

## Introduction

This summary report prepared for the attention of the CYPSC SG provides a snapshot of local and national CYPSC implementation in 2015; with a local emphasis on the period June to December 2015 drawn from 17 CYPSC progress reports. It combines high level summaries of the work of local CYPSC and work at national level through the National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People's Services Committees.

There are now twenty-three committees established or in formation\* as detailed in Table 1.

**Table 1 Children and Young People's Services Committees as at December 2015**

Carlow	Cavan Monaghan	Cork	Donegal	Dublin City North	Dublin City South
Fingal	Galway	Kerry	Kildare	Kilkenny*	Limerick
Longford Westmeath	Mayo	Meath	Roscommon	Sligo Leitrim	South Dublin
Tipperary	Waterford	Wexford	Wicklow		

## Overview of local CYPSC activities in Q3 & Q4 2015

The presentation of this Update does not take into account the size, depth or volume of activity undertaken by each CYPSC under each outcome. In reporting on their work across the [five national outcomes](#), there are a range of interpretations by local CYPSC of what constitutes outcome 1 work or outcome 2 work and so on.

**Outcome 1 Active & Healthy:** The greatest number of local CYPSC activities are aligned to outcome 1, in particular responding to Child and Youth Mental Health E.G. an addiction and mental health interagency group established in North Fingal, Co. Dublin.

**All Outcomes:** This is the next highest classification of activity by local CYPSC with activity concerning the development of three-year Children and Young People's Plans and specific tasks within this process such as Directories of Services, Consultations and Needs Analyses reported by local CYPSC.

**Outcome 2 Learning & Development** and **Outcome 3 Safe & Protected:** CYPSC reports in this period indicate an equal amount of activity under these two outcomes including for example Transition from pre-school to primary school programmes and support for Tusla Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) programme of work.

**Outcome 5 Connected & respected:** The participation of children and young people in decision-making through targeted work with the 'seldom heard' and consultations are prominent responses reported under this outcome.

**Outcome 4 Economic Security:** Just one CYPSC reported specific activity under outcome four i.e. the establishment of a Youth Unemployment Steering Group in County Kildare.

## Children and Young People's Plans

CYPSC develop an evidence informed three year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). Table 2 provides a current overview of CYPP development across CYPSC. Plans are submitted to the National Co-ordinator on behalf of DCYA and undergo a Quality Assurance process with a Review Group comprising of DCYA, Tusla and the Centre for Effective Services (CES). The Review Group analyse plans applying a Quality Assurance (QA) framework.

**Table 2. Overview of CYPP development**

No. CYPSC	Live Plans	Submitted for QA	Plans in development	Delayed
23	7	2	8	6

## Local Community Development Committee Engagement

- Four CYPSC are represented on a Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), 13 CYPSC are not.
- Thirteen CYPSC did input to the development of the LCDC's Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), 2 did not input to LECP development and 2 CYPSC did not provide information on this matter.
- The level of "input" to LECP development varies widely across the country ranging from a CYPSC's Children and Young People's Plan being accepted as the children and young people section of the LECP, to the CYPSC being included in a local consultation process for the LECP.
- **It is worth noting therefore that, in the main, there is a recognition by LCDC of CYPSC.**

## Membership

Table 3 provides an overview of CYPSC membership across the range of CYPSC stakeholder organisations and agencies. While membership is strong there are clear areas for development with regard to Young Person nominees, Department of Social Protection (DSP), Third Level institutions, the National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS) and post-primary school management (NAPD). Other membership issues are raised later in this Update.

Tusla	Local Authority	HSE	ETB	Garda	Young Person	Probation Service	Total
63	37	58	21	24	1	18	
Social inclusion / C&V sector	IPPEN	NAPD	NEPS	CCC	DSP	Third Level	
106	22	12	2	24	2	8	398

## National activity 2015

The National Co-ordinator for CYPSC's role involves leading and implementation of the strategic plan for CYPSC. Some headline activity during 2015 includes:

- Management of [www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie) which went live mid-January 2015. Functionality of [www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie) was extended to include a Members Log-in section dedicated to supporting CYPSC Co-ordinators with resources and knowledge exchange.
- **Implementation Workshop:** *CYPSC How well are you implementing?* February, 59 pax across 21 CYPSC.
- **CYPSC National Seminar** *Achieving together for children and young people*, June. 149 pax from 20 CYPSC and other stakeholders plus Seminar Report.
- **CYPSC Co-ordinators National Network:** Three CYPSC Co-ordinators' National Network meetings were organised and facilitated.
- **Quality Assurance** undertaken for six CYPSC Children and Young People's Plans.
- **Resourcing** of CYPSC Co-ordinator post: Agreement reached to secure posts within Tusla the Child and Family Agency and standardise as a full-time post. National recruitment process commenced.
- Consolidation of the national **CYPSC Steering Group**. Planning, development and delivery of a CYPSC SG Action Planning Workshop in December 2015.

## Challenges

- CYPSC membership continues to be cited by local CYPSC as challenging. The nature of this spans
  - Varying engagement in different parts of the country by Local Authority, Department of Social Protection, National Educational Psychological Service, Education sector and Educational Welfare Service for varying reasons including paucity of available personnel and low attendance.
  - Suitability of the representative from a stakeholder agency E.G. seniority, authority and role.
- Absence of seed funding for CYPSC to enable them to leverage investment from member organisations or to instigate quick wins or small scale activity to test ideas and approaches or upskill staff.