OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN NATIONAL DATA & INFORMATION HUB PROJECT

TUSLA and the Department of Children & Youth Affairs (DCYA) are announcing the establishment of a new project, Outcomes for Children, National Data & Information Hub.

TUSLA is the dedicated State Agency with responsibility for improving the wellbeing and outcomes for children in Ireland, operating under the Child & Family Act 2013 and within the policy framework developed by DCYA.

TUSLA requires optimum data management, utilising reliable data analytics tools to ensure effective planning of services for children.

This project will ensure that TUSLA can better fulfil its responsibilities by establishing state of the art data platforms through which it can plan its services.

Importantly, partners within the Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) [1] can access and use these platforms for the development of their respective priorities and plans.

Initially, the project is being piloted with eleven CYPSC[2] in the first year, with the aim of rolling it out across all CYPSC areas in subsequent years.
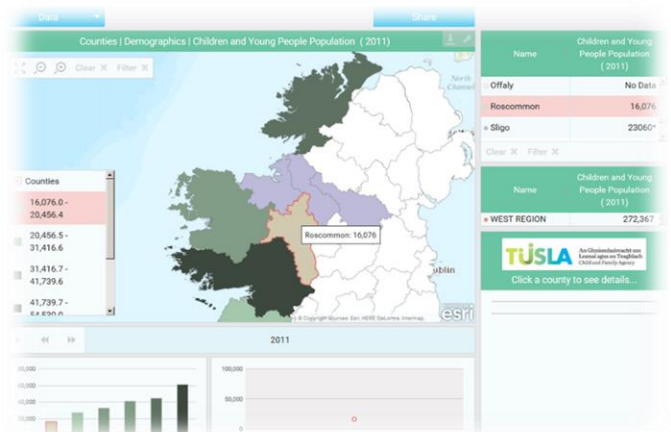
This project will involve the building of an interactive area based geo mapping system to provide information for policy makers, service providers, TUSLA management, practitioners, information managers and local communities so that planning and delivery of services are informed by the best available data.

This project will involve training and support for TUSLA and relevant CYPSC personnel during all phases of the project including the operation of a geo mapping system, data interpretation, trend analysis and specific training in Results Based Accountability (RBA).

This project therefore offers a sustainable opportunity to provide a national standardised technical solution for mapping outcomes, indicators and services for children and young people.

The aims of the Outcomes for Children National Data and Information Hub project are to:

- Incrementally build a centralised data hub that will host a wide range of published data from various agencies.
- Agree a set of indicators referencing the recently developed national set of indicators (DCYA), framed against the five national Outcomes BOBF[3].
- Use the validated and quality assured datasets from the agencies to populate the agreed indicator set.
- Overlay the indicators with additional information as required for planning purposes e.g. child population overlayed with child health indicators and / or child health service location details.
- Develop robust data trend analysis and information dissemination capacity at area, regional and national levels to effectively underpin integrated multi-agency children's services planning.
- Produce area specific Report Cards and / or Dashboards.
- Ensure the system supports the operational planning of TUSLA at area, regional and national levels.
- Train and support both TUSLA personnel and relevant CYPSC partners at national and local level in the use and application of the system to underpin and optimise children's services planning.
- Inform the enhancement of both quantitative and qualitative data collection to support TUSLA and DCYA research agendas and meet corporate objectives regarding capacity as a learning organisation.

For more information please contact Amy Mulvihill
amy.mulvihill@tusla.ie

---

[1] CYPSC are county-level committees that bring together the main statutory, community and voluntary providers of services to children and young people. See: www.cypsc.ie

[2] Sligo/Leitrim, Donegal, Waterford, Wexford, Kildare, Wicklow, South Dublin, Dublin City South, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, Dublin City North

[3] Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures National Policy Framework for Children & Young People (DCYA, 2015)