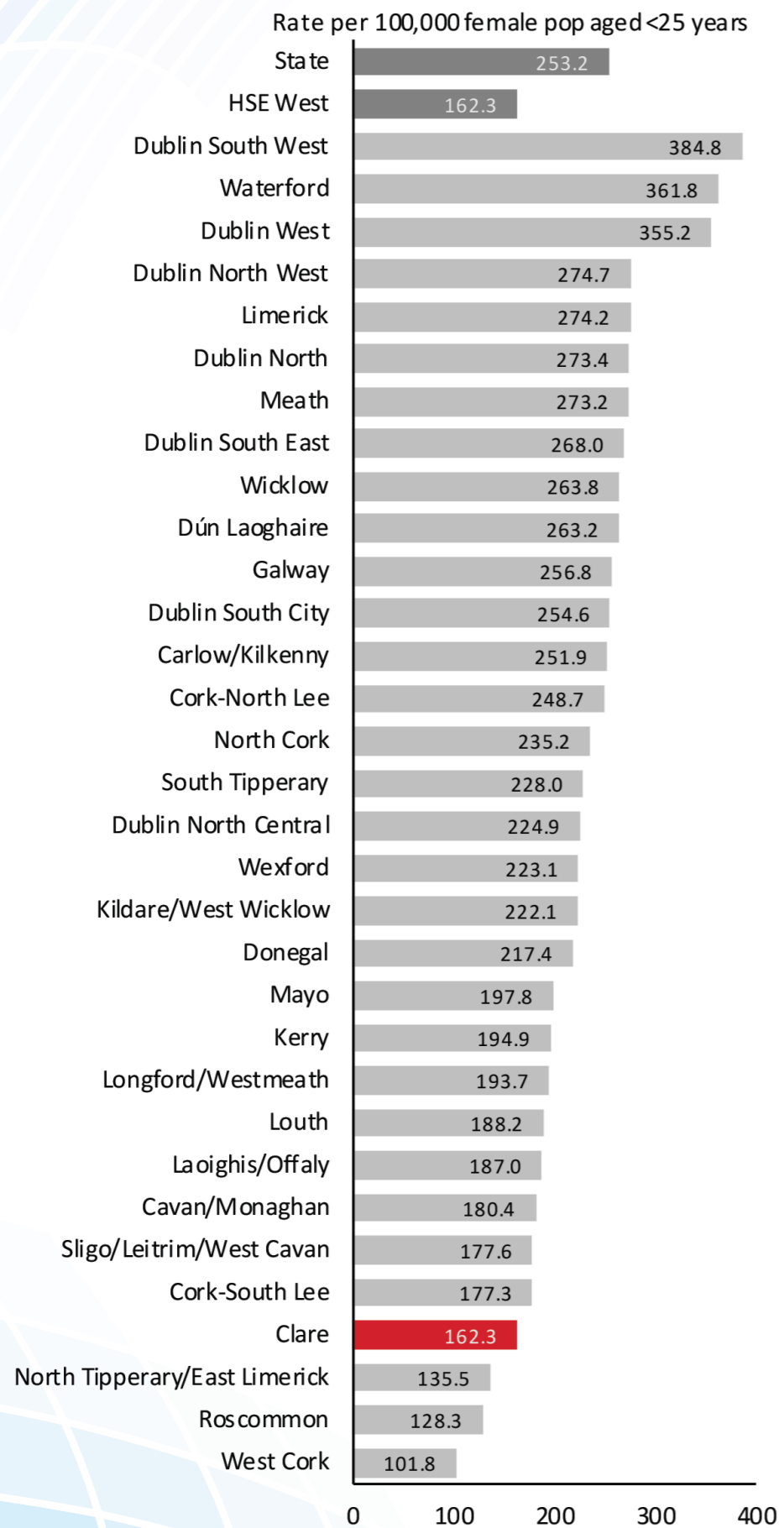


Fig 18: Rate of Self-Harm in females (under 25), 2016, NSRF

Table 9: Average rate of suicide per 1000,000, Tusla West Areas (National Office for Suicide Prevention, November 2018)

Ireland	8.8 average
Tipperary North	13.9
Cavan	13.8
Clare	13.4
Leitrim	12.4
Galway CB	11.1
Sligo	10.8
Galway Co.	10.2
Donegal	10.2
Roscommon	9.8
Limerick Co.	9.5
Limerick C.B	8.8
Mayo	8.2

Disability

The most recent Census of Population returns reveal that in County Clare, there are 15,369 persons with a disability representing almost 13% of the population. The rate is higher for females than males; this is associated with longer life expectancy among females. Most people with a disability have more than one condition, with the most common forms of disability being ‘a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities.’

The prevalence of disability is strongly correlated with age; just over five percent of children have a disability, while almost thirty percent of persons aged over sixty-five have a disability. There are also geographical variations within the County, with the West having higher levels, and the town of Kilrush emerging as having the highest rate of all towns in Clare (Healthy Clare Strategic Plan 2019 – 2021)

National Intellectual/Physical Disability Database (HIQA)

- County registrations as published by HRB
- Intellectual: 177
- **Population 0-24 with a disability: 2,636**
 - 6.7% of total population
 - 7.1% State average
 - 11th lowest in the State

- Total Disabilities: 15,369**

- Difficulty in learning, remembering or concentrating: 24.4% (3,750)
- Psychological or emotional condition: 17.8% (2,739)
- Difficulty in working or attending school/college: 33.6% (5,163)
- An intellectual disability: 10.2% (1,574)

There were 515 children and young people registered with an intellectual disability in the Mid-West region and 64 children and young people registered with a physical disability in Clare. The breakdown below demonstrates that the percentage of children and young people identifying with an intellectual or physical disability increases with age.

	0 -4 Years	5 – 9 Years	10 – 14 Years	5 -19 Years
Intellectual	0%	25.4%	30.5%	43.5%
Physical	0%	15.6%	39.1%	45.3%

Table 10: Breakdown of persons under 19 years registered with a disability, 2016, AIRO report

2.6 Safe and Protected from harm

Most pertinent data emerging:

- Clare has one of the highest rates of referral in the State to Garda Youth Diversion Programmes
- 117 young people reside in direct provision accommodation in Co. Clare (as of February 2018)
- 38% of referrals into Tusla in 2018 were categorised as medium.
- 138 young people from Clare are in the Care system.

The number of barring orders granted in Clare has declined since 2015 from a high of 197 to 172 as of December 2018 (Courts Service data).

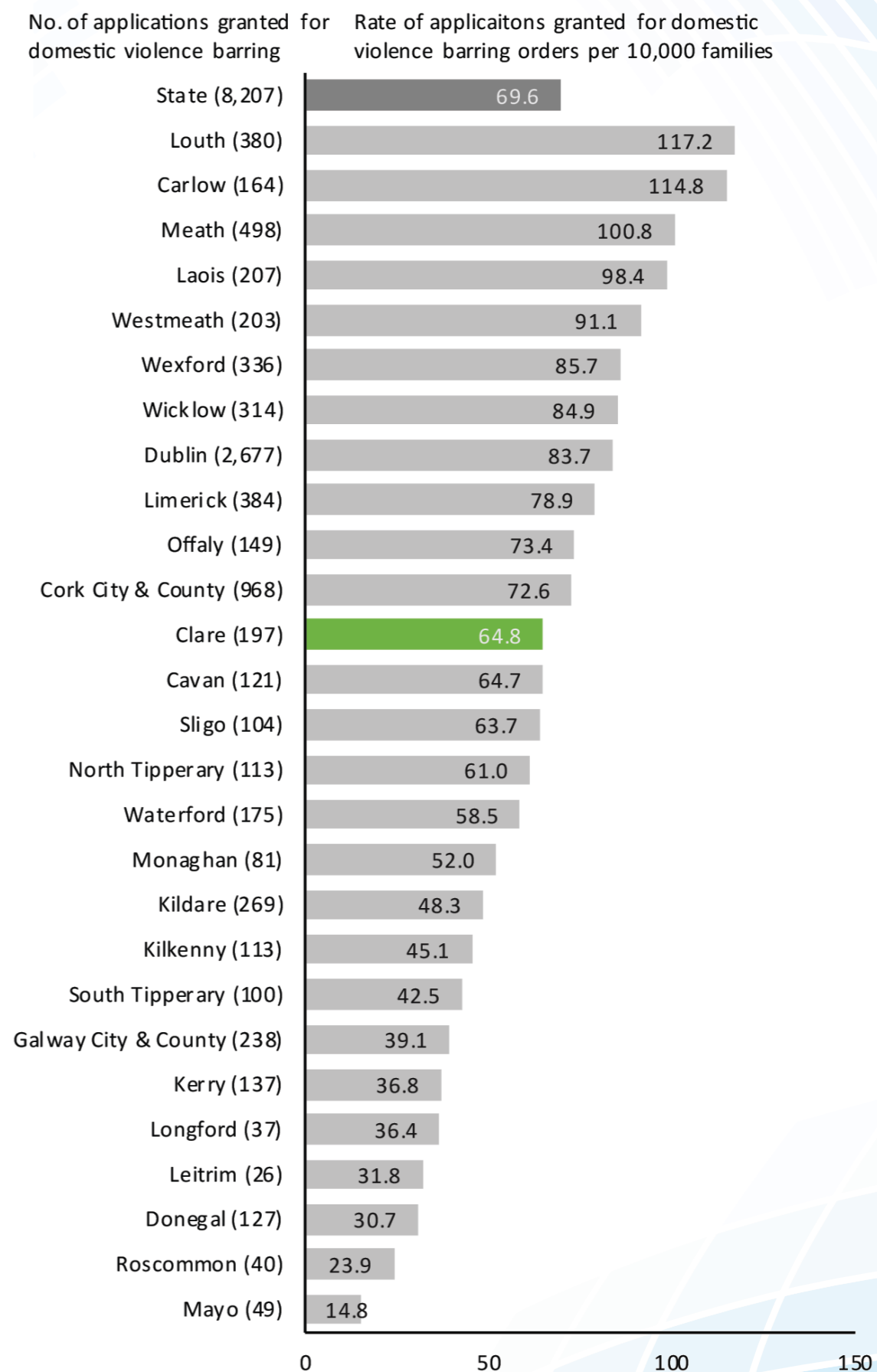


Fig 19: Domestic Violence Barring Orders, 2015, AIRO report

Garda Youth Diversion Referrals

In 2015, **353** young people aged under 18 years were referred to the Garda Youth Diversion scheme in Clare. This figure equates to a rate of 12.4 per 1,000 young people aged under 18 years. Relative to other divisions, this was the third highest rate in 2016.

In 2018, there were a total of **409** youth referrals to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme in Co. Clare (data provided by the Ennis Garda District Office). The geographical breakdown of the referrals are as follows: ·

- Ennis – 322 youth referrals
- Sixmilebridge – 21 youth referrals
- Shannon – 48 youth referrals
- New-Market-on-Fergus – 4 youth referrals
- Tulla – 2 youth referrals
- Killaloe – 46 youth referrals

In 2018 there were 20 JLO referrals to Garda Project. 12 young people did not engage. Fig 20 below highlights Co. Clare as having one of the highest referral rates to the Garda Youth Diversion Project in the State. (Source: Ennis Garda District Office).

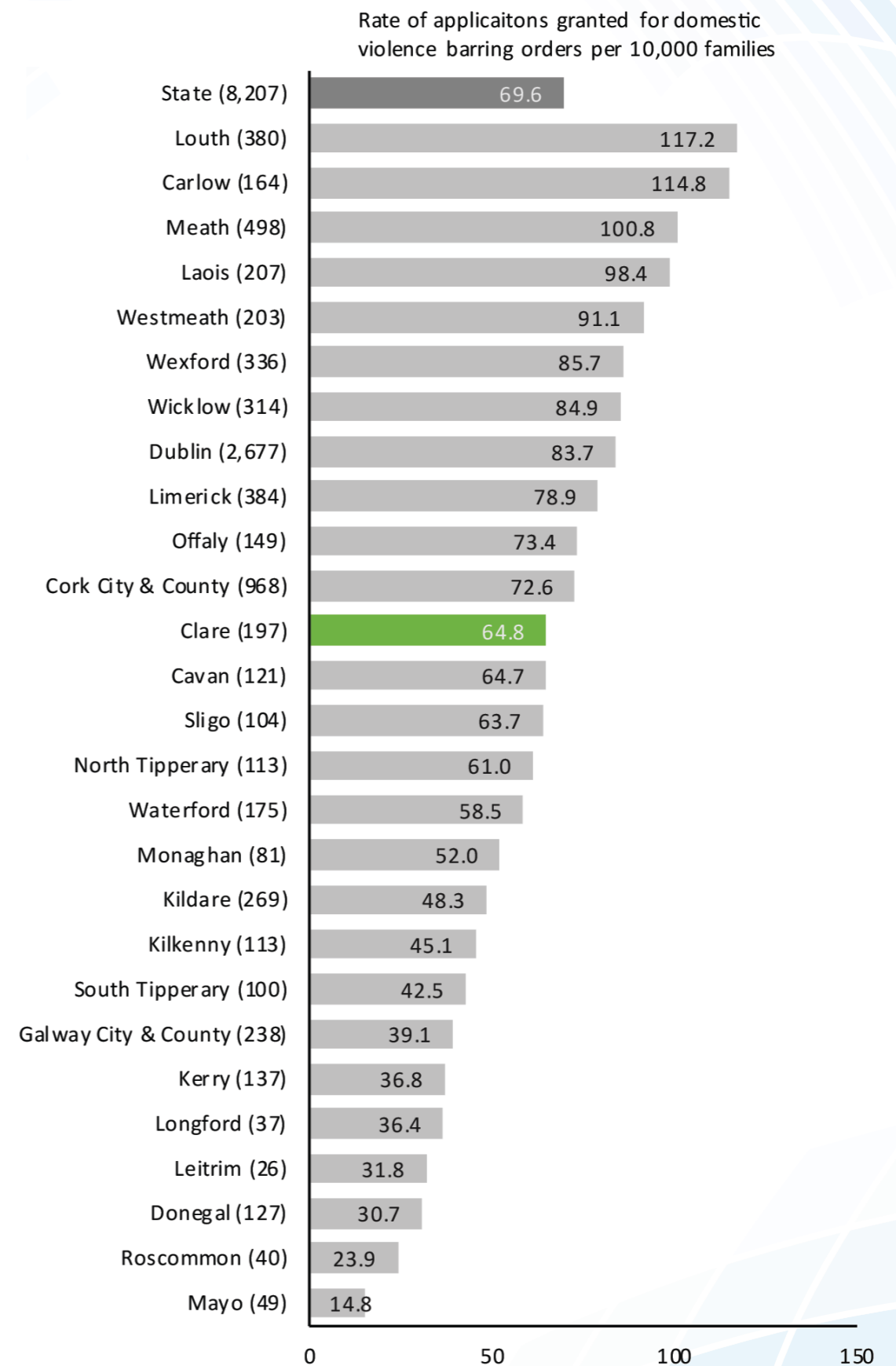


Fig 20: Garda Youth Diversion Referrals, 2015 (IYJS), AIRO report

Tusla referrals and pathways

As of December 2018, there were 138 young people in Care from Co. Clare. 41 young people who had left Care were availing of a Tusla funded Aftercare Service at the end of 2018. Data pertaining to the geographical spread of referrals across the County was not available at the time of publishing. The Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) Programme is a comprehensive programme of early intervention and preventative work which has been undertaken by Tusla. The aim of the programme is to prevent risks to children and young people arising or escalating through building sustainable intellectual capacity and manpower within Tusla and partner organisations to perform early intervention work. By 2019, the PPFS team in Co. Clare had its full complement of staff consisting of one Senior PPFS manager, one Senior Child and Family Support Network Coordinator and two Child and Family Support Network Coordinators. Table 13 provides a breakdown of referral pathways and requests for family support under this programme in the Mid West from 2016 – 2018.

Table 11: Referrals into the Co. Clare Tusla Duty/Intake Team year end 2018

Referral Priority / Report Type	Child Welfare Concern	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Awaiting Categorisation	Neglect	Emotional Abuse	Total
High	50	10	9	0	15	17	101
Medium	335	42	29	11	25	81	523
Low	473	45	42	3	40	115	718
Not Set	5	0	0	9	1	0	15
Total	863	97	80	23	81	213	1357

(Tusla Annual Report, 2018)

Table 12: Numbers of open cases to Co. Clare Child Protection & Welfare Teams year end 2018

Referral Priority / Status	Allocated	Awaiting Allocation	Total
High	42	7	49
Medium	66	10	76
Low	95	14	109
Not Set	0	0	0
Total	203	31	234

(Tusla Annual Report, 2018)

Table 13: Number of referrals to Prevention Partnership and Family Support year end 2018

PPFS - Prevention Partnership and Family Support Midwest			
Meitheal			
as at 30-12-YY	2016	2017	2018
Number of Meitheal Requests (received during the reporting period)	-	53	88
Access Pathways			
Direct Access	-	29	70
Social Work Diversion	-	4	3
Social Work Step-Down	-	20	15
Family Support Services			
as at 30-12-YY	2016	2017	2018
Number of Children Referrals to Family Support Services (during the reporting period)	6295	5454	2141
Number of Children in Receipt of a Family Support Service (at the end of the reporting period)	6373	5297	1426

Source: TULSA Publication Performance Reports, (YEAR), Performance and Activity Data, December (YTD) 20YY

(Tusla Annual Report, 2018)

Direct Provision

Co. Clare has two direct provision facilities which houses families and single people seeking asylum in Ireland, one in Knockalisheen direct provision centre in Meelick, Co. Clare and the other in The King Thomond Hotel in Lisdoonvarna Co. Clare. The International Protection Accommodation Service (I.P.A.S.S) who operate under the Department of Justice Equality and Law Reform, have the statutory remit to provide accommodation for asylum seekers in Ireland. Due to the transient nature of direct provision, it is challenging to ascertain the population of asylum seekers in the centres at any given time. A new Direct Provision Centre opened in Lisdoonvarna in February 2018. 116 adults and children reside in the hotel at the time of publishing.

Table 14: Age breakdown of 0-25 years old residing in Knockalisheen Direct Provision Centre

Youth age range	0-4 years	5-12 years	13 – 17 years	18 – 25 years
Knockalisheen	17	18	8	31

(Source: IPASS, Department of Justice, 2019)

Table 15: Breakdown of residents in the Direct Provision Centre, Lisdoonvarna

Adults	73
Children under 18	43
Families (2 Parent)	8 – 30 children
Single people	18

Overview of Services to Children and Families in Co. Clare

Section 3: Introduction

In the following section, the range of service provision available to the 0 – 24 years age cohort in Co. Clare is examined, employing the Hardiker model to present the spectrum from universal services to progressively more targeted and specialised services. Section 3.1 will give a brief overview of the key services that operate for children and families in Co. Clare.

Section 3.2 outlines the findings of a collaborative study which was funded by the LEADER Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020 and undertaken by the Clare Local Development Company (CLDC) and the Clare Children and Young People’s Services Committee (CYPSC) between November 2017 and March 2018. As part of this study, an overview of services to children and families in Co. Clare was commissioned. Services were invited to self-report, aligned to the Hardiker model, as to what supports they offer children and families.

The study is a representation of services that engaged with the commissioned researcher in 2017/2018. It is not an exhaustive list of services available and certain services may have opted out from including their data in the study.

3.1 Key services for children & families in Co. Clare

*A more detailed directory of services for Co. Clare can be found at www.cypsc.ie/clare/resources.

Organisation / Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal or Targeted or Both
Health Service Executive	Primary Care Services, HSE Health Promotion & Improvement Services, Public Health Nursing Service, Clinical Psychology Service, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Clare Drug & Alcohol Service HSE Mid-West, Clare Adult Mental Health Services, Clare Early Intervention and School Age Team	Statutory	Both
Limerick & Clare Education & Training Board	LCETB Further Education, LCETB Youth Skills, LCETB Post Primary Schools, LCETB Youth Reach Ennis LCETB Youth Reach Miltown Malby, LCETB Youth Reach Kilrush	Statutory	Both
Probation Services	Youth Probation Service Adult Probation Service	Statutory	Targeted
Department of Social Protection	Ennistymon office, Kilrush office, Ennis office, Tulla office	Statutory	Both
An Garda Síochána	Garda Youth Diversion Programme Ennis Garda Youth Diversion Programme Shannon Juvenile Liaison Officer There are 17 Garda Stations operating across Co. Clare	Statutory	Both
Clare County Council	Rural, Community & Tourism Development, Arts and Recreation, Library, Housing, Business, Economic development, Planning, Environment, Water & Wastewater, Waste and Recycling, Roads & Transport	Statutory	Universal
Department of Education	Clare Education Centre, National Educational Psychology Service (NEPS), 117 primary and special schools in Co. Clare, 17 post primary schools in Co. Clare	Statutory	Both
Key community & voluntary sector services operating a service in Co. Clare	Clarecare, ISPCC, Clare Youth Services, Clare Haven Services, Clare Immigrant Support Centre, Clare County Childcare Committee, Clare Local Development Company, Clare Crusaders, The Brothers of Charity Obair Newmarket-on-Fergus, Respond Housing, Simon Community, Threshold, Novas Community Substance Misuse Team, East Clare Community Cooperative Ltd, St. Vincent de Paul Bedford Row Project, Springboard Family Support Service	Voluntary	Both

3.2: Analysis of services for children and families in Co. Clare

The Hardiker Model (1991) presented in the diagram below, was used to identify and understand different levels of need and type of support required for individuals and families. There are four levels inclusive of level 1: universal preventative and social development services; level 2: support and therapeutic intervention for children and families in need; level 3: therapeutic and support services for children and families with severe difficulties; and level 4: intensive and long-term support and protection for children and families.

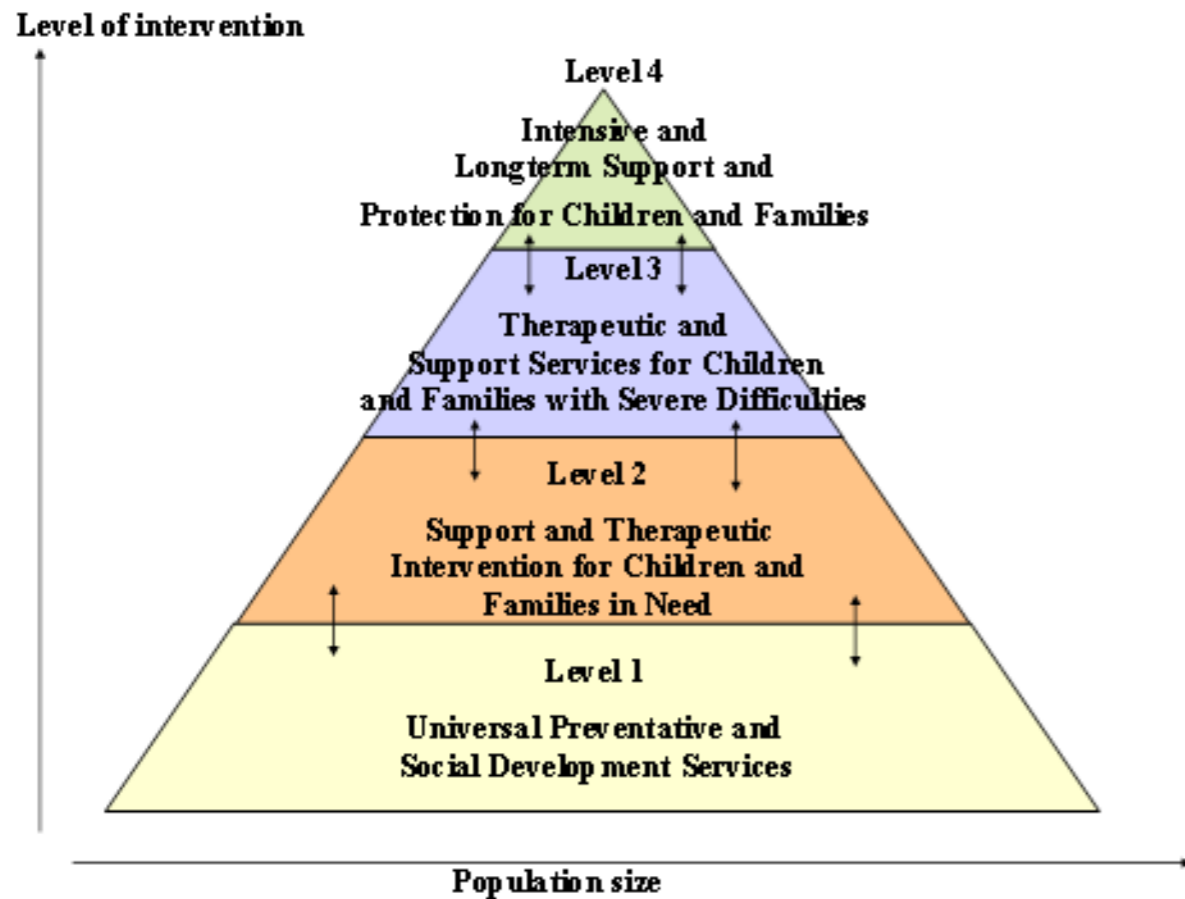
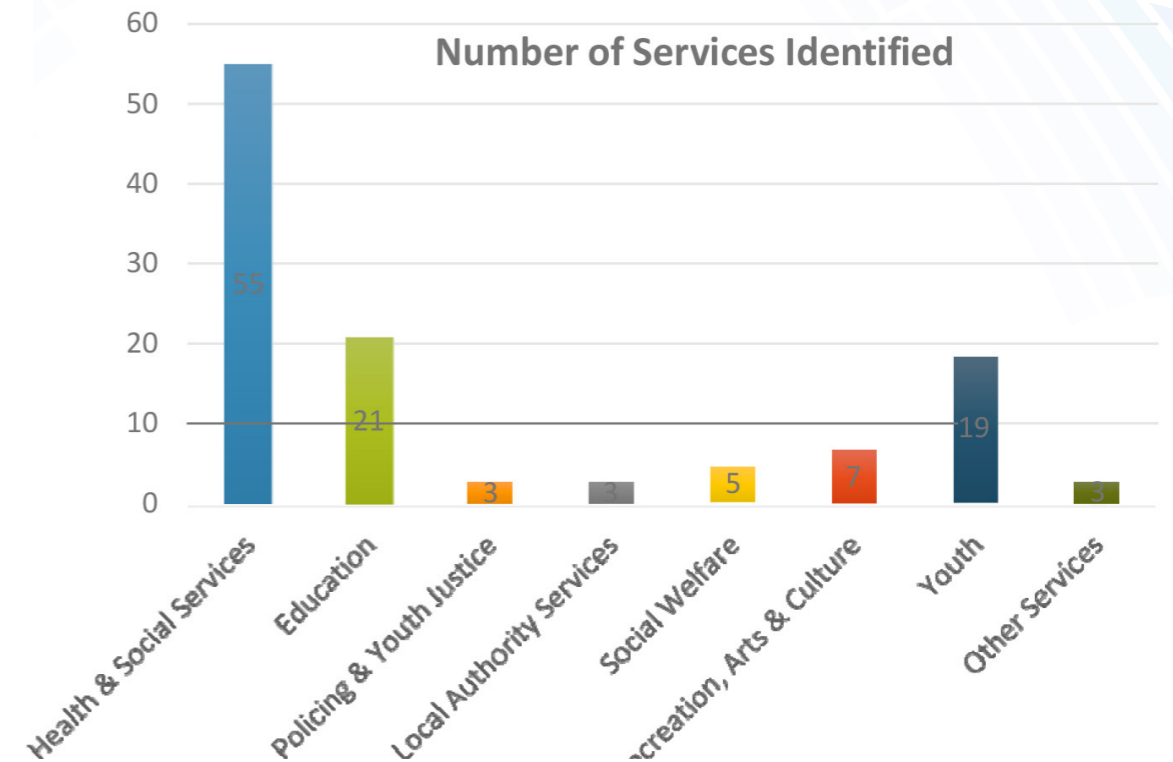


Fig 21: Hardiker, et al 1991

Fig 22: Services identified in the overview of services study 2017



The highest number of services (55) are recorded under the Health and Social Services section, followed by Education (21), Youth (19), Sports, Recreation, Arts & Culture (7), Social Welfare (5), Policing and Social Justice (3), Local Authority Services (3) and Other Services (3).

The service mapping exercise invited organisations to share details of services and rank in line with Hardiker levels. 28 agencies/organisations responded identifying 85 services. Of the 85 services 22% identified as catering for universal service provision, 29% identified as targeted service provision, 41% identified as both universal and targeted service provision and 8% did not classify.

OVERVIEW OF ORGANISATIONAL SERVICE PROVISION

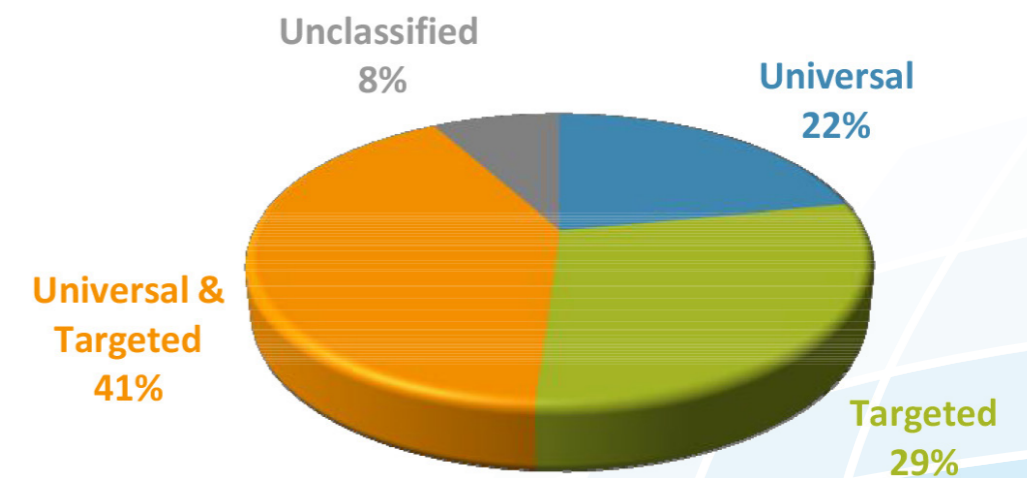


Fig 23: Overview of services identified in the 2017 study

An additional 21 agencies/organisations and 31 services were identified through CYPSC consultations and information available publicly. These are included in the draft directory but excluded from the Hardiker classification due to limited information. The sample of 28 agencies/organisations who did self-rank in line with Hardiker levels indicated 43 providing level 1 services, 33 level 2, 35 level 3, and 29 level 4 as shown in the diagram below:

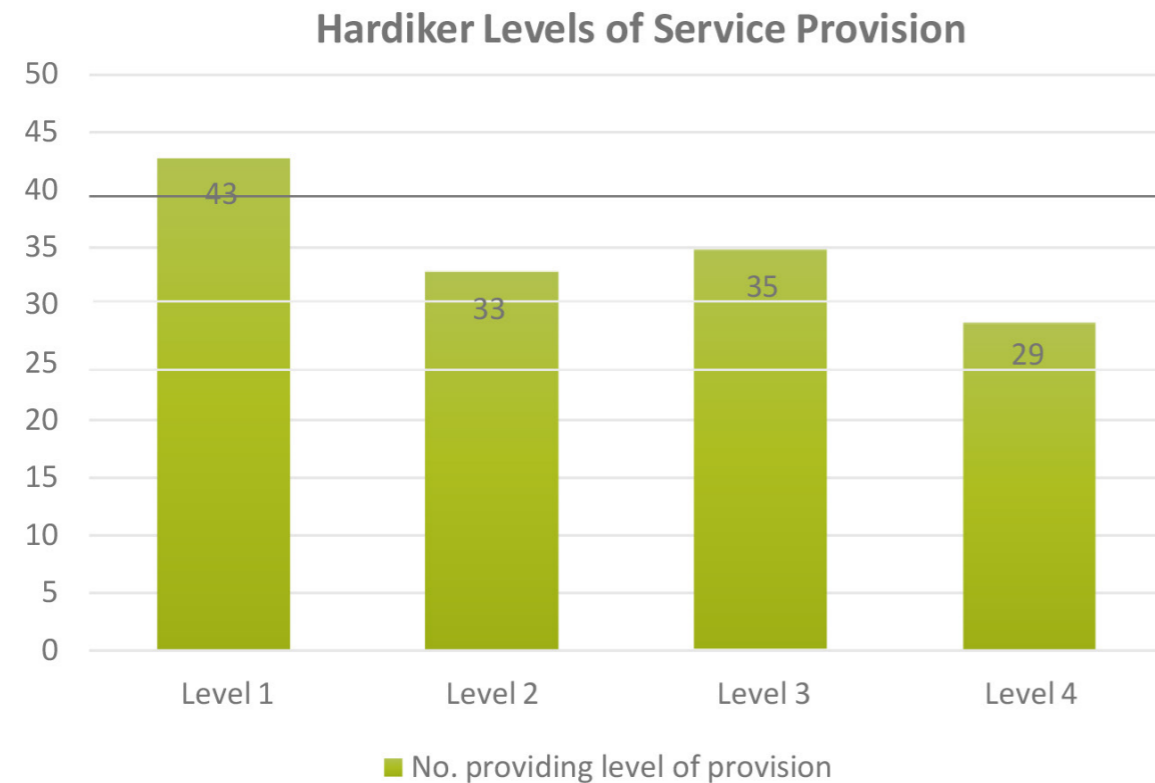
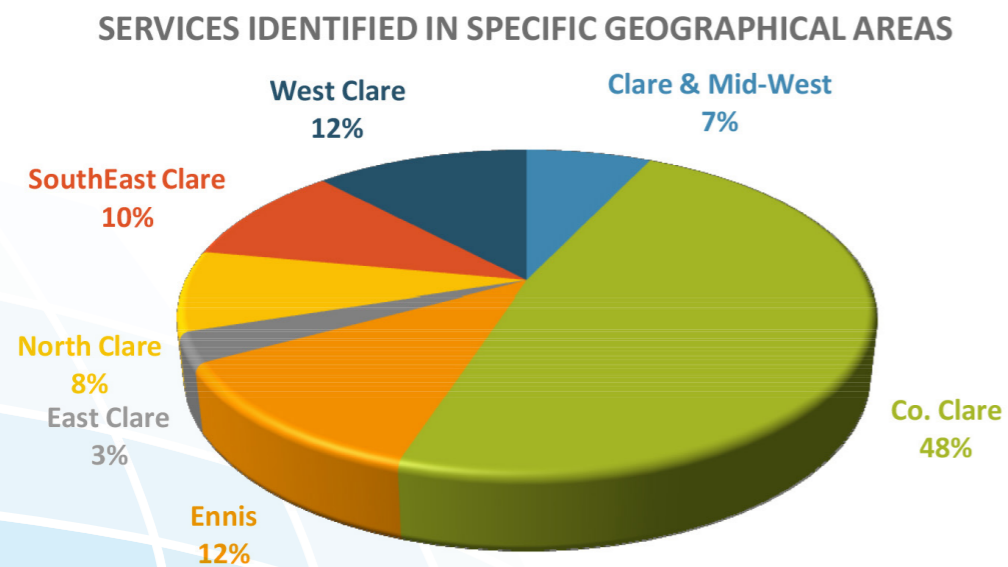


Fig 24: Hardiker levels of service provision

In terms of the geographical remit of the 85 services, an overview is presented in the diagram below:



The highest proportion of services identified as having county wide remit (48%) and an additional (7%) with county and regional remit. The lowest proportion of services identified for a specific area was in East Clare (3%) and in particular in the areas of education and youth where it was the only area in the county whereby no specific services were identified. North Clare (8%) also had a low proportion, while South East Clare (10%), Ennis (12%) and West Clare were higher. Service providers identified waiting lists, lack of outreach clinics, rural isolation and difficulties accessing services due to transport issues as cross-cutting challenges of service provision for all age groups. Recommendations from the study on service provision were as follows:

- Review and establish if the Hardiker model is the most suitable and relevant model of assessing need and service provision when working collaboratively in Co. Clare.
- Further development of mapping of services via Child and Family Networks (when established) throughout the county.
- Conduct a more detailed assessment of service provision in East and North Clare as those who participated in the mapping exercise identified the least amount of services in these areas.
- Further development of the draft service directory to strengthen content, explore formatting options and target a wider audience than service providers.
- Identify actions to overcome access to service challenges due to waiting lists, rural isolation and transport.
- Review models of multi-disciplinary integrated service delivery models operating in the County.

In Co. Clare an example of a multi-disciplinary model of provision is The Clare Early Intervention and School Age Team. This is a specialist multi-disciplinary service for young people and their families where the child has been identified as being at risk/and or diagnosed with a developmental delay. The team consists of a variety of personnel; Speech & Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Clinical Psychologists, Early Intervention Educators, Physiotherapists, Preschool Resource personnel, Social Work service and administrative staff. This is a project that is managed by a number of agencies; H.S.E, Enable Ireland and Brothers of Charity. There are few services operating this integrated statutory/community model of service provision in Co. Clare.

Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in Co. Clare

Section 4 is outlined as follows:

- 4.1 How did the socio - demographic information inform the CYPSC needs analysis?
- 4.2 Consultation data emerging from the jointly commissioned “Clare Needs Analysis and Development Plan” (2017)
 - 4.2.1 Consultation findings 0-4 age group
 - 4.2.2 Consultation findings for 5-12 age group
 - 4.2.3 Consultation findings for 13-18 age group
 - 4.2.4 Consultation findings for 19-24 age group
- 4.3 An analysis of the consultation findings in relation to current service provision as outlined in section 3.

4.1: How did the socio - demographical data inform the needs analysis?

Population data

Planning for youth based supports should focus on the areas of South East Clare (Shannon, New-Market-On-Fergus, Sixmilebridge) given that this is the areas of projected population growth for young people aged 5-12 years. Services supporting teenagers will need to be planned for in the coming years.

- 12% (14, 255) of the population in Clare were aged 5-12 years in 2016.
- Clare had the highest proportion of 5-12-year olds in the Mid-West Region.
- At 17.3%, the Local Electoral Area of Sixmilebridge has the highest proportion of 5 to 12-year olds.
- Planning supports for young people aged 18-24 years should focus on the area of East Clare (Kilaloe, Scarriff, Ardnacrusha) given that this is the area of projected population growth for this age cohort

Education data

Co. Clare is marginally below the Mid-West average in relation to Leaving Certificate retention rates. The data supported the identification of the themes (1) improving retention and (2) transition supports, as areas for consideration when identifying key priority actions for the Children and Young People’s Plan in Co. Clare.

Supporting the theme of home being a key learning environment is of significance given that West Clare has above average number of people with primary only levels of education and therefore children in these homes may face additional educational challenges.

Health data

The health data provided an insight into areas in need of additional resources especially areas that are reporting a rise in poor health outcomes. The age cohort of young people presenting for treatment to the H.S.E for a drug support service is proportionately higher for the 20-24 year olds than young people under 18 years. The geographical spread of those presenting was not available. Through consultations with frontline providers, the area of South East Clare (Shannon, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Sixmilebridge) was recorded as being an area of concern around a perceived escalation of drug use. The data provided encouraged the establishment of an interagency working group for South East Clare under the CYPSC Safe and Protected from Harm working group, tasked with exploring this issue further.

The age cohort of 20-24 year olds should be taken into consideration when reflecting on the data coming through. Regarding service provision, the top four counties with the highest suicide rates in the Tusla West area have no Youth Mental Health Jigsaw project. Counties in the Tusla West area with a dedicated Jigsaw project are Limerick, Mayo, Donegal and Galway.

Nationally, the most at risk age group are identified as 44-55 year olds. This has significance as it highlights the need for services to support parental mental health targeting parents of children aged 5-12 years and 13-18 years in particular. County level data pertaining to an age breakdown of suicide rates was, at the time of publishing, not available from the National Office for Suicide Prevention.

Economic data

West Clare (Kilrush & Kilkee), North Clare (Ennistymon) and parts of Ennis town were classified as “very disadvantaged”. This classification has not changed since the 2008 and 2012 census. There is a risk of long term inter-generational disadvantage should efforts not be made to reverse this trend. Youth unemployment (18 - 24 years) is recorded as highest in Kilrush and Ennistymon, both areas have limited public transport and are not connected to the economic hubs of the county. Initiatives such as the FOLM Limerick Institute of Technology project which supports young people to gain employment and training, will work with local services providers in these areas to identify potential candidates for the programme.

The reliance on the private rented market in certain areas may lead to a level of uncertainty regarding longevity and security of tenure. This may bring economic challenges for some families if landlords sell their homes and there is not an adequate supply of rental stock in their area. Proactive measures to support children and families who find themselves having to access homeless services have been highlighted as an action area in the Children and Young Person’s Plan.

4.2: Consultation data emerging from the Clare needs analysis and development plan (2017)

There had been a number of needs analysis exercises conducted in Co. Clare in recent years which informed the CYPSC consultation process.

The **Clare Rural Development Strategy (2016)** recognises that there has been a reduction in public services (health services, including GP’s, Post Offices, Schools, Garda Stations, transport services, enterprise development, welfare support services, etc) and a protracted wait for physical and service infrastructure (e.g. schools, broadband, water and transport), (DRCD, 2016 pg7).

In the **County Clare Local Economic and Community Plan (2016)**, ‘a number of disadvantaged groups and communities of shared characteristics were also identified such as jobless households with one child (most concentrated in rural areas, especially in North, South-West and North-East Clare, where they were often living in open countryside); unemployed people who generally live in towns and villages; lone parent families who generally lived in towns and villages; members of the Traveller Community

who by and large lived in the towns of Ennis and environs, Shannon and Ennistymon', (CCC, 2016, pg26).

In October 2017, the Clare LEADER programme and Clare CYPSC, jointly commissioned a thematic needs analysis of the all CYPSC consultation data gathered and a mapping of current service provision. The report entitled the "Clare Needs Analysis and Development Plan" can be downloaded in full on www.cypsc/clare.

Primary data used to conduct a needs analysis specifically for children, young people and their families was collected by the CYPSC Coordinator in 2016 and 2017. The data was gathered through consultations with children, young people, parents and service providers. A total of 3168 (22%) of children aged 5-12 years, 309 (4%) of young people 12-18 years, 667 parents and 109 services providers were consulted. An overview of participants is presented in the table below:

Table 16: Breakdown of CYPSC consultation participants 2016/2017

Consultation Event	Participants	Gender	Nationality	Sector	Geographical Areas
Childrens Survey in Primary Schools	2168 Children (5 – 12 Age Group)	Mixed	Mixed	Primary Schools (53)	Ennis & Surrounds x 9 East Clare x 8 North Clare x 12 South East Clare x 9 West Clare x 15
Youth Focus Groups	11 Focus Groups 110 Young People	Mixed	Mixed	N/A	Ennis X 5 East Clare x 2 (Scarriff) North Clare x1 (Ennistymon) South East Clare x 4 (Shannon, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Tulla) West Clare x 1 (Miltown Malby)
Youth Online Survey	199 Young People (under 18 years)	112 Female 87 Male	179 Born in Ireland 19 (10%) Born outside of Ireland	N/A	Ennis & Surrounds: 60 East Clare: 8 North Clare: 29 South East Clare: 73 West Clare: 29
Parent Focus Groups	6 Focus Groups 40 Parents	Mixed	Mixed	N/A	Ennis X 2 East Clare – North Clare x 1 (Ennistymon) South East Clare x 2 (Shannon, Sixmilebridge) West Clare x 1 (Kilrush)
Parent Online Survey	627 Parents	581 Female 41 Male	529 Born in Ireland 90 (15%) Born outside of Ireland	N/A	Ennis: 199 East Clare: 98 North Clare: 104 South East Clare: 125 West Clare: 88 N/R: 13
Service Provider Survey	109 Service Providers			(59) Community sector (48) Statutory	Co. Clare: 30 Ennis town: 27 East Clare: 11 North Clare: 6 South East Clare: 9, West Clare: 5

4.2.1: Consultation findings, 0-4 year olds

Data relevant to the 0-4 age group was gathered during focus groups with parents and responses to parent and service provider online surveys. During consultations, parents and service providers shared information on family background and structure; challenges of parenting; issues of concern for children and families; specific needs of targeted groups; and suggestions for services development.

Family background and structure

Of the parents surveyed online 177 parents, 29% of all surveyed, had children aged 0-4 years, 87% were born in Ireland and 13% were born outside Ireland. In terms of number of parents in the household, it was identified that 69% have two married parents, 21% have two cohabiting parents and 10% have a single parent. There was a significantly higher number of female parent respondents at 29%. The highest percentage of single parents was recorded in West Clare, 17% compared to an average of 10% throughout the County. 32% report that they have two children, 26% have one child or three children, 12% have four children and 3% have more than four children.

Parenting challenges

Parents who have children aged 0-4 years are of the opinion that the most challenging age group to parent and where additional support may be required, are eighteen months to three years, followed by young people thirteen to eighteen years and then children under eighteen months. Parental concerns about supporting children were prioritised as being able to financially support children; lack of affordable or accessible childcare; access to afterschool activities; and access to recreational activities in the community.

Specific needs of targeted groups

Mothers breastfeeding identified the need for more support and service providers highlighted a need to enhance early intervention services for children with disabilities. Eight parents from Syria in one focus group identified English language skills, employment opportunities and psychological support for their children who may have suffered trauma as specific needs.

Table 17: Summary of findings and recommendations: 0-4 year olds

BOBF	Priority needs/service provision identified through consultations	Recommendations from CYPSC/CLDC commissioned needs analysis report	What the parents & providers said.....
Outcome 1: Active & Healthy	<p>More Breastfeeding support groups</p> <p>Parents and services providers highlight the need for parent support including informal networks</p> <p>Parents and children highlight the lack of A&E and hospital services for children locally</p> <p>Limited community activities for age group</p> <p>Mental Health – Postnatal Depression</p>	<p>Link with Public Health Nurse and Family Resource Centre in North Clare and monitor if need is as relevant in other areas.</p> <p>Establish more parental supports and perhaps review with the establishment of Child and Family Support Networks (CFSN throughout county).</p> <p>Advocate for this issue to be addressed at county planning level.</p> <p>Promote and support the establishment groups such as Parent and Toddler Groups.</p>	<p>"I think there should be accessible parent and toddler group in most areas and should be promoted when leaving the maternity hospital and encouraged early on as people power can help parents deal with most child/parenting problems" (Parent)</p> <p>"More community creches with proper opening hours so I could go back to work as currently it's 9-5pm" (Parent)</p> <p>"play therapy for children of families affected by domestic violence and more well-structured afterschool services and facilities offering stimulating activities and physical activity" (Service Provider)</p>
Outcome 2: Achieving in Learning & Development	<p>Limited choice in childcare facilities</p>	<p>Promote the establishment of private and community facilities.</p> <p>Review childcare places in the county.</p>	<p>"Lack of quality crèches and too many unregistered low-quality child minders" (Service Provider)</p>
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm	<p>Family Support Services and in particular parental support for those struggling financially, experiencing mental health difficulties or domestic violence in the home</p>	<p>Promote and resource the expansion of family support services throughout the county.</p>	<p>"more informal supports for parents with babies, it can be overwhelming and isolating" (Parent)</p>
Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity	<p>Financial security a large concern for parents, especially for childcare costs and limited choice of childcare services</p>	<p>Identify supports and information that can be provided to parents in relation to managing finances and accessing childcare services.</p>	<p>"More information and access for parents to help with financial costs of childcare" (Parent)</p>
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing	<p>Limited spaces outside of playgrounds for this age group to connect with their community</p>	<p>Identify and support the establishment of alternative play spaces in the community.</p>	

4.2.2: Consultation findings, 5-12 year olds

Data relevant to the 5-12 age group was gathered during a primary school survey, focus groups with parents and responses to parent and service providers online surveys. During consultations, parents and service providers shared information on family background and structure; challenges of parenting; issues of concern for children and families; specific needs of targeted groups; and suggestions for services development.

The children surveyed (3168 participants) in 53 schools throughout Clare, shared their opinions on what it is like to live in County Clare and provided information relevant to the five national outcome areas. During the analysis it was observed whether children described living in Clare positively or negatively.

Parenting challenges

Parental concerns about supporting children are prioritised as being able to financially support children; lack of affordable or accessible childcare; access to afterschool activities; and access to recreational activities in the community. Service providers also emphasise lack of childcare and afterschool activities which are restrictive for working parents.

Issues of concern for children and families

There is consistency from parents throughout the county that the issue of drugs is a main concern for their children. Abuse, depression, peer pressure and violence are also priority issues. The transition from primary to secondary school is a concern and challenge for children in this age category.

Specific needs of targeted groups

It was highlighted by parents and service providers that there are limited services for children with special needs outside of Ennis or family support for these families.

Table 18: Summary of findings & recommendations: 5 – 12 year old

BOBF	Priority needs/service provision identified through consultations	What children said.....	What parents & providers said.....	Recommendations
Outcome 1: Active & Healthy	<p>Positives: Environment Beaches Parks Scenery</p> <p>Negative: No spaces for under 12's Lack of clubs and afterschool facilities Weather Facilities for play and recreation.</p>	<p>"Being by the beach and waking up in such a natural habitat of such wonderful nature and I love waking up in such a green area" (Girl, 9).</p> <p>"More indoor playgrounds for bad weather days, more sports camps at low prices, more places for people to be more confident about themselves and maybe if they are shy to sign in front of people" (Girl, 8)</p> <p>"get some more outdoor, sporting, government funded facilities in Clare to satisfy boys and girls;" (Boy, 12)</p>	<p>"More services around mental health, such as access to affordable counselling or play therapy" (Parent)</p> <p>"Major gap in provision for afterschool care and children who are too old to attend crèches but too young to stay at home. There needs to be more activities for 5-10yr olds" (Service Provider)</p> <p>"issues with transport/cost/ more time lost from school to attend etc. This appears to be more of an issue in West Clare" (Service Provider)</p>	<p>Develop mental health services and resource provision. Invest in sexual health and drug and alcohol education and prevention. Support the establishment of afterschool groups and clubs for under 12's. Develop actions to increase provision of indoor and outdoor activities and facilities.</p>
Outcome 2: Achieving in Learning & Development	<p>Positives: They like school</p> <p>Negatives: Uniforms Long school day Homework Lack of special education facilities</p>	<p>"School is the best thing that can happen to you" (Girl, 10)</p> <p>"Our rich heritage, landscape and history." (Girl, 12)</p> <p>"we get so much homework my mum and dad can barely lift my school bag, my nan can't lift it at all" (Boy, 11)</p> <p>"you spend most of your time in school and not with your family" (Girl, 11)</p>	<p>"Afterschool services for primary school children because I have to close an office that I work in, in order to collect my daughter from school. I would love if she could go to after school activities until 5pm" (Parent)</p>	<p>Prioritise supporting the transition from primary to secondary in schools and support services. Review the provision of special needs services outside Ennis. Further research required to assess demand for these schools. Alternate education provision for children not suited to mainstream</p>
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm	<p>Positives: Feeling safe at home Safe in the community</p> <p>Negatives: Bullying at home and school</p>	<p>"A few people bully me, and they are not in my school" (Boy, 8)</p> <p>"Bullying on the internet and schools too, bullying has to stop" (Unknown)</p> <p>"I would like to change bullying as it is a big disaster today. I would also like to make every child equal" (Girl, 12)</p>	<p>"how to talk to teenagers about things such as sexual health and dangers of sexual health and drugs etc. Some parents find that age the hardest to talk with" (Parent)</p> <p>"the levels of trauma presenting in children and parents is frightening" (Service provider)</p>	<p>Promote and resource the expansion of family support services throughout the county.</p>

BOBF	Priority needs/service provision identified through consultations	What children said.....	What parents & providers said.....	Recommendations
Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity	<p>Negatives: Poor transport services Lack of indoor and outdoor facilities in rural areas Financial concerns at home Worries about future employment opportunities</p>	<p>"I would put in a place where children of all ages could just hang out and have fun" (Girl, 12)</p> <p>"Children don't have to pay for schoolbooks or going to school as some families are poor so that every child can go to school and have a good job so that they can be fit and healthy" (Girl, 11)</p> <p>"There is no way to earn money" (Boy, 10) "There isn't enough room in houses, not enough shops, not enough workplace for parents to make money" (Girl, 11)</p>	<p>"the cost of activities like sports when you have a large family" (Parent)</p>	<p>Allocate capital funds and planning provision to develop safe cycleways in the county. Support and establish anti bullying and cyber safety initiatives. Identify supports and information that can be provided to parents in relation to managing finances. Support the running costs of activities or programmes.</p>
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing	<p>Positives: Networks of family and friends</p> <p>Negatives: Living far away from relatives Civic issues like road safety, pollution, homelessness and cycle paths Poor internet connection Are not listened to</p>	<p>"the close-knit community and proximity to everyone and everything, I really enjoy the great atmosphere and great range of activities" (Girl, 12)</p> <p>"The worst thing is if you don't like sport it is hard to fit it. I would change the community not to be so sporty" (Boy 10)</p> <p>"That all my cousins and aunts and uncles all live far away like England or Dublin because they couldn't find a job in Clare" (Girl 9)</p> <p>"I would make free WIFI for the whole of Co. Clare called Clare Internet" (Boy, 10)</p> <p>"I would put in cycle lanes on the roads, people would then be able to cycle to work, to school or a friend's house. It would also reduce pollution" (Girl, 12)</p>	<p>"More transport within Clare to allow access to current available services would be great. Even a better/safer road access for children to walk and cycle on would help. It's just not safe to let children teenagers or ourselves to walk or cycle the roads" (Parent)</p>	<p>Youth engagement with the under 12's Spaces for the under 12's to socialise Better transport connections for young people Diversify options available to children and expand on indoor and outdoor activities available. Take steps to create space for children to be heard.</p>

4.2.3: Consultation findings, 13-18 year olds

Data relevant to the 13-18 age group was collected from focus groups with youth and parents and responses to youth, parent and service providers online surveys. During consultations youth, parents and service providers shared information on challenges for young people; issues of concern for youth and families; specific needs of targeted groups; and suggestions for services development. Contained within the online youth survey, young people were consulted in relation to their feelings about living in County Clare in line with the five national outcome areas.

Challenges for young people

In identifying challenges for young people in County Clare there is consistency in the feedback from young people, parents and services providers and common themes emerge. All stakeholders highlight concerns about a perceived lack of mental health services, service waiting lists and limited youth spaces and/or projects as challenging.

There is consistency from parents throughout the county that the issue of drugs is a main concern for their children, abuse, depression, peer pressure and violence are also priority issues. Support around transitioning from secondary school to further education or training was a concern and a challenge for some young people in this age category. Young people prioritised mental health, drug and alcohol use, social media obsession/addiction/pressures, school pressures, lack of facilities and transport as key issues.

Specific needs of targeted groups

The Ennis Schools Completion Programme End of Year Review 2017/2018 highlighted areas of difficulties for youth. In particular, the retention of Traveller students beyond the junior cycle and the retention of male Traveller students in the Junior cycle. Parents also described accessing school placements for secondary school as a particular challenge. A number of service providers highlighted the needs of children in Care in particular those 16-18 who may be coming into or leaving Care and options available.

Table 19: Summary of findings & recommendations: 13 – 18 year olds

BOBF	Experiences of young people	What young people said in their words.....	What parents & providers said in their words	Recommendations
Outcome 1: Active & Healthy	Statement: "I feel active and healthy" positive (109) negative (63) Shannon was the only area responding more negatively than positively Social media and mental wellness Youth mental health priority concern	"There should be more support for young people with mental health problems and addictions" (Youth) "More free support for people having difficulties. I also think school doesn't focus enough on the mental health of young people" (Youth)	"Services where teenagers can talk to professional people about further education and life in general" (Parent) "More youth workers and places for young people to hang out. More workers needed to provide services for example to TY students re sexual education and addiction" (Service Provider)	Develop services and invest resources in drug and alcohol education, prevention and support. Address access to assessment and treatment and long waiting lists. Support suicide prevention, social media obsession/addiction interventions. Create youth friendly spaces and youth clubs for 16-18-year olds.
Outcome 2: Achieving in Learning & Development	Statement: "I am achieving in my learning" positive (116) negative (54)	"One size fits all education in this country" (Youth) "Better guidance if you are not going to college or more education" (Youth)	"School placements in particular secondary school: either parents don't understand the application process, or it is seen that certain schools in the town have a bias against accepting Traveller children" (Parent) "Transition from Secondary School to further education/training and/or employment" (Service Provider)	Support social and emotional wellbeing initiatives in schools. Review of Secondary School provision as school placement issues are expected to rise due to large population of 5-12-year olds.
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm	Statement: "I feel safe and protected from harm at home and in community" positive (91) negative (83) Shannon and West Clare responded more negatively than positively. Drug and alcohol issues were seen as a priority concern	"There could be more after school clubs and classes to educate parents on how to communicate with their children properly rather than shout at their children when they talk about their problems" (Youth) Youth homelessness	"Mental health care for teenagers and especially dual diagnosis i.e. mental health and drug addiction. Teenagers then fall between two providers and are not being cared for" (Service Provider) "Inadequate mental health and drugs rehabilitation support for young people aged 16 to 18 years" (Service Provider) "Additional investment in alcohol and drugs education and prevention for under 21's would be of real value especially in more rural areas" (Service Provider) "A growing Drug and Alcohol culture has negative implications for the communities and the services in the area will need further funding to target most affected" (Service Provider)	Allocate resources to support services for homeless youth. Support and establish anti bullying and cyber safety initiatives. Interagency response to the perception of a growing drug issue in some communities

BOBF	Experiences of young people	What young people said in their words.....	What parents & providers said in their words	Recommendations
Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity	<p>Statement: "I feel financially secure and there are opportunities for me" positive (103) negative (69) Poor transport Lack of spaces to meet Lack of work placement opportunities</p>	<p>"People usually leave to get work after school" "Without a car or lift you are always stuck here"</p>	<p>"You worry will they come back to the area and settle as there are so few job opportunities"</p>	<p>Create innovative solutions to address rural transport issues in line with the County Development Plan. Explore alternative options for making affordable and suitable spaces available to young people. Develop initiative that support young people to gain work experience.</p>
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing	<p>Statement: "I feel connected and respected in my community" positive (111) negative (65) Young people from urban areas spoke more negatively about their community than those from more rural areas</p>	<p>"Provide youth cafes or youth clubs, areas where young people can hang out and meet new people without use of alcohol, only way to meet people is to go out" (Youth) "I think that there is a lack of centres or clubs for 16-18-year-old as the youth clubs are more for younger years and between these years you are too young to go out etc." (Youth) "Much more transport needed for youth living in rural towns" (Youth)</p>	<p>"There is none or very little support for young people from ages 13 to 17yrs. Whether it be summer camps, youth clubs etc." (Service Provider) "I live in a small village outside Ennis but apart from GAA there is no outlet for teenagers. A youth club in the parish for teenagers to meet and socialise" (Parent)</p>	<p>Involve young people in community initiatives that challenge misperceptions and promote positive experiences for young people.</p>

4.2.4: Consultation findings, 19-24 year olds

Data relevant to the 19-24 age group was collected from responses to youth, parent and service providers online surveys. During consultations youth, parents and service providers shared information on challenges for young adults; specific needs of targeted groups; and suggestions for services development.

Challenges and Issues for young adults

Similar to other age groups there is consistency in feedback from various stakeholders highlighting common issues for young adults. Service providers shared the most detail about the needs of young people in this age category. The main challenges are transitioning from secondary school to further education and employment and housing and homelessness. Key issues are mental health, drug and alcohol use and transport.

It is recommended that further research into the needs and experiences of young adults be conducted as the cohort for the CYPSC consultation was quite low.

Specific Needs - Targeted Groups

A service provider highlighted that there is no dedicated service specifically targeting the needs of young adults aged 18-24 years old with disabilities, over 18's automatically transfer to an "all adults" service. There may not always be a continuation of the care package they received in the children's services when they enter the adult services and this continuation of supports while transitioning into the adults services has been cited as a cause for concern for some service providers and parents in the consultation phase.

Table 20: Summary of findings & recommendations: 19 – 24 year olds

BOBF	Experiences of young people	What young people said in their words.....	What parents & providers said in their words	Recommendations
Outcome 1: Active & Healthy	Drug and Alcohol Education, Prevention and Support Disability Services 18+ Mental Health Services. Access, assessment and treatment	"You're not a kid and not an adult so there's nowhere for you if you have a problem, you may have had a teacher in school but when you leave that is gone" (Young Person)	"Mental health service provision is sub-standard. Young people with mental health issues, combined with drugs issues are being put at risk as the mental health services will not deal with them while they use. ..they are not mentally capable of making the decision to participate in rehab programmes, and so are left to literally ramble the streets;" (Service Provider)	Develop services and invest resources in drug and alcohol education, prevention and support. Review provision of disability services for those over 18 years. Address access to assessment and treatment and long waiting lists in Mental Health Services. Support suicide prevention, social media obsession/addiction interventions.
Outcome 2: Achieving in Learning & Development	Lack of educational and training opportunities after school	"There is a good range of third level choices in the area if you can afford to go there" (Young Person)	"18-21-year olds very few local/rural training or education opportunities" (Service Provider)	Expand third level educational and training opportunities
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm	Housing and homelessness Transition supports for young people moving from child to adult disability services	"You are stuck living at home because you can't get a place to rent even if you are working" (Young Person)	"A growing Drug and Alcohol culture has negative implications for the communities and the services in the area will need further funding to target most affected" (Service Provider) "The difference in supports for children with a disability to young adults with a disability is crazy" (Parent)	Identify and support housing supports for young adults and review emergency accommodation provision in the county Develop an interagency response to escalating drug use in certain communities Examine transition supports from child to adult disability services
Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity	Lack of employment opportunities		"Affordable transport for 14-20+ year olds" (Service Provider) "A lack of a transport network many young adults are left with no option but to go on social welfare" (Service Provider)	Support the provision of employment opportunities and promote entrepreneurship with Young Adults
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing	Out-migration from rural to urban areas	"I would like to come and settle here someday. But will leave for work first" (Young Person)		Promote employment and entrepreneurship to attract young adults back to rural areas.

4.3: An analysis of the consultation findings in relation to service provision

The demographical profile of the county, in particular projected data trends, along with consultation findings, suggest the following areas should be considered for additional targeted service provision. Below are the top recommendations for enhanced service provision in Co. Clare which informed the development of the action plan in Section 6.

1. Intensive family support/youth work provision for South East Clare (Shannon, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Sixmilebridge) due to projected youth population growth.
2. A coordinated range of information/programmes/interventions to support parents with low educational attainment targeting Kilrush in particular.
3. Plan for the development of youth spaces for under 12's across the County.
4. Young adult hang out spaces that are not linked to pubs/clubs.
5. A multi-disciplinary model to support young people and families presenting with drug and alcohol issue incorporating a range of approaches from family support, drug and alcohols supports, community development practices etc.
6. An interagency proposal drafted for a dedicated community based youth mental health support service for Co. Clare.
7. Interagency protocols developed to support young people aged 20-24 years at risk of homelessness.
8. A coordinated range of information/programmes/interventions across the county supporting parents' emotional wellbeing and resilience through interagency collaboration.
9. A coordinated range of information/programmes/interventions across the county to support young people's emotional wellbeing in relation to healthy safe relationships through interagency collaboration.
10. Additional supports for young people (in particular under the 12's) to develop skills around maintaining friendships, how to respond to bullying and enhanced play opportunities.
11. Strengthen interagency supports for specialist services targeting vulnerable communities such as the Traveller community, immigrant community and children in Care, focusing on educational supports, community integration and emotional wellbeing.

Many service providers in Co. Clare operate on a largely county wide coverage basis as is evident in the overview of services in Section 3. These providers face challenges in being able to deliver a service in a local community due to funding required to do so and staffing issues. Centralised service provision (largely in Ennis) may be problematic for some families living in rural areas with limited transport options. Maintaining current provision for many services is a challenge as well meeting the ever complex and increasing needs of children and families presenting.

Avoiding a duplication of services/responses

The role of the Co. CYPSC is to add value to services that are already operating and not to duplicate service provision. Issues raised in the consultation phase whereby there is in place an existing interagency structure for that sector were not included in the plan. The issue was brought to the attention of that interagency group for their consideration. An example would be transitioning supports for young people moving from child to adult disability services. The Clare Early Intervention and School Age Team is a multi-disciplinary service for young people and their families where the child has been identified as being at risk/and or diagnosed with a developmental delay. The issue regarding transition supports was brought to their attention and it was felt they were the appropriate forum to review that issue. The issue of transport was highlighted by parents, young people and services providers. The Clare Rural Development Strategy 2026 outlines a number transport actions for the county such as a rural Uber scheme, community carpooling scheme, “befriending transport” and community bus scheme. The Clare CYPSC will engage with the Clare Rural Development Forum in relation to receiving updates on the progress of these transport actions rather than instigate new transport actions under the CYPSC structures.

Issues raised by staff which they feel impacts upon the delivery of services to young people and families

- Staff turnover in certain sectors is high with vacancies unfilled resulting in not having an ancillary support service to refer the family onto.
- Additional training was requested in the areas of managing staff stress and burnout, dealing with conflict, strategies to work with clients presenting with a history of trauma. These issues were raised by staff who participated in the consultation process across sectors which informed the decision of the CYPSC to aim to be a trauma informed CYPSC.
- The need for enhanced interagency coordination to deliver a holistic package of supports for children and their families.
- Better awareness amongst staff as to what other services are out there.
- Large areas of the county with limited local provision for families, was resulting in lengthy waiting lists for centralised services (particularly highlighted in regarding to mental health supports). Staff having additional administrative duties which can have an impact on the one to one contact they have with families/clients.

Section 5: Summary of Children and Young People’s Plan for Co. Clare

Change Management	Local Priority Areas
	<p>The Clare CYPSC will endeavour to become a trauma informed/trauma responsive CYPSC. The CYPSC structure lends itself to promote sector change in this area. To support children and families with trauma requires an interagency response and cannot be the single remit of any one agency. This was identified by staff during the CYPSC consultation.</p> <p>The Clare CYPSC will prioritise the development of interagency protocols, interagency training and sharing of pertinent information in this area throughout the lifespan of the Children and Young People’s Plan.</p> <p>Across the outcome areas, evidence informed programmes will be supported and endorsed by the CYPSC as models of good practice and quality. Supporting the up-skilling of the workforce in these best practice programmes will also be another CYPSC priority</p>

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting the anxious child 2. Development of dedicated youth health services – mental health service 3. Health promoting homes and communities 4. Digital wellbeing 5. Healthy safe relationships 6. Promotion of cross sector play
2. Achieving full potential in learning and development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Home as a key learning environment 2. Supporting educational transitions 3. Supporting young people to stay in education 4. Promoting interagency protocols 5. Play as a key learning tool 6. Trauma informed/responsive learning environments
3. Safe and protected from harm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting strategy 2. Interagency responses to drugs and alcohol in communities 3. Bullying 4. Early intervention programmes for 0-5 years 5. Exploring trauma informed practices in the sector
4. Economic security and opportunity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pathways to training and employment for 16-24 year old NEETS 2. Practitioner training to deliver a trauma informed service to vulnerable young people age 16-24 years old who are not in education, training or employment
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting the implementation of the Lundy model in a range of statutory services 2. Youth spaces for the under 12’s 3. Restorative practice based communities 4. Supporting immigrant youth 5. Youth volunteering 6. Supporting homeless families

Action Plan for Co. Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time frame for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
1.1 Supporting anxious children to make peer connections and express their feelings	Promoting tools for good mental health and wellbeing	Resource booklets designed and printed	100 resource booklets disseminated	Develop a comprehensive resource for parents and community based groups which will encompass practice tips for those working with or supporting children and young people.	2020	Active & healthy subgroup Health Promotion and Information Relevant community groups	Connecting for Life Strategy	Learning & development
1.2 Assessment of both the level of need and the best models of Health & Wellbeing Services for young people.	Develop an overview of the best models currently operating for the consideration of the CYPSC Steering Group.	Recommendations and guidelines produced	Recommendations brought to the CYPSC Steering Group to be auctioned for the 2022-2024 CYPSC	Research the efficacy of developing a County based Youth Health Service examining current models in existence i.e. Cork Youth Health Service, Limerick Youth Service Be Well Team, Kildare Youth Counselling Service etc	2020/2021	Active & healthy subgroup		Ensure quality services
1.3 Promote affordable access to organised sports for all families	To remove an equipment cost barrier for disadvantaged youth to participate in sport by creating an annual sports equipment donation / swap event	Number of clubs that organise a swap shop event in Co. Clare	50 young people avail of equipment through the swap shop exchange in 2020 15 clubs / individuals partake in an annual equipment donation / swap event.	Local sporting organisations will be encouraged to promote an equipment donation / swap event at the start of each season	2020	Active & healthy subgroup Clare Sports Partnership	Healthy Ireland Plan Healthy Clare Strategy Clare Sports Partnership Strategic Plan	Support parents

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time frame for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
1.4 Promoting health and wellbeing practices in the home & community	Families and individual young people are supported to make positive choices which support their improved health and wellbeing	Number of people availing of training Number of edible gardens established	20 practitioners undertake MECC training 2 edible gardens established	Practitioners are supported to engage with online H.S.E MECC training (Making Every Contact Count) and the HP&I 'Healthy Food Made Easy' Programmes Develop a database of Health Promoting champions in the C&V sector Design of a number of edible garden initiatives promoting healthy diet and nutrition with families i.e. (1) Homeless Hub edible gardens project (2) Direct Provision edible gardens initiative	2021	Active & Healthy subgroup lead Other subgroups to support	H.S.E Healthy Food for All guidelines	Interagency collaboration and coordination
1.5 Young people are encouraged to examine their online behaviours and promote digital wellbeing	Good mental health Positive health choices and healthy relationships	Numbers of young people participating in the pilot	35 young people participate in the pilot project School guidelines developed and disseminated through the Clare Education Centre to secondary schools in Clare.	Youth led research project in a school setting exploring the effects of digital media on young people's mental health and their relationships Develop recommendations from the pilot and a guidance document on how to roll out a digital wellbeing schools based programme linked to the DES Wellbeing Guidelines	2020 2021	Pilot schools and University of Limerick Active & Healthy subgroup	H.S.E Detox from the Digital Monster initiative Department of Education Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice 2018-2023	Learning & development Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time frame for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
1.6 Young people are supported to develop healthy relationships	Positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health	Numbers of packs disseminated to practitioners Number of young people involved in receiving the pilot programme Numbers of practitioners delivering the programmes in the pilot phase	10 practitioners deliver the pilot programme across Limerick & Clare 20 young people in care participate in the pilot programme	Develop a trauma informed safe relationships resource tailored for young people in care – Midwest Healthy Ireland funded action in collaboration with the Limerick CYPSC The pilot resource / programme will be evaluated and recommendations to mainstream based on findings from the pilot disseminated to local and national CYPSC/Tusla management	2020/2021	Healthy relationships working group (EPIC, Clare Haven, Clarecare, Tusla, Adapt Services, H.S.E Health Promotion)	H.S.E National Sexual Health Strategy 2018 - 2020	Safe and protected from harm Early Intervention Interagency collaboration and coordination
1.7 To promote play across sectors in Clare	Play is respected in the county as an integral part of wellness	Number of sites with an Imagination Playground resources Numbers of children accessing an Imagination Playground resource Numbers of participants attending the Active Play Everyday workshops	17 Imagination Playground sites utilising the equipment across the county 4 Active Play Every Day training workshops will be provided for parents, carers and professionals of children 0 – 6 years old.	Formation of an interagency working group to look at the development of a county wide Play Strategy advised by the Local Authority for Play and Recreation Network Support the roll out of the imagination playground initiative across Clare.	2020 2019 - 2021	Active & Healthy subgroup	DCYA National Children's Strategy National Play Policy National Recreation Policy	Learning and development

Action Plan for Co. Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee

Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
2.1 Early years pre-literacy and numeracy nurtured at in the home	To enhance learning and development from birth and supports parent's as a key educator in their children's lives.	Numbers of courses delivered Numbers of participants on each course	4 Aistear informed parent courses delivered 30 parents attend the Aistear informed parent courses	Develop Aistear informed parent courses to promote Aistear practices in the home. Roll out of a number of Aistear informed parent courses in partnership with a number of pre- identified preschool sites in the County. Evaluation of Aistear Parent courses	Ongoing	Learning & development subgroup supported by Family Learning LCETB & NCCA	NCCA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2021 Department of Education Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice 2018-2023	Supporting parents
2.2 Supporting educational transitions for children and young people	To enable children seamlessly transition through the education system	Data gathered through audits and report produced for the CYPSC with recommendations and findings. Number of schools offering transition support programmes with a particular focus on children with anxiety. 50 frontline practitioners attend the positive practices seminar around the theme of transition supports.	Transition reports with recommendations available to the CYPSC 5 new schools delivering tailored transition support programmes	Compile an audit of all publicly available transition support programmes nationally Student Support Teams in Clare to assess any additional training/ support needs they may identify regarding supporting transitions Positive practices sharing seminar on the theme of transitions	2020 2021	Learning & development subgroup	Department of Education Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice 2018-2023	Strengthen transitions Interagency collaboration

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)
2.3	Supporting young people to stay in education	Report produced 2020/2021	Research proposal drafted to establish the levels of need and suitable model for Co. Clare	Form an advisory group to research models of alternate education provision for young people over the age of 12 years including current local provision i.e. i Scoil	2020/2021	LCETB CYPSC Advisory Group	Department of Education Strategy Statement 2019 - 2021	Strengthen transitions Interagency collaboration
2.4	Developing interagency practices between schools and statutory mental health services	A set of agreed interagency protocols drafted	4 schools pilot the integrated planning protocols	An agreed planning response between mental health services and schools is developed and delivered for a number of students in Clare schools using the Killarney Schools Mental Health Pilot as a reference guide.	2020	LCETB Mental health service providers Pilot schools		Interagency collaboration and coordination
2.5	Play is recognised as a key component in children's learning	Resource produced and designed Numbers of parents attending the events	Resource available on the Clare CYPSC webpage. 50 parents attend the Explore Play Learn events across Co. Clare	Online Explore Play Learn resource for practitioners available Identify a coordinating stakeholder who will promote the delivery of Explore Play Learn events across the county	2019 2019	Clare County Childcare Committee & Early Years' Service Providers		Active & healthy
2.6	Create trauma informed/trauma responsive learning environments	Young people are socially and emotionally prepared for engaging in learning	100 frontline practitioners attend the awareness events A practice of support network established	Promote awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences on young people's ability to learn through a series of events targeting sectors from pre-school to adult education. Organise "share meets" to develop peers supported learning on the theme of trauma in the classroom	2021 2021	All CYPSC subgroups		Interagency collaboration Ensure quality services

Action Plan for Co. Clare 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)
3.1	Supporting the delivery of parenting supports in Co. Clare	Tracking the plan being implemented by agencies across the county	Plan produced	Develop a strategic interagency parenting plan for Co. Clare	2020	Parenting Working Group	Tusla Parenting Strategy	Interagency collaboration Support for parents
3.2	Early intervention supports for families	QCBI funding indicators in place through DCYA reporting structures	As set down in the QCBI/DCYA reporting agreement	Support the QCBI funded early intervention programme for 0-5 year olds through an interagency oversight committee	2020	QCBI interagency oversight group (Clarecare, Clare FRC, HSE Psychology and Speech and Language, TUSLA PPFs)	The First Five Strategy – DCYA	Interagency collaboration Early intervention and prevention
3.3	Supporting parents with mental health vulnerabilities in their parenting roles	Number of forum meetings per year	3 forums meetings of the interagency practice forum take place between 202/2021	Establish an interagency practice forum to share information and promote interventions that support children and parent's mental health and wellbeing.	Ongoing	Safe and Protected from Harm Subgroup	H.S.E Connecting for Life TUSLA Mid-West Commissioning Plan	To ensure quality services Interagency collaboration
3.4	Trauma informed/trauma aware practice promoted across sectors	Numbers of practitioners participating on the working group	Interagency working group established	Reviewing what trauma models are in operation nationally and internationally to ascertain a recommended fit for Co. Clare Interagency working group established to deliver proposed model	2020	Safe and Protected from Harm Subgroup		

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)
3.5 Promoting anti-bullying measures in the community	Young people are protected from bullying and discrimination	Numbers of young people involved	10 young people involved in the key messages project	Community based, youth led project will be supported to develop key positive messages for young people	2020	Northwest Clare Family Resource Centre	Tusla's Youth Participation Strategy	Active & healthy Learning & development
3.6 Supporting communities where there is an escalation of drug and alcohol use	Safe from crime and antisocial behaviour	Number of actions contained within the plan Numbers of multi-agency contributors to the plan	An interagency plan is developed to identify service needs and coordinate a response in the community	Develop an interagency working group in communities with reported drug escalation to consider a coordinated response and service delivery Devise an interagency action plan that will respond to the complex needs of families in the area	2021	South East Clare Working group. MWRDTF H.S.E Drugs services CSMT Clare Youth Service Clare Local Dev Company Obair Newmarket Shannon FRC Tusla	H.S.E Reducing Harm Supporting Recovery 2017 - 2025	Active & healthy Interagency collaboration and coordination Ensure quality service

Action Plan for Co. Clare Children and Young People's Services Committee Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

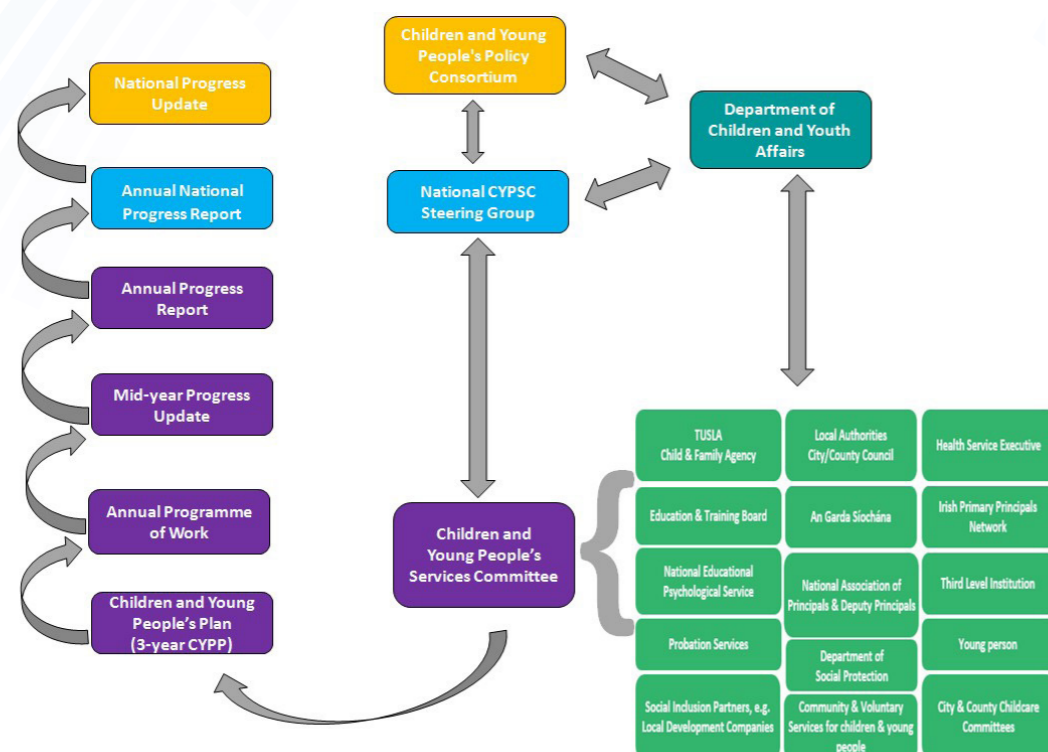
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
4.1 Supporting a range of pathways to training and employment opportunities for young people age 16 – 24 years	Pathways to economic participation and independent living fostered	Range of material developed Number of programmes delivered Numbers of participants on programmes	Material developed for young people (literature/web/social media based) and disseminated Support the roll out of two Work to Learn programmes by 2021 10 young people participate in the programmes	Identify a range of employment/volunteer opportunities and promote with the 16-24 year olds group through an online interactive messaging board. Evaluate the effectiveness of the Clare Youth Services Work to Learn project in Kilrush with a view to potential up-scaling based on the outcomes of the initial project	2020/2021 2021	Connected, Respected and Secure Subgroup	Clare Local Development Company SICAP programme Rural Development Plan LCETB Youth Work Plan 2018 – 2021 LCETB Strategic plan	Ensure quality services Learning & development
4.2 Support practitioners across agencies to network and share information in order to support NEETS target group	Pathways to economic participation and independent living fostered	Number of practitioners engaging in the forum	Practitioners online forum established	Establish a social media app/ forum for practitioners whereby they can request information/advice in order to support a young person wanting to access training/ education/employment	2021	Connected, Respected and Secure Subgroup	Clare Local Development Company SICAP programme Rural Development Plan LCETB Youth Work Plan 2018 – 2021	Learning & development
4.3 Enhancing the wellbeing of families in temporary accommodation	Protected from poverty and social exclusion	Number of programme participants	Programme delivered in one homeless hub in Clare A model is recommended from the pilot based on evidence and best practice	Parenting Under Pressure programme designed for families living in a range of temporary accommodation i.e. homeless hubs, direct provision centres, domestic violence refuges etc. The aim of the programme is to build resilience and support the mental wellbeing of families living in temporary accommodation	2021	Novas Clare County Council Mental health service practitioners across community and statutory sectors	LCETB Strategic Government's Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness, Rebuilding Ireland	Active & Healthy Safe & Protected from Harm

Action Plan for Co. Clare 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	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
5.1	Supporting the implementation of the Lundy model in a range of statutory services	Organisations are equipped with the knowledge and skills to include and engage with young people in the delivery of their services Statutory services develop age appropriate resources that can assist children and young people to understand and engage with that statutory service provider.	Application made by a statutory agency for an Investing in Children's Award Animations designed	A statutory agency will have achieved an Investing in Children's Award Suite of animations available online as a practice resource for staff who are working with a child who is engaging with a Tusla service	Support a statutory agency to work towards becoming a youth friendly organisation Consultancy support provided by Clare Youth Service In partnership with the L.I.T Animations Department, a suite of animations designed for children aged 5 – 12 years will be created and personalised for each child who has to access a Tusla service. The animations will explain to the child what the process may be like and what the child should do if they are not happy. *Co-funded Limerick/Clare CYPSC action	2021	Connected, Respected and Economically Secure subgroup in partnership with the Clare Youth Service	Tusla Youth Participation Strategy National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making 2015 – 2020	Listen to and involve children and young people
5.2	Identify and promote dedicated youth spaces for under 12s	Community youth space review undertaken Recommendations report completed	Youth space guidelines report disseminated to the C&V sector in Clare	Identify community led spaces for the under 10-12 year olds in Clare. Develop recommendations as to how communities can support the establishment of positive spaces for this age group and highlight the challenges	2020/2021	Connected Respected and Economically Secure Subgroup	Tusla Youth Participation Strategy National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making 2015 – 2020	Listen to and involve children and young people	

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)
5.3	To support the generation of restorative practice based communities	Practitioners and young people develop communication skills to deal with conflict Young people are part of positive networks of family, friends and community	50 frontlines practitioners attend the RP event. 15 practitioner's self refer for further mentoring and training support 4 new restorative agencies operating across the county	Organise a restorative practices conference in Clare to develop a shared learning forum between existing practitioners and interested practitioners. Develop a training response for practitioners with attended the conference and identify as RP Champions for their organisations/schools. RP Champions deliver RP in their setting and document the impact practitioners and youth wellbeing	2019	Restorative practices working group	Probation Services Strategy 2018 - 2020	Cross CYPSC good practice initiative promoted by all CYPSC subgroups
5.4	Supporting immigrant youth	Number of attendees at RP events Number of self-referrals for further training Number of RP agencies operating across the county	30 young people from immigrant communities engaging through a creative arts process on a regular basis	Support immigrant young people to engage in their communities and with their peers through a range of community arts initiatives	2021	Connected Respected and Economically Secure Subgroup in partnership with the LCETB Creative Youth Officer	Migrant Integration Strategy – Department of Justice Equality and Law Reform	Learning and development
5.5	Youth volunteering	To enhance young people's civic engagement through youth volunteering opportunities	50 young people participate in Jeans for Teens Social media platform designed and live by 2021 Numbers of hits on the platform once live	Young people donate their used jeans which are donated to young people in need through the "Jeans for Teens" initiative, Promote volunteering options for young people on social media platforms	2020	Connected Respected and Engaged subgroup	Tusla Youth Participation Strategy National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making 2015 – 2020	Listen to and involve children and young people

Section 7: Monitoring and Review



The Clare CYPSC will produce an Annual Programme of Work which will outline the work to be undertaken and achieved by the CYPSC in each calendar year over the span of the CYPP, 2019 - 2021. Clare CYPSC will produce a Mid-year Progress Update to demonstrate the level of progress with the Annual Programme of Work, and to identify issues and challenges in the implementation of the programme.

Clare CYPSC will also produce an Annual Progress Report which will include details on progress of actions in the Annual Programme of Work, on CYPSC inter-agency activity during the year, on participation of children and young people in CYPSC and its structures, on challenges and achievements, and other required details as outlined in the proceeding diagrams.

Each CYPSC subgroup will submit a progress report at each CYPSC meeting outlining progress on actions under their respective remits and on any issues and challenges arising. The Clare CYPSC will continue to engage with children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years, and with families and stakeholders to ensure that the CYPP remains focussed on the needs of this age cohort.

Each CYPSC subgroup will meet a minimum of four times per year. At each meeting there will be an opportunity to update on the implementation of actions. The Chair of each subgroup will submit a mid-year progress report and an end of year report to the CYPSC Coordinator a month in advance of the returns due to be submitted to the National CYPSC Coordinator in Tusla and the DCYA. The sole agenda item for January 2020/January 2021 for each subgroup is to agree their annual programme of work for that year.

Appendices:

- CYPSC Steering Committee Terms of Reference
- Connected Respected and Secure Subgroup Terms of Reference
- Learning and Development Subgroup Terms of Reference
- Safe and Protected from Harm Subgroup Terms of Reference
- Active & Healthy Subgroup Terms of Reference
- Database of services in Co. Clare
- Children's consultation template
- Samples of children's consultation art submissions.
- Question set: Children and young people's online survey (2017).

CYPSC Steering Committee Terms of Reference

Vision

All Children and young people of Clare are valued, thriving, safe, content, have equal opportunity, are respected in their lives and are connected to their communities.

Mission

To provide strategic leadership by nurturing and facilitating effective interagency coordination in order to improve outcomes for *all* children and young people *in Co. Clare*.

Objectives

1. Identify the needs and assets of children, young people and communities.
2. Facilitate interagency collaboration through effective planning and coordination of *children and young people's services in Co. Clare*, informed by identified needs and assets.
3. Promote good quality, evidence informed planning and practice.
4. Prioritise the participation of children and young people in decision-making that affects their lives.

Roles and Responsibilities

- a) Facilitate coordinated implementation of national and regional policies and strategies that relate to children and young people.
- b) Support national and local initiatives that enable children and young people to participate in decision-making that affects their lives.
- c) Support mechanisms for communication between statutory, community and voluntary organisations involved in providing services to children and young people.
- d) Develop and oversee the implementation of an interagency Children and Young People's Plan to improve outcomes for children and young people.
- e) Provide strategic leadership to ensure the development of and delivery of improved outcomes for children young people and their families.
- f) Ensure transparent and accountable administrative processes for CYPSC funding and act as a partnership consortium should other avenues of external funding become available.
- g) Highlight with relevant bodies at national level where there are potential threats to local services which may have a detrimental impact on outcomes for children and families in Clare.
- h) Act as a support to the CYPSC Coordinator by offering guidance, direction and facilitating information requests where necessary.

Core Principles

The Committee identified the following Core Principles which underpin its work:

- h) Demonstrate leadership
 - Identify pieces of work / initiate action where we can show leadership.
 - Demonstrate leadership on improving outcomes for children and young people.
 - Facilitate interagency collaboration
 - Clarifying roles and responsibilities of stakeholders
 - Clarifying internal leadership and authority
- j) Enable a voice for children and young people
- k) Being evidence-informed
- l) Prioritise identified gaps (avoiding duplication)
- m) Optimise available resources
- n) Ensure quality responses

Connected, Respected and Secure Subgroup Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Connected, Respected & Secure subgroup will provide strategic oversight regarding the implementation and evaluation of the actions pertaining to connected, respected and contributing to their world, in the Children and Young People's Plan 2019 – 2021.

This will be achieved through interagency collaboration in accordance with the objectives set out by the Children and Young People's Services Committee objectives.

The subgroup will also commit to supporting action areas that promote economic security and opportunity whereby the actions directly support young people to enhance their connections and contributions to their communities.

2. Term

These Terms of Reference are effective from 15.04.19 and continue until the 15.4.2021 with a view to review on an annual basis

3. Membership

The Achieving in Learning & Development subgroup will comprise:

- Mr. Kees Duson, Family Resource Centre representative (Chairperson)
- Mr. Brian McManus, Clare Youth Service
- Ms. Darina Greene, Clare Local Development Company
- Ms. Nicola Kileen, Clare County Council
- Mr. Damien McMahon, Clare County Council
- Mr. Seamus Bane, Limerick & Clare ETB
- Ms. Sharon Meaney, Clare Volunteer Centre
- Ms. Orla Ní Eilí, Clare Immigrant Support Centre

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The subgroup will endeavour to achieve the four aims contained within Better Outcomes Brighter Futures throughout the lifespan of the Children and Young People's Plan:

1. Young people have a sense of their own identity free from discrimination
2. Young people are part of positive networks of friends, family and community
3. Young people are civically engaged, socially and environmentally conscious
4. Young people are aware of their rights and responsible and respectful of the law

Additional action areas under economic security and opportunity that directly facilitate the above aims are:

1. Young people have pathways to economic participation and independent living. The subgroup will work to develop protocols and procedures that include active participation of young people on the subgroup. The group will be responsible for collation of action updates and monitoring of any implementation challenges that may arise. The subgroup will report to the CYPSC Steering Committee regarding its work through the subgroup Chairperson who is a CYPSC Steering Committee member. Where appropriate, the subgroup may act as a collective advocate for children and young people should their lives be adversely affected through policy or challenges arising in the sector. The subgroup will recommend seed funding support for the delivery of certain actions that may require financial input to progress to implementation. These recommendations will be brought to the CYPSC Steering Committee for endorsement through the subgroup Chairperson.

5. Meetings

All meetings will be chaired by Mr. Kees Duson, FRC. Every meeting will have a nominated Co- chair should the Chair be unavailable for any particular meeting. The Co-Chair will be given as much notice as feasibly possible in order to prepare for the meeting in advance. A meeting quorum will be 4 members of the subgroup.

Decisions made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice).

Meeting agendas and minutes will be rotated by members of the subgroup. This includes:

- preparing agendas and supporting papers.
- preparing minutes/meeting notes and information.

Meetings will be held 5 times a year, the first Wednesday of every second month for 1.5 hours starting from September 2019. Location is Clare Local Development Company. A pre-set calendar of meetings will be provided to members at the start of the year.

If required, working-group meetings will be arranged outside of these times at a time convenient to working-group members.

Learning and Development Subgroup Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Achieving in Learning and Development subgroup will be to provide strategic oversight regarding the implementation and evaluation of the actions pertaining to achieving in learning and development in the Children and Young People's Plan 2019 – 2021. This will be achieved through interagency collaboration in accordance with the objectives set out by the Children and Young People's Services Committee objectives.

2. Term

These Terms of Reference are effective from 11.04.19 and continue until the 11.4.2021 with a view to review on an annual basis

3. Membership

The Achieving in Learning & Development subgroup will comprise:

- Ms. Sharon Dilger, IPPN (Chairperson)
- Mr. David Dineen, NEWB, Tusla
- Ms. Edel McDonough, Clare Youth Service
- Ms. Caroline O' Neill, Clare County Childcare Committee
- Ms. Mary O'Donoghue, Family Resource Centre representative
- Mr. Ray McInerney, Clare Education Centre
- Ms. Derval Glendon Garry, St. Caimin's Community College
- Ms. Mary McMahon, Health Promotion, H.S.E
- Ms. Linda Dinan, Ennis School Completion Programme
- Ms. Bonita Page Phayer CAMHS, H.S.E
- Ms. Mary Dunlea Fitzgerald, IPPN (Deputy Chair)

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The subgroup will endeavour to achieve the four aims contained within Better Outcomes Brighter Futures throughout the lifespan of the Children and Young People's Plan:

1. Learning and developing from birth
2. Social and emotional wellbeing
3. Engaged in learning
4. Achieving in education

The group will be responsible for the collation of action updates and monitoring of any implementation challenges that may arise. The subgroup will report to the CYPSC Steering Committee regarding its work through the subgroup Chairperson who is a CYPSC Steering Committee member. Where appropriate, the subgroup may act as a collective advocate for children and young people should their learning be adversely affected through policy or challenges arising in the sector.

The subgroup will recommend seed funding support for the delivery of certain actions that may require financial input to progress to implementation. These recommendations will be brought to the CYPSC Steering Committee for endorsement through the subgroup Chairperson.

5. Meetings

All meetings will be chaired by Ms. Sharon Dilger, IPPN. Every meeting will have a nominated Co- chair should the Chair be unavailable for any particular meeting. The Co-Chair will be given as much notice as feasibly possible in order to prepare for the meeting in advance.

A meeting quorum will be 4 members of the subgroup.

Decisions made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice).

Meeting agendas and minutes will be rotated by members of the subgroup. This includes:

- preparing agendas and supporting papers;
- preparing minutes/meeting notes and information.

Meetings will be held 5 times a year, the second last Wednesday of every second month for 1.5 hours starting from September 2019. The location is to be rotated amongst members. A pre-set calendar of meetings will be provided to members at the start of the year.

If required, working-group meetings will be arranged outside of these times at a time convenient to working-group members.

Safe and Protected from Harm Subgroup Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of Clare CYPSC Safe and Protected from Harm Subgroup will be to provide strategic direction and leadership to ensure effective interagency co-ordination and collaboration in order to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people in Co. Clare

The Safe and Protected from Harm, subgroup has been established to advance the work of the Children and Young People Services Committee Three Year Plan. This subgroup aims to undertake actions that will keep children safe and protected from harm by promoting better coordination of services.

2. Objectives:

1. To progress better outcomes for children and families over the next three years in Co. Clare through the Children and Young People's Plan.
2. To focus on areas of work where we believe we can realistically affect positive change.
3. To resource and support frontline practitioners to build their skills, knowledge and expertise in working with children and families.
4. To provide updates to the CYPSC and monitor implementation of agreed actions
5. To promote child and youth participation and ensure that all actions include the voice of the child.
6. To make recommendations to the CYPSC regarding any seed funding that may become available to support actions.

3. Term

These Terms of Reference are effective from 06/03/2019 and continue until March 2020 when they will be reviewed.

4. Membership

The CYPSC Safe and Protected from Harm Subgroup will comprise:

- Inspector David Finnerty, Garda Siochana
- Ms. Jacinta Swann, Family Support Manager, Clarecare
- Ms. Maria McLaughlin, Clare Haven services
- Miranda Cooke, Clare County Childcare Committee
- Sian Harris, Senior Clinical Psychologist, HSE.
- Sharon McGrath, ISPCC
- Michelle Lynch, North West Clare FRC
- Gearoid Prendergast, Mid West Drugs and Alcohol Forum.
- Áine Mellett, PPFs Manager, Aisling O'Regan, Team Leader Duty/Intake Tusla.

Members will commit themselves to functioning in a manner and environment that:

- Fosters a spirit of collaboration and co-operation.
- Respects the needs of children and families.
- Respects the viewpoint of others.
- Shares information/ updates with their respective organizations on progress.
- Allows an opportunity where ideas and suggestions can be freely discussed.
- Creates an environment that fosters consensus building.
- Supports and accepts responsibility for the work of the group.
- Actively participates in the group and completes work/ tasks as may be required.
- Maintains the expected levels of confidentiality within the group.

5. Meetings

- All meetings will be chaired by Áine Mellett, CYPSC member
- A meeting quorum will be 50% +1 members of the subgroup.
- Decisions made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice). If not possible, CYPSC Subgroup chairperson makes the final decisions.

Meeting agendas and minutes will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

6. Amendment, Modification or Variation

The Terms of Reference may be amended with the agreement of the subgroup and on review in 12 months.

Active & Healthy Subgroup Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the subgroup is to support the realisation of the following objectives for children and young people in Clare:

- (1) Physically healthy and making positive health choices.
- (2) Social and Emotional Wellbeing (Good Mental Health)
- (3) Positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health
- (4) Enjoying play, recreation, sport, arts, culture and nature.

The group will also highlight and feedback to the Steering Committee, gaps in provision, concerns, opportunities and issues identified during the rollout of the work plan of the group.

In addition, the group will seek to make recommendation on seed funding and other funding opportunities (including Healthy Ireland funding) where appropriate to support the implementation of the work plan.

2. Term

These terms of reference will be reviewed at the first meeting of each calendar year or more often should the need arise, for example in the event of a change of membership.

3. Membership

- Ms. Colette Bradley, Clare Family Resource Centres
- Ms. Yvonne Broderick, Clare County Childcare Committee
- Ms. Jean O’Keeffe, Clare Youth Service
- Ms. Louise Fitzsimons, National Educational Psychological Service
- Ms. Geraldine Quinn, HSE Health Promotion and Information
- Ms. Margaret Slattery, C.E.O Clare Youth Service
- Mr. John Sweeney, Clare Sports Partnership

Each organisation is to nominate the most appropriate representative to the group where feasible. This may change over time. Appropriate changes to the membership of the group can be approved by the subgroup.

3.1 Proxy

Each organisation can, where appropriate and feasible, name one alternate within their organisation who can cover should the member be unavailable for the meeting. The member will ensure that this person is fully briefed on the workings of the group and in a position to participate actively in the meeting.

Our work is informed by the consultations and research undertaken during the planning process in addition to the experience of the group.

The subgroup will report to the CYPSC Steering Committee regarding its work through the subgroup Chairperson.

The subgroup will recommend seed funding support for the delivery of certain actions that may require financial input to progress to implementation. These recommendations will be brought to the CYPSC

Steering Committee for endorsement through the subgroup Chairperson. In addition, and where appropriate the subgroup will make recommendations to the subgroup on suitable actions which could be funded under Healthy Ireland Funding and other funding sources that may become available.

5. Meetings and Processes

5.1 Frequency

There will be approximately 6 meetings of the group each year. Meetings will not be scheduled for July, August or December.

5.2 Duration

Meetings will be a maximum duration of 1.5 hours.

They will start and finish on time with any remaining items deferred or delegated to a working group.

5.3 Chair & Vice Chair

The current chairperson for the meeting is Margaret Slattery. A Vice Chairperson is appointed for a period covering three scheduled meetings. This role to rotate in alphabetical order of forename.

5.4 Agenda

Preparation of the agenda is the responsibility of the Chairperson based on input from the members of the group

5.5 Minutes

Minutes are to record key points, decisions and agreed action under each item on the agenda.

Draft minutes will be circulated a minimum of two weeks in advance of the next meeting.

Minutes will be approved at the next meeting subject to incorporating any changes requested by the group at that meeting.

Minutes will be formally proposed and approved and once approved will be circulated to the Chairperson and Co-ordinator of CYPSC.

The role of minute taker is to rotate in alphabetical order of surname.

5.6 Working groups and meetings

When required, working groups will be established to address specific aspects of the work plan. Additional members may be invited to participate in the working group as appropriate at the discretion of the subgroup.

5.7 Decision Making

It is hoped that decisions can be reached by consensus of the group. Where this is not possible a vote will be taken. Where there is a tie the Chairperson will have the casting vote.

5.8 Quorum

This will be 50% plus one of the current membership. This is four persons.

In the event that a member is unable to attend a meeting and their alternate is not available they will make every effort to forward their opinions on the agenda items to the Chairperson in advance of the meeting so that these can be input to the discussion.

5.9 Communication

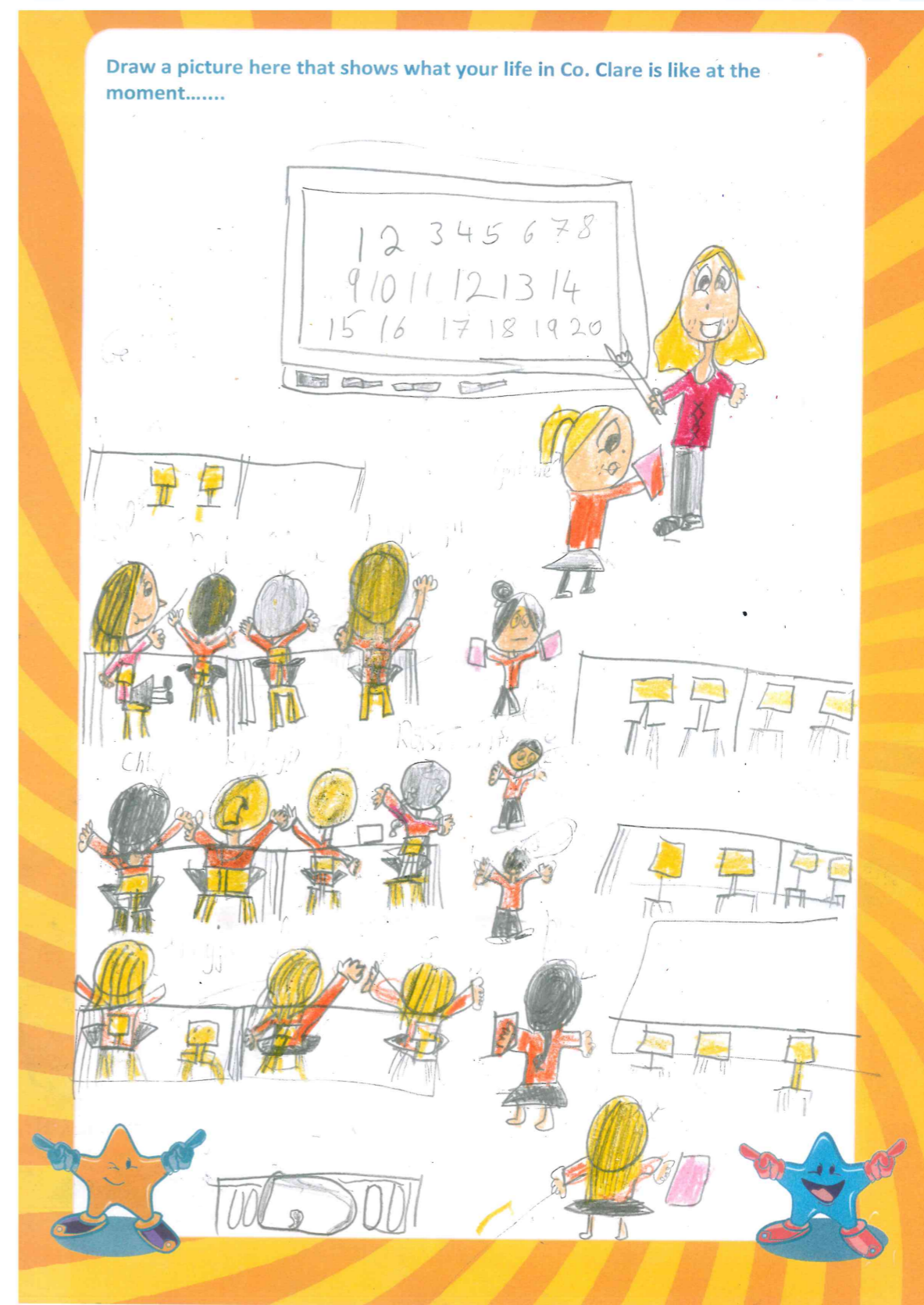
Effective communication is essential not only amongst the members of the subgroup but between both the subgroup and the steering committee and the steering committee and the subgroup. The Chairperson and other Steering Committee members, who are on the Subgroup, will ensure that information flows both ways. Similarly working groups will report back to the subgroup.

CYPSC Children's Surveys - Schools list of returned surveys (2017)

No	School name	No of surveys returned
1	Doolin NS	21
2	Bridgetown NS	57
3	St. Joseph's NS, Cree	22
4	Ennis National School	162
5	Inagh NS	85
6	Cooraclare NS	58
7	St. Joseph's cree NS pk 1	55
8	Liscannor NS	33
9	Tuamgraney NS	49
10	Lisscasey	67
11	Ogonnelloe NS	64
12	Raheen Wood, Steiner	60
13	Scoil Sean Naofa, Clonlara	110
14	Doora NS	40
15	Kilkee	17
16	Stonehall NS	60
17	Barefield NS	29
18	Corofin	71
19	Roselevan/Doora	29
20	Kildysart	85
21	Ballycar NS	18
22	Clarecastle	161
23	St. Conaire's NS, Tullvaraga	186
24	Holy Family Snr NS	254
25	Mol an oige, Steiner, Ennistymon	81

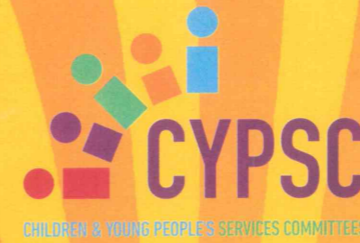
26	Boston/Tubber	5
27	Kilkee	4
28	Scariff	90
29	Shragh NS, Kilrush	15
30	Carron	10
31	Killaloe Boys NS	51
32	Tulla	174
33	Newmarket on Fergus	88
34	Kilmihil	37
35	O'Callaghan Mills NS	16
36	Kilfenora	28
37	Coore	15
38	Ennistymon	27
39	Kilrush	28
40	Gaelscoil ui Choimin, Kilrush	29
41	Kilrush	13
42	Kilrush	168
43	Lahinch	10
44	Cratloe	102
45	New Quay NS, Burren	14
46	Clonmorey NS, Newmarket on Fergus	54
47	Lahinch	62
48	Scoil Christ Ri, Cloughliegh Rd, Ennis	13
49	Kilrush	13
50	SN Tala Naofa, Tullyglass, Shannon	92
51	Scoil na Mainstreach, Quin Dangan, Quin,	105
Total		3137

SAMPLES FROM THE UNDER 12'S CONSULTATION PROJECT (2017)



Draw a picture here that shows what your life in Co. Clare is like at the moment.....

Life in Co. Clare is the same as a daisy its so beautiful



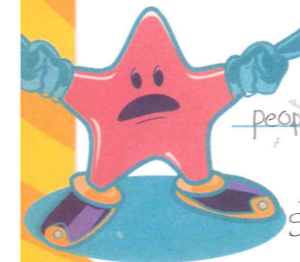
Age: 11
Boy/Girl: Girl
Class: 6th class
Area you live i.e. Shannon, Ennis, Ennis, Kilrush etc.



What's the best thing about being a child in Co. Clare?

For me, its probably the fact that people dont really judge you as in where your from, and your traditions. Its the fact that nobody can judge you and that they will just accept you for who you truly are.

What's the worst thing about being a child in Co. Clare?

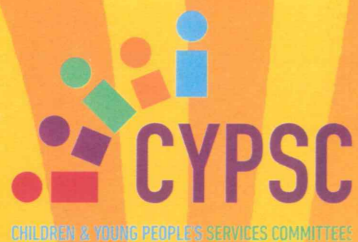


I think the worst thing is you can see homeless people, you can see people who are clearly suffering and you can see people wondering what "is the purpose of ~~the~~ life? So thats ~~my~~ one thing I hate about being a child.

What one thing would you change in Co. Clare for children to be happy?

Well I would say I would probably introduce more sports and clubs (sport, music, drama or even a book club) for children.





Age: 11
Boy/Girl: ♀ girl
Class: 5th Class
Area you live i.e. Shannon, Ennis, Kilrush etc. Ennis

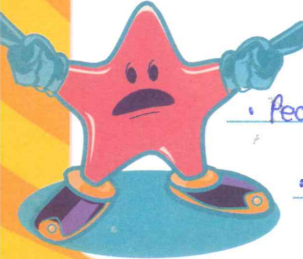


What's the best thing about being a child in Co. Clare?

1. That there are lots of lovely beaches and landmarks.
2. That Ennis town is lovely.
3. That there are lovely shops and cafes.

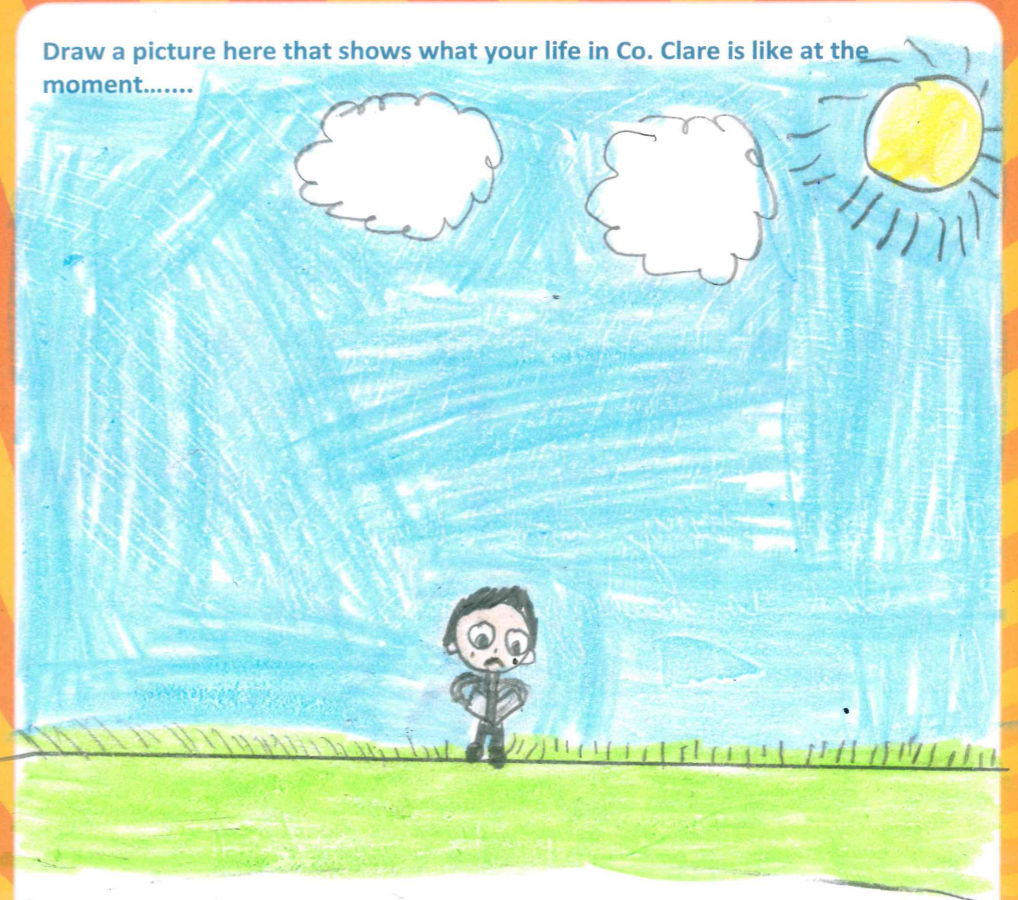
What's the worst thing about being a child in Co. Clare?

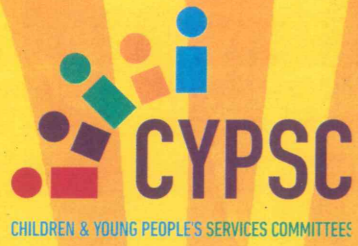
• Very messy and dirty estates
• People can't get houses • No jobs for people
• The government doesn't give enough money for people without jobs



What one thing would you change in Co. Clare for children to be happy?

Every child should have a dog or a cat to keep them company if they have elder siblings who don't play with them anymore or if they're just an only child.





Age: 10
Boy/Girl: Girl
Class: 4th
Area you live i.e. Shannon, Ennis, Kilrush etc. Kiltane



What's the best thing about being a child in Co. Clare?

I love waking up on Sat/Sun and going to Broadford for breakfast. I love going on hikes with my family. I love the great community we have

What's the worst thing about being a child in Co. Clare?



The weather is quite bad. Everything costs a lot

What one thing would you change in Co. Clare for children to be happy?

A lot of children are getting bullied.



Draw a picture here that shows what your life in Co. Clare is like at the moment.....



QUESTION SET: YOUNG PEOPLE'S ONLINE SURVEY (2017)

1. Do you live in Co. Clare and are aged between 13-17 years old?
2. Are you male, female, other?
3. How old are you?
4. If you were **NOT** born in Ireland, please state from the drop down menu below which Country you were born in.
5. Where in Co. Clare are you living? (please click on the attached map)
6. Which of the following activities are you interested in (including those things that interest you on TV, that you have read about in magazines or on the Internet, or participated in)?
 - Rugby Soccer Hurling
 - Gaelic Football
 - Basketball Athletics Swimming
 - Gaming (i.e. XBox, Nintendo0
 - Camogie
 - Fishing
 - Playing or listening to music
 - Film Drama/Theatre Photography
 - Drawing (i.e. graphics, art, graffiti art etc)
 - Fashion (Magazines, beauty courses, hairdressing etc)
 - Cars (motor sports, car /machine mechanics)
 - Farming
 - Tennis
 - Going to the gym
 - Another activity that is not mentioned here
7. How would you rate living in Co. Clare as a young person? (scale provided) Please give a short reason below for your score
8. Would you like to live and work in Co. Clare when you finish your education?

9. Click as many of these statements as you think best describe yourself
 - I do lots of important things
 - Overall I am no good
 - In general I like being the way I am
 - Overall I have a lot to be proud of
 - I can't do anything right
 - I can do things as well as most other people Other people think I am a good person When I do something, I do it well
 - I like the way I look
 - I have someone to go to for advice if I have a problem
 - I have a lot of worries in my life
 - None of the above
10. As a young person living in Clare, what do you think organisations can do to improve the lives of young people in the County? i.e. facilities, supports, etc.
11. Please score yourself on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the highest score and 5 being the lowest)
 - I am active and healthy, both my physical and my mental wellbeing
 - I feel I am achieving my full potential in all areas of learning and development
 - I feel safe and protected from harm in my home, school and community
 - I feel there is enough money in the home to provide me with what I need and there are opportunities out there for me when I get older
 - I feel connected and respected in my community and that I can contribute to my community

For more information about the Children and Young People's Services Committees please click on the link www.cypsc.ie

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your response will contribute to the development of a 3 year Children and Young People's plan for Co. Clare.

**The survey was distributed through CYPSC sponsored advertisements across social media platforms targeting the age range of 13 – 24 year olds. The interactive survey was designed by the CYPSC Coordinator using the Typeform online media platform*



**An Roinn Leanai
agus Gnóthaí Óige**
Department of Children
and Youth Affairs