



## **Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee**

# **Fingal Children and Young People's Plan 2019-2021**

## Contact

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

Copies of this plan are available at <http://www.cypsc.ie>.

For further information or to comment on the plan, contact:

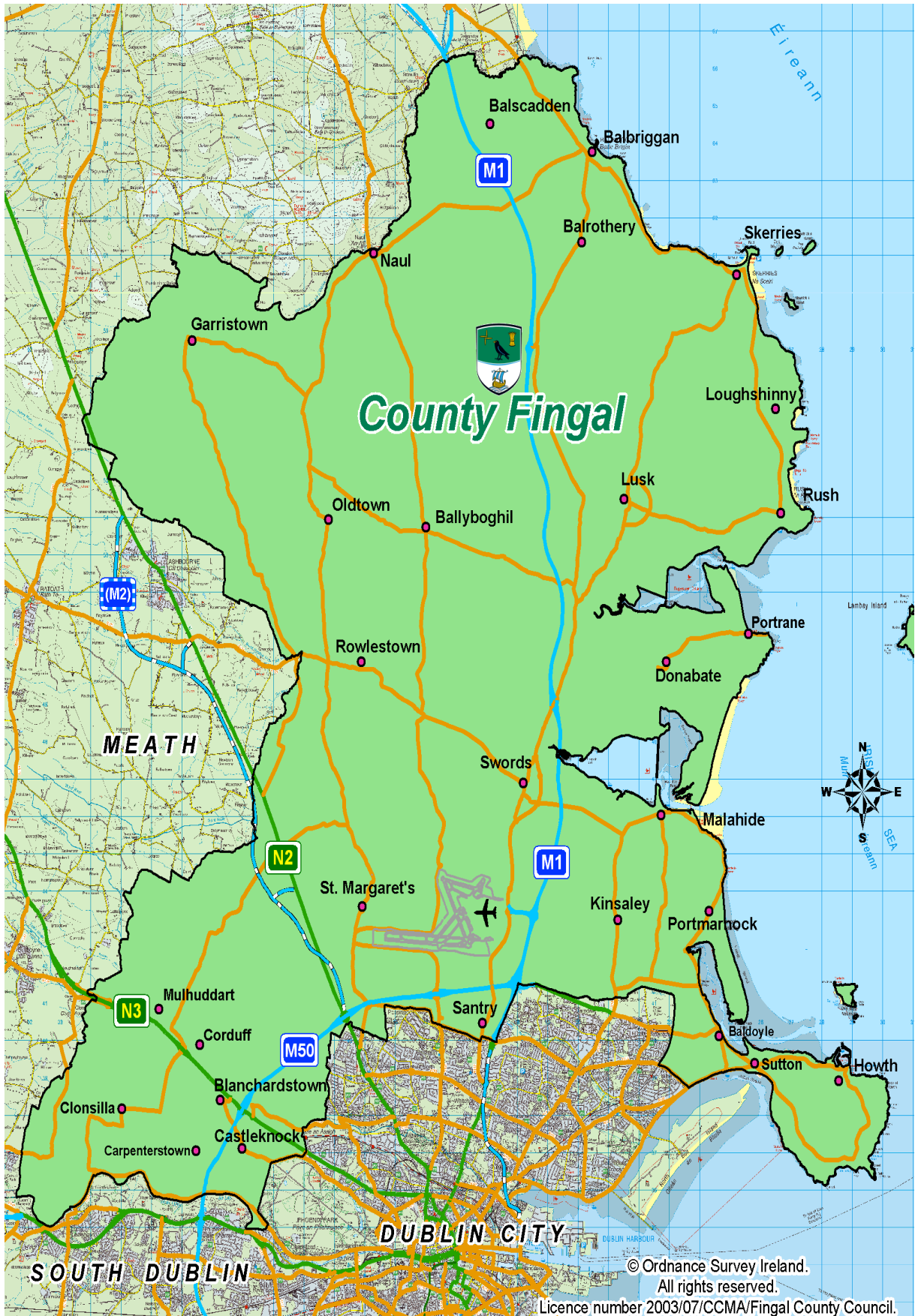
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Map 1: Fingal County



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## List of Acronyms

Acronym	Denotation
ALP	Alternative Learning Programme
BLDATF	Blanchardstown Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force
BOBF	Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures
CAMHS	Child and Adult Mental Health Service
CF	Children First
CFSN	Child and Family Support Networks
CHO	Community Health Organisation
CNN	Comhairle na nÓg
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committee
DATF	Drug and Alcohol Task Force
DCYA	Department of Children and Youth Affairs
DDLETB	Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education Training Board
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
DNE	Dublin North East
DSGBV	Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
DV	Domestic Violence
EA	Electoral Area
ECCE	Early Childhood Care Education
ED	Electoral District
ESL	Early School Leavers
EWS	Educational Welfare Service
FCC	Fingal County Council
FCCC	Fingal County Childcare Committee
FCYPSC	Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee
FLAC	Free Legal Advice Centre
GP	General Practitioner

<b>HSE</b>	Health Service Executive
<b>HSLs</b>	Home School Liaison Scheme
<b>JARC</b>	Joint Agency Response to Crime
<b>JLO</b>	Juvenile Liaison Officer
<b>LCDC</b>	Local Community Development Committee
<b>MABS</b>	Money Advice and Budgeting Service
<b>NDRDATF</b>	North Dublin Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force
<b>NDTRS</b>	National Drug Treatment Reporting System
<b>NEET</b>	Not in Education, Employment or Training
<b>NEPS</b>	National Educational Psychological Service
<b>NEYAI</b>	National Early Years Access Initiative
<b>OMCYA</b>	Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
<b>PH</b>	Physical Health
<b>PHN</b>	Public Health Nurse
<b>PPFS</b>	Prevention, Partnership and Family Support
<b>PPN</b>	Public Participation Network
<b>SAMH</b>	Substance Abuse and Mental Health
<b>SCP</b>	School Completion Programme
<b>SENO</b>	Special Educational Needs Organiser
<b>SICAP</b>	Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme
<b>SMART</b>	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely
<b>SONC</b>	State of the Nation's Children
<b>TEC</b>	Training and Employment Childcare
<b>TESS</b>	Tusla Educational and Support Service
<b>TU Dublin</b>	Technological University Dublin
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
<b>WTE</b>	Whole Time Equivalent
<b>YPP</b>	Young Persons Probation

## Foreword

As chairperson of FCYPSC I am pleased to present the publication of our third Children and Young People's Plan, for 2019–2021. The work on this plan began with a comprehensive needs analysis which involved consultation with statutory, voluntary and community-based organisations. This work was overseen by a small group of FCYPSC members who guided the plan to fruition. The commitment to the work of FCYPSC was clearly evidenced by the fantastic turnout to planning days that were held in 2018 and again in 2019. I would like to thank all the partners for their commitment, time, energy and hard work which went a long way to making sure we have a realistic and attainable plan which will have a positive impact on the lives of children and young people in Fingal.

It is hoped that this plan will build on the excellent services that are being delivered by the statutory, voluntary and community-based organisations in Fingal. Despite challenges such as data collection, staff retention, long waiting lists and lack of resources, we have managed to develop a plan that addresses some of the most pertinent needs of children, young people and families within the county.

A word of thanks is due to government departments who have funded this programme and made this process possible. I would also like to thank all of the young people who gave of their time freely and contributed wholeheartedly to the development of the plan.

I look forward to co-delivering on this plan over the next three years and being part of an interagency structure that contributes to the overall development of the county and works well together to make Fingal one of the best counties in Ireland to grow up in.

Eilidh Mac Nab

## 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's 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.**



## Background to Children and Young People's Services Committees

### Children and Young People's Services Committees in Ireland

The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA), now the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, established the Children and Young People's Services Committees (formerly Children's Services committees) in 2007 with the purpose of improving outcomes for children, young people and families at local and community level. Since then CYPSCs 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.

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

### Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee

Fingal CYPSC (FCYPSC) was established in December 2009 following a six-month consultation process with statutory, voluntary and community services. Membership includes statutory, voluntary and community services in Fingal. FCYPSC benefited from the evaluation of the initial four pilot sites which were Donegal, South Dublin, Limerick City and Dublin City. FCYPSC places a strong emphasis on prevention and early intervention and supporting families in order to support children and young people.

FCYPSC is chaired by Eilidh Mac Nab, Area Manager Tusla Child and Family Agency, Dublin North. The vice chair is Íde De Bairtiseil, Senior Executive Officer Community, Culture and Sports Department, Fingal County Council. FCYPSC also has a full-time co-ordinator. The role of the co-ordinator is as follows:

- Communicate a clear sense of purpose and direction on behalf of the committee
- Foster and develop relationships with key personnel including committee members and other stakeholders within associated agencies/service providers involved in the provision of child and family services
- Ensure the collection, provision and reporting of relevant data and information
- Respond to ad hoc information requests and manage external correspondence as necessary
- Organise and administer meetings of the committee.

## Who we are

There was a pre-existing ethos and culture of interagency work in Fingal and this has extended to FCYPSC. We are twenty-three members representing statutory, voluntary and community sector organisations involved in the management and delivery of services to children and young people across the county of Fingal. See Table 1 below for further details.

Name	Title	Address
<b>Eilidh Mac Nab</b>	Area Manager, Tusla Child and Family Agency	Tusla, Child and Family Agency, 180–189 Lakeshore Drive, Airside Business Pk, Swords
<b>Cathriona Sheehan</b>	Principal Social Worker, Tusla Child and Family Agency	Tusla Child and Family Agency, Unit 4/5 Nexus Building, Block A Blanchardstown Corporate Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 15
<b>Una Caffrey</b>	FCYPSC Co-ordinator	Tusla, Child and Family Agency, 180–189 Lakeshore Drive, Airside Business Pk, Swords
<b>Adrienne Doyle</b>	Manager, Fingal County Childcare Committee	Fingal County Childcare Committee, Omega House, Collinstown Cross, Swords Road, Co. Dublin
<b>Tracey A. Monson</b>	Director of Services	Daughters of Charity, Child and Family Service, First Floor, Tom O'Reilly Building, Swords Rd, Santry D9
<b>Seamus Treacy</b>	Juvenile Liaison Manager	An Garda Siochana, Ballymun Garda Station, Ballymun, D9
<b>Martin Mac Entee</b>	Youth Officer	DDLETB, Tuansgate, Belgard Square, Tallaght, D24
<b>Adeline O'Brien</b>	CEO Empower	Empower, Dillon House, 106 Coolmine Business Park, Clonsilla, D15
<b>Íde De Bairtiseil</b>	SEO Community, Culture and Sports Department	Fingal County Council, Grove Rd, Blanchardstown, D15
<b>Margaret Mc Laughlin</b>	Co-ordinator, Mountview Family Resource Centre	Mountview Family Resource Centre, White Chapel Crescent, Blanchardstown, D15
<b>Clodagh Carroll</b>	Assistant Director, Children's Services	Barnardos, Church Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15
<b>Jim Doherty</b>	Co-ordinator, Blanchardstown Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force	BLDATF: 37a Coolmine Industrial Estate, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15
<b>Anne-Marie McGovern</b>	Tusla EWS Integrated Services Manager, Dublin North East	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Foley's Forge, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath
<b>Clare O'Reilly</b>	Clinical Co-ordinator	Jigsaw, Dublin 15
<b>Patricia Hayden</b>	Principal	St Joseph's, Secondary School, Rush, Co Dublin.
<b>Enda Mc Gorman</b>	Principal	Mary Mother of Hope, Little Pace Rd, Clonee, Dublin 15
<b>Miriam Ryan</b>	Manager	Foróige Blanchardstown Youth Service. Main St D15
<b>Mark Smyth</b>	Senior Clinical Psychologist and team leader	Dublin North City and County CAMHS, Swords
<b>Sara Duku</b>	Health Advocacy officer	Cairde, Balbriggan
<b>Grainne Mc Kenna</b>	Lecturer, Early Childhood Education	DCU Institute of Education, St Patrick's Campus, Drumcondra, Dublin 9
<b>Sabrina Brett</b>	Co-ordinator of DVGBVS	Tusla
<b>Jillian Connolly</b>	Day Opportunities Co-ordinator	Nexus Building, Blanchardstown Corporate Park, D15
<b>Ellen O'Dea</b>	Head of Service Health and Wellbeing, HSE	Dublin North City and County HSE, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin

Table 1

## Sub-group structure

Over the course of the 2016–2018 plan FCYPSC developed an organisational structure based on the five national outcomes. FCYPSC has five sub-groups, each with a proactive chair who is responsible for leading out on all of the actions of the sub-group and reporting progress to the main FCYPSC. See Figure 1 below. Appendix 1 has details of sub-group membership.

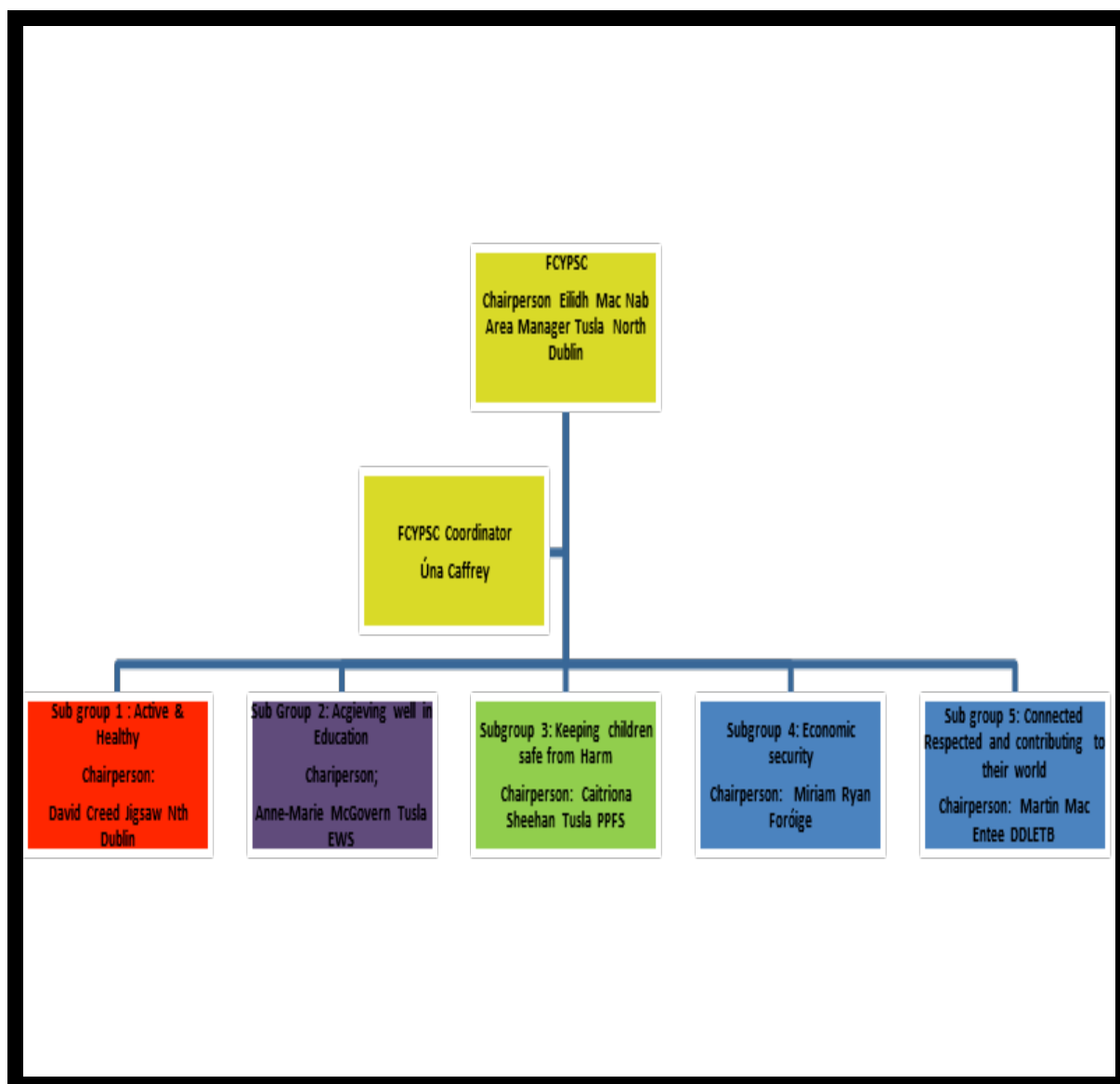


Figure 1: FCYPSC organisational structure

## Governance and reporting structures for Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee

FCYPSC reports to a wider governance structure as detailed in [The Blueprint for the Development of Children and Young People's Services Committees](#) and is an active member of the wider community of professional practice. Figure 2 below highlights FCYPSC's connectivity to national and local governing structures.

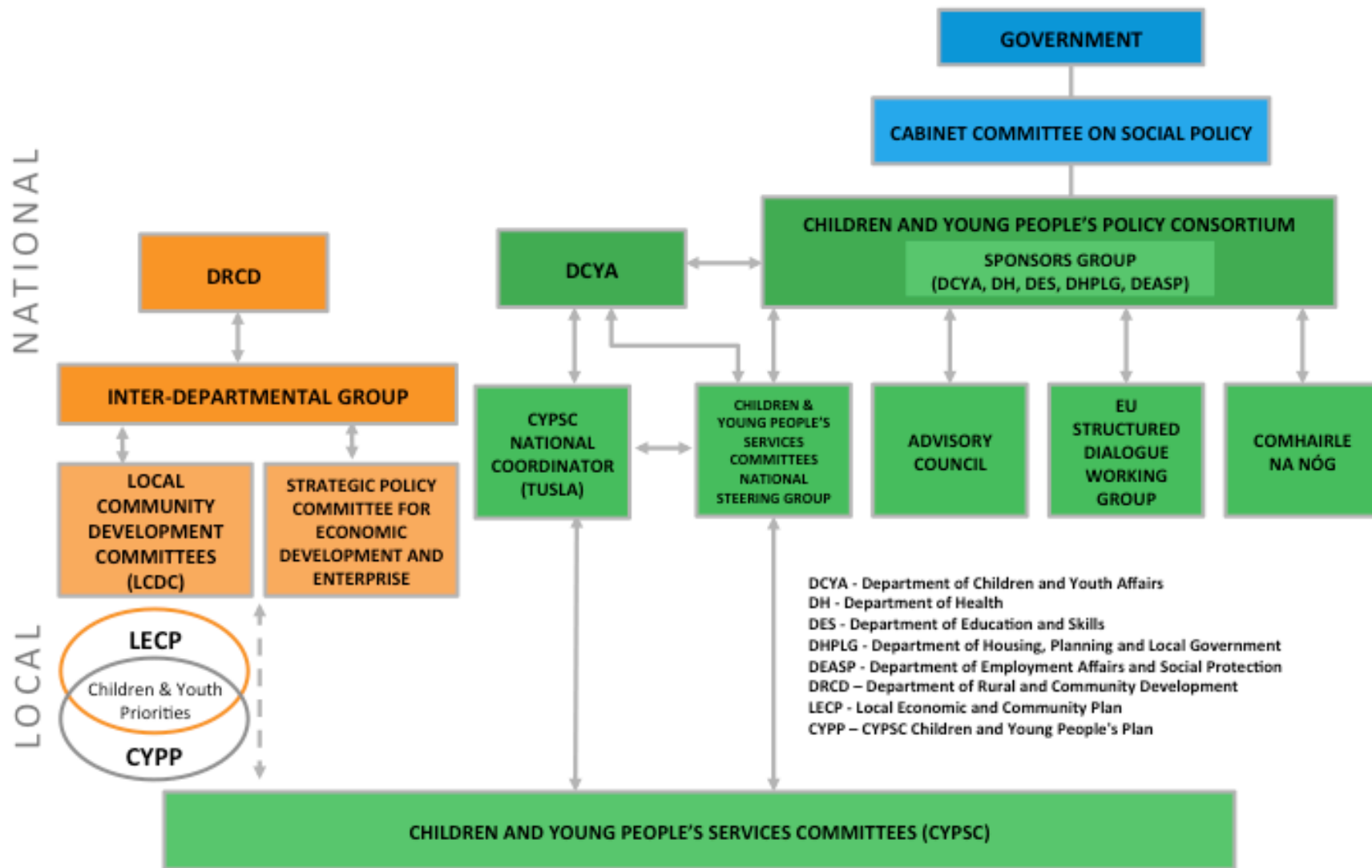


Figure 2: Governance and reporting structures for CYPSC

## **Connectivity to local structures**

The importance of good engagement with local structures is really pertinent to the work of FCYPSC. This engagement with local structures facilitates the vision that Fingal will be the best county in Ireland in '*which children, young people and their families live, grow up and raise a family, and where the rights of all children and young people are respected, protected and fulfilled; where their voices are heard and where they are supported to realise their maximum potential now and in the future*'. (BOBF). To follow are some examples of interagency working:

### *Fingal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)*

Fingal LCDC was established in 2014 as part of the Local Government Reform Act 2014. The purpose of Fingal LCDC is to enhance the strategic planning and co-ordination of local and community development activity. FCYPSC is represented on the LCDC by the co-ordinator of FCYPSC. This facilitates a joint understanding of the work of the respective committees and provides for an excellent flow of information between the two structures in relation to priority actions. A memorandum of understanding has been developed between the two structures in relation to Healthy Ireland funding for the county. FCYPSC and Fingal LCDC have worked collaboratively on the distribution of many funding streams available to each entity.

### *Prevention, Partnership and Family Support*

The work of FCYPSC is closely aligned to the implementation of BOBF and Tusla's Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) programme. PPFS is a comprehensive national programme of early intervention and preventative work which has been undertaken by Tusla, with the support of the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway. The aim of the programme is to prevent risks to children and young people arising in local communities. This work is closely aligned with the work of Outcome 3: keeping children safe from harm. In 2016 FCYPSC made the strategic decision to ratify the PPFS structure as the Outcome 3 sub-group.

### *Tusla Aftercare Steering Committee*

An aftercare steering group was established in North Dublin in January 2015. The Aftercare Steering Committee provides a forum for planning, implementing and monitoring a comprehensive, integrative aftercare plan for young people/young adults in receipt of aftercare. The approach taken is a multidisciplinary, multi-agency one. FCYPSC is represented on this committee by the co-ordinator of FCYPSC.

### *Substance Abuse and Mental Health (SAMH) groups in North Dublin*

As part of its community engagement strategy, NDRDATF have developed SAMH groups in the north of Fingal. SAMH groups are a forum for community members to collaborate on areas of common concern in their community in relation to substance use and/or mental health. There are five SAMH groups operational in the county in the following areas: Skerries, Donabate, Balbriggan, Lusk and Rush, and Malahide and Portmarnock. FCYPSC is represented on the Skerries and Donabate SAMH by the co-ordinator of FCYPSC.

## Achievements to date

### **1. Organisation structure and membership**

A key achievement for FCYPSC is the successful development of the role of co-ordinator from a part-time position to a full-time role. Having a full-time co-ordinator dedicated to the work of FCYPSC has facilitated structural change within FCYPSC, improved the membership of the committee, increased participation and allowed for the development of the work of the committee.

FCYPSC now has 23 organisations representing a wider variety of statutory, voluntary and community-based organisations within Fingal. Over the course of the plan FCYPSC have developed five sub-groups in line with the five national outcomes. Each sub-group has a chairperson, terms of reference, an action plan and comprehensive membership.

### **2. Comprehensive needs analysis and Web directory of services**

A key success to date of FCYPSC has been the completion of a comprehensive needs analysis for children, young people and families living in Fingal. This piece of work facilitated a better understanding of the needs of the population and the types and distribution of health and care services that will bring the greatest benefit. The needs analysis informed FCYPSC of the level of need for public services, including the degree of unmet need, and identified areas and communities in most need of service provision. Once this needs analysis was complete FCYPSC reviewed the needs analysis through the lense of the five national outcomes. It was this crucial piece of work that guided the committee in the development of the next action plan for children, young people and their families in Fingal.

FCYPSC also completed a Web directory of services for the entire county of Fingal. The new directory, which was launched in October 2019, details services provided in the county across education, training and employment, health and wellbeing, parent and family, recreation and community, safe and secure, and special interest groups. This project is a joint project with the four other CYPSCs operating in Dublin. The directory has a map facility that allows users to see the location of services. The site is clearly designed, with well laid out and accessible friendly content – taking into consideration dyslexia and visual impairment.

### **3. Local-level planning and co-ordination of services**

At a strategic level, partnership working in Fingal is strong, as evidenced by effective interagency engagement in FCYPSC. Joined-up, strategic thinking and planning is also ensured by regular meetings of the five sub-groups of FCYPSC. The development of an interagency steering group for processing of Healthy Ireland applications under FCYPSC has led to the development of a Healthy Ireland/Fingal Strategic Action Plan to address the health needs of children and young people in Fingal. The successful joint application between FCYPSC and Fingal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), for two consecutive years, for funding under Healthy Ireland (HI) has led to the delivery of a suite of initiatives to children and young people in the county. All these developments have the potential to improve the health outcomes for those in receipt of services.

### **4. Initiatives and programmes of work**

The engagement and commitment of partners across the county has led to the implementation of a range of developments which are helping to improve outcomes for children and young people. The following is a list of examples of some of the key achievements of FCYPSC:

- Election of a young person from Fingal on to the National CYPSC steering group, giving young people a voice at the national table.
- Provision of Summer Project for homeless families, resourcing families to provide activities over the summer months while school is closed.
- Provision of educational supports for families living in homeless accommodation in Fingal, helping to minimise the impact of homelessness on their educational outcomes.
- Provision of Meitheal briefing and training sessions to community/voluntary and statutory agencies in Fingal, leading to a shared language and understanding of needs among those who participated in the training.
- Secured funding for Family Resource Centre in Balbriggan, leading to the delivery of support services for families in Balbriggan.
- Supported the development of a Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence services: needs analysis for Fingal. This needs analysis highlighted gaps in service provision in terms of DSGBV services within the county.
- Delivery of a programme of activities for parents during Public Awareness Week. Items included: parenting when separated, information on domestic violence, healthy eating, Triple P parenting session and Non-Violent Response (NVR) training. Supporting parents in Fingal to raise happy and healthy children.
- Sensory Garden developed by children and young people with autism for children and young people with autism, giving children and young people on the spectrum a place to be that meets their sensory needs.
- Supported the development of a support group for parents of children and young people on the autistic spectrum. Studies have shown that positive networks of friends have many advantages, such as better coping skills.
- Consultation with marginalised youth on pathways to the future, giving young people a voice and FCYPSC members insight into barriers to employment and education.
- Promotion of the work of FCYPSC among young people. This gave young people the opportunity to have an input into the FCYPSC plan.
- Delivery of Cyber Safety Training to 15 groups in Fingal, helping to keep more children and young people in Fingal safe while on line.
- Development of a parenting app to support parents to keep track of appointments they may have for their children and hopefully reduce the numbers of families that Do Not Arrive (DNA) for appointments.
- Development of an all-Dublin service directory with the four other Dublin CYPSCs, supporting parents, professionals and young people to access services in their county.

## Review of previous plan

FCYPSC has already completed two Children and Young People's Plans (CYPP) since it began operations in 2009. **Key learning from a comprehensive review of the previous two plans has revealed the following:**

- It is important to revisit the plan and check that the actions are relevant with the passing of time.
- Interagency working and relationship building take time. Membership transition is also an issue and can negatively impact on the outputs of the committee.
- Participation of children and young people is a priority for the committee in order to ensure we are addressing the needs of the youth of the county.
- More needs to be done locally and nationally to raise the profile of CYPSC so agencies can understand the functions, role and potential of CYPSC.
- Having task-orientated working groups as part of the sub-group structure is the best way of getting work completed in the most efficient and effective manner.
- There is a need to document and celebrate the work of FCYPSC in order to ensure we learn from what we are doing and encourage buy-in and support from other agencies.
- It is important to engage parent organisations in the FCYPSC plan in order to gain an understanding into the needs of families in Fingal.
- It is important to follow evidence-based and evidence-informed practice.
- FCYPSC would benefit from increased communication with all statutory bodies.
- There is an advocacy role for FCYPSC.

FCYPSC is also acutely aware that there has been significant change in the county and nationally since the development of the last CYPP. **These changes broadly speaking are as follows:**

- A new census for the country has given extraordinary insight into the population growth of Fingal, which is twice the national average.
- First Five – A Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019–2028 has highlighted and confirmed for FCYPSC the importance of early childhood.
- FCC has developed a new plan for the county: [Fingal Development 2017–2023](#).
- There is a new [Local Economic and Community Plan](#) for Fingal.
- A new agency for child protection has developed: Tusla Child and Family Agency.
- New agencies and new people within agencies are involved in the work of FCYPSC.
- There is specific funding available for Healthy Ireland activities.
- Tusla developed a national practice model for child protection: Meitheal.

### What were the challenges?

- Fingal is a highly populated and geographically diverse county with significant pockets of deprivation.
- The lack of coterminous boundaries amongst service providers is a complicating factor for FCYPSC as it has an impact on data collection for the area.
- The collection of Fingal-specific data is also challenged by the fact that Fingal is an administrative county of Dublin and data is often collected for Dublin as a whole. Therefore developing a true picture of the issues facing children, young people and their families in this county can be challenging.
- Agencies are facing many challenges: waiting lists, lack of staffing, staff retention, high level of complicated needs among client group.



- Engagement of the neediest, hard-to-reach service users is an issue.
- Interagency working is time-consuming and participation can be difficult for poorly resourced organisations, many of which are still dealing with the effects of the economic crises.
- It can be difficult to operate in a climate of organisational change.
- There is a lack of long-term funding for FCYPSC projects. For example, FCYPSC developed a highly successful Fingal Parenting Initiative for the county, providing much-needed parent supports across Fingal. Once the funding stopped the training programme also stopped, leaving a void and a gap in service provision.
- It has been increasingly difficult to meet the needs of children, young people and families against a backdrop of increased gangland activity and crime related to drug cartels.

## **How the Children and Young People’s Plan was developed**

All 23 agencies involved in FCYPSC and the sub-groups were involved in the development of the FCYPSC plan. The committee began by commissioning an in-depth needs analysis in 2017. The needs analysis was overseen by a working group of FCYPSC and involved a desk-top review, focus groups with agencies in Fingal and an online survey. In 2018 FCYPSC reviewed the results of the needs analysis through the lens of the five national outcomes. The indicator set for *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures* (BOBF), developed by DCYA at the end of 2017, guided this piece of work. FCYPSC did this in order to develop an understanding of issues and trends affecting our population of young people under the age of 24 in Fingal.

The needs analysis and the outcomes-focused work fed into two facilitated days with an independent facilitator. This gave members an opportunity to consider the research and to identify priority areas, objectives and actions. Consultation then took place with sub-group members to cross-check the identification of action areas. At the planning days FCYPSC identified the need for consultation with children and young people, particularly those in the hard-to-reach category, and parents. FCYPSC agreed to be informed by these discussions. The importance of liaising with Fingal LCDC and aligning the plans of both the LCDC and FCYPSC was also highlighted.

A review of the previous 2016–2018 Children and Young People’s Plan informed the development of this current plan. Additionally, learning was garnered from the Tusla commissioning process carried out in 2018–2019. A working group was also formed to oversee the drafting of the new CYPP for Fingal.

It was through these processes that the initiatives outlined in this plan were identified and a roadmap for the delivery of outcome-focused services and interventions to children and young people in Fingal were developed.

It is important to note that this plan was developed against a backdrop of a national homelessness crisis, and more than twice the national average population growth in the county, both of which place high demand on services. Many of these services have not seen funding reinstated to pre-recession standards. All of which is having an impact on the ability of services to engage in the work of FCYPSC.

## The voices of young people in Fingal

In May 2019 members of Fingal Comhairle na nÓg participated in a facilitated session on the FCYPSC plan. The following diagram summarises their priority views and outlines their priorities for the work of FCYPSC going forward:



*Figure 3: Priorities of the young people of Fingal*

In early 2019 60 young people participated in a 'pathways to a future' event in Fingal. The young people participating were involved with Tusla Aftercare Service, Swords Youth Service, two school completion programmes, one in D15 and one in Balbriggan, Youth Reach in the north of the county and Foróige Garda Youth Diversion project in D15.

The following table (Table 2) summarises what they were worried about, what they felt was working well and what needed to change.

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT	WHAT IS WORKING WELL	WHAT NEEDS TO CHANGE
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Housing - lack of and affordability</li> <li>2. Mental health</li> <li>3. Crèche - access to and affordability of</li> <li>4. Drug use - violence and debt</li> <li>5. Unemployment/minimum wage/being in a job you hate just to earn money</li> <li>6. Transport - lack of and cost</li> <li>7. Education - lack of PLC in the area/lack of alternative options if school doesn't work out</li> <li>8. Fear of starting a family too young</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Move to a safe environment/own home/ staying off the streets/ my residential home</li> <li>2. Going back to education/ learning new skills/ becoming independent/ learning to save money</li> <li>3. Having a baby/support group/youth project</li> <li>4. Making it through care</li> <li>5. My JLO/curfew is helping me stay focused/school completion/Intreo office</li> <li>6. CV workshops and mock interviews</li> <li>7. Two young people stated that they do not believe anything in Dublin 15 is working for them in relation to future pathways</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Education</li> <li>2. An alternative to school exam based Junior and Leaving Cert courses with subjects similar to jobs</li> <li>3. More information regarding courses and employment/ apprenticeship options would help</li> <li>4. ALP needs to be long term and should offer qualifications</li> <li>5. Educational websites need to be more accessible to young people</li> <li>6. SNAs in 3rd level education</li> <li>7. Certified beauty courses</li> <li>8. Schools need to stop expelling/suspending too easily</li> </ol>

Table 2

## The voices of stakeholders in Fingal

In addition to hearing the voices of stakeholders through the needs analysis, FCYPSC also utilised the information from two stakeholder days that Tusla Child and Family Agency held as part of its commissioning process. The key themes arising from the consultation days are detailed below:

Homelessness

Lack of service provision in some areas of the county, e.g. Balbriggan

Hugh population growth

Growth without infrastructure

Gaps within services, e.g. mental health for 16–18 year olds

Massive gaps in housing services – homelessness crises

Lack of information about services within an area

Uneven distribution of services within areas

Inability of services to meet the needs of new communities in the county

Vast geographical area

Lack of coterminous boundaries that has an impact on accurate data collection in areas

Lack of staff in statutory services

Loss of experienced staff

Overwhelming demand on services leading to increased thresholds

Gaps in support for the 6–11 age group

Forensic accounting, which is threatening early years services as consistency of attendance can be an issue with families with high levels of need

More community crèches are essential in order to meet the high-level needs of some families and provide wrap-around care for families

Support needed for community-based childcare services

Transitioning from one service to the next

Support needed for children and foster parents relocating to another area

Early intervention is important because it can reduce the need for services down the line

Difficulty for young people with ASD to get school places

## Section 2: Socio-Demographic Profile of Fingal

Indicator	Measure for Fingal	Measure for State	DNC	DCS	Dún L'aire Rathdown	South Dublin
Population 0–25years	106,120/ 35.8%	1,583,004/ 33.2%	95,679/ 29.4%	60,799/ 26.5%	69,851/ 32.0%	98,235/ 35.2%
Population 0–17 years	83,615	1,190,502/ 25.0%	61,966	36,705/ 16.0%	47,794/ 21.9%	75,106/ 26.9%
Population 18–25 years	22,505	392,502/ 8.2%	33,713/ 10.4%	24,094/ 10.5%	22,057/ 10.1%	23,129/8.3%
Infant mortality	16/3.3%	208/3.3%	27 (2017)	—	—	9/2.1%
Ethnicity	<b>Other White:</b> 14.3%/ 42,459	9.4%/446,727	8.8%/13,526	28,428/ 12.4%	19,981/9.2%	25,703/9.2%
	<b>Black/Black Irish:</b> 3.8%/11,271	1.4%/64,639	3,940/1.2%	3,039/1.3%	1,459/0.7%	9,171/3.3%
	<b>Asian/Asian Irish:</b> 3.9%/11,514	2.1%/98,720	3.4%/11,083	9,089 /4.0%	7,571/3.5%	11,334/4.1%
Number of Non-Irish national young people	46,909	535,475	—	—	—	—
Children under 15 who live in one-parent families	7,420/17.8%	107,047/18.5%	9,281/29.6%	5,065/ 27.2%	3,363/14.2%	8,232/ 22.6%
Education attainment – no formal or primary only, 2016	13,957/7.7%	386,498/ 12.5%	30,627/ 13.9%	18,282/ 11.4%	9,135/6.4%	20,772/ 11.9%
Traveller children and young people	1,315/0.4%	18,018/1.14%	1,486/0.5%	594/0.3%	411/0.2%	2,200/ 0.8%
Children and young people in reception centres	59/5.6 per 10,000 of pop.	1,448/9.1 per 10,000 of pop.	28/2.9 per 10,000 of pop.	69/11.3 per 10,000 of pop.	—	93/9.5 per 10,000 of pop.
People with a disability	31,970	64,3131	49,329	32,173	27,266	36,426

Table 8: Socio-demographic indicators

Fingal is located to the north of Dublin City. It is also bordered by South County Dublin, Meath and Kildare, and to the east by the Irish Sea. The county covers an area of c. 448 sq. km. Fingal has 88 km of coastline stretching from Sutton to Balbriggan. We have three protected estuaries, salt marsh habitats and thirteen major beaches. The River Liffey borders our south-western edge. The county has a mix of urban and rural divides. Fingal has significant industry and economic assets, including the Dublin Port Tunnel, road and rail infrastructure, proximity to Dublin City and a prime location on the Dublin–Belfast economic corridor. Dublin Airport provides a significant economic hub for the country.

Fingal County Council was established in 1994 and is the local authority for the administrative county of Fingal. Statutory, voluntary and community-based organisations working within Fingal have their own operational boundaries, some of which are coterminous with the Fingal county boundary (e.g. Fingal County Childcare Committee) and some which are not, e.g. Health Service Executive (HSE). This can present unique challenges in the delivery of services and supports that are based on alternative administrative areas/zones.

Fingal has five Electoral Areas (EAs), and a total of 42 Electoral Divisions (EDs). Within the 42 Electoral Areas there are 964 Small Areas of Population (SAPs). (See appendix two for table of EAs by EDs.)

Tusla, under the Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) programme, has developed Child and Family Support Networks (CFSN) across Fingal. They are as follows: South West Fingal, Mulhuddart, Mid Fingal and North Fingal. The purpose of CFSNs is to deliver accessible and integrated services to families on a local basis. Table 3 below provides a breakdown of these areas.

Child and Family Support Network	Electoral Divisions
South West Fingal	Blanchardstown Abbotstown, Blanchardstown Blakestown, Blanchardstown Coolmine, Blanchardstown Delwood, Blanchardstown Roselawn, Castleknock Knockmaroon, Castleknock Park
Mulhuddart	Blanchardstown Corduff, Blanchardstown Mulhuddart, Blanchardstown Tyrrelstown
Mid Fingal	Baldoyle, Balgriffin, Donabate, Howth, Killsallaghan, Kinsealy, Malahide East, Malahide West, Portmarnock North, Portmarnock South, Sutton, Swords Forrest, Swords Glasmore, Swords Lissenhall, Swords Seatown, Swords Village
North Fingal	Balbriggan Rural, Balbriggan Urban, Ballyboghil, Balscadden, Clonmethan, Garristown, Hollywood, Holmpatrick, Lusk, Rush, Skerries

*Table 3: CFSN areas*

## Population

Throughout the 20-year period from 1993 to 2013 Ireland's population grew by 30.1%. In contrast, Fingal County rapidly expanded at an exceptional 79.4%, which was by far the highest growth rate experienced by any county throughout Ireland. This extraordinary growth rate continued in the intervening years. **In the inter-censal period 2011–2016** Fingal grew by 8%. which is more than twice the national average. See Table 4 below.

Area	Population	% change
<b>State</b>	<b>4757976</b>	<b>3.7 %</b>
Leinster	2630720	5%
Dublin City	554,554	5.1%
Dublin City North	325,385	5.8%
Cork City	125,657	5.4%
Waterford	116,176	2.1%
<b>Fingal</b>	<b>296,214</b>	<b>8.4%</b>

*Table 4: Population comparison*

## Population hubs

There are three main population hubs in Fingal; Blanchardstown (84,948), Swords (39,248) and Balbriggan (21,722). Swords is the second-largest town in Ireland and Balbriggan is the 12th-largest town in Ireland. Of all residents of Fingal, 45% live in these three areas. The remainder of the population is dispersed across smaller towns and the rural areas of Fingal. This of course has implications for service delivery in the county.

## Youth population

There are 106,120 children and young people under the age of 24 living in Fingal. Fingal has an exceptionally high young population when compared to the State. Of the five Dublin CYPSC areas, Fingal had the highest youth dependency rate at 36.9%, DCS was the lowest (18.3%) and DNC (21.8%) had the second-lowest young dependency ratio. See Table 5 below for further details.

Age Group	Number	% of county population	% of state population
<b>Pop. under 1</b>	4,455	1.5%	1.3%
<b>Pop. aged 0–4</b>	24,899	8.4%	7.0%
<b>Pop. aged 5–12</b>	39,349	13.3%	11.5%
<b>Pop. aged 13–17</b>	19,367	6.5%	6.5%
<b>Pop. aged 0–17</b>	83,615	28.2%	25%
<b>Pop. aged 18–24</b>	22,505	7.6%	8.2%
<b>Pop. aged 0–24</b>	106,120	35.8%	33.2%

*Table 5: Population across age groups in Fingal*



## Birth rate

In 2016 there were 4,910 births registered in Fingal, a rate of 17 per 1,000 of population. This is the highest rate of childbirth in the country and significantly ahead of the national average rate of 13.7 per 1,000. Almost a third of these births (32.7%) were to unmarried parents, though the majority (20%) are recorded as living at the same address as their partner. See Table 6 below for further details.

Co. Fingal	2016Q1	2016Q2	2016Q3	2016Q4	2017Q1	2017Q2
Births registered (number)	1,253	1,271	1,245	1,141	1,269	1,183
Births within marriage (number)	834	863	852	755	813	788
Births outside marriage (number)	419	408	393	386	456	395
Average age of mother – first births only (years)	31.7	31.2	31.5	31.2	31.4	31.7
Average age of mother – outside marriage (years)	31.4	31.1	30.8	30.9	30.9	31.2

*Table 6: Birth rate, within marriage, outside marriage, average age in and outside marriage*

Neonatal mortality (0–4 weeks) in County Fingal for 2016 accounted for eight deaths or a rate of 1.6 per 1,000 births, while for infants the number was 16 (3.3 per 1,000). The comparison nationally is 2.4 for neonatal mortality and 3.3 for infant mortality per 1,000 births.

## Families

There were 77,346 families in Fingal in 2016. This figure is broken down to 253,146 people; of this figure 111,701 were children. There were 30,634 families with children and young people aged under 15, 18,520 with children and young people aged over 18, and there were 8,132 family units with children and young people both under and over 15. There were also 20,060 families with no children.

## One-parent families

The proportion of lone parents in Ireland has exactly doubled over the past 20 years, growing from 10.7% in 1991 to 21.6% nationally in 2011. Fingal had a rate of 21.7% in 2011, slightly higher than the national average. There are 13,247 lone-parent households in Fingal, 87.8% lone mothers and 12.2% lone fathers. One-parent families account for 23.1% of all families with children in Fingal. There are considerable differences in the proportion of lone parents (as a proportion of all households with dependent children) across individual areas within the county. Single-parent families tend to be concentrated in those EDs that also have significant levels of local authority housing within them. In 2011 the lone parent rate exceeded 50% in Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown (51.7%). In 2016 this ED continued to have the highest rate of lone parents in the county, but had fallen to 43.83%. Lone parents and their children are the group most affected by poverty and deprivation.

## Ethnicity

There is great diversity in the population of Fingal. A lower percentage of people classified themselves as 'white Irish' (70.5%) when compared to the state average (80.9%). Fingal also recorded the highest rate in the state for 'other white' (14.3%). The state average was 9.4%. Fingal also exceeded the state average (1.4%) for 'Black or Black Irish' at 3.8%; 3.9% of Fingal's



population was classified as 'Asian or Asian Irish'. The equivalent percentage for the state was 2.1%. The number of Fingal residents born outside Ireland continued to increase and stood at 67,806 in 2016, an increase of 5,931 on the 2011 figure. Non-Irish nationals account for 18.3% of all residents in Fingal, compared with the national average of 11.5%. Individuals from the 'rest of the world' (17,156), 'other EU 27' (13,141), Poland (10,591) and the United Kingdom (4,837) represented the largest numbers of foreign nationals normally resident in Fingal. There are an estimated 5,000 Roma living in Ireland and an estimated 65 Roma families living in Balbriggan. Table 7 below provides details of ethnicity breakdown by electoral district.

Electoral District	% non-Irish
Balbriggan Rural	20.8%
Kinsealy	21.9%
Blanchardstown-Blakestown	22.3%
Blanchardstown-Coolmine	22.3%
Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown	22.8%
Blanchardstown-Delwood	23.5%
Swords-Lissenhall	24.1%
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart	29.0%
Balgriffin	29.4%
Swords Village	30.8%
The Ward	33.0%
Blanchardstown-Abbotstown	34.1%
Dubber	35.0%
Airport	54.8%

*Table 7: Electoral district by percentage of non-Irish*

### **Disability**

Fingal is considered to have a low percentage rate of people who have registered as having a disability (10.8%). Numerically speaking, this equates to 31,970 people in Fingal with a disability, 16,862 female and 15,108 male. The education/employment rates of people with disabilities are much lower than those in the general population (CSO, 2016). Within Fingal 10,515 persons (4,092 males and 6,423 females) provided personal help for a family member or friend with a long-term illness, health problem or a disability. There are 354 young carers in Fingal. This is an increase of 23 from the 2011 census.

### **Substance misuse**

The analysis below is based on data from the National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) for the years 2012 to 2017 inclusive. The analysis is based on the address of the cases in the 30 days prior to commencing treatment. Please note that NDTRS data are case-based, which means there is a possibility that individuals appear more than once in the database, for example, where a person receives treatment at more than one centre, or at the same centre more than once in a calendar year. The NDTRS suppresses data where the total is five cases or

fewer in order to ensure that individuals are not indirectly identified. From 2012 to 2017 inclusive, 3,333 cases of treatment for problem drug and alcohol use reported to the NDTRS were resident in Fingal. Of these cases, 1,366 (41.0%) received treatment for alcohol, and 1,967 (59.0%) received treatment for drugs. Of the 3,333 cases, 561 (16.8%) were aged 24 years or younger.

### **Cases aged 24 years or younger**

Of the 561 cases aged 24 years or younger, 84 (15.0%) were treated for alcohol, and 477 (85.0%) were treated for drugs. For 434 (77.4%) cases, the self-defined gender was male and for 125 (22.3%) cases, the self-defined gender was female. The median age of cases was 14 years and the mean age was 13.95 years. Cannabis was the most commonly reported drug of choice among cases aged 24 years or younger. Cannabis was reported as the first drug used by 435 (77.5%) of these cases across the period.

The majority of cases (89.7%) aged 24 years or younger self-identified as Irish in terms of ethnic/cultural background (503 cases). Cases identifying as Irish Traveller accounted for 4.6% of cases aged 24 years or younger (26 cases).

The [North Dublin Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force 2016 annual report](#) indicated that of almost 900 new cases that were treated in 2016, over a fifth (170) related to children and young people (0–24). Cannabis continues to be the drug that is reported as causing the most problems and whilst the NDRDATF is not suggesting a major ‘cannabis epidemic’ it is certainly true to say that the strains of cannabis being used are causing significant problems for a significant number of young people who live in the area. Although Cannabis is the drug most reported for under-18s, polydrug use is also an issue. North Fingal in particular continues to be under-resourced in terms of the general youth facilities that are available in other areas of comparable population size (NDRDATF, 2017). The RDATF is funding specialist services which will pick up high-risk young people, but there is a need for more mainstream universal prevention services to be invested in.

Drug use not only has a detrimental effect on the individual, it affects the family, wider community, service delivery and the exchequer. Blanchardstown Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force (BLDATF) in their Drug and Alcohol Trends Monitoring System (DATMS) report in 2018 highlighted the negative impact drug use has on family relationships, employment, finances, housing, health and education. The report details that children as young as eight have been used as drug runners and the average age for drug dealers is 14 in the Dublin 15 area. The increase in drug-related crime and drug debt intimidation is also highlighted in the report. FCYPSC members are concerned in relation to the increase in gangland crime and murders in Fingal related to drugs and the impact this is having in the county.

### **Domestic violence**

Domestic violence affects children, young people and families living in Fingal. In 2016, figures presented to the Fingal Joint Policing Committee noted the incidence of domestic violence over a ten-month period in Swords had increased by 14% from a year earlier. The Fingal needs analysis revealed that the Women’s Aid clinic was reporting two new cases a week. The [Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services working report \(2015\)](#) offers insight into national trends and responses: one in four women and one in four girls under the age of 15 have experienced physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. Local-level data on the number of children and young people in affected by domestic violence is not available. However, a draft

commissioning plan for North Dublin highlighted that parental drug use and domestic violence are key referral reasons to Tusla Child and Family Agency.

In 2017 Tusla Child and Family Agency commissioned an independent needs analysis of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (DSGBV) services in Fingal. The research reported that:

- There was inadequate provision of refuge places, counselling, and advocacy and sexual assault services in Fingal.
- Additional resources are needed for core services to reach international standards.
- There was a gap in service provision in North Fingal.
- There was an over-concentration on middle-of-spectrum for services which worked at crisis level.
- There was insufficiency of or missing dimensions in relation to new communities, Travellers, and men affected by domestic violence.
- There were problems with the courts and their facilities.
- There were deficiencies in relation to lack of county data and data deficits across all secondary providers.

**Recommendations were made as follows:**

- Invest resources in Education, Prevention and Awareness
- Create perpetrator and downstream programmes to tackle the long-term impacts of domestic and sexual-based violence.
- Establish a meeting forum for sharing/problem solving community practice.

While it was not identified in the report, stakeholders and service providers have also highlighted a gap in the provision of DV services for children and young people. There are no specialised services or programmes for children or young people experiencing or impacted by DV at the community level.

**Socio-demographic profiling and outcomes data**

A complicating factor in relation to presentation of data is that organisations responsible for data collection have their own operational boundaries that are often not coterminous with the county boundary of Fingal. Additionally, difficulties arise as Fingal is an administrative county of Dublin and some organisations that do collect data by county level do not break it down by administrative county. Where data is not available at county level, local-level data or national data figures are provided. The Health Service Executive (HSE) collects health data per Community Health Organisation (CHO) and Tusla collects child protection and welfare data per Tusla region. These geographies are used throughout this report.

The following sections of the demographic profile provide outcomes data under each of the five national outcomes: 1. Health 2. Education 3. Safe and protected from harm. 4. Economic security. 5. Participation. The Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures policy framework identifies four aims under each of these outcomes. These aims, along with data indicator sets from [An Indicator Set for Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures](#) (DCYA, 2017), have been used to structure the presentation of the data.

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

**Outcome 1** refers to data that reflect the physical and mental wellbeing of children and young people. The data is presented under each of the four aims of Outcome 1:

- **Aim 1.1:** Physically healthy and make positive health choices
- **Aim 1.2:** Good mental health
- **Aim 1.3:** Positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health
- **Aim 1.4:** Enjoying play, recreation, sport, arts, culture and nature

### Aim 1.1: Physically healthy and make positive health choices

National data from the 2018, Growing Up in Ireland report the indicated that 79% of mothers stated that their nine-year-old child was very healthy, with another 20% reporting their child as being healthy with a few minor problems. Just 1% of mothers said their child was either sometimes quite ill or almost always unwell (DCYA, 2018).

#### Breastfeeding

A 2017 report, [‘Breastfeeding on the island of Ireland’](#) published by the Institute of Public Health in Ireland, indicates that Ireland has one of the lowest breastfeeding rates in the world, with variation across urban and rural areas, as well as socio-economic status. HSE figures for Dublin North (2017) indicate that 53.6% of children were breastfed at the time of the first public health nurse visit (94% visited by a PHN within 72 hours in CHO 9), with the rate falling to 33.5% by the three-month visit.

#### Immunisation rates

Nationally, vaccination uptake rates generally fall short of the 95% target figure to maintain immunity. Within the region (Dublin North) current [HSE immunisation uptake statistics](#) indicate rates of 85–89% at 12 months, with a slight downward decline over the last eight years. Similarly, [uptake figures for the Tdap](#) (tetanus, low-dose diphtheria and acellular pertussis) vaccine among 11–14 year olds fell by 3% in 2016–2017, with the lowest uptake in the State among young teenagers living in the greater Dublin region; the average uptake in Dublin North was recorded at 78.1%.

#### Risky health behaviours

National data from the [Growing Up in Ireland report on risky health behaviours and sexual activity](#) presents summary information on the child cohort at 17–18 years and these trends are also applicable to Fingal. Alcohol consumption, smoking and drug-taking among 17–18 year olds were recognised as negatively impacting on current and future health outcomes of this age cohort. Figures from the [Annual Report to the Department of Health: Drugs Programme Unit](#) (2016) indicate an unprecedented increase in the number of young people presenting with problem cannabis and poly drug use in the region.

#### Health needs of vulnerable groups

National figures from the [Growing Up in Ireland report on the health and physical development of nine-year-olds](#) indicates a significant difference in reports of physical health and wellbeing by income group: 83% of children and young people in the highest income fifth were very healthy compared to 72% in the lowest income fifth (DCYA, 2018). Within Fingal, it is recognised that there are potentially vulnerable groups that require targeted support and intervention in relation to physical health. This includes the significant Irish Traveller population, with 1,358 individual members of the Traveller community living in Fingal, and a concentration of families living in Balbriggan and Blanchardstown-Abbotstown.

### Aim 1.1: Physically healthy and make positive health choices

#### Healthy weight

Information from [A Healthy Weight for Ireland 2016–2025 Obesity Policy and Action Plan](#) reveals that one in four children in Ireland are obese. In disadvantaged schools the rate of obesity was 6–7% higher than in schools in non-disadvantaged areas. A press statement released by the CSO revealed that ‘the share of people who were overweight or obese was 62% in 2017’ (CSO, 2019). As this data is not currently available at county level, the national figure is provided.

### Aim 1.2: Good mental health

Findings from [The Mental Health of Young People in Ireland, PERL Group report](#) indicate that high numbers of young Irish people are experiencing mental ill-health at any given time. By the age of 13 years, one in three young people in Ireland is likely to have experienced some type of mental disorder and by the age of 24 years, that rate will have increased to over one in two.

[The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Mental Health Commission Inspection Report \(2017\)](#) indicates that despite a high proportion of under-18s, the region (CHO 9) has a relatively low level of funding for mental health services. Based on population and need, there is a minimum requirement for 12 fully staffed CAMHS teams. At present, there are eight CAMHS teams, operating with just 66.5% of the staff required as per the recommendations under [A Vision for Change \(VFC\)](#). In October 2018 the situation had declined even further with actual staffing levels against VFC recommendations in CHO 9 decreasing to 60%, as evidenced in [‘Workforce Planning – Mental Health: Assessing Supply and Demand’](#). There is a worrying recruitment and retention crisis in the area of child and adolescent mental health services affecting the delivery of services within CAMHS. Table 9 below highlights an over-prescription in some areas of certain disciplines based on VFC and clearly highlights the gaps in disciplines. It also breaks down the recommended versus available by discipline for CH09.

CAMHS WTE Staff	CHO 9	VFC Gap
Population 0–18	145,581	
Actual Clinical WTE	83	45.40%
% VFC	64.70%	
Total Actual WTE (clinical + admin)	91.15	46.90%
% VFC	60.20%	
Consultant Psychiatrist	101.10%	24.50%
NCHD (Senior Registrar and Registrar/SHO)	119.30%	12.30%
Nurse	46.80%	44.10%
Social Worker	48.60%	57.10%
Clinical Psychologist	58.80%	62.00%
Speech and Language Therapist	81.60%	46.50%
Occupational Therapist	90.20%	40.60%
Child/Social Care Worker	0%	61.80%
Admin/Support Staff	35.20%	55.20%

Table 9: Staffing levels in CAMH CHO 9

## **Aim 1.2: Good mental health**

### **Suicide and self-harm**

Research by the Samaritans, [Socioeconomic Disadvantage and Suicidal Behaviour](#), reveals those socio-economic factors such as deprivation, unemployment, low-skilled occupations all negatively impact on suicide, as do low levels of educational attainment and no home ownership. Statistics from the National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF) reveal that Ireland has a suicide rate of 30 per 100,000 for males in the 20–24 year old age bracket and 5 per 100,000 for females in this age bracket. In Fingal the rate for both sexes is 4.9. In 2017 in Fingal there were 11 deaths by suicide for all age groups. In relation to self-harm, perusal of the [National Self-Harm Registry annual report 2017](#) reveals that the national female rate of self-harm exceeds the male rate by 21%. However, in Fingal the rate of self-harm among females exceeded the male rate by a staggering 81%, second only to Roscommon at 96%. The young population of the county could account for this. Additionally, if the rate per 100,000 was available for Fingal this would provide a more accurate picture.

## **Aim 1.3: Positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health**

[Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures](#) states that relationships with family, other significant adults and their peer group underpins young people's ability to build and maintain successful relationships as adults (DCYA, 2014). As children grow, their relationships with friends become increasingly important and children's relationships, beyond the family, make important contributions to children's development and social adjustment (Ladd, Kochenderfer and Coleman, 1997). While local data is not available, key findings from [Growing Up in Ireland: The lives of 13-year-olds](#) (2018) indicate that most 13-year-olds have relatively extensive friendship networks; less than one per cent said they had no friends at all. The report did however note that those with fewest friends (fewer than three) had a much higher chance of being 'at risk' of socio-emotional and behavioural problems (DCYA, 2018).

The [Spotlight paper on school-based relationships and sexuality education](#) provides evidence that school-based sex education programmes can improve sexual health outcomes. Drawing from international literature, the report also suggests that females who have experienced sex education in schools are less likely to have experienced rape, abortion or distress about sex (Nolan, 2018). The [Growing Up in Ireland report of risky health behaviours and sexual activity](#) indicates that young males in the most socially disadvantaged group, were more likely to report being sexually active (49%) than others (38-42%). Males were also more likely to report being sexually active (oral sex or sexual intercourse) than females (45% compared to 39%). In terms of sexual health, the majority (56%) of young people who reported having had sexual intercourse also reported that they always used a condom, but a sizeable minority (11%) reported that they never used one (DCYA, 2018).

While there is a relative dearth of local level information in terms of young people's relationships and sexual health the national data sets cited above is applicable in Fingal. FCYPSC are keen to ensure children and young people can develop positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health through provision of information, advice and opportunities for participation.

#### **Aim 1.4: Enjoying play, recreation, sport, arts, culture and nature**

At present, Fingal County Council leads the provision of services for play and recreation through the provision of open spaces, play parks and facilities for sports, outdoor recreation and a cultural and library service. There are 43 playgrounds as well as skate parks, tennis courts, 170 pitches for a range of sports, eight all-weather pitch facilities, cricket grounds and 14 Multi-Use Games areas; ten libraries plus four mobile library services and house-bound service; 5,000 acres of public open space, 31 community centres and 183 sports clubs linked to the Public Participation Network (PPN). Fingal has 88 km of coastline stretching from Sutton to Balbriggan. This is further supplemented by private and community-based organisations that offer experiences and activities to promote children's community engagement and opportunities to participate in play, recreation and engagement in sports, arts, culture and nature.

While local-level data on levels of activity and participation for Fingal were not available, data from Growing Up in Ireland (2012) suggests that there are clear gender and social differences in children's recreational activities. While girls were found to engage more in social and cultural pursuits, boys spent more time engaged in sports and computer games. Clear differences were also found across socio-economic status, with children and young people from more advantaged families more likely to be involved in cultural activities and social networking outside school.



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

**Outcome 2** refers to data that reflects how well children and young people are doing in terms of learning and development. The data is presented under each of the four aims of Outcome 2:

- **Aim 2.1:** Learning and developing from birth
- **Aim 2.2:** Social and emotional wellbeing
- **Aim 2.3:** Engaged in learning
- **Aim 2.4:** Achieving in education

### Aim 2.1: Learning and developing from birth

#### Developmental screening

FCYPSC notes the significant role that developmental screening plays in keeping young children healthy. Figures taken from the [HSE Performance Profile July-September 2018 Quarterly Report](#) indicate that in CHO 9 (HSE area covering Fingal) 95.5% of all ten-month-olds were screened and 96.3% of all children had their developmental screen tests completed on time in 2018. The percentage of those screened who were discovered to have developmental delays was not available.

#### Early intervention and prevention

Data provided by the HSE, in response to a Parliamentary Question asked by Darragh O'Brien in October 2018, indicates that over 600 children and young people in North County Dublin are currently waiting for assessment by an Early Intervention Team, with some children and young people waiting up to 31 months for initial assessment. This has been attributed to the significant population of under-fives, as well as a shortage of healthcare professionals working in local teams. There are currently 360 children on the EIT waiting lists in CHO 9. Some of these children have been waiting for 30 months.

A [Report on the New Standard Operating Procedure for Assessment of Need \(January 2019\)](#) reveals that nationally there were 2,154 Assessment Of Needs not completed in 2017; locally, in CHO 9, there were 448 overdue assessments by the end of June 2018. The report further reveals that in CHO 9, which has a population of 581,486, there were 198 AON reports completed by Q2 2018. The average time to complete an AON report in Q2 in 2018 was 16.85 months. The report further reveals that disability services have been under significant pressure since the 2008 crash and have been affected by the post-crash recruitment embargo, resulting in a national shortage of between 300 and 400 therapists. The recommendations of the report further highlight the need for robust computerised data collection in order to predict demand for services. FCYPSC would welcome such a development as it would enable the committee to have a clearer picture of the needs of children and young people in the county with a disability.

The [Access and Inclusion Model \(AIM\)](#) is a model of supports designed to ensure that children with disabilities can access the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme. Its aim is to support preschool providers to deliver an inclusive preschool experience for children of all abilities. AIM provides a suite of universal and targeted supports across seven levels. Level 1 is the lower end of the scale in terms of intervention and Level 7 is the upper end of the scale in terms of intervention. Fingal has had 552 applications for the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM), of which 375 were for Level 7, highlighting the complex needs issue for children and families in Fingal.



## Aim 2.2: Social and emotional wellbeing

### Positive self-perception

As county-level data was not available, FCYPSC has used national data from [the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children \(HBSC\) 2014 study](#) to demonstrate the social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people in the county. Table 10 details the percentage of children who report feeling happy, satisfied with life, level of confidence, comfortable with friends, love their family and are engaged in hobbies. It is worth noting that more children and young people from higher social classes described their health as excellent with high life satisfaction.

Excellent health	Overall, 34% of children report that their health is excellent.
Happiness	Overall, 47% of children report feeling very happy with their life at present, which remains stable from 2010 (50%).
Life satisfaction	Overall, 76% of children report high life satisfaction (rank 7 or higher on a scale of 0 to 10), which remains unchanged from 2010 (76%).
Self-confidence	Overall, 47% of 12 to 17-year-old children report always or often being self-confident.
Comfortable with friends	Overall, 70% of 12 to 17-year-old children report that they always feel comfortable being themselves while with their friends.
Love of family	Overall, 86% of 10 to 14-year-old children report that they always love their family.
Hobbies	Overall, 93% of 10 to 14-year-old children report that they engage in their hobbies weekly or more frequently.

*Table 10: Children's emotional wellbeing*

## Aim 2.3: Engaged in learning

### **School attendance, absenteeism and expulsions**

Data from [Tusla's Data and Information Hub](#) shows that 16.5% of primary students missed twenty-plus days in Fingal in 2015/2016. This was the fourth highest in the country. The information hub also reveals that 15.6% of post-primary students missed twenty-plus days in Fingal in 2015/2016. This data is based on aggregate data for Dublin County as a whole. This places Fingal 16 out of 31 counties/CYPSC areas. A report from DDLETB [Youth and Sport Development Services, 'Socio-economic profile of area and an analysis of current provision' \(2018\)](#) revealed that 3,471 pupils were absent for twenty days or more. This does not include those who were absent due to an expulsion. There are more than 300 young people on the Educational Welfare Officers' waiting list in this area, which is one of the highest in the country.

### **Community-based childcare provision**

Fingal has the lowest proportion of community-based childcare services in Ireland (6%), with a total of 170 children availing of places across 13 Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) scheme settings. An additional 748 children availed of the Community Childcare Subvention Plus (CCSP) programme at participating privately owned ELC settings (Pobal, 2018).

Extrapolated figures from Census 2016 indicate 15,962 children aged 3–5 years in Fingal, with the [Pobal Early Years Sector Profile Report 2017–2018](#) recording 11,149 children (54% of children aged 3–5 years) enrolled in 327 early learning and care (ELC) settings across Fingal. Figures suggest a total capacity for a maximum of 11,599 childcare places (full-day, part-time and sessional) across all services, with a combined waiting list of 1,076 children in the county.

### **Information on all childcare registrations in Fingal, November 2018**

#### *1. Community Childcare Subvention Resettlement/Transitional (CCSR/T) – homeless children registered in Fingal*

Currently there are 11 children registered on this programme in Fingal:

- four in part-time provision (0–5 years)
- five in sessional provision (0–5 years)
- two in school-age childcare provision (6–12 years)

#### *2. Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) in Fingal*

- 147 children registered on CCS across the 12 Community Childcare Services in Fingal

#### *3. Community Childcare Subvention Private (CCSP) in Fingal*

Currently there are 2,852 children registered on this programme in Fingal

- 2,104 children registered on Universal Registrations (6 months – 2 years, 8 months or until eligible for ECCE programme)
- 11 children registered on CCSR/T (see above)
- 863 children registered on CCSP Targeted Supports (up to 15 years of age)

#### *4. Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in Fingal*

Currently there are 7,863 children registered on this programme in Fingal (2 years, 8 months – 5 years, 7 months)

### **Aim 2.3: Engaged in learning**

#### *5. Training and Employment Childcare (TEC) in Fingal*

Currently there are 211 children registered on one of the three strands of funding in this programme:

- 167 children registered on the Childcare Education and Training Support programme (CETS)
- 34 children registered on the Community Employment Childcare Programme (CEC)
- 10 children registered on the After School Child Care Programme (ASCC)

#### *6. Higher Capitation 2017/2018*

The total number of children receiving higher capitation payments was 13,782 in Fingal.

Other data sets for Aim 2.3 – engaged in learning, such as children and young people’s experience of transitions, the percentage who report liking being in school, the percentage who agree/strongly agree that they feel like they belong at school and the percentage of 15-year-olds who feel like an outsider at school – are not available for Fingal.

### **Aim 2.4: Achieving in education**

#### **Academic achievement in English literacy, mathematics and science**

Review of the 2014 National Assessments of English Reading and Mathematics reveals that overall children and young people in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class are achieving better in English literacy and maths than in 2009.

Ireland has participated in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) since 2000. This study inspects the reading, mathematics and science achievements of students at the end of compulsory schooling (at age 15 and 16). Perusal of the most recent report (2015) reveals reading literacy and mathematics scores remained static between 2012 and 2015. However, science scores fell by 19.4 score points, one of the largest declines among participating countries over that three-year period. The relatively low proportion of higher achievers in Ireland is also a concern, as are the gender differences in mathematics and science between males and females. These national data sets are applicable in Fingal.

#### **Retention to Leaving Cert**

Fingal compares favourably to other counties in the [CSO 2016 profile of Education, Skills and Irish Language](#). Figures indicate that average age at which education ceased was 20.4 years, in the top five nationally; 48.7% of those that had ceased education, held a third-level qualification. The number of people not having completed formal or primary education in Fingal was one of the lowest nationally, at 6.6% (13.3% national average).

#### **Inequality in academic attainment**

At the time of writing this report, information on where pupils living in Fingal went once they finished school was not available. [School Completers – What Next? Report on School Completers from Post-Primary Schools – pupils enrolled in 2009/2010 and not in 2010/2011](#). A review of this report reveals that those who attended fee-paying secondary schools were more likely (65.5%) to progress directly to higher education. By the same token, 49.1% of pupils who attended non-DEIS schools progressed directly to higher education. Significantly only a quarter of pupils who attended DEIS schools (DEIS: Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) went on to further education. [A Study of](#)

## Aim 2.4: Achieving in education

[\*Progression in Irish Higher Education 2013/14 to 2014/15\*](#) by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) shows that females are more likely than males to progress to a following year of study. Irish students had a non-progression rate of 15% compared to 18% among non-Irish students. The highest level of non-progression is among the manually skilled (16%). Once again, in the absence of Fingal-specific data figures, national data sets will apply.

### **Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS)**

The DEIS programme seeks to improve educational opportunities for those in communities at risk of disadvantage and social exclusion. In 2016, a total of 25 primary schools and six post-primary schools in Fingal were part of the DEIS action plan for educational inclusion. At the time of writing this report there were two Educational Welfare Officers and one Senior EWO in Fingal. Eleven Home-School Community Liaison Co-ordinators are assigned to 19 primary and post-primary schools. Five SCPs are operational in Fingal supporting 90 primary schools and 28 secondary schools. Tables 11 and 12 below details the mean percentage of student days lost, 20-day absences, expulsions and suspensions for Dublin, Leinster and the state for primary and secondary schools 2016/17. It is worth noting Dublin had the highest percentage of mean absences, the highest percentage of mean 20 day absences, the highest percentage of mean expulsions and the highest percentage of mean suspensions in primary schools.

Area	Mean % absences	Mean % 20-day absences	Mean % expulsions	Mean % suspensions
Dublin	6.6	15.6	0.07	1.43
Leinster	5.9	12.5	0.03	0.68
State	5.6	10.9	0.02	0.48

*Table 11: Absences in primary schools*

Area	Mean % absences	Mean % 20-day absences	Mean % expulsions	Mean % suspensions
Dublin	8.0	15.1	0.08	6.00
Leinster	8.1	15.7	0.06	5.12
State	8.2	15.8	0.06	4.30

*Table 12: Absences in secondary schools*

## Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

**Outcome 3** refers to information that details if children and young people are safe and protected from harm. The data is presented under each of the four aims of Outcome 3:

- **Aim 3.1:** Secure, stable, caring home environment
- **Aim 3.2:** Safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation
- **Aim 3.3:** Protected from bullying and discrimination
- **Aim 3.4:** Safe from crime and anti-social behaviour

### 3.1 Having a secure, stable, caring home environment

Fingal is the fastest-growing county in Ireland, with population growth of 8% from 2011 to 2016, more than twice that of the state overall. It is also the 'youngest' county in Ireland, with 77,346 family units and 104,120 children.

#### Parenting advice, information and support

Statutory, voluntary and community services, supported by Tusla and the HSE, offer parenting support programmes to families in Fingal. Since the inception of Prevention, Participation and Family Support (2015), Tusla has supported four Child and Family Support Network (CFSN) areas to develop and provide a timely local response to a family's needs. These networks have been the driving force in supporting interagency working and a collaborative approach to meeting the needs of children, young people and their families through the Meitheal practice model. In 2018, 414 Meitheal requests were received between the four CFSN areas. Of these referrals, 256 came directly from community/voluntary/external statutory agencies, 116 were diverted away from the duty social work service in Tusla, and 42 were stepped down from the Tusla social work service. These referrals received responses as follows: 253 received a short-term intervention, 97 were diverted to a targeted family support service, 56 remained open to Meitheal and 8 were diverted back to Tusla social work.

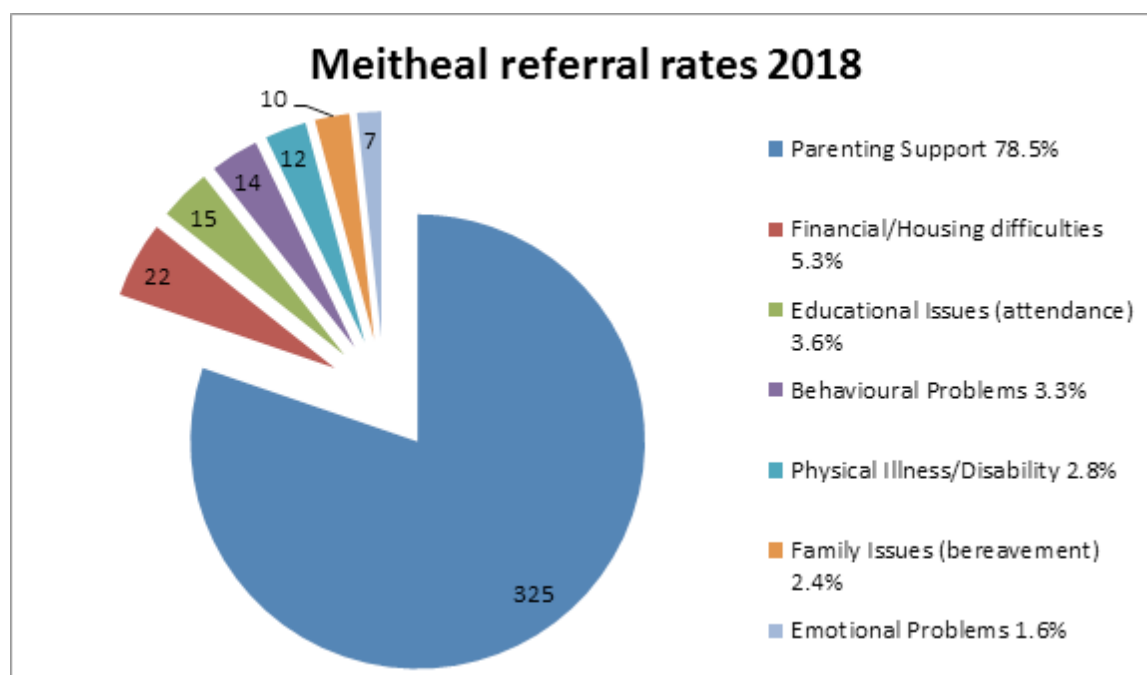


Figure 4: Meitheal referral rates

### 3.1 Having a secure, stable, caring home environment

As the Meitheal practice model continues throughout Fingal, it has become clearly evident that 'parenting support' has been identified as the number one reason for referral. A review of referrals made to Tusla Child and Family Agency in North Dublin in 2018 further identified that there was insufficient support available to parents experiencing parenting challenges, especially among the 41% of referrals categorised as welfare.

#### Access to parent and family support services

On 31 December 2018 there were 2,012 children in receipt of a Family Support service from Tusla and Tusla-commissioned services. This is out of a population of 104,120 children and young people.

### 3.2 Safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation

#### Child protection and safeguarding

The Child and Family Agency's boundaries are not coterminous with FCYPSC boundaries. However, most of Fingal is within the boundary of the Dublin North Tusla area. This area is an extremely busy social work department reporting 3,574 new referrals to child protection in 2018 (59% of these were categorised as abuse, 41% as welfare), 4,167 open child protection cases (Child Protection and Children in Care) in 2018 and 322 Children in Care, 19% of whom have a disability. See Table 13 below for comparison with Dublin North City, another Tusla area within this region.

	New referrals to CP and W	No. of open cases (CP and CIC)	No. of children in care	Child Protection Notification System
<b>Dublin North</b>	3,574	4,167	322	77
<b>Dublin North City</b>	2,722	1,442	508	68

*Table 13: Referrals to Tusla Child and Family Agency, Dublin North*

In terms of referral rates, North Dublin is one of the busiest catchment areas in the country, claiming one of the highest referral rates nationally and within the Dublin North East (DNE) region. DNE is made up of Dublin North, Dublin North City, Louth/Meath and Cavan/Monaghan. Table 14 below highlights North Dublin's referral rates in 2018 comparative to the other three areas in the region. During this time period, North Dublin processed the second highest number of referrals in the DNE region.

	Referral rate in 2018	Rank
<b>North Dublin</b>	3,574	2
<b>Dublin North City</b>	2,722	3
<b>Louth/Meath</b>	3,755	1
<b>Cavan/Monaghan</b>	1,821	4

*Table 14: Comparison referral rates to areas within the DNE region*

The impact of mandatory reporting under Children First has rocketed referral rates, and further education and interagency collaboration among our voluntary/community/other statutory agencies are required to ensure that children, young people and families are receiving the appropriate response to their needs in a timely fashion.

### 3.2 Safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation

While foster care is the dominant placement type for many of our children and young people in care (91%), it is becoming increasingly difficult to source local foster placement within Fingal to sustain children and young people within their own schools and communities. Further interagency work within the local Child and Family Support Networks areas is required to plan a way forward to resolving this challenge for our vulnerable children and young people.

#### Children in care

In December 2018 there were 303 children and young people in care in Dublin North. Two were in residential special care, 26 were in residential general care, 190 were in general foster care, 82 were in relative foster care and three had 'other' care placements.

#### Children in care education

At the end of September 2019 (quarterly report), 94 young people aged 18–22 were availing of aftercare. Of this number, 28 were in education and 24 in PLCs (total of 52). A further ten are in accredited training, but this may not come under education.

#### Children in care with a disability

Table 15 below highlights children and young people in care with a disability. Overall, 62 children and young people in care are reported to have some kind of disability, which represents 19% of the total number of children and young people in care. This compares negatively to the percentage of both the total population of North Dublin with a disability (12.4%) and the total child population of Ireland with a disability (6.5%). However, again it fits with an overall trend that children and young people with a disability tend to be overrepresented in the children in care population (see [Interim Report, Child Care Law Reporting Project, 2013](#))

Children in care with a disability	Number	Percentage
Mild (physical, mental, learning, etc.)	40	12%
Moderate (physical, mental, learning, etc.)	6	2%
Severe (physical, mental, learning, etc.)	5	2%
More than one disability	11	3%
Totals	62	19%

Table 15: Children in care with a disability

### 3.3: Protected from bullying and discrimination

#### Experience of being bullied and experience of bullying others

A recent [meta-analysis of all bullying studies on the island of Ireland](#) found that 22.4% of students in primary schools and 11.8% in post-primary were victims of bullying. These national percentages apply to Fingal. Irish studies by O'Moore and Kirkham have linked bullying involvement to poorer self-esteem, and lower life satisfaction was also an issue highlighted by Callaghan, Kelly and Molcho in their 2015 study, '[Exploring traditional and cyberbullying among Irish adolescents](#)'. as were increased anxiety and depression (see the 2010 study, '[Bullying victimisation, self harm and associated factors in Irish adolescent boys](#)'). [The Growing Up in Ireland: The lives of 13-year-olds](#) report (2018) suggests that prevalence levels were higher for children and young people from more socially disadvantaged backgrounds, and victims were found to have higher risks of socio-emotional and behavioural problems compared to those who had not been bullied. The forms of



### 3.3: Protected from bullying and discrimination

bullying reported included physical, verbal, emotional and cyber-bullying. The multiple forms that bullying can take emphasise the need for interventions to address both covert and overt forms. The report also highlights the important role schools, parents and organisations have in promoting respect and dignity in interactions with peers and others. According to the [CSO Quarter, National, Household Survey carried out in 2014](#), 12% of people aged 18 or over said that they felt discriminated against. According to [the Irish Health Behaviour in School-aged Children \(HBSC\) Study 2014](#), 13% of children report bullying others at school once or more in the past couple of months.

#### Vulnerable groups

While bullying can happen to any child, some may be more vulnerable. These include: those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, children and young people with disabilities or special educational needs, children and young people of minority religious faiths, those from ethnic minority and migrant groups, and lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) children and young people. Those from non-white and ethnic backgrounds (28%) and unemployed people (23%) reported the highest rates of bullying.

### Aim 3.4: Safe from crime and anti-social behaviour

#### Young people involved in the justice system

At a planning day in February 2019 it was noted that there were over 540 young people referred to the Gardai in Balbriggan. This compared to 220 referred to Gardai in Ballymun. This indicates 540 young people in the area were involved in crime. In some cases this could involve multiple crimes.

Table 16 below illustrates there are five Garda Youth Diversion Projects in Fingal located in three different areas of the county. In 2018 there were 77 referrals to the GYDP in Fingal. In October there were 21 young people engaged in Jets GYDP, aged from 13 to 18 years. The total number of new referrals from Juvenile Liaison Officers (JLOs) to Foróige-managed GYDP (North Bay, Orb, Web, Web LDTF) in Fingal was 53. (These figures refer to the incidents of young persons not to the number of crimes committed.)

Location	Garda Youth Diversion Project
Blanchardstown	Orb Web Web LDTF
Swords	Jets
Balbriggan	North Bay

*Table 16: GYDP by location*

Information from [Tackling Youth Crime: Youth Justice Action Plan 2014–2018](#) tells us that ‘Alcohol and Public Order crime provides the largest “cluster” of offending behaviours’. Theft from shops presents as the second most frequent offence. Burglary and possession of drugs are third and fourth. Local-level knowledge from four of the GYDP indicates that offences differ within areas of Fingal. However, theft was cited as the largest cluster of crimes across all of the GYDPs. At the time of writing, specific information on juvenile crime figures for the Fingal area were not available. A review of the [Probation Service’s Point in Time \(June 2019\)](#) reveals there were 122 young people in the Eastern Region, which covers Dublin, Meath, Louth, Wicklow, involved in the Young Persons Probation service.



## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

**Outcome 4:** refers to information that details if children and young people have economic security and opportunity. The data is presented under each of the four aims of Outcome 4:

- **Aim 4.1:** Protected from poverty and social exclusion
- **Aim 4.2:** Living in child/youth-friendly sustainable communities
- **Aim 4.3:** Opportunities for on-going education and training
- **Aim 4.4:** Pathways to economic participation and independent living

### Aim 4.1: Protected from poverty and social exclusion

#### Children, young people and poverty in Fingal

At the time of writing this report specific figures for the numbers of children and young people in Fingal affected by poverty were not available. [The State of the Nation's Children: Ireland 2016](#) (SONC) informs us that 18.6% of children were considered to be at risk of poverty nationally. Fingal has a population of 104,120 children and young people. Using the SONC percentages it might be estimated that 19,366 children and young people could potentially be considered to be at risk of poverty in Fingal.

SONC also informs us that 11.2% of children and young people in Ireland experienced consistent poverty. Applying this percentage to the population of children and young people in Fingal gives us the estimated figure of 11,661 children and young people who could potentially be experiencing consistent poverty. FCYPSC recognises that this figure is estimated. [The Trutz Haase deprivation area profiles 2011](#) indicate that 5.3% of the population of Fingal were considered to be experiencing relative poverty.

#### Children and young people in jobless households

The National Economic and Social Council (NESC) in their report [Jobless Households: An Exploration of the Issues](#) identified that 56% of adults in jobless households live with children. This is higher than other European Union countries. CSO data indicate that Dublin county, which includes Fingal, has the highest number of unemployed young people under the age of 25. Health Atlas figures indicate there were 17,477 males and 13,957 females looking for their first regular job in Fingal in 2016; 153,453 males and 112,509 females were unemployed; and 78,396 males and 79,952 females in Fingal in 2016 were unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability. Across the three Intreo offices in Fingal there were 7,099 people on the live register in September 2019.

### Aim 4.2: Living in child/youth-friendly sustainable communities

#### Homelessness

In Ireland, families are the largest and fastest-growing group experiencing homelessness, with the majority of homeless families (76%) located within the greater Dublin region. Figures released by Mr Eoghan Murphy TD, Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, on the 30th of April 2019 reveal that there were 10,305 homeless people in Ireland, of whom 3,821 were dependants. See Table 17 below.

## Aim 4.2: Living in child/youth-friendly sustainable communities

National Figures	March 2019
Adults	6,484
Families	1,733*
Dependants	3,821

**Table 17: Homeless figures**

These figures do not include rough sleepers, couch surfers, homeless people in hospitals or prison, those in refuges or those in reception centres. There is one reception centre in Fingal. Of note is the over-representation of the Traveller population in homelessness. They represent 9% of the homeless population while nationally they account for only 1% of the Irish population as a whole. Lone-parent families made up two thirds of families experiencing homelessness in 2016–2017. A third of those who presented as homeless in 2016–2017 were from non-Irish national families, according to [No Place Like Home, the Ombudsman for Children's 2019 report](#). 'Across the four Dublin local authorities, 56% of families (728 families with 1669 children) were residing in hotel accommodation while 44% of families (568 families with 1147 children) were in congregate homeless facilities in November 2018' (Focus Ireland, 2019).

Fingal County Council has responded to the homelessness crises robustly, providing families with a variety of options in order to address the need in the county. In September 2018, [Fingal County Council reported to the Joint Committee on Housing Planning and Local Government](#) that they were in contact with circa 602 families who are in homeless circumstances or at immediate risk of homelessness, with an average of 54 new families per month that are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Over 70% of families presenting as homeless are as a result of a Notice to Quit from private rented accommodation. Currently 77 families with approximately 170 children and young people are being accommodated in hotels and B & Bs in the county. There are an additional 92 families with approximately 220 children and young people being accommodated in apartments and lodge facilities in the county. This data includes approximately 50 Traveller families.

In early August 2019, the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) had 2,700 homeless children on its register. The DRHE estimates that 25% of children presenting as homeless in Dublin in recent months are from Fingal. The DRHE also estimates that 22% of families presenting as homeless in Dublin in recent months are from Fingal.

The decline in the volume of social housing as a proportion of the overall housing stock within Balbriggan, and the large number of non-owner-occupied households has created a poverty trap for many residents. Since the economic downturn a significant number of individuals and families in employment on low income have been forced into high-rent accommodation and this has created a new layer of working poor.

In 2016 there were 2,666 lone parents on FCC social housing list; as previously noted, the rate of lone parents is 20% in the county, whereas the state average is 12.7% and the rate in Dublin 17.8%.

#### **Aim 4.2: Living in child/youth-friendly sustainable communities**

Recent research carried out for the Housing Agency on projected demand for housing shows estimated demand for over 33,000 homes for Dublin City and suburbs (which incorporates Dún Laoghaire and parts of South Dublin and Fingal). Under [Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness](#) the delivery of 47,000 units of social housing is planned by 2021. Social and affordable housing is a crucial need in Fingal as it has one of the lowest levels of social or local authority housing per capita in the greater Dublin region ([Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan 2016–2020](#)). In 2015, for example, Fingal had just over 5,500 local authority rented dwellings in comparison to over 25,000 for Dublin City. In 2017 there were 7,271 households which qualified for social housing support in Fingal.

##### **Safe play and recreational spaces for children and young people**

FCC provides an extensive range of community and sports facilities in Fingal: Fingal Sports Partnership and a cultural and library services. There are 43 playgrounds as well as skate parks, tennis courts, 170 pitches for a range of sports, eight all-weather pitch facilities, cricket grounds and 14 Multi-Use Games areas; ten libraries plus four mobile library services and house-bound service; Sports grounds; 5,000 acres of public open space, 31 community centres and 183 sports clubs linked to the PPN. Fingal has 88 km of coastline stretching from Sutton to Balbriggan.

##### **Perception of anti-social behaviour and crime**

There are five Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDP) operational in Fingal. The projects work intensively with young people, meeting three to four times weekly in an effort to divert young people from becoming involved (or further involved) in anti-social or criminal behaviour. In 2018 there were 77 referrals to the GYDP across Fingal. Some young people involved in crime and anti-social behaviour of a more serious nature did not match the criteria for the GYDP.

Nationally, in 2014, 89.2% of children and young people aged 10–17 reported feeling safe in the area where they live. When minority groups were compared to all other children, Traveller children, immigrant children and children with a disability and/or chronic illness were less likely to report feeling safe in the area where they live (SONC). Younger children, boys, and children and young people in a higher social class were more likely to report feeling safe in their communities. In Dublin 81.6% of children and young people reported feeling safe; this compares with 92.2% of children and young people in the Border regions. These national percentages are applicable to the Fingal area.

#### **Aim 4.3: Opportunities for on-going education and training**

##### **Early leavers from education and training**

CSO data tell us 1.2% of females in Fingal had no formal educational attainment, 6.7% had primary education only and 11.0% had lower secondary education only; 1.0% of males had no formal education, 6.6% had primary education only and 12.1% had lower secondary education only.

While Fingal has a 92% retention rate to Leaving Certificate, interrogation of this data set is

#### Aim 4.3: Opportunities for on-going education and training

needed in order to fully understand the volume and origin of those who do leave school early with little or no qualifications.

##### **Progression/equity of access to tertiary education**

At the time of writing this report information on where pupils living in Fingal went once they finished school was not available. The Department of Education and Skills (DES) carried out research which highlights progression to third level by school type: [School Completers – What Next? Report on School Completers from Post-Primary Schools – pupils enrolled in 2009/2010 and not in 2010/2011](#). A review of this report reveals that those who attended fee-paying secondary schools were more likely (65.5%) to progress directly to higher education. By the same token, 49.1% of pupils who attended non-DEIS schools progressed directly to higher education. Significantly only a quarter of pupils who attended DEIS schools (DEIS: Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) went on to further education. [A Study of Progression in Irish Higher Education 2013/14 to 2014/15](#) by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) shows that females are more likely than males to progress to a following year of study; Irish students had a non-progression rate of 15% compared to 18% among non-Irish students. The highest level of non-progression is among the manually skilled (16%).

#### Aim 4.4: Pathways to economic participation and independent living

##### **Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)**

While CSO data (2016) indicate that Fingal had the highest labour force participation rate in the State (66.9%), there are relatively high rates of youth unemployment and an employment 'black spot' in the Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown ED (28.1%). It was suggested that a significant minority of young people are early school-leavers or finishing school with a low standard Leaving Certificate that limits employment opportunities. In addition, local consultation suggests that there is a lack of 'low-level entry' skilled jobs, which is having an impact on inter-generational unemployment, particularly for early school-leavers. In September 2019 there were 786 young people under the age of 25 on the live register in the three Intreo offices in Fingal.

[The Youth Guarantee](#) is a promise to ensure that all young people under the age of 25 years receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship and traineeship within a period of four months of becoming unemployed or leaving formal education. In Ireland the NEET rate is above the EU average. The exact NEET figure for Fingal was not known at the time of writing this report. The national data refer to unemployment benefit recipients aged 18–24 only. They do not cover inactive NEETs and those aged 16–17 supported through the education and training system (see [Pathways to Work: Youth Guarantee implementation plan Ireland May 2018](#)).

BOBF notes that young people want to work and secure employment, to pursue a career and contribute to society. It suggests that the best guarantee of economic security is a well-paid, secure job (p. 92). At the time of writing this report the proportion of young people on temporary contracts was not known.

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

**Outcome 5:** refers to information that details if children and young people are connected, respected and contributing to their world. The data is presented under each of the four aims of Outcome 5:

- **Aim 5.1:** Sense of own identity, free from discrimination
- **Aim 5.2:** Part of positive networks of friends, family and community
- **Aim 5.3:** Civically engaged, socially and environmentally conscious
- **Aim 5.4:** Aware of rights, responsible and respectful of the law

Aim 5: Sense of own identity, free from discrimination
<p><b>Discrimination and stigmatisation</b></p> <p>Fingal is a highly diverse county and has some of the highest numbers of non-Irish nationals in Ireland (42,002 in 2016). One in six Fingal residents was a non-Irish national with Polish, Romanian, UK and Lithuanian nationals combined accounting for 53.8 per cent of the total number of non-nationals in the county. 0.4% of the population of Fingal was classified as White Irish Travellers (1,315).</p> <p>The <a href="#">Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan 2016–2020</a> states that Fingal’s rich and diverse ethnic mix represents a considerable asset to the county as it brings dynamic and new points of view, cultural stimulation and individuals who are skilled in languages needed by international business. However, this level of ethnic diversity can bring significant challenges as it can result in people experiencing exclusion from the social mainstream (Fingal LCDC, 2018, p. 65).</p> <p><a href="#">The Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC) study 2014</a> details that 27.4% of children and young people report being bullied at school. BOBF highlights that groups who may be particularly vulnerable to bullying and discrimination include lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) young people, those in detention or in care, and children and young people from minorities.</p>
Aim 5.2: Part of positive networks of friends, family and community
<p><b>Positive parent and family relationships</b></p> <p>Nationally, significantly more girls than boys report that their parents spend time just talking with them several times a week (PISA Survey, 2015), and 73.4% of 15-year-olds reported that their parents spend time just talking with them several times a week. This was less with those of an immigrant background. There were differences by social class but they were not significant.</p>

**Aim 5.3: Civically engaged, socially and environmentally conscious**

Nine young people and 28.1% of all schools in Fingal participated in Young Social Innovators in Fingal in 2016. 22,505 young people in Fingal were eligible to vote in local, regional, national or European elections or referenda. At the time of writing it was not known how many young people who were eligible to vote did so. The Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) had a section on voter participation and this indicated on a national level that 62% of those aged between 18 and 24 said they voted in the general election in 2011.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which Ireland ratified in 1992, gives children and young people a right to participate in all matters that affect them. In county Fingal we have some really nice examples of this in operation: student councils in all secondary schools, a well-functioning Comhairle na nÓg, which are child and youth councils, and youth advisory panels in many of the voluntary organisations. Although operational since 2010, FCYPSC does not have a young person sitting on the committee. A young person from Fingal was successfully voted on to the national steering group for CYPSC, indicating positive social engagement

**Aim 5.4: Aware of rights, responsible and respectful of the law**

There are five Young Persons Probation (YPP) officers covering the Fingal area. These officers work with children and young people aged 12 to 18 who come before the courts. Oberstown Children's Detention Campus is located in Lusk and provides a safe and secure environment for young people, across the country, sentenced or remanded by the courts.

There is a Youth Joint Agency Response to Crime (JARC) operational in the county. JARC works with repeat or prolific offenders in the Dublin 15 area. As stated above, there are five GYDP in Fingal and 77 young people referred to these projects in 2018. All of this indicates that there are some juveniles in the county who are falling foul of the law.

Blanchardstown Task Force and North Dublin Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force have advised FCYPSC that young people in the county are resorting to crime in order to pay for their drug and/or alcohol addiction.

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

This section of the FCYPSC plan summarises the services provided to children, young people and families in Fingal by statutory, voluntary and community-sector organisations. It is not an exhaustive list of services, rather an overview of what is provided in the county and it is based on an online review of services conducted by FCYPSC. The services have been categorised according to the different levels in the Hardiker model, i.e. Levels 1, 2, 3 and 4. The layout of this section is reproduced with kind permission of DNC CYPSC.

### The Hardiker model

The Hardiker model provides a framework in which to understand different levels of need within a population of children. This model has been widely used as a planning framework by the Irish government (Centre for Effective Services, 2010). The model outlines four levels of intervention. As illustrated, there are four interconnected levels of need, ranging from 'universal services' in Level 1 for all children, young people and families to targeted, concentrated service provision in Level 4. More intensive supports are needed at the higher levels of the model. It is important that it is viewed fluidly and as a categorisation of services rather than families. Families may move up and down the continuum of need at different points in time.

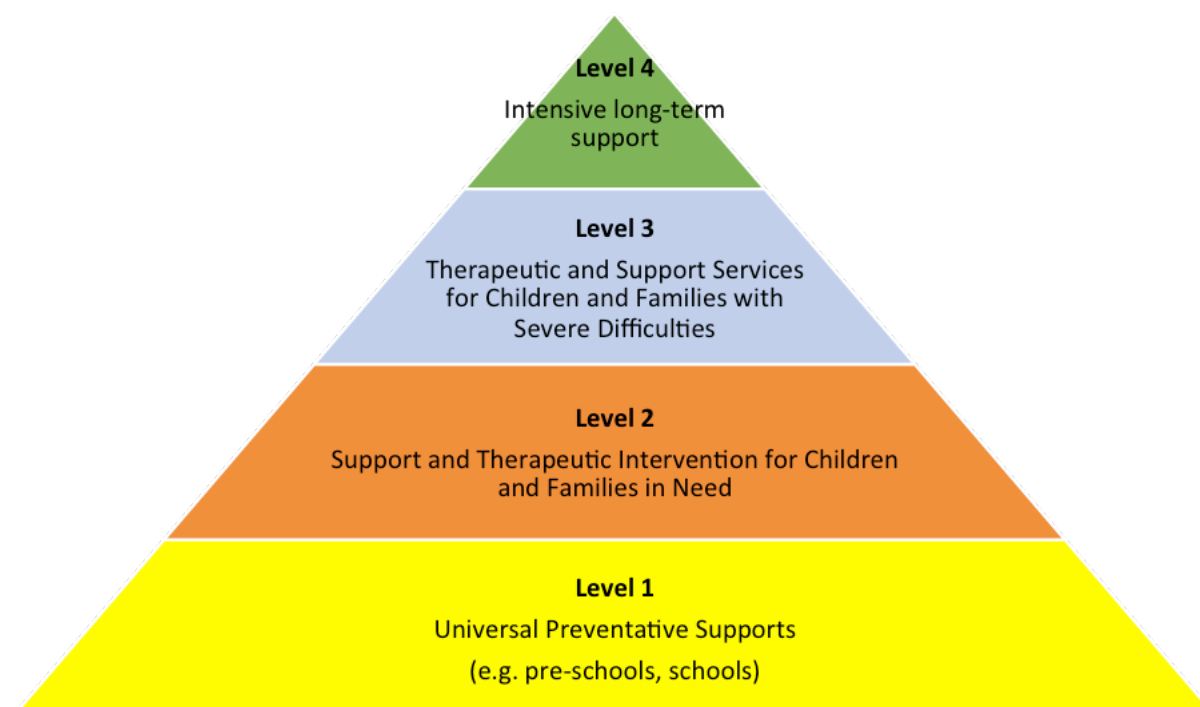


Figure 5: The Hardiker model



<b>1. Health, Social and Family Supports</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
Barnardos	A children's charity working with vulnerable children and their families. Includes family support work, intensive home-based supports; early years; teen parent support programme; bereavement services; child and family focused programmes; and assessment (SOS model with Tusla). Two bases, three services, all based in Dublin 15.	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-3
Daughters of Charity Child and Family Services	A not-for-profit public service organisation providing a range of supportive and therapeutic services to children and families. Provides early years services; assessment (SOS model with Tusla); therapeutic supports; family supports; and Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services for families. Two bases in Fingal in Balbriggan and one in Dublin 15.	C&V	Universal (early years) Targeted 3-4
Fingal County Council	FCC provides a range of public services in Fingal including social, housing, community and welfare services, homelessness supports, Traveller accommodation and supports. There are 43 playgrounds, skate parks, tennis courts, 170 pitches for a range of sports, eight all-weather pitch facilities, cricket grounds and 14 Multi-Use Games areas; ten Libraries, four mobile library services, house bound service; sports grounds; 5,000 acres of public open space, 31 community centres and 183 sports clubs linked to the PPN.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-4
EPIC	Works with and for children and young people who are currently living in care or who have experience of living in care.	C&V	Targeted 3
Extern	Provides services to young people to decrease the risk of their current placements breaking down and to assist young people to return home if necessary. Also to reduce level of risk that young people engage in.	C&V	Targeted 3
Family Resource Centres	Four FRCs in Fingal, located in Balbriggan, Dublin 15 x 2 and Baldoyle, supported and funded by Tusla Child and Family Agency. Providing a range of community, family and child supports.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-2



Health Service Executive	Offering a range of public primary care, health and social care services through clinics, hospitals (1), local health teams and health centres (14). Includes eye, dental, dietician, GPs and family doctors, GP out of hours (two; one in Hatstown and one in Swords); public health nurses, and more specialised services through speech and language therapy, psychiatric and psychology services and disability.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-4
Tusla Child and Family Agency	The statutory agency responsible for improving wellbeing and outcomes for children. Includes a range of support services including alternative care; Family and Community Support including Family Resource Centres, Meitheal and Family Support Service; Child Protection and Welfare; Education Welfare Service; Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Service; Prevention, Partnership and Family Support and Preschool Inspections.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-4
Youth Advocacy Project (YAP)	Intensive support programmes for young people and families. YAP Ireland uses a strengths-based, family-focused approach for young people with complex needs leading to positive outcomes for the young people, their families and referral agents.	S	Targeted 3
<b>Homelessness</b>			
St Vincent De Paul	The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul provides long-term accommodation to those who need it. They have two projects in the county; one in Malahide and one in the North County.	C&V	Targeted 2-4
Peter Mc Verry	Four Family Hubs operational in Fingal.	C&V	Targeted 2-4
Crosscare	Delivers a youth service in the Swords area. Providing information and advice to young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. A food bank is also provided.	C&V	Targeted 2-4
Respond	A housing and support agency set up for addressing homelessness. Two estates located in D15 and Baldoyle.	C&V	Targeted 3-4
Threshold	Provides advice and advocacy; housing and support to families experiencing or at risk of homelessness. There is an outreach service operational in FCC offices in D15. Referrals by FCC only.	C&V	Targeted 2-3

<b>Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services</b>			
Aoibhneas	Located in the city area but serving north Dublin; provides a refuge, 24-hr helpline; outreach service; daycaller service; and training.	C&V	Targeted 3-4
Sonas	Provides an emergency help number; crisis intervention; refuge in D15, advice, outreach and visiting support; individual and group support to women and children; court accompaniment; and preventative and awareness work.	C&V	Targeted 3-4
Womens Aid	Provides outreach service in Swords and Coolock, for which the catchment area is effectively the north side of Dublin city and county.	C&V	Targeted 3-4
Dublin Rape Crisis Centre	24-hr helpline, crisis counselling, long-term therapy, outreach, accompaniment (sexual assault treatment unit, Garda court) and training.	C&V	Targeted 3-4
Tusla Child and Family Agency	Social work department in Fingal addresses issues of domestic violence. Three teams, with a compliment of 31 social workers, are based in Coolock, Blanchardstown and Swords and cover the geographical area along the east coast from Howth to Balbriggan.	S	Targeted 3-4
Sexual Assault Treatment Unit (SATU)	The Rotunda Hospital provides the principal sexual assault treatment unit for Dublin, including north Dublin.	S	Targeted 3-4
Amen	Located in Meath and outreach from Dolphin House in Dublin. The only dedicated support service for male victims of domestic abuse in Ireland providing crisis intervention, helpline support and face-to-face supports to victims.	C&V	Targeted 3
Secondary Support Services	Family Resource Centres, Counselling support services (6), Citizen Information Services (5), district court, which sits in Swords and Balbriggan; and Blanchardstown, FLAC, Agencies working with New Communities and Travellers, FCC, DOC and An Garda Síochána.	C&V, S	Targeted 3-4
St Clare's Unit Assessment (Temple Street)	Assessment and therapy service based in Temple St Hospital for children, young people and their families where sexual abuse is a concern. Referral only by Tusla Social Work. Phone advice provided to concerned parents.	s	Targeted 3-4

<b>Traveller/Roma and Migrant Support</b>			
Traveller/ Roma support	Two services directly working for and with Traveller and/or Roma population in Fingal. Fingal Travellers Organisation and Blanchardstown Travellers Organisation. Range of services including, education, training, inclusion, advocacy, personal development, healthcare, etc	C&V	Targeted 2-3
Cairde	Works with disadvantaged ethnic minority communities from the continent of Africa, Eastern Europe and Baltic states. One base in Balbriggan.	C&V	Targeted 2-3
Baleskin Reception Centre	Baleskin is a reception centre contracted by the Department of Justice and Equality to provide initial reception services to persons entering the state and seeking international protection. This centre is on the outskirts of Fingal and borders the Dublin City boundary.	S	Targeted 2-3
<b>2. Education and Support Services</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
Community Educational Supports	Multiple programmes available throughout Fingal provided by a range of youth services, after-school programmes, transition programmes, educational and family supports, homework clubs, child-minding and early years services (e.g. child-minders).	S	Universal and targeted 1 and 2
DDLETB	Provides a range of educational and support services including a range of accredited and non-accredited courses, primary schools (3) second-level schools (12), four youth reach centres and one community training centre in D15, Youthreach.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-3
Community Training Centre (CTC)	One CTC providing training, educational and employment related services for young people (16–21 years) in a friendly and informal manner.	C&V	Targeted 2
Dublin City University (DCU)	Based on the outskirts of Fingal; provides a range of supports to linked schools in the community to address educational disadvantage.	S	Universal
Mainstream Primary and Secondary Schools	93 ordinary national schools (15 have DEIS status, 4 of these schools are in North Fingal, 9 are in West Fingal and 3 are in the centre of Fingal), eight ordinary national schools with pupils with special educational needs. Two special national schools in Fingal. There are 36 secondary schools in Fingal (6 have DEIS status, 2 in west Fingal, 2 in North Fingal, 1 in Swords and 1 on the border of Dublin City boundary).	S	Universal

National Educational Psychological Service	National Educational Psychological Services (28 psychologists in Fingal) work with both primary and post-primary schools and are concerned with learning, behaviour, social and emotional development. Each psychologist is assigned to a group of schools.	S	Targeted 2
Tusla Education and Welfare Service including School Completion Projects/Home School Liaison Service	The Child and Family Agency's Educational Welfare Services work together collaboratively and cohesively with schools and other relevant services to secure better educational outcomes for children and young people. There are two Educational Welfare Officers and one Senior EWO in Fingal. Primary and secondary schools supported alongside School Completion Projects. 11 Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinators are assigned to 19 primary and post-primary schools. Five SCP operational in Fingal supporting 90 primary schools and 28 secondary schools.	S	Targeted 2-3 and Universal
Alternative Learning Programmes (ALP)	ALP operational in Fingal (one in Swords and one in Balbriggan).	S	Targeted 2-3
Third-Level Institutions	TU Dublin	S	Universal 1
PLC	One school offering two PLC courses in D15.	S	Universal

### 3. Early Years Prevention and Intervention

Service Name/ Service Type	Description	Statutory/ Community & Voluntary	Hardiker Level
Early Years Services	315 private early years services registered crèches and Montessoris providing a range of day and sessional activities and development services to children up to five years of age. There are 18 Parent and Toddler Groups in Fingal.	C&V	Universal 1
Community-based Early Years Services	11 Community-based Childcare Services.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Daughters of Charity Child and Family Services	As well as providing two family centres in Fingal, DOC also provides supports to families in Fingal through its Dublin Safer Family Service on the outskirts of Fingal in Santry.	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Fingal County Childcare Committee (FCCC)	The main focus of FCCC is to encourage the development of childcare locally. FCCC support early years providers, parents, childminders and employers to improve accessibility, affordability and quality of early years services in Fingal.	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2

<b>4. Youth Clubs and Projects/Resources</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
Youth Services	There are four youth Services operational in Fingal, one in Swords (Crosscare), one in Blanchardstown, one in Balbriggan and one covering the coastal towns in the north of the county (Foróige); offering a broad range of groups, health and social supports, information, and activities for 10 years up to 24 years.	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Foróige Youth Clubs	18 Foróige youth clubs listed in the Fingal service directory.	C&V	Universal
Sports Clubs	84 sports clubs listed in the Fingal service directory.	C&V	Universal
LGBTI+	Local projects and programmes establishing in youth services. LGBTQ+ book club in Balbriggan and one LGBTI club in D15.	C&V	Targeted 2-3
<b>5. Policing and Youth Justice</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDP)	Five GYDPs operational in Fingal. The projects seek to divert young people from becoming involved (or further involved) in anti-social or criminal behaviour.	S	Targeted 2
An Garda Síochána	Nine Garda stations in Fingal (Garristown, Balbriggan, Skerries, Lusk, Malahide, Swords, Dublin Airport, Howth and Blanchardstown) providing a range of safe and secure services to residents and the communities. Services operating from Garda stations include but not limited to Juvenile Liaison Officers, Community Gardaí, prison services. Not all stations are full time.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-4
Young Persons Probation	Works with children and young people aged 12 to 18 who come before the courts, including those who are in the Oberstown Children's Detention Campus, Lusk. Also involved with Youth-JARC (Joint Agency Response to Crime), which works with repeat or prolific offenders in the Dublin 15 area. YPP funds or part-funds various projects that are specific to young people in the county. There are five YPP officers covering Fingal.	S	Targeted 3-4
Detention	Oberstown Children's Detention Centre located in Lusk provides care, education, training and other programmes for young people under 18 years of	S	Targeted 4

	age, with the aim of reintegrating them back into the community, so that they are capable of making positive and productive contributions to society. Two educational centres on the campus cater for all the young people who are detained there. Located directly in Fingal CYPSC catchment area but a major point of referral for all Dublin districts.		
<b>6. Drug and Alcohol Services</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
Community Drug and Alcohol Team (CDAT)	Two CDATs tackle the growing drug and alcohol problem in the Dublin 15 area that are affecting individuals, families and the wider community.	C&V	Targeted 2-3
Local Drug and Alcohol Task Forces (DATF)	Responsible for the implementation of National Drugs Strategy at local level; provides information, education, funding, responses and support for addiction-related issues. Two DATFs operational in North Fingal and Dublin 15.	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Traveller & New Communities Specific Drug & Alcohol Support Service	Substance abuse service specifically for Traveller and New Communities	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Youth	Crosscare drug and alcohol programme (DAP) for young people (12–24) Swords. Foróige D15 Youth Drug Education and Prevention Project. CÚIS project – drug and alcohol support service targeted at young people aged 12–24 in Balbriggan.	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Residential/ Detox	Residential beds available in Ireland. Rutland Centre (18+) (Dublin South); Keltoi (18+) (Phoenix Park); Cuan Mhuire (Cork, Kildare, Galway, Limerick and Down). Peter McVerry Residential Detoxification (Dublin 1). Access to Residential detox beds available at a number of centres throughout the country as needed from HSE.	Mix	Targeted 3-4
Satellite Clinics	Four HSE satellite clinics providing treatment outreach services in the community to drug users 18+, including nurses, GPs, counsellors and general assistants. These are not operational on a full-time basis.	S	Targeted 3
Treatment Clinics and Rehabilitation	HSE Addiction Services provide clinics for dispensing and treatment, plus needle exchanges, outreach and rehabilitation services.	S	Targeted 3

<b>7. Mental Health Supports</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service	CAMHS team consists of psychiatrists, psychologists, nurses, social workers, occupational therapists and speech and language therapists (3) (Swords, Balbriggan and D15).	S	Targeted 3
Adult Mental Health Supports	HSE provides a wide range of community- and hospital-based mental health services in Ireland, and these services have seen dramatic changes and developments over the past twenty years. These changes continue, as we move from the hospital model to providing more care in communities and in clients' own homes. Two: Balbriggan and Swords.	S	Targeted 3
Traveller Counselling Service	Community-based counselling service for the Traveller community. One location in Fingal.	V	Targeted 2-3
Jigsaw	Provides vital supports to young people with their mental health. Two bases: D15 and North Fingal.	V	Targeted 2-3
GROW	Mental health organisation which helps people who have suffered, or are suffering, from mental health problems. There is one group in Balbriggan.	V	Universal
Community Counselling Service	Five services providing free counselling, support, information and referral to teens experiencing mental health difficulties.	V	Universal
Hospitals Services	St Patrick's University Hospital (D8), St Vincent's Hospital (adolescents 16-18 years), day patients, D3; Temple Street, mental health, SW and psychology; St Ita's in Portrane. The new National Forensic Mental Health Hospital is being built in Portrane.	S	Targeted 3-4
Suicide Resource Officers	Provide supports to communities affected by suicide.	S	Targeted 3-4



<b>8. Disability-Specific Interventions</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
HSE Early Intervention Teams	Two EI teams support children aged under five years who have complex needs of a physical/sensory, intellectual disability or autistic nature and who require a co-ordinated team approach.	S	Targeted 2-3
School-Age Disability Teams	Run by Daughters of Charity, St Michael's House, HSE and Central Remedial Clinic: They support children aged 5 years to 13 years and 11 months in mainstream education (and not eligible for other Learning Disability or Physical Disability Service) who have complex needs of a physical/sensory, intellectual disability or autistic nature and who require a co-ordinated team approach	S&V	2-3
Health-related supports for children with autism and their families	There are a number of services that support children with autism and their families. Each service has specific access criteria. The services include: HSE Early Intervention Teams, School Age Disability Teams, St Paul's Hospital and special school and Residential Respite, Beechpark: supports children attending autism units in mainstream schools. In addition, where a child has multiple disabilities including autism they may be supported by the appropriated provider: St Michaels House/Daughters of Charity/Central Remedial Clinic/Child Vision/ Chime/Catholic Institute for Deaf People/Autism Initiatives/ Gheel/Praxis/ National Learning Network: provide training, therapeutic and day service opportunities for school leavers. There are also a number of voluntary organisations and parent-support groups for families and children with autism.	S	Targeted 3-4
Intellectual Disability (ID)	Daughters of Charity and St Michael's House. Providing a range of services including early years, educational, respite, residential, social work, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, psychology, home support. Prosper Fingal provide training, therapeutic, respite and day-service opportunities for school-leavers and adults.	S	Targeted 3-4



Physical and Sensory Disability	There are a range of supports for children with physical and sensory disability offering home support, therapeutic, educational and day opportunities, including Central Remedial Clinic, Child Vision and HSE. St Joseph's and St Mary's School for the Deaf and Chime support people with hearing impairment.	Mix	Targeted 3
HSE Disability Team	There are two teams, one for the Dublin 15 area and the other covering the eastern side of Fingal. The team is managed by the Disability Services Manager and assists in co-ordinating delivery of home support, respite and residential services to children and adults with disability.	S	Targeted 3-4
Community and national information and support	National organisations such as Irish Autism Action, Irish Society for Autism, ASPIRE; multiple local community and private services including education, family support programmes, respite, and supportive services in Fingal.	C&V	Targeted 2-3
<b>9. Employment, Social Inclusion and Legal</b>			
<b>Service Name/ Service Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Statutory/ Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>Hardiker Level</b>
Local Area Partnerships	Two partnerships established: Fingal Leader Partnership and Empower. Providing a range of employment, education, training and support services to communities, including Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP).	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Local Employment Offices	Three Intreo offices located in and serving the people of Fingal. Employment Services supports access to the labour market for jobseekers at local, regional and national level and assist employers who are seeking to fill job vacancies.	S	Targeted 2
Local Employment Service	One Local Employment Service (Empower) in Dublin 15.	C&V	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS)	There are two MABS offices in Fingal (Swords and Blanchardstown) offering a range of supports such as budgeting advice, negotiating with creditors to achieve sustainable payment solutions and personal insolvency options.	S	Universal and Targeted 1-2
Free Legal Aid Centres (FLAC)	Responsible for the provision of legal aid and advice on matters of civil law to persons unable to fund such services from their own resources. Also provide a family mediation service. Three FLAC centres in Fingal.	S	Targeted 2

## Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in Fingal

In this section FCYPSC highlight our main concerns and issues for children and young people in Fingal. They are derived from local-level knowledge, the socio-demographic profile of Fingal, an audit of services in Fingal, and consultations undertaken with children, young people and service-providers living or working in the county.

Under each of the five national outcomes, FCYPSC considers what is working well in Fingal for children and young people. What are we worried about? Are there sufficient services in this outcome area? And what are our priority areas for action? A one-page summary table is provided for each of the five national outcomes. This is followed by a more in-depth analysis highlighting key areas of concern for FCYPSC under each of the five national outcomes.

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

<p><b>What is working well in Fingal?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most children and young people in Fingal are doing well. Fingal has the lowest percentage nationally of those who report their health being bad or very bad at 1.1%, and persons with disability at 10.2% (national 1.5% and 13.0% respectively).</li> <li>• Fingal has the second highest rate for breastfeeding of 53.7% (national 46.6%) (Ireland has one of the lowest rates in the world).</li> <li>• 94% of newborns are visited by a PHN within 72 hours in CHO 9.</li> <li>• Relatively low suicide rates among men and women.</li> <li>• There is strong commitment to effective collaboration and co-operation across statutory, voluntary and community services.</li> <li>• Fingal has a Healthy Ireland Healthy Fingal plan which was jointly developed with Fingal LCDC .</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are we worried about?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The percentage of breastfed babies is low in comparison to international standards.</li> <li>• The ratio of playgrounds to 0–4 year olds in the county.</li> <li>• Immunisation rates are a concern.</li> <li>• High drug usage among young people.</li> <li>• Although considered an affluent county, there are pockets of disadvantage and vulnerable groups that require targeted support.</li> <li>• Mental health in a system where statutory, voluntary and community-based organisations are struggling to respond to high demand, in an under-resourced region that continues to see high levels of need within a context of rapid population growth (Balbriggan in particular).</li> <li>• There is a dearth of strategic support for the development and delivery of preventative and early-intervention services that can support children and young people’s self-esteem, emotional resilience and community membership.</li> <li>• Children and young people continue to be admitted to the adult mental health units of hospitals. The population profile and level of demand requires appropriate out-of-hours services and inpatient support.</li> <li>• Transitioning from CAMHS to AMHS at the age of 18 is problematic.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient resourcing of services to meet identified need is a significant challenge for many services in Fingal, including disability, mental health, and addiction. Staff recruitment and retention across statutory services creates a gap in service delivery.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are our priority areas for action?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health</li> <li>• Implementation of Healthy Ireland Fingal strategic plan</li> <li>• Suicide prevention and self-harm</li> <li>• Resilience</li> </ul>

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

Aim 1.1: Physically healthy and make positive health choices	
	FCYPSC will promote physical health for all children and young people in Fingal by supporting positive health choices that protect health and promote a healthy lifestyle.
	<p><b>Key priorities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To continue to support HSE and the <a href="#">Healthy Ireland Breastfeeding Action Plan 2016-2021</a> initiatives and programmes that promote and support the health benefits of breastfeeding for mothers and children.</li><li>• To continue to promote the HSE childhood immunisation schedule as a simple, safe and effective way of protecting babies and children against certain diseases.</li><li>• The development and extension of evidence-based early intervention programmes to interrupt the trajectory of young people into negative drug-related behaviours.</li><li>• To ensure that potentially vulnerable groups, including low-income families and members of the Traveller community, are considered and represented within activities, initiatives and programmes under the local Healthy Ireland plan implementation.</li><li>• The delivery of evidenced-based programmes to support a Healthy Weight for Fingal.</li></ul>
Aim 1.2: Good mental health	
	FCYPSC will work to improve access that children and young people have to a range of services that promote mental health and wellbeing. This will include provision of universal, targeted and specialist provision that helps children and young people to realise their full potential, cope with normal stresses of life, participate in educational and learning experiences and contribute to their community.
	<p>In Fingal, the needs analysis and consultation identified significant concerns in relation to children and young people's mental health and wellbeing. While available data from the <a href="#">Mental Health Division Key Performance Indicator Metadata</a> (HSE, 2018) provides key information in relation to HSE referrals (CHO 9) and waiting times, it does not account for the significant challenges at local level. Statutory, voluntary and community-based organisations are struggling to respond to high demand, in an under-resourced region that continues to see high levels of need within a context of rapid population growth (Balbriggan in particular). At local level there is need for a comprehensive suite of universal, targeted and specialist services to support children, young people and their families from early childhood to late adolescence. The following emerged as key priorities that require special attention:</p> <p><b>1. Co-ordinated response across the continuum of need</b></p> <p>In order to support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, children, young people and their families require the right service at the right time. While there is a strong commitment to effective collaboration and co-operation across statutory, voluntary and community services, the county lacks a strategic approach to the provision of evidence-based supports including universal, targeted and specialist services. At present, mental health services across the continuum of support are stretched beyond capacity, with a paucity of appropriate funding and resources to respond to need.</p>

## **Aim 1.2: Good mental health**

### **2. Specialist services: provision and timely access**

The [Connecting For Life Dublin North City and County Consultation Report](#) indicates that the average waiting time in terms of public sector services is five months. This has resulted in the prioritisation of severe cases of mental illness, meaning there are limited supports for prevention and early intervention for those with ‘moderate’ needs. This has consequently impacted on the demands for services offered by voluntary and charitable services, perhaps most noteworthy being demands for the Jigsaw service in Balbriggan. While there is a commitment from community and voluntary services to support these children and young people, there are serious concerns in relation to sustainability and consistency of this model.

### **3. Prevention and early intervention**

According to the [Jigsaw Annual Report 2017](#), key difficulties for children and young people include low mood, stress and anxiety. Such difficulties are also reported by professionals working in schools, community groups and primary care services. Despite a growing international evidence base for the promise and potential of preventative approaches, particularly in relation to anxiety and depression, there is little or no access to universal or targeted supports for youth mental health. While Fingal has a strong record of provision within the voluntary and community sector, there is a dearth of strategic support for the development and delivery of preventative and early intervention services that can support children and young people’s self-esteem, emotional resilience and community membership. This includes delivery of evidence-based parenting programmes, whole school approaches to wellbeing and community-based programmes to support resilience.

### **4. Inpatient care and out-of-hours services**

Despite high levels of need, there are concerns in relation to inpatient care services for children and young people. [The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Mental Health Commission Inspection Report \(2017\)](#) indicated that children and young people continued to be admitted to the adult mental health units of Beaumont, Mater and Connolly hospitals. While Pieta House and Jigsaw provide a much-needed service, the population profile and level of demand requires appropriate out-of-hours services and inpatient support. The gap in service provision is highlighted when we look at emergency services/supports available: there are currently no emergency inpatient beds available in the county; admission has to be by referral.

### **5. Transition from CAMHS to AMHS**

Transitioning from CAMHS to AMHS at the age of 18 is problematic. Ideally contact should be initiated between the two services six months before the young person reaches 18. Regrettably this does not happen in the main for a myriad of reasons. ‘The interface between disruption of care to young people at the CAMHS-AMHS interface, and the long-term adverse effects on their health, wellbeing and potential is of concern worldwide’ ([BMC Psychiatry 2018; 18: 167](#)). What is needed is research into the transition from CAMHS to AMHS in this area.

<b>Aim 1.3: Positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health</b>	
	FCYPSC emphasises the importance of children and young people in the county having positive and respectful approaches to relationships and sexual health.
	<p><b>Diversity and inclusion</b></p> <p>Fingal has a large youth population, within which there are high levels of diversity in terms of race, ethnicity and cultural diversity. Those working with families, children and young people highlighted the challenges for newcomer families and those that speak English as a second language in terms of navigating educational and support services. Local-level consultation also indicated a lack of services for children, young people and families in terms of cultural identity and sexual orientation (LGBTQ).</p> <p><b>Vulnerable groups</b></p> <p>Findings from the Fingal Needs Analysis indicate a significant increase in the numbers of children and young people who come from the Roma and Traveller communities. A key concern was engagement with families from these communities. While there is a clear commitment to the development of strategies that improve and enhance individual and cultural sensitivity, there is a lack of meaningful support and information available locally.</p> <p>Local consultation also highlighted the need for opportunities for community involvement for children and young people with special and additional needs. It was reported that engagement of children and young people with special and additional needs in youth services and clubs is low. This was attributed to a lack of access and availability, as well as training for staff and volunteers to support children and young people with disabilities or additional needs.</p>
<b>Aim 1.4: Enjoying play, recreation, sport, arts, culture and nature</b>	
	FCYPSC will promote children and young people’s opportunities for play, recreation and engagement in sports, arts, culture and nature.
	<p>In order for children and young people to be active, physically healthy and have good mental health, they require provision of spaces, places and experiences that afford them opportunities to enjoy play, recreation, sport, arts, culture and nature. <a href="#">Teenspace: National Recreation Policy for Young People (2007–2017)</a> provided a policy framework for recreational opportunities for young people between the ages of 12 and 18 and guided the strategic direction of government departments, local authorities, City and County Development Boards, the youth sector, the community and voluntary sectors to develop recreational opportunities for young people in an informed and appropriate manner. A review of public policy on play and recreation in Ireland was commissioned by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs in July 2016, and in November 2018 the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs anticipated that this would be published in due course. Such a review, along with the information contained in <a href="#">First 5: A Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019–2028</a>, is likely to inform the actions and activities of the FCYPSC within the wider context of the county.</p> <p>FCYPSC will promote children and young people’s opportunities for play, recreation and engagement in sports, arts, culture and nature, linking this to the priorities of the <a href="#">Fingal Development Plan (2017–2023)</a>, <a href="#">Fingal Culture and Creativity Strategy</a>, <a href="#">Keeping it Green – Open Space Strategy</a> in terms of play, recreation and open space.</p>

<b>Outcome 2: Achieving in all areas of learning and development</b>	
<b>What is working well in Fingal?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fingal is considered to have a low percentage rate of people with a disability (10.8%).</li> <li>• Fingal was successful with 552 AIM applications; 375 of these were for level 7.</li> <li>• Provision of summer project and educational supports for homeless families.</li> <li>• Fingal compares favourably to other counties in the <a href="#">CSO 2016 profile of Education, Skills and the Irish Language</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>What are we worried about?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inability to meet the demand of a growing preschool and school-age population.</li> <li>• Childcare provision in the county, i.e. Fingal has the lowest proportion of community-based childcare services in Ireland (6%); concern about how the new childcare scheme will impact on early years services working with marginalised groups; the difficulties recruiting trained AIM staff.</li> <li>• Lack of local-level provision and support for young children (birth to six years) and families, especially those living in areas of deprivation and at risk of poverty and social exclusion, including newcomer families, members of the Traveller community, families experiencing disability and single-parent families. Schools offered a limited number of assessments each year (3–4 assessments).</li> <li>• The significant number of families in need not accessing parenting programmes and supports.</li> <li>• Children on waiting lists for assessment of need (AON).</li> <li>• Particular concern for homeless children and young people, and children and young people with special and additional educational needs accessing school places.</li> <li>• Transitions through education.</li> <li>• Lack of access to third-level colleges, particularly in the north of the county.</li> <li>• Many schools in Fingal are currently serving the needs of children and young people at risk of poverty and exclusion; however, many of these schools do not qualify for provision under the DEIS Programme.</li> <li>• Early school-leaving.</li> <li>• The number of very young people out of school due to drug use was raised as an area of concern by FCYPSC members.</li> </ul>
<b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disability services require additional resources to meet current and future needs.</li> <li>• Progression routes from second-level to further education, training and employment for children and young people with disabilities are limited.</li> <li>• There is a lack of services for early school-leavers.</li> <li>• Schools and preschools are struggling to meet the needs of homeless children.</li> <li>• There is a gap in the number of schools accessing DEIS status.</li> <li>• There is a lack of PLC availability in the county.</li> <li>• There is a lack of a strategic plan to deliver parenting programmes across all age groups in the county.</li> <li>• There is a gap in our knowledge base in relation to resilience programmes delivered in the county.</li> <li>• There are significant gaps in services, particularly preschool and school places.</li> </ul>
<b>What are our priority areas for action?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early years</li> <li>• Early school-leaving</li> <li>• Transition</li> <li>• Homeless children and young people</li> <li>• Early intervention</li> <li>• Disability</li> </ul>



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

<b>Aim 2.1: Learning and developing from birth</b>
<p>FCYPSC values parents as the first and primary educators of the child and acknowledges that children and young people are active learners from birth, with their earliest experiences of care and learning laying the foundations for future development. The FCYPSC will develop and promote services that encourage responsive relationships, rich learning environments and supportive early learning experiences within the home and early childhood settings.</p>
<p><b>Child and family services/parent support</b></p> <p>Local-level consultation and needs analysis conducted by Exodea (2018) indicates a dearth of local-level provision and support for young children (birth to six years) and families, especially those living in areas of deprivation and at risk of poverty and social exclusion, including: newcomer families, members of the Traveller community, families experiencing disability and single-parent families. At present, children and families living in areas of deprivation in Fingal do not have access to the <a href="#">Area-Based Childhood (ABC) programme</a>, a national prevention and early intervention initiative targeting investment in effective services to improve outcomes for children, young people and families living in areas of socio-economic deprivation. CSO data (2016) indicate that single-parent families account for 23.1% of all families in Fingal, with concentration in EDs that have significant levels of local authority housing, for example the lone parent rate exceeds 50% in Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown (Fingal County Council, 2015).</p> <p>Despite the success of the <a href="#">Fingal Parenting Initiative</a> (2011–2014) and continued delivery of parenting programmes and support across a number of agencies within the county, local-level consultation indicates that families who are in need are not accessing parenting programmes and supports because they are unaware of the service or unsure of which service is most appropriate.</p> <p><b>Early intervention and prevention</b></p> <p>Local-level consultation with parents and stakeholders indicates that early intervention services need to be increased for families and agencies that support children with disabilities and additional needs. Furthermore, consultation indicated a need for practical support to families when children and young people are presenting with difficulties and awaiting assessment. Stakeholders reported that it is the community childcare services and schools that are trying to support these families rather than the agency that is most appropriate to their need. Specific concerns were raised in relation to provision for children and young people with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder, in terms of educational and home-based supports.</p>



Aim 2.2: Social and emotional wellbeing	
	<p>Social and emotional wellbeing includes the ability to self-regulate, to have empathy and to be emotionally resilient. FCYPSC recognises that children and young people’s sense of wellbeing is fundamental to their ability to function in society and meet the demands of everyday life.</p>
	<p>NEPS psychologists train teachers to implement evidence-based programmes and practices that promote resilience and social and emotional competence in children and young people. These include the <a href="#">Incredible Years TCM Programme</a> and the <a href="#">FRIENDS Programmes</a>. At the time of writing this report all schools in Fingal had been offered this training at least once by NEPS. As the programme was in the middle of a three-year roll-out information was not available in relation to the numbers of schools in Fingal that have actually participated in the training and are currently delivering the training in schools.</p> <p><a href="#">The National Educational Psychological Service</a> (NEPS) provided a service report as part of the Fingal Needs Analysis stating that there are 28 psychologists and a regional director to serve a population of almost 100,000 students in 295 schools (1:3,500). The report indicates that NEPs offers a consultative model of service with a focus on empowering teachers and with a range of supports, from individual casework to more indirect support and development work, building the school’s capacity to respond to needs presenting within the student population.</p> <p>The needs analysis and consultations carried out in Fingal identified significant concerns in relation to children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing in Fingal. In local consultation there was a strongly expressed need to provide resilience, motivation and personal development supports to children and young people.</p>

Aim 2.3: Engaged in learning	
	<p>FCYPSC wants to ensure that all children and young people in Fingal have a strong educational infrastructure that provides children and young people with the opportunity to access and participate in positive educational experiences.</p>
	<p>Despite provision under the School Building Programme (2016–2021), increased numbers of school-aged children and young people have resulted in difficulties securing school places across the county. Local-level consultation indicates that this is a particular concern for children and young people with special and additional educational needs, as well as those with patronage preferences. These difficulties appear to be further compounded by individual school enrolment policies resulting in extensive waiting lists in some areas.</p> <p><b>Special schools and special classes in mainstream schools</b></p> <p>Details of <a href="#">Special Classes in Primary and Post Primary Schools (2018–2019)</a> from the National Council for Special Education indicate that there are 36 ASD classes, three Mild or General Learning Difficulties classes, one class for Speech and Language Difficulties and two Specific Learning Difficulties classes available in Primary Schools in Fingal (NCSE, 2017). This number falls in terms of secondary provision, with the figures indicating only ten ASD classes and one class for children and young people with Mild or General Learning</p>

### **Aim 2.3: Engaged in learning**

Difficulties at post-primary. Local-level consultation indicates significant concerns for secondary-school-aged children and young people with additional needs being home-schooled owing to insufficient provision. According to the local needs analysis, there are concerns that this further isolates these children and young people from their peers and local community. There are also concerns that there is a lack of services for children and young people with a diagnosis of ASD, and despite recommendations arising from psychological assessment, limited resources for support or intervention have been put in place to meet these needs within the school settings or home-learning environment.

#### **School supports and educational services**

Despite access to educational psychology services, local consultation indicates that there is a significantly high level of demand for initial assessment, with schools offered a limited number of assessments each year (3–4 assessments). In addition, the current referral pathways are not clear, and many children and young people are also referred to existing services that are already stretched to capacity. This has resulted in extensive waiting times for services such as CAMHS, Jigsaw, Eating Disorder Services and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMH).

#### **Transitions and pupil-tracking systems**

[Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures – The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014–2020](#) has ‘strengthening transitions’ as one of its six goals, and highlights the transition from preschool to primary school and from primary education to secondary education. Transitions through the school system offer children and young people an opportunity for growth and development. A Growing Up in Ireland study, [Off to a Good Start? Primary School Experiences and the Transition to Second Level Education](#), highlights the significance of the transition from primary-level school to second-level school. The study identifies that girls, those from unemployed families, immigrant families and those with lower educational backgrounds experienced most difficulties. Supported transitions are also an objective of [First 5: A Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families](#). The needs analysis carried out in Fingal and subsequent facilitated planning sessions with the educational sub-group identified the importance of transitions through the education system for children and young people in Fingal. Of particular concern for FCYPSC are the harmful effects homelessness has on a child’s overall wellbeing, and the committee recognises the specific needs of homeless children and young people in dealing with transitions through the school system.

## Aim 2.4: Achieving in education

FCYPSC believes that educational participation is a key determinant of future success and that education can reduce inequality and improve the life chances of children and young people. We seek to ensure that all children and young people can participate in quality educational experiences that respond to their unique context within their families and local communities.

### **Socio-economic deprivation and risk of educational disadvantage**

Many studies, both Irish and further afield, provide a strong correlation between high levels of deprivation and low educational achievement (see [Reardan, 2011](#); [Sofroniou, Archer and Weir, 2004](#); [Weir, 2001](#)). While Fingal is perceived as an affluent county, high levels of deprivation, poverty and social exclusion are experienced across the county. In some cases, deprivation within electoral divisions (EDs) is masked by the relative proximity of more affluent communities. At present, the most disadvantaged electoral districts ([Pobal HP Deprivation Index, 2016](#)) are located in the west and north of the county and include both rural and urban areas: Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown (-6.67) and Blanchardstown-Corduff (-11.55), Balbriggan Urban (-3.44), Blanchardstown-Coolmine (-2.79), Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart (-3.47) and Killsallaghan (-2.20).

Local-level consultation indicates a need for further review of DEIS criteria in relation to Fingal schools. Many schools in Fingal are currently serving the needs of children and young people at risk of poverty and exclusion. However, many of these schools do not qualify for provision under the DEIS Programme as their pupil cohort is deemed not to meet the criteria. The current measure, the Pobal HP Index, fails to account for the unusual socio-economic landscape in Fingal, where relative affluence occurs alongside pockets of deprivation and disadvantage within small-area population statistics.

### **Alternative educational provision and supports for early school-leavers**

While figures from Census 2016 indicate high levels of educational achievement and third-level participation in the county, there remains, a small but significant number of young people who leave school without any formal qualifications. Local consultation indicates that alternative systems to mainstream educational provision are available within the county, but many have been negatively impacted by service funding cuts and significant administrative burden. While Youthreach and other agencies working as part of the EU [Youth Guarantee](#) are making important progress, Exodea in their needs analysis highlighted that there is a local need to develop, define and make visible alternative educational pathways for children and young people. The number of very young people out of school due to drug use was raised as an area of concern by FCYPSC members, as was the high number of early school-leavers in North Dublin. The high number (300) of early school-leavers on the EWO list in this part of the county was also a worrying concern for FCYPSC.

<b>Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm</b>	
<b>What is working well in Fingal?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of Meitheal briefing and training sessions to community/ voluntary and statutory agencies in Fingal</li> <li>• Secured funding for Family Resource Centre in Balbriggan</li> <li>• PPFS group established as Outcome 3 sub-group</li> <li>• Development of an app to improve on the numbers of families that Do Not Arrive (DNA) for appointments</li> </ul>
<b>What are we worried about?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing number of homeless families with children and young people in the county</li> <li>• The numbers of children and young people in direct provision</li> <li>• High level of referrals in North Dublin to Child Protection and Welfare</li> <li>• High level of open and unallocated cases in North Dublin</li> <li>• The percentage of children and young people in care with a disability</li> <li>• The high percentage of children and young people in care placed outside the region</li> <li>• The rise in the number of children and young people in care in the region</li> <li>• Over-representation of Black/Black Irish children and young people in care in the region</li> <li>• In relation to DV deficiencies, the lack of county data, data deficits across all secondary providers and the lack of specific DV services for children</li> <li>• The lack of provision of refuge places, counselling, advocacy and sexual assault services in Fingal</li> <li>• High levels of drug and alcohol usage among young people in the county</li> <li>• Drug debt intimidation</li> <li>• Social media: potential exploitation and bullying ,particularly more vulnerable groups of young people</li> <li>• Young people involved in the justice system</li> </ul>
<b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are significant gaps in services, particularly universal and targeted supports for families with high levels of need.</li> <li>• There is a need for greater partnership across all sectors and services to improve the delivery of Meitheals.</li> <li>• There is a need for a co-ordinated approach to parenting programmes across the county.</li> <li>• There is a gap in cyber safety training for young people and parents.</li> <li>• There is a need to provide information and guidance to services working with children and young people in line with Children First Act.</li> <li>• There is a need to raise awareness and highlight referral pathways for those affected by DV.</li> </ul>
<b>What are our priority areas for action?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping children and young people safe at home</li> <li>• Cyber safety</li> <li>• Interagency working</li> <li>• Child protection</li> <li>• DSGBV services</li> <li>• Homeless children, young people and families</li> </ul>

## Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

<b>Aim 3.1: Having a secure, stable and caring home environment</b>
<p>FCYPSC are committed to effective interagency working and collaboration that supports parents to raise their children in a way that improves wellbeing and enables children's emotional needs for security, belonging, support and intimacy to be satisfied within a stable and caring home environment.</p>
<p><b>Parenting advice, information and support</b></p> <p>While all families can benefit from access to family support and parenting programmes, local needs analysis indicated that a more targeted and co-ordinated approach to supporting parents and families is needed locally. It was suggested that there are significant gaps in services, particularly universal and targeted supports for families with high levels of need who are not taking up the offer of these supports. This was attributed to a lack of clarity and referral pathways to supports and services that meet their need. Needs analysis suggests that parents require co-ordinated advice and support on specific topics: online safety, drugs, and anti-social behaviour including gang culture and carrying of weapons.</p> <p>Local needs analysis indicates that the increase in homelessness in certain areas has had a significant impact on both the families and agencies that are trying to support them. Many children and young people are living in hotels and are isolated and disconnected from both their communities and the services that support them. Homelessness is having a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families who are living in unsuitable accommodation and displaced from their local communities.</p> <p>The decline in the volume of social housing as a portion of the overall housing stock within Balbriggan, and the large number of non-owner occupied households has created a poverty trap for many residents. Since the economic downturn a significant number of individuals and families in employment on low income have been forced into high-rent accommodation and this has created a new layer of working poor.</p> <p>There is a clear interrelation between various socio-demographic statistics, particularly population growth, deprivation, housing and education. A clear example of this is in Balbriggan, an area of huge population growth, where the School Completion Programme reports that up to 25% of one secondary school's pupils changed in a single academic year due to accommodation issues, demonstrating the lack of stability for the children and families.</p>

3.2 Safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation	
	<p>FCYPSC acknowledges childhood and adolescence as a precious developmental period. Adverse childhood experiences including the trauma of neglect, abuse or exploitation may have a significant and permanent detrimental impact on an individual and their family.</p>
	<p>FCYPSC needs analysis highlighted a significant number of concerns in relation to keeping children and young people in the county safe from abuse and neglect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growing number of homeless families with children in the county</li> <li>• The numbers of children and young people in direct provision</li> <li>• High level of referrals in North Dublin to Child Protection and Welfare</li> <li>• High level of open and unallocated cases in North Dublin</li> <li>• The percentage of children and young people in care with a disability</li> <li>• The high percentage of children and young people in care placed outside the region</li> <li>• The rise in the number of children and young people in care in the region</li> <li>• Over representation of Black/Black Irish children and young people in care in the region</li> <li>• In relation to domestic violence, deficiencies the lack of county data, data deficits across all secondary providers and the lack of specific DV services for children and young people</li> <li>• The lack of provision of refuge places, counselling, advocacy and sexual assault services in Fingal</li> <li>• High levels of drug and alcohol usage among young people in the county</li> <li>• Drug debt intimidation</li> <li>• Social media: potential exploitation and bullying particularly more vulnerable groups of young people</li> <li>• Young people involved in the justice system</li> </ul>

3.3: Protected from bullying and discrimination	
	Bullying and discrimination can have a severe negative impact on an individual's mental health and may hinder their access to education, health and other life opportunities. FCYPSC want to ensure that children and young people are protected from bullying and discrimination within their schools and local communities.
	Local-level consultation suggests that social media presents a possible risk to children and young people in terms of online bullying and exposure to inappropriate content for children and young people. The sharing and circulation of sexual images presents concerns for parents on how to safeguard and support their children, and schools are being asked to support the resolution of online safety matters.

Aim 3.4: Safe from crime and anti-social behaviour	
	Children and young people in Fingal should feel safe within their community and be protected and diverted from being drawn into anti-social and criminal activity.
	<p>Local needs analysis suggested that the significant increase in population in Fingal has an impact on the level of crime, including anti-social behaviour, theft, burglary and public order offences. While figures were not available for youth offending in Fingal, the Le Chéile report <a href="#">Reducing Youth Crime in Ireland (2017)</a> suggests that access to services, such as mentoring and support for youth offenders can reduce re-offending and support young people's self-confidence, help communication and increase engagement in positive activities.</p> <p>There were comments in the consultation linking the increasing numbers of young people involved in the use of drugs with their involvement in gang culture, including drug-related violence, intimidation and links to organised crime. It was reported that 'gang members' are involved in intimidating behaviours such as carrying knives and anti-social behaviour on housing estates. In the local needs analysis the fear was expressed that 'area-based ghettos' are beginning to emerge within which a 'gang' identity is being created and reinforced.</p> <p>Consultation with parents and professionals has highlighted the value of community policing and Gardaí in building relationships and increasing the sense of safety in the community. However, there are concerns that this model needs further support locally. A national Community Policing Office has been established to support Community Gardaí with community engagement, coupled with an emphasis on community policing in <a href="#">An Garda Síochána's Modernisation and Renewal Programme (2016–2021)</a>. Geographical areas will be mapped out to evaluate resource allocation and provision and establish 'Community Areas of Policing'.</p>

## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

<p><b>What is working well in Fingal?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local-level knowledge in terms of areas of deprivation</li> <li>• Provision of two family hubs and two own front door services in the area</li> <li>• GYDP operational in the county</li> <li>• The provision of safe play and recreational spaces for children and young people</li> <li>• Strong tradition of employment in the aviation, agriculture, pharmaceutical and retail industries</li> <li>• Fingal has the biggest Student Enterprise Programme in the country, with over 2,700 students from 29 schools competing. In the 2017/18 competition, Fingal won the top prize at Junior level.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are we worried about?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prolific substance misuse among young people</li> <li>• Lack of a PLC in the north of the county</li> <li>• Insufficient and expensive public transport system</li> <li>• Areas of deprivation and disadvantage</li> <li>• Homelessness</li> <li>• Above national average for lone parents</li> <li>• The numbers of young people turning to crime</li> <li>• Low levels of education and high level of unemployment among Travellers</li> <li>• Lack of access to secure stable employment for young people</li> <li>• Unemployment 'black spot' in the county</li> <li>• The high concentration of new communities in areas of disadvantage (Balbriggan and parts of D15)</li> <li>• Early school-leaving/lack of engagement of young NEETs</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge in relation to community benefit from multinational employers</li> <li>• Difficulty for those who have been through the care system in gaining employment and accommodation</li> <li>• The number of playgrounds per 0–4 year olds in the county</li> </ul>
<p><b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of enticement for young people to continue on to training and employment</li> <li>• Poor public transport in rural areas of the county</li> <li>• Housing for children, young people and families on housing waiting lists is a concern.</li> <li>• Lack of community-based childcare services in areas of deprivation prohibiting young parents returning to work/education</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are our priority areas for action?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vulnerable young people not engaging: complex, chaotic</li> <li>• Substance misuse</li> <li>• Lack of fully operational PLC in Fingal</li> <li>• Youth unemployment</li> <li>• The development of a play strategy for the county</li> </ul>



## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

Aim 4.1: Protected from poverty and social exclusion	
	<p>FCYPSC believe that children and young people should be protected from poverty and social exclusion. All families should have adequate income and resources, decent housing, access to quality affordable food, good quality education and healthcare, and the opportunities to develop and participate as equals in society.</p>
	<p>Local-level consultation with Empower emphasised the importance of review of small-area profile data in Fingal to consider the level of need, marginalisation and disadvantage within small-area profiles in the county. At present, these figures differ from those generated by the Health Atlas Finder (Appendix 3). FCYPSC is concerned about areas of deprivation and high levels of unmet need experienced by some children, young people and families in the county. The committee is particularly concerned about many of the groups at risk of poverty: Traveller and other migrant populations, lone-parent families and those with disabilities. The needs analysis revealed that Dublin 15 and Balbriggan have high concentrations of new communities. These two areas are noted to have high levels of deprivation. FCYPSC is keen to ensure that the needs of the migrant population within the county are met.</p>
Aim 4.2: Live in child/youth-friendly sustainable communities	
	<p>Children and young people in Fingal should be able to live and grow up in a safe, healthy, sustainable and child-friendly environment that supports their developmental and learning needs. This means the development of child-friendly communities and access to local services, amenities, schools and good quality public transport; streets and residential areas that are safe for walking and cycling; and the provision of outdoor green spaces for play, recreation and sport.</p>
	<p><b>Homelessness</b></p> <p>As referred to above, there were in excess of 600 families with children and young people currently experiencing homelessness in Fingal. This does not include families who are being accommodated in a women’s refuge in D15 or in nearby refuges on the outskirts of Fingal. In 2016, there were 375 young people under the age of 25 on the social housing waiting list in Fingal. This figure represented a rate of 16.7 per 1,000 young people under the age of 25. Relative to other Las, this was the 12th lowest rate in the State and was less than the State average of 18.8. FCC is currently using six hotels, two family hubs and two own front door accommodations in Fingal to accommodate homeless families with children. FCYPSC are concerned that Fingal is accommodating 25% of the all homeless children/families. This figure was provided to us by the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE).</p> <p>Recent research by the Ombudsman for children, <a href="#">No Place Like Home: Children’s views and experiences of living in Family Hubs</a> (2019), and the Children’s Rights Alliance, <a href="#">Home Works: A Study on the Educational Needs of Children Experiencing Homelessness and Living in Emergency Accommodation</a>, provides FCYPSC with much-needed insight into the effect homelessness has on children and young people and its impact on educational development.</p>

<b>Aim 4.2: Live in child/youth-friendly sustainable communities</b>
<p><b>Safe play and recreational spaces for children and young people in Fingal</b></p> <p>Concern was raised in the needs analysis about the lack of play space in built-up housing estates. For example, Mulhuddart and Corduff in Dublin 15 have little or no access to parks or playgrounds. While there is a beautiful demesne located in Dublin 15, St Catherine’s Park, that FCC have invested heavily in, the paucity of public transport makes it inaccessible for those who live in the area who don’t have a car. FCYPSC is keen for a play strategy to be developed for the county in order to ascertain if there are areas of unmet need in terms of ratio of playgrounds per 0–4 year olds in the county.</p> <p>An area of concern for FCYPSC is social outlets for children and young people with special educational needs. This was raised during the needs analysis, as was the ‘lack of mainstream services for children under the age of 10 years and waiting lists for services for children and young people continue to grow’.</p>

<b>Aim 4.3: Opportunities for on-going education and training</b>
<p>Children and young people in Fingal should have access to opportunities for ongoing education and training that facilitates their active participation in the economy and their ability to build economically secure lives for themselves and their children.</p>
<p>While Census 2016 indicates that 48.7% of adults in Fingal have a third-level qualification, one of the highest rates in Ireland, there is a need to consider opportunities for education and training for early school-leavers and young people who do not attend university. Throughout the local-level consultation there were numerous references to the possibility and potential of apprenticeship systems. However, there was some ambiguity regarding access and availability, as well as pathways to apprenticeship when a young person does not want to proceed to third-level education.</p> <p>In addition, there are concerns regarding the limited availability of and access to post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses in the county. Since September 2019 there have been two PLCs on offer in the D15 area. There is none in the north of the county. The nearest PLC to those young people living in the north of the county is in Drogheda. This is outside the boundary for LEAP card use, making travel more expensive and prohibitive to many young people. TU Dublin is also located on the outskirts of Dublin 15. In consultation with marginalised young people, cost and lack of transport was raised as an issue for young people in the county.</p> <p>There are concerns regarding employment opportunities for young people and early school-leavers. While local needs analysis indicates that alternative systems to mainstream educational provision are evident in the county, many have been negatively impacted by service funding cuts introduced post-2008 and are, therefore, stretched. The <a href="#">Action Plan to Expand Apprenticeship and Traineeship in Ireland 2016–2020</a> highlights that Ireland aims to develop work-based learning over the coming five years, looking to apprenticeship and traineeship ways of learning to develop new skills in young people. This would be a welcome development in the county.</p>

	<b>Aim 4.4: Have pathways to economic participation and independent living</b>
	<p>The best guarantee of economic security is a well-paid, secure job. Failure to find employment greatly increases the risk of poverty and social exclusion. FCYPSC will promote training, volunteering, job placements, internships and support for entrepreneurship to promote employability.</p>
	<p><b>Employment opportunities</b></p> <p>Local consultation indicates a need to evaluate employment opportunities within the multinational companies and smaller local industries within the county. There is a strong tradition of multinational employers in the IT, pharmaceutical/healthcare and aviation industries in Fingal. The retail sector is also a significant employer in the county with shopping centres located in Blanchardstown and Swords. IKEA is also located very close to the outskirts of Fingal.</p>

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

<p><b>What is working well in Fingal?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nine young people and 28.1% of all schools in Fingal participated in Young Social Innovators in Fingal in 2016.</li> <li>• Ethnically diverse county</li> <li>• Well-functioning CNN</li> <li>• In county Fingal we have some really nice examples of youth participation in operation; student councils in all secondary schools, a well-functioning CNN, youth advisory panels in many of the voluntary organisations and a sensory garden developed by young people for young people.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are we worried about?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of fully resourced youth services across the county</li> <li>• Paucity of resources for new communities</li> <li>• Lack of young person's participation in FCYPSC</li> <li>• How we hear the voice of children and young people, particularly marginalised communities, in our services</li> <li>• How we hear the voice of parents</li> </ul>
<p><b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While there is a good public roads system in the county, most young people depend on public transport to access services and amenities. There is a concern in relation to poor and expensive public transport systems in isolated or rural areas of Fingal. Fingal is a diverse county stretching beyond the Naul in the north of the county and over to D15 in the west of the county. Public transport systems across the county are poor with many people having to take two buses to get to their destination.</li> <li>• There are two agencies delivering excellent youth work services across the county of Fingal. However, these are under-resourced and insufficiently staffed to meet the needs of the very high youth population in the county. Consequently youth work services are becoming more focused on provision to high-risk young people, which is having an impact on more universal preventative provision</li> <li>• FCYPSC are seriously concerned about the high levels of substance misuse among young people across the county. This is having a detrimental impact on young people's ability to truly engage in services developing positive pro-social relationships with peers and adults, become civically engaged in community and be respectful of the law.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are our priority areas for action?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth participation</li> <li>• Fingal CNN</li> <li>• Cultural diversity</li> </ul>

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

	<p><b>Aim 5.1: Sense of own identity, free from discrimination</b>  <b>Aim 5.2: Part of positive networks of friends, family and community</b>  <b>Aim 5.3: Civically engaged, socially and environmentally conscious</b></p>
	<p>Children begin to develop a sense of their own identity in early childhood and this process continues throughout childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. FCYPSC seeks to promote children and young people’s positive sense of identity and belonging by recognising and valuing their family, origins and cultural identity.</p> <p>The social networks in children and young people’s lives can include family, friends, neighbours and the wider community. FCYPSC seeks to ensure that children and young people have opportunities to be part of positive networks and communities, particularly for those at risk of isolation or exclusion.</p> <p>Children and young people live as part of families and communities. FCYPSC seeks to promote opportunities for children and young people to contribute to their communities, responding to their interests in social, political and environmental issues, and helping young people take action to shape the kind of world they want to be part of.</p>
	<p>Local needs analysis suggests a significant increase in the numbers of children and young people from the Roma and Traveller communities and that agencies and organisations working with these children, young people and families require support to effectively engage with parents and families with regard to cultural sensitivity. BOBF highlights that groups who may be particularly vulnerable to bullying and discrimination include lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) young people, those in detention or in care, and children and young people from minorities. In 2014, 13% of young people aged between 18 and 24 years had experienced discrimination.</p> <p>Local-level consultation identified a lack of information regarding community-based services and local voluntary groups. It was suggested that the establishment of effective communities requires support for governance and management, as well as adequate staffing and financial supports for premises and operational running costs.</p> <p>Discussion with service providers as part of the needs analysis suggests a need to identify and develop evidence-based programmes that encourage young people and volunteers to become involved in their communities and participate in leadership projects. Feedback from community and voluntary services as part of the needs analysis suggests that children and young people with special additional needs and disabilities are not attending youth services and clubs.</p>
	<p><b>Aim 5.4. Aware of rights, responsible and respectful of the law</b></p>
	<p>All children and young people have rights as individuals as set out in the Constitution of Ireland and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The UN Convention commits the Irish State to promoting, protecting and fulfilling the human rights of all children and young people.</p>
	<p>Needs analysis suggests that respecting children’s rights cannot be a standalone action. Fulfilment of children’s rights should be embedded across all aims, actions and activities in recognition of our responsibilities under UNCRC.</p>

To summarise, FCYPSC are concerned that services in the area are not in a position to meet the demands of a growing population. Our current population stands at 296,214. With 19,000 new houses coming on stream, the population in the area will continue to rise. The population explosion in the area has not been met with equivalent growth in services and infrastructure. In addition to having a very high population, we also have a very young population: our youth population is higher than DNC, DCS, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown or South Dublin.

The statutory, voluntary and community-based organisations in the area face many challenges, such as recruitment and retention of staff. As an example, Tusla DN is operating with a deficit of 30 social workers, the CAMHS team in the area is operating with large deficits (62.00% gap in psychology posts and 61.80% gap for child/social care worker. The length of time it takes to fill vacant posts is also an issue for service providers. The long waiting list times for services is having a damaging effect on children's growth and development. To try and work around waiting list times, families are turning to private services, creating additional financial burden and stress for families. These barriers diminish the benefits of the excellent work being carried out in the area.

National issues such as gaps in mental health service delivery, homelessness, disability, addiction, gangland crime are all issues for the county. FCYPSC will work hard to deliver a local-level response to the emerging needs of our young population and will work with national structures to address issues of national concern in Fingal. FCYPSC will focus on addressing needs in designated areas of disadvantage.

## Section 5: Summary of Children and Young People’s Plan for Fingal

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental health</li> <li>• Implementation of Healthy Ireland / Fingal strategic plan</li> <li>• Suicide prevention and self-harm</li> <li>• Resilience</li> </ul>
2. Achieving full potential in learning and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early years</li> <li>• Early school -eaving</li> <li>• Transition</li> <li>• Homeless children and young people</li> <li>• Early intervention</li> <li>• Disability</li> </ul>
3. Safe and protected from harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping children and young people safe at home</li> <li>• Cyber safety</li> <li>• Interagency working</li> <li>• Child protection</li> <li>• DSGBV services</li> <li>• Homeless children young people and families</li> </ul>
4. Economic security and opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vulnerable young people not engaging: complex, chaotic</li> <li>• Substance misuse</li> <li>• Lack of fully operational PLC in Fingal</li> <li>• Youth unemployment</li> <li>• Development of a play strategy for the county</li> </ul>
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth participation</li> <li>• Fingal CNN</li> <li>• Cultural diversity</li> </ul>

Change Management	Local Priority Areas
Change management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area planning – to improve and strengthen the advocacy role of FCYPSC</li> <li>• Interagency major emergency response plans</li> <li>• Midway review of FCYPSC plan 2019–2021</li> <li>• Communication</li> </ul>



## Section 6: Action Plan for Fingal Children and Young People’s Services Committee

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans or work	Linked to national outcomes
Youth mental health	To facilitate sub-group members to work together to achieve the best possible mental health outcomes for children and young people in Fingal	No. of information exchange sessions held annually	4 interagency exchange meetings held annually (1 per quarter)	4 interagency exchange meetings held annually	Commence Q4 2019	All sub-group members	Dublin North CFL re: CHO 9 HSE DNCC Operational Plan Jigsaw Strategic Plan 2018-20 Crosscare Strategic Plan 2019-24	1.2: Good mental health
	Support the delivery of a range of services that promote MH and wellbeing	No. of MH and wellbeing support services assisted	1 MH service supported annually to improve provision of universal, targeted or specialist support service	Develop a strategic plan to ensure children and young people have increased access to a range of services that promote mental health and wellbeing.	Commence Q1 2021	All sub-group members	Dublin North CFL re: CHO 9 HSE DNCC Operational Plan Jigsaw Strategic Plan 2018-2020 Crosscare Strategic Plan 2019-24	1.2: Good mental health
	To support FCYPSC partners and others working with young people to celebrate World Mental Health Day	No. of agencies supported	50 agencies supported	Development of a resource/training to celebrate World Mental Health Day Launch of resource Circulation of resource	2019	Jigsaw and All sub-group members	Dublin North CFL re: CHO 9 HSE DNCC Operational Plan Jigsaw Strategic Plan 2018-20 Crosscare Strategic Plan 2019-24	1.2: Good mental health 1.2: Good mental health

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

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans or work	Linked to national outcomes
<b>Youth mental health</b>	To support services to hear the voice of young people in their service/agency and in the county more generally in relation to their mental health needs	Children and young people contribute to the development of information on good practice in seeking and documenting the voice of young people in relation to mental health available	1 document produced detailing good practice in seeking and documenting the voice of young people in relation to MH.	To collate and share the information on good practice (in seeking and documenting the voice of young people in relation to mental health) from existing forums, including the Youth Advisory Panel in Jigsaw, CNN, Foróige	Q4 2019	Jigsaw and all MH sub-group members	Jigsaw Strategic Plan 2018–2020	1.2: Good mental health
			Good practice document shared with all agencies involved with youth mental health in Fingal	Pilot the expansion of good practice in seeking and documenting the voice of young people in relation to mental health	Q4 2019			
				To identify and document Youth Panels in place in Fingal that seek and document the voice of young people in relation to mental health	Q4 2019			
				To identify other sources of information including other YAPs	Q4 2019			
				To create a clear pathway for feedback from YAPS across Fingal to the Mental Health sub-group	Q1 2020			
				To utilise learning from the YAPs together in a way that positively impacts on services design and delivery	Q4 2020			
				To review the process & develop an approach for 2021 onwards	Q1 2021			

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

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans or work	Linked to national outcomes
<b>Resilience</b>	<p>To understand the type and scale of resilience programmes delivered to children and young people in Fingal</p> <p>To clearly define for FCYPSC what is meant by resilience and the 'strengths' rather than deficit approach</p>	No. of reports produced detailing the type and scale of resilience programmes delivered to children and young people in Fingal	One report	<p>Develop a terms of reference for the production of a report into resilience programmes being delivered to children and young people across the County of Fingal</p> <p>Invite partners to a facilitated session to discuss resilience programmes being delivered in Fingal</p> <p>Hold one facilitated session to progress the above action</p> <p>Produce a report detailing the type and scale of resilience programmes delivered to children and young people in Fingal</p> <p>Share the information with FCYPSC members to develop an action plan based on the recommendations detailed in the report</p>	2020	NEPS ETB IPPN NAPD	BOBF	1.2: Good mental health
<b>Implementation of Healthy Ireland/ Fingal strategic plan</b>	To continue to partner the LCDC in the delivery of the Fingal Healthy Ireland plan, focusing on the areas of particular relevance to children and young people	A successful joint FCYPSC/ LCDC HI application	1 FCYPSC/LCDC HI application	Submit joint HI funding to implement Pillars and Actions from the Fingal Healthy Ireland Plan, particularly in relation to: healthy eating and active living, mental health and wellbeing, sexual health, tobacco and alcohol	Q2 2019	Mental Health sub-group (including Youth Services) Collaborative work with the Youth Participation sub-group	National Youth MH Taskforce Report re: voice of young people in service design and delivery	1.2: Physically healthy and make positive health choices

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

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans or work	Linked to national outcomes
<b>Implementation of Healthy Ireland/ Fingal strategic plan</b>				<p>To continue to work with the LCDC sub-group on implementation</p> <p>Regeneration of FCYPSC Healthy Ireland Action Group to ensure openness and transparency of all applications received</p> <p>Monitor, review and collate the learning from projects funded in the second round of Healthy Ireland funding</p>		<p>LCDC HI sub-group</p> <p>FCYPSC Health sub-group</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Fingal Strategic Plan 2018–2020</p> <p>A Healthy Weight for Ireland – Obesity Policy and Action Plan</p> <p>HSE Healthy Ireland Action Plan</p>	
<b>Suicide prevention and self-harm</b>	To support the implementation of the Dublin North City and County Connecting for Life Plan (2018–20)	CFL co-ordinators to attend MH sub-group meetings	CFL co-ordinators to attend 90% of all MH sub-group meetings	<p>To review, maintain and update the FCYPSC directory of services, specifically the section on MH supports. Provision of information to YP regarding MH services</p> <p>To support the delivery of mental health promotion and suicide awareness, prevention and intervention training to organisations in FCYPSC. Minimum 5 training workshops to service providers in Fingal annually</p> <p>To support the implementation of the relevant guidelines for mental health promotion and suicide prevention across primary and post-primary schools, and the development of</p>	<p>Q2 2019</p> <p>Q4 2019</p> <p>Q4 2019</p>	<p>HSE CFL Co-ordinator</p> <p>All MH sub-group members</p> <p>NEPS, DDLETB/CDETB Psychological Support Services</p>	<p>Connection for Life Dublin North City and County Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2018–20</p> <p>Crosscare Strategic Plan 2019–24</p> <p>Jigsaw Strategic Plan 2018–20</p>	1.2: Physically healthy and make positive health choices

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans or work	Linked to national outcomes
Suicide prevention and self-harm				guidelines for Centres of Education	Q1 2020	HSE HPandI. HSE H and W		
				To develop a project to assess and reduce DNA (Did Not Attend) appointments in CAMHS services				
				To support the delivery of the SPACE support and information programme to parents of young people with self-harming behaviours				
				To disseminate information on existing bereavement supports in Fingal to communities and individuals affected by suicide in line with the Suicide Critical Incident Response Plan. Support the implementation of CFL CIP	Ongoing			

Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
Early school-leaving	To build a clearer picture of the number, profile and needs of students in Co. Fingal who are leaving school early	No. of schools participating in data-collection exercise	36 schools will participate in data-collection exercise	Data-collection exercise with secondary schools annually to verify the number, profile and destination of students in Fingal who leave school early	December 2019	Foróige	BOBF	Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development  Transformational goal: Earlier intervention and prevention
		No. of feedback sessions for schools.	4 feedback sessions will take place for schools. (1 per each CFSN area)	Presentation of findings to key stakeholders with a view to establish a response plan	December 2020			
				Review and learn from similar research in other CYPSC (e.g. Kildare) Draw up a TOR for the research	December 2021			
Early years	To support community-based childcare initiatives	Gaps in community-based childcare services highlighted to key stakeholders	Presentation of Fingal County Childcare Committee research to local and national organisations	Present needs analysis compiled by FCCC to key stakeholders in Fingal, such as Fingal LCDC, Fingal County Council and DCYA	2019	FCCC and All Education subgroup members	FCCC Local Implementation plan  Empowers strategic plan	Goal 2: Earlier intervention and prevention
		No. of letters written to DCYA regarding 0-5 action plan	1 letter written to DCYA	Write to DCYA and ask them to outline timeline for 0 – 5 Action plan.	2019	FCYPSC chairperson, FCCC and Empower	First 5 – A Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019-28	Goal 4: Ensure quality services

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

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Early years</b>		No. of meetings held with community-based childcare services	1 meeting with community-based childcare services re action plan for First 5 Strategy  1-4 meetings with community-based childcare services	Communicate response to community-based services  Empower and FCCC to continue to host meetings with community-based childcare services  Support the development of community-based childcare in areas of disadvantage in Fingal	2019  2019, 2010 and 2021	Empower and FCCC  Empower and FCCC		
<b>Transition</b>	To support children, young people and families transitioning from preschool to primary school and from primary School to secondary school	No. of principal networks established No. of times principal network meetings occur No. of parent information meetings No. of meetings between community childcare in D15 and primary schools	1 principals network established 2 meetings annually 3 parent information meetings annually 2 meetings annually between community-based childcare and DEIS schools	To continue to engage with school principals around transitions and establish ways of establishing full transition from preschool to primary and primary to post-primary Establish a principal network in Balbriggan Support the principals network to meet Organise 3 parents information evenings annually Support community-based childcare services to meet with DEIS schools	2019, 2020 and 2021	FCCC, IPPN and NAPD representative, SCP and EWS	DEIS plan 2017: <i>Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools</i>	Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development  Goal 2: Earlier intervention and prevention



Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Transition</b>		No. of meetings between primary schools and secondary schools	4 meetings between primary and secondary schools	Support primary schools to meet with secondary schools				
<b>Homeless children and young people</b>	To support children and young people in education who are experiencing homelessness	No. of children who avail of homeless supports	60 children and young people avail of supports	Review 2018 activities supported Deliver educational supports to homeless children and young people in Fingal. Develop an understanding of the landscape of services supporting children, young people and families who are homeless	2019–2021	Tusla EWS and all Education sub-group members	<i>Home Works</i> , Children’s Rights Alliance (2018) Youth Homelessness Strategy Review	Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development Goal 2: Earlier intervention and prevention
<b>Early intervention</b>	To test a model of tailored therapeutic supports that allow for early intervention in terms of providing speech and language and occupational therapy within ‘educational settings’ in Fingal	No. of early intervention, multi-disciplinary tailored support therapy services established across schools and preschools in Fingal	1 pilot project established in schools and preschools in Fingal identified as part of the second pilot phase of the early intervention model established by the NCSE, the DES, DCYA and Dept of Health	Increase communication with the DES Use data of unmet need to advocate for Fingal to be included in second phase/pilot of project.	2020–2021	DES, Education and HSE health partners	BOBF	Goal 2: Earlier intervention and prevention

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

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Disability</b>	To support the role out of Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) in Fingal	No. of information leaflets produced	1 information leaflet produced	Produce information leaflet on AIM	2020	FCCC and Education subgroup members	Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Charter and Guidelines for Early Childhood Care and Education	Transformational goal: Earlier intervention and prevention
		No. of leaflets distributed to preschools, schools and parents	Leaflets distributed to all preschools, primary schools and parents of primary school children in Fingal	Distribute information leaflet on AIM to parents, Preschool Providers and Schools.	2021			
		No. of information sessions delivered to D15 network	1 information session delivered to primary principal network in Dublin 15	Deliver information session to all primary school Principals on AIM	2019	FCCC and IPPN representative		
		No. of reports produced	Report produced in relation to unmet need	Documentation of unmet need for early intervention in Fingal				
	Develop a pilot to support young people aged 14–18 with autism to stay in school	Pilot project to support young people with autism to stay in school developed	1 pilot project for young people developed in Fingal	Invite Education Officer/ Director of Schools from the ETB to join the subgroup to establish programme	2019–2021	ETB		

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Keeping children and young people safe at home</b>	To provide parents with skills and resources to support their children's needs	Develop a directory of parenting programmes in Fingal	1 directory of parenting programmes in Fingal developed	<p>Devise questionnaire to ascertain local parenting programmes in the area</p> <p>Draw up directory of same, advising criteria/age and contact of facilitator</p> <p>Review output after 10 months to determine sustainability/specific need/impact</p>	2019	Tusla; tasks will be delegated to sub-group accordingly	<p><i>First 5 – A Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019–2028</i></p> <p>High-Level Policy Statement on Supporting Parents and Families (DCYA 2015)</p> <p>Tusla's corporate plan (2018–2020)</p> <p>BOBF</p>	Goal 1: Support parents
<b>Cyber safety</b>	To identify and deliver online safety training to children, young people and families in Fingal	No. of cyber safety programmes delivered in Fingal	5 cyber safety programmes delivered in Fingal annually	Roll out 'Programme 4 Life' training to 15 schools in Fingal	2019–2021	Tusla	BOBF	Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm
<b>Inter-agency working</b>	To provide services with knowledge and support to work effectively together to provide wraparound support to families in need	No. of Meitheal training courses delivered in Fingal	4 Meitheal training courses delivered annually	4 Meitheal training courses delivered in 2019	2019–2021	Tusla	<p>BOBF</p> <p>Tusla's Corporate Plan (2018–2020)</p>	Goal 6: Cross-government and interagency collaboration and co-ordination

Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Inter-agency working</b>		No. of CFSNs in place	4 CFSNs supported annually	Sustain 4 CFSNs to support practical interagency working locally				
		Meitheal data reviewed	Meitheal data reviewed annually	Review data re referrals/age/themes/gaps in service provision on monthly basis				
<b>Child protection</b>	To provide information and guidance to services working with children and young people in line with Children First Act	No. of safeguarding statement training days delivered  No. of DLP training days delivered  No. of SOS information days delivered	2 safeguarding statement training days delivered annually  2 DLP training days delivered annually  2 SOS information days delivered annually	Safeguarding statement training  DLP training  SOS information days	2019–2021	Tusla Children First Officers  Fingal County Childcare Committee	Tusla’s Corporate Plan (2018–2020)  BOBF  Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (DCYA; 2017)	Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm
<b>DSGBV</b>	To raise awareness and highlight referral pathways	No. of training days /information days delivered annually	2 training days /information days delivered annually	Information days/training regarding appropriate responses to DV referrals  Development of service directory re local support services for DSGBV  NVR training	2019 –2021	Tusla Aoibhneas Sonas DoCCFS	Tusla’s Corporate Plan (2018–2020)  BOBF	Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Homelessness</b>	Prioritise access to support services as required	No. of meetings held with homeless hubs in Fingal	4 meetings held annually	<p>Liaise with homeless accommodations in Fingal to determine need and work together to prioritise access to same</p> <p>Presentation from all agencies offering services to homeless families in Fingal to Outcome 3 sub-group.</p>	2019–2021	CFSN network co-ordinator	<i>Home Works</i> <i>Rebuilding Ireland</i>	Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Early school-leaving</b>	To build a clearer picture of the number, profile and needs of students in Co. Fingal who are leaving school early	No. of schools participating in data collection exercise	36 schools will participate in data collection exercise.	Data collection exercise with secondary schools annually to verify the number, profile and destination of students in Fingal who leave school early	December 2019	Tusla EWS ETB Foróige	Fingal County Council Local Economic and Community Plan,  Empower Local Development Company Strategy,  Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board Strategy	Goal 2: Earlier intervention and prevention
		No. of feedback sessions for schools.	4 feedback sessions will take place for schools. ( 1 per each CFSN area)	Presentation of findings to key stakeholders with a view to establish a response plan.	December 2020			
				Review and learn from similar research in other CYPSC (e. g. Kildare)	December 2021			
<b>Engagement of vulnerable NEETS</b>	Provision of a programme to engage 17-24 year olds who are out of school and training to provide them with the necessary skills to move them on into appropriate education or employment opportunities	No. of pilot programmes delivered to NEETS in Fingal	1 pilot programme developed and delivered in year one.	Scope out and evaluate programmes already delivered in Fingal with a view to replicating similar programmes with NEETS in Fingal.	2019	Foróige, Empower	Fingal County Council Local Economic and Community Plan,  Empower Local Development Company Strategy,  Dublin and Dún Laoighre Education and Training Board Strategy	Goal 2: Earlier intervention and prevention
			Roll out of programme to other areas in Fingal in year 2 and 3 of this plan	Foróige NEETS worker to link in with specialist team in Empower.	2019			
				Identify relevant 'soft skills' for young people's personal development. With an aim to increase employability.	2020-21			

Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/ transformational goals
<b>Engagement of vulnerable NEETS</b>				Map training and services available to young people throughout Fingal in order to promoted current opportunities or to identify gaps in provision.	2020	FLP, ETB, FORÓIGE	Ireland's National Skills Strategy 2025	
				Map the transport routes to and from services, cost the travel and consider opportunities for local transport links.	2020	FLP, ETB, FORÓIGE	FCC Local Development Plan	
<b>Substance misuse</b>	Work with all stakeholders to address the impact of substance misuse on young people	Stakeholders alcohol and drugs event organised	1 stake-holders meeting held annually	Identify numbers of young people across Fingal who are affected by substance misuse. Research internationally proven programmes to support young people affected by substance misuse Target and engage services in the delivery of evidence-based preventative programmes in Fingal	2019–21	Drugs task force	<i>Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery: A health-led response to drug and alcohol use in Ireland – 2017–2025</i> (Dept. of Health)	Goal 2: Earlier intervention and prevention
<b>Lack of fully operational PLC in Fingal</b>	To advocate for the delivery of a PLC in Fingal	No. of meetings and letters written to the ETB	A PLC offering a broad range of courses will be available to young people in Fingal	Identify the need for a PLC offering full programmes in a central location in Fingal	2021	Foróige, Empower and FLP		Goal 5: Support effective transitions



Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/ transformational goals
<b>Community benefit</b>	To establish the community benefit from multinational employers in Fingal	Publication of a report on the potential of community benefit from national and multinational employers in Fingal	1 report on the potential of community benefit from national and multinational employers in Fingal	Develop a working group to deliver a piece of research on the potential community benefit from national and multinational employers in Fingal.  Launch the research  Use the report to support engagement with employers in relation to young people in Fingal	2020	Fingal Chamber of Commerce TU Blanchardstown Foroige FLP Empower		Goal 4: Ensure quality services Goal 5: Support effective transitions Goal 6: Cross-government and interagency collaboration and coordination
<b>Play strategy for Fingal</b>	Explore with FCC the possibility of developing a play strategy for the county	Play strategy developed for the county	1 play strategy developed for the county	Liaise with FCC and Fingal LCDC on the development of a play strategy for the county.	2019-21	Economic sub-group	BOBF	Outcome 1.4: Enjoying play, recreation, sport, arts, culture and nature

Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Youth participation</b>	To increase children and young people's participation in FCYPSC and member agencies	Increased participation by children and young people FCYPSC	Young person to attend FCYPSC meetings	<p>Develop criteria for the selection of a young person 18–24 to sit on FCYPSC</p> <p>Advertise the role</p> <p>Select candidate</p> <p>Set up a support structure for the successful candidate</p> <p>Evaluate the impact of having a young person on FCYPSC</p> <p>To identify, profile and support models of good practice, such as the Lundy model of participation, in this area among organisations to develop capacity within Fingal</p>	2019	Outcome 5 sub-group	<p>Children's Participation in Decision-making Good Practice Guidance from the Ombudsman for Children's Office</p> <p>National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015–2020</p> <p>UN Convention on the Rights of the Child</p>	Goal 3: Listen to and involve children and young people
	To increase children and young people's awareness in FCYPSC	Children and young people given information on FCYPSC	Information leaflets distributed to all schools in Fingal	Design, produce and distribute information leaflet on FCYPSC	2019	FCYPSC co-ordinator and FCYPSC members	BOBF	Goal 3: Listen to and involve children and young people

Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Youth participation</b>	To identify key opportunities for children and young people to make an impact on decisions that matter to them	Participation structures in Fingal for children and young documented	1 document produced detailing opportunities for participation in decision-making structures in Fingal	<p>Develop a map of organisations in Fingal involved in seeking the views of young people</p> <p>Identify opportunities for young people to participate in key structures in the area</p> <p>Inform young people about these opportunities</p> <p>Review youth participation in these structures</p> <p>Draw conclusions and make recommendations to relevant organisations</p> <p>In consultation with children and young people, develop a structure/framework for youth participation in Fingal</p>	2020		BOBF	Goal 3: Listen to and involve children and young people
	Develop an understanding of what previous consultations with children and young people have told us	Data gathered on recent consultations with children and young people (in the last 3 years)	Inform all FCYPSC members of key messages from consultations with children and young people in last 3 years	<p>Develop a reference listing of relevant consultations with children and young people in the last 3 years</p> <p>Compile key messages from consultations with young people</p>	2020–21	Outcome 5 sub-group	BOBF	Goal 3: Listen to and involve children and young people

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

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Fingal CNN</b>	Support engagement of young people in Fingal Comhairle na nÓg as the statutory representative body	No. of steering group meetings attended by co-ordinator and chairperson of participation sub-group	100% attendance at CNN meetings	Co-ordinator to sit on CNN steering group Inform FCYPSC of the work of CNN CNN members to be invited to present at FCYPSC annually	2019-21	Foróige and ETB	Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-20	Goal 3: Listen to and involve children and young people
<b>Cultural diversity</b>	Support the integration of new communities in Fingal	Consultation with Travellers, Roma and other diverse cultures so FCYPSC can learn about needs and these minority groups can give their opinion on the plan	Consultation with minority groups	Assess needs of new communities in understanding statutory, voluntary and community-based services Create spaces for intercultural dialogue Parenting supports tweaked to suit minority groups.	2021	Outcome 5 sub-group	Fingal County Council's integration strategy The Migrant Integration Strategy - A blueprint for the future 2017-20 Intercultural Health Strategy	Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Change management								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to national outcomes/transformational goals
<b>Inter-agency Major Emergency Response Plans</b>	FCYPSC is involved in relevant local and national Major Emergency Response Plans.	FCYPSC is well-informed on relevant local and national Major Emergency Response Plans.	FCYPSC plan 2019–2021 is aligned to relevant emergency response plans	Presentation by relevant agencies to FCYPSC	December 2019	HSE FCC	BOBF	Goal 6: Cross-government and interagency collaboration and co-ordination
<b>Midway review of FCYPSC Plan 2019–2021</b>	To ensure FCYPSC plan is relevant to the current issues for children, young people and families	2019–2021 plan reviewed in 2020	1 midway review of FCYPSC plan	Facilitated session to review	December 2020	Chair, vice chair, co-ordinator and individual CYPSC members	BOBF	Goal 6: Cross-government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
<b>Area planning</b>	To improve and strengthen the advocacy role of FCYPSC	Robust communication and information sharing protocols with national and local governing bodies	Develop an advocacy and information sharing protocol for FCYPSC	To develop and strengthen links to key strategic local, and national structures  Communicate priorities and challenges to relevant local and national structures	Ongoing	Chair, vice chair, co-ordinator and individual CYPSC members	BOBF	Goal 6: Cross-government and interagency collaboration and co-ordination
<b>Communication</b>	To improve internal and external communications in FCYPSC	Communication strategy developed	1 communication strategy for FCYPSC developed	Development of a communication strategy for FCYPSC, including a social media element to the strategy	2020	FYPSC	BOBF	Outcome 5: Connected, respected & contributing

## Section 7: Monitoring and Review

This section of the plan details how the implementation plan will be monitored and reviewed locally by FCYPSC during the life span of the plan.

The chairperson of each sub-group will prepare and present a progress report at each FCYPSC meeting, detailing successes on the implementation of the FCYPSC plan and highlight any concerns or blockages.

The annual programme of work will be prepared at the last FCYPSC meeting in the year previous, taking into account the views of sub-group members.

An annual progress report will be produced by the committee in line with the CYPSC planning and reporting framework.

FCYPSC will prepare a mid-term review of the annual programme of work and the FCYPSC three-year plan, which will be used to inform the remainder of the annual programme of work and the remainder of the three-year plan.

FCYPSC is committed to utilising the measures set out in the three-year plan to measure the progress of the plan.

FCYPSC will engage with children, young people and families to monitor and review the development of the plan.

## Section 8: Appendices

### Appendix 1: Sub-group membership

<b>Outcome 1/Mental Health sub-group membership</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Title</b>
David Creed- Chair	Jigsaw Balbriggan	Project Manager Jigsaw North Fingal
Ide DeBairtiseil	FCC	Senior Executive Officer: Community, Culture and Sports Department, Fingal County Council
Adele McConkey/Eileen Dwyer	NEPS	Educational Psychologist
Enda Mc Gorman	Mary Mother of Hope School, Little Pace Rd, Clonee	Principal
Mary Nicholson	Daughters of Charity	Senior Manager
Erica Flemming	HSE CAMHS	Psychologist
Sarah Duku	Manager	Cairde Balbriggan
Sandra Taylor/John Duffy	Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention, HSE Dublin North, CHO 9	HSE
Maura Leahy	Crosscare Teen Counselling	Senior Psychotherapist, Crosscare Teen Counselling

<b>Outcome 2/Education sub-group membership</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Title</b>
Anne Marie Mc Govern	Tusla EWS	Tusla EWS Integrated Services Manager, Dublin North East.
Geraldine Montgomery	Tusla EWS	EWO
Enda Mac Gorman	IPPN	Principal Mary Mother of Hope School
Michelle Condra	DES	School Completion Programme Officer
Noleen O'Brien	Foróige	
Patricia Hayden	NAPD	Principal, St Joseph's, Rush
Aoife Heffernan	DDLETB	Senior Youth Worker, ALP
Pauline Mangan	Empower	Community Development Officer
Conor Coady	DES	School Completion Programme Officer
Mairead Tucker	FCC	Development Officer
Annmarie Thompson	Crosscare Youth Service	ALP and Work to Learn Co-ordinator



**Outcome 3/Keeping children safe from harm sub-group membership**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Title</b>
Caitriona Sheehan	Tusla	Manager PPFS
Grainne Kinsella	Tusla	Manager FSS
Karen Kavanagh	Tusla	Snr CFSN Co-ordinator
Patricia Dunne	Aster Family Support	CEO
Patricia Tallon	Aoibhneas	Manager Aoibhneas
Linda Daly	Sonas Domestic Abuse	Manager
Sabrina Brett	Tusla	Regional Co-ordinator of DV services
Marian Horan	Tusla	Senior EWO
Aine Maguinness	Foroige	Area Manager DN Foroige
Siobhan Maher	North Dublin Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force	FSS Co-ordinator
Margaret Mc Loughlin	Mountview Family Resource Centre	Manager
Adeline O'Brien	Empower	CEO
Finola Mc Loughlin	Barnardos	Project Leader
Mary Nicholson	Daughters of Charity	Senior Manager
Michelle Condra	School Completion Project	Co-ordinator
Úna Caffrey	Tusla	Co-ordinator FCYPSC

**Outcome 5 sub-group membership**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Title</b>
Martin Mac Entee (chair)	DDLETB	Youth Officer
Una Caffrey	Tusla	Co-ordinator FCYPSC
David Kavanagh	Jigsaw D15	Manager Jigsaw D15
Eamonn Mullen	Foróige	Youth Officer
David Creed	Jigsaw	Manager Jigsaw North Fingal
Jamie Moore	Fingal County Council	Development officer FCNN
Patricia Murphy	Barnardos	Project Leader
Mary Tynan	YAP	Team Leader
Sarah Duku	Cairde	Manager
Eileen Quinn	TU Dublin	Head of Civic Engagement
Sandra Moore	Swords Youth Service	Manager

**Appendix 2: Fingal by Electoral Area and Electoral Division**

<b>EA</b>	<b>ED Name</b>	<b>ED ID</b>	<b>Total Population 2006</b>	<b>Total Population 2011</b>	<b>Total Population 2016</b>	<b>% Population Change 2002-2006</b>	<b>% Population Change 2006-2011</b>	<b>% Population Change 2011-2016</b>
<b>Balbriggan</b>	Balbriggan Rural	4002	9,488	15,140	16,495	113.62	59.57	8.95
	Balbriggan Urban	4003	6,853	7,555	8,116	1.51	10.24	7.43
	Ballyboghil	4006	962	1,011	1,162	10.59	5.09	14.94
	Balscadden	4007	653	667	707	13.17	2.14	6.00
	Clonmethan	4018	613	790	837	3.31	28.87	5.95
	Garristown	4021	1,185	1,438	1,628	1.72	21.35	13.21
	Hollywood	4022	1,000	1,259	1,397	4.83	25.90	10.96
	Holmpatrick	4023	3,155	3,224	3,458	-5.23	2.19	7.26
	Lusk	4028	7,038	8,814	9,623	70.61	25.23	9.18
	Rush	4033	8,288	9,196	9,921	22.50	10.96	7.88
Skerries	4034	8,171	8,333	8,501	7.40	1.98	2.02	
<b>Castleknock</b>	Blanchardstown-Abbotstown	4008	4,100	4,870	6,195	62.48	18.78	27.21
	Blanchardstown-Coolmine	4010	10,726	10,819	11,320	17.08	0.87	4.63
	Blanchardstown-Delwood	4012	4,960	5,044	5,153	7.98	1.69	2.16
	Blanchardstown-Roselawn	4014	1,826	1,682	1,688	-10.38	-7.89	0.36
	Castleknock-Knockmaroon	4016	17,114	18,071	19,027	15.18	5.59	5.29
	Castleknock-Park	4017	4,392	5,124	5,329	-3.64	16.67	4.00
	Lucan North	4027	1,163	1,358	1,436	244.08	16.77	5.74
<b>Howth-Malahide</b>	Baldoyle	4004	5,942	7,050	7,524	-6.78	18.65	6.72
	Balgriffin	4005	911	1,966	3,113	54.41	115.81	58.34
	Howth	4024	8,197	8,256	8,294	-5.86	0.72	0.46
	Kinsaley	4026	6,234	8,475	9,621	56.63	35.95	13.52
	Malahide East	4029	6,219	6,879	7,429	17.65	10.61	8.00

	Malahide West	4030	6,154	6,273	6,149	-0.70	1.93	-1.98
	Portmarnock North	4031	4,579	4,118	4,109	-9.52	-10.07	-0.22
	Portmarnock South	4032	3,537	3,465	3,621	5.51	-2.04	4.50
	Sutton	4035	5,913	5,609	5,680	-4.66	-5.14	1.27
	Swords-Seatown	4039	5,910	6,539	6,782	20.63	10.64	3.72
Mulhuddart	Blanchardstown-Blakestown	4009	32,335	36,057	38,894	32.31	11.51	7.87
	Blanchardstown-Corduff	4011	4,077	3,788	3,871	10.58	-7.09	2.19
	Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart	4013	3,535	3,866	4,123	51.94	9.36	6.65
	Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown	4015	1,538	2,112	3,257	-5.69	37.32	54.21
	The Ward	4041	5,207	8,241	9,602	296.10	58.27	16.51
Swords	Airport	4001	1,483	4,032	5,018	265.31	171.88	24.45
	Donabate	4019	7,601	8,733	9,399	23.76	14.89	7.63
	Dubber	4020	3,746	6,359	7,372	347.14	69.75	15.93
	Kilsallaghan	4025	2,079	2,205	2,263	2.41	6.06	2.63
	Swords Village	4040	2,515	2,581	2,674	-2.26	2.62	3.60
	Swords-Forrest	4036	11,861	13,894	15,153	27.01	17.14	9.06
	Swords-Glasmore	4037	7,791	7,748	7,711	1.56	-0.55	-0.48
	Swords-Lissenhall	4038	9,079	9,667	10,447	49.19	6.48	8.07
	Turnapin	4042	1,723	1,683	1,700	0.35	-2.32	1.01

### Appendix 3:

#### Deprivation and disadvantage in Fingal sub-regions and relevant EDs and SAs

	<b>Electoral Division</b>	
<b>North-East Fingal (NE)</b>	Balbriggan Urban	5 Disadvantaged SAs 1 Very Disadvantaged SA
	Balbriggan Rural	2 Disadvantaged SA 1 Very Disadvantaged SA
	Skerries	2 Disadvantaged SAs
	Rush	3 Disadvantaged SAs
	Lusk	2 Disadvantaged SAs
<b>Mid-Fingal (MF)</b>	Swords-Lissenhall	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Donabate	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Killsallaghan	2 Disadvantaged SA
	Swords-Glasmore	4 Disadvantaged SAs
<b>South-West Fingal (SW)</b>	Blanchardstown-Abbotstown	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Blanchardstown-Blakestown	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Blanchardstown-Coolmine	8 Disadvantaged SAs 2 Very Disadvantaged SAs
	Blanchardstown-Corduff	1 Disadvantaged SAs, 5 Very Disadvantaged SA
	Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart	3 Disadvantaged SAs
	Blanchardstown-Tyrrelstown	5 Disadvantaged SAs
<b>South-East Fingal</b>	Portmarnock-South	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Dubber	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Turnapin	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Baldoyle	1 Disadvantaged SA

## Disadvantaged and Very Disadvantaged Small Areas resting within Electoral Divisions of Fingal

### North-East Fingal

Small area ID	Pobal HP Index 2016 deprivation score; area covered	Population
<b>Balbriggan Urban</b>		
267003019	-20.26 Very Disadvantaged, Bath Road	230
267003018	-14.51 Disadvantaged, Bath Road/Brick Road	290
267003012	-10.23 Disadvantaged, George's Hill, Railway St, Mill St	145
267003017	-14.55 Disadvantaged, Vauxall St, Dublin St, Market Green	191
267003022	-11.24 Disadvantaged, Hampton Street, Market Green	297
267003023	-10.40 Disadvantaged, Hamilton Way, Derham Park	352
<b>Balbriggan Rural</b>		
267002045	-20.97 Very Disadvantaged, Pinewood Green Road	264
267002046	-13.30 Disadvantaged, Pinewood Green	285
267002048	-19.09 Disadvantaged, Pinewood Green/Avenue	328
<b>Lusk</b>		
267104007	-14.29 Disadvantaged, Kelly's Park, Ministers Road	279
267104021	-12.06 Disadvantaged, Thomas Ash Grove, Hands Lane, Ministers Park	232
<b>Rush</b>		
267118026	-13.06 Disadvantaged St Catherine's Crescent/Green/Drive/Lawn	418
267118028	-11.01 Disadvantaged, The Way/Park	349
267118020	-13.65 Disadvantaged, St Maur's Park, Kenure Park	285
<b>Skerries</b>		
267123009	-18.76 Disadvantaged, Mourne View	349
267123005	-14.75 Disadvantaged, Mourne Grove/Court/Park	385

### Mid-Fingal (MF)

<b>Donabate</b>		
267065026	-10.45 Disadvantaged, Barnewall Crescent/Avenue/Drive	261
<b>Kilsallaghan</b>		
2670098004	-19.64 Disadvantaged, Rivermeade Drive	281
267098003	-11.03 Disadvantaged, Kileek	439
<b>Swords-Glasmore</b>		
267130013	-19.97 Disadvantaged, St Cronin's Court/Close/View/Way	345
267130008	-16.54 Disadvantaged, Glasmore Park	270
267131014	-13.24 Disadvantaged, St Cronin's Lawn, Grove	324
<b>Swords-Lissenhall</b>		
267133002	-17.73 Disadvantaged, Moorpark Road/Park/Grove/Avenue	241
267131009	-16.31 Disadvantaged, Abbeylea Green/Close/Avenue	370

### South-East Fingal

<b>Small area ID</b>	<b>Pobal HP Index 2016 deprivation score; area covered</b>	<b>Population</b>
<b>Baldoyle</b>		
267004006	-11.79 Disadvantaged, Seagrange Drive/Road	265
<b>Dubber</b>		
267066016	-10.81 Disadvantaged	372
<b>Portmarnock South</b>		
267111001	-10.29 Disadvantaged, Strandmill Avenue, Road, Burrow	237
<b>Turnapin</b>		
267160001	-12.48 Disadvantaged, Turnapin Cottages/Grove/Green, Dakota Avenue, Viscount Avenue	219

### South-West Fingal

<b>Abbotstown</b>		
267027002	-14.35 Disadvantaged, St Joseph's/St Mary's/ Connolly Hospital	589
<b>Blakestown</b>		
267028031	-10.01 Disadvantaged, Willow Wood Green/Close/Rise	296
<b>Coolmine</b>		
267029034	-17.65 Disadvantaged, Whitestown Drive, Ashmount	298
267029026	-21.45 Very Disadvantaged, Whitestown Crescent/Green	278
267029024	-15.30 Disadvantaged, Whitestown Avenue	240
267029023	-18.02 Disadvantaged, Whitestown Park	353
267029021	-18.20 Disadvantaged, Sheepmoor Lawn/Green/ Gardens/Avenue	458
267029020	-18.59 Disadvantaged, Sheepmoor Grove/Crescent/Way	292
267029018	-20.37 Very Disadvantaged, Fortlawn Avenue	378
267029017	-19.77 Disadvantaged, Fortlawn Drive	308
267029016	-16.82 Disadvantaged, Whitestown Park/Avenue	388
267029005	-16.97 Disadvantaged, Whitestown Green/Court	284
<b>Corduff</b>		
267030012	-16.63 Disadvantaged, Sheephill Green/Park	309
267030010	-16.09 Disadvantaged, Sheephill Avenue	309
267030009	-20.53 Very Disadvantaged, Corduff Way/Gardens/Avenue	316
267030007	-19.05 Disadvantaged, Corduff Grove	352
267030006	-17.34 Disadvantaged, Corduff Park	464
<b>Mulhuddart</b>		
267032010	-10.41 Disadvantaged, Castlecurragh Vale	271
267032009	-19.28 Disadvantaged, Dromheath Park/Drive/Grove	338
267032011	-12.41 Disadvantaged, Dromheath Avenue	561
<b>Tyrrelstown ED</b>		
267034005	-13.12 Disadvantaged, Parslickstown Avenue	317
267034006	-13.31 Disadvantaged, Parslickstown Court	315
267034003	-16.85 Disadvantaged, Wellview Avenue/Park/Green	335
267034002	-17.22 Disadvantaged, Wellview Grove	290
267034004	-12.96 Disadvantaged, Parslickstown Green/Drive	351

**Deprivation and disadvantage in Fingal sub-regions and relevant EDs and SAs**

	<b>Electoral Division</b>	
<b>North-West Fingal (NW)</b>	Balscadden	—
	Hollywood	—
	Garristown	—
	Ballyboghil	—
	Clonmethan	—
<b>North-East Fingal (NE)</b>	Balbriggan Urban	5 Disadvantaged SAs 1 Very Disadvantaged SA
	Balbriggan Rural	2 Disadvantaged SA 1 Very Disadvantaged SA
	Skerries	2 Disadvantaged SAs
	Holmpatrick	—
	Rush	3 Disadvantaged SAs
	Lusk	2 Disadvantaged SAs
<b>Mid-Fingal (MF)</b>	Swords-Lissenhall	2 Disadvantaged SA
	Donabate	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Killsallaghan	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Swords-Glasmore	3 Disadvantaged SAs
	Swords-Seatown	—
	Swords-Village	—
	Swords-Forrest	—
<b>South-West Fingal (SW)</b>	Blanchardstown- Abbotstown	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Blanchardstown- Blakestown	1 Disadvantaged SA
	Blanchardstown-Coolmine	8 Disadvantaged SAs 2 Very Disadvantaged SAs
	Blanchardstown-Corduff	1 Disadvantaged SAs, 5 Very Disadvantaged SA
	Blanchardstown-Delwood	—
	Blanchardstown- Mulhuddart	3 Disadvantaged SAs
	Blanchardstown-Roselawn	—
	Blanchardstown- Tyrrelstown	5 Disadvantaged SAs
	Castleknock-Knockmaroon	—
	Castleknock-Park	—
	Lucan North	—
	The Ward	—
	<b>South-East Fingal</b>	Malahide-East
Malahide-West		—
Kinsaley		—
Portmarnock-North		—
Portmarnock-South		1 Disadvantaged SA
Balgriffin		—
Airport		—
Dubber		1 Disadvantaged SA
Turnapin		1 Disadvantaged SA
Baldoyle		1 Disadvantaged SA
Sutton		—
Howth		—

## Appendix 4: List of hyperlinks in the text

Page	Text with hyperlink	Internet address
9	<i>Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014–2020</i>	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/775847-better-outcomes-brighter-futures/">https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/775847-better-outcomes-brighter-futures/</a>
11	<i>The Blueprint for the Development of Children and Young People’s Services Committees</i>	<a href="https://www.cypsc.ie/_fileupload/Documents/Resources/Blueprint_for_the_development_of_CYPSC.pdf">https://www.cypsc.ie/_fileupload/Documents/Resources/Blueprint_for_the_development_of_CYPSC.pdf</a>
16	Fingal Development 2017–2023	<a href="https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-development-plan-2017-2023">https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-development-plan-2017-2023</a>
	Local Economic and Community Plan	<a href="http://www.fingalcoco.ie/business-and-economy/localeconomicandcommunityplan/">http://www.fingalcoco.ie/business-and-economy/localeconomicandcommunityplan/</a>
25	North Dublin Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force 2016 Annual Report	<a href="https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/29298/1/North-Dublin-RDATF-2016-Annual-Report.pdf">https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/29298/1/North-Dublin-RDATF-2016-Annual-Report.pdf</a>
	Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services working report (2015)	<a href="https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/26319/1/TUSLA_DomesticViolence_report-v3.pdf">https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/26319/1/TUSLA_DomesticViolence_report-v3.pdf</a>
28	<i>An Indicator Set for Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures</i>	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/27126/9b1f25ec7da348e6921373e7e91e1ae3.pdf#page=1">https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/27126/9b1f25ec7da348e6921373e7e91e1ae3.pdf#page=1</a>
	‘Breastfeeding on the island of Ireland’	<a href="https://www.publichealth.ie/document/iph-report/breastfeeding-island-ireland">https://www.publichealth.ie/document/iph-report/breastfeeding-island-ireland</a>
	HSE immunisation uptake statistics	<a href="https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/vaccinepreventable/vaccination/immunisationuptakestatistics/">https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/vaccinepreventable/vaccination/immunisationuptakestatistics/</a>
	uptake figures for the Tdap	<a href="http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/vaccinepreventable/vaccination/immunisationuptakestatistics/tdapimmunisationuptakestatistics/TdapUptakeAcademicYear20162017v1.109012018.pdf">http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/vaccinepreventable/vaccination/immunisationuptakestatistics/tdapimmunisationuptakestatistics/TdapUptakeAcademicYear20162017v1.109012018.pdf</a>
29	Growing Up in Ireland report on risky health behaviours and sexual activity	<a href="https://www.esri.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2016-11/SUSTAT59.pdf">https://www.esri.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2016-11/SUSTAT59.pdf</a>
	Annual Report to the Department of Health: Drugs Programme Unit	<a href="https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/29298/1/North-Dublin-RDATF-2016-Annual-Report.pdf">https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/29298/1/North-Dublin-RDATF-2016-Annual-Report.pdf</a>
	Growing Up in Ireland report on the health and physical development of nine-year-olds	<a href="https://www.growingup.ie/pubs/Growing-Up-in-Ireland-Health-and-Physical-Development.pdf">https://www.growingup.ie/pubs/Growing-Up-in-Ireland-Health-and-Physical-Development.pdf</a>
	<i>A Healthy Weight for Ireland: Obesity Policy and Action Plan 2016–2025</i>	<a href="https://health.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/A-Healthy-Weight-for-Ireland-Obesity-Policy-and-Action-Plan-2016-2025.pdf">https://health.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/A-Healthy-Weight-for-Ireland-Obesity-Policy-and-Action-Plan-2016-2025.pdf</a>
	<i>The Mental Health of Young People in Ireland</i> , PERL Group report	<a href="https://repository.rcsi.com/articles/The_Mental_Health_of_Young_People_in_Ireland_A_report_of_the_Psychiatric_Epidemiology_Research_across_the_Lifespan_PERL_Group/10796129">https://repository.rcsi.com/articles/The_Mental_Health_of_Young_People_in_Ireland_A_report_of_the_Psychiatric_Epidemiology_Research_across_the_Lifespan_PERL_Group/10796129</a>
	The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Mental Health Commission Inspection Report (2017)	<a href="https://www.mhcirl.ie/File/2017IRs/CHO9_2017CamhsIR.pdf">https://www.mhcirl.ie/File/2017IRs/CHO9_2017CamhsIR.pdf</a>
	<i>A Vision for Change</i>	<a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/mentalhealth/visionforchange.html">https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/mentalhealth/visionforchange.html</a>
	‘Workforce Planning – Mental Health: Assessing Supply and Demand’	<a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/resources/workforce-planning-report-mhs.pdf">https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/resources/workforce-planning-report-mhs.pdf</a>
30	<i>Socioeconomic Disadvantage and Suicidal Behaviour</i>	<a href="https://media.samaritans.org/documents/Socioeconomic_disadvantage_and_suicidal_behaviour_bilingual.pdf">https://media.samaritans.org/documents/Socioeconomic_disadvantage_and_suicidal_behaviour_bilingual.pdf</a>
	National Self-Harm Registry annual report 2017	<a href="https://www.nsrif.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/NSRF-National-Self-Harm-Registry-Ireland-2017-1.pdf">https://www.nsrif.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/NSRF-National-Self-Harm-Registry-Ireland-2017-1.pdf</a>
	<i>Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures</i>	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/775847-better-outcomes-brighter-futures/">https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/775847-better-outcomes-brighter-futures/</a>



30	Growing Up in Ireland: The lives of 13-year-olds	<a href="https://www.esri.ie/publications/growing-up-in-ireland-the-lives-of-13-year-olds">https://www.esri.ie/publications/growing-up-in-ireland-the-lives-of-13-year-olds</a>
31	Spotlight paper on school-based relationships and sexuality education	<a href="https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/libraryResearch/2018/2018-09-25_spotlight-school-based-relationships-and-sexuality-education-rse-lessons-for-policy-and-practice_en.pdf">https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/libraryResearch/2018/2018-09-25_spotlight-school-based-relationships-and-sexuality-education-rse-lessons-for-policy-and-practice_en.pdf</a>
	Growing Up in Ireland report of risky health behaviours and sexual activity	<a href="https://www.esri.ie/publications/growing-up-in-ireland-risky-health-behaviours-and-sexual-activity/">https://www.esri.ie/publications/growing-up-in-ireland-risky-health-behaviours-and-sexual-activity/</a>
32	HSE Performance Profile July–September 2018 Quarterly Report	<a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/performance-reports/july-to-september-2018-quarterly-report.pdf">https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/performance-reports/july-to-september-2018-quarterly-report.pdf</a>
	Report on the New Standard Operating Procedure for Assessment of Need (January 2019)	<a href="https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/32/joint_committee_on_health/reports/2019/2019-01-23_report-on-the-new-standard-operating-procedure-for-assessment-of-need-under-the-disability-act-2005_en.pdf">https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/32/joint_committee_on_health/reports/2019/2019-01-23_report-on-the-new-standard-operating-procedure-for-assessment-of-need-under-the-disability-act-2005_en.pdf</a>
	Access and Inclusion Model (AIM)	<a href="https://aim.gov.ie/">https://aim.gov.ie/</a>
33	Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) 2014 study	<a href="https://www.library.ucg.ie/bitstream/handle/10379/5485/HBSC2014%20edit%20%28LW%29.pdf?sequence=6&amp;isAllowed=y">https://www.library.ucg.ie/bitstream/handle/10379/5485/HBSC2014%20edit%20%28LW%29.pdf?sequence=6&amp;isAllowed=y</a>
34	Tusla’s Data and Information Hub	<a href="https://outcomes4children.tusla.ie/">https://outcomes4children.tusla.ie/</a>
	Youth and Sport Development Services, ‘Socio-economic profile of area and an analysis of current provision’ (2018)	<a href="http://www.ddletb.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Socioeconomic-Profile-DDLETB-Final.pdf">http://www.ddletb.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Socioeconomic-Profile-DDLETB-Final.pdf</a>
	Pobal Early Years Sector Profile Report 2017–2018	<a href="https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2018/11/Early-Years-Sector-Profile-Report-2017-2018.pdf">https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2018/11/Early-Years-Sector-Profile-Report-2017-2018.pdf</a>
35	CSO 2016 profile of Education, Skills and Irish Language	<a href="https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp10esil/p10esil/le/">https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp10esil/p10esil/le/</a>
	<i>School Completers – What Next?</i> Report on School Completers from Post-Primary Schools – pupils enrolled in 2009/2010 and not in 2010/2011	<a href="https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/School-Completers-What-Next-.pdf">https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/School-Completers-What-Next-.pdf</a>
36	<i>A Study of Progression in Irish Higher Education 2013/14 to 2014/15</i>	<a href="https://hea.ie/assets/uploads/2017/06/A-STUDY-OF-PROGRESSION-IN-IRISH-HIGHER-EDUCATION.pdf">https://hea.ie/assets/uploads/2017/06/A-STUDY-OF-PROGRESSION-IN-IRISH-HIGHER-EDUCATION.pdf</a>
39	Interim Report, Child Care Law Reporting Project, 2013	<a href="https://www.childlawproject.ie/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/correctedinterimreport.pdf">https://www.childlawproject.ie/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/correctedinterimreport.pdf</a>
	meta-analysis of all bullying studies on the island of Ireland	<a href="http://mural.maynoothuniversity.ie/11538/1/Foody_Meta-Analysis_2017.pdf">http://mural.maynoothuniversity.ie/11538/1/Foody_Meta-Analysis_2017.pdf</a>
	‘Exploring traditional and cyberbullying among Irish adolescents’	<a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/270002336_Exploring_traditional_and_cyberbullying_among_Irish_adolescents">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/270002336_Exploring_traditional_and_cyberbullying_among_Irish_adolescents</a>
	‘Bullying victimisation, self harm and associated factors in Irish adolescent boys’	<a href="https://www.nsrif.ie/wp-content/uploads/journals/10/BullyingVictimisation.pdf">https://www.nsrif.ie/wp-content/uploads/journals/10/BullyingVictimisation.pdf</a>
	Growing Up in Ireland: The lives of 13-year-olds	<a href="https://www.esri.ie/publications/growing-up-in-ireland-the-lives-of-13-year-olds">https://www.esri.ie/publications/growing-up-in-ireland-the-lives-of-13-year-olds</a>
40	CSO Quarter, National, Household Survey carried out in 2014	<a href="https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/er/q-eq/qnhsequalitymodulequarter32014/">https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/er/q-eq/qnhsequalitymodulequarter32014/</a>
	The Irish Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) Study 2014	<a href="http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/healthpromotionresearchcentre/hbscdocs/nationalreports/HBSC2014-edit-%28LW%29.pdf">http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/healthpromotionresearchcentre/hbscdocs/nationalreports/HBSC2014-edit-%28LW%29.pdf</a>
	<i>Tackling Youth Crime: Youth Justice Action Plan 2014–2018</i>	<a href="http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Tackling%20Youth%20Crime%20-%20Youth%20Justice%20Action%20Plan.pdf/Files/Tackling%20Youth%20Crime%20-%20Youth%20Justice%20Action%20Plan.pdf">http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Tackling Youth Crime - Youth Justice Action Plan.pdf/Files/Tackling Youth Crime - Youth Justice Action Plan.pdf</a>

40	Probation Service's Point in Time (June 2019)	<a href="http://www.probation.ie/EN/PB//WebPages/WP19000025">http://www.probation.ie/EN/PB//WebPages/WP19000025</a>
41	<i>The State of the Nation's Children:</i> Ireland 2016	<a href="https://assets.gov.ie/27118/ee5c3232f60e4e788663bee745e3222c.pdf">https://assets.gov.ie/27118/ee5c3232f60e4e788663bee745e3222c.pdf</a>
	The Trutz Haase deprivation area profiles 2011	<a href="http://trutzhaase.eu/deprivation-index/area-profiles/">http://trutzhaase.eu/deprivation-index/area-profiles/</a>
	<i>Jobless Households: An Exploration of the Issues</i>	<a href="http://files.nesc.ie/nesc_reports/en/137_Jobless_Households_ExSum.pdf">http://files.nesc.ie/nesc_reports/en/137_Jobless_Households_ExSum.pdf</a>
42	<i>No Place Like Home</i> , the Ombudsman for Children's 2019 report	<a href="https://www.oco.ie/app/uploads/2019/04/No-Place-Like-Home.pdf">https://www.oco.ie/app/uploads/2019/04/No-Place-Like-Home.pdf</a>
	Fingal County Council report to the Joint Committee on Housing Planning and Local Government	<a href="https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/32/joint_committee_on_housing_planning_and_local_government/submissions/2018/2018-09-26_opening-statement-margaret-geraghty-fingal-county-council_en.pdf">https://data.oireachtas.ie/ie/oireachtas/committee/dail/32/joint_committee_on_housing_planning_and_local_government/submissions/2018/2018-09-26_opening-statement-margaret-geraghty-fingal-county-council_en.pdf</a>
43	<i>Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness</i>	<a href="https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/third_quarterly_progress_report_rbi_31_may_2017.pdf">https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/third_quarterly_progress_report_rbi_31_may_2017.pdf</a>
	Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan 2016–2020	<a href="https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/fingal_local_economic_community_plan_2016_-_2020.pdf">https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/fingal_local_economic_community_plan_2016_-_2020.pdf</a>
44	<i>School Completers – What Next?</i> Report on School Completers from Post-Primary Schools – pupils enrolled in 2009/2010 and not in 2010/2011	<a href="https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/School-Completers-What-Next-.pdf">https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/School-Completers-What-Next-.pdf</a>
	A Study of Progression in Irish Higher Education 2013/14 to 2014/15	<a href="https://hea.ie/assets/uploads/2017/06/A-STUDY-OF-PROGRESSION-IN-IRISH-HIGHER-EDUCATION.pdf">https://hea.ie/assets/uploads/2017/06/A-STUDY-OF-PROGRESSION-IN-IRISH-HIGHER-EDUCATION.pdf</a>
	The Youth Guarantee	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1079&amp;langId=en">https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1079&amp;langId=en</a>
	<i>Pathways to Work: Youth Guarantee implementation plan Ireland May 2018</i>	<a href="http://www.welfare.ie/en/downloads/Youth-Guarantee-Implementation-Plan.pdf">http://www.welfare.ie/en/downloads/Youth-Guarantee-Implementation-Plan.pdf</a>
45	Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan 2016–2020	<a href="https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/fingal_local_economic_community_plan_2016_-_2020.pdf">https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/fingal_local_economic_community_plan_2016_-_2020.pdf</a>
	Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study 2014	<a href="http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/healthpromotionresearchcentre/hbscdocs/nationalreports/HBSC2014-edit-%28LW%29.pdf">http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/healthpromotionresearchcentre/hbscdocs/nationalreports/HBSC2014-edit-%28LW%29.pdf</a>
60	Healthy Ireland Breastfeeding Action Plan 2016–2021	<a href="https://www.breastfeeding.ie/uploads/breastfeeding-in-a-healthy-ireland.pdf">https://www.breastfeeding.ie/uploads/breastfeeding-in-a-healthy-ireland.pdf</a>
	Mental Health Division Key Performance Indicator Metadata	<a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/kpis/key-performance-indicator-metadata-2018.html">https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/kpis/key-performance-indicator-metadata-2018.html</a>
61	Connecting For Life Dublin North City and County Consultation Report	<a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/mental-health-services/connecting-for-life/publications/connecting-for-life-dncc-consultation-report.pdf">https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/mental-health-services/connecting-for-life/publications/connecting-for-life-dncc-consultation-report.pdf</a>
	Jigsaw Annual Report 2017	<a href="http://annualreport2017.jigsaw.ie/">http://annualreport2017.jigsaw.ie/</a>
	The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Mental Health Commission Inspection Report (2017)	<a href="https://www.mhcirl.ie/File/2017IRs/CHO9_2017CamhsIR.pdf">https://www.mhcirl.ie/File/2017IRs/CHO9_2017CamhsIR.pdf</a>
	BMC Psychiatry 2018; 18: 167	<a href="https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5987458/">https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5987458/</a>
62	<i>Teenspace: National Recreation Policy for Young People (2007–2017)</i>	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/9bac93-teenspace-national-recreation-policy-for-young-people/?referrer=/documents/20180815natrecpolyoungpeople.pdf/">https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/9bac93-teenspace-national-recreation-policy-for-young-people/?referrer=/documents/20180815natrecpolyoungpeople.pdf/</a>
	<i>First 5: A Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019–2028</i>	<a href="https://assets.gov.ie/31184/62acc54f4bdf4405b74e53a4afb8e71b.pdf">https://assets.gov.ie/31184/62acc54f4bdf4405b74e53a4afb8e71b.pdf</a>

62	Fingal Development 2017–2023	<a href="https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-development-plan-2017-2023">https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-development-plan-2017-2023</a>
	Fingal Culture and Creativity Strategy	<a href="https://www.fingal.ie/creative-fingal">https://www.fingal.ie/creative-fingal</a>
	<i>Keeping it Green – Open Space Strategy</i>	<a href="https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/KEEPING_IT_GREEN_OSS_DraftDoc%20%281%29.pdf">https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-03/KEEPING_IT_GREEN_OSS_DraftDoc%20%281%29.pdf</a>
63	CSO 2016 profile of Education, Skills and the Irish Language	<a href="https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp10esil/p10esil/ie/">https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp10esil/p10esil/ie/</a>
64	Area-Based Childhood (ABC) programme	<a href="https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/the-area-based-childhood-abc-programme/?referrer=/docs/en/abc-overview/3883.htm/">https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/the-area-based-childhood-abc-programme/?referrer=/docs/en/abc-overview/3883.htm/</a>
	Fingal Parenting Initiative	<a href="https://www.cypsc.ie/cypsc-stories-/fingal.2043.html">https://www.cypsc.ie/cypsc-stories-/fingal.2043.html</a>
65	Incredible Years TCM Programme	<a href="https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/National-Educational-Psychological-Service-NEPS-/Incredible-Years-TCM-Programme.pdf">https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/National-Educational-Psychological-Service-NEPS-/Incredible-Years-TCM-Programme.pdf</a>
	FRIENDS Programmes	<a href="https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/National-Educational-Psychological-Service-NEPS-/FRIENDS-Programmes.pdf">https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/National-Educational-Psychological-Service-NEPS-/FRIENDS-Programmes.pdf</a>
	The National Educational Psychological Service	<a href="https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/National-Educational-Psychological-Service-NEPS-/NEPS-Home-Page.html">https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/National-Educational-Psychological-Service-NEPS-/NEPS-Home-Page.html</a>
	Special Classes in Primary and Post Primary Schools (2018–2019)	<a href="https://ncse.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/NCSE-List-of-Special-Classes-for-September-2018updated.pdf">https://ncse.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/NCSE-List-of-Special-Classes-for-September-2018updated.pdf</a>
66	<i>Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures</i>	<a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/775847-better-outcomes-brighter-futures/">https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/775847-better-outcomes-brighter-futures/</a>
	<i>Off to a Good Start? Primary School Experiences and the Transition to Second Level Education</i>	<a href="https://www.esri.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2017-10/BKMNEXT343.pdf">https://www.esri.ie/system/files/media/file-uploads/2017-10/BKMNEXT343.pdf</a>
	<i>First 5: A Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families</i>	<a href="https://assets.gov.ie/31184/62acc54f4bdf4405b74e53a4afb8e71b.pdf">https://assets.gov.ie/31184/62acc54f4bdf4405b74e53a4afb8e71b.pdf</a>
67	Reardan, 2011	<a href="https://cepa.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/reardon%20whither%20opportunity%20-%20chapter%205.pdf">https://cepa.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/reardon%20whither%20opportunity%20-%20chapter%205.pdf</a>
	Sofroniou, Archer and Weir, 2004	<a href="http://www.erc.ie/documents/vol35chp4.pdf">http://www.erc.ie/documents/vol35chp4.pdf</a>
	Weir, 2001	<a href="http://www.erc.ie/documents/vol32chp2.pdf">http://www.erc.ie/documents/vol32chp2.pdf</a>
	Pobal HP Deprivation Index, 2016	<a href="https://www.pobal.ie/launch-of-2016-pobal-hp-deprivation-index/">https://www.pobal.ie/launch-of-2016-pobal-hp-deprivation-index/</a>
	Youth Guarantee	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1079&amp;langId=en">https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1079&amp;langId=en</a>
71	<i>Reducing Youth Crime in Ireland (2017)</i>	<a href="http://www.lecheile.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Reducing-Youth-Crime-In-Ireland-Executive-Summary.pdf">http://www.lecheile.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Reducing-Youth-Crime-In-Ireland-Executive-Summary.pdf</a>
	<i>An Garda Síochána’s Modernisation and Renewal Programme (2016–2021)</i>	<a href="https://www.garda.ie/en/About-Us/Publications/Policing-Plans/Strategy/Modernisation-and-Renewal-Programme/Modernisation-and-Renewal-Programme-2016-2021.pdf">https://www.garda.ie/en/About-Us/Publications/Policing-Plans/Strategy/Modernisation-and-Renewal-Programme/Modernisation-and-Renewal-Programme-2016-2021.pdf</a>
73	<i>No Place Like Home: Children’s views and experiences of living in Family Hubs</i>	<a href="https://www.oco.ie/app/uploads/2019/04/No-Place-Like-Home.pdf">https://www.oco.ie/app/uploads/2019/04/No-Place-Like-Home.pdf</a>
	<i>Home Works: A Study on the Educational Needs of Children Experiencing Homelessness and Living in Emergency Accommodation</i>	<a href="https://www.childrensrights.ie/sites/default/files/submissions_reports/files/Home Works Study on the Educational Needs of Children Experiencing Homelessness - Full Report.pdf">https://www.childrensrights.ie/sites/default/files/submissions_reports/files/Home Works Study on the Educational Needs of Children Experiencing Homelessness - Full Report.pdf</a>
74	Action Plan to Expand Apprenticeship and Traineeship in Ireland 2016–2020	<a href="http://www.solas.ie/SolasPdfLibrary/ActionPlanDec16.pdf">http://www.solas.ie/SolasPdfLibrary/ActionPlanDec16.pdf</a>