



**Meath Children and Young  
People's  
Services Committee**

**Children and Young People's Plan  
2018- 2020**

# Contact

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

Please contact: Leonard Callaghan, Email: [Leonard.Callahan@tusla.ie](mailto:Leonard.Callahan@tusla.ie) Telephone: 046-9098642/087-6441418

Copies of this plan will be available on: [www.familysupportmeath.ie](http://www.familysupportmeath.ie) and [www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie)

This document has been prepared by Leonard Callaghan, compiling two different reports undertaken by the research consultants Quality Matters.

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# Forward

We are pleased to present the Meath Children and Young People's Plan which covers the three-year period from 2018 to 2020. This plan reflects a meaningful commitment by the members of the Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee [CYPSC] and its subgroups to the children, young people and families of Co. Meath.

Meath has maintained a high population of children and young people as evidenced from the CSO 2016. A high birth rate combined with high levels of inward migration is maintaining this high youth population. Similar to the entire country, families in Meath have been impacted negatively by the recession which saw increasing levels of unemployment and disadvantage in particular areas of the county. Statutory, Voluntary and Community organisations and agencies working with children, young people and families across the county have worked hard to meet increasing demands with available resources.

This plan presents a coordinated interagency approach to the delivery of services to children and young people in Meath for 2018 to 2020 by all agencies working with children and young people in Co. Meath. It reflects the priorities that have been identified from an analysis of the needs in the county and a commitment by members to address these needs over the three years of the plan. The voice of children and young people is represented and we are committed to strengthening participation with children and young people during the lifetime of this plan.

Meath CYPSC consider this plan a working document and it is committed to reviewing and amending it throughout the duration of implementation in light of evidence of more effective models of practice and/or of emergent need.

As Chairperson of the Meath CYPSC I wish to extend sincere thanks to all those involved in bringing this plan to fruition.

*Grainne Sullivan*  
Chairperson  
Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee  
August 2018

# Section 1: Introduction

## Overview

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

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

### **Children and Young People's Services Committee in Meath**

The Meath Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) was established in June 2011 (formerly Meath Children's Services Committee), with members representing the HSE, Meath County Council, An Garda Síochána, the Probation Service, Meath VEC (now Louth Meath Education & Training Board), the Irish Primary Principals Network (IPPN), the National Association of Principals & Deputy Principals (NAPD), Meath County Childcare Committee, the North East – Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force (NERDATF), Meath Partnership, Family

Resource Centres, Non-Governmental Organisations, the Youth and Voluntary Sector including Youth Work Ireland Meath, Meath Springboard Family Support Services and the Crann Support Group.

The work of the Meath CYPSC continues to grow and develop; the priorities outlined in this plan build on many of those already in progress. In addition, several new priority areas supporting children and young people across the 5 National Outcomes have also been included, namely physical health and wellbeing, community health and wellbeing, out of school supports, transitions, promoting positive school attendance and punctuality, cyber safety and bullying, domestic violence, Children First, young mums under 20, youth employment, marginalised groups and transport. These priorities represent both the ongoing process of identifying need and the recognition that the CYPSC, to be effective, needs to develop programmes incrementally over time.

The following **principles** underpin the work of the Meath CYPSC:

Children, young people and families

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

Collaboration and Operation of Meath CYPSC

- We will learn from other CYPSCs, taking on board their experiences to inform our work
- All involved will have a clear understanding of the role of CYPSCs and the particular role of Meath CYPSC
- We will build the understanding of each other's roles, open doors, and work flexibly to implement the work agreed we are committed to and open in the process
- We are open to change and realise that change is often necessary to ensure better outcomes
- We will openly communicate and cascade the work of the CYPSC into our organisations
- Meath CYPSC will act as an inclusive body and will work with the wider community to input into plans and implementation
- We will agree on how decisions will be reached, ideally through consensus
- We will maximise and share resources, funding and other resources to reach shared goals

Our plans and delivery

- Our work and plans will be based on data, fact and evidence
- They will be realistic with set goals and targeted outcomes
- We are committed to delivery, implementing plans and ensuring that action happens

- We will share and transfer good practice across our work together and into our organisations at large
- Our plans will be reviewed and evaluated which will inform future plans and working

## Who we are

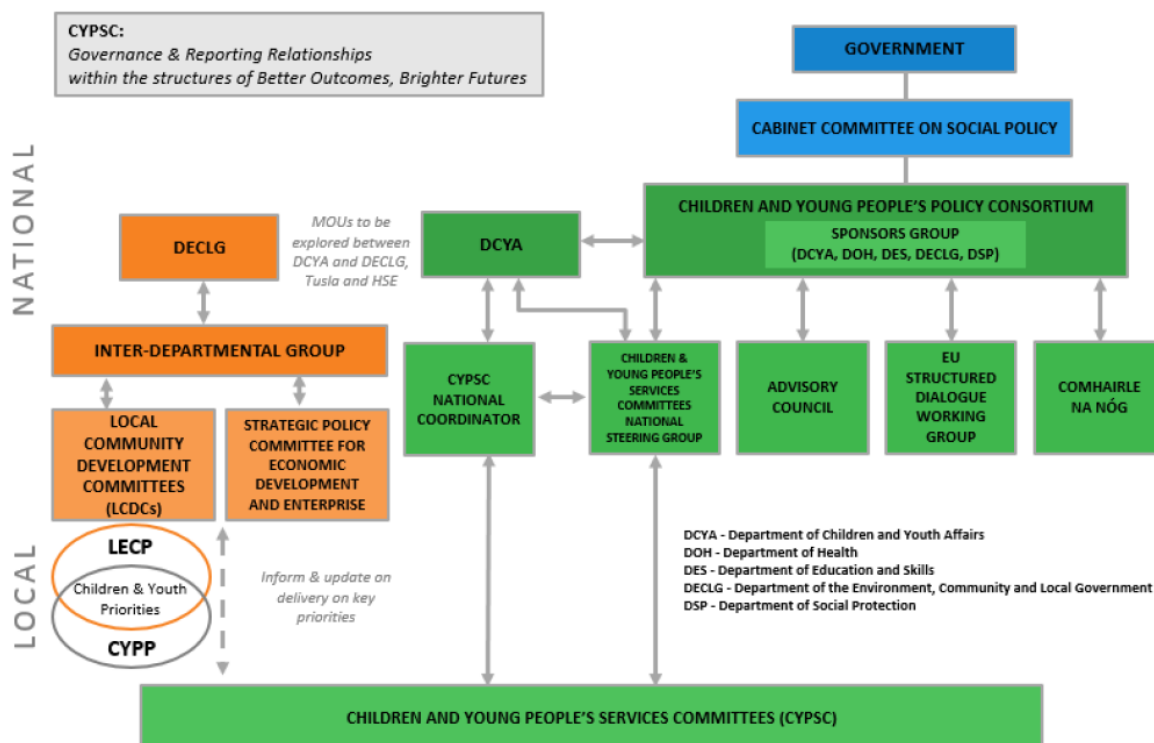
The members\* of the Meath CYPSC are as follows:

Chair: Grainne Sullivan, Area Manager Tusla (the Child and Family Agency) Louth Meath,  
 Fiona Fallon, Executive Officer, Community, Meath County Council  
 Alan Doran, Principal Psychologist, Health Service Executive  
 Andy Ogle, Coordinator, North Eastern Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force  
 Enda Lydon, Principal, Irish Primary Principals' Network  
 Jennifer Nolan, Programme Manager, Meath Partnership  
 Geraldine Hogarty, Manager, Youth Work Ireland Meath,  
 Dr. Eileen Butler, Senior Medical Officer, Health Service Executive  
 Fiona Kearney, Manager, Tusla Prevention, Partnership & Family Support,  
 Kerry Quinn, Senior Probation Officer, Probation Service  
 Marie Daly, CEO, Crann Support Group  
 Fergus Healy, Chief Superintendent, An Garda Síochána Meath Division  
 Sé Fulham, Manager, Meath Springboard Family Support Services  
 Sheila Mckenna, Principal Social Worker, HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services  
 Susan Keogh, Co-ordinator, Family Resource Centres  
 Imelda Prunty, Chairperson, Meath County Childcare Committee  
 Lisa McCormack, Principal Social Worker, Tusla Louth Meath

\*At the time of completing this plan we had vacancies regarding representatives from the Department of Social Protection and the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals

Overview of how the CYPSC fits with other structures (See Figure 3 below which illustrates the CYPSC's linkages and relationships).

Figure 3: National governance and reporting relationships





## Achievements to date

This section highlights some of the achievements of Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee during the lifetime of the last Children and Young People's Plan [CYPP] 2012 to 2015.

Below is a summary of some of the key achievements to date:

- Roll out of the mental health Youth Centered Training Programme for front line staff working with young people which up-skilled staff and volunteers and built capacity around early intervention and appropriate referrals
- Development of the post-primary schools based mental health intervention programme in Co. Meath which brings together young people, teachers and parents to address shared concern around positive mental health
- Development of an agreed referral pathway protocol for mental health services which ensures that young people are referred to the appropriate service
- Development of an agreed management system for the treatment of 16-17 year olds in the HSE with mental health difficulties, which has helped to fill the gap in that there is no longer an unmet need
- Raised awareness of the services available for children, parents and families (0-18 years) in relation to Drugs and Alcohol in Co. Meath by signposting such services for families in need through social media and publications
- Provision of a service for children and young people under 18 in relation to drugs and alcohol (Substance Use Service for Teens) that addressed a major gap in service
- Establishment of an accessible and user friendly information point on all relevant services for children and their families in the county [www.familysupportmeath.ie](http://www.familysupportmeath.ie), with over 1750 hits per month
- Highlighted issues of concern that impacted on the welfare of children and/or families, as they arose in communities across the county, to the wider Meath CYPSC
- Supported the implementation of Children First across the community and voluntary sector
- Consulted with children and young people to ensure their voices were heard in the work plan of the Meath CYPSC
- Conducted an Audit of Services and Local Needs Analysis in 2013 (Launched in April 2014) identifying up to 700 services that are provided to children, young people and families in the local area, by statutory, voluntary and community sector organisations
- Establishment of an LGBTI+ Youth Support Group for under 18s provided much needed support to a key demographic (This initiative is being led out by Youth Work Ireland Meath)

## Review of previous plan

The Meath CYPSC submitted its first three year plan in 2012 for the period 2012 to 2015. The work was overseen by six subgroups across the five outcome areas. Where possible, subgroups were chaired by members of the main CYPSC Committee to ensure good feedback. Regular progress updates were provided at CYPSC Committee meetings which took place 6 times per annum. A review of progress was undertaken after 18 months and

was compiled in May 2014. A further review was undertaken at the end of 2015 in advance of making a submission to the Local Economic Community Plan. In 2016 a review was undertaken to put measures in place to address outstanding work and the previous plan was reviewed in conjunction with the planning for the new plan in October 2016. In 2017 we have entered a new phase in the national development of CYPSCs which will see more robust reviews and a greater emphasis on future planning.

### **Learning**

- We must build on the excellent work that has taken place to further raise the profile of Meath CYPSC and this is the responsibility of all members
- Subgroups are useful to oversee the work under each outcome area and to ensure that this work is receiving attention
- It is vital that a lead agency is responsible for each action, as far as practicable, and that this work is acknowledged in their work plans
- Consultation with young people should be an ongoing and integrated part of the work of the CYPSC and its member agencies

### **Changes**

- Significant restructuring of organisations during the period of the plan: HSE/Tusla, ETBs, Local Government
- Chairing of CYPSC moved to Tusla
- Publication of Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures in 2014 saw the expansion of the age remit of CYPSCs to young people up to the age of 24

### **Challenges**

- Membership turn-over, maintenance and challenges in getting representation from some agencies e.g. DSP, NEPS
- Lack of resources (financial/staff) to sustain existing services, to initiate/expand programmes or to address identified gaps
- Expansion of age remit of CYPSCs to young people up to age 24 and trying to expand the membership of the CYPSC to reflect this expansion
- Retaining and turn-over of membership on subgroups

### **Impact**

- The CYPSC improving interagency working in the county and relationships between agencies, for example, the Strengthening Families Programme which has been funded and staffed by multiple agencies and the GAA Cul Camp that caters for disadvantaged children that are referred by a collection of agencies
- The CYPSC being recognised as a vehicle through which gaps/needs can be identified and brought to the attention of the relevant agencies, for example, the establishment of an LGBTI+ Youth Support Group for under 18s came about following the launch of the Meath CYPSC Needs Analysis in 2014, where young people highlighted the absence of support for the LGBTI+ community

- The successful and full implementation of Meitheal in Co. Meath has been supported by the existence of a CYPSC which facilitated the formation of the Prevention Partnership and Family Support Steering Committee

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

The Meath Children and Young People's Plan [CYPP] has been developed by the agencies involved in the Meath CYPSC and its subgroup members. It is informed by the socio-demographic profile for the county detailed in Section 2 and by the overview of services to children and families in Co. Meath in Section 3. It also takes into consideration the national policy perspective and evidence arising from local, national and international research.

The task of producing a socio-demographic profile for the county was given to Quality Matters who also carried out the Audit of Services and Needs Analysis in 2013. The socio-demographic profile in 2017 is informed by the CSO 2016, information gathered by the Local Authority in preparation for the Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 and the State of the Nation's Children report 2016.

The Co-ordinator undertook a literature review of national policy, CYPSC meetings and subgroup meeting minutes. CYPSC members were also invited to submit information relating to issues arising from other relevant structures e.g. education committees, drug and alcohol task forces. The CYPP is also influenced by findings from consultations that have taken place across the county in relation to the Meath Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021.

In October 2016 the Meath CYPSC undertook a review of its previous plan in order to assist us in identifying achievements to date and highlighting any outstanding work and actions that needed to be taken to address this work, as far as practicable, before the end of 2016. Where this was not possible this work was highlighted for inclusion in the new plan for 2017. The review of the previous CYPP was presented and discussed with members of the Meath CYPSC and its working groups at a Review Day that was held in November, 2016 (see pp54-55 under Section 4 Local Needs Analysis in Meath for more details in relation to this review). Following the publication of CSO data from mid to late 2017, the CYPP 2018-2020 was able to be completed in 2018.

# Section 2: Socio-Demographic Profile of Meath

## Demographic Profile 2017 – Summary of Key Findings

Measure	County		National	
	Number	%	Number	%
All Persons 2016	195,044	100	4,761,865	100
0 – 4 Years	15,736	8.1	331,515	7
5 – 9 Years	17,774	9.1	355,561	7.5
10 – 14 Years	15,421	7.9	319,476	6.7
15 – 19 Years	12,994	6.7	302,816	6.4
20- 24 Years	9,372	4.8	273,636	5.7
Population Aged 0 – 17 Years	57,134			
Population Aged 0 – 24 Years	71,297	36.6	1,583,004	33.3
Change Population 0- 14 years 1996 – 2016	20,324	71		
Change Population 15- 24 years 1996 – 2016	3,928	21		
Youth Dependency Rate		39		32.3
Lone Parent Family Units with children	7,812	15.1	218,817	17.9
Births to Mothers Under 20	38	1.35	1098	1.72
Educational Attainment of Mother – Primary (including no formal education)	1,664	3.5	48,040	4.8
Educational Attainment of Mother – Lower Secondary	6,436	13.6	141,329	14.2
Educational Attainment of Mother – Upper Secondary	21,239	44.7	416,407	41.9
Educational Attainment of Mother – Third Level	17,074	36	364,299	36.7
Educational Attainment of Mother – Not available	1,065	2.2	23,590	2.4
<b>State of the Nation's Children Report 2016</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Rate per 1,000</b>
Foreign National Children	4,003	76	93,005	82.5
Traveller Children	448	8.4	14,245	12.4
Children with a disability	2,769	51.9	66,437	57.8
Children as Carers	250	4.7	6,449	5.6
The number of Children registered as having an intellectual disability	426	8.0	9,066	7.9
The number of Children registered as having a physical or sensory disability	597	11.2	6,230	5.4

### County Meath Overview

County Meath is the 14<sup>th</sup> largest of Ireland's 32 counties in area (2,342 km<sup>2</sup>) and the sixth largest, in terms of population. It is the second largest of 12 counties in Leinster in size, and the third largest in terms of population based on census 2016 data. It is situated in the north east of Ireland and is bordered by counties Louth, Monaghan, Cavan, Westmeath, Offaly, Kildare and Dublin. The county town is Navan, although Trim remains the sitting place of the circuit court. Meath also has the only two Gaeltacht areas in the province of Leinster, at Rath Cairn and Baile Ghib. The majority of Meath's population live in the three inland towns of Kells, Navan, Trim and in the areas that form the Dublin commuter belt. Meath adjoins Dublin to

the south, and the southern part of the county is generally seen as being part of the Greater Dublin Area.



## Population Demographics

With a population of 195,004 Meath has the 7<sup>th</sup> largest population of all counties in the State. Census 2016 show an increase of 5.9% from the previous census compared to an increase of 3.8% at State level. This was an actual increase of 10,909 people. This makes Meath proportionally the second fastest growing local authority in the State after neighbouring Fingal. Net migration has decreased by -0.6% however the natural increase is now 12<sup>1</sup> per 1,000, this natural increase was the highest of all local authorities in the State.

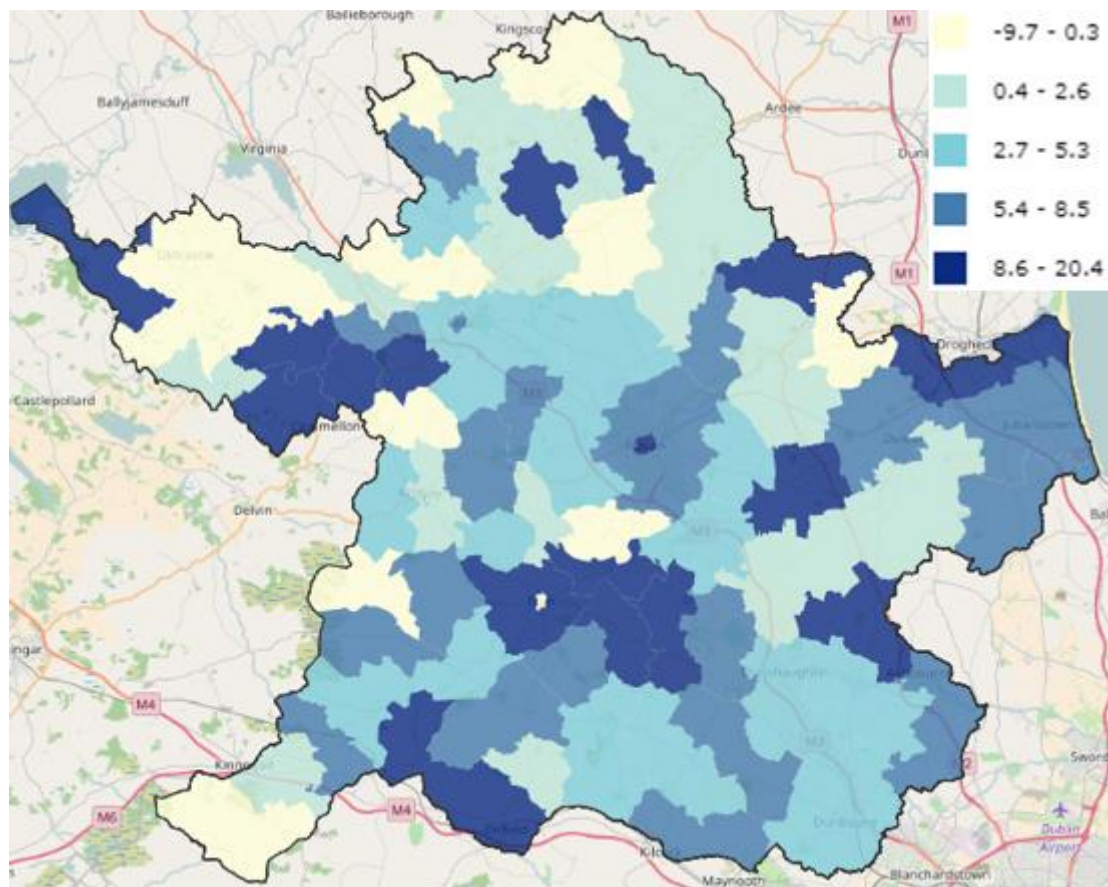
The spatial distribution of the population within the county is as follows: 25% of the population are located in the three inland towns of Kells, Navan<sup>2</sup> and Trim and 28.4% of the population are living in electoral districts bordering Dublin and the coast. Meath has experienced a major and consistent expansion of its population in recent years. This expansion is the result of both a high birth rate and high levels of inward migration into the county. Between 1991 and 2016, the population in the county increased by 85%, the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest of all local authorities. In the five years since Census 2011, population growth occurred in 79 of the 97 Meath Electoral

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpr/censusofpopulation2016-preliminaryresults/copc/>

<sup>2</sup> The electoral division of Navan Rural had the seventh largest population increase of all electoral divisions since the 2011 census: <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpr/censusofpopulation2016-preliminaryresults/geochan/>

Districts. The majority of this growth occurred in close proximity to Dublin and the three large towns, Kells, Navan and Trim.

**Map 1: Percentage Population Change 2011 - 2016 by Electoral District**



29.3% of Meath's population is aged under 18 years (57,134). The county has the 6<sup>th</sup> youngest population of all local authorities in Ireland. Given the size of Meath's existing population in the 0 – 4 (8.1%) and 5 – 12 (14%) age ranges, it is clear that the county's population is still increasing and that there is likely to be an increased demand for children's and young people's services over the next decade. This is further supported by the fact that relatively high levels of households in Meath are within the Pre-School (7<sup>th</sup> highest) and Primary School (6<sup>th</sup> highest) family life cycle stage.

### Challenge: Large Youth Population

29.3% of Meath's population is aged under 18 years (57,134) and the county has the 6<sup>th</sup> youngest population of all local authorities in Ireland.

### Gender

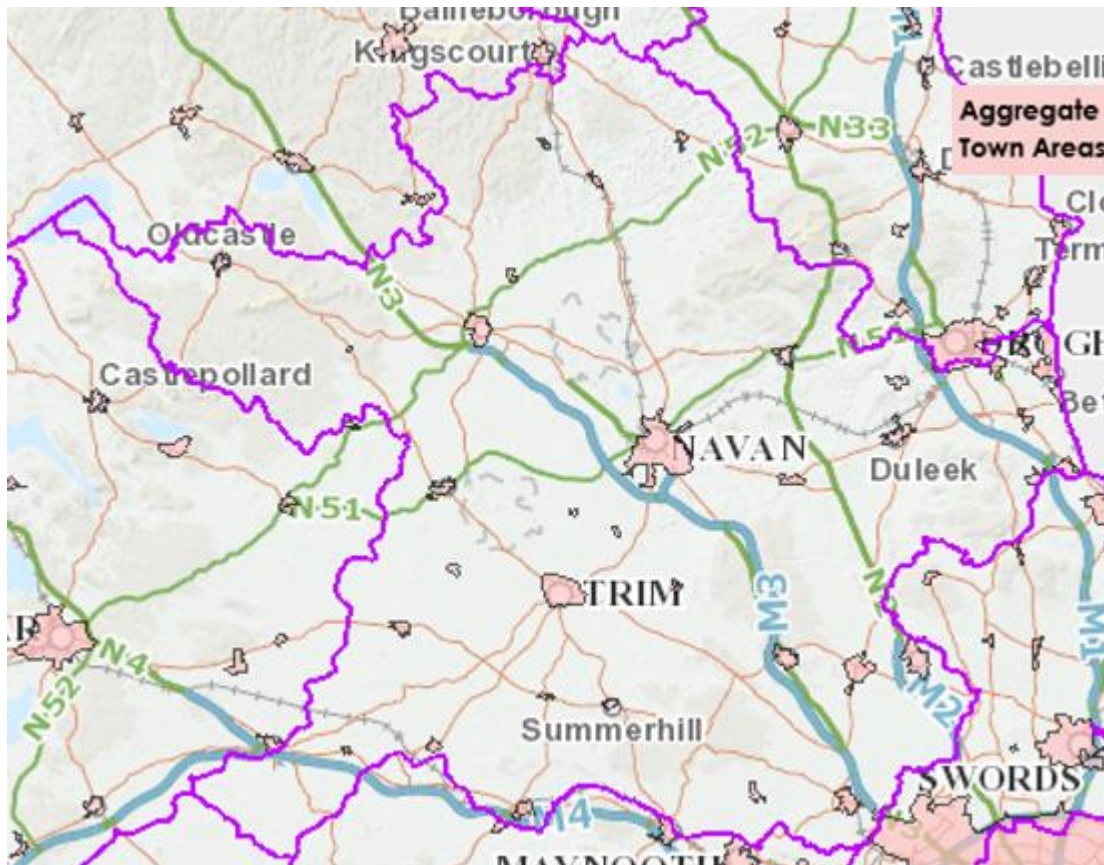
The population of Meath in 2016 was 195,044, which contains a relatively similar proportion of males (96,776, 49.6%) and females (98,268, 50.4%). The under 18 population is similar, with

males making up the majority of the population at 29,175 (51.1%) and 27,959 (48.9%) females.

### Urban/Rural Population

The population living in urban areas accounts for 58.6% (114,380), those living in rural areas account for 41.4% (80,664) of the population, this compares with 62.7% in town areas and 37.3% in rural areas at a State level. The average age of urban residents was 5.4 years lower than that of rural dwellers. The average age of people living in aggregate urban areas was 33, and 38.4 in rural aggregate areas.

**Map 2: Aggregate Urban Areas Meath 2016**



As can be seen in Table 2 the average ages of children in all family unit types is older in Meath compared to the State average. The average ages of children in rural areas in Meath are generally similar when compared to State rural areas.

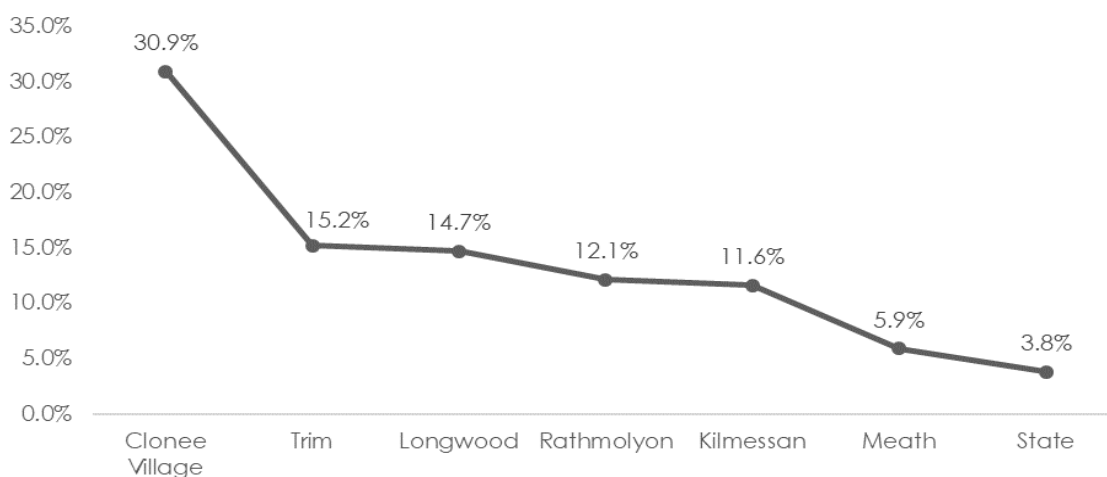
**Table 1: Average Age of Child by Family Unit Type in Meath and the State (2016)**

Family unit	Meath urban	State urban	Meath rural	State rural
Married couple with children	13.1	11.9	13.8	14.1
Cohabiting couple with children	8.2	8	8.1	8.1
One parent mother with children	16.5	15.2	20.3	20.8
One parent father with children	23.4	21	24.5	24.4

## Fastest Growing Towns and Villages

Figure 1 illustrates the five towns and villages in Meath that have had the largest proportional increase in their population since the census in 2011. Clonee Village saw the largest proportional increase of all towns in Meath with a 30.9% increase or 195 new residents, followed by Trim (15.2%, 926), Longwood (14.7%, 203), Rathmolyon (12.1%, 36) and Kilmessan (11.6%, 68). Navan remains the third largest town in the state.

**Figure 1: Fastest Growing Towns and Villages in Meath 2011 - 2016 (Percentage Increase)**



## Age

### Young People by Age Group in Meath

As can be seen in Table 3 below, in County Meath there is a pre-school population of 15,736, who make up 8.1% of the population of the county. For the 0 – 19 age groups, Meath contains proportionally more young people than both Leinster and the State itself, although there is a smaller proportion of 20 – 24-year olds, which may be accounted for by students going to third level having to move out of Meath.

**Table 2: Young People by Age Group (% of Total Population)**

Age	Meath	Leinster	State
0 - 4	15,736 (8.1%)	187,106 (7.1%)	331,515 (7%)
5 - 9	17,774 (9.1%)	197,669 (7.5%)	355,561 (7.5%)
10 - 14	15,421 (7.9%)	174,752 (6.6%)	319,476 (6.7%)
15 - 19	12,994 (6.7%)	164,149 (6.2%)	302,816 (6.4%)
20 - 24	9,372 (4.8%)	158,240 (6.0%)	273,636 (5.7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,297 (36.6%)</b>	<b>88,1916 (33.4%)</b>	<b>1,583,004 (33.3%)</b>

### Age Change Over Time and Youth Dependency Ratio

As can be seen from Table 3, 71,297 of the people in County Meath at the time of the 2016 Census were aged 24 years or younger: this equates to 36.6% of the county's population. The Youth Dependency Rate is a measure of the number of dependent young people (0-14) to the total working population (15-64). A high ratio means that those of working age face a greater burden in supporting the young population. With a rate of 39%, Meath has the highest Youth Dependency Rate in the State and is considerably higher than the National (32.3%), indicating a large youthful population.



**Table 3: County Meath Population Change by Age Cohort 1996 – 2016**

Age	1996	2002	2006	2011	2016	Total change	% Change 1996 - 2016
<b>0 - 14</b>	28,607	31,666	38,150	46,466	48,931	20,324	71%
<b>15 - 24</b>	18,438	20,659	21,961	20,972	22,366	3,928	21%
<b>25 - 44</b>	30,920	42,508	56,491	60,923	57,254	26,334	85%
<b>45 - 64</b>	21,141	27,519	33,205	39,452	45,705	24,564	116%
<b>65 +</b>	10,626	11,653	13,024	16,322	20,788	10,162	96%

### Challenge: Youth Dependency Ratio

Meath has the highest Youth Dependency Rate in the State and is considerably higher than the National average, indicating a large youthful population.

### Age by Main Urban Settlements

Census 2016 shows the population of the primary school age group (5-12) at 548,693, an increase of 8.8% since 2011 compared to a 3.8 % increase in the population of the State. In County Meath, the number of primary school aged children was 27,198 - an increase of 14.4%, or 3,424 children. This indicates a growing young population.

In 2016, three villages in Meath (Longwood (28.9), Stamullen (29) and Enfield (29)) were ranked as the youngest settlements in the country (by average age) containing 1,500 to 9,999 inhabitants. In towns containing over 10,000 inhabitants, the third (Ashbourne (32.2)) and fourth (Navan (33.1)) youngest settlements in the country, by average age, were located in Meath.

**Table 4: Age Categories 0 to 24 in Main Urban Settlements 2016**

Settlement	All ages	0 - 4 years	5 - 12 years	13 - 18 years	19 - 24 years	0 - 24 years
<b>Navan</b>	30,173	2,647	4,512	2,581	1,823	11,563
<b>Ashbourne</b>	12,679	1,269	1,760	824	760	4,613
<b>Laytown-Bettystown-Mornington</b>	11,872	978	1,934	1,019	582	4,513
<b>Ratoath</b>	9,533	825	1,740	1,085	560	4,210
<b>Trim</b>	9,194	733	1,084	805	509	3,131
<b>Dunboyne</b>	7,272	514	961	788	578	2,841
<b>Kells</b>	6,135	521	805	497	368	2,191
<b>Duleek</b>	4,219	383	665	399	222	1,669
<b>Dunshaughlin</b>	4,035	312	498	441	302	1,553
<b>Stamullen</b>	3,361	344	700	271	158	1,473
<b>Enfield</b>	3,239	404	576	239	150	1,369

<b>Athboy</b>	2,445	176	335	226	138	875
<b>Ballivor</b>	1,809	177	319	185	111	792
<b>Longwood</b>	1,581	189	315	127	47	678

## Nationality and Ethnicity

### Nationality and Ethnicity in Meath

The population of County Meath has increased significantly in recent years and has become more ethnically and culturally diverse. Table 6 illustrates that the ethnic make-up of County Meath is similar to the make up at State level in 2016. According to the Meath Partnership's Baseline Study 2014<sup>3</sup>, 12.5% of County Meath residents are ethnic minorities with migrant background.

**Table 5: Ethnicity of Census Respondents 2016**

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Meath</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Population change in Meath since 2011 census</b>
<b>White Irish</b>	84.4%	82.2%	-1.4%
<b>White Irish Traveller</b>	0.5%	0.7%	0.0%
<b>Other White</b>	9.0%	9.5%	0.4%
<b>Black or Black Irish</b>	1.6%	1.4%	-0.2%
<b>Asian or Asian Irish</b>	1.3%	2.1%	0.2%
<b>Other</b>	1.3%	1.5%	0.5%
<b>Not stated</b>	1.9%	2.6%	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	

A large portion of the population within Irish Travellers and Black/Black Irish were in the 0 – 19-year-old age group. People aged 0 – 19 years accounted for 50% of the population among Irish Travellers, and 53% among the Black/Black Irish ethnic minority groups.

**Table 6: Comparison of Broad Age-Groups Among Irish Traveller and Black/ Black Irish Ethnic Minority Populations Within County Meath (2016)**

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Irish Traveller</b>	<b>Black ethnic minority</b>	<b>Overall population of County Meath</b>
<b>0 – 19</b>	50%	53%	32%
<b>20 – 64</b>	47%	47%	58%
<b>65+</b>	3%	0%	11%

### Travellers

According to the Census, in 2016 there were 977 Travellers living in Meath, or 0.5% of the total Meath population. The largest group were in the 5 - 9 age bracket (137), accounting for 14% of all Travellers in Meath, followed by 0 – 4 years old with 13.3% (130) of the total population. According to The State of the Nation's Children's Report (2016)<sup>4</sup>, Meath's Traveller children account for 8.4 per 1,000 children in the county compared to 12.4 per 1,000 at State level, which is the sixth lowest rate per county in the country. The majority of the Traveller

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.meathpartnership.ie/openfile/905?PHPSESSID=90f454f51326f7013fa0ba624f62490f>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/stateofthenationschildren/20170302SOTNCRReport2016.pdf>

population could be found around Navan, with just over two thirds (68%) of the Traveller population in Meath based there.

**Table 7: Irish Travellers by Selected Urban Area in Meath 2016**

Area	Persons (Number)	Travellers per 1,000 total population of town
Navan	668	21.1
Trim	108	11.7
Athboy	21	8.8
Kells	12	2.0
Dunboyne	9	1.3
Ratoath	9	1.0
Ashbourne	9	0.8
Rest of Meath	141	1.2

### Other Ethnicities and Nationalities

Between 2011 and 2016, there was a strong growth in the number of non-Irish nationals, which saw the number rise from 14,878 to 16,176, an increase of 8.7% compared to 5.7% in the State. The majority (51.7%) of non-Irish nationals living in County Meath were from three different nationalities, Poland (4,460), Lithuania (3,443) and the UK (3,251). 75% of all non-Irish nationals in Meath in 2016 were from the EU 27, with the UK being the only member State category to report a significant drop in representation (-10.6%) living in Meath since the 2011 Census.

According to the State of the Nation's Children Report 2016, there were 93,005 children of non-Irish nationals living in Ireland, which represents a rate of 82.5 per 1,000 of the total child population in Ireland<sup>5</sup>. In Meath there were 4,003 children of non-Irish nationality, representing a rate of 76 per 1,000 children in the county.

## Households

### Households in Meath

In 2016, there were a total of 64,234 private households in County Meath with a total of 194,400<sup>6</sup> people in private households. Consequently, the average number of persons per private household in Meath was 3.0. There has been a marginal increase of 0.04 in the average private household size in County Meath since 2006 and an increase of 10,296, or 19% in the number of private households.

**Table 8: Private Household Size in 2016**

Area	Number of private households	Number of people in private households	Average number of people per household
Meath	64,234	194,400	3
Kildare	73,596	220,923	3
Wicklow	49,211	140,978	2.9
State	1,702,289	4,676,648	2.7

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/stateofthenationschildren/20170302SOTNCRReport2016.pdf> - Figures are not yet available from the 2016 census

<sup>6</sup> Data not available from the 2016 census for the other 604 Meath inhabitants of Meath

## Family Units in Households

In 2016, the highest percentage of all private households in County Meath was households comprising a married couple and children (53%). Lone parent households accounted for 15.1% of all private households in County Meath compared with 17.9% at State level. Lone mothers account for 85% of lone parent households in Meath, similar to 86% at State level. It is also worth noting that County Meath has a lower rate of lone parent families to all family units (1:6.6) compared with the State (1:5.6). The lone parent rate varies across electoral divisions in Meath. Generally, there is a higher percentage of one parent families in urban divisions (Kells Urban (25.8%), Navan Urban (22.7%) and Killaconnigan (22.4%)) and a lower percentage in rural divisions, Killallon (4.1%), Laracor (4.2%) and Hill of Down (5.5%).

**Table 9: Family Unit Type in Private Households 2016**

Family unit type	Meath		State	
	Number of private households	Percentage of private households	Number of private households	Percentage of private households
<b>All family units</b>	51,569	100%	1,218,370	100%
<b>Married couple without children</b>	10,351	20.1%	278,934	22.9%
<b>Cohabiting couple without children</b>	2,551	4.9%	76,715	6.3%
<b>Married couple with children</b>	27,338	53.0%	568,317	46.6%
<b>Cohabiting couple with children</b>	3,517	6.8%	75,587	6.2%
<b>One parent mother with children</b>	6,658	12.9%	189,112	15.5%
<b>One parent father with children</b>	1,154	2.2%	29,705	2.4%

Department of Social Protection figures for 2015<sup>7</sup> shows that 727 people were in receipt of a One Parent Family Support payment in County Meath (15<sup>th</sup> highest of 26 counties by number of recipients). The report also shows that 967 (6<sup>th</sup> highest) were in receipt of Maternity Benefit, while there were 28,489 recipients (5<sup>th</sup> highest) of Child Benefit for 55,859 children (5<sup>th</sup> highest). There were 2,285 recipients (5<sup>th</sup> highest) of Family Income Support and 5,566 of Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance (8<sup>th</sup> highest).

## Education

### Education in Meath

Meath has a well-educated population. In 2016, 22%<sup>8</sup> have a third level degree or higher, the 12<sup>th</sup> highest of 31 Local Authorities and just below the State average of 23.5%. The county has the 6<sup>th</sup> lowest rate of low educational achievement (no formal/primary only – 9.1%) and the 16<sup>th</sup> highest rate of medium education achievement (lower secondary + upper secondary completed 29.1%) compared to 27.3% at State level.

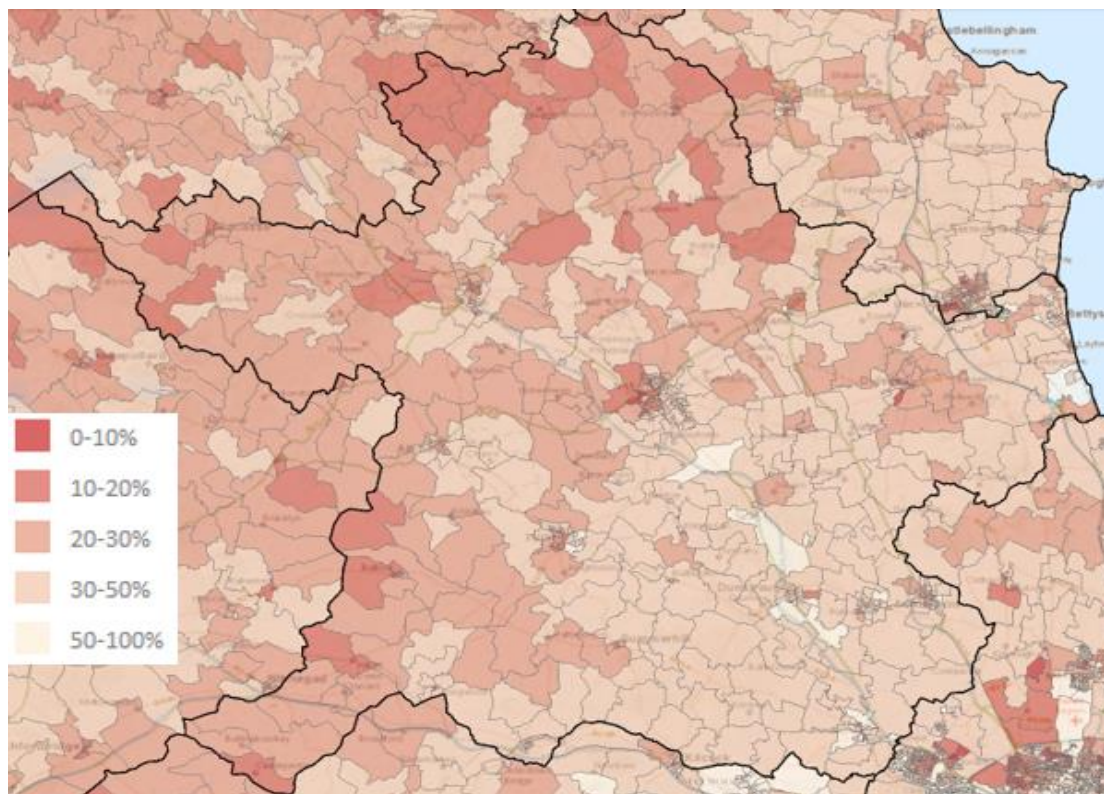
<sup>7</sup> <https://www.welfare.ie/en/Pages/Annual-SWS-Statistical-Information-Report-2015.aspx>

<sup>8</sup> Of population aged 15 years and over

## Educational Attainment by Geography

There are clear spatial variations in third level education attainment across Meath between the south-eastern and north-western areas, as illustrated in Map 3. The south-eastern area has higher rates of third level qualifications than the north-western area. There are also small areas around the town of Navan that have particularly low levels of third level attainment, with one area of the Navan Rural ED containing only 3.9% of residents with a third level qualification - the lowest in the county.

**Map 3: Third Level Educational Attainment across Meath**



## Educational Attainment of Mother

A mother's education level can be a significant predictor for her children's academic achievements<sup>9</sup>. In the State, 4.8% of children lived in families where the mother had either no formal education or primary education only, compared to 3.5% of children in County Meath, the joint second lowest in the country. This percentage ranged from 3.3% in County Cork to 9% in County Donegal.

**Table 10: Number of Children, by Meath and State and Educational Attainment of Mother**

	Primary (including no formal education)	Lower secondary	Upper secondary	Third-level (degree or higher)	Not stated/ not available	Total
<b>Meath</b>	1,664 (3.5%)	6,436 (13.6%)	21,239 (44.7%)	17,074 (36.0%)	1,065 (2.2%)	47,478
<b>State</b>	48,040 (4.8%)	141,329 (14.2%)	416,407 (41.9%)	364,299 (36.7%)	23,590 (2.4%)	993,665

<sup>9</sup> <http://ns.umich.edu/new/releases/22501-mothers-education-significant-to-children-s-academic-success>

## Primary Schools<sup>10</sup>

There are 116 Primary Schools in Meath, according to figures from the Department of Education and Skills for the 2016/2017 school year. In total, there are 113 mainstream primary schools in Meath educating 26,646 students and three special schools educating 223 students. Five (4%) of these mainstream schools are classified as DEIS<sup>11</sup> schools, the lowest proportion of DEIS schools to non-DEIS Schools in the 26 counties. There is a total of 1,145<sup>12</sup> Primary school students attending the five DEIS schools in Meath, this equates to 4.3% of the total population of Primary students a low proportion for a county with a large and rapidly growing youth population.

Primary schools in Meath are primarily of a Catholic ethos (104), with the remainder categorised as multi-denominational (7), Church of Ireland (4) and one as interdenominational. It is possible to categorise 2016/2017 data from the Dept. of Education and Skills for mainstream primary school students in Meath into three different class sizes, illustrated in Table 12. In 2016/2017 Meath had the second highest proportion of 30+ pupils per class out of 31 local authorities and the second lowest proportion of 0 – 19 pupils per class. The average number of students per class in Meath was 26.1, higher than the State average of 24.6 per class.

**Table 11: Number of Pupils in each Class Size Range**

	0 - 19 per Class	20 to 29 per Class	30+ per Class	Total
<b>Meath</b>	4.5% (1,178)	67.5% (17,874)	28% <sup>13</sup> (7,394)	100% (16,877)
<b>State</b>	10.7% (58,306)	67.6% (368,732)	21.7% (118,326)	100% (545,364)

### Challenge: High Class Numbers and Low Proportion of DEIS Schools

Meath had the second highest proportion of 30+ pupils per class out of 31 local authorities and the second lowest proportion of 0 – 19 pupils per class.

Despite a large young population Meath has the lowest proportion of DEIS to non-DEIS schools in the State.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/Data-on-Individual-Schools/>

<sup>11</sup> *Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools: DEIS schools form part of the Department of Education and Skills social inclusion strategy Delivering Equality of Opportunity in **Schools (DEIS)** to help children and young people who are at risk of or who are experiencing educational disadvantage.*

<sup>12</sup> [www.schooldays.ie](http://www.schooldays.ie)

<sup>13</sup> *This figure represents the 2nd highest in the country in 2016/17 due to: 1). There are no DEIS Band 1 schools in Co. Meath (DEIS Band 2 schools in Co. Meath contain higher pupil teacher ratios compared to DEIS schools in the rest of the country) and 2. The significant increase in the youth population in Co. Meath in recent times (see Table 4)*

## Secondary Schools<sup>14</sup>

As of the 2016/2017 school year, there were a total of 21 post-primary schools in Meath. Of these, four were categorised as DEIS schools which equates to 19% of all secondary schools. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> lowest rate of all counties in the country and is slightly below the median<sup>15</sup> number of DEIS schools per county at State level (4.5).

Studies which have focused on the social composition of schools and found that a higher concentration of students from lower socio-economic backgrounds is associated with higher rates of early school leaving for all students. This may be of particular relevance to the four DEIS schools (three primary, one secondary) in Navan as the Navan area contains a number of Small Areas that are categorised as 'very disadvantaged' on the Pobal Deprivation Index (see Table 23).

## Travellers in Education

Educational attainment among Travellers lags significantly behind that of the general population. Among Traveller females, just 13% were educated to upper secondary level or above, compared with 69% of the general population. 57% of male Travellers were educated to primary level at most, compared with just 14% of the general population. The 167 Travellers with a third-level qualification was almost double the 2011 figure of 89, however this accounts for only one percent of the Traveller population compared to 24% in the general population in 2016.

## Early Childhood Care and Education

At a State level in 2016 there were 4,178 services serving 74,125 children under contract to deliver the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). 62% of these met the basic capitation criteria, this percentage ranged from 84% in County Leitrim to 26% in County Carlow. 38% met the higher capitation criteria, this percentage ranged from 16% in County Leitrim to 74% in County Carlow.

Meath contained 195 pre-school services under contract to deliver the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) which served 3,735 children. 73% (143) of these services met basic capitation criteria, the fourth highest in the country and 27% (52) of these services met the higher capitation criteria, the fourth lowest in the country.

**Table 12: Percentage of Pre-school Services Under Contract to Deliver the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme that Meet Basic and Higher Capitation Criteria, (June 2016)<sup>16</sup>**

	Total children	Total ECCE services	Meeting basic capitation criteria		Meeting higher capitation criteria	
	Number	Number	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Meath</b>	3,735	195	143	73%	52	27%
<b>State</b>	74,125	4,178	2,603	62%	1,575	38%

## School Attendance

The Tusla report School Attendance Data from Primary and Post – Primary Schools 2014/2015 illustrates school attendance in the county. In the 2014/2015 academic year in Meath

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/Data-on-Individual-Schools/>

<sup>15</sup> Median used as Dublin with 58 DEIS schools skews the mean value to 7.1 DEIS schools per county

<sup>16</sup> ECCE Database - <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/eyrq/default.asp?mypage=4&mpge=3&CountryID=17&>

primary schools, the mean percentage of days lost was 5.2% (Leinster 5.9% and State 5.5) while the post primary schools' mean percentage of school days lost through absence was 6.7 for Meath, 8.0 for Leinster and 8.0 for the State.

The Report and Recommendations for a Traveller Education Strategy<sup>17</sup> found that the average attendance rate by Traveller children in Ireland is approximately 80%. This average includes figures varying from 35% to 100%, with the lowest rates for those who lived in unofficial halting sites.

### Navan School Completion Programme (SCP)

The Navan SCP operates in six schools in Navan Town, four primary schools and two post primary schools. The Navan SCP works in schools with total student populations of 2,700. Navan SCP works with approximately 10% of the total, with 80% of the client group requiring intensive supports to ensure retention, attendance and participation in school. The average attendance in the Navan SCP area was 92% for Primary schools and 90% for post primary schools.

Navan SCPs staff resources are shared between schools which means that there is not an available project worker in each school on a daily basis. NSCPs budget has been cut by 33% since 2007, if this was to be reinstated NSCP would be in the position to place fulltime project workers in all schools under their remit, thereby increasing their target group by a further 3%.

### Junior and Leaving Certificate Retention Rates

It is also possible to look at the retention rates in secondary schools for Junior and Leaving Certificate. The 2016 report published by the Department of Education and Skills provides data for the 2009 entry cohorts and the figures for County Meath are illustrated in Table 26 of all students in Meath who started secondary school in 2009, 96.62% of students completed the Junior Cert cycle. This proportion is almost exactly the same as the proportion of students that finished the Junior Cert in the whole State and which ranks County Meath the 15<sup>th</sup> highest Junior Cert completion rate out of 34 Administrative Counties. 91.67% of all students in Meath who started secondary school in 2009 completed the Leaving Certificate, which is a slightly higher rate than the State, as a whole. This ranks County Meath as 7<sup>th</sup> out of 33 Local Authorities for Leaving Cert completion.

**Table 13: Retention Rates to the Junior and Leaving Certificate in Meath Schools, 2009 Cohort<sup>18</sup>**

	Junior Cert Retention Rate	Leaving Cert Retention Rate
<b>Meath</b>	96.62%	91.67%
<b>State</b>	96.68%	90.18%

### Youth Unemployment

While not a measure of unemployment in the county, the Live Register figures<sup>19</sup> from the three social welfare offices (Navan, Trim, Kells) do give an indication of unemployment in the county. In August of 2017 there were 6,086 people on the live register in Meath. There has been a decrease of 46% in the number over the period of August 2012 to August 2017.

<sup>17</sup> [https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Policy-Reports/traveller\\_ed\\_strat.pdf](https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Policy-Reports/traveller_ed_strat.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.education.ie/en/Publications/Statistics/Statistical-Reports/Retention-Rates-of-Pupils-in-Second-Level-Schools-2009-Cohort.pdf>

<sup>19</sup> <http://airo.maynoothuniversity.ie/datastore>



In August of 2017 there were 756 people under 25 years on the Live Register in Meath equating to 12.4% of total Live Register recipients in the county; this compares to 12% at State level. 54% (409) of under 25-year olds on the Live Register are male and 46% (347) are female. The majority of these young people are recipients at the Navan social welfare office (413, 55%), with lower numbers registered at Trim (214, 28%) and Kells (129, 17%).

## Early Childhood

### Births

According to CSO Vital Statistics report<sup>20</sup> for 2016 there were 2,805 registered births, providing a birth rate of 14.4<sup>21</sup> for County Meath, the eight highest of all local authorities, compared to 13.7 at State level. The average age of mothers was 33 years for all births and 30.7 years for first births compared to 32.7 years and 30.9 years respectively at a State level. Births outside of marriage/civil partnership accounted for 33.2% of births compared with 37.6% at a State level. In Meath, 38 (1.4%) babies were born to women under 20, 679 (24.2%) to women aged 20 – 29, 1,889 (67.3%) to women aged 30 – 39 and 199 (7.1%) to women aged 40+.

### Births to Mothers Under 20 Years of Age

Births to mothers under the age of 20 in Meath in 2016 are 22% lower as a percentage of all births compared to State level. Since 2011, births to mothers under the age of 20 in Meath have decreased by 0.06% as a percentage of all births compared to a decline of 0.56% at State level.

**Table 14: Births to Mothers Under 20 Years of Age 2016**

	Births to mothers under 20	Total births	% of total births
<b>Meath</b>	38	2805	1.35%
<b>State</b>	1098	63897	1.72%

### Challenge: Births to Mothers Under 20

In 2016, there were 38 births to mothers under the age of 20 in Co. Meath accounting for 1.35% of births in the county compared with 1.72% at State level.

### Infant and Neonatal Mortality

There were 208 infant deaths registered in the State in 2016 giving an infant mortality rate of 3.3 per 1,000 live births. While there were 155 neonatal deaths registered in 2016 providing a neonatal death rate of 2.4. The rate of both infant mortality and neonatal mortality in Meath is slightly lower than that of the State.

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vsyst/vitalstatisticsyearlysummary2016/>

<sup>21</sup> Births per year per 1,000 population. Annual rates based on estimated usual residence 2016 population

Table 15: Infant and Neonatal Mortality by Area of Residence of Deceased

	Infant mortality per 1,000 live births		Neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
<b>Meath</b>	8	2.9	6	2.1
<b>Kildare</b>	4	1.2	3	0.9
<b>Wicklow</b>	8	4.2	7	3.7
<b>Leinster</b>	123	3.3	94	2.6
<b>State</b>	208	3.3	155	2.4

### Birth Weight

Nationally, the percentage of low weight babies has increased slightly from 5.4% in 2011 to 5.9% in 2015<sup>22</sup>, of all babies born in the low birth weight category<sup>3</sup><sup>23</sup>. At county level, the percentage ranged from 4.4% in Roscommon to 7.3% in Louth. Meath registering 5.7% (159) of births as being of low weight, marking Meath as 14<sup>th</sup> lowest proportion of low weight babies out of 27 counties<sup>24</sup>.

### Breastfeeding

Table 19 illustrates that mothers who engaged in breastfeeding of some description were generally very similar to the State average. This places Meath seventh out of 27 local authority areas for take up in some form of breastfeeding.

Table 16: Percentage of Infants who are Breastfed by Mother's County of Residence<sup>25</sup>

	Exclusive breastfed	Combined (Breast & artificial)	Artificially fed	Total breastfed (Exclusive + combined)
<b>State</b>	47.7%	10.3%	42.1%	58%
<b>Meath</b>	46.3%	11.3%	42.4%	57.6%

## Disability

### Disability in Meath

The Census 2016 results show that nationally, a total of 643,131 in the Irish State had a disability, which accounted for 13.5% of the population. Males accounted for 48.4% of all disabilities and females accounted for 51.6%. Since 2011 there has been an increase in the number of people classified as having a disability of 47,796 or 8%.

In Meath, the older the age bracket, the larger the proportion of people with disabilities found within it. 30.8% of people with disabilities in Meath were 65 or older, while 20.8% were 25 – 44 years and 12% were 14 years or younger. Similarly, as can be seen in Table 14 The older the age group, generally the more likely you are to find a greater proportion of the cohort to have a disability.

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/stateofthenationschildren/20170302SOTNCRpt2016.pdf>

<sup>23</sup> Weighing less than 2,500 grams

<sup>24</sup> Dublin city and county are split into 2 different areas

<sup>25</sup> [http://www.hpo.ie/latest\\_hipe\\_nprs\\_reports/NPRS\\_2015/Perinatal\\_Statistics\\_Report\\_2015.pdf](http://www.hpo.ie/latest_hipe_nprs_reports/NPRS_2015/Perinatal_Statistics_Report_2015.pdf)

In Meath 5.5% of 0 – 14-year olds have a disability compared to 5.9% at State level and 8.4% of 15 – 24-year olds have a disability compared to 9.3% at State level.

**Table 17: Disabilities in Meath by Age Groups 2016**

Age	0 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 44	45 - 64	65+
<b>Population (Number)</b>	48,931	22,366	57,254	45,705	20,788
<b>Population with a disability (Number)</b>	2,715	1,874	4,705	6,359	6,955
<b>Population with a disability as % of relevant age group</b>	5.5%	8.4%	8.2%	13.9%	33.5%

### Intellectual Disability

According to the State of the Nation's Children Report 2016, two thirds (67%) of children registered as having an intellectual disability are boys and that 9,066 children had registered as having an intellectual disability in the State<sup>26</sup>. Registrations by county ranged from 4.5 per 1,000 children in Offaly to 12 per 1,000 children in Limerick and averaged 7.9 registrations per 1,000 across the State. Meath recorded 8.0 registrations per 1,000, which was the 12<sup>th</sup> highest registration rate per 1,000 children per county in the State.

**Table 18: Number of Children Registered as Having an Intellectual Disability**

	Number	Percentage of total registrations
<b>Meath</b>	426	4.7%
<b>State</b>	9,066	100%

### Physical and Sensory Disability

According to the State of the Nation's Children Report 2016, 6,230 children had registered as having a physical or sensory disability in the State<sup>27</sup>, 62% of which were boys. The Annual National Physical and Sensory Disability 2016<sup>28</sup> report from the Health Research Board (HRB) report stated that approximately a third (31.9%) of registrations have multiple disabilities. Registration by county ranged from 1.9 per 1,000 children in County Clare to 12 per 1,000 children in Tipperary and averaged 5.4 registrations per 1,000 across the State. Meath recorded 11.2 registrations per 1,000 which was the third highest registration rate per 1,000 children in the State.

**Table 19: Number of Children Registered as Having a Physical and/or Sensory Disability**

	Number	% of total registrations in the State
<b>Meath</b>	597	9.6%
<b>State</b>	6,230	100%

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/stateofthenationschildren/20170302SOTNCRReport2016.pdf>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/stateofthenationschildren/20170302SOTNCRReport2016.pdf>

<sup>28</sup> [http://www.hrb.ie/uploads/tx\\_hrbpublications/NPSDD\\_Annual\\_Report\\_2016.pdf](http://www.hrb.ie/uploads/tx_hrbpublications/NPSDD_Annual_Report_2016.pdf)

## Challenge: Physical & Sensory Disability

Meath recorded 11.2 registrations per 1,000 children having a physical and sensory disability which was the third highest registration rate per 1,000 children in the State in 2016.

## Health

### Health - General Health Questions from the Census

Respondents to Census 2016 are asked to self-assess their own general level of health by selecting one of five categories ranging from very good to very bad. Census respondents' answers clearly showed the decline in quality of health with age. Among 0 – 24-year old's in Meath and in the State more than 80% responded that they were in very good health, this proportion dropped to approximately 50% for 40 – 64-year old's and further dropped to approximately 25% for 65 years or more in both Meath and the State.

**Table 20: Age of Census Respondents that Replied their Health was 'Very Good'**

Age	Meath	State
<b>0-24</b>	83.1%	80.3%
<b>25-64</b>	57.2%	55.3%
<b>65+</b>	24.4%	23.7%

In Meath, in the 0 – 24 population, 95.5% (68,047) people stated that they were in very good or good health, this compares with 94.3% (1,492,454) in the general population. While 0.2% stated that they were in bad or very bad health compared to 0.3% at the State level.

**Table 21: Census Self-Reported Level of Health Indicator 2016, 0 – 24 Year Old's**

Area	Very good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very bad	Not stated
<b>Meath</b>	83.1%	12.4%	1.3%	0.2%	0.0%	3.0%
<b>State</b>	80.3%	14.0%	1.7%	0.2%	0.1%	3.8%

### Sexual Health and Behaviour: Teen Births<sup>29</sup>

Between 2011 (391 births) and 2015 (301 births) the number of babies born to girls aged 17 and under decreased by 23%. According to the State of the Nations Children 2016 report there were 10 births to mothers aged 10 to 17 in County Meath in 2015 which equated 3.6 births per 1,000 births in the county, which is lower than the State rate of 4.6 per 1,000. This is the seventh lowest rate in the 26 counties.

It is worth noting that 26.9% of children aged 15 – 17 in the State reported being sexually active. In the Mid-East region, of which Meath is part, this figure was 25%, which was the fourth highest rate of the eight regions.

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticsyearlysummary2016/>

## Challenge: Sexual Health & Behaviour

26.9% of children aged 15 – 17 in the state reported as having sex, while in the Mid-East region of which Meath is part of was 25%, which was the fourth highest rate of the eight regions.

### Public Health Nurse Visit

Nationally in 2015, 97.5% of new-born babies were visited by a public health nurse within 72 hours<sup>30</sup> of discharge from hospital for the first time. This ranged from 88.1% in Meath to 100% in 11 of the HSE Region and Local Health Office (LHO) areas; this indicates that Meath is the area with the least service cover.

## Mental Health

### Mental Health in Meath

The State of the Nation's Children Report 2016 states that among children, 'depressive disorders' were the most common reason for admission to psychiatric hospitals/units and child and adolescent units. 80.9% of admissions to psychiatric hospitals/units and child and adolescent units were children aged 15 – 17 years. Girls accounted for 60% (303) and boys for 40% (200) of total admissions of 0 – 17-year olds (503).

In Meath in 2016 there were 700 referrals of children under the age of 18 to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) which accounts for 12.3 per 1,000 children under the age of 18 in Meath.

### Suicide and Self-Harm

In 2015, there were 14 suicides in the State by children between the age of 10 – 17. The number of suicides by children aged 10–17 was higher among boys (12) than girls (2). The Health Profile 2015 for Meath<sup>31</sup> shows that the suicide rate in Meath between 2007 and 2013 was 8.3 per 100,000, which is lower than the national rate of 11.3.

The Health Profile for Meath provided information in relation to self-harm. In 2012, 150 males self-harmed in Meath giving a rate of 173.2 per 100,000, compared to a national rate of 195.1. In the same year, 200 females self-harmed giving a rate of 223.9 per 100,000 in Meath compared to the national rate of 228.0. It should be noted that actual self-harm statistics are considered to be much higher as the statistics represent hospital presentations only. It should also be noted that suicide rates are nearly 7 times higher in Traveller men compared with the general male population and suicide accounts for 11% of all Traveller deaths.

<sup>30</sup> In 2015, the HSE collected data on the percentage of new-born babies who were visited by a public health nurse within 72 hours of discharge from hospital for the first time. This replaced data collection on visits within 48 hours of discharge from hospital. The previous year's figure was 85.7% for a visit within 48 hours.

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.lenus.ie/hse/bitstream/10147/584018/1/Meath.pdf>

# Deprivation

## Deprivation Key

Measurement of affluence and disadvantage in Ireland is based on the Pobal HP Deprivation index, which has recently been updated for 2016 census data. The index is based on three dimensions of affluence/disadvantage:

- i) demographic profile
- ii) social class composition
- iii) labour market

The index provides two different statistical outputs, the Absolute Index score<sup>32</sup> and the Relative Index score<sup>33</sup>.

## Relative and Absolute Deprivation

Using data derived from the 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index, Meath is the seventh most affluent local authority in the country, and the second most affluent local authority in the Mid-East region in relation to relative deprivation. The Mid-East region is also the second most affluent region nationally. The Absolute Deprivation score for 2016 shows the extent to which the county has recovered from the economic recession. The absolute score rose from -5.7 in 2011 to -2.3 in 2016, representing an increase of 3.4 points. This is a slightly larger increase than the national increase of 2.7.

## Deprivation at Municipal Level

At municipal level as illustrated in Table 22, two of the municipalities (Kells and Navan) score as marginally below average in terms of being disadvantaged while the other four municipalities score as being marginally above average. Of the six municipalities in Co. Meath, the Kells Municipal District (-2.7) in the north of the county scores the most disadvantaged municipality in the county. The two municipalities bordering Dublin in the south of the county (Ashbourne and Ratoath) are classified as the least disadvantaged municipalities in the county.

**Table 22: Deprivation Score at Municipality Level**

Municipality	Deprivation Score	% (n) of population aged 0 – 24 years	Classification
<b>Kells</b>	-2.7	35% (11,680)	Marginally below average
<b>Navan</b>	-1.4	38% (13,178)	Marginally below average
<b>Trim</b>	1.4	36% (11,351)	Marginally above average
<b>Laytown/Bettystown</b>	1.9	37% (12,536)	Marginally above average
<b>Ashbourne</b>	4.4	36% (9,933)	Marginally above average
<b>Ratoath</b>	7.6	38% (12,619)	Marginally above average

<sup>32</sup> Used to make a comparison over time

<sup>33</sup> Used to refer to an area at a particular point in time

## Deprivation at Electoral Division and Small Area

Looking at County Meath from an Electoral Division level it is not characterised by extremes as there are no EDs classified as very affluent, very disadvantaged, extremely affluent or extremely disadvantaged. Kells Urban is the most disadvantaged ED in the county with a score of -11 and is classified as disadvantaged, Kells Urban is the only ED to fall into this category. 48 of the EDs or 52.2% are classified as marginally below average, while 43 (46.7%) are classified as marginally above average. Generally, as can be seen in Map 4, the northern part of the county is less affluent than the southern part.

Examining the data at Electoral Division hides some of the pockets of deprivation which exist in the county; it is therefore worthwhile looking at the Small Area statistics.

Unlike the ED level, Meath does contain some small areas that are very disadvantaged and one small area that is very affluent in the Dunboyne ED. Meath does not have any small areas that are extremely disadvantaged or extremely affluent. It does show up small areas of very disadvantage which were not visible at ED level.

**Map 4: Deprivation in Meath by Small Area**

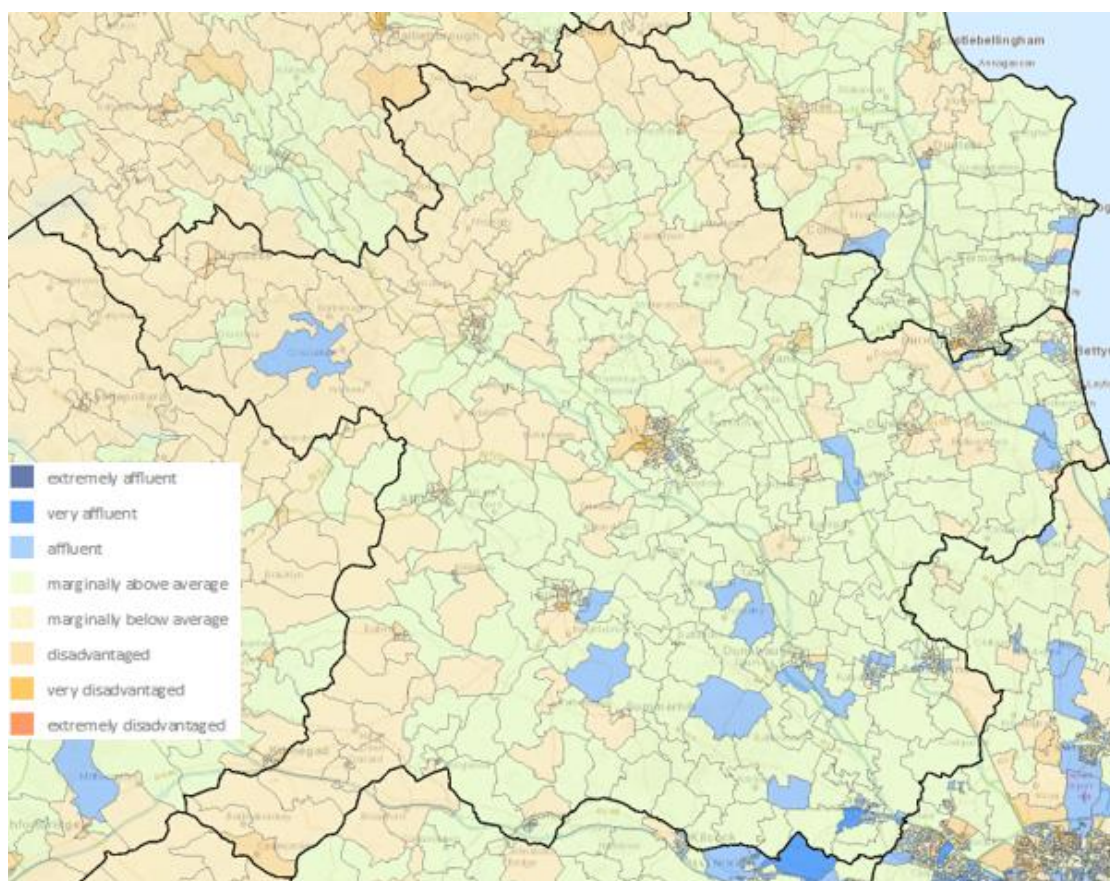


Table 23 illustrates the deprivation scores of the 10 most disadvantaged by small areas. Although Kells Urban shows the highest level of deprivation at an ED level, Navan Rural ED shows the highest level of deprivation at a small area level with the top five most disadvantaged small areas in Meath being located in the Navan Rural Electoral Division.

Table 23: 10 Small Areas showing highest level of Deprivation in Meath

Small area number	Electoral division	Deprivation score	% (n) of population aged 0 – 24 years	Classification
167065029	Navan Rural	-22.08	26% (58)	Very disadvantaged
167065048	Navan Rural	-21.87	36% (143)	Very disadvantaged
167065047	Navan Rural	-21.25	16% (30)	Very disadvantaged
167065008	Navan Rural	-20.98	52% (212)	Very disadvantaged
167065050	Navan Rural	-20.78	51% (154)	Very disadvantaged
167090019	Trim Rural	-20.32	37% (143)	Very disadvantaged
167065013	Navan Rural	-20.03	41% (116)	Very disadvantaged
167065036	Navan Rural	-19.91	25% (64)	Disadvantaged
167028007	Duleek	-19.87	31% (73)	Disadvantaged
167028003	Duleek	-19.81	40% (103)	Disadvantaged

### Challenge: Deprivation

Northern Meath is generally the most disadvantaged area in the county and it contains the Kells Urban electoral division which is the most disadvantaged electoral division in the county. However, this masks pockets of deprivation at a Small Area level with areas in the Navan Rural and Trim Rural Electoral Division's classified as very disadvantaged by the Pobal Deprivation Index 2016.

### People at Risk of Poverty

The SILC survey (Survey on Income and Living Conditions) is the official data source on household and individual income and provides indicators on national poverty, including the 'at risk of poverty' rate, the rate of consistent poverty and rates of enforced deprivation.

In Ireland, the population 'at risk of poverty' rate<sup>34</sup> in 2015 was 16.9%, which has fallen from 17.3% in 2012 but is still higher than 14.1% in 2009, and equates to one in six of the population. Children between the ages of 0 – 17 were the most at risk group in Ireland with an at-risk poverty rate of 19.5%. They were also the age group most likely to experience consistent poverty, with a rate of 11.5% for this age group.

Applying the national rates to County Meath suggests that 11,141 children are 'at risk of poverty' in the county and 6,570 children experience consistent poverty. It is important to note that children not living in households are not included in these figures. Other children at a high risk of poverty include children living in temporary accommodation such as bed and breakfasts, children seeking asylum and children leaving institutional care.

<sup>34</sup> The relative or at-risk of poverty threshold represents an income of less than 60% of the national median (middle) annual income. In 2015 the national median (middle) income was €20,000 making the at risk of poverty threshold €12,000 (€229.97 per week) - <http://www.eapn.ie/eapn/training/consistent-poverty-rates>



In 2015, the families living in a household consisting of a single adult with children under 18 were the most likely to be at risk of poverty at 36.2%. This is quite higher than households with 2 adults and 1 – 3 children aged under 18 (14.5%) and other households with children (21.9%). The consistent poverty rate for households of a single adult with children under 18 was also substantially higher at 26.2% compared to 7.7% of households with two adults and 1 – 3 children under 18 years and 13.4% in households of other families with children.

## Housing and Homelessness

### Housing

According to the Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2016<sup>35</sup> from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, in 2016, there were 46,294 households with children identified as being in need of social housing in the State. In Meath, the total figure was 2,163 households which accounted for 4.7% of all cases in the State. This ranked Meath as the county with the sixth highest number of households with children being in need of social housing in the country out of 31 Local Authorities.

In Meath, 51% (1,095) of households with children identified as being in need of social housing were one-parent households, 45% (971) were two-parent households and the remaining 5% (97) were multi-adult households.

**Table 24: Households with Children Identified as being in Need of Social Housing, by Household Structure in Meath and the State (2016)**

	Single with child/children	Couple with child/children	Multi-adult households with children	All households with child/children	% Total in the State
<b>Meath</b>	1,095	971	97	2,163	4.7%
<b>State</b>	27,851	18,112	331	46,294	100%

### Homelessness

Data from the Dept. of Housing, Planning and Local Government's Pathway Accommodation & Support System (PASS) from June 2017 indicates that there were 5,046 homeless persons in Ireland, this is an increase of 30% from 18 months previously in Jan 2016 (3,406). The number of homeless persons in Meath for the same period rose by 84% from 45 to 83 persons which accounted for 1.6% of all homeless persons in the State. This placed Meath as the 8<sup>th</sup> highest county in the country for its number of homeless persons.

In the Mid-East region, of which Meath is part, the number of families reporting as homeless rose by 33% between January 2016 and June 2017. There was specifically a larger increase in the proportion of single parent families (75%) reporting as homeless in the timeframe.

**Table 25: Homeless Families in the Mid-East Region June 2017**

	Region	Total Families	Total adults	(of which) single parent families	Total dependents
<b>Jan-16</b>	Mid-East	21	34	8	53

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.housing.gov.ie/housing/rebuilding-ireland/needs-assessment/summary-social-housing-assessments-2016>

<b>Jun-17</b>	Mid-East	28	42	14	76
<b>% change</b>		33%	24%	75%	43%

### Challenge: Homelessness

Department of Housing data for Meath indicates a rise in the number of homeless persons in Meath of 84% from 45 – 83 persons in 18 months leading up to June 2017.

## Garda Youth Diversion Programme

### Referrals to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme

In 2015, the number of children referred to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme nationally was 9,807 children aged 10 –17, a 2% decrease since 2014. The number of incidents referred did not correspond to the number of children referred, as some children were referred more than once. The total number of referrals received amounted to 19,495, a ratio of two referrals per child. 75% of referrals were for boys and 25% for girls while 74% of referrals were between the age of 15 – 17 years old and 26% were under 15 years of age.

In Meath the number of children referred to Garda Youth Diversion projects was 259<sup>36</sup>, a 14% decrease on the previous year and the total number of referrals was 430. Meath's ratio of 1.7 referrals per child is below the State average of 2.0. This is the joint<sup>37</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> lowest average ratio of referrals of children referred in the country.

**Table 26: Number of Young People and Referrals to the Garda Diversion Project 2015<sup>38</sup>, by Region and Division (2015), and rate (per 1,000) in State/County (2016)**

	Total number of children referred		Total number of referrals		
	No.	2015 referral rate per 1,000 children aged 10–17 <sup>39</sup>	No.	2015 referral rate per 1,000 children aged 10–17	Average ratio of referrals to number of children referred
<b>Meath</b>	259	11.0	430	18.2	1.7
<b>State</b>	9,807	19.5	19,495	38.7	2.0

## Direct Provision

### People Living in Direct Provision in Mosney

Direct Provision is the Irish system of accommodating asylum seekers while their asylum application is being processed. There are 35<sup>40</sup> direct provision centres in Ireland including one based in Mosney, County Meath which accommodates 727 persons in 219

<sup>36</sup> Data is not available to breakdown to Garda district level. According to information provided in interview with a Garda Youth Officer, Feb 2018, the geographical area of Co. Meath which has four Garda Districts, there is higher levels of juvenile crime in Navan and Ashbourne District, as opposed to Kells and Trim Districts, which is due primarily to larger youth populations.

<sup>37</sup> Clare and Galway's average ratio was also 1.7

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.iyjs.ie/en/IYJS/English%20version%20New.pdf/Files/English%20version%20New.pdf>

<sup>39</sup> Rates calculated using census data 2016

<sup>40</sup> <http://doraslumni.org/direct-provision/>

accommodation units as of 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2017. Table 28 illustrates that 6% of Mosney residents are single, while 94% are attached to some form of family unit<sup>41</sup>. Half of the residents living in Mosney are children under the age of 18.

**Table 27: Accommodation and Family Units Resident in Mosney**

Category	Total accommodation units	Total persons	% of total persons
Single male	16	16	2%
Single female	27	27	4%
Couple	8	16	2%
Lone parent	96	96	13%
Family (husband & wife)	72	177	24%
Children 0 - 18 years with a lone Parent or family	-	362	50%
Over 18 with lone parent/family	-	33	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Children Aged 0 – 18 Years Resident in Mosney

Table 29 illustrates that just over a quarter of children from 0 – 18 years are between the age of 0 – 2. The largest age group are children of primary school age which account for 41% of all children. Proportionally there is a 50/50 split in male/female children aged 0 – 18 who are resident in Mosney.

**Table 28: Sex and Age of Children Aged 0 - 18 Years Resident in Mosney**

Age	Male (number)	Female (number)	Total (number)	% of total children
0 - 2 yrs.	41	58	99	27%
3 & 4 yrs.	27	18	45	12%
5 - 12 yrs.	80	70	150	41%
13 - 18 yrs.	31	36	68	19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Challenge: Direct Provision

In the Mosney Direct Provision Centre 50% of residents are children from 0 – 18 years old with a lone parent or family. The largest age cohort of these children is 5 – 12 years old at 41% of all children.

### Nationality of Mosney Residents

Table 30 illustrates that almost half of the residents in Mosney came from Africa, with the largest numbers coming from Nigeria (90). A third of all residents came from the Middle East, with Syrian residents accounting for the single largest number of residents (108). The third

<sup>41</sup> Family unit: Couple, lone parents, families, children under 18 with lone parents/families and over 18 years with lone parent/families

largest group of residents was made up of three Eastern European (non-EU) countries. Albanian people made up the vast majority of this group (106).

**Table 29: Mosney Residents Area of Origin**

Area of Origin	Number	% of total residents
<b>Africa</b>	337	46%
<b>Middle East</b>	242	33%
<b>Eastern European (non-EU)</b>	130	18%
<b>Asia</b>	11	2%
<b>North/South Americas</b>	7	1%
<b>Total</b>	727	100%

## Substance Use Service

### Louth / Meath Adolescent Substance Use Service 2017

Table 31 illustrates a breakdown of clients seen by Louth / Meath Adolescent Substance Use Service. These figures do not take account of any who may have been referred but not seen<sup>42</sup>. A total of 38 adolescents have attended the service in 2017<sup>43</sup> in county Meath.

**Table 30: Clients seen by Louth/Meath Adolescent Substance Use Services 2017**

County	Male	Female	Total
<b>Meath</b>	27	11	38
<b>Louth</b>	20	12	32
<b>Total</b>	47	23	70

## Child and Family Services

### Child and Family Services in North County Meath as per OECD Report 2016

In 2016 the OECD's Local Economic and Employment Development Programme (LEED), in conjunction with Pobal, produced a report (Weaving Together Policies for Social Inclusion in Ireland<sup>44</sup>). The report looked at North County Meath as an area with a number of challenges that hinder social inclusion. The report considered three key themes and identified a number of overarching issues that impede efforts to improve social inclusion: accessibility, asset-building and multi-level governance.

The report found that North County Meath is characterised by a relatively high age dependency ratio, a high number of one-person households and a predominantly Irish population. North County Meath was also identified as one of the most disadvantaged areas of the county, which is still the case post-census 2016, see Map 4.

<sup>42</sup> This year there has been 71 assessments, one of the clients was living in Monaghan and attending school in Louth so was removed from the Table 31

<sup>43</sup> Caution should be taken when looking at these figures as they are a measure of the people attending the service and do not claim to reflect the demographics for the county in general.

<sup>44</sup> [https://www.pobal.ie/Publications/Documents/OECD%20\(2016\)%20Weaving%20Together%20Policies%20IRL.PDF](https://www.pobal.ie/Publications/Documents/OECD%20(2016)%20Weaving%20Together%20Policies%20IRL.PDF)

Services for young people in Meath are not distributed evenly throughout the county. An audit of services and a needs analysis of children's services in 2013<sup>45</sup> found that Meath as a whole was one of the most poorly funded counties in terms of youth provision, despite having a disproportionately high number of young people living in the county. This disproportionately high number of children is still evident post census 2016, see Table 3.

While the OECD's Weaving Together Policies for Social Inclusion in Ireland report found that North County Meath has fewer numbers of young people, there are very few services for young people and teenagers in the area. In an area of the county that has limited access to public transportation, young people who want to access services often have to travel to towns such as Nobber, Kells, Navan or even outside of the county to Cavan, Monaghan or Louth. This presents a continuing challenge for Meath CYPSC to guarantee that young people in all areas of the county have access to appropriate services and facilities. This issue is reinforced by lack of staffing for programmes, such as summer schools in the area. A further issue is the lack of DEIS primary schools in North Meath, which means that issues of educational disadvantage are not addressed early in children's life-cycles.

### Child Protection and Welfare

In 2015<sup>46</sup> there were 43,596 child welfare and protection referrals to Tusla, the Child and Family Agency. 58% of these referrals pertained to child welfare, 9% to physical abuse, 7% to sexual abuse, 15% to emotional abuse and 11% to neglect.

In the Louth/Meath Tusla LHO area of which county Meath is part, the rate per 1,000 children referred to Tusla is 27.1, the lowest referral rate of all 14 Tusla LHO's compared to the State level of 38 per 1,000. This is despite the Louth Meath Tusla LHO containing the fifth largest number of children in their administrative area. Louth Meath Tusla LHO is one of the 17 national service areas across Ireland. It is a relatively new area, with the two counties amalgamating in January 2014.

**Table 31: Number of child welfare and protection referrals to Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, by Tusla LHO and Rate per 1,000 children**

<b>Tusla LHO</b>	<b>Number of referrals received by social work services</b>	<b>Number of children in Tusla, region/ administrative area</b>	<b>Rate in 2015 per 1,000 children in Tusla, region/administrative area</b>
<b>Louth/Meath</b>	2,371	87,562	27.1
<b>State</b>	43,596	1,148,687	38.0

### Staff Turnover in Social Work/Family Support Staff in Tusla in Louth/Meath

Staff turnover is high in the Louth/Meath area. In 2017 there were 15 social work/family support workers on maternity leave while there were 21 staff members who left their positions. High staff turnover increases pressure on remaining staff which can lead to an avalanche effect with more staff resigning and impact on service users. Agency staff have been

<sup>45</sup> [http://www.cypsc.ie/\\_fileupload/Documents/Resources/Meath/Working%20for%20children%20-%20Summary%20Report.pdf](http://www.cypsc.ie/_fileupload/Documents/Resources/Meath/Working%20for%20children%20-%20Summary%20Report.pdf)

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/stateofthenationschildren/20170302SOTNCRpt2016.pdf>

engaged to fill vacancies where possible, this number varies from month to month i.e. in July 2017 there were 20 social work vacancies between three teams which was reduced to seven in October 2017.

### Challenge: Staff Turnover in Social Work/Family Support Staff in Tusla

High staff turnover across social work/family support teams in Tusla in the Louth/Meath area can impact negatively on service users.

## Children in Care

The number of children in care in Louth/Meath at the end of December 2016 was 397. This number fluctuated minimally for the year of 2016 around 400 children. 332 (84%) of these children had been assigned a social worker and 95% had been allocated a care plan in December 2016. The number of children in care equated to 45 per 10,000 of the Louth/Meath population for under 18-year-olds. There were 70 children aged 16 and 17 in care in 2016 in Louth/Meath, 39% (27) of whom had an aftercare plan for when they turn 18.

## Children in Care in Meath

There were 159 children in care in Meath in 2016 on the 31/12/2016, 41 (26%) of these children had been admitted to care in 2016 and 118 (74%) were admitted prior to 2016. 73% (30) of the children admitted to care in 2016 were Irish Nationals and 7% (3) were Irish Travellers.

**Table 32: Number of Children Entering Care in Meath (31/12/2016)**

	<b>Meath</b>
<b>No of Children in Care on 31/12/2016</b>	159
<b>Admissions to Care in 2016</b>	41
<b>Admitted to care in 2016 and still in care</b>	24
<b>Admitted to Care in 2016 and Discharged in 2016</b>	16
<b>Admitted to Care in 2016 and Turn 18 during 2016</b>	1
<b>Total Number Discharged in 2016</b>	21
<b>Of those Discharged in 2016 how many returned home</b>	20
<b>Turned 18 (now in supported Lodgings)</b>	1
<b>Nationality of those who came into care in 2016</b>	
Irish	30
Irish Traveller	3
Latvian	1
Romanian	1
Unknown	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>

## Foster Care

At the end of 2016 there were 397 children in care including 11 children in private foster care placements in the Louth/Meath region. These children were predominately placed with the 190 general foster carers and the 54 approved Section 36 placements. At the end of 2016, there were 10 unapproved Section 36 Foster Carers. At the end of 2016 in Meath there were 106 children in General Foster Care and 33 in Relative Foster Care. Of the 106 children in general foster care, six are placed with families outside of County Meath and of the 33 that are in relative foster care two are placed with families outside of County Meath.

**Table 33: Numbers in General & Relative Foster Care Outside of County Meath**

	<b>Total in General Foster Care</b>	<b>Number in General Foster Care outside of Co. Meath</b>	<b>Total in Relative Foster Care</b>	<b>Number in Relative Foster Care outside Co. Meath</b>
<b>Meath</b>	106	6 <sup>47</sup>	33	2 <sup>48</sup>

## Children as Carers

### Children as Carers in Meath

According to the 2016 State of the Nation's Children report 5.6 per 1,000 children provide regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness, health problem or disability. There were 6,449 children providing this form of care which accounted for 0.6% of all children in the State. In Meath, the rate was slightly lower at 4.7 per 1,000, or 250 individuals.

## Local Authority Funding

### Local Authority Funding in Meath

In 2017 Meath County Council's budget<sup>49</sup> was €104,642,530. Meath's spending per capita was below the State average in each of the six budgetary areas described in Table 35. Meath's spending per capita was:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest of the 31 local authorities on housing
- 11<sup>th</sup> lowest of the 31 local authorities on roads
- 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest of the 31 local authorities on development management
- The lowest of the 31 local authorities on recreation and amenities
- 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest of the 31 local authorities on water
- The lowest of the 31 local authorities on environment services

<sup>47</sup> Location of children in General Foster Care outside of Co Meath: Louth (3), Monaghan (1), Kildare (1) and North Dublin (1)

<sup>48</sup> Location of children in Relative Foster Care outside of Co Meath: Cavan (2)

<sup>49</sup> <http://www.meath.ie/Community/CommunityDevelopment/MeathEconomicandCommunityMonitor/>

Table 33: Local Authority Spending €'s per Capita

	Housing	Roads	Development management	Recreation & amenities	Water	Environment services
<b>Meath</b>	€94.7	€164.1	€49.1	€38.6	€47.4	€68.4
<b>State</b>	€253.1	€177.4	€78.7	€89	€87.9	€143.5

## Summary

Meath is a county with a young and growing population, with the highest youth dependency rate per county in the country. Although it ranks as one of the most affluent counties in the State at a county level, this masks pockets of deprivation in some small areas and an uneven spread of services across the county. This points to a county that has many differences in communities such as the latch key children in the south of the county to the isolation of the children from the north and as a consequence many different challenges spread across a large geographic area.

The majority of its population live in the three large towns, Navan, Trim and Kells and along its border with Dublin. The county is well educated, particularly the southern end of the county and has high rates of retention of students at Junior and Leaving Cert level. The county has a high rate of physical and sensory disability registrations compared to other counties and a large proportion of young asylum-seeking applicants staying in the direct provision centre in Mosney.



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

## Overview

This section summarises up to 700 services provided to children, young people and families in the local area, by statutory, voluntary and community sector organisations. This information is based on the audit of services conducted by Meath CYPSC in 2013 (Quigley et al, 2014). Services are presented using the Hardiker Model to reflect the level of intervention which services are providing: from Hardiker Level 1 (HL1) being universal preventative and social development services; Hardiker Level 2 (HL2) being support and therapeutic Intervention for children and families in need; and Hardiker Level 3 (HL3) being therapeutic and support services for children and families with severe difficulties; to Hardiker Level 4 (HL4) being intensive and long-term support and protection. Tables 1-5 below provide a breakdown of services where a five national outcome lens is used but it is important to point that many services have a role across multiple outcomes. Please note that service responses have been updated, where possible, for the purposes of this Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2020 to reflect current figures, as of September, 2017. If you are seeking further information on any of the services presented please visit [www.familysupportmeath.ie](http://www.familysupportmeath.ie).

**Table 1: Outcome 1 by Children's Services in Meath**

Outcome 1: Children will be Healthy, both Physically and Mentally			
Service Areas	Service Responses in Co. Meath	Statutory or Voluntary	Targeted (T) or Universal (U) or both (T&U)
<b>Health services (including maternal and infant health); public health services (including school health); health promotion; dental, ophthalmic and hospitals.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Health Nurses working from each of the Health Centres in Meath</li> </ul>	Statutory	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health Services provided through 5 Primary Care Networks across 17 Primary Care Teams Areas</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17 health centres</li> </ul>	Statutory	T&U (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>60 GMS contracting General Practitioners</li> </ul>	Statutory	T&U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traveller Primary Healthcare Team</li> </ul>	Statutory	T&U (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meath Tiny Talk Project</li> <li>Our Lady's Hospital Navan provides general and emergency hospital</li> </ul>	Statutory Statutory	U (HL1) T (HL1-2)

	<p>services to individuals 14+</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children under 14 must travel to Drogheda for emergency (A&amp;E) care</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL1-2)
<b>Community-based therapy services, services for children and young people with disabilities, youth mental health services.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enable Ireland Early Intervention service (0-6 yrs)</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSE Disability Service (6 – 18 yrs)</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSE Child &amp; Family Psychology Service</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jigsaw</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rainbows Ireland</li> </ul>	Voluntary	U (HL1)

Table 2: Outcome 2 by Children's Services in Meath

<b>Outcome 2: Children will be supported in active learning</b>			
<b>Service Areas</b>	<b>Service Responses in Meath</b>	<b>Statutory or Voluntary</b>	<b>Targeted (T) or Universal (U) or both (T&amp;U)</b>
<b>Education services, including pre-school, primary, secondary and vocational school.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>198 pre-school facilities (as of 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2017)</li> </ul>	Statutory	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>113 Primary Schools with an enrolment of 26,646 in 2016/17 (as of 07/11/2017)</li> </ul>	Statutory	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21 Post Primary Schools with an enrolment of 14,264 in 2016/17 (as of 07/11/2017)</li> </ul>	Statutory	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 libraries, 1 mobile library service</li> </ul>	Statutory	U (HL1)
<b>Educational services that support young people with additional needs, for example EWS, NEPS, School Completion, Home School Liaison.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Navan School Completion Programme operating in 6 schools in Navan</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Completion projects also present in Nobber, Longwood and Trim</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NEPS Service</li> <li>3 Education Welfare Officers</li> </ul>	Statutory Statutory	T (HL2-3) T (HL2-3)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Home school liaison service</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL2)
<b>Other specialist education services for children and young people with additional needs.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three special schools</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL1-2)
<b>Youth reach services and education services provided in youth detention services.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Six Youthreach services across the county</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL2)

Table 3: Outcome 3 by Children's Services in Meath

<b>Outcome 3: Children will be safe from accidental and intentional harm, and secure in the immediate and wider physical environment</b>			
<b>Service Areas</b>	<b>Service Responses in Meath</b>	<b>Statutory or Voluntary</b>	<b>Targeted (T) or Universal (U) or both (T&amp;U)</b>
<b>Family support services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four Family Resource Centres (Navan, Kells, Trim and Laytown/Bettystown)</li> </ul>	Statutory & Voluntary	T&U (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tusla Family Support Service</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL2-4)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meath Springboard Family Support Services</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL2-3)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two addiction family support group</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL2-3)
<b>Child welfare and protection services, domestic violence services, foster care, adoption, residential care, special care, high support services, youth homelessness services and services for unaccompanied minors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tusla Child Protection Services</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL2-4)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meath Women's Refuge &amp; Support Service</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL2-4)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tusla Foster Care / Adoption services</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL3-4)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dundalk Simon Outreach worker</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL1-2)

<b>Policing (particular to children and young people's safety, rather than working with young people engaged with the criminal justice system)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 Garda Stations</li> </ul>	Statutory	U (HL1)
<b>Youth justice services (diversion, probation and restorative justice measures)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two Garda Youth Diversion Programmes (Navan &amp; Trim) and one Outreach Garda Youth Diversion Programme (Laytown, Ashbourne and Ratoath)</li> <li>Three Juvenile Liaison Officers</li> <li>Youth Case Management</li> <li>Posts for one senior probation officer and three Probation Officers</li> <li>Le Cheile Mentoring Service and Youth Justice Support Services</li> </ul>	Statutory  Statutory Statutory  Statutory	T (HL2-3)  T (HL2-3) T (HL2-3) T (HL2-3) T (HL2-3)
<b>Immigration policy, including direct provision services.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>362 children residing in Mosney Direct Provision Centre (as of September, 2017)</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL1-2)

Table 4: Outcome 4 by Children's Services in Meath

<b>Outcome 4: Children will be economically secure</b>			
<b>Related Policy / Service Areas</b>	<b>Service Responses in Meath</b>	<b>Statutory or Voluntary</b>	<b>Targeted (T) or Universal (U) or both (T&amp;U)</b>
<b>Child or family income support, parental education and employment supports.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One MABS office (Navan)</li> <li>One social welfare local office (Navan)</li> <li>Two social welfare branch offices (Kells &amp; Trim)</li> <li>15 offices administering supplementary welfare</li> </ul>	Voluntary  Statutory Statutory  Statutory	T (HL1-2) T (HL1-2) T (HL1-2) T (HL1-2)

	allowance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meath Partnership (Back To Work Education Allowance &amp; Start Your Own Business)</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T&V (HL1-2)
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Table 5: Outcome 5 by Children's Services in Meath

Outcome 5: Children will be part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours and the community, and included and participating in society			
Related Policy / Service Areas	Service Responses in Meath	Statutory or Voluntary	Targeted (T) or Universal (U) or both (T&U)
<b>Measures and activities providing alternatives to harmful life choices (including targeted anti-drug and alcohol alternative activities)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YAP Ireland case management and advocacy</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL2-3)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISPCC Teen Focus (East Meath only)</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meath Community Drug and Alcohol Response (Trim and Navan)</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL2-3)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSE Substance Use Service for Teens</li> </ul>	Statutory	T (HL2-3)
<b>Arts, sports, play, recreation and heritage services, facilities and activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arts office, 48 arts organisations identified, 13 of which have been funded by the arts office</li> </ul>	Statutory	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meath Local Sports Partnership</li> </ul>	Statutory	T&U (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47 juvenile GAA clubs</li> </ul>	Voluntary	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22 Playgrounds</li> </ul>	Statutory & Voluntary	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three public swimming pools</li> </ul>	Voluntary	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 Girl Guide locations</li> <li>17 Scouting units</li> </ul>	Voluntary	U (HL1)
<b>Youth services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 Youth clubs</li> </ul>	Voluntary	U (HL1)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 (self described) Youth cafés</li> </ul>	Voluntary	U HL1)
<b>Other family and community services promoting equality, integration and pro-social activities and behaviours with and</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultúr</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL1-2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meath Traveller Workshop Ltd</li> </ul>	Voluntary	T (HL1-2)

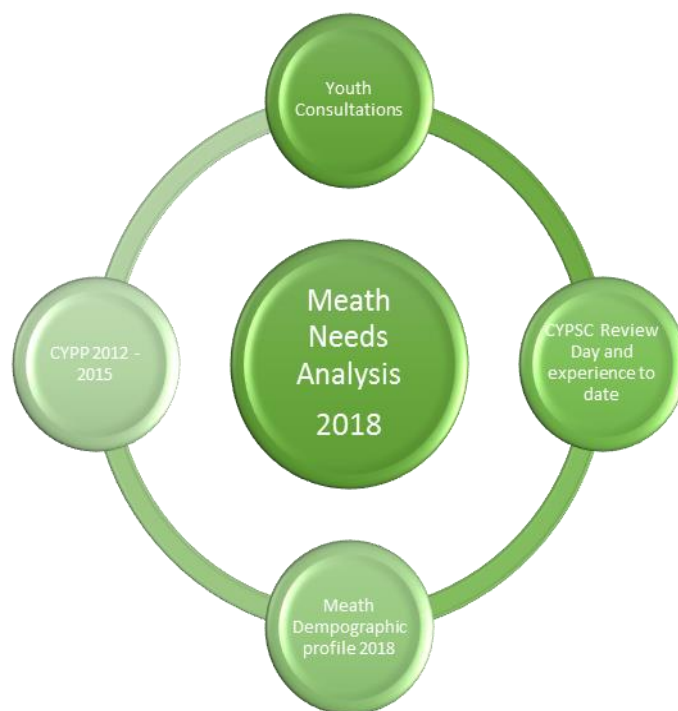
<b>for children and young people</b>			
<b>Active citizenship opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meath Comhairle na nÓg</li> <li>• Meath Volunteer Centre</li> </ul>	Statutory  Voluntary	U (HL1)  U (HL1)
<b>Social inclusion measures, including activities targeting excluded ethnic and social minorities and those suffering from rural isolation (for example transport).</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexibus</li> <li>• MERAN Group</li> <li>• Social Inclusion Activation Programme (SICAP)</li> </ul>	Voluntary Voluntary Voluntary	U (HL1) T (HL1-2) T (HL1-2)

# Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in Meath

## Introduction

The Local Needs Analysis section of the Meath CYPP is informed by the socio-demographic profile of the county, the overview of services, the commitments within Brighter Outcomes, Brighter Futures and other national policy documents such as Healthy Ireland and the National Youth Strategy. It focuses clearly on the five national outcomes for children and young people and where relevant the transformational goals. It is also informed by the work undertaken during the period of the last plan 2012 – 2015 and issues emerging during the lifetime of that plan such as mental health, drugs and alcohol, early school leaving, domestic violence and lack of youth spaces for young people. Concerns raised by the Meath Comhairle na nÓg in 2016 are also clearly reflected, as well as the outcome of consultations undertaken with young people (including the seldom heard in 2015), and young people at the end of 2017, after priorities and objectives were identified in the plan. Agencies from the statutory and non-statutory sectors were invited to a Review Day in late 2016 to provide information in relation to their own priorities for the next three years and to identify any gaps in services and every effort has been made to reflect these views.

**Figure 1: Key Factors Influencing Needs Analysis**



## Identifying Priorities & Objectives

From Figure 1 above there were four key factors that influenced and informed the needs analysis undertaken for the purposes of identifying the priorities and objectives of the CYPP 2018-2020, namely, the CYPSC Review Day, the previous CYPP 2012-2015, the Meath

Demographic profile and youth consultations. A number of findings were also taken from the needs analysis that was carried out in 2013 by Quality Matters and these were incorporated into this CYPP under the 5 National Outcomes.

## CYPSC Review Day and Review of CYPP 2012-2015

In November 2016 a facilitated planning workshop was held for members of the Meath CYPSC and its subgroups. The purpose of this workshop was to commence the process in developing a draft 3 year plan based on the evidence of need available (as per the needs analysis conducted by Quality Matters in 2013 and the experiences of the participants), review of our previous plan and feedback from young people in the county. During the workshop the subgroup chairs (or their nominees) gave a presentation on the previous plan. They outlined what was and what was not achieved (see Section 1 of this CYPP 2018-2020 pp9-11). The actions for consideration to be brought forward to the CYPP 2017-2020 plan were outlined. The group gave feedback and there was some discussion following each presentation. This feedback was captured on the flipcharts for the breakout groups to consider in their planning for each outcome area. It included:

- Proposed methods to consult and work with young people
- The need to reach children from minority/disadvantaged groups
- The value of talking to parents about their experiences (including issues with accessing services)
- Safety and social media
- Health and fitness
- Homeless accommodation
- Evidence based and informed practice
- Alignment with the national policy framework in the context of meeting local needs

As part of the planning workshop the participants divided into 5 breakout groups for the rest of the day. The groups reflected the five national outcomes and went about planning and identifying priorities and objectives under each outcome. They focused on:

- Reviewing the relevant data from the needs analysis conducted in 2013 for their outcome area (reports provided by the co-ordinator)
- Reviewing the services and service gaps outlined in the audit of services and needs analysis
- Taking account of the issues remaining from the previous plan and whether or not they should be moved into the new plan
- Noting the actions in the Meath LECP 2016-2021
- Ensuring the actions require a multi-agency approach (otherwise they can be tracked and progress reported into the CYPSC, but may not need to be actioned in the CYPSC plan i.e. the governance for them is elsewhere)
- Taking account of what is in the remit of other inter-agency groupings: NERDATF, LCDC and the relationship between the two groups i.e. how we can work together and not replicate
- Taking account of the input from the young person from the Meath Comhairle na nOg on behalf of young people in Meath

The breakout group then identified priority areas, potential objectives for these priority areas, and actions required. They were also requested to review targets, lead responsibility, indicators, timeframes and links to other plans. The five draft action plans proposed by each breakout group were written up and were used to inform the work of the 5 Outcome



Subgroups heading into 2017. Each Outcome subgroup met a number of times throughout early 2017 to work on the priorities and objectives that were agreed at the Meath CYPSC planning workshop in November, 2016. The Meath CYPSC Coordinator collated the information received and circulated completed sections of the relevant draft action plans to the Committee for approval at Meath CYPSC meetings in April and June 2017. Members were invited to provide input and comments.

## Socio Demographic Profile

The Socio-demographic profile described in Section 2 of this CYPP was completed by Quality Matters in early 2018 where a number of challenges were highlighted. These included:

1. Large youth population
2. Highest Youth Dependency Rate in the State
3. High Primary School class numbers and low proportion of DEIS Primary Schools
4. Births to Mothers Under 20
5. Third highest registration rate for physical and sensory disability
6. Sexual health and behaviour of children aged 15 – 17
7. Northern Meath is generally the most disadvantaged area in the county but this masks pockets of deprivation at a Small Area level with areas in the Navan Rural and Trim Rural Electoral Divisions classified as very disadvantaged
8. A rise in the number of homeless persons in Meath of 84%
9. In the Mosney Direct Provision Centre 50% of residents are children from 0 – 18 years old
10. High staff turnover across social work/family support teams in Tusla in the Louth/Meath area can impact negatively on service users

From the needs analysis conducted in 2013 the Meath CYPSC proposed to include a number of the 32 findings as priority areas and objectives in the CYPP. The rationale for including these findings (see Table below) came about as a result of discussions at the planning workshop in November 2016 (see above). While some of the challenges identified in the demographic profile correspond to some of the findings in the needs analysis, namely, birth rate to mothers under 20 (parenting supports), deprivation, children and young people in Mosney Direct Provision and the high turnover in Tusla Social Work/Family Support Staff; it is important to point out that other findings from the needs analysis were included because the Meath CYPSC felt that they reflected local needs and that they were priorities and objectives that could be realistically achieved during the lifespan of the CYPP 2018-2020.

### The Needs Analysis Findings from 2013:

<b>Outcomes 1-5</b>	<b>A.3</b>	There is a need for <b>more facilities and/or services in East Meath</b> such as youth services, meeting spaces and library facilities, when compared to other parts of the already under-served county.
<b>Outcomes 1-5</b>	<b>A.5</b>	There is a need for increased <b>transport</b> options to improve access for young people and their families to services and recreational activities, especially outside the main towns in Meath.
<b>Outcome 1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	There is a need to make mental health services, especially within the primary care setting, more accessible by decreasing waiting times and reviewing location and pathways to services (i.e. extend outreach

		services).
<b>Outcome 1</b>	<b>1.4</b>	There is a need to continue to support Traveller workers to challenge stigma around mental health issues within the Traveller community.
<b>Outcome 2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	There is a need for more pro-active supports for students in the 11-16 age group who are at-risk of school leaving or for young people who have already left school.
<b>Outcome 3</b>	<b>3.1</b>	There is need for more resources for Social Work services in order to respond to all child protection cases in a way that supports early intervention and promotes the best possible outcomes for children.
<b>Outcome 4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	The planning of children's services should consider the increase in deprivation in certain electoral divisions in Meath
<b>Outcome 5</b>	<b>5.2</b>	There is a need for a range of parenting supports to be available to the whole population and targeted to at-risk families.
<b>Outcome 5</b>	<b>5.3</b>	There is a need for a more diverse range of accessible and inexpensive recreational activities, particularly in relation to arts and cultural activities.
<b>Outcome 5</b>	<b>5.6</b>	Given that 90% of asylum seekers suffer from depression after six months in direct provision, the needs of the children residing in Mosney (direct provision) should be considered particularly with regard to recreational and mental health issues

## Youth Consultations

In 2015 the Meath CYPSC Safety Working Group undertook a consultation with young people availing of services from three key areas: Education, Justice and Social Work. The aim of the consultation was to identify services with ready access to young people availing of support at level 3 & 4 of the Hardiker Model and to gauge the young people's experience of accessing those services. It was hoped that these findings would influence the development of future CYPs. Focus groups were held with 36 young people in five groups and each focus group was given a set of scenarios to discuss. The conclusions from the voice of young people engaged in these targeted services were that the young people identified strongly with staff members that treated them with respect and dignity. They also noted that services should consider their public identity, in that: "do young people & their parents know who you are and what you do?". Finally, the young people know their own situation and often the possible solutions, the task is to guide them in the process, and this is greatly aided by respect, listening, and congruence in relationship and task.

A consultation with young people from the Meath Comhairle na nÓg was carried out in late 2016. In November 2016 a young person from the Meath Comhairle na nÓg gave a presentation at the Meath CYPSC planning workshop on the needs of children and young people living in Meath. The young person's presentation was informed by the Needs Analysis carried out by Quality Matters in 2013 and more recent data. The young person highlighted a number of needs and gaps for children and young people living in Meath, in particular, **mental health** issues, and the **need for youth spaces**. The young person responded to

questions and agreed that **bullying** was an issue for young people, as well as stressing the need to respond to the **most marginalised**. The young person also acknowledged the work undertaken to date by the Meath CYPSC and the member organisations, and noted the HSE's Substance Use Service for Teens and the LGBT Support Group for under 18s as notable achievements. The facilitator asked all participants attending the workshop to take account of the issues highlighted in the young person's presentation in their planning for the new CYPP 2017-2020. Finally, a number of consultations with young people around the draft action plans was carried out in September/October 2017 and findings noted. Findings from two of these consultations were also presented at the Meath CYPSC meeting in November, 2017. The results from further consultations with children and young people were collated in Qtr. 4 2017 and are included in Appendix D.

## Summary

The actions in Meath CYPSC's CYPP 2018-2020 evolved from a process of experience, consultation and reflection, as evident from the previous CYPP 2012-2015, the voice of the seldom heard in 2015, the socio-demographic profile in 2017 and the CYPSC Review Day in 2016. As the themes were emerging, Meath CYPSC consulted with children and young people in 2016 and 2017, for validation. Our current CYPP is a living document that incorporates our shared learning over the last 7 years with emerging issues and needs, which has been reality checked by regular and ongoing input from children and young people.

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

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
<p>1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing</p>	<p>1.1.1 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION*            1.1.2 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION *            1.1.3 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION *            1.1.4 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION *            1.1.5 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION *            1.1.6 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION *            1.1.7 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION            1.2.1 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH            1.2.2 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH            1.2.3 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH            1.2.4 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH            1.3.1 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH *            1.3.2 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH *            1.3.3 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH            1.4.1 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH</p> <p>*Please note that 8 of the above actions are included as part of the Pobal HIF Strand 1 Round 1 Initiative</p>
<p>2. Achieving full potential in learning and development</p>	<p>2.1.1 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION            2.1.2 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION            2.1.3 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION            2.2.1 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION            2.3.1 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION            2.4.1 ACCESS TO EDUCATION            2.4.2 ACCESS TO EDUCATION</p>
<p>3. Safe and protected from harm</p>	<p>3.1.1 SOCIAL &amp; LEISURE ACTIVITIES            3.2.1 CYBER SAFETY &amp;</p>

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
	3.3.1 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 3.4.1 ESTABLISH A DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSONS FORUM 3.5.1 SUPPORT YOUNG MOTHERS UNDER 20
4. Economic security and opportunity	4.1.1 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT 4.2.1 IMPACT OF POVERTY 4.3.1 MARGINALISED GROUPS - (1) Children in Direct Provision - (2) Young people in Aftercare - (3) Young people in the Travelling community
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world	5.1.1 AWARENESS OF SERVICES, FACILITIES 5.2.1 PARTICIPATION AND VOICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN MEATH 5.3.1 YOUTH SPACES IN CO. MEATH

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

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
1.1.1 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION (BLAZING SADDLES CYCLE INITIATIVE)	To promote positive school attendance and punctuality for young people living in areas designated as disadvantage and To provide these young people with an opportunity to become more physically active	Improved school attendance, Improved punctuality and improved health and wellbeing	75 Secondary school students attending schools in areas designated as disadvantage	Funding sourced from Pobal through the Healthy Ireland Fund Parental consent and young people's commitment to engage in initiative Provide training on bike maintenance and rules of the road Young people are empowered to take responsibility and have ownership of the bikes	March 2018	LMETB and non-LMETB schools from Navan, Laytown, Oldcastle, Trim and Kells; Meath Local Sports Partnership; School Completion Projects; Community Garda; Meath Road Cycle and Meath CYPSC	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 3.2.3 Community Transport Healthy Ireland 5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at all Stages of Life	Transformational Goals: Support parents Earlier Intervention and Prevention Listen to and Involve Children and Young People Strengthening Transitions Cross-Government and Interagency Collaboration National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5
1.1.2 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION (LEARN2CYCLE INITIATIVE)	To provide a great source of physical exercise and beneficial for mobility and	Improved health and wellbeing	8-10 service users of Autism Unit in Athboy Community School	Identify participants within the autism unit Get buy-in from parents to attend weekly sessions	March 2018	Meath Local Sports Partnership, Meath CYPSC, Cycle Safety Skills school,	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 3.3.3 Achieving Inclusion for People with	Transformational Goals: Support parents Earlier Intervention and Prevention

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	independent movement			Deliver 6 week programme to participants Present competency certificates to all participants		Autism unit in Athboy Community School & parents of participants	Disabilities, Healthy Ireland 5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at all Stages of Life	Listen to and Involve Children and Young People Strengthening Transitions Cross-Government and Interagency Collaboration National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5
1.1.3 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION (BOX SMART INITIATIVE)	Participants will learn the correct techniques used in boxing, how to spar and how to use punch bags. They will also learn about the benefits of keeping active, exercises specific to boxing and	Improved health and wellbeing	15 Traveller youths from Navan & Trim and participants from youth reach programme	Purchase equipment and fit out room in resource centre Identify 15 youths to participate on the programme Deliver 6 week training programme to participants Deliver training to 4 identified leader in level 1 beginners	March 2018	Meath Local Sports Partnership, Meath CYPSC, Involve, Navan Travellers Workshop, Gardai & HSE Health and Wellbeing	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 1.3.1 Community Health Initiatives Healthy Ireland 5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at all Stages of Life	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5



## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	health and safety aspects of regulated boxing.			coaching programme				
1.1.4 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION (FRIDAY FUTSAL LEAGUE)	To roll out the Friday Futsal initiative within disadvantaged communities of Navan and Laytown	Improved health and wellbeing	40 Disadvantaged youths in Navan and Laytown areas of Meath	Identify venues and commit stakeholders to delivering programme Identify 20 participants from both areas Deliver a 6 week programme in both areas Host 5 a side competition between participating teams	March 2018	Meath Local Sports Partnership, FAI, Gardai, Youthreach, Garda Diversion Project, Home School Liaison officers, Meath CYPSC & Flexibus	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 1.3.1 Community Health Initiatives Healthy Ireland 5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at all Stages of Life	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5
1.1.5 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION (FISHING4 FUN)	The programme proposes to use the medium of fishing to promote physical activity amongst youths	Improved health and wellbeing	Disadvantaged youths and their families	Identify clubs to assist with the delivery of the programme Purchase equipment for participants	Mar/Apr/May 2018	Meath Local Sports Partnership, Meath Springboard, Home School Liaison officers,	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 1.3.1 Community Health Initiatives Healthy Ireland	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	between the ages of 12yrs and 25yrs and their family members			Deliver 6 week programme Provide pathways for participants into local angling clubs and/or access to fishing licences		Angling clubs, Angling Ireland, Waterways Ireland, HSE Occupational Health Team & Meath CYPSC	5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at all Stages of Life	
1.1.6 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION (SWIMMING4FUN)	To provide 'Swimming4Fun' vouchers to families attending DEIS Primary Schools where financial difficulties may be a barrier to access	Improved health and wellbeing	Children attending DEIS Primary Schools in designated disadvantaged areas	Identifying relevant families in each DEIS school Agree an allocation of vouchers for each DEIS school Monitoring of take up	March 2018	5 DEIS Primary Schools, IPPN, Meath CYPSC, Meath Local Sports Partnership	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 1.3.1 Community Health Initiatives Healthy Ireland 5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at all Stages of Life	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5
1.1.7 YOUTH PHYSICAL HEALTH PROMOTION (OBESITY)	(1) To enhance physical health, mental health and wellbeing and to tackle obesity through physical activity	Comhairle na nÓg to champion Health and Fitness in their schools. Also implement "I	Initial pilot 3 post-primary school	Comhairle members to receive training with MLSP on I Run for Fun Target schools identified	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2018	Co-ordinator Meath Comhairle na nÓg, David McCaffrey MLSP	LECP 2016-2021 1.3.2 County-Wide Obesity Initiative	National Outcome 2

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	(2) To deliver health information on the key messages from Healthy Ireland on preventing obesity in childhood to the Traveller community in Co Meath	Run for Fun" Programme with MLSP in 3 post-primary school  Eat Wise and Exercise programme developed to provide culturally appropriate information on the key messages by Meath PHC Project for Travellers and HSE Health and Wellbeing	Traveller families in Co Meath with children	Programme implemented in 3 schools  To deliver the 3 modules of the Eat Wise and Exercise to families who sign up to the programme	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2018	Eileen Gilsean HSE Coordinator Traveller Health  Meath Primary Health Care Project for Travellers/HSE Health and Wellbeing community Dietician	LECP 2016-2021 1.3.2 County-Wide Obesity Initiative	National Outcome 2
1.2.1 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH	Developing a Local Suicide Prevention Plan	Local Suicide Prevention Plan in use by all community, voluntary and statutory	Improve the mental health of people living in Meath, prevent harm and reduce the	Set up of Local Suicide Prevention Planning Group and confirm Chair Select consultant (following tender)	1st Quarter 2017  2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarters 2017	Siobhan McArdle, Mental Health Lead CHO Area 8 Louth Meath	Connecting for Life: Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015-2020	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5



Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				analysis and write up report Launch Local Suicide Prevention Plan	2017 2nd Quarter 2018			
1.2.2 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH	To provide a Jigsaw Outreach Service in County Meath	JIGSAW Meath provide a mental health service to young people in their base in Navan	Implement 8 week pilot in identified community in county Meath	<p>1. Research and identify area in county Meath for further exploration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with partners in CYPSC</li> <li>• Use stats on Jigsaw system</li> <li>• Work with partners in Jigsaw Meath e.g. YCEW</li> </ul> <p>2. Work with community to scope out suitability and need in the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus groups</li> <li>• Collaboration</li> </ul>	Jan – March 2018  March – May 2018	JIGSAW Meath  JIGSAW Meath	LECP 2016-2021 1.3.3 Mental Health of Young People	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				with CYPSC colleagues • Review Jigsaw Outreach policy 3. Plan for Outreach: • Plan location and suitability • Ensure policy in place • Plan pilot with Jigsaw team 4. Jigsaw provide Clinical Worker and Liaise with relevant partners 5. Review and evaluate pilot programme: • Review programme • Use JDS stats • Community Feedback • Review at CYPSC	May – August 2018  September – November 2018  December 2018	JIGSAW Meath  JIGSAW Meath  JIGSAW Meath		

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
1.2.3 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH	To support the on-going development of the post-primary schools based mental health intervention programme in Co. Meath	Delivery of whole school mental health promotion programme in additional post-primary schools in Meath	Roll out to all post-primary schools in Meath	NEPS and HSE Psychology service develop application process for additional schools to sign up Implement intervention model	2018 Q4 (i.e. 3 year school programme)	Michael Cullinane Alan Doran Donna O'Brien	JIGSAW Meath Business Plan HSE Vision for Change HSE Shared Care Model LMETB Strategy 2017-2021 Strategic Goal 3.7: Expansion of the Jigsaw Meath Schools Project LECP 2016-2021 1.3.3 Mental Health of Young People	National Outcomes 1 and 2
1.2.4 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH	To support the mental health needs of children in care and adopted in Louth Meath through improved collaboration between the	There is a need to highlight the mental health needs of children in care and adopted	An integrated approach to meet the mental health needs of children in care and adopted	To gather sound statistical data to evidence the need for an integrated service To explore the challenges and opportunities to strengthen collaboration	End 2019	Lisa Daly, HSE CAMHS	HSE Vision for Change LECP 2016-2021 1.3.3 Mental Health of Young People	National Outcome 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	HSE and Tusla			<p>between the HSE and Tusla</p> <p>To identify training opportunities for all those professionals that come in contact with this population i.e. teachers, social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, speech and language therapists and occupational therapists etc</p> <p>To raise awareness and training regarding the significance of how early attachment experience affects the lives of these children</p>				



## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				and those that care for them.				
1.3.1 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH (THE RISE FAMILY, THERAPEUTIC AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME)	To provide a 10 week RISE Family, Therapeutic and Educational Programme	Participants will identify new, healthy ways of coping with addiction and relationships	Family members of young people (<25 years old) who are attending community addiction support services	Improved family re-integration and communication Better retention in community treatment programmes Shared healthy leisure activity time Reinforce family support for recovery from addiction	March/April 2018	The RISE Foundation, Family Addiction Support Network, Meath Community Drug and Alcohol Response, HSE Addiction Service, Meath Partnership	LECP 2016-2021 1.3.4: Addiction Services for Young People, Healthy Ireland 5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at all Stages of Life, National Drugs Strategy 2.1.17: Further strengthen services to support families affected by substance misuse	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5
1.3.2 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH (SENSORY TRAIL INITIATIVE)	To provide a sensory trail to children and adults with physical,	Reach more families and improve the health and wellbeing of	Children and young adults with physical, emotional and cognitive	Design, install and utilise sensory trail Therapeutic Coach Training for 6 weeks	March 2018	Olivia's Special Horses (now Ability Equine Assisted Therapy),	Healthy Ireland 5.2.1: Increase the Proportion of People who are Healthy at	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	emotional and cognitive disabilities that will enable them to participate in equine therapy and fun experiences	children and adults with disabilities	disabilities	Therapy Horse Schooling Training for 6 weeks		LEADER, Disability Federation of Ireland	all Stages of Life, LECP 2016-2021 1.3.1: Community Health Initiatives, 3.3.3 Achieving Inclusion for People with Disabilities	
1.3.3 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH	Develop & implement a Regional Community Action on Alcohol Plan	Increase the availability & uptake of SAOR training among services that work directly with young people	All frontline youth service staff to have availed of training by 2020	To run SAOR training as required To run 2 stage MI training on an annual basis To run SAOR training for trainers in 2018	Annually  Annually  2018	NE-RDATF (with support from HSE)	NE-RDATF regional implementation plan HSE national service plan 2017	National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5
1.4.1 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH	Provide for sustainable roll-out of multi-agency Strengthening Families Programme (SFP)	Ongoing SFP in Co Meath Committed funding from existing Stakeholder Agencies Additional	To obtain core funding to enable at least one SFP to run each year in county Meath Aim to have second	Link with National SFP Council	Ongoing	Meath SFP Steering Group. (Le Cheile. Probation, Tusla Child & Family Agency PPFs. E Plus.	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020. National Drug Strategy.	Transformational Goal: Support Parents National Outcomes 2, 3 and 5

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
		funding from additional Stake Holder agencies Release of Staff for roll out of additional programmes Buy in from HSE and NERDATF Recognised role for SFP Coordinator	Programme and a younger age programme over next 2-3 years			Trim FRC. MCDAR. Jigsaw Meath)		

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
2.1.1 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION	To increase the progression rate from schools into apprenticeships	There is a need for more pro-active supports for students in 15-17 age group who are at risk of leaving school or have already left school without the minimum entry requirements to get apprenticeships	To develop a programme to help young people get the minimum entry requirements to start an apprenticeship for Co. Meath	Develop a programme that meets the appropriate entry requirements to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 Junior Cert subjects</li> <li>• IT</li> <li>• Technical subject</li> <li>• Work Experience</li> </ul>	Sept 2019	Elma McMahon, Senior Training Advisor, LMETB Partners: LMETB – Regional Skills Navan School Completion Programme and Meath Partnership	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention Further Education and Training Plan LMETB Clear links to the new Junior Cycle LMETB Strategy 2017-2021 Strategic Goal 3.1 Implement and Embed the Framework for Junior Cycle in LMETB Post Primary Schools with a focus on key skills, statements of learning and subject specifications	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020 2.17 Achieving Full Potential  Transformational Goal: Strengthening Transitions

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
2.1.2 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION	Provide more pro-active and structured supports for students in 11-16 age group who are at risk of leaving school or have already left school	There is a need for more pro-active supports for students in 11-16 age group who are at risk of leaving school or have already left school	To develop and implement NTEST (Navan Tailored Educational Support Team)	To seek funding for NTEST (Funding application to be considered under HSE National Lottery Funding – deadline May 2017) and make a stronger case with current data (collect data based on expulsions) Support the NTEST committee Location of venue will be paramount here	2017-2020	Christina Nestor, NTEST Committee and Meath Partnership	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention LMETB Strategy 2017-2021 Strategic Goal 3.10: Development of Education Programmes for at risk students	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020 2.17 Achieving Full Potential
2.1.3 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION	Literacy for Young People aimed at those young people in schools who are at-risk of leaving school and those who	All young people supported through the Meath Youth Guidance Service will be accessed for	40 young people supported to access literacy supports	Engage with the LMETB Literacy Service to ensure youth at risk have access to targeted literacy supports to aid school	2018-2020	LMETB Literacy Service, National Adult Learning Agency, Meath	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention, LMETB Strategic Plan 2018-2021 Strategic Goal 3.10: Development of	National Outcome 5

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	have left school early	literacy proficiency		completion and progression options		Partnership, NTEST.	Education Programmes for at risk students	
2.2.1 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION	Pre-school to Primary school  Primary to Post-primary (including the parent piece)	The transfer of students from preschool to Primary  Feedback from Transitions Information Booklet/Leaflet to be circulated and publicised in school and DVD. 100% of students from primary to post primary.	Preschool  6th Class Students and parents	Ensure target preschool students are transferring and have school place  CYPSC Seed Funding 2015 obtained: Produce Mind the Gap Booklets Produce Mind the Gap Video to compliment the Booklet Promote within schools	On-going  On-going	Partnership Schools All DEIS Schools Pre-schools Meath CYPSC Learning and Development Working Group Meath County Childcare Committee Meath Springboard Education Welfare Officers Meath Travellers Workshop	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020 LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention LMETB Strategy 2017-2021 Strategic Goal 3.9: Further Development of Transition Programmes for Students Healthy Ireland Framework National Curriculum for Continuing Assessment (NCCA)	Transformational Goals: Support parents Listen to and Involve Children and Young People Ensure Quality Services Strengthening Transitions Cross-Government and Interagency Collaboration

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
						LMETB Meath Partnership Parents Navan School Completion Programme	National Council for Special Education (NCSE)	
2.3.1 YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRESSION	To promote a Holistic Educational Partnership for young persons with additional learning needs through information sharing	SENO guidelines NEPS guidelines Resources in schools for young people with additional learning needs	Children and young people with additional learning needs requiring assessment and intervention	Learning and Development Working Group to keep us informed of developments and resources within the county Education Welfare services Youthreach HSCLO NEPS SENO Career Guidance Provide Information Sheet	On-going	Meath CYPSC Education Working Group Meath County Childcare Committee	Guidelines: NEPS SENO EWO Better Outcomes Brighter Futures MTW LMETB Strategy 2017-2021 Strategic Goal 3.3: Support LMETB schools in the implementation of the new Special Education	Achievement in Learning Engaged in Learning

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
							Teaching Model	
2.4.1 ACCESS TO EDUCATION	To initiate a pilot transport programme for students travelling from Windtown to Beaufort College Post Primary School that aims to promote positive school attendance and punctuality	Improved school attendance and Improved punctuality	18 first Year students from the Windtown area coming into first year in Beaufort College Post Primary School in late August 2017	A contract will be drawn up to incorporate Flexibus terms and conditions, the schools and NSCP terms and conditions to include parents signing up and consistently using the return journey opportunity. A meeting will take place with the relevant parents in June 2017 in Scoil Naomh Eoin and/or Unity Centre. The majority of the students are transitioning from	Late August 2017 to June 2018 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Phase will be August 2018 to June 2019)	Flexibus NSCP Scoil Naomh Eoin Beaufort College Meath CYPSC Learning and Development Working Group	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 3.2.3 Community Transport 3.2.4 Public Transport  Small Area Health Research Unit (SAHRU) Deprivation Indices 2011 cited Navan Urban as most deprived with a decile score of 10	Transformational Goals: Support parents Earlier Intervention and Prevention Listen to and Involve Children and Young People Ensure Quality Services Strengthening Transitions Cross-Government and Interagency Collaboration  National Outcomes 2 and 5



## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				Scoil Naomh Eoin. Insurance covered through Flexibus.				
2.4.2 ACCESS TO EDUCATION	To initiate a pilot transport programme for students travelling from Slane Road, Navan to St. Oliver's and Scoil Naomh Eoin Primary Schools that aims to promote positive school attendance and punctuality	Improved school attendance and Improved punctuality	18 primary school students from the Slane Road area attending St. Oliver's and Scoil Naomh Eoin Primary Schools commencing late August 2017	A contract will be drawn up to include Flexibus' terms and conditions, the Primary Schools' terms and conditions to include parents signing up and consistently using the return journey opportunity. A meeting will take place with the parents in June 2017. Insurance covered by Flexibus Parents pay for this service	Late August 2017 to June 2018	Flexibus NSCP Scoil Naomh Eoin St. Oliver's Meath CYPSC Learning and Development Working Group	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 3.2.3 Community Transport 3.2.4 Public Transport  Small Area Health Research Unit (SAHRU) Deprivation Indices 2011 cited Navan Urban as most deprived with a decile score of 10	Transformational Goals: Support parents Earlier Intervention and Prevention Listen to and Involve Children and Young People Ensure Quality Services Strengthening Transitions Cross-Government and Interagency Collaboration  National Outcomes 2 and 5

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
3.1.1 SOCIAL & LEISURE ACTIVITIES	Assist young people and their families in developing their skills and achieve their potential through engaging in social activities	The no. of young people and their families engaged in sport and physical activity in the park	To establish regular sport and physical activity to 50 families in two marginalised areas in Navan, namely, Blackwater Park and Johnstown	<p>Establish contact with the local clubs i.e. Meath GAA, Simonstown GAA, Waterstown GAA, FAI, Navan Rugby Club to deliver sport and physical activity initiatives in the two areas</p> <p>Obtain the support of the local residents associations and schools in the two areas</p> <p>Identify the range of activities involved: Family, Sports, Night Soccer, Arts</p> <p>Provide training and development to support and empower families to role out sport and physical activity initiatives in the two areas</p>	2017  2017  2018-2019	Meath Local Sport Partnership Assistant Arts Officer, Meath County Council	LECP 2016-2021 1.3.1 Community Health Initiatives	National Outcomes 1 and 5
3.2.1 CYBER SAFETY & BULLYING	Increase awareness of young people and their parents in	75% of all Post Primary Schools in the county offering student and	8-17 year old children from 2nd Class Primary School through to	Consult with young people Audit current provision regarding internet safety within the Primary and Post Primary sector in the	2018-2020	LMETB Director of Schools and Meath Partnership LMETB Youth	LMETB Strategy 2017-2021 Strategic Goal 3.5: Support schools in the	Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	keeping themselves safe on line	parental education initiatives on web safety	students up to completion of leaving certificate in Post Primary School	county Encourage provision of internet safety programmes within the voluntary youth group sector		Officer	implementation of the Digital Strategy for Schools 2015-2020	Listen to and involve children and young people Strengthen Transitions Cross-government and Interagency collaboration and co-ordination
3.3.1 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	Develop the appropriate responses based on the needs of children and young people  Deliver the agreed responses	We will have a map of current service provision Identify gaps and seek solutions to meet the need	Target group is the child of the parents referred to DV services	Identify the individual work required for children and young people (we envisage that part of this will involve the provision of counselling and psychotherapy based on the level of trauma that children have been exposed to as a result of domestic violence in the home. We know from the work of partner agencies, in particular, Meath Womens Refuge and Meath Springboard Family	2018-2020	Valerie Everard, Tusla Regional Lead on Domestic Violence, to meet with CYPSC Co-ordinators from Dublin North East region in coming weeks to discuss Tusla's plans in relation to developing the appropriate	DV Plan from Tusla	Transformational Goals: Support Parents

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				<p>Support Services that the provision of counselling/psychotherapy has been used very effectively in addressing the stress and anxiety displayed by children who have been exposed to domestic violence)</p> <p>Scope out the group work response required</p> <p>Scope out the responses based on age:</p> <p>0-12 Meath Women's Refuge</p> <p>12 + NYPD, Schools, YAP, PPFS</p> <p>Ensure prevention work is in place including: Respect Prevention Programme</p>		responses based on the needs of children and young people		
3.4.1 DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON FORUM	Support Designated Liaison Persons (DLP) in delivering on their role within	<p>Establishment of the DLP Forum</p> <p>DLPs feeling supported in</p>	Minimum of 2 meetings per annum	<p>To establish the DLP forum</p> <p>Invite all the DLPs within the area</p> <p>Set up meeting</p>	2018	Principal Social Worker, Duty/Intake, Tusla Louth Meath and Children First	Implementation of Children First	National Outcome 3

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	their organisations to the highest standard	making appropriate referrals				Information Officer, Tusla Louth Meath		
3.5.1 YOUNG MOTHERS UNDER 20	Adopt a pilot programme to employ an Advocacy Support Worker to provide a holistic review on the needs of the child and young mother against the 5 National Outcomes and assist the young mother to access appropriate supports.	The CSO in 2016 identified that there were 38 births to mothers under the age of 20 in Co. Meath	Assisting young mothers to access appropriate supports for them and their child.	Secure funding for Advocacy Support Worker The key activity is that within 6 weeks of birth each young mother and their child are offered a holistic review of their needs in keeping with the 5 National Outcomes and based on their needs they are signposted/referred to relevant services (Our aim is to ensure that the most vulnerable receive co-ordinated early intervention in keeping with the aspirations of CYPSC for efficient, effective and timely cross agency service delivery).	November 2016 Sept 2017 – July 2018	Meath Springboard Family Support Services and PHNs	LECP 2016-2020 1.1.1 Early Intervention	Transformational Goals: Support Parents Early Intervention and Prevention Listen to and involve children and young people Strengthen Transitions  National Outcomes 1-5

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
4.1.1 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT	(1) To develop an entrepreneurial initiative for young people	The no. of young people that progress to self-employment	Engage with 8 individuals under 25 on a one to one or group basis  3 to progress to self-employment	Promote the Back To Work Education Allowance (BTWEA) as a mechanism for jobless young people to explore self-employment. Provide one to one mentoring supports and Start Your Own Business (SYOB) training to those individuals and support in self-employment where appropriate and provide ongoing support over start-up phase.	2017-2020	SICAP, Enterprise Board	Link to SICAP, LECP 2016-2021 3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy	National Outcome 5
	(2) To collaborate in developing strategies for youth at high risk of unemployment, namely, the Meath Youth	The no. of young people engaged in education, training or employment	80 young people supported in DEIS Schools and community settings	Develop strategies for youth at high risk of unemployment. The Meath Youth Guidance Service will work with young people on an individual basis within the school setting to	2017-2020	SICAP, LECP, Youth Work Ireland Meath, Foróige, DSP, Involve and the Meath Adult Education Guidance	Link to SICAP, LECP 2016-2021 3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy	National Outcome 5

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	Guidance Service			offer coaching and personal development support to address emerging issues related to non-progression.		Service (LMETB)		
4.2.1 IMPACT OF POVERTY	To advocate for children and young people living in poverty given the impact on all 5 national outcomes	2011 and 2016 Census findings identify Kells (Urban) and Kilmainham Wood as recording a higher proportion of groups identified at greatest risk of poverty than the rest of the county. Other areas include East Meath and parts of Navan	Establish community based family supports that will support children and their parents to break the acidic nature of deprivation and poverty.	To advocate nationally for Area Based Poverty Initiative expansion	2017-2020	CYPSC Chair, Meath Partnership HSE, Child and Family Support Networks (CFSNs)	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention OECD (2016) Weaving Together Policies for Social Inclusion in Ireland: North County Meath pp89-112	National Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 5

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
4.3.1 SELDOM HEARD	(1i) To enable Children and young people in Direct Provision to access activities offsite	The no. of children and young people engaged in community activities	Establish measures to encourage involvement in local sports clubs, theatre groups, youth clubs, after school clubs, scouts, dancing troupes, choirs, drama/theatre groups etc.	Identify & implement strategies to reduce economic barriers to accessing recreational activities. Links will be made to funds for this initiative i.e. St. Stephen's Green Trust	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2018	ISPCC, Tusla, Meath CYPSC, Cultúr, Daughters of Charity, Meath County Council Resettlement Programme for Refugees	LECP 2016-2021 3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy Essential to link with Louth CYPSC for a Joint Strategy	National Outcome 5
	(1ii) To enable young people in Direct Provision to access books for back to school	The no. of young people aged 12-13 in Mosney who require financial support to purchase textbooks for back to school	40 young people aged 12-13 who attend 3 post primary schools	Obtain funding Identify post primary schools that do not provide back to school supports Identify young people who are most disadvantaged	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2018	Cultúr, Post Primary Schools and Meath CYPSC	LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy	National Outcome 2



## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
4.3.1 SELDOM HEARD	(2) To gain an understanding of the profile of those young people in Aftercare (aged 18-23) that are in education and training	The no. of young people in Aftercare (Tusla Meath) who are in education and training is 83% (41 out of 49 as of 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018)	Increase the number of young people in Aftercare (Tusla Meath) in education and training by 10%	Carry out research in relation to access to & barriers to education and training for young people in aftercare aged 18-23. This will be followed by an action plan based on research findings and recommendations	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2018  2019-2020	Jacqui Bourke, Aftercare Manager, Tusla Louth Meath, SOLIS (LMETB) Meath County Council	Tusla Louth Meath Service Plan 2018 LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention 3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy	National Outcomes 2 and 5 Strengthen Transitions
	(3) (Travellers) To develop a youth community farm in Carnaross for young people	The no. of young people engaged in education and training	10 young people supported in youth community farming	Obtain funding to develop onsite hub at Carnaross Erect polytunnel and purchase equipment Liaise with education training organisations to identify relevant training to support young people to reach their potential Promote the concept of a youth community farm among the travelling community Secure resources to	2018-2020	Meath Travellers Workshop, LMETB, SOLAS, Dept of Agriculture, Department of Social Protection, Irish Prison Service and Tusla	Meath Travellers Workshop Strategic Plan 2018-2021 No. 2 Aim: Employment and Enterprise, National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 LECP 2016-2021 1.1.1 Early Intervention	National Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 5

**Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee**

**Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity**

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				engage a Project Co-ordinator			3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy	

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
5.1.1 AWARENESS OF SERVICES, FACILITIES	To raise young people's awareness of the services, supports and facilities in place	A successful and effective strategy is implemented  Young people are more informed	To have a communication strategy	Inform ourselves internally around communication methods with young people Invite a Communication Officer from a National Youth Organisation on how to deliver a workshop Deliver workshop informed by young people Implement a communication strategy	Develop a communication strategy - End 2019  Implement a communication strategy – End 2020	Connected and Respected Working Group	National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020 LECP 2016-2021 3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy	Transformational Goal: Listen to and involve children and young people
5.2.1 PARTICIPATION AND VOICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN MEATH	To facilitate the participation of young people on the CYPSC	Young person/people supported to sit at CYPSC	All children and young people and all organisations and services working with young people	Engage with and support new and current youth forums Support and strengthen their capacity to participate in CYPSC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr. 2018  Ongoing	Youth Work Ireland Meath Meath Comhairle na nÓg School Councils Jigsaw Meath Youth	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020 National Youth Strategy (2015-2020)	Transformational Goal: Listen to and involve children and young people

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	Promote the importance of listening to children and young people across all agencies	Appropriate consultation mechanisms with children and young people are integrated into CYPSC actions	As above	Carry out a promotional campaign showcasing evidence/impact of good participation in practice in work planning & design of supports and programmes, i.e. Lundy Model	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2018	Advisory Panel  All Agencies and Voluntary organisations in Meath that work with children and young people	National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020  As above	As above
	To ensure all plans and programmes delivered are	Agencies ensuring all services and supports	Provision of a meaningful and participative	Consult young people to validate the identified objectives and identify gaps in	Qtrs. 2 and 3 2017	Meath CYPSC and Meath CYPSC Working	As above	As above

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	informed by the views of young people and parents	include participation where feasible	ongoing process which is integrated in the overall plan.	the CYPSC plan		Groups		
	To ensure the voice of the young asylum seekers is heard by the CYPSC	Programmes and plans developed to meet the needs of young people  Consultation with emphasis on empowerment has taken place	20 young Asylum Seekers in Mosney (That the young people have identified one gap and come up with the solution to address same)	Consulting with organisations working with young people in Mosney to identify opportunities to engage young people and how they themselves wish to engage	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr. 2019	Meath CYPSC Cultúr Other organisations working in Mosney	CULTÚR Plan Seldom Heard Strategy	As above
	To support Meath Comhairle na nÓg to	Young people are empowered to identify and	10 young people from Mosney will attend the	Young people will promote Meath Comhairle na nÓg work projects and be	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2019	Meath Comhairle na nÓg, Foróige	LECP 2016-2021 3.3.1 Young Person's	As above

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	develop inclusion action for young people in direct provision to be represented on Meath Comhairle na nÓg	address solutions to this	Comhairle na nÓg AGM 2019  2 young people from Mosney direct provision will represent young people on Meath Comhairle na nÓg	part of all consultations with young people in Meath			Strategy Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020 National Youth Strategy (2015-2020) National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020, CULTÚR Plan Seldom Heard Strategy	
	To support Meath	Co-ordinator of Meath	2 young people in care in	Young people will promote Meath	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr 2019	Meath Comhairle na	LECP 2016-2021 3.3.1	As above

## Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	Comhairle na nÓg to develop inclusion action for young people in care to participate on Meath Comhairle na nÓg	Comhairle na nÓg will initially link with Tusla to develop positive links with young people in care Co-ordinator of Meath Comhairle na nÓg will link with EPIC, Meath CYPSC and TUSLA to develop positive links with young people in care in Meath	Meath will be elected onto Meath Comhairle na nÓg	Comhairle na nÓg work projects and be part of all consultations with young people in Meath		nÓg, EPIC, Tusla Children in Care, Meath CYPSC	Young Person's Strategy, Better Outcomes Brighter Futures 2014-2020 National Youth Strategy (2015-2020) National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020	
	To help sustain the existing LGBTI+ youth service in the	Young LGBTI+ people have access to support	14+years	Consult LGBTI+ young people Gap analysis Provide services that	2018-2020	Youth Work Ireland Meath	LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy	As above

Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	county. To identify towns without young LGBTI+ support services	service and engagement		meet the service gap (informed by LGBTI+ young people)			2018-2020	
5.3.1 YOUTH SPACES IN CO. MEATH	To increase the number of youth spaces or premises in Co. Meath	All children and Young people have access to youth spaces	To create five new youth spaces in the county	To work with youth organisations to map current locations and carry out a needs analysis To identify appropriate locations To identify resources	2019-2020	LMETB, Meath Partnership (LEADER), Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Foróige, Youth Work Ireland	LECP 2016-2021 3.3.1 Young Person's Strategy, LEADER Local Development Strategy, LMETB Strategic Plan 2017-2021	Transformational Goal: Listen to and involve children and young people



## Section 7: Monitoring and Review

This section shows how the Meath CYPSC intends to monitor implementation of the plan and review the plan locally during the course of its 3-year lifespan. Meath CYPSC will aim to produce a number of reports in line with the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework (2017) which include an Annual Programme of Work, a CYPSC Mid-year Progress Update and a CYPSC Annual Progress Report, as reflected in the Local CYPSC Planning and Reporting Cycle depicted in Figure 7.1. There will also be an Annual National Progress Report which will reflect all the local CYPSC reports from across the 27 CYPSCs, as per the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework shown in Figure 7.2. The following is a brief overview of the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework which Meath CYPSC will aim to adhere to during the lifespan of their CYPP:

### **Annual Programme of Work**

The Meath CYPSC will produce an annual statement of intent / action outlining the work to be undertaken and achieved by the CYPSC in each calendar year. This statement of intent will be called the Annual Programme of Work and it will be derived from the CYPSC's three-year CYPP. It will provide a high level overview of what and how the Meath CYPSC will deliver against each of the agreed local objectives and strategic actions for that calendar year. The performance of Meath CYPSC will be monitored by the Meath CYPSC itself on an ongoing basis, applying the principle of mutual accountability, and annually by TUSLA - Child and Family Agency, on behalf of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, through the Meath CYPSC's submission of an annual progress report.

### **CYPSC Mid-year Progress Update**

Meath CYPSC will produce a Mid-year Progress Update to TUSLA. The Mid-year Progress Update will be utilised locally by Meath CYPSC as a tool for mutual accountability and learning. It is primarily a monitoring tool to determine whether the CYPSC annual programme of work is on schedule. This Mid-year Progress Update will also provide Meath CYPSC with a mid-year opportunity to highlight to national level structures any issues or challenges being experienced locally.

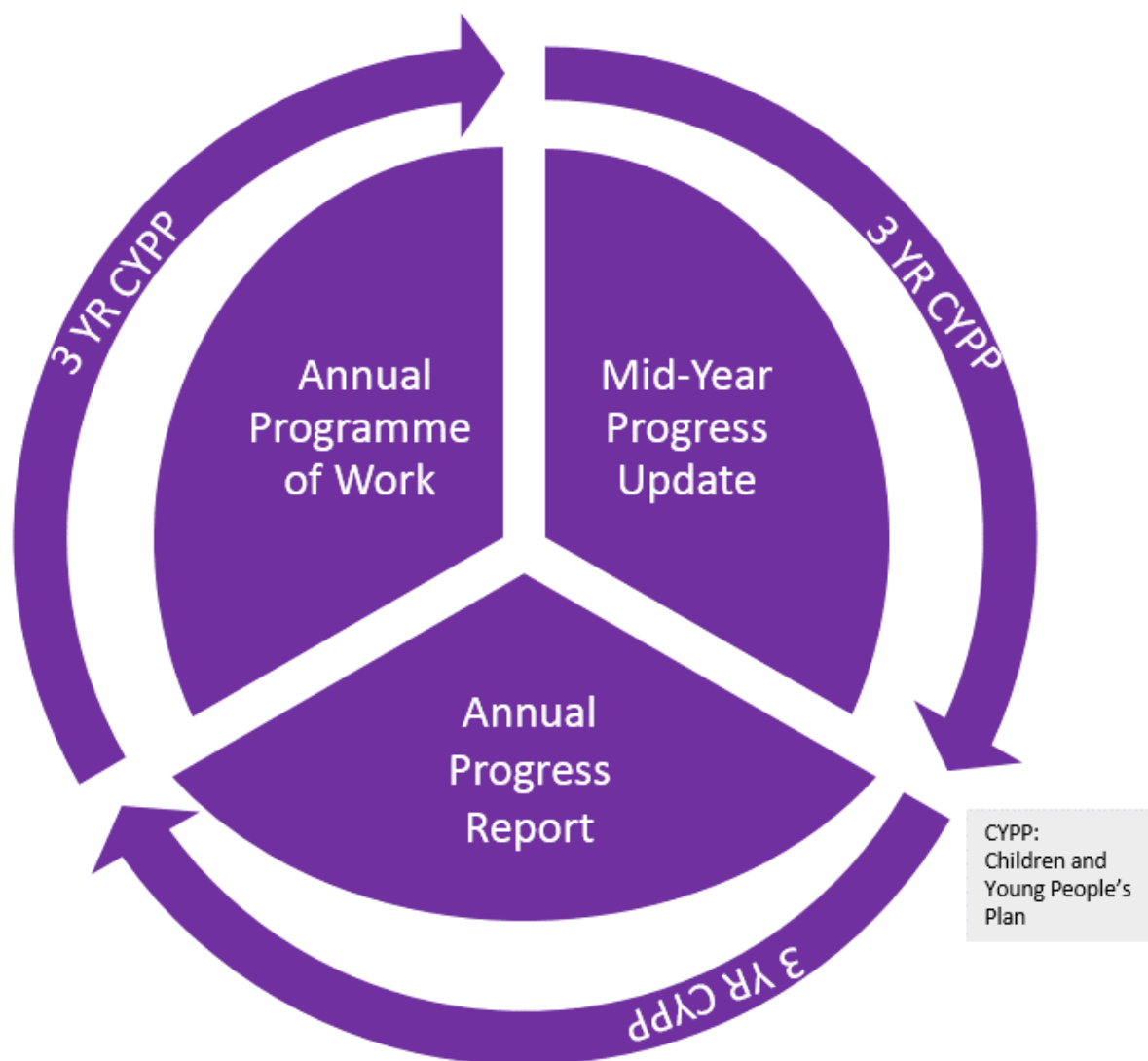
### **CYPSC Annual Progress Report**

Meath CYPSC will produce an Annual Progress Report on its activity and impact to TUSLA. The Annual Progress Report will be utilised locally by Meath CYPSC as a tool for mutual accountability and learning. The report will inform local CYPSC decisions to enact developments or changes within its three-year strategic plan i.e. the CYPP. The report will enable Meath CYPSC to be responsive to emerging local need as well as national policy imperatives. The CYPSC Annual Progress Report will encompass:

- An overview of how children and young people in county Meath are doing under the five national outcomes for children and young people highlighting any significant changes, improvements and areas requiring further attention or exploration by Meath CYPSC.
- Detail of progress on those actions set out in the Annual Programme of Work to improve outcomes for children and young people.

- Detail of CYPSC inter-agency activity including membership, engagement, distribution of leadership across Meath CYPSC members and alignment of / linkages to Meath CYPSC member agencies operational plans.
- Detail of how the Meath CYPSC is involving children and young people in its structures and decision-making.
- Meath CYPSC progress on national policy objectives and commitments as relevant.
- Challenges, achievements, the value added of the Meath CYPSC model of interagency working and lessons learned from implementation.
- Record of leveraged funding into county Meath and record of pooled resources by Meath CYPSC member agencies.

**Figure 7.1: Local CYPSC Planning and Reporting Cycle**



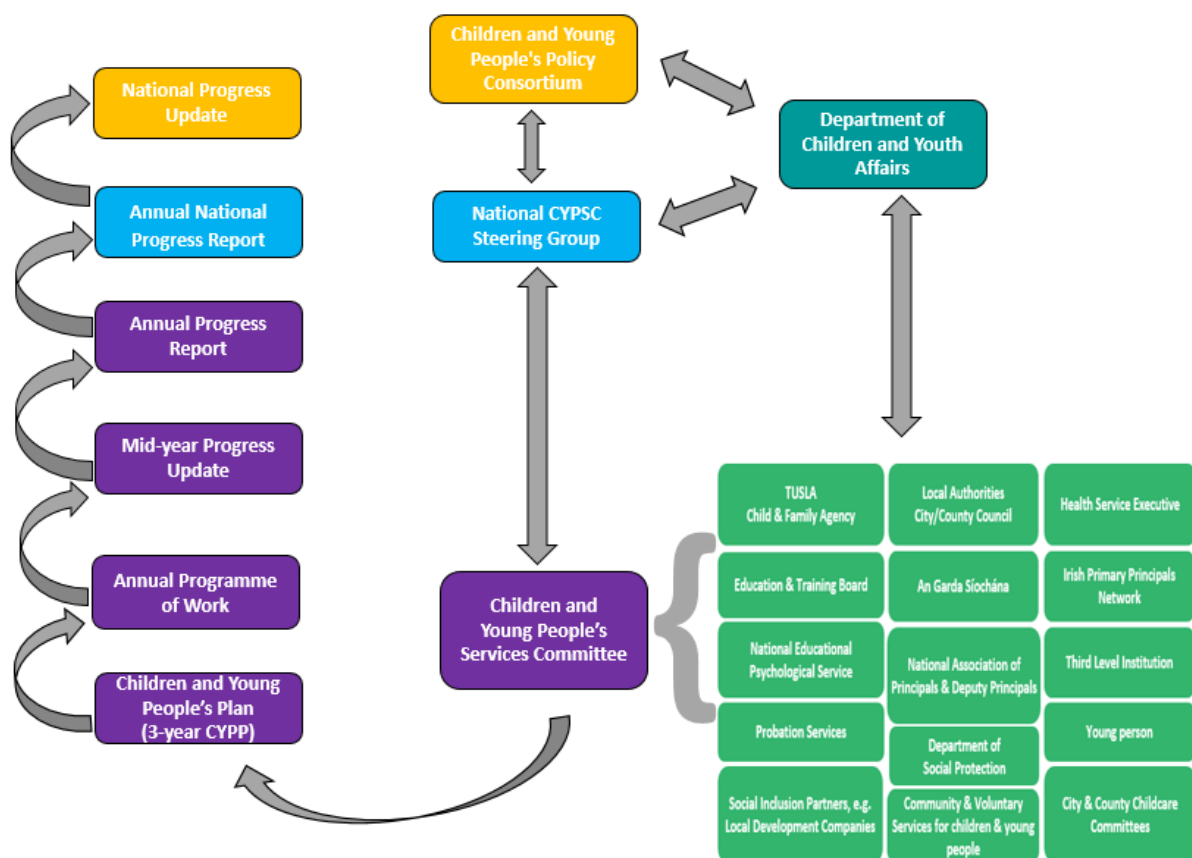
### **Annual National Progress Report**

The local Meath CYPSC reports outlined above will be synthesised by TUSLA into an Annual National Progress Report which will be submitted to the CYPSC National Steering Group and to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to enhance the monitoring and oversight of

CYPSC and for the information to inform national policy and development. The report will be provided to the National Children and Young People's Policy Consortium for information. The Annual National Progress Report will be a composite of local and national progress providing:

- An overview of CYPSC activity under the five national outcomes for children and young people.
- A national analysis of inter-agency engagement in the CYPSC initiative.
- Examples of local and national instances of good practice identified across the CYPSC network.
- Significant trends or issues impacting children and young people requiring national attention.
- Particular challenges arising from CYPSC inter-agency working requiring national attention.
- Overall leverage of resources by CYPSC into services for children and young people.
- A progress update regarding effective working and areas for development in and across local CYPSC.

**Figure 7.2: CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework**



## **Quality Assurance Process for CYPPs**

Meath CYPSC will submit its three-year CYPP to TUSLA to undergo a quality assurance process. This will involve:

### **Screening**

CYPPs are shared with the National Co-ordinator for CYPSC at TUSLA. Plans are screened and informal feedback is provided to the CYPSC. CYPSC can make changes to their local plan based on the feedback provided.

### **Review**

CYPSC formally submit their CYPP to the National Co-ordinator for CYPSC at TUSLA. The National Co-ordinator for CYPSC convenes a CYPP Review Group comprising DCYA, a representative of the CYPSC National Steering Group, TUSLA - Child and Family Agency and other identified experts, to carry out a Quality Assurance review of the CYPP. The review applies a Quality Assurance framework that considers:

- The extent to which the CYPSC adhered to the template for CYPPs;
- The quality of the content of the CYPP;
- The degree to which the needs analysis informed the priority areas of the action plan;
- How aligned the priority areas are to the five national outcome areas for children and young people;
- The quality of planning;
- Common themes and challenges emerging across CYPSC plans;
- Identification of development needs across the CYPSC system.

### **Feedback and CYPP publication**

CYPSC whose plans complete the Quality Assurance process receive written feedback from the Review Group and the CYPP is published on the national CYPSC website [www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie).

### **Feedback and CYPP re-submission**

CYPSC whose plans do not complete the Quality Assurance process receive Review Group feedback to their CYPSC Chairperson through a meeting with the National Co-ordinator for CYPSC at TUSLA. CYPSC are asked to consider this feedback for incorporation into their CYPP and invited to re-submit an amended CYPP for Quality Assurance review.

## Section 8: Appendices

- A. Terms of reference for the CYPSC
- B. Membership of CYPSC Working Groups
- C. Terms of reference for CYPSC Working Groups
- D. Feedback from consultations with young people

## **Appendix A: Terms of Reference for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee**

### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of Meath CYPSC will be to provide strategic direction and leadership to ensure effective interagency co-ordination and collaboration in order to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people in county Meath.

### ***Our Vision***

In recognition of the rights of the child, all children and young people in Meath are to:

- Be safe and well nourished
- Be respected as young citizens
- Be encouraged and valued for their contribution
- Have their voice heard
- Be cherished and supported by family and community
- Have a fulfilling childhood
- Reach their full potential

### ***Our Mission Statement***

"Working together to ensure the very best outcomes for our children and young people".

### **2. Term**

These Terms of Reference are effective from 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and continue until the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020 when they will be subject to review.

### **3. Membership\***

Meath CYPSC will comprise:

Grainne Sullivan, Tusla the Child and Family Agency, CYPSC Chairperson  
Fiona Fallon, Meath County Council, CYPSC Vice-Chairperson  
Alan Doran, Health Service Executive,  
Andy Ogle, North Eastern Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force  
Enda Lydon, Irish Primary Principals' Network  
Jennifer Nolan, Meath Partnership  
Geraldine Hogarty, Youth Work Ireland Meath  
Dr. Eileen Butler, Health Service Executive  
Fiona Kearney, Tusla the Child and Family Agency, Prevention, Partnership & Family Support,  
Kerry Quinn, Probation Service  
Marie Daly, Crann Support Group  
Inspector Martina Noonan representing Chief Superintendent Fergus Healy, An Garda Síochána  
Sé Fulham, Meath Springboard Family Support Services  
Sheila Mckenna, HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services  
Susan Keogh, Family Resource Centres  
Imelda Prunty, Meath County Childcare Committee  
Lisa McCormack, Tusla the Child and Family Agency  
Leonard Callaghan, CYPSC Co-ordinator

\*At the time of completing this plan we had vacancies regarding representatives from the Department of Social Protection and the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals

#### **4. Roles and Responsibilities**

CYPSC members are senior managers drawn from the range of statutory, community and voluntary organisations that have a remit for children and young people. Members have a collective responsibility for the development of, implementation of and reporting on CYPSC plans to improve outcomes for children and young people in their area (CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework, 2017). CYPSC members may be nominated to be chairs of working groups where they will provide leadership and direction in keeping with the CYPSC initiative.

#### **5. Meetings**

- All meetings will be chaired by Grainne Sullivan, Tusla.
- A meeting quorum will be half of the members (8) of the CYPSC plus 1.
- Decisions made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice). If not possible, CYPSC Chairperson makes the final decisions.
- Meeting agendas and minutes will be provided by Leonard Callaghan, CYPSC Co-ordinator. This includes:
  - preparing agendas and supporting papers;
  - preparing minutes/meeting notes and information.
- Meetings will be held bi-monthly for 2 hours at a Central Location in Navan, Co. Meath.
- If required, sub group meetings will be arranged outside of these times at a time convenient to sub-group members.
- CYPSC members are required to attend a minimum of 4 meetings in the year.

#### **6. Amendment, Modification or Variation**

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

## **Appendix B: Membership of CYPSC Working Groups**

### **Health Working Group**

Andy Ogle, NERDATF  
 Alan Doran, Principal Psychologist, HSE Meath  
 Eileen Butler, Senior Medical Officer, Department of Community Health, HSE Meath  
 Mary Murphy, Co-ordinator, Meath Local Sports Partnership  
 Margo Finnegan, Meath Local Sports Partnership  
 David McSweeney, Health Promotion, HSE  
 Breda O'Rourke, Foroige  
 David O'Duffy, Jigsaw Meath Project Manager  
 Annemarie Conlon, Jigsaw Meath  
 Shelia McKenna, Principal Social Worker, HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)  
 Eileen Gilsean, Public Health Nurse and HSE Traveller Health Project Co-ordinator  
 Lisa Gavillet, NERDATF  
 Sandra Okome, Officer for Suicide Prevention, HSE  
 Lesa Daly, HSE CAMHS  
 Michael McDonagh, Meath Travellers Workshop  
 Cathy Whelan, Meath Community Drug and Alcohol Response (MCDAR)  
 Grainne Clarke, Tusla  
 Leonard Callaghan, Co-ordinator, Meath CYPSC

### **Learning and Development Working Group**

Fiona Healy, Meath County Childcare Committee  
 Serena Campbell, EWO, Tusla  
 Principal, National Association of Principals & Deputy Principals (NAPD) To be filled  
 Enda Lydon Irish Primary Principals Network (IPPN)  
 Christina Nestor, Navan School Completion Programme  
 Barry Williams, Youth Officer, LMETB  
 Imelda Prunty, Chairperson, Meath County Childcare Committee  
 Leonard Callaghan, Co-ordinator, Meath CYPSC

### **Safety Working Group**

Lisa McCormack, Principal Social Worker, CPC, Tusla Louth Meath  
 Sandra Stafford, CFSN Co-ordinator, Tusla Louth Meath  
 Sé Fulham, Meath Springboard Family Support Services  
 Shaun Kennedy, Youth Worker, NYPD  
 Kerry Quinn, Probation  
 Catherine Cronin, JLO, Navan Garda  
 Sinead Smith, Joint Manager, Meath Women's Refuge  
 Deirdre Murphy, Joint Manager, Meath Women's Refuge  
 Kathryn Morris, Information Officer for Children First, Tusla Louth Meath  
 Leonard Callaghan, Co-ordinator, Meath CYPSC

### **Economic Security Working Group**

Marie Daly, CEO, Crann Support Group  
 Fiona Fallon, Senior Executive Officer, Community, Meath County Council  
 Angela Murphy, Co-ordinator, Kells People's Resource Centre  
 Gary O'Meara, Meath Enterprise  
 Rebecca Meade, Meath Enterprise



Sharon Carolan, Navan Credit Union  
Ann Hyland, Meath Travellers Workshop  
Kay McCabe, INVOLVE  
Lisa Crowe, Aftercare, Tusla Louth Meath  
Reuben Hambakachere, Cultúr  
Leonard Callaghan, Co-ordinator, Meath CYPSC

**Connected and Respected Working Group**

Susan Keogh, Co-ordinator, Trim Family Resource Centre  
Geraldine Hogarty, Manager, Youth Work Ireland Meath  
Carmel Carey, HSLO, Nobber Community School  
Alice O'Halloran, Meath Tusla Family Resource Centre Manager  
Kathie Taylor, Aftercare, Tusla Louth Meath  
Inspector Martina Noonan, Navan Garda  
Barry Williams, Youth Officer, LMETB  
Leonard Callaghan, Co-ordinator, Meath CYPSC

## Appendix C: Generic Terms of Reference for CYPSC Sub Groups

The terms of reference for each of the CYPSC Sub Groups have been adopted in 2018 and are based on the template below.

Meath Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) –

### Name of Working Group



**1. TITLE:** Meath CYPSC – Name of Working Group

**2. PURPOSE:**

- The overall purpose is to secure better developmental outcomes for children, through children's services and initiatives, and their families.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Working Group is a designated sub group of Meath CYPSC and it aims to bring together agencies, services and representatives to add value and coordinate work for the benefit of children, young people and young adults and their families.

**3. MAIN PRIORITIES & OBJECTIVES (as per the Meath Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2020):**

As per Working Group

**4. MEMBERSHIP:**

*4.1 Membership*

Membership of the \_\_\_\_\_ Working Group will be as agreed by Meath CYPSC and will be reviewed as necessary.

*4.2 Co-opted Members*

The \_\_\_\_\_ Working Group may co-opt additional members from other agencies that it may consider relevant to its discussions and work. Other persons may be invited to attend the meetings at the request of the Chairperson to provide advice and assistance where necessary.

*4.3 Membership responsibilities:*

- It is important that each person contribute their opinion to the group, and give feedback to those they are representing (discipline/area) and follow-up with them on issues where agreement needs to be reached.

- Many of the issues being discussed in the different sub groups overlap, and so information and developments will be shared.
- The group may decide to consult with/invite other people along, at different stages to get their input.
- It is expected that members will be available to share/work meaningfully in various pieces of work on behalf of the working group.
- Membership will be expected to maintain a good attendance rate to ensure the efficient and effective working of the group.
- Make timely decisions and take action so as to not hold up the project.
  - Members shall be accountable to the Group for communicating and implementing Group decisions within their own service or sphere of influence
  - The Group shall link with appropriate local and national bodies in order to meet these terms of reference.

## **5. MEETINGS**

### *5.1 Regular and Special Meetings*

The \_\_\_\_\_ Working Group meetings shall be held a minimum of 4 times per year. A special or extraordinary meeting may be convened by:

- The Chairperson of the Group

### *5.2 Quorum*

40%

### *5.3 Decisions*

Decisions will be made by general consensus.

### *5.4 Lead*

Member of the main Meath CYPSC

## **6. FUNCTIONS:**

Refer to the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework, 2017.

## **7. SECRETARIAT**

The Coordinator of Meath CYPSC is responsible for:

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

- Typing up notes of proceedings and preparing minutes of meetings in co-operation with the Minute Secretary (the latter is to be alternated for every meeting);
- Sending out minutes of the \_\_\_\_\_ Working Group Meetings; and
- Distributing all correspondence relating to the affairs of the \_\_\_\_\_ Working Group

**Adopted by the \_\_\_\_\_ Working Group on \_\_\_\_\_ 2018**

## Appendix D: Feedback from Consultations with Young People

### Outcome 1: Consultations on the Health Action Plan

Consultations took place with young people from the Children's Advisory Committee of the ISPC and young people (2 Groups) from the Youth Advisory Panel of JIGSAW Meath. Please note that these consultations took place in Qtr. 3 2017 and do not include the eight actions that are covered by the Pobal Healthy Ireland Fund 2017. The latter was only incorporated into the CYPP in Qtr. 4 2017 after these consultations took place.

### Health Working Group – Youth Consultation Document Provided to Young People

## Meath Children's and Young People Services Committee (CYPSC)

### Health Working Group – Youth Consultation

**Purpose of the consultation:** To ask the young people their opinion of the plan and seek validation from them to implement the plan. Age group 13 to 18 years

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## Introduction

The CYPSC is a committee made up of organisations working together to improve the lives of young people. We are working on a plan that will look at key pieces of work that we hope will make a difference in young people's lives.

The plan covers the whole of Meath and the actions are broad rather than in specific areas. However there are two actions that relate to travellers and children in care/adopted respectively. We have based the plan on talking to young people and on various reports published.

- *We want to hear what you think of the plan*

### Outcome 1: Active and healthy with physical and mental well being

This section of the plan focuses on how you are active and healthy in your local and county area. Under this outcome "The aims are that all children and young people are physically healthy and able to make positive health choices, have good mental health, have a positive and respectful approach to relationships and sexual health, and that their lives are enriched through the enjoyment of play, recreation, sports, arts, culture and nature"(p5 Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures 2014-2020). We have named the following titles as being important:

1. ***Physical health and wellbeing***
2. ***Mental health and wellbeing***
3. ***Community health and wellbeing***

What we said we would do with these titles are:

1. ***Physical health and wellbeing***

Actions:

- To enhance physical health, mental health and wellbeing and to tackle obesity through physical activity
- To deliver health information on the key messages from Healthy Ireland on preventing obesity in childhood to the Traveller community in Co Meath
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

2. ***Mental health and wellbeing***

Actions:

- Develop a Local Suicide Prevention Plan
- To provide a Jigsaw Outreach Service in County Meath
- To support the on-going development of the post-primary schools based mental health intervention programme in Co. Meath
- To support the mental health needs of children in care and adopted in Louth Meath through improved collaboration between the HSE and Tusla
  - *What do you think of these actions?*
  - *Have you any other thoughts on how we might do this?*

3. ***Community health and wellbeing***

Action:

- Develop & implement a Regional Community Action on Alcohol Plan
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

## Findings from Consultations with Children's Advisory Committee of the ISPC

### Action 1:

To offer various activities in school that differ from the usual competitive sports such as gaelic and soccer. The CAC suggested that hiking, walking, etc would be a nice alternative for those that don't like competitive sports.

More PE classes should be part of the school curriculum.

PE classes should cater towards all the needs of the pupils, so perhaps asking them what they would like to take part in to encourage more students to participate.

The CAC also suggested that healthy food in school should be less expensive and more attractive to students. They stated that diet and food should be part of this action to tackle obesity.

### Action 2:

The CAC asked how the deliverance of the key messages are to be given to the travelling community. They asked if this was to be done through schools or the community.

The CAC suggested that fitness centres etc should be more accessible and perhaps communities could team up with fitness centres/community centres/schools and provide cheaper rates.

### Mental health and well-being

The CAC were happy with these actions and were intrigued to know how the outreach would work.

The CAC suggested that there should be counsellors in school that aren't teachers. They stated that it was difficult to talk to someone who teaches you a subject in school.

### Community health and well-being

The CAC stated that they felt that drugs were a bigger problem than alcohol.

They reported that they felt violence was a big issue in communities locally.

The CAC suggested that community events, sports days, kids discos would be good for community well-being.

## Findings from Consultations with the Youth Advisory Panel of JIGSAW Meath (Group 1)

### Physical Health and Wellbeing

#### What do you think of the idea?

- Good but expand more, not just to focus on obesity
- Not to focus on specifically physical but include mental

#### Other ideas

- Look at relationship with food
- Educate on more healthy eating
- How to cook on a budget
- Not rely on fast foods etc..
- Having sample food ideas
- Looking at new food pyramid
- Relationship between body and food

### Mental Health and Wellbeing

#### What do you think?

- Good that they are incorporating those in care
- Good that they recognise prevention as well as emergency strategies

#### Other Ideas

- Speak to people effected by those who are experiencing suicide (i.e. friends, family, students in school)
- How do people get to the stage/find out and educate coping mechanisms
- Educate on how to recognise someone who is in need and how to start a conversation – physical symptoms and mental
- Educate those in primary school

### Community Health and Wellbeing

#### What do you think?

- Good Idea – gives the knowledge of alcohol (General)



### Ideas

- Incorporate drugs as they are included in alcohol usage
- Telling people the effects of alcohol and limits
  - Sexual result, drunk driving
  - How long it takes to digest
  - Is a depressant in itself
  - Alcohol and medication

## **Findings from the Youth Advisory Panel of JIGSAW Meath (Group 2)**

### **Physical Health and Wellbeing**

- Physical health – Cater it to everyone, have different ways of exercise
- Focus more on other health conditions not just obesity eg. high blood pressure and eating disorders
- Educate travelling community in their own environment. Educate kids young, target their parents also

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

- Primary schools need to be informed also – but more relaxed approach, more prepared for secondary school
- Outreach service is a good idea
- Local suicide prevention plan – good idea – yearly report broken down for each county. How to make a plan to suit everyone
- Develop group for people in care/adopted – so they can talk to someone at their level and not assessing them
- Do something in their community

### **Community Health and Wellbeing**

- Target the county with the highest underage drinking – pilot the plan
- Do through SPHE – Get person 18+ who had a bad experience tell their story

## **Outcome 2: Consultations on the Learning and Development Action Plan**

Consultations took place with young people aged 11-12 from two 6<sup>th</sup> classes who attend primary schools in Navan, namely, Scoil Naomh Eoin and St. Oliver Plunkett NS. Please see below for findings following these consultations. Please note that these consultations took place in Qtr. 3 2017.

### **Action Plan for Meath Children and Young People's Services Committee**

*Findings from Universal Focus Group in two 6<sup>th</sup> Classes in Navan.*

*Schools Involved: Scoil Naomh Eoin and St. Oliver Plunkett NS.*

*Facilitated by: Majella Clarke (NSCP), Ciara Mc Govern (HSCL) and Ruth Dunne (HSCL).*

#### **Priority Area: Education and Training**

*Objective: Staying in School*

We explained to the classes that some children find it difficult to stay in school and progress to second level and that they need extra support from NSCP and HSCL.

Q. Why might some young people find it difficult to go to school or move to secondary school?

A. "They got held back", "They don't want to", "They don't get a place in secondary school", "They might be getting bullied", "That their parent's don't make them go to school", "They might find school difficult", and "Their friends could be in a different school".

Q. What work does Ms. Mc Govern/Ms. Dunne (HSCL) do in our school?

A. "Organise sports days/tours/events/lunches", "They help the principal", "Chat with our parents", "Run courses for parents", "Give's out uniforms/books", "Visits parents at home", "Helps families with little English", "Main figure in Yellow Flag Campaign in our school".

Both HSCL's explained their role in school, and congratulated the children on knowing so much about their jobs, they added that they help parents get children to school, help parents get organised for back to school, they monitor all the children's attendance in school.

Q. What work does Majella (NSCP) do in school?

A. "Help us get into Secondary School", "Runs Breakfast and Homework Club in school", "If you have any worries or problems you can talk to Majella", "Takes kids in groups and on their own to do work with them", "Helps children in school", "Majella gives us information about Secondary School", "She's kind of a guidance counsellor".

Majella explained her role in school and commended the children on their knowledge of her job. Majella added that she monitors the children's attendance in school, works closely with HSCL in school, takes children for Individual and Group Key Work Sessions, Links with other services young people are involved in e.g. NYPD etc. and that she helps children come to school.

Q. What helps you go to/stay in school?

A. "I get to learn", "Get to spend time with my friends", "School lunches", "SNA's", "Nowhere else to go", "I like school and my teacher", "Breakfast Club and Homework Club", "Get a good education so I can get a good job and have a better start in life".

Q. How do your parents help you stay/go to school?

A. "My parents encourage me to keep working hard", "They are good role models for me", "They make me my breakfast", "They help get me ready for school with my uniform and books", "They go to open nights and enrol me in secondary school".

Q. What activities in Scoil Naomh Eoin/St. Oliver Plunkett NS help you come to school?

A. "PE, all the different sports teams to get involved in", "running track and football pitch", "Sensory room and sensory garden", "Nice teachers", "Lunches", "After school activities like speech and drama and football training", "Someone to talk to if you're feeling worried".

### **Priority Area: Transitions**

*Objective: Primary to Post Primary*

Q. What and how do Majella and Ms Mc Govern/Ms. Dunne and your teacher help you to move to secondary school?

A. "Information on Open Nights", "Majella's checklist for our parents and the new leaflet on advice to parents", "We get to do the Transition Programme Mind the Gap before we go to Secondary School", "Teacher prepares us with our education to be ready for secondary school", "With the entrance exams", "They are always here to listen to us", "Our parents can contact them if they need help around secondary school".

### **Priority Area: Education (Blazing Saddles Cycle Initiative) – Linked to Outcome 1**

*Objective: Promotion of Physical Activity*

We briefly explained what the Blazing Saddles Initiative is to the children and all the children in both schools stated they would love the opportunity to complete the Blazing Saddles training course and they think all schools should get this opportunity.

Q. Why would it be good to complete a course like Blazing Saddles?

A. "Exercise makes you feel better", "You would feel safer cycling on the roads to school", "shortens time getting to school".

Q. What physical activities does our school do to promote you getting to school?

A. "Active schools week activities", "WOW – Walk on Wednesday", "Cycle to school".

### Outcome 3: Consultations on the Safety Action Plan

Consultations took place with 7 young people aged 13-17 from the Navan Garda Youth Diversion Project (NYPD). Please note that these consultations took place in Qtr. 3 2017.

#### Safety Working Group – Youth Consultation Document Provided to Young People

## Meath Children's and Young People Services Committee (CYPSC)

### Safety Working Group – Youth Consultation

**Purpose of the consultation:** To ask the young people their opinion of the plan and seek validation from them to implement the plan. Age group 13 to 18 years

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## Introduction

The CYPSC is a committee made up of organisations working together to improve the lives of young people. We are working on a plan that will look at key pieces of work that we hope will make a difference in young people's lives.

The plan covers the whole of Meath and the actions are broad rather than in specific areas. However there is one action set in two specific areas under social and leisure activities. We have based the plan on talking to young people and on various reports published.

- *We want to hear what you think of the plan*

### Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm

This section of the plan focuses on how you feel safe and protected from harm in your local and county area. "Children and young people themselves must be educated and made aware of dangers and how to protect themselves from harm and harmful or risky behaviour"(p75 Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures 2014-2020). We have named the following titles as being important:

1. *Young people engage in social and leisure activities*
2. *Increase awareness of young people and their parents in relation to cyber safety and bullying*
3. *Mandatory reporting under Children First*
4. *Assisting young mothers under 20 to access appropriate supports*

What we said we would do with these titles are:

**1. *Young people engage in social and leisure activities***

Action:

- Help young people and their families in developing their skills and achieve their potential through taking part in social activities. This will take the form of setting up regular sport and physical activity for up to 50 families in two marginalised areas in Navan, namely, Blackwater Park and Johnstown.
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

**2. *Increase awareness of young people and their parents in relation to cyber safety and bullying:***

Action:

- Improve the skills of young people and parents in keeping young people safe online. This will be achieved by providing appropriate information on what programmes are available that will help young people and parents in understanding cyber safety and bullying.
  - *What do you think of these actions?*
  - *Have you any other thoughts on how we might do this?*

**3. *Mandatory reporting under Children First:***

Action:

- If for any reason a professional or volunteer working with a young person has a worry or concern for you or another's safety or welfare they must report it to TUSLA. This section is to make young people aware of this obligation.
  - Were you aware of this obligation?
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

**4. *Assisting young mothers under 20 to access appropriate supports:***

Action:

- Set up a pilot programme to employ an Advocacy Support Worker to work alongside young mothers, review the needs of the child and young mother against the 5 National Outcomes (see below) and to help point them in the direction of the best service to meet these needs:

- i. Active and healthy with physical and mental well being
- ii. Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development
- iii. Safe and protected from harm
- iv. Have economic security and opportunity
- v. Connected, respected and contributing to their world

- What do you think of this idea?
- Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

## Findings from Consultations with the Young People from NYPD

### **Action 1: Young people engage in social and Leisure activities:**

#### ***What do you think of this Idea?***

I think it's a good idea because it would be a good way to make new friends.  
It's a good idea but is a bit far from other parts of town, Clogherboy, Claremont.  
Will encourage people to get out and get fitter.  
Good will encourage healthier living.  
Good idea because it will help keep people out of trouble.  
It's a good way to get interested in different activities.  
Think this is a good idea and will work especially for younger children.  
Good Idea.

#### ***Any other thoughts on how we might do this?***

Promote it through social media and in the schools.  
Promote it in schools.  
Advertise on social media to get the word out.  
Open a youth club in Johnstown.  
More free/cheaper activities and sports.  
Help with joining clubs, get to know the coach.  
Talk to residents in each area.  
Set up a Facebook page to promote.  
More youth clubs (special interest clubs) in these areas.  
Sports that all of the family can do.

### **2. Increase awareness of young people and their parents in relation to cyber safety and bullying:**

#### ***What do you think of this Idea?***

Good because not many young people have good knowledge about cyber bullying.  
Good idea.  
It's a good idea. Kids need more information about this.  
Parents need to be more up to date about technology and apps.

#### ***Any other thoughts on how we might do this?***

Information provided to parents at parent teacher meetings about courses.  
Give info to parents so they can talk to their children about it.  
Promote on Facebook and social media.  
Courses in school and youth clubs.  
Posters in school.  
Information nights for parents.  
Viral videos about online safety.

Classes to teach parents about technology.  
The TV programme "13 reasons why" shown in schools.

### **3. Mandatory reporting under Children First:**

#### ***Were you aware of mandatory reporting ?***

70% said they were aware of the obligation to report. Of this 70% all said it was as a result of being on the project and that it was explained to them at the beginning of their placement.

#### ***What do you think of this Idea?***

Kids should know more about this.  
Good idea as it is for the young people's own good.  
It's a good idea.  
Think they should have the person's permission to report.  
Good idea to make kids more aware of this.  
It's a good idea because you could be in a bad situation.

#### ***Any other thoughts on how we might do this?***

It should be part of a school subject like CSPE.  
Poster campaign In schools.  
Leaflets sent out to all homes about it.  
TV ad  
Posters or projects in schools and youth groups.

### **4. Assisting young mothers under 20 to access appropriate supports:**

#### ***What do you think of this Idea?***

This is a very good idea because they are young and might not know what to do.  
Good for young mums to have extra help.  
Good idea because they might not know where to get help.  
Brilliant Idea.  
Good idea some girls won't have support from their families so it would be good for them to have someone to turn to.

#### ***Any other thoughts on how we might do this?***

Talk to young girls in schools.  
Have a worker in the hospital for when young girls first go to hospital.  
Promote in Hospital.  
Speak to young girls from 3rd year onwards about this.  
Sex Education programme.  
Posters to promote helping them be safe.  
Get young girls who are already pregnant to join programme.  
GPs tell young mothers about the worker.



#### **Outcome 4: Consultations on the Economic Security Action Plan**

Consultations took place with 5 young people aged 13-18 from the travelling community who avail of youth supports from INVOLVE. Please note that these consultations took place in Qtr. 3 2017.

#### **Economic Security Working Group – Youth Consultation Document Provided to Young People**

### **Meath Children’s and Young People Services Committee (CYPSC)**

#### **Economic Security and Opportunity Working Group – Youth Consultation**

**Purpose of the consultation:** To ask the young people their opinion of the plan and seek validation from them to implement the plan. Age group 13 to 18 years

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#### **Introduction**

The CYPSC is a committee made up of organisations working together to improve the lives of young people. We are working on a plan that will look at key pieces of work that we hope will make a difference in young people’s lives.

The plan covers the whole of Meath and the actions are broad rather than in specific areas. However 2 actions are set in a specific area, namely, north county Meath. We have based the plan on talking to young people and on various reports published.

- *We want to hear what you think of the plan*

#### **Outcome 4: Have Economic Security and Opportunity**

This section of the plan focuses on young people’s work and progression in life in their local and county area. We have named the following titles as being important:

- 1. Youth Employment**
- 2. Impact of Poverty**
- 3. Marginalised Groups**

What we said we would do with these titles are:

### **1. Youth Employment**

Action:

- Develop a self-employment initiative for young people through promoting the Back To Work Education Allowance (BTWEA), providing one to one mentoring supports and Start Your Own Business (SYOB) training.
- Develop plans for youth at high risk unemployment through Young Futures: Exploring my Future Options.
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

### **2. Impact of Poverty:**

Action:

- To advocate for young people living in poverty\*
  - *What do you think of these actions?*
  - *Have you any other thoughts on how we might do this?*

\* Protecting children and young people from poverty and social exclusion is about ensuring that they have adequate income and resources, are living in decent houses, have access to quality affordable food, good quality education and healthcare, and have the opportunities necessary to develop and participate as equals in society (Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures; The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020)

### **3. Marginalised Groups:**

Action:

- To develop a youth community farm in Carnaross for young people in the travelling community.
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

## Economic Security and Opportunity Working Group Action Plan – Youth Consultation Feedback from Young People in INVOLVE

### **Youth Employment.**

#### **How?**

- Have focus groups to talk about it.
- Planning.
- Funding.
- Speak at schools and youth clubs about this programme.

#### **Why is it a good idea?**

- You don't need to ask your parents for money/ independence.
- To keep young people off the street.
- Education & training should be free if you are working.
- Work Experience.
- You get paid to do training programmes.

### **Impact of Poverty.**

#### **How?**

- Meet policy makers and politicians.
- Planning with youth led committees.
- Discussion groups.

#### **Why is it a good idea?**

- Young people can't vote so feel powerless in decision making.
- To have a voice.
- To get involved.
- To learn new things.
- Everyone will be equal.
- To inform people.

### **Marginalised Groups.**

#### **Carnaross Youth Farm Project.**

#### **How?**

- Fundraisers & funding.
- Advertisement.
- Planning meeting with young people, planners and main organisation.

#### **Why is it a good idea?**

- Employment.
- To bring people of the same age and group together.
- To bring the community together.
- To learn how to take care of animals.
- To learn new skills.
- It will keep people off the streets.
- To give young people work experience.
- Let general public meet young Travellers in a positive way.

### **Outcome 5: Consultations on the Connected and Respected Action Plan**

Consultations took place with 5 young people aged 13-18 whose families avail of supports from the Trim FRC. Please note that these consultations took place in Qtr. 3 2017.

[Connected and Respected Working Group – Youth Consultation Document Provided to Young People](#)

## **Meath Children's and Young People Services Committee (CYPSC)**

### **Connected and Respected Working Group – Youth Consultation**

**Purpose of the consultation:** To ask the young people their opinion of the plan and seek validation from them to implement the plan. Age group 13 to 18 years

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## **Introduction**

The CYPSC is a committee made up of organisations working together to improve the lives of young people. We are working on a plan that will look at key pieces of work that we hope will make a difference in young people's lives.

The plan covers the whole of Meath and the actions are broad rather than in specific areas. However there are 2 actions set in a specific area under transport. We have based the plan on talking to young people and on various reports published.

- *We want to hear what you think of the plan*

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

This section of the plan focuses on how you feel connected to your local and county area. We have named the following titles as being important:

- 1. Young people aware of services and facilities***
- 2. Young people's voice is heard and they are listened to***
- 3. Youth spaces in Meath***
- 4. Transport for young people***

What we said we would do with these titles are:

### **1. Young people aware of services and facilities**

Action:

- Develop a communication action strategy so that we can get information to young people of what is available. That means informing ourselves of the best ways to get information out. We are going to talk to groups like Spun Out for advice on how to do this.
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

### **2. Young People's voice:**

Action:

- Help young people to be able to have confidence to take part in CYPSC meetings/ consultations
- Provide examples of good practice at listening to young people to all the different services in Meath and hope they will use them in their own service
- To talk to groups working in and young people living in Mosney. To hear what they have to say about living in Mosney; how they would like to connect with the community and be able to take part in Comhairle na nÓg
- To help "young people in care" be part of Comhairle na nÓg
- Consult with LGBT young people on their needs and help set up services in places where there is no support
  - *What do you think of these actions?*
  - *Have you any other thoughts on how we might do this?*

### **3. Youth spaces:**

Action:

- Find out where youth spaces are needed in rural Meath and support youth groups and young people to make the council aware of their needs
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

**4. Transport:**Action:

- Rural: Get Flexibus to put a service in place for young people from Drumconrath to travel between different towns, i.e. deciding on a route based on where young people want to go.
- Urban: To run a pilot school transport scheme to bring young people from Windtown in Navan to Beaufort school. Also to bring primary school children from the Slane Road to Schools in Windtown. The scheme will be run during school term.
  - What do you think of this idea?
  - Have you any other ideas on how we might do this?

**Findings from Consultations with the Young People from Trim FRC**

Please note that responses are in red. \*5 young people participated in the consultation on the 19th September 2017

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**1. Young people aware of services and facilities**

- \* Inform Adults - A Lot of information is screened by parents, if parents don't understand they won't let the young people reach out
- \* Young people will know where to seek help if needed, if you can put flyers in shops, stores, schools, youth reads.
- \* Google is enough you don't need to do anything on this
- \* Most young people would get information from social media and google they might not feel comfortable talking about it so they try to solve their situation out themselves.

**2. Young People's voice:**

- \* It's all good ideas but they should have community clubs for young people in care to share what they think
- \* Language Barriers - Set up a way that they can better their English without having to take it as a subject and being pressured by exams
- \* i think these are good but you need to tell more people about it so more people join in and you can better hear them
- \* I don't know what to say

**3. Youth spaces:**

- \* It's a great idea, i don't really know what to say
- \* I think more youth spaces should be set up in rural areas so they can make friends and have a place to hang out

- \* When you find spaces - more freedom, no pressure, provide wifi - no pressure to socialise but the option to socialise
- \* I think it would be good if young people had a place to hang out so they don't have to wander around town

**4. Transport:**

- \* Students e.g. primary, secondary and college may have no transport so they cannot help but be absent
- \* If possible more buses, young people in areas such as Trim, Kilbride etc have no transport
- \* I think the idea is good that young people should have a bus for them to bring them to different towns
- \* Yes I think it's a good idea because some people miss their bus and it would be handy if there was an extra bus so they won't be late for school
- \* I think having transport between towns is a great idea but i don't have any other ideas sorry



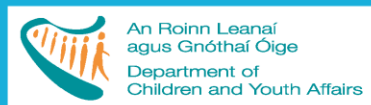
**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES**

**Meath**



**[www.familysupportmeath.ie](http://www.familysupportmeath.ie)**

**Working together to improve  
the lives of children, young  
people and families**



An Roinn Leanaí  
agus Gnóthaí Óige  
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