



# Monaghan Children and Young People's Services Committee



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

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

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Copies of this plan are available on: [www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/monaghan.2016.html](http://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/monaghan.2016.html)

## Foreword

As Chairperson of the Monaghan Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) it is with a great sense of achievement to arrive at the publication of our first Children and Young People's Plan for the county. The aim of the plan is to prioritise actions over the coming three years which will foster continuous collaboration between agencies on a range of actions aimed at improving outcomes for children and young people.

The process of developing the plan has led to a greater understanding of how we can work together on joint initiatives resulting in a shared understanding of the need for services to change in order to meet the complex needs of families and communities.

Regular committee meetings and lively discussions have strengthened relationships between key stakeholders across many sectors.

We continue to plan, and do in our daily roles, but the Children and Young People's Services Committee has allowed us the space to reflect on what we are doing, and analyse where we need to target interventions, and why. We continue to learn from each other and I would like to thank the CYPSC Committee and CYPSC subgroup members past and present for their insight, time, and dedication to progressing this plan and actions to date.

*"Real change and transformation takes place when the human dimensions of the change process are well managed in tandem with a meaningful and realistic plan."*

(Kotter,1995)<sup>1</sup>

*A. W.*

Interim Area Manager - Tusla Cavan and Monaghan  
Chair, Monaghan Children and Young People's Services Committee

June 7<sup>th</sup> 2019

With thanks to G.L. as Area Manager 2018

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<sup>1</sup> Kotter, J.P., 1995. Leading Change. Massachusetts Harvard Business Review

## Section 1: Introduction

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

CYPSC work towards the five national outcomes for children and young people in Ireland.

These outcomes 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**

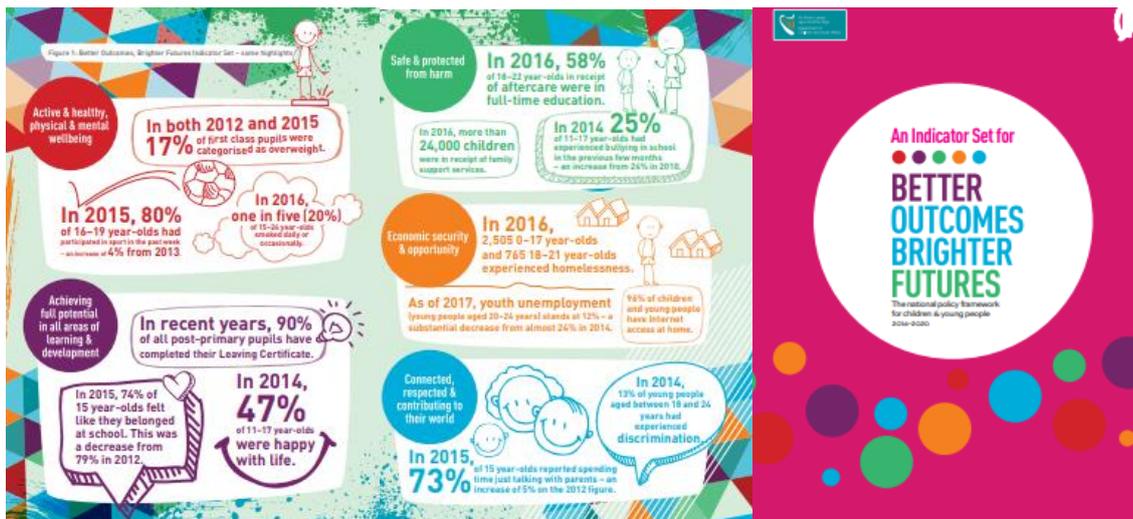


Figure 1 Better Outcomes Brighter Futures National indicators <sup>2</sup>

An indicator set was developed nationally to compile statistics around each subgroup so that individual CYPSC would have a baseline in relation to the five outcomes for children. This can be used as a measurement of where children and young people are nationally and compare this to statistics and trends within their own counties

<sup>2</sup> An Indicator Set for : Better Outcomes Brighter Futures Dept of Children and Youth Affairs, (2014-2020)

## 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 CYPSC have increased incrementally in number and are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years, in every county in Ireland.

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

*Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014 – 2020*<sup>3</sup> 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 Monaghan

Monaghan CYPSC started in 2013 as a joint Monaghan/Cavan CYPSC. The meetings became more regular in 2014 with planning days organised between each county. The Committee agreed that they had an advocacy role and that in certain situations this advocacy role would be strengthened by working regionally or indeed nationally with other Children Services' Committees. With the support of a Tusla staff member acting as a coordinator and an outside facilitator certain actions were identified and the following subgroups were formed in late 2014

- Child Services Committee Development Group
- Prevention, Partnership & Family Support / Early Intervention (including Parenting, Education and Community Development).
- Improved co-ordination for Vulnerable Youth

Further developments in 2016 led to a dedicated CYPSC Coordinator appointed and a needs analysis was conducted in both counties as part of the development of a plan. Many of the statutory services and voluntary bodies, for example, Tusla, the Child and Family Agency, and Cavan Monaghan Educational and Training board, Youth Work Ireland Foróige work across both counties and so it seemed appropriate that a joint approach to CYPSC planning would be appropriate. It soon became apparent over the course of the analysis that there were different needs and priorities emerging for each county and so a decision was made to separate as individual CYPSC in early 2017 resulting in an individual CYPSC being set up for Cavan and Monaghan. For example there was no support in Cavan for young members of the LGBTI community and so this was identified as a high priority for Cavan. In Monaghan there were some support groups in existence and other issues such as promoting resilience in young people and looking at the needs of young people not in education

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<sup>3</sup> Department of Children and Youth Affairs.(2014-2020) *Better Outcomes Brighter Futures* : Stationary House. Dublin

employment or training (NEETS) took precedence. Cross county CYPSC Meetings would also be protracted and involve a wide membership if held jointly as not every agency has a dual role across both counties. While some of the data is collected in the Cavan Monaghan region in a combined cross county format every effort has been taken to present findings and statistics solely for Monaghan in as far as is possible.

While the work of developing a plan was underway, the CYPSC identified a number of key priorities for development in 2017 and interagency sub-groups were formed to develop actions in a number of areas:

1. Physical and Mental Well-being subgroup (formed 2018)
2. Building Resilience aligned to Learning and Development (2019)
3. Safe and Secure
4. NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training)

It is the intention of the Monaghan CYPSC that during 2019 existing sub-groups will be aligned and new groups formed to action goals from the 5 National Outcomes identified in the Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020:

- **Outcome 1: Active and Healthy; Physical and Mental Well-being**
- **Outcome 2: Achieving in all Areas of Learning & Development**
- **Outcome 3: Safe & Protected from Harm**
- **Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity**
- **Outcome 5: Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World**
- Goal 1: Parenting Support in Co. Monaghan
- Goal 2: Cultivating collaboration between agencies
- Goal 3: supporting

The CYPSC Co-ordinator has also been involved in helping support the work of a number of other interagency forums and initiatives in the county.

These include:

- Assisting the development and implementation of a community response to suicide protocol and supporting the Connecting for Life Strategy
- Member of the Monaghan Drugs & Alcohol Forum
- Member of the Monaghan Youth Network
- Member of working group organising events and seminars for public awareness week in Cavan and Monaghan
- Member of Parenting Monaghan Committee
- Member of the Monaghan County Childcare (MCCC) board
- Member of the National Childhood Network's steering group for the new Life Start: The Growing Child Initiative
- Member of the Healthy Monaghan Wellbeing committee
- Member of the Joint Policing and Safe Socialising Committee

### 1.2.1

Monaghan CYPSC would like to thank the following past members for their input and support in the development of this plan; Tom Cahill, Sharon Casey and Marty Keeney who were the preceding CYPSC Coordinators and Gerry Lowry former Area manager for Cavan and Monaghan who all contributed greatly to the development of the current CYPSC committee, and this plan. Thank you to Paula Long; National Educational Psychological Service, and Ruth Daly, who conducted the needs analysis, and drafted a large part of this 3 year plan.



## Who we are

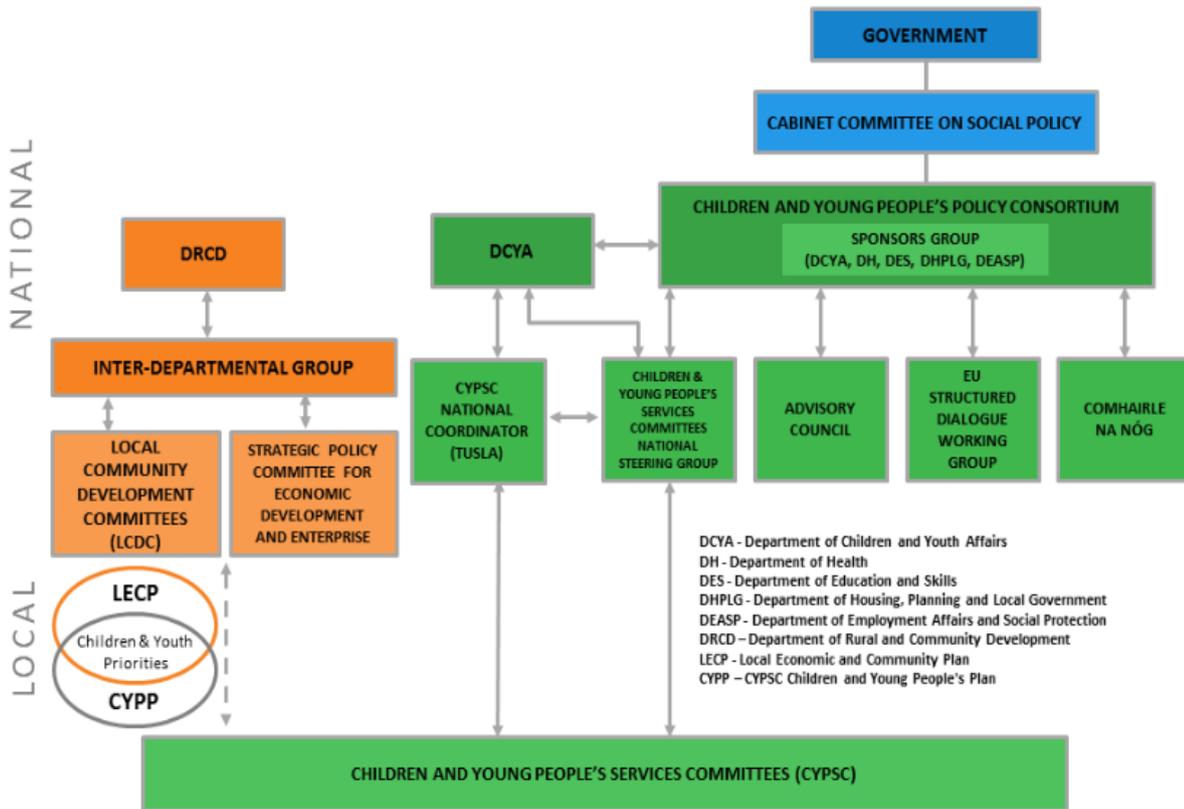
The Monaghan CYPSC comprises the following members:

ORGANISATION	REPRESENTATIVE
CHAIR: Tusla, the Child and Family Agency	Aidan Waterstone Interim Area manager
DEPUTY CHAIR: Monaghan County Council	Fintan McPhillips
Irish Primary Principal's Network	Bernie Farrell
National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals	Patrick McArdle
Department of Social Protection	Pat Dolan
Foroige	Colin McAree
An Garda Siochana	Sgt Valerie Gahan
Health Service Executive	Cathal Hand
Irish Society for the protection of Cruelty to Children	Charlene Duff
Monaghan Institute	Dr. Fiona McGrath
Probation Service	Clive Stone
Monaghan County Childcare Committee	Breda McKenna
Monaghan Integrated	Ger Callan
Family Resource Centre	Packie Kelly
National Educational Psychological Services	Dr. Irene Loughran
16. Young Person (18-24)	Erin Lynagh
17.Cavan & Monaghan Educational and Training Board	Maureen McIntyre
Youth Work Ireland Cavan Monaghan	Caolan Faux
Tusla Prevention Partnership and Family Support	Cathal Grant
North East Drugs & Alcohol Forum	Lisa Gavillet/ Andy Ogle
National Childhood Network	Maureen Mc Dermott/Denise Mc Cormilla
Health Service Executive	Angela Mc Elroy
Health Service Executive	Margaret Rafferty
Monaghan Education Centre	David Mc Cague
Comhairle Na nÓg Representative	Katie Boyle
Comhairle Na nÓg Representative	Nadine O'Reilly

*Table 1 Membership of Monaghan CYPSC 2019*

The following diagram illustrates how Monaghan CYPSC fits within the local and national structures of government

Figure 2. Governance Structures and CYPSC



## Achievements to date

The initial areas of work Monaghan CYPSC has been engaged in include:

- Working with National Childhood Network and a number of pre-school services in the county to implement the “Tuning into children” project so as to better hear the voice of pre-school children during the CYPSC consultations.
- Focusing on children and young people’s safety through the creation of a Safe and Secure Sub Group
- Development of strategic vision on supports for young people aged 16-24 who are identified as NEET (Not in Education Employment or Training) at county wide level
- Supporting the strategic plan of the Parenting Monaghan committee
- Through the creation of a safe socialising committee new safety measures are in place for young people and a “discussing the disco” leaflet has been devised for parents, and there has been a reduction in the number of under 18s presenting at discos under the influence of alcohol
- Supporting the publication of a youth led booklet the A-Z of LGBT+
- The launch of a building resilience animated video resource for primary schools
- Conducting a needs analysis of the County and a comprehensive mapping of services and activities for young people
- Cultivating Collaboration event which brought all subgroups and CYPSC members together to develop a shared understanding of collaboration and interagency working.
- The development of a [www.cavanmonaghanservices.ie](http://www.cavanmonaghanservices.ie) website to list a range of supports and services in both counties.

There have been challenges in extrapolating information for Monaghan alone as many services are jointly managed on a Cavan /Monaghan basis and it as seen as one delivery area in terms of gathering statistics. In terms of finalising the Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) it has been at times challenging to finalise two plans, whilst coordinating two separate CYPSC, and sets of subgroups, but in April 2019 a Cavan CYPSC coordinator was appointed. Following publication of the Cavan and Monaghan CYPPs each coordinator will be able to focus on their respective newly developed Children and Young People’s Plan.

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

This Monaghan CYPSC Plan has been developed over the period of Jan 2016- April 2019. The preceding CYPSC co-ordinator engaged the services of an external consultant to aid the process of gathering data - both primary and secondary for the plan, collating and analysing the data and writing up the outline plan. This work included:

- Review of the draft plan collated by the CYPSC in its pilot CYPP phase in 2014-15.
- A review of pertinent reports and strategies related to the county and related to youth in general;
- Analysis of the new Census 2016 data
- Review of previous consultations with youth undertaken in the county in the past 3 years
- A review of minutes from CYPSC sub-group meetings
- Consultations with pre-school, primary and second level children and young people
- Consultations with key Stakeholders from the county were held
- A Parents on-line survey was conducted
- Consultations with niche target groups including disability and young people from the LGBTII+ community
- An audit of services in Co. Monaghan was carried out and a facilitator was engaged in 2016 to initiate the process of developing objectives and actions for the plan. Over the course of 2018-19 the plan has been revised and amended with suggestions and input from the National Quality Review Group and the ever evolving need to respond to issues emerging on the ground

## SECTION 2: PROFILE OF CO. MONAGHAN

### 2.1 Socio-demographic profile of Co. Monaghan



Map 1. Co Monaghan Municipal Districts; Courtesy of Monaghan County Council.



Map 2: Border Region depicting Monaghan's boundaries with Northern Ireland

Co Monaghan is situated in the province of Ulster and borders Fermanagh to the west, Armagh to the south and Tyrone to the north. In addition, Co. Louth borders Monaghan to the southeast, Meath to the south, and Cavan to the southwest. Monaghan's population based on the 2016 Census is 61,386. This represents an increase of 903 people or 1.5 % since the 2011 population of 60,483. The border came into existence in 1922. This 'line' was established as interim solution to 'the Irish problem', intended by London as provisional demarcation for the partition of the island (under the Government of Ireland Act, 1920). Almost 100 years later many informal reciprocal arrangements with trading; health care and business have grown and as reported on the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement there are up to 30,000 crossing all along the border region on a daily basis.<sup>3</sup>

With the decision of the United Kingdom to leave the European Union in 2018 now referred to as (Brexit) there is much uncertainty on how this will impact on areas such as:

- Free trade and movement across the border
- Availability of health care as many people from Co. Armagh use Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan as their nearest town for GP and out of hours services.
- Delays on the borders to get to appointments etc.
- Cross border response to road traffic accidents
- Uncertainty of cross border initiatives for example the partnership of the Cooperation and Working Together (CAWT) partnership which is supported through E.U. Interreg funding to tackle health inequalities around the border hinterland.

One such development through CAWT is the Ear/Nose/Throat (ENT) programme in Cavan, Monaghan and Fermanagh which operates with the cross-border co-operation, providing services to patients on both sides. Counties Cavan and Monaghan are part of the Community Healthcare Organisation 1 area (CHO1) and there are many similarities between population and rural isolation between the two counties. All babies are now born in Cavan General Hospital since the maternity ward closed in Monaghan hospital in 2001 which is approximately one hour away from the North Monaghan region. The Central statistical office provides a snapshot below of some of the general information on Monaghan town and its environs.

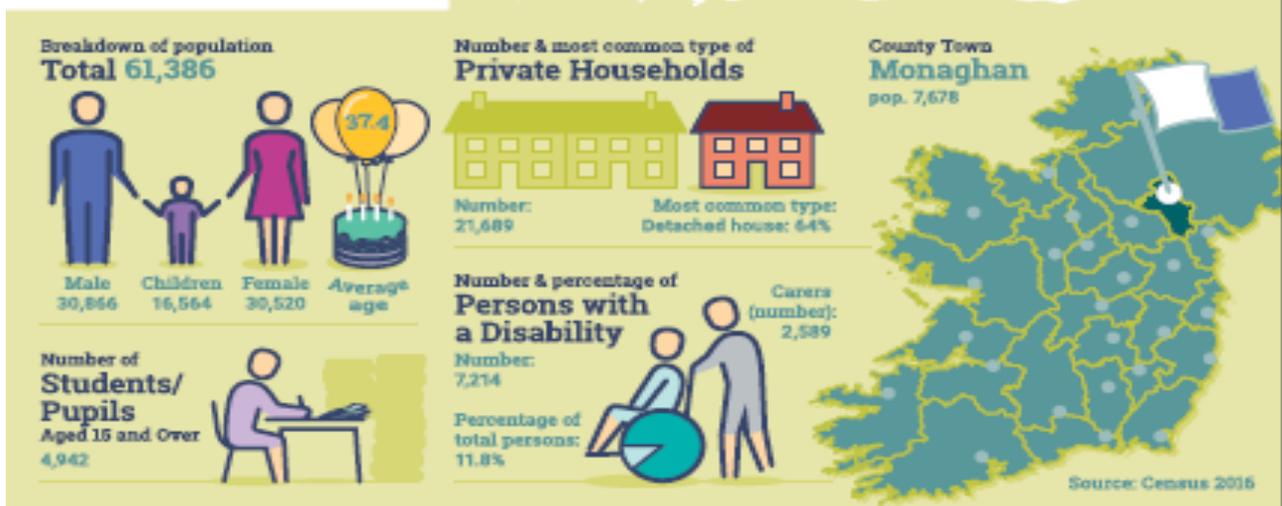


Figure 3 Snapshot of small area population statistics in Monaghan by the Central Statistics Office.

### 2.1.1 Population

According to the latest Census 2016 figures, the population of Co. Monaghan has reached 61,386, a very small increase of 1.5% (903) on 2011. Less than **one third (29.3%)**, of the county’s population lives in towns with a population of more than 1,500 people. This has resulted in a very high rural dispersion of the remaining two thirds of the population. This has significant implications for the delivery of all types of services across the county.

In relation to the proportion of children and young people in the county, there are a total of 20,062 (34.1% of the total population) children and young people under the age of 24, marginally higher than the state level of 33.2%, as illustrated in the table below:

Age group	Number	% of county population	State
0-5 years	5,640	9.2%	7.2%
6-12 years	6,628	10.8%	10.0%
13-17 years	3,408	5.6%	6.5%
18-24 years	4,386	7.1%	8.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,062</b>	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>33.2%</b>

Table 2 Population of Children and Young People in Community Health Organisation CHO Area 1 (2016<sup>4</sup>)

According to the Community Healthcare Healthy Ireland Implementation plan the highest proportion of 0-4-year olds reside in Monaghan with 7.6% of the population under 4 against the national figure of 7%.

<sup>4</sup> SOURCE: Central Statistics Office (CSO), 2016 Population Census – Small Area Population Statistics at <https://www.cso.ie/en/census/census2016reports/census2016smallareapopulationstatistics/>

The birth rate in Co. Monaghan at 13.6 per 1,000 is in line with the State figure of 13.7 per 1,000. Monaghan 2016	Number	Rate per 1000	State
<b>Births registered</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>13.6%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>
<b>Infant (children under 1 year) mortality</b>	1	1.3%	3.3%
<b>Neonatal (infants under 28 days) mortality</b>	1	1.3%	2.4%

Table 3 Information on birth rate and Infant mortality statistics for Monaghan; Source (CSO 2016)

The figures above are from the 2106 Census however in 2017 the infant mortality rate in Monaghan was the highest in the country (**6.2 /1,000** vs **2.8/1,000** nationally. This has reduced to 5.3/1,000 compared to 3.5/1000 for the state in 2018. Further analysis will be carried out to understand the high rate in 2017 and to monitor the figures on an annual basis with a view to further reducing the infant mortality rate in Monaghan. Co. Monaghan is made up of 70 electoral districts (EDs) of which 25 experienced a decrease in population, while 43 EDs illustrated a slight population increase. The town which has experienced the biggest population increase over the past 10 years is Carrickmacross, which has increased by 26.6%. The reason for the increase is that the town is situated 90-100 km from Dublin and is considered to be commutable distance to Dublin for people working there who could not afford to purchase property in Dublin and its immediate environs. Ballybay on the other hand a more rural town has seen a decline of 28.9% of population.

Electoral Districts of main Co. Monaghan towns	% change of population 2006-2016
<b>Carrickmacross Rural</b>	+26.6%
<b>Monaghan Urban</b>	+11.6%
<b>Ballybay Rural</b>	+11.2%
<b>Monaghan Rural</b>	+10.0%
<b>Clones Rural</b>	+7.3%
<b>Carrickmacross Urban</b>	+5.7%
<b>Castleblayney Urban</b>	-4.0%
<b>Castleblayney Rural</b>	-7.15%
<b>Clones Urban</b>	-7.2%
<b>Ballybay Urban</b>	-28.9%

Table 4 Monaghan Electoral districts; Source: Census 2016

### 2.1.2 Families

Just over half of the population of adults (51.5%) are categorised as single, with almost a further 40% married. A total of 8.9% are separated, divorced or widowed.

There are 15,972 families in Co. Monaghan of which 73% (11,698) are families with children.

Family description	Number	% of county population
<b>No children</b>	4,274	26.9%
<b>1 child</b>	4,408	27.6%
<b>2 children</b>	3,873	24.2%
<b>3 children</b>	2,256	14.1%
<b>4 children</b>	851	5.3%
<b>5+ children</b>	310	1.9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,972</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 5 Number of children in Families; Source CSO 2016

A total of 14.4% (2,298) are families headed by a single mother, and a further 2.9% (458) are headed by a single father, that's a total of 17.3% single parent households compared to 18.0% for the State.

### 2.1.3 Nationality

In the Census 2016, a total of 12.2% of the population of Co. Monaghan indicated that they are of a nationality other than Irish, which is fairly close to the State average of 13.0%. However, looking at this data for individual EDs presents a very different picture. A total of 11 EDs have a higher than State average of newcomer families with 13.0% of residents from other countries living there, which suggests that 40.1% of the total population of Co. Monaghan is living in areas with an above average diversity of population. The table below illustrates the EDs in Monaghan which demonstrate the highest proportion of residents who are originally from another country.

ED name	% of people from ethnic minorities
Monaghan Urban	45.7%
Castleblayney	27.8%
Clones Urban	26.2%
Carrickmacross Urban	24.7%
Monaghan Rural	22.9%
Proportion of the population living in EDs with higher than the national average number of people from ethnic minorities.	40.1% (11 EDs)
<b>Co. Monaghan</b>	<b>12.2%</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>13.0%</b>

Table 6: Towns with higher than average numbers of residents from other countries; Source CSO 2016

The largest numbers of newcomer families come from Lithuania (2,500 people), other EU 27 (1,455), the UK (995) and Poland (982). Co. Monaghan town features in the top ten towns in Ireland which have the highest proportion of people from ethnic minorities and coming in at fifth place.

Town	County	Number of residents	% of non-Irish nationals	Number of non-Irish nationals	The largest non-Irish group (number)
Ballyhaunis	Mayo	2,383	39.5	941	Polish - 159
Edgeworthstown	Longford	2,062	32.3	667	Polish - 163
Ballymahon	Longford	1,866	32.1	599	Polish - 273
Ballyjamesduff	Cavan	2,689	30.2	812	Polish - 311
<b>Monaghan Town</b>	<b>Monaghan</b>	<b>7,597</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>2,287</b>	<b>Lithuanian - 1,004</b>
Saggart	Dublin	3,145	28.9	909	Polish - 326
Longford	Longford	10,011	27.4	2,740	Polish - 1,004
Cahir	Tipperary	3,590	27.3	979	Polish - 340
Gort	Galway	2,951	26.6	785	Brazilian - 397
Cavan Town	Cavan	10,656	26.2	2,790	Polish - 827

Table 7: Towns with higher proportions of people from ethnic minorities: Source Census 2016

Many of the Lithuanian and Polish families came during the mid-90s during the last boom and have settled in Monaghan. A positive development for Monaghan is that the Lithuanian language is now being piloted in Dublin and some Monaghan post primary schools as a short junior certificate subject from September 2018.

Another positive Initiative for Monaghan has been the development of the cultural champions which are a team of people from 12 different countries who volunteer to support people from their own culture within their community. The Cultural champions have received funding from the Quality Capacity and Building initiative (QCBI) and TUSLA the Child and Family Agency, and are supported through Monaghan Integrated Development Limited (MID). The cultural champions received free Child protection training, Parents Plus training (from Parenting Monaghan) and are currently completing Advocacy training. Following completion of training the Cultural Champions will volunteer to support families from their own ethnic background.

#### 21.4 Direct Provision Centre

St. Patricks Accommodation Centre is a direct provision centre for persons seeking asylum and refugee status. The centre located on the outskirts of Monaghan Town and can provide accommodation for up to 175 residents. In May 2019, the centre housed 186 residents including 67 children and young people under the age of 18. This number of children and young people has increased by 15 over the past year with the largest age group of 19 children aged 0-3 years.

Age Category of children & young people at St. Patricks Centre	Number	% of total
0- 3 yrs. old	19	28.36%
4-5 yrs. old	7	10.45%
6-8 yrs. old	16	23.88%
9-12 yrs. old	10	14.93%
13-15 yrs. old	12	17.91%
17 years. old	3	4.48%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 8: Age breakdown of children residing in the direct provision centre in Monaghan

A bus is provided by the centre to bus preschool and school age children to school each day however transport in an issue as there is no service after 5pm which can exclude a lot of young people from afterschool activities in the town. Efforts have been made to involve some the children and young people in some of the Healthy Ireland Physical Families programmes within the community, and the outcome one group is actively working on ideas to engage some of the families. It is envisioned that one or two young people from the centre will sit on the CYPSC Outcome 5 subgroup and this connection will help promote greater collaboration between the direct provision centre residents and CYPSC.

#### Syrian refugee resettlement programme

In addition to the above groups of diverse cultures County Monaghan was one of 18 counties to be designated as a resettlement county in 2018 for 20 Syrian families (totalling approximately 90 persons). Monaghan County Council established an Inter-Agency Working Group, where representatives of the local mainstream service providers including the HSE, Cavan/Monaghan Education & Training Board, Department of Social Protection, Tusla, An Garda Síochána, Citizens Information, County Childcare Committee and Monaghan Integrated Development (MID) came together to plan for and ensure that required services are available. Funding was also secured from the Dept. of Justice for a resettlement worker who has been liaising with the families. In addition other strategies have been made to support newcomer families; Failte Isteach is a local community project supported through (MID) run in each of the 5 main towns which supports the conversational English skills of migrant workers and newcomer families in the community through weekly conversation classes.

Participants are paired with tutors who are volunteers from the local community and learn conversational English over the academic year.

### 2.1.4 The Travelling Community

According to the Census of 2016, 276 individuals identified as being part of the traveller community, which equates to 0.45% of the Co. Monaghan population. However, data collected from another source in 2016, the Department of Housing indicated that there are 157 families' resident in the county, which suggests that the Census count might be under-representing the traveller population in Monaghan.

<b>Number of traveller families in all categories of accommodation in Monaghan</b>	
<b>Accommodated by or with Local Authority Census</b>	125
<b>On unauthorised sites</b>	0
<b>Own resources</b>	6
<b>Private rented accommodation</b>	22
<b>Shared housing</b>	4
<b>Total</b>	157

Table 9: *Number of traveller families in all categories of accommodation in Monaghan* (Source: Department of Housing 2016)

The age breakdown of Travellers in Co. Monaghan suggests that 55.4% are under the age of 25 yrs, compared with 34.1% for the county as a whole.

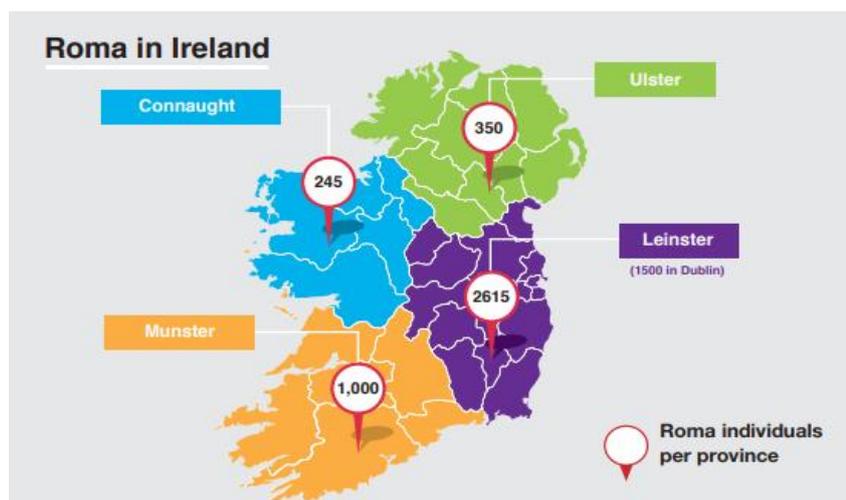
<b>Age and marital status</b>	<b>Traveller Community</b>	<b>General Population</b>
<b>Proportion of those under 15yrs</b>	39.7%	21.4%
<b>Proportion of traveller children &amp; young people in the county under the age of 25 yrs</b>	55.4%	34.1%
<b>Proportion of women who have given birth to 5 or more children</b>	1 in 2 44.5%	1 in 24 4.2%
<b>Proportion of those in the 15-29yr age bracket that are married</b>	31.9%	5.8%

Table 10 *Age and marital status of Traveller population* (Source: Census 2016)

The local housing authority is actively working with a Traveller group to provide a refurbishment to a halting site on the outskirts of Monaghan town at Gortakeegan. The Partnership Prevention and Family support team (PPFS) Tusla has been working with Monaghan Integrated Development Ltd. and local schools to provide a breakfast club and an afterschool and homework activities onsite for school age children.

There are plans to create a new Traveller interagency group to look at the particular needs of Travellers in Monaghan and the CYPSC committee hopes to engage young Traveller people in this group as at 55.4% of the Traveller population in the County they have been an underrepresented voice to date within the Monaghan CYPSC subgroups.

## The Roma Community



Map 3 Mapping of Roma community in Ireland<sup>5</sup>

Roma families were identified in every county in Ireland. The largest communities of Roma are estimated to be in Dublin, Louth, Kildare, Wexford, Cork, Kerry, Clare and Donegal

In Carrickmacross in Monaghan there are 30 families with up to 90 people living in the community from Romania. It is hard to put an exact figure on Roma in Ireland as quite often families move around as is the nature of their nomadic culture. Carrickmacross is 95 kilometers away from Dublin and so is a manageable commute for people who are working in Dublin and want to live outside the city. Many of the Roma community are seasonal workers and work on onion farms close to Dublin in Lusk. The influx of new families has put pressure on services locally which already has a lack of housing and GP services. In local schools there is also a shortage of spaces in primary school and a group from the Carrickmacross Child and Family Support Network are actively working to resolve some of these issues for the Roma community, by meeting and starting to build trust with the community. An Empower project from MID also employs a worker from the Roma community to support the Roma participants into training opportunities and work.

### **2.1.5 Education**

There are 59 Early Years Services in Co. Monaghan offering full day, sessional or part-time services for pre-schoolers with 3,449 children in pre-school attendance in <sup>6</sup>2016-2017.

In the academic year 2018/19, there are total of 7,882 children attending 62 primary schools in the county. There is one special educational needs school The Holy Family School based in Cootehill Co. Cavan and serves the needs of children with special educational needs from Monaghan also. There are also five autism units within the county which are attached to mainstream schools. One school has a supported education classroom for children with mild and moderate global learning delay. In Monaghan town there is a classroom within a primary boys school which provides early Intervention for children with language delays.

In relation to second level school, for the same period there are 5,393 young people attending 12 secondary and vocational schools. Between primary (10) and second level (4) there are a total of 14 DEIS schools in the county.

<sup>5</sup> Roma in Ireland A National needs assessment 2018 Pavve Point

<sup>6</sup> Early Years Sector Profile 2016-2017, Pobal

School attendance at Primary school level was better in Monaghan than in the State as a whole in 2016, and in general this was the case in more rural areas compared to urban settings. Expulsion and suspension levels at Primary level were very low in general and lower in Monaghan than in the State.

At second level school, there were a higher percentage of student days lost in Co. Monaghan (8.8%) than in the State (8.0%). Again, the urban/rural trend was apparent and there was a noticeable increase in absence by children in areas of greater disadvantage attending (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) schools as compared to non-DEIS schools. Suspensions and expulsion rates were higher at second level than at primary both on a county and State basis.

<b>Attendance Figures 2014/2015</b>	Average % of student days lost	Average % of 20-day absences	Average % expulsions	Average % suspensions
<b>Primary School</b>				
<b>Monaghan</b>	4.3	6.1	0.0	0.06
<b>State</b>	5.5	10.4	0.01	0.38
<b>Post-primary School</b>				
<b>Monaghan</b>	8.8	15.3	0.01	4.02
<b>State</b>	8.0	17.3	0.5	5.30

Table 11 Attendance figures 2014/15 (Source: Department of Education and Skills 2016)

A 2016 report from the Department of Education and Skills, presented an analysis of the cohort of pupils who entered the secondary school system in 2010 and left in either 2015 or 2016. The research tracked the pupils from their entry point to Junior Cert and on to Leaving Cert. The resulting national retention rates are illustrated in the table below:

<b>2010 Entry cohort</b>	Males	Females	Total
<b>Retention to Leaving Cert by gender</b>	89.7%	92.7%	91.2%
School sector	<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>C&amp;C</b>	<b>Vocational</b>
<b>Retention to Leaving Cert by school type</b>	92.7%	90.6%	88.3%
School Designation	<b>DEIS</b>	<b>Non-DEIS</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Retention to Junior Cert by school type</b>	95.79%	97.75%	97.36%
<b>Retention to Leaving Cert by school type</b>	84.41%	92.9%	91.21%
<b>Number of 2<sup>nd</sup> level schools by designation in Co. Monaghan</b>	2	9	11
2010 Entry Cohort		<b>Monaghan</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Retention to Junior Cert</b>		97.30%	97.35%
<b>Retention to Leaving Cert</b>		92.25%	91.2%

Table 12: 2010 Entry Cohort (Source: Department of Education and Skills 2016)

This data suggests that in Co. Monaghan there are almost 8% of pupils not completing to Leaving Certificate, with 5% of them being lost in the second half of the secondary cycle. There is also a lower retention rate in more disadvantaged schools - DEIS designated than non-DEIS schools.

The most up to date data available from the Department of Education on school completion and school leaving is based on those who left school were enrolled during the year 2010/11 and not enrolled during the

year 2011/12. From this data it can be seen that nationally, 2.9% of those registered in Department of Education and Skills assisted schools, left formal post-primary education as early leavers, across all classes.

The figure in Co. Monaghan at **3.2%** was higher than the national figure.

School Leavers 2010-11 (State)	%
<b>Enrolled in second-level/further education</b>	50.9%
<b>Enrolled in education outside the State</b>	15.7%
<b>Social welfare activity</b>	6.6%
<b>Employment activity</b>	4.4%
<b>Other - including emigration</b>	21%

Table 13: Early school leavers

Of those who completed school in 2010/11, they progressed in a number of directions:

School Completers 2010/11 (State)	%
<b>Enrolled in higher education</b>	52.3%
<b>Enrolled in second level/further education or training</b>	28.2%
<b>Employment activity</b>	7.3%
<b>Social welfare activity</b>	6.9%
<b>Other - including seasonal employment &amp; emigration</b>	5.4%

Nationally, Co. Monaghan has the youngest average age of completion of education at 18.8 yrs, with the highest average age nationally found to be in Galway City at 22.0yrs. It should be noted however that these averages are increasing Census by Census.

Average age at which Education ceased	Monaghan		State 2016
	2011	2016	
<b>Number of persons (aged 15+ yrs)</b>	39,720	39,928	3,097,052
<b>Average age at which education ceased</b>	18.0	18.8	19.9yrs

Table 15: Average age at which education ceased (Source: Census 2016)

In 2016, a total of 2,158 students from Co. Monaghan left school and went on to attend third level institutions across Ireland. The majority of these (47.8%) attended Dublin, with Louth and Kildare being the next most popular destinations.

Location of third level institution	No	%
Dublin	932	43.2
Louth	475	22.0
Kildare	184	8.5
Galway	162	7.5
Sligo	124	5.7
Donegal	124	5.7
Limerick	59	2.7
Carlow	38	1.8
Westmeath	25	1.2
Cork	22	1.0
Kerry	9	0.4
Waterford	4	0.2
Total	2,158	100%

Table 16 : Choice of Third level Institutes (Source: CSO 2016)

The limited access to degree programmes within the town has led to young people leaving Monaghan to access third level education in Dublin and other counties. In an effort to combat this, Monaghan Institute has partnered with DkIT to deliver the first two years of their Business Level 8 degree, with learners transferring to DkIT for the final year.

In addition, to create more opportunities for young people, Monaghan Institute has linked with some local businesses to develop traineeship programmes to meet emerging skills needs and to build the capacity of the workforce. These traineeships combine classroom and workplace learning and allow the student the opportunity to build their competencies and skills for employment in local companies. Some of the businesses involved to date are listed below and this has been a positive development for the county.<sup>7</sup>

Laboratory Assistance Traineeship, in partnership with Monaghan Mushroom

OEM Engineering Technology Traineeship, in partnership with Combilift

Architectural Technology and Computer Aided Design Traineeship in partnership with ENTEKRA

Digital Marketing Traineeship in partnership with numerous companies across Co. Monaghan.

#### Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) – Under 25s

There is no clear singular statistic gathered which captures the number of under 25s in the NEET category. Contributing statistics suggest that the 18-24 yrs olds are included in the Live Register Figures; however this figure also includes some individuals in part-time work.

The number of young people under the age of 25, on the live register has shown an overall decrease of 20% over the 2017 from 342 in January to 274 (52% compared to females 48%) in December. This number continues to decline with figures for the number of young people 18-24 years in April 2018 at 262 and in April 2019 at 225 a yearly reduction of 36. There are seven programmes currently running in the Monaghan area to

<sup>7</sup> <https://combilift.com/en/news/>  
<https://monaghaninstitute.ie/courses/traineeships/combilift-oem-traineeship-in-engineering-manufacturing-technology/>

support young NEET people, but retention in programmes can be difficult as very often the young person may have complex issues.

The other data available in this regard is from the Department of Education and Skills which estimates the percentage of early school leavers to be 3.2% in Monaghan compared with 2.4% nationally. Based on an enrolment figure of 5,393 in the year 2018/19, this suggests that as many as 172 individual students may have left school early this year.

#### Highest level of education completed

The Census gathers data on the highest level of education which has been achieved by the residents of the country. This data set is gathered on individuals aged 15 and over, which is the case of Co. Monaghan is a total of 39,928 individuals.

Comparing the data to that for the State, (depicted in the table overleaf) one can see that there is a higher proportion of the Monaghan population with a lower level of education (to Leaving Certificate level – 53.8% of 15+ yrs) compared to that for the State (45.5%).

Also, there is a lower proportion of the population in Co. Monaghan educated to degree level or higher (20.3%) than in the State (28.5%). Both these factors have implications on the employment opportunities available to residents of Co. Monaghan.

Highest level of education completed	Number of individuals	% of county population	State % of country
<b>No formal education</b>	998	2.5%	1.7%
<b>Primary education</b>	5,798	14.5%	10.8%
<b>Lower secondary</b>	7,509	18.8%	14.5%
<b>Upper Secondary</b>	7,176	18.0%	18.5%
<b>Technical/Vocational</b>	3,784	9.5%	8.8%
<b>Advanced Certificate</b>	2,465	6.2%	5.9%
<b>Higher Certificate</b>	1,836	4.6%	5.0%
<b>Ordinary Degree</b>	2,547	6.4%	7.7%
<b>Honours Degree</b>	3,332	8.3%	10.7%
<b>Post Graduate Degree</b>	2,098	5.3%	9.2%
<b>Doctorate</b>	114	0.3%	0.9%
<b>Not stated</b>	2,271	5.7%	6.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,928</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 17 : Highest level of education completed (Source: Census 2016)

#### **2.1.6.1 Religion**

A total of 84.0% of the Co. Monaghan population are Catholic, with a further 7.5% indicating another Christian faith including Church of Ireland, England, Anglican, and Episcopalian, Presbyterian or other Christian faith. A further 3.7% of the population indicated that they were atheist.

### 2.1.6.2 Economic Activity

The largest proportion of the population 24.2% are classified as managerial and technical, which is lower than the State level of 28.1%. There are a higher proportion of skilled manual, semi-skilled manual and unskilled workers (37.3%) in Co. Monaghan than in the State as a whole (28.2%).

Classification by social class	Monaghan	%	State %
Professional workers	3,177	5.2%	8.1%
Managerial & technical	14,836	24.2%	28.1%
Non-manual	10,606	17.3%	17.6%
Skilled manual	11,644	19.0%	14.1%
Semi-skilled manual	8,085	13.2%	10.5%
Unskilled	3,154	5.1%	3.6%
All other gainfully occupied and unknown	9,884	16.1%	18.0%
TOTAL	<b>61,386</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 18 Classification of workers by social class

As the economy of the country has improved, the numbers on the live register in Co. Monaghan have continued to fall, although the rate of reduction has slowed over the year 2017 – (Jan 2017, 3,650 to Dec 2017, 3,144 – 11.5% decrease) and the year Jan 2018 3,105 - Dec 2018 2,572 a further 8.0% drop in employment.

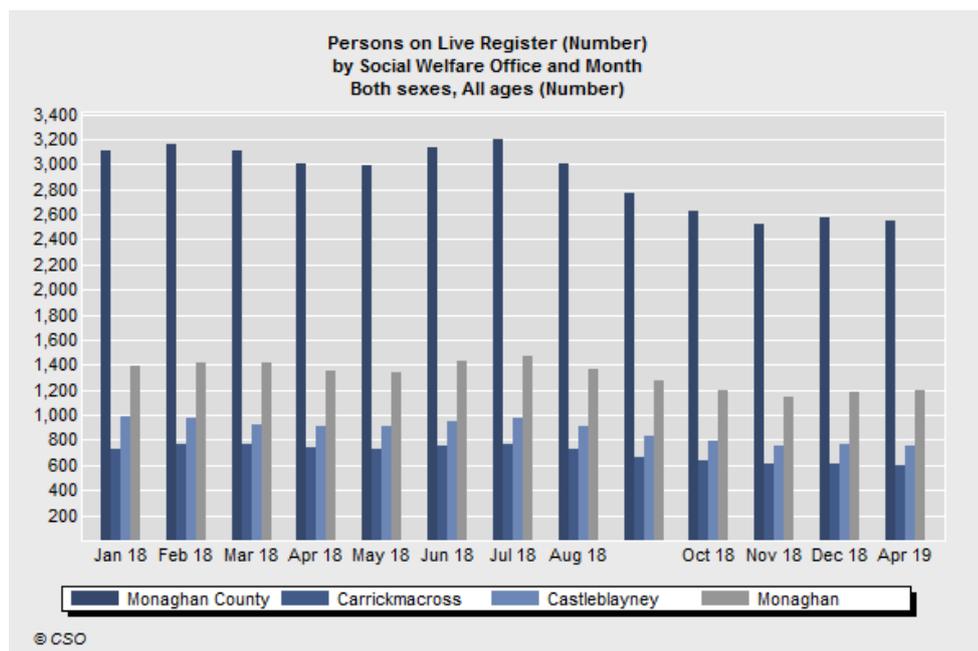


Figure 8 Live Register from Jan 2018-Dec 2018

### 2.1.6.3 Deprivation Scores

The deprivation scores as developed by Haase & Pratschke, are based upon 10 measurements from the census and produce two overall deprivation scores. There are 3 additional measurements also considered (in grey in the table below). The absolute score is the score to examine when one wants to compare an area over time,

while the relative score is the score to use when comparing different areas in the same time timeframe. The 13 measurements are outlined in the table below, comparing Monaghan with the State using the relative deprivation score.

Deprivation Criteria	Monaghan	State
Relative deprivation score	<b>-3.2</b>	<b>+0.6</b>
Deprivation Rank by county	<b>11<sup>th</sup> most deprived</b>	
<b>Population change</b>	0.0	+0.1
<b>Age dependency ratio</b>	36.7	34.5
<b>Lone parent ratio (with children under 15 years)</b>	17.1	19.9
<b>Primary education only</b>	17.8	13.0
<b>Third level education</b>	26.5	35.9
<b>Proportion of higher and lower professionals</b>	29.3	36.2
<b>Proportion of skilled and unskilled manual workers</b>	22.1	17.9
<b>Unemployment for males</b>	7.4	14.1
<b>Unemployment for females</b>	14.3	12.2
<b>Average number of persons per room</b>	0.5	0.5
<b>Proportion living in Local Authority rented accommodation</b>	7.4	8.7
<b>Proportion living in private rented accommodation</b>	14.3	19.4
<b>Proportion of owner occupied households</b>	76.1	70.3

Table 19 Relative deprivation score

From this data Co. Monaghan ranks as the 11<sup>th</sup> most deprived county in Ireland with a relative deprivation score of -3.2, the No. 1 most deprived country being Donegal with a score of -6.4 and the least deprived area/county being Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown council area of Dublin with a score of +10. Despite an improvement in the absolute deprivation score from -10.5 in the 2011 census to -7.8 in the 2016 census, a total of 88.8% of the population of Co. Monaghan lives in EDs which are designated as marginally below average and disadvantaged, as outlined in the table below.

DEPRIVATION	Cavan		Monaghan		State	
	Population in EDs	% of total county	Population in EDs	% of total county	Population in EDs	% of total county
Extremely affluent						
Very Affluent					1,311	0.03%
Affluent					464,231	9.75%
Marginally above average	7,231	22.6%	6,219	11.3%	2,018,044	42.4%
Marginally below average	51,416	67.5%	52,401	85.4%	1,935,860	40.7%
Disadvantaged	7,529	9.9%	2,073	3.4%	320,681	6.73%
Very disadvantaged					20,979	0.44%
Extremely disadvantaged					759	0.02%
% of the population below the average line		77.4%		88.8%		47.89%
Relative deprivation score	-3.9		-3.2		+0.6	

Table 20 deprivation levels for Cavan and Monaghan and State figures

The most deprived EDs in Co. Monaghan are: Clones Ballybay and Castleblayney

Electoral District	Population	Relative deprivation score
<b>Clones Urban</b>	904	-15.0
<b>Ballybay Urban</b>	286	-12.2
<b>Castleblayney Urban</b>	833	-11.7

Table 21; deprivation score of the three most deprived areas in Monaghan

### 2.1.7 Disability

The level of disability in the county is slightly lower at 11.8% (7,218), compared to the State at 13.5%. In terms of young people, the disability figures by age group are illustrated in the table below:

Age group	Monaghan	State
<b>No. of the population with a disability</b>	7,214 11.8% of county population	13.5%
<b>Numbers of children &amp; young people with a disability</b>	1,091 1.7% of county population 5.4% of total population of children and young people	2.36% of total state population 8.7% of total population of children and young people
<b>Age group</b>	<i>As % of all people with a disability</i>	
<b>0-4 yrs</b>	2.5%	3.0%
<b>5-9 yrs</b>	5.6%	6.4%
<b>10-14 yrs</b>	5.6%	8.3%
<b>15-19 yrs</b>	6.3%	9.4%
<b>20-24 yrs</b>	6.8%	9.1%

Table 22: Numbers of children & young people with a disability (CSO, 2016)

According to the State of the Nation Report for 2016, in Monaghan 117 children were registered in 2015 as having an intellectual disability (a rate of 7.3% per 1000 of the population of children) and an additional 84 were registered as having a physical and/or sensory disability (a rate of 5.2% per 1000 of the population of children). Nationwide, two-thirds of children registered as having an intellectual disability in 2015 were boys.

### 2.1.8 Housing

Co. Monaghan has a housing stock of 25,633 units, with a vacancy rate of 12.9%, which is in line with the State figure of 12.8%, whilst being 15<sup>th</sup> highest county figure in the country. A total of 35 EDs have a vacancy rate that is higher than the State as illustrated below in table 23

Electoral District	Vacancy Rate	Electoral District	Number of units
<b>Ballybay Urban</b>	42.4%	Monaghan Urban	268
<b>Clones Urban</b>	28.0%	Carrickmacross Rural	183
<b>Drumully</b>	25.5%	Clones Urban	164
<b>Castleblayney Urban</b>	23.6%	Castleblayney Urban	135
<b>Anny</b>	23.0%	Carrickmacross Urban	132
<b>Drum</b>	22.9%	Monaghan Rural (Part Urban)	121
<b>Monaghan Urban</b>	20.9%	Ballybay Rural	120
<b>Raferagh</b>	20.3%	Castleblayney Rural (Part Rural)	80
<b>Glaslough</b>	20.3%	Glaslough	80
<b>Currin</b>	20.0%	Monaghan Rural (Part Rural)	67

Table 23 (Source: Census 2016) 10 EDs with the highest vacancy rates and the 10 EDs with the highest number of vacant units

A total of 1,692 (7.8%) properties are rented from the local authority providing homes for 7.3% of the county population. The 10 EDs with the highest proportion of local authority homes are not surprisingly the more urban EDs with the higher concentrated population in the county and account for 75.4% of all Local Authority housing in the county.

<b>Top 10 EDs with highest number of Local Authority rented homes</b>	No. of local authority rented homes	Total Number of homes in ED	LA housing as a % of total housing
<b>Monaghan Rural</b>	309	2,242	13.8%
<b>Castleblayney Rural</b>	195	1,351	14.4%
<b>Carrickmacross Rural</b>	174	1,393	12.5%
<b>Monaghan Urban</b>	145	988	14.7%
<b>Carrickmacross Urban</b>	116	890	13.0%
<b>Ballybay Rural</b>	83	572	14.5%
<b>Emyvale</b>	71	438	16.2%
<b>Clones Urban</b>	67	402	16.7%
<b>Clones Rural</b>	59	570	10.4%
<b>Castleblayney Urban</b>	57	423	13.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,276</b>	<b>9,269</b>	<b>13.7%</b>

Table 24 Top 10 EDs with highest number of Local Authority rented homes

### 2.1.7 Connectivity in the county

The rate of internet connectivity of households in Co. Monaghan has improved over the past 5 years with the number of households with no internet access decreasing from 34.2% in 2011 to 24.7%; however this is still higher than the figure for the rest of the State in 2016 which stands at 18.4%. Almost two thirds (63.9%) of the households in Co. Monaghan has access to a PC at home.

## 2.2 Health and welfare of children and young people in Co. Monaghan

### 2.2.1 Health & Wellbeing<sup>8</sup>

- Pregnancies and new births
  - The teenage birth rate has consistently reduced by 64% in the State from 3,087 births in 2001 to 1,098 in 2016. In Co. Monaghan, there were 7 teenage birth recorded for 2016.
  - In 2015 a higher proportion of pregnant women in Monaghan (93.3%) attended for antenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy compared with a state percentage of 88.0%
  - Antenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy was lowest amongst pregnant women aged 15-19years (State: 77%)
  - In Cavan/Monaghan the percentage (94.9%) of new-born babies visited by a public health nurse within 72 hours of discharge from hospital for the first time, was slightly lower than the state figure of 97.5%.
  - In 2015, 98.3% of children in Cavan/Monaghan had their 7-9-month developmental check on time compared to 93.7% for the State.

<sup>8</sup> Some figures are available for Monaghan County while others are only available as a Cavan /Monaghan figure due to the nature of the way some services are jointly managed.

- In 2015, 58% of all infants in the State were breastfed on discharge from hospital – this rate has continued to increase, but is lower with younger mothers – 15-19 yrs old 26.4% and 20-24 yrs – 36.8%. The rate of breastfeeding in Co. Monaghan is 8<sup>th</sup> lowest in the country at 47.2%.
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
  - In 2016, 70% of all sexually transmitted diseases notified in the State were in people younger than 30 years of age. There was an increase in the number of STIs treated between 2015 and 2016 in the order of 10%, and in the 15-24yr age group 50% of patients treated for STIs were treated for Chlamydia, 43% were treated for Herpes Simplex and 37% for Gonorrhoea.
- Suicide
  - In 2016 there were 6 suicides recorded in Co. Monaghan – a rate of 10.2 per 100,000, which gave Monaghan 12th highest suicide rate in the country with the rate for the State is 8.5. The rate per 100,000 of population for male suicides is higher at 17.0 than females in Co. Monaghan at 3.4, which is in line with the rate for the State (State: Male 13.8, females 3.4).
  - In 2017 a figure of 12 deaths by suicide resulted in Monaghan having the highest rate of suicide in the country with a figure of 19.2 per year per 100,000 population.
- Self-harm
  - The Cavan/Monaghan area also recorded a higher ratio in the rate per 100,000 of population of male to female self-harm cases (1:1.44) compared to the ratio in the State (1: 1.19).
- Mental Health referrals
  - In the Cavan/Monaghan area in 2015, ‘depressive disorders’ were the most common reason for admission to psychiatric hospitals/units and child and adolescent units with 32.4% (163) of all admissions on this basis in 2015. There were 6 admissions of children and young people in Co. Monaghan with a rate of 37.4 admissions per 100,000 of population in 2015.
  - 
  - 4/5 (80.9%) of all admission are young people in the 15-17 age group with the larger proportion 60.2% being girls and 39.8% being boys.
  - One in four people in Ireland experience mental health difficulties and this increases to one third of young people between 18 and 19 years. However less than one in four students seeks support.
  - Times of transition such as moving away from home and going to college are known to trigger stress which may lead to reduced mental health wellbeing. (Source: *Mental Health Matters Report 2016*)
- Referrals to the Garda Diversion Programme (2014)
  - In 2014, there were 545 referrals of 253 children and young people (aged 10-17yrs) made to the Garda Diversion Programme in Cavan & Monaghan. This results in a rate per 1,000 of 16.6 (based on 2011 census figures) children and young people being referred to the programme. Almost ¾ of these individuals were aged 15-17yrs with almost three times the number of boys to girls being referred.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> (Source: *State of the Nation Report 2016*)

- LGBTI Young People

There is no specific data available from Cavan and Monaghan on the youth LGBTI community, however commonly used percentages suggest that 6-10% of the population identify with a sexual identity other than heterosexual. There have been support groups for LGBTI young people in Co. Monaghan for a number of year (Carrickmacross, Monaghan Town and Castleblayney and more recently Clones) some are supported through Youth work Ireland Foroige and the Teach na Daoine Family resource centre. These support groups meet independently of each other and so one of the aims of the CYPSC plan is to have a more joined up approach to providing support to young LGBTI+ people and their families throughout Monaghan

The recent LGBT Ireland Report 2017 which focused on the mental health of LGBTI young people in Ireland suggested the following key facts:

- Feedback from the 1,064 LGBTI young people surveyed suggest that compared to other young people they are:
  - 2 time more likely to self-harm
  - 3 time more likely to attempt suicide
  - 4 times more likely to experience severe stress, anxiety and depression
- The most common age that young people discovered their LGBTI+ identity was 12 yrs
- The most common age that young people first told someone that they were LGBTI+ was 16 yrs
- 1 in 4 young people who had come out had not told their mother or father that they were LGBTI+
- The main reason people did not come out earlier was fear of rejection and discrimination, especially by family and friends.
- 44% of young people surveyed indicated levels of drinking that suggested some level of dependence.
- Recreational drug use was 2 times higher among the LGBTI+ young people than the general population
- Only 20% of the young people surveyed felt they belonged completely in their school community
- 50% of them personally experienced anti- LGBTI+ bullying at school
- 1 in 4 considered leaving school early and 1 in 20 did leave school early.
- 50% felt unsafe or very unsafe showing affection or holding hands in public
- 75% have been verbally abused because of being LGBTI+
- 1 in 5 have been punched, hit or physically attached in public due to being LGBTI+

To address some of these findings; Funding to raise awareness of LGBTI+ issues has been secured through the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) by Youth Work Ireland to develop a training resource for use by youth workers, teachers, and also frontline health care, and social care staff.

## 2.2.2 Child Protection and family support in 2017/18

Source: Cavan /Monaghan Tusla 2017			
Number of Child Protection referrals: % +/- on previous year:	<b>2017:</b> 1,297 +14%	<b>2016:</b> 1,092 +10%	<b>2015:</b> 921
Number of Children in Care 2017: % +/- on previous year:	<b>2017:</b> 157 +3%	<b>2016:</b> 152 -11%	<b>2015:</b> 171
Number of new admissions to care 2017:	29		
Number of discharges from care 2017:	13 from care and another 12 came of age with 11 taking up Aftercare Services		
Number of young people in Aftercare Service:	aged 18-22 yrs 22 complex cases: 30.5%		

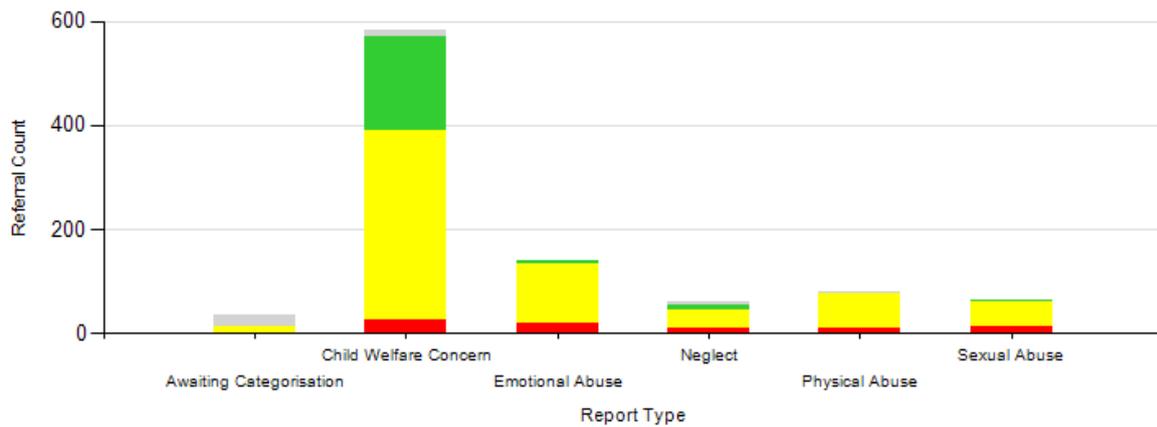
Table 25: Child protection and family support joint figures for Cavan and Monaghan

- Approximately 40% of referrals coming into Cavan/ Monaghan Tusla in 2017 were relating to children/young people in Co Monaghan
- 29% of all referrals for 2017 were made by Gardaí
- Only a small percentage of these referrals (2%) resulted in children being taken into care
- 16% of all referrals were screened and deemed to need no further action
- A further 24% progressed as referrals to the Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) team in order to receive appropriate support in the community to prevent deterioration in the situation of concern. receiving appropriate support (e.g. Prevention Partnership & Family Support Programme)
- PPFS supported just under 500 children and young people in 2017.
- In 2017 there were 157 children in care – the majority of which were in foster care, with 2 in residential care settings.
- 25 were discharged from care in the same period
  - 13 being returned to their families
  - 12 coming of age (18) and of these 11 progressing to Aftercare Services

### **Children in Care in Cavan and Monaghan**

- Over half (51%) of all children in care (157) in 2017 were from minority groups – Irish travellers and non-Irish nationals.
- Out of 30 non-Irish national children in care in 2017, 47% were from the continent of Africa (Congolese, Malawian, Nigerian and Black African), with Black African making up the largest proportion of this group (27% of all CIC).
- The two main reasons for admission of children to care is in relation to neglect (46.5%) and welfare concerns (38.9%).
- Almost half of children (47%) currently in care are in the 12-17yr old age bracket, however in 2017 over half (52%) of new admissions were in the 0-5yr age group.
- Over two thirds of all children currently in care (70%) were taken into care before they were 5 yrs old. In fact, almost one third of these were taken into care as babies (31%), at less than 1 year old.
- There is a higher proportion (82%) of young children from the travelling community being taken into care than the Irish or non-Irish nationals (65% and 63% respectively)
- Also, there is a higher proportion of teens from non-Irish national communities (17%) than other ethnicities being taken into care.
- None of the travelling community children in care were admitted into care in their teens.

Figure 4: Monaghan Referrals to Tusla Jan 1st 2018- Dec 31st 2018 by category



Referral Priority/ Report Type	Child Welfare Concern	Neglect	Physical Abuse	Emotional Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Awaiting Categorisation	Total
High	26	11	9	18	13	1	78
Medium	365	35	66	115	48	11	640
Low	180	8	5	8	4	0	205
Not Set	11	5	1	0	0	24	41
Total	582	59	81	141	65	36	964

These figures for 2018 reflect changes in the numbers of children/young people referred for concerns related to child welfare/neglect. A possible reason for this could be the change in thresholds for each category of abuse (See figure below). In 2018 PPFS recorded 1,800 interventions for all family support activity within Tusla locally and funded agencies. This was up from 500 families in 2017 but this figure also includes the 4 Beacon family support projects funded locally delivering family support directly from the Family Resource Centres. Included are all members of the family as the PPFS team take a whole family approach.

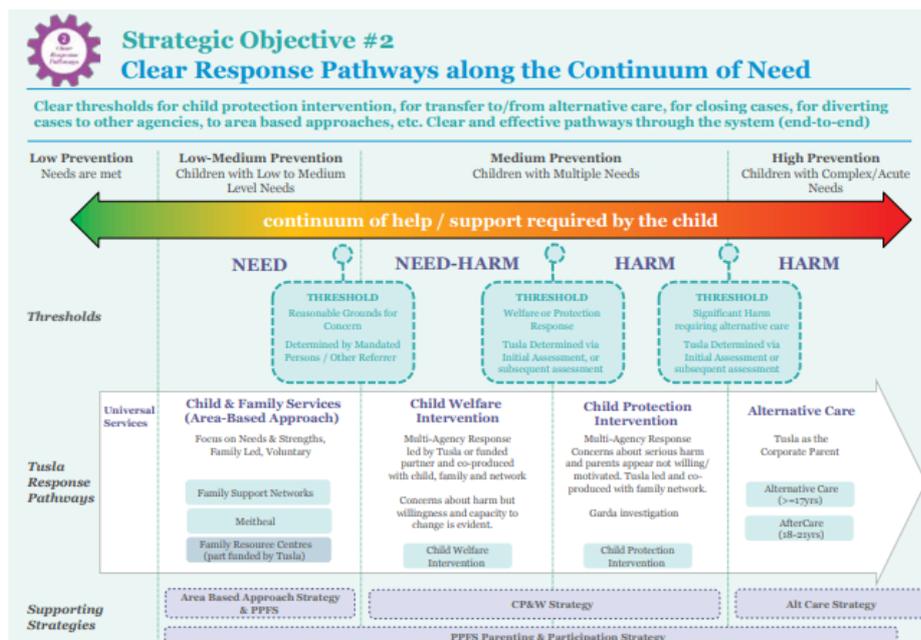


Figure 5. Clear response pathways along the continuum of Need<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/PPFS\\_Low\\_Prevention\\_Services\\_Brochure.pdf](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/PPFS_Low_Prevention_Services_Brochure.pdf)

### 2.2.3 Domestic Abuse

#### 2.2.4

Tearmann Domestic Violence Services provides a helpline, accompaniment services and support services for the Cavan Monaghan area. There are no refuge accommodation facilities in the Monaghan area, the nearest service is over one hour away in Co. Louth.

Data on the incidence of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence (DSGBV) in Ireland is limited and relies on three sources:

- The European Union of Fundamental Rights Survey on violence against women (FRA, 2014); *(included a sample of 1,567 respondents, from Ireland aged 18-74 yrs).*
- The Sexual Abuse and Violence in Ireland (SAVI) Survey (McGee et al, 2002); and
- The National Survey on Domestic Abuse (Watson & Parsons, 2005)

According to this data, it is estimated that 1 in 4 women in Ireland have experienced some form of physical and/or sexual assault since the age of 15, which is equivalent to over 400,000 Irish women or over 5,000 women in Cavan and Monaghan (aged 18-74yrs). The annual rate of violence against women estimates that 8% or 1 in 12 women experience physical and or sexual violence each year, which equates to 129,410 women nationally or over 1,600 women in Cavan and Monaghan. Indications are that 1 in 4 men will experience domestic and/or sexual violence in their lifetime.

There are limited services in Co. Monaghan for adult victims of domestic abuse/violence and no services specifically for the children and young people under the age of 18, who are exposed to violence or who witness domestic violence in the home. According to Tearmann they received 120 new referrals from women in 2018 in Monaghan alone and these women had a total of 245 children. A small number of men also sought support 10 in total across Cavan and Monaghan. In the Monaghan CYPSC plan, the outcome 3 sub-group have agreed some actions to support children who witness Domestic violence.

- 1) Work with the ISPCC to develop a resource to use with young people
- 2) Pilot the Tender Loving Care people in Monaghan
- 3) Pilot a Men Overcoming Violence programme

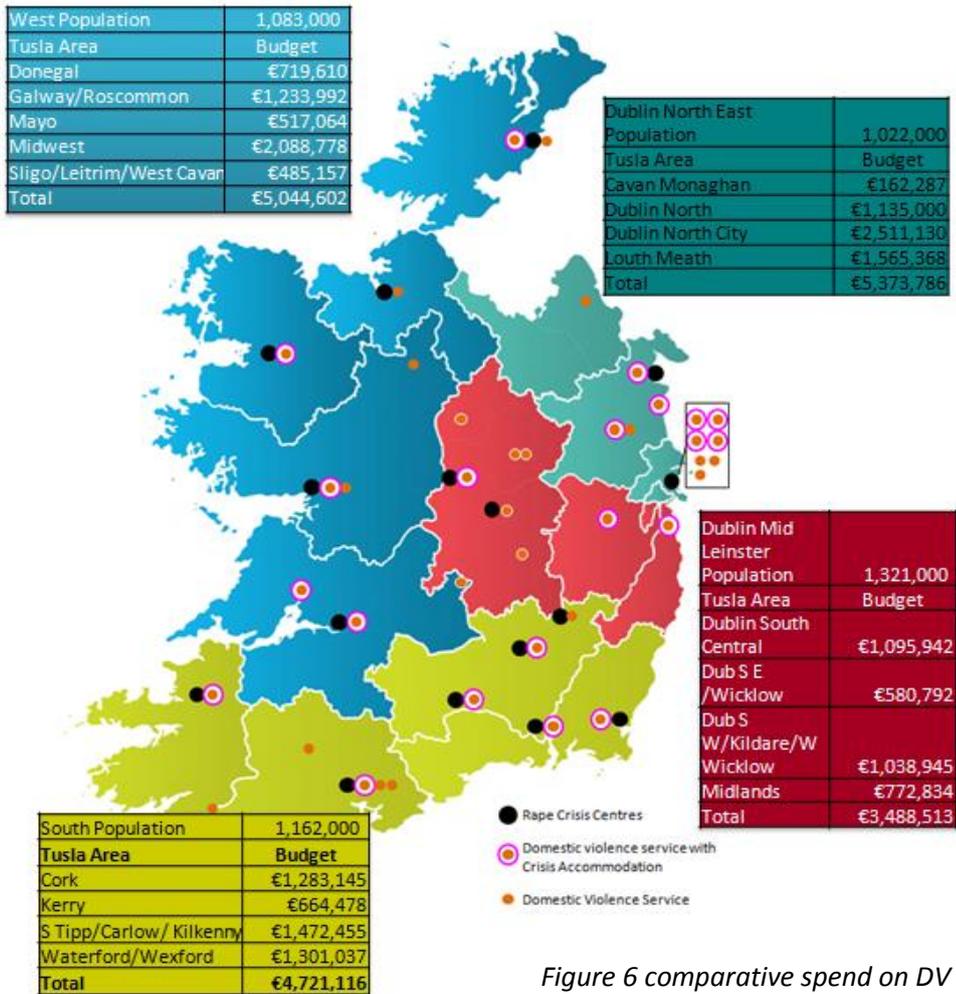


Figure 6 comparative spend on DV Source: TUSLA

The diagram on the previous page illustrates the comparative spend and location of domestic abuse services in Ireland with the Cavan/ Monaghan featuring the lowest spend of any Tusla area across the country. In 2016, the spend per child in the population was €4.34 in Cavan/Monaghan compared with the highest rate of €34.56 in Dublin North City. The Monaghan CYPSC will as part of the action plan advocate for more services and supports to be available in the Monaghan area for victims and the children who are living with domestic violence and abuse in their home.

### SECTION 3: OVERVIEW OF SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN CO. MONAGHAN

This section summarises the 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 Co. Monaghan CYPSC.

Services are presented using the Hardiker Model to reflect the level of intervention which services are providing from Level 1 being universal preventative and social development services to Level 4 being intensive and long-term support and protection.

## Hardiker Model

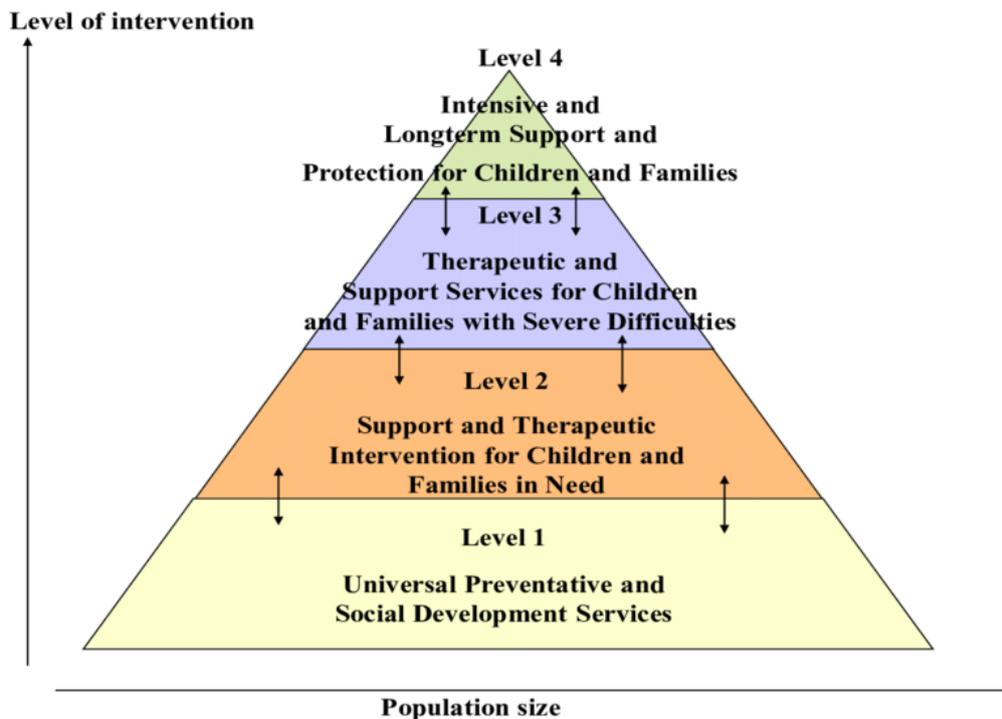


Figure 7

### Level 1:

Hardiker Level 1 refers to those mainstream services that are available to all children – healthcare, education, leisure, and a range of other services provided in communities. It also offers the potential for targeting resources through community development initiatives such as parent and toddler groups, community houses and women’s groups which may be available to the whole community but particularly targeted at disadvantaged communities.

### Level 2:

Level 2 represents services to children who have additional needs. Services at Level 2 are characterised by referral, and full parental consent and negotiation. Examples would be Behaviour Support, Parenting support and additional Educational services and support for children who are deemed vulnerable through an assessment of what their need is and via targeted specific services provided by education, health, social services, law enforcement and the voluntary sector.

### Level 3:

Level 3 represents support to families or individual children and young people where there are chronic or serious problems. Support is provided through a complex mix of services which usually need to work together well in order to provide the best support. State intervention can have a high profile at this level. Examples would be children on the Child Protection Register or who those who have come before the Courts.

### Level 4:

Level 4 supports for families and individual children or young people where the family has broken down temporarily or permanently or where the child or young person may be looked after by social services. It can also include young people in youth custody or prison or as an in-patient due to disability or mental health problems.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Centre for Effective Services (2010). *An introductory guide to key terms and interagency initiatives in use in the Children’s Services Committees in Ireland. CES Reference Paper 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, June, 2010.*  
[http://www.dcyh.gov.ie/documents/Key\\_Terms\\_Document.pdf](http://www.dcyh.gov.ie/documents/Key_Terms_Document.pdf)

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

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Pre-school Support</b>			
<b>Monaghan County Childcare Committee</b>	Monaghan County Childcare Committee offers a wide variety of services locally including info on the free preschool year in Early Learning and Care Services; Community Childcare Subvention Scheme Support and grants to parent and toddler groups  Supporting 59 Pre-schools & full day care centres	Voluntary	Hardiker Level 1+
<b>National Childhood Network</b>	Provision of information, training, mentoring support, assistance with validation of services working to achieve national quality standards as outlined in the National Quality Frameworks( Siolta & Aistear)Providing CPD to national team of Siolta Mentors  Provision of information, training, support and validation to pre-school services participating in the HSE Healty Ireland Smart Start programme(HISS) .	National Voluntary Childcare Organisation	Hardiker Level 1+
<b>Family Support</b>			
<b>Parent and toddler groups</b>	There are 13 parent and toddler groups in the County.	Voluntary	Hardiker Level 1+
<b>Drop in Clinics</b>	Drop in service for parents to get advice seek support from a family support worker .Partnership Prevention and Family support (PPFS) in community facilities around the County	Statutory	1+
<b>Clones Family Resource Centre</b>	Clones Family Resource Centre aims to empower the people of Clones to have an improved quality of life and sense of wellbeing through encouraging equality, participation, community ownership, and a recognition of the diversity of families;	Statutory	1,2 & occasionally 3
<b>Teach na daoine Family Resource Centre Monaghan</b>	Teach na daoine Family Resource Centre offers a wide range of community based family support services working towards meeting the needs of the area through a community development process of self help.	Statutory	1,2,3
<b>Cavan Monaghan Healthy Families</b>	Cavan Monaghan Healthy Families aims to prevent and manage childhood obesity by providing parents and guardians with the skills and knowledge to provide healthier eating options for their families. It also focuses on engaging children in enjoyable physical activities and looking after their emotional wellbeing.	Statutory	1+
<b>Parenting Monaghan</b>	Parenting Monaghan provides free parent's plus programmes from Early Years to Adolescents. Their overall aim is to increase parental well-being and enhance family support services in County Monaghan.	Voluntary	1-2

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Family Support</b>			
<b>The Irish Society or the prevention of Cruelty to Children.</b>	<b>The ISPC is Ireland’s National Child Protection Charity who offer; <u>Childline</u></b> – telephone and online listening service for young people. <b><u>Childhood Support Workers</u></b> , - offer a mobile one to one support service to young people who may be experiencing difficulties. Parenting support is also offered to through this service. <b><u>Support Line</u></b> – an information phone line run each day	Voluntary	2+
<b>Tusla – Child and Family Support Network (CFSN)</b>	The Monaghan CFSN consists of all services that play a role in the lives of children and families in a given area. This includes local statutory children and family’s service providers (e.g. psychology, public health nurses, social work, justice, education and welfare) and local voluntary and community children and families. 5 Networks in Monaghan	Statutory	2+
<b>Meitheal Service</b>	<u>J</u> oint initiative with Tusla. The Meitheal service is an early intervention, multi-agency (when necessary) response, tailored to the needs of an individual child or young person		
<b>Tusla - PPFS</b>	Partnership, Protection and Family Support – a division within Tusla which focuses on early intervention and prevention services	Statutory	2+
<b>Tearmann Domestic Violence Service</b>	Information and support service for women who have or are experiencing domestic violence – based in Monaghan Town and providing a help line covering Co. Monaghan and Co. Cavan.	Charity	4
<b>Extern</b>	Extern supports children, young people and their families and carers through a range of projects across the island of Ireland.  They deliver services to children and young people who are at risk of entering care, secure care or custody.	Voluntary	2+
<b>Life Start the Growing Child</b>	Life start the Growing Child is a home support visiting service that has been piloted in Monaghan hosted by National Childhood network	Voluntary	2+
<b>Parent Drop in Clinics</b>	At various community based locations throughout the county advice and support for parents from members of the PPFS team	Statutory and community	2+
<b>Rainbows Programme</b>	Support for children with bereavement and separation	Charity	1+
<b>The Genesis programme</b>	The Changing Lives Initiative is a community-based project creating a better understanding about ADHD and providing an intervention programme for families with children (3-7) experiencing behaviours consistent with ADHD.	Voluntary	2+
<b>The Beacon Project</b>	The Beacon project is delivered through the family resource centers and supports families at critical times to get the support and services they need with the support of the PPFS.		1+

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Disability services and supports</b>			
<b>Cairde Activation Centre Ltd.</b>	Cairde Activation Centre is a day care centre for adults with intellectual disability which endeavours to advance the provision of a community based, high quality service which maximises the individuals' potential independence, active citizenship and community integration.	Voluntary	2-3
<b>Cavan Autism Support Group</b>	Camps and activities for children and adults on the autistic spectrum in Cavan/Monaghan. We run camps during the school holidays, days out, Saturday club: play clay and music therapy, horse riding, parent support group meetings, coder dojo for members and siblings. Catering for ages 3-36yrs	Voluntary	2-3
<b>Down Syndrome Centre North East covering Cavan Monaghan Louth and Meath</b>	The Down Syndrome Centre North East, C-TEK Carrickmacross is run by a group of volunteer parents who aim to provide subsidised essential services for children with Down Syndrome.	Voluntary	2-3
<b>Monaghan SNAP (Special Needs Active Parents )</b>	SNAP is a parent led support group which was established in 2007 for all families of children with special needs in the Monaghan area. The group provide opportunities for children to focus on their abilities whilst supporting their needs. Currently supporting 60 families in the county	Voluntary	2-3
<b>Monaghan Autism Parents Support (MAPS)</b>	<b>MAPS is a network of parents of children with autism sharing experiences, knowledge, ideas and encouragement. A diagnosis of autism is not easy for any parent and Maps aims to offer information and support to anyone who needs it.</b>		
<b>Monaghan Sports Partnership – Sport Inclusion Programme</b>	The sports inclusion programme is a joint initiative between both Cavan and Monaghan Sports Partnership, launched in 2008 to assist in helping to address the imbalance in opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in sport and physical activity, which has become an important national goal.	Statutory	1+
<b>Enable Ireland</b>	Early intervention service to children aged 0-6 years with a developmental delay/disability/autism or features of autism and who require a team based service.	Voluntary	3-4
<b>Child Development Team HSE</b>	Provides therapies for children with a disability ages 7-18 years		
<b>Monaghan Special Olympics</b>	Monaghan Special Olympics club provides year-round sports training and competition opportunities for children and adults with an intellectual disability.	Voluntary	2+
<b>HSE Early Intervention Team</b>	Provides single therapies to children Physiotherapy, Speech and Language therapy.	Statutory	2+
<b>Errigal Truagh Special Needs Parents &amp; Friends Ltd</b>	Providing training and work opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities in the Truagh area of North Monaghan.	Voluntary	2-3

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Disability services and supports continued</b>			
<b>Monaghan Disability Network</b>	A network of people with/without a disability who advocate for disability rights and meet in Monaghan Integrated Development	Community	2-4
<b>National Federation of Arch Clubs</b>	A Monaghan Town Arch Club provides a social outlet for people with special needs. To develop their social skills, self-esteem and quality of life and provide support. Aimed at members aged 16+ yrs	Voluntary	2-3
<b>Unique Parents support group</b>	Support group of parents with children who have additional needs. We aim to help each other with tips and advice we have accumulated through experience gained from our own children.	Voluntary	2+
<b>Parents and Friends of persons with an intellectual disability</b>	The mission of Monaghan Parents and Friends is to promote the right of people with an intellectual disability and their families.	Voluntary	2+
<b>Education /Training</b>			
<b>Cavan and Monaghan Education &amp; Training Board</b>	Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board provide a wide range of services across the counties of Cavan and Monaghan including: Second Level School ; Further Education Colleges; Adult Education Services; Youthreach; Youth Services Outdoor Education; Prison Education; Art Education	Statutory	1
<b>Youthreach: Monaghan Town Carrickmacross Castleblayney</b>	Youthreach is a Department of Education and Skills official education, training and work experience programme for early school leavers aged 15 – 20. It is managed through CMETB. 25 places capacity in each town	Statutory	2+
<b>NEPS National Education Psychological Service</b>	NEPS is part of the Department of Education and Skills. NEPS psychologists work with both primary and post-primary schools and are concerned with learning, behaviour, social and emotional development. Each psychologist is assigned to a group of schools.	Statutory	1+
<b>Tusla – Education and Welfare Officers</b>	The <a href="#">statutory</a> and <a href="#">school support services</a> of the Child and Family Agency's Educational Welfare Services work together collaboratively and cohesively with schools and other relevant services to secure better educational outcomes for children and young people.	Statutory	2+
Family/ School Liaison officer Non-DEIS Schools	Non- CMETB Funded Focusing on Monaghan town Delivered through Monaghan Education Centre	Statutory	1+
<b>Primary Schools 2018-19</b>	There are 62 primary schools in Co Monaghan with 7882 Students	Statutory	1+
<b>Post Primary Schools 2018-19</b>	There are 12 post primary schools in Monaghan with a total of 5393 students	Statutory	1+
<b>Early School leavers programme</b>	Delivered by Youth Work Ireland Carrickmacross and Castleblayney and outreach support	Voluntary	1+

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Education /Training continued</b>			
<b>Monaghan School Completion Projects across five geographical areas</b>	The School Completion Programme (SCP) was set up as part of Department of Education and Skills (DES) DEIS Strategy – Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools. Its aim is to increase the numbers of young people staying in primary and second level school and in doing so improve the numbers of pupils who successfully complete the Senior Cycle, or the equivalent.	Statutory	2+
<b>Autism units attached to mainstream schools</b>	There are 6 autism units attached to mainstream schools in Monaghan	Statutory	2+
<b>Monaghan Institute</b>	Monaghan Institute offers a wide range of Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses. Each course is specifically designed for employment – the balance between theoretical and practical study is decided with the job market firmly in focus.	Statutory	1
<b>Family/ School Liaison officer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non- CMETB Funded</li> <li>• Focusing on Monaghan town</li> <li>• Delivered through Monaghan Education Centre</li> </ul>	Statutory	1+
<b>Tusla the Child and Family Agency</b>			
<b>TUSLA – Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychologist</b>	The Tusla Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychologist accepts referrals from the child protection teams within Cavan and Monaghan	Statutory	2+
<b>Tusla – Child Protection Social Work Team</b>	The child protection and welfare team provides leadership and management in the long term and further assessment team.	Statutory	2+
<b>TUSLA – Under 12's Service</b>	The service uses both outdoor and more formal programme based models of intervention to affect positive change in the young people referred to us. The young person has an assigned social worker, or is known to allied services..	Statutory	2+
<b>TUSLA – Adolescent Youth Forum/ Outreach Team</b>	The outreach team is a small group of social care workers from the Wellbeing Centre who provide a short term intervention to support the immediate needs of Children and Families who may have otherwise remained on a waiting list for services therefore increasing the risk of further deterioration.	Statutory	2+
<b>YAP – Youth Advocacy Programme</b>	YAP works in partnership with young people, families and communities, using a strengths based intensive support model that keeps young people in their communities and out of care/custody.	Statutory	3+
<b>TUSLA - COMPASS</b>	The Compass Outdoors Project provides a uniquely positive experience for young people at risk. This incorporates therapeutic outdoor activities designed to provide young people with opportunity to remove themselves from the stress and pressure of their daily life.	Statutory	2+
<b>TUSLA Aftercare and Drop in Service</b>	Aftercare services offer advice, guidance and support to young adults who have left care. This service builds on, and supports the work that has already been undertaken by many including, foster carers, social workers and residential workers in preparing young people for adulthood.	Statutory	2+

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Health and Therapeutic Services</b>			
<b>Monaghan Drug &amp; Alcohol Service</b>	Support and services to drug and alcohol users, their families and wider community. For 18+.	Voluntary	1 +
<b>Chatterbox Project</b>	Speech and language screening and support to the early years sector across Monaghan	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE Speech &amp; Language Therapy</b>	Aims to provide support, guidance and therapy to families who have a child with communication difficulties.	Voluntary	1+
<b>Child &amp; Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)</b>	For children and adolescents with serious emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties.	Voluntary	2+
<b>Emergency Department</b>	No emergency department in Monaghan Urgent medical care in Cavan General Hospital/ air ambulance	Voluntary	1+
<b>GP – Out of hours NEDOC</b>	Provides an urgent GP service to patients in counties Louth, Meath, Cavan and Monaghan	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE – Child and Adolescent Physical Health</b>	Pre-school Immunisation Programme	Voluntary	1+
	School Immunisation Programme	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE – Physiotherapy Service</b>	Provides assessment and treatment programmes to children with a disability, and to children suffering from pain, decreased strength or decreased mobility following an illness or injury.	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE – School Age Development Service</b>	Work with children aged 5-18 years, with queried or identified developmental needs, who are experiencing difficulty in their ability to function successfully across a variety of environments.	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE – Child Occupational Therapists</b>	Supports children with disabilities and their families to carry out everyday activities, within their environment by assessing for, and supplying various specialist aids and training.	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE – Ophthalmology Service</b>	Cares for medical conditions of the eye.	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE – Dept of Health Promotion &amp; Improvement</b>	Implementation of ‘Healthy Ireland’ Health Promotion process in primary and post-primary schools throughout Co. Monaghan	Voluntary	1+
<b>Mental Health Ireland</b>	Voluntary movement committed to promoting positive mental health and helping those with a mental health difficulty, their families and carers	Voluntary	1+
<b>SO SAD Carrickmacross</b>	We carry out suicide interventions, psychological assessments and offer free counselling to anyone who needs it.	Voluntary	2+
<b>Suicide Prevention –</b>	Local Resource Officer and outreach support from Pieta house	Voluntary	1+
<b>HSE: Primary Care Centres 8 Primary Care Centres:</b>	The following clinical services are provided within Primary Care:Public Health Nursing; Audiology; Ophthalmology; Dentistry; Occupational Therapy; Speech and Language therapy; Psychology; Physiotherapy; Social Work; Dietetics; School Immunisation Programme.	Statutory	1- 4
<b>Minor treatment and Xray Monaghan County Hospital</b>	Minor injuries treated no head head injuries or under twos treated . Opens 9-5pm	Statutory	

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Health and Therapeutic Services continued</b>			
<b>GROW /ontas Community Centre, Conabury, Castleblayney</b>	GROW is a Mental Health Organisation which helps people who have suffered, or are suffering, from mental health problems	Voluntary	2-3
<b>Local Government</b>			
<b>Monaghan County Council</b>	Children and young people avail of services such as playgrounds, Monaghan Sports Partnership Programmes, Arts Office, County Museum and Heritage programmes, Library Services, Comhairle na nÓg (Junior Council) and are consulted for plans such as the Local Community Development Plan and County Development Plan.	Statutory	1+
<b>Monaghan Local Community Development Committee</b>	Prepare, implement and monitor the community elements of the six-year local economic and community plan.	Statutory	1+
<b>Monaghan County Council – Housing Department</b>	Provision of housing to low income families	Statutory	1
<b>Monaghan County Library Service</b>	Lending of resources, access to information, training, cultural events, community hub, community spaces for learning and integration, access to internet	Statutory	1
<b>Monaghan County Council – Social Inclusion</b>	Helps to develop socially inclusive policies and projects across the range of local authority services.	Statutory	1
<b>Policing and Youth Justice</b>			
<b>Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDP)</b>	The projects are designed to help young people develop their sense of community and their social skills through different activities. Currently 4 in County Cavan	Voluntary/ Statutory	1, 2 & 3
<b>Probation Service</b>	Rehabilitation of offenders	Statutory	3-4
<b>An Garda Síochána – Juvenile Liaison Officer</b>	Juvenile Liaison Officer who has remit for full county of Cavan	Statutory	2-3
<b>Youth clubs and Organisations</b>			
<b>Teach na Daoine FRC Project Monaghan Town</b>	Youth Club aged 6-12 years: Arts/Crafts, Cook It Classes, Sports Activities, Discos,	Statutory	1+
<b>Voluntary &amp; Independent Youth Groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballybay Junior Club</li> <li>• Killanny Young People</li> <li>• Monday Club/Junior Club</li> </ul>		
<b>Coláiste na bhFiann/ Cumman na bFiann</b>	Cumann na bFiann organises weekly/ fortnightly Irish language youth clubs giving the students the opportunity to use and improve their spoken Irish .Monaghan Town& Carrickmacross	Voluntary	1
<b>CoderDojo Foundation</b>	Anyone aged seven to seventeen can visit a Dojo where they can learn to code, build a website, create an app or a game, and explore technology in an informal, creative, and social environment.	Voluntary	1
<b>Irish Red Cross Youth</b>	Monaghan Town Branch	Voluntary	1
<b>Young Social Innovators</b>	Young Social Innovators (YSI) promotes education for social innovation.. Social innovation learning builds wellbeing amongst young people and communities and helps build a more inclusive, empathetic, fair society. YSI is active in 6 schools in Co. Monaghan	Voluntary	1

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Youth clubs and Organisations continued</b>			
<b>Youth Work Ireland Monaghan</b>	Youth Service provision for all young people aged 10-25 living in Co.Monaghan . Detached youth work, Club Development, early school leaving support, drop in facilities for young people.Ages catered for 10-25 yrs	Voluntary	1-3
<b>Foróige</b>	10 Existing Clubs and Groups: Monaghan Neighbourhood Youth Project	Voluntary	1-3
<b>Junior Chamber Ireland</b>	JCI Monaghan is a support structure and development organisation for entrepreneurs and active citizens in their 20's and 30's. We meet monthly to learn, share and grow.	Voluntary	1
<b>Macra na Feirme</b>	3 Groups in Monaghan	Voluntary	1
<b>Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) Ireland</b>	YWCA Monaghan, include a children's bible club, young people's fellowship groups, and a group involved in late-night outreach	Voluntary	1
<b>Big Brother Big Sister</b>	Delivered by Foroige Delivered in Monaghan Town	Voluntary	2+
<b>Comhairle na nÓg</b>	Youth Council managed by Youth work Ireland	Statutory	1+
<b>Garda Youth Diversion Projects</b>	Delivered by Foroige, out of The Neighbourhood Youth Project, Mullaghmat, Monaghan Town	Statutory	3+
<b>International fund for Ireland funded Projects</b>	Youth Programme in Teach na Daoine – focusing on personal development Youth Work Ireland Monaghan IFI project in Castleblayney		
<b>Drumlin Music Education Partnership</b>	Music Generation A range of music related programmes to be delivered in Counties Cavan and Monaghan over the next 3 years: Early Years Strand School Strand Community Strand Targeted Inclusive Strand	Statutory	Universal
<b>Young People's Facilities and Services ISPC Monaghan</b>	Project offering therapeutic support to children and young people through referrals from agencies, schools etc. County-wide remit	Community	2+
<b>Crown Jesus Ministeries</b>	Youth drop in centres on North Road in Monaghan Town Youth group on Wed afternoons	voluntary	1+
<b>Faith based youth clubs</b>	Six faith based youth clubs Ballyalbanny Youth Fellowship Ballybay Youth Fellowship,Clogher Diocesan Youth Council,Praise the Youth,Drum Youth Club Vortex	voluntary	1+
<b>LGTBI support group</b>	Four support groups Carrickmacross, Monaghan Castleblayney and Clones	Voluntary	1
<b>Community Games</b>	Allows children and adolescents to partake in activities which increase their sporting and social skills.	Voluntary	1
<b>Modern Dance with Lesley</b>	Modern Dance Club, Ballet hip hop	Private	1
<b>Scouting Ireland</b>	Provide adventure and challenge programmes for boys	Voluntary	1
<b>Brownies &amp; Girl Guides</b>	4 clubs in the county Ladybirds (5-7 yrs), Brownies (7-10 yrs), Guides (10-14 yrs) and Senior Branch (14-30yrs)	Voluntary	1

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Sports and leisure</b>			
<b>Athletics Clubs</b>	Athletic clubs x 8	Voluntary	1
<b>Badminton Clubs</b>	Badminton clubs x 8	Voluntary	1
<b>Basketball Clubs - Juvenile</b>	4 Basketball Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Boxing Club</b>	9 boxing clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Bowling Clubs</b>	26 Bowling clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Camogie Clubs</b>	Clontibret Camogie Club Castleblayney Camogie Club Inniskeen Camogie Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Cricket</b>	Monaghan Cricket Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Cycling Clubs</b>	5 Cycling clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Equestrian</b>	3 equestrian centres	Voluntary & Private	1
<b>Golf</b>	6 Golf clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Gymnastics</b>	4 Gymnastic clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>GAA clubs</b>	29 GAA clubs in the county	Voluntary	1
<b>Handball Clubs</b>	8 handball clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Hurling</b>	Four Hurley Clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Kettlebell</b>	Monaghan Girevoy Kettlebell Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Martial Arts</b>	Corcaghan Karate Club Croabh Rua Medieval Combat Carrickmacross Kickboxing Club Universal Combat Arts Academy	Voluntary	1
<b>Ladies (Gaelic)</b>	19 clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Racquetball</b>	Clones Racquetball Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Rounders</b>	Carrick Emmets Rounders Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Rugby</b>	Monaghan RFC	Voluntary	1
<b>Sailing</b>	Oriel Sailing Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Soccer Clubs</b>	10 Soccer clubs throughout the County	Voluntary	1
<b>Swimming</b>	Sliabh Beagh ASC Smithboro ASC	Voluntary	1
<b>Table tennis</b>	Three Table Tennis Clubs	Voluntary	1
<b>Tennis</b>	Co. Monaghan Tennis Club	Voluntary	1
<b>Triathlon</b>	Muckno Tri Club	Voluntary	1

## Overview of services in Co. Monaghan continued

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Music Continued</b>			
<b>Carrickmacross School of Music</b>	Vocal and instrumental tuition Classical, jazz, rock, pop, traditional genres	Private Sector	1
<b>Cavan &amp; Monaghan ETB School of Music</b>	2 locations in Co. Monaghan Instrumental tuition	Statutory	1
<b>Sing for Your Soul Choir Castleblayney</b>	35 junior members	Voluntary	1
<b>Ceoltas Ceoltori Eireann</b>	24 branches in Cavan/ Monaghan engaging 1100 children and young people Voice and instrumental tuition for 0-18 yr olds	Voluntary	1
<b>Walsh Music Inniskeen</b>	200 pupils Irish traditional music Instrumental tuition; Kindermusic classe;Summer camps	Private Sector	1
<b>Blackwater Valley School of Music</b>	Instrumental tuition traditional music	Private Sector	1
<b>Bands - Pipe, accordion, brass</b>	Flute, accordion and pipe bands typically have 6-8 members: 14 bands	Voluntary	1
Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory or voluntary	Hardiker Level
<b>Targeted Projects for Young people Not in Education Employment or Training</b>			
<b>Journeys Programme - Dec 2022</b>	Run by Youth Work Ireland Personal Development, Good Relations, Citizenship, Level 3 OOI Personal and Interpersonal skills	Voluntary	1-3
<b>Employability Programme</b>	Life Coaching, Manual Handling, CV Preparation, Interview Skills, Dress for success, Presentations, Career Guidance	Voluntary	1-3
<b>Foróige Amplify</b>	Personal Development including Emotional intelligence, resilience, sense of purpose & motivation	Voluntary	1-3
<b>Youth Work Ireland Amplify</b>	Personal development and good Relations including understanding of identity & respect for other people's communities, identities & cultural background	Voluntary	1-3
<b>North Monaghan LTI Employability Programme</b>	Manual Handling & Safety Awareness Application of Numbers, Communication Career Preparation.	Voluntary	1-3
<b>Castleblayney LTI Sports &amp; Recreation</b>	QQI Level 4 including Health related Fitness, GAA QQI Level 4, Food& Nutrition, Work Experience, Communications, Human Biology, IT Skills, Word Processing, Computer Applications, Personal Effectiveness, Coaching and Refereeing qualifications	Voluntary	1-3
Personal Youth Development programme (PYPD)	The Personal Youth Development Programme aims to help young people build and develop life skills that foster good relations, build confidence and resilience and help participants to enhance their employability skills	Voluntary	1-3
Monaghan Makers	Multi Skills programme delivered through the Library includes technical design, arts, computer software	Voluntary	1-3

## Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in Monaghan

This needs analysis has been prepared taking into account the county profiling exercise, the audit of local services, the review of local research and strategies, as well as the consultations carried out as part of this planning process. It identifies the challenges faced in optimising the outcomes for children and young people in Co. Monaghan, the gaps in service provision and the priority needs identified which need to be addressed over the next three years in order to improve the outcomes. (See pages 41-50 for gaps in provision). The priority areas identified by the Monaghan CYPSC feed directly into the action plan incorporated in this plan. The actions in the plan are considered to be most appropriate means for CYPSC to add tangible value, make progress on issues of concern and ultimately to impact on creating positive outcomes for children and young people. (See page 56)

### 4.1: Challenges presented in Co. Monaghan which effect optimising outcomes for children and young people

#### **4.1.1 Dispersion of the population in Co. Monaghan**

In Co. Monaghan two thirds of the population live in rural areas as opposed to urban settings, which is the reverse of the situation in the State. The urban population of the county is concentrated around 5 main towns Monaghan Town, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Clones and Ballybay with a trend for a falling residential population in the town centres, as much single dwelling development has occurred extensively in the local rural hinterlands. The implication for the county is that of services for children and young people is more challenging especially to the more disadvantaged where private transport absent.

#### **4.1.2 Limited public transport infrastructure across the county**

Inadequate public transport is a significant concern of the young people who engaged in the consultations. The lack of routes and insufficient level of service impacts on children and young people being able to access services, on them being able to freely socialise across the county and also limits their choice in relation to education and afterschool activities. The limited public transport also impacts the families who are worst off in the county and those who live in the more peripheral areas of the county.

#### **4.1.3 Supporting the inclusion of new families**

A total of 12.2% of the population of Co. Monaghan are from an ethnic minority. The State average of ethnic minority population is 13% ,however 11 Electoral Districts have a higher than State average population of non-Irish, which equates to a population of 40.1% of the county living in culturally more diverse areas. Three EDs have over double the proportion of residents from ethnic minorities (Monaghan Town 45.7%, Castleblayney 27.8%, Clones 26.2%). The majority of the fathers are migrant workers who work in local factories, which can be isolating for the mother of the children who very often is at home without a support network or transport. St. Patricks Accommodation centre is located on the outskirts of Monaghan Town in the ED of Ballinode and can provide a home for up to 175 residents. At the end of October, it housed 158 residents with including 59 children and young people under the age of 18. Between January and March 2018, 90 Syrian people with refugee status (Approximately 20 families) moved to Co. Monaghan to Carrickmacross, Clones and Ballybay.

Lack of ability to speak English or low levels of fluency has an impact on community integration is one of the challenges presented by this high percentage of non-Irish nationals. Many statutory and community services engaging with these communities have found that often the children or young people are used to act as interpreters for their non-English speaking parents which in some cases is not at all appropriate or desirable. Differences in culture also present difficulties in relation to what is considered in Ireland as 'good enough' parenting. In order to work more effectively with parents from ethnic minorities there is a greater need to find ways to provide inclusive communities, understanding and communication.

#### **4.1.4 Unemployment levels**

While the Census figures show that there almost 50% less males unemployed (7.4%) than in the State (14.1%), there is a slightly higher proportion of unemployed females (14.3%) in Co. Monaghan than in the State (12.2%). This may also have its root in the fact that historically there has more of the population engaged in skilled and unskilled manual work (Monaghan 22.1%; State 17.9%) such as clothing manufacture, mushroom production and poultry processing and over time this type of work has decreased in availability.

Added to this there is a lower proportion of the population with third level education (26.5%) than the State (35.9%), which supports the lower proportion of higher and lower professionals compared to the State (Monaghan 29.3%; State 36.2%). It can be concluded that educational and employment aspirations may be lower in Co. Monaghan than in the State as a whole.

#### **4.1.5 High level of deprivation across the county**

Co. Monaghan ranks as the 11<sup>th</sup> most deprived county in Ireland with a relative score of -3.2. A total of 88.8% of the total population of Co. Monaghan live in electoral districts which are classified as marginally below average or disadvantaged. This level of deprivation suggests that there are very specific challenges (unemployment, low educational aspiration, low level of skills training, and low level of value on education) which are present as barriers to improving the outcomes for children and young people in the areas of the county most deeply affected by the poverty and that can be witnessed in more disadvantaged areas.

Glaslough home of Castle Leslie has a marginally above average score of +6.8 while Clones is termed disadvantaged at -15

#### **4.1.6 Inconsistent funding for youth activities and services**

A regular feature of the feedback from the consultations was in relation to limited resources (paid staff, volunteers, facilities, equipment and funding) which was hampering the level of support which could be offered to deal with issues and challenges being faced by children and young people. While Co. Monaghan has been fortunate to have been able to access funding support through a cross border PEACE programme, this funding has been time bound with gaps of 1-2 years between programme thereby hampering consistencies of service delivery. Specific feedback from young people reflect that there is "not enough" youth service provision in place in the county – for example, not enough staffed hours at youth hubs, not enough activities, not enough support services, not enough information.

## **4.2 Gaps in the provision of facilities/services for children and young people in Co. Monaghan**

### ***4.2.1 Limited availability of specific specialist services for children and young people in Co. Monaghan***

During the course of the research, consultation and audit a number of areas have emerged where very specific services for children and young people are either completely lacking or significantly limited. These include:

- Counselling services
- Early Intervention mental health support (especially to deal with anxiety)
- Resilience building supports
- Youth suicide support
- Self-harm supports
- Support services for children and young people experiencing or witnessing domestic violence
- Capacity building for those working with young people who are witnessing domestic abuse, to be able to effectively engage in conversations with young people about it.
- Drugs and alcohol addiction services for under 18s
- Support for those with family members who are addicts or alcoholics

### ***4.2.2 Provision of staffed youth hubs for young people to “hang out” and socialise safely***

Co. Monaghan has some well-established youth hubs in Monaghan Town, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney and Clones. A recent addition to this number is the opening of a youth space in Ballybay and there are plans afoot to develop a dedicated youth space as part of a planned Peace Campus in Monaghan town. The youth hub infrastructure is an important element in the engagement of older children and young people in support and training which will improve their outcomes (counselling, mentoring, training, access to education, encouragement, understanding and a listening ear when they are in difficulties).

The provision of staff-led youth hubs ensures a greater level of sustainability within the service which then wraps around voluntary led youth services and activities.

Additionally, there are some areas in the county where detached youth work is available especially at weekends and late at night, a model whereby the youth workers are out on the streets of the town particularly on weekend nights engaging with the most vulnerable and marginalised young people.

Feedback from young people through the consultation, suggested that the limiting factor in relation to these youth spaces, is their opening hours, with a request for long opening hours especially at weekends. This request can only be met by the allocation of additional resources to youth projects.

### ***4.2.3 Consistent and ongoing support for parents***

In 2016, Parenting Monaghan was established as the first robust support for parents in the county. An interagency initiative, it has found its feet in the first year of operation (2017) and is currently seeking ways to sustain this coordinated support for parents in Monaghan. This initiative provides training and development opportunities for parents through the provision of “Parents Plus”<sup>12</sup> Parenting Programmes for all key stages of childhood development. In addition, there are continually developing challenges especially in relation to access to technology and social influences (drink, drugs, bullying) which may be present, and which can be addressed through training. Through the consultation it has also been suggested that tailored parenting courses could be delivered for parents of children and young people with disabilities. Also, by training the cultural champions to deliver parenting programmes they can adapt the language to deliver the programme in

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<sup>12</sup> <https://www.parentsplus.ie/>

the cultural context of the families from ethnic minorities. With the development of a new Parenting Unit within the DCYA and the recent publication of the First Five Strategy; A whole of Government approach for Babies Children and Young People and the recently published Implementation plan 2019-2021, there are indications that a national approach to providing parental supports is planned “A continuum of parenting services – ranging from universal to targeted – including high-quality parenting programmes”, will also be made available”<sup>13</sup>. While it is not clear at present how these supports will be delivered, Parenting Monaghan continues to evolve and will respond to the needs of parents within the county.

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<sup>13</sup> <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/earlyyears/20190522First5ImplementationPlan22May2019.pdf>

#### ***4.2.4 Single point of information for all things relating to children and young people***

Whilst Parenting Monaghan is an excellent initiative for parental support in the county, there is an additional need for other points of information to access support from peers and signposting to activities and services available in the county from time to time or when they identify a need.

One of the consistent features of feedback from the consultations undertaken was the request for information on activities, services and signposting for parents, for young people and families to be able to access when needs arise.

Feedback from the consultations identified a gap in a “one-stop-shop” for information relating to children and young people – from the range of activities that are provided in the county to information about specific niche therapeutic services like mental health support and everything in between. This type of one-stop-shop could respond to the needs of parents and also the needs of young people. Building on the work of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC, a new [cavanmonaghanservices.ie](http://cavanmonaghanservices.ie) website has been developed in an effort to bring information on services to one place for parents.

#### ***4.2.5 Limited number of Family Resource Centres for the county***

There are only two Family Resource Centres (FRCs) in Co. Monaghan for a population of 61,386 and both of them are towards the north of the county – Monaghan Town and Clones. FRCs are considered as a gateway into the community and can facilitate the connecting of services to some of the families with greater needs in the community. FRCs are particularly necessary in more rural areas where the population is more widely dispersed, and services are more difficult to deliver. In Co. Kerry there are 12 FRCs, which equates to 12,296 per FRC, compared to 30,693 per FRC in Co. Monaghan. It has been suggested that because FRCs are identified as community organisations, sensitive services can be delivered through their premises without the stigma that some associate with accessing these services through their delivery organisations i.e. family support or child protection services offered by Tusla.

There is a case to be made for at least one other FRC to be located in the county – potentially in Carrickmacross. At present there is a natural inclination for people living in this area to look to Dundalk to access services, as Dundalk is considered in the natural hinterland of Carrickmacross, more so than Castleblayney. This is currently the case with counselling support offered through Tusla and there is some question whether this situation will be allowed to continue. If an FRC was to be established in Carrickmacross services such as counselling could be offered locally through its offices.

#### ***4.2.6 Absence of specific integrated single-issue support groups and strategic approach to developing supports and information***

At present in Co. Monaghan there are LGTBI+ support groups in Carrickmacross, Monaghan town, Clones and Castleblayney, however these groups are operated by different youth organisations and do not necessarily have any formal opportunities for interaction. There are plans to hold some joint events this year which will help to build connections between these groups. Feedback from LGBTI+ focus groups clearly identified the need for awareness building and education especially in the school environment around the area of sexual identity and preference. Young people who have identified with belonging to the LGTBI+ community experience a difficult enough time themselves in coming to this place of recognition but universally spoke of the challenging environment that school provided with the lack of understanding and education amongst the teaching and student cohorts. This experience is impacting negatively on their educational aspirations as many want to leave the second level school system as quickly as possible. LGBTI+ support groups help to offer some level of support to these young people, however the need in the school environment is a significant one to be met. Additionally, young people spoke of the need for parental and sibling support in the county.

Other niche support groups which have been identified in the research and consultation are in relation to the young travelling community, youth with disabilities and young vulnerable adults (18-24yrs) who need some sort of advocacy support. There are plans to redevelop an Interagency group for Monaghan Travellers and the CYPSC coordinator will link with this group to progress actions identified such as encouraging young Travellers to stay in education and training through apprenticeship and training programmes targeting this cohort of young people.

#### ***4.2.7 Limited accessible activities and services for disabled children and young people***

The experience of the parents of disabled children and young people, is one of being consistently in a battle for basic services and considerations for their children. There is little or no opportunity for children and young people with all manner of disability in the county to integrate in mainstream youth activities and services which will offer them recreation, entertainment and socialisation opportunities.

The issue is even worse when the young people reach the age of 18, when the provision of basic but appropriate facilities and engagement services (day centres) are lacking integration opportunities. There is a significant deficit of services in the county for young people 18yrs + with disabilities including:

- Support services for parents of young adults with disabilities 18+yrs
- Lack of respite services
- Lack of training or educational opportunities past secondary school
- Absence of dedicated social workers for disabled children and young people
- Absence of independent living options

The CYPSC coordinator will link with the Disability Network group to prioritise and work on some of the issues highlighted through this consultation.

#### **4.2.8 Challenges in engaging with NEETs (Not in education, employment or training) and supporting them to progress in life**

As the country has continued to make progress in relation to its post-recession recovery the number of young people on the live register has fallen, which is a positive factor. The number of young people who are classified as NEETs (Not in education, employment and training) is not captured in one specific statistic in Co. Monaghan. One can generate a sense of the proportion of young people who fall into this category by examining the statistics for:

- *the Live Register figures for Under 25s -these figures also include young people working part-time (Monaghan: Dec 2017 - 274 young people)*
- *The historic proportion of early school leavers (Monaghan 3.2% of enrolment 2011/12 – potentially 100 per year)*
- *Figures relating to retention to Leaving Certificate (Monaghan 2010 cohort - 92.25% - loss of 7.75%)*

There is a real challenge presented in working with this cohort of young people as very often school refusal and non-engagement in further training can be a result of other challenges being faced by the young person – learning difficulties, lack of confidence, mental health issues, substance misuse, engagement in anti-social or criminal behaviour, lack of local role models, multi-generational unemployment, lack of direction, low motivation etc.

#### **4.2.9 Mechanisms to identify vulnerable and support children and young people**

Within every community there are children and young people who for a myriad of reasons will be more vulnerable than others. Factors such as neglect, abuse, poverty, parental alcohol abuse, low educational aspirations, learning difficulties, behavioural difficulties, domestic violence in the home, mental illness in the home, absence of a parent through death or separation and caring responsibilities can impact on how successfully a child navigates through childhood and young adulthood.

CYPSC Monaghan is committed to research and engage with different approaches to responding to pinpointing vulnerability at all ages and stages of development. The research evidence indicates that the earlier vulnerability is identified and supported, the better the outcomes for the child or young person in the long term. “Early investment in the lives of disadvantaged children will help reduce inequality in both the long and short run” Heckman (2006)<sup>14</sup>

### **4.3 Areas of focus identified by Monaghan CYPSC**

During 2017 Monaghan CYPSC had four sub-groups devised around four key projects being delivered during the year. With the finalisation of the CYPSC Plan, it is the intention of the committee to form 6 sub-groups aligned to the 5 National Outcomes identified in the Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020 and the Goal 1 - supporting Parents:

- **Outcome 1: Are active and healthy with positive physical and mental well-being**
- **Outcome 2: Are achieving full potential in all areas of learning & development**
- **Outcome 3: Are safe and protected from harm**
- **Outcome 4: Have economic security and opportunity**
- **Outcome 5: Are connected, respected and contributing to their world**
- **Goal 1: Parenting supports in Co. Monaghan**
- **Goal 2: Supporting Youth Mental Health**
- **Change management: Cultivating greater collaboration between agencies**

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<sup>14</sup> Skill Formation and the Economics of Investing in Disadvantaged Children James J. Heckman 2006

#### **4.3.1 Outcome 1: Active and healthy – physical and mental wellbeing**

There is universal concern in Co. Monaghan for the health and well-being of children and young people. This concern was reflecting in the consultations undertaken and also in the statistics. Under the first round of Healthy Ireland awards in 2017, a number of initiatives were launched in the county with a focus on physical and mental wellbeing:

- Healthy School Initiative
- Be happy, be healthy Initiative
- LGBTI+ Initiative
- Female Participation in Sports
- Late night soccer

Under the second round of applications to the Healthy Ireland Fund Monaghan CYPSC identified a number of initiatives which build on the foundation of Healthy Ireland Round 1 initiatives and engage the members on an interagency basis. The key areas of interests are:

- Physical families: getting families physical “Fizzical” through non- competitive sports
- Fitness camp for young NEET people devising a fitness and nutrition camp for young people who were not engaged in education employment or training.
- Inclusion through Sports: Introducing different sports to pupils ensuring that children who do not identify will the more traditional Irish sport have an opportunity to showcase their talents in tennis, basketball, etc.

Monaghan Integrated Development and The National Childhood Network QCBI were successful in securing Innovation Funding through the Quality Capacity Building Initiative. And both will be rolling out their respective project cultural champions<sup>15</sup> and the Lifestart project which has enabled NCN to employ a Lifestart worker

National Childhood Network (NCN) is also working with the Health Promotion and Improvement Division of the HSE to deliver the Healthy Ireland Smart Start programme to Pre-school services in the county as part of a Healthy Ireland nationwide initiative to support the development of health promoting pre-school services that enhance children’s health and well-being. Staff from nine pre-school services completed the training in 2018 and are currently working to implement the programme with a view to achieving the Healthy Ireland Award in 2019.

The DCYA has also funded National Childhood Network to work with the HSE Nurture Team to develop a Smart Start programme for the Under 3 year olds.

#### **4.3.2 Outcome 2: Achieving in education and development**

As outlined previously one of the gaps identified in Co. Monaghan, which ultimately relates to poorer outcomes for children and young people in most need, has been an equitable mechanism for identifying vulnerability at an early age therefore allowing early intervention measures to be employed. The 0-3 age group can be supported and signposted through the Public Health Nurse developmental checks and parent and toddler groups can be another way to introduce programmes to enhance the learning and development of the 0-3 age group.

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<sup>15</sup> Cultural champions are volunteers from ethnic minorities which have trained to deliver parents plus into their own communities. They have also received training in child protection and advocacy work

The consensus of opinion is that this early identification of vulnerability can most effectively be undertaken where there is interagency approach to supporting young babies and children and the learning and development group will work closely with the Outcome 1 subgroup to develop an framework or forum for focusing on these crucial early years and Infant mental health.

Developing better interagency protocols will support more efficient ways of complementing supports and services within the Monaghan area for families and help break the stigma for parents seeking advice and support. The new NCN Lifestart; The Growing Child initiative provides home based support, to parents who can self-register for support but also outside agencies have signposted this service to families leading to 35 families received support in a short time frame. The Lifestart worker provides support to new-born children and is an additional support to parents in advancing children's education and development from the earliest days up to the child's second birthday. Preschool practitioners and teachers very often can identify vulnerable children and young people through the pre-school and the primary school education system. Currently there are 59 Early Learning and Care Services but while there are clear pathways for practitioners and teachers to signpost families who may need support to the Better Start Access and Inclusion Model, Meitheal and Tusla, some parents are reluctant to engage with services.

There are 62 primary schools, only 8 of the primary schools have DEIS status. Therefore, Home School Liaison services are currently only reaching 4.96% of schools in total. An Education Support Service would typically engage with children at primary and secondary school level in relation to academic, social and emotional issues identified particularly in children from a more disadvantaged background, that are preventing them from engaging fully in the education process and which will often mean school refusal at a later stage.

Added to this, there is a need for more support at the key transition stages of Pre-school to Primary, Primary to Second level and Second level to Third level. Programmes of support for these key transitions are ad-hoc and dependent on schools and their resources to implement. Therefore, it is considered of relevance and need to develop consistent transition support in relation to materials for parents, guidance for parents through Parenting Monaghan and through robust induction programmes and support systems integration the schools with other supports systems which may be identified as required.

The natural resilience of children and young people has been a concern in an age when they are subjected to many challenging forces in their day-to-day – the foremost of these being the exposure to and influence of technology and how it impacts on their relationships with others and perceptions of themselves. This thinking was confirmed through the consultations especially with young people. It is the desire of Monaghan CYPSC to develop and pilot the use of resilience building tools which will be made available to all children and young people in the county.

#### **4.3.3 Outcome 3: Safe and secure**

Keeping children and young people safe from harm is a priority for everyone in the community and to that end in 2017 a Child Protection Week was planned and supported by CYPSC with the objective of raising awareness about a variety of different ways in which children and young people can be supported to be as safe and secure as possible in Co. Monaghan. It is planned that this initiative be undertaken in each year of the plan.

In 2017, Co. Monaghan was introduced in a significant way to the research behind the measurement of "Adverse Childhood Experiences" as a means of understanding the challenges faced by children and young people in relation to their cognitive and physical development as well as their psychological and physical wellbeing. Through the inclusion of Tusla in a CAWT (Co-operation and Working Together) INTERREG 4A funded project "Children's Services: Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences" there will be a concentrated effort over the next three years to gather research on ACEs in Northern Ireland and the Border Counties in

addition to an opportunity to educate and inform key stakeholders in the insight that the ACE score can give in relation to dealing with challenges facing children and young people.

One concerning gap in service provision identified by stakeholders and young people alike, was the provision of services for children and young people exposed to domestic abuse. The Cavan and Monaghan area has the lowest spend on Domestic Abuse related services per child/young person in the country at €4.34 compared with the highest at €34.56 in Dublin North City. Regarding Sexual violence and rape crisis services, there is a limited outreach service one day a week from Rape Crisis, Mullingar which is almost 2hours (119km) away for Monaghan residents is the nearest SATU unit for young people who have been assaulted. A border gender based sexual violence needs analysis is currently underway from TUSLA in the border counties which CYPSC members have contributed to. Members of this focus group indicated a willingness to sit as a working group to continue to advocate for better services in this region for people affected by gender based sexual violence and domestic violence, as in addition to services targeted specifically at children and young people it was identified that there was also a need to train those working with children and young people in how to have conversations about domestic abuse. As mentioned previously, identifying vulnerable children early is key to creating circumstances where they can achieve better outcomes.

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

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas
<b>1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical activity, diet and nutrition and oral hygiene</li> <li>• Emotional and Mental health</li> <li>• Promotion, Prevention, and Early intervention</li> <li>• Support the Suicide Prevention action plan</li> <li>• Drugs and alcohol misuse</li> </ul>
<b>2. Achieving full potential in learning and development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early intervention - identifying vulnerable children and young people through the Lifestart initiative, early years, school age childcare settings as well as within the formal education system</li> <li>• Signpost to support agencies Better Start</li> <li>• Building resilience</li> <li>• Support key transitions from birth</li> </ul>
<b>3. Safe &amp; protected from harm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Protection awareness</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse</li> <li>• Safe socialising</li> <li>• Family support</li> <li>• Identifying vulnerability using the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) tool and build the capacity of the community to support children with ACES.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Economic security and opportunity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NEETs reduce the number of young Neets people in Monaghan</li> <li>• Consult and evaluate with young NEET people to learn from interventions that work and don’t work</li> <li>• Work together to reduce early school leaving and reduce absenteeism</li> <li>• Develop a pro-active approach to the employment of young people with a disability</li> <li>• Support the promotion of the affordable, accessible quality</li> </ul>

	childcare services
<b>5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the inclusion of disadvantaged, minority children &amp; young people and their sense of identity and belonging within their community.</li> <li>• Participation of young people</li> <li>• Raise awareness of LGBTI+ issues for young people in schools and community</li> <li>• Disadvantaged children and young people</li> <li>• Local Transport</li> </ul>

Transformational goals	Local Priority Areas
6. Supporting parents	<p>Supporting Parenting Monaghan and using targeted and universal parenting programmes.</p> <p>Further development of a coordinated approach to parental supports universal to targeted with a focus on infant mental health</p>
7. Listen to and involve children and young people	<p>Making stronger links with Comhairle na nÓg and ensure the voice of children and young people is heard through regular consultations and having young people sit on the committee.</p> <p>Ensure the voice of Under 5's is heard through consultations with young children within preschools</p>
8. Mental Health Priorities	<p>Developing a community response to suicide</p> <p>Development of referral pathways document for mental health services</p> <p>Continue to advocate for more youth mental health services and addiction services for the under 18years</p>

## Section 6: Action Plan for the Monaghan Children and Young People’s Plan

### ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S 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	Links to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal (S)
<b>1) Mental Health: Support for antenatal women and new mums and infants.</b>	<p>1.1 The new outcome 1 subgroup will establish a focus on infant mental health, self-care and play with new parents</p> <p>1.2 Establish and co-design a model of support for women commencing in antenatal phase in partnership with relevant statutory and community providers.</p> <p>1.3 Support the implementation of the Life-start project</p>	<p>The number of antenatal women attending programmes</p> <p>Interagency group to develop questionnaire for consultation with antenatal/ new mums.</p> <p>Offer support to 35 families per year</p>	<p>100 Antenatal mums and new parents per year</p> <p>0-3 age group</p> <p>35 families engaged and supported through the Lifestart home visitor per year</p>	<p>Provide/link parents to a community based antenatal and postnatal evidence- based supports which promote and enhance physical and mental health and wellbeing of parents and infants.</p> <p>Suite of programmes talks available on a rolling basis to expectant women and new mums/carers</p> <p>Support the Launch of the project CYPSC Coordinator on steering group committee Referrals to the life start programme will be through a combinations of agencies; PPFS, Tusla, FRCS,PHNS</p>	<p>2019-2021</p> <p>2019-2021</p> <p>2019-2021 (funding dependant)</p>	<p>CYPSC</p> <p>HSE - Primary care</p> <p>FRCs</p> <p>TUSLA</p> <p>CFNS</p> <p>CAMHS</p> <p>NCN</p> <p>PHNS</p> <p>Enable Ireland</p> <p>Co. Childcare Committee</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland – Healthy Monaghan</p> <p>LECP 5.3</p> <p>National Youth Mental Health Task Force</p> <p>National Youth Strategy</p> <p>CH01 Youth MH</p> <p>Healthy Ireland Smart Start Plan for Pre-school services</p> <p>Health Promoting Pre-schools</p> <p>Development of the Nurture programme for Under3’s</p>	<p>Outcome 2</p> <p>Transformational Goal:</p> <p>1:Support Parents</p> <p>2:Early Intervention&amp; Prevention</p>

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

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

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal (S)</i>
<b>2) Promoting well-being and teaching positive mental health techniques and tips to young people</b>	2.1 Provision of group training in Decider skills training	Reduction in referrals for young people presenting with anxiety 19.79% of referrals for young people 0-24years with anxiety(2018)	Train 30 people in the delivery of the decider skills 500 young people to benefit from the training	Programmes delivered at key transition times and prior to junior cert and in youth groups	2019-2021	YWI Primary Schools Secondary schools Foroige CMETB LCDC Mental Health Ireland Primary care services Disability Services CYPSC Comhairle na nOg	Connecting for life 1.1.3 LGBTI+11b BOBF	Outcome 2 Transformational Goal: 2: Early Intervention & Prevention 1: Support Parents
	2.1 Support children and young people and increased awareness of looking after their mental health.	Questionnaire on children's wellbeing developed and completed with children	2,000 posters to be distributed	Different message for different age groups	2019-2020			
<b>3) Promote the services and supports already in Monaghan</b>	2.3 Develop child friendly "Little Things" poster campaign suitable for 0-5yrs olds, 6-11 yr  3.1 A directory of services to be established and used to signpost families to appropriate activities delivered in Co. Monaghan by a range of services and agencies	Children involved the design using the Lundy model  cavanmonaghanservices.ie to be launched in June 19. Number of searches per month	Track number of searches for services conducted aim for 750 searches per month	Launch of website and plan together in June 19 An appropriate use of analytics will inform the committee which services are searched for most frequently Link to new mychild.ie health website once launched	Ongoing			

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

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

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal (S)</i>
<b>4) Awareness building of Multiple Adverse Childhood experiences (MACES)</b>	<p>4.1 Build awareness across communities of ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and the impact it can have on families.</p> <p>4.2 Support the signposting of families with Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences(MACEs)</p>	<p>2,000 people per year</p> <p>20 Targeted families per year universal interventions delivered to an additional 500 children</p>	<p>10 training and information events on ACES per year</p> <p>20 families with MACEs to be offered targeted support through the MACE project per year</p>	<p>Awareness building of ACES Training to administer the ACES tool Training to support a child with ACES</p> <p>Utilise Child and Family networks to signpost families for targeted support.</p> <p>Targeted and universal activities to reduce the impact of ACES to be delivered through schools.</p>	2019-2021	<p>CYPSC HSE Primary schools Secondary Schools MCCC NCN TUSLA FRCs PPFS CFN</p>	<p>Tusla 5.1.3 Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework</p>	<p>1.Support parents</p> <p>2.Early Intervention and Prevention</p>
<b>5 )Physical activity, diet &amp; nutrition</b>	<p>5.1 Raise awareness of the important of nutrition, oral health and exercise in the development of positive outcomes for children</p> <p>5.2 Promoting a healthy weight for Ireland campaign NCN/HSE will provide Healthy Ireland Smart Start Training to additional pre-school services</p> <p>5.3 Support the Healthy Ireland schools and NEETS Initiatives</p>	<p>Increased numbers of children taking part in Healthy Families and Physical families programmes</p> <p>HISS Programme delivered in 8 Pre-schools for the next 3 years</p> <p>The number of young people reporting positive outcomes</p>	<p>Primary school children who are not exercising for 1 hour per day ensuring access for children living in direct provision; ethnic minorities and children from the Traveller community</p> <p>8 preschools to receive Healthy Ireland award per year</p> <p>200 young people taking part in these activities across the project</p>	<p>On - going review support and championing of the Healthy Families Program</p> <p>Deliver a specific program of targeted low level, non - competitive physical activity for primary school children and their families in their community</p> <p>Expand the Late night soccer league program to include content on nutrition</p> <p>Support and champion Smart Start programme in preschools Support and champion the range of activities for pre-schoolers including those delivered by NCN,</p> <p>On -going review of the programmes and attendance and reported outcomes from facilitators and participants</p>	<p>2018-2020</p> <p>2019-2021</p> <p>2019</p>	<p>HSE CYPSC LCDC Primary Schools Secondary School Youth organisations Monaghan Sports Partnership FRCs Preschools LCDC NCN MID</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland National Physical Activity Plan A Healthy Weight for Ireland National Youth Strategy LECP 5.3 HSE Healthy Families Peace Link Plan Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework- Buntus Smart Start</p>	<p>Outcome 2 Transformational Goal: 1: Support Parents 2: Early Intervention &amp; Prevention 3: Listen to and involve young people 4: Ensure quality services</p>

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S 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	Links to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal (S)
<b>6) Respond effectively to sexual health and relationship needs of all young people</b>	6.1 Ensure that education is made available to frontline healthcare staff and education providers both informal and formal and youth workers parents, peers and allies.	100 staff trained each year x 3years	300 Teachers youth workers healthcare professionals trained	Training delivered through the Monaghan Education centre.	2019-2021	ETB CYPSC YWI FOROIGE Monaghan Education centre	LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy 2018-2020	2: Early Intervention & Prevention
	6.2 Support consultations with young people and the development of specific supports for the LGBT+ community in Monaghan town and continue to support and champion the work Youth Work Ireland and Foroige	2 consultations carried out in Monaghan	20 Young people from the LGBTI+ community	Co design of supports with young people from the LGBTI+ community Work with YWI CMETB Monaghan Education Centre, Tusla to develop a training module which will raise awareness of LGBTI+ issues and support services.				
<b>7)Suicide prevention</b>	7.1 Supporting Connecting for Life in the reduction of suicides of young people and adults in the county	Number of safe talk and assist programmes delivered  More youth mental health services available in Monaghan	Target post primary to run 2 safe talk programmes per year	Support and champion Stress Management Training Programme Ongoing availability of assist and safe talk training Support the delivery of the connecting for Life Action Plan in relation to children and young people Participation of CYPSC Co-ordinator in Connect for Life forums relating to youth Creating a trauma informed community through the MACE project	2018-2021	HSE CYPSC LCDC	Connecting for Life Suicide Prevention Strategy LECP 5.3 National Youth Strategy LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy 2018-2020	Transformational Goal – Earlier Intervention & Prevention

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

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

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)</i>
<b>8) Early intervention – Identifying vulnerable children and young people</b>	8.1 Improve the process for identifying vulnerable children and young people in schools leading to interventions which prevent early school leaving and other social and emotional issues developing to crisis level	Numbers of children and young people being identified for additional support Percentage decrease	Children At risk of early school leaving/ high levels of absenteeism 2% decrease of children leaving school early	Evaluate mechanism to liaise with and support teachers to identify vulnerability Support mechanism identified to collaborate with schools Undertake needs analysis in relation to Home School Liaison service available in the county and level of afterschool clubs available	2018-2020	CYPSC Primary Schools Secondary CMETB Schools Monaghan Education Centre DES	LECP Goal 2 Tusla Area Commissioning Plan National Youth Strategy Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework	Outcome 3 Economic security and opportunity. Transformational Goal 2: Early Intervention and prevention
<b>9. Building awareness of resilience</b>	9.1 Creating awareness of the role parents have in building their child's resilience  9.2 Work with NCN to help create a video for parents/ early years sector to raise awareness of the benefits of play for pre-school children	Decrease in referrals of anxiety in children  Parents will have a greater understanding of play including risky play Children will have a greater understanding of their right to play	2% decrease  Development of a video by pre-school children on the benefits of play	Promote stress control talks for parents Support the Healthy Monaghan Plan to create more opportunities for families to play outdoors.  Support the development of 1 video by pre-school children for parents on the benefits of play Talk on benefits of Risky Play for children	2019	CYPSC Primary Schools Monaghan Institute ISPCC Foroige Health Promotion HSE Monaghan Education Centre MCCC NCN	HSE Mental Health Connecting for Life National Youth Strategy  Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework Siolta Healthy Ireland Ready Steady Play Policy	Outcome 1: Active and healthy. Physical and mental wellbeing.
<b>10. Support key transitions</b>	10.1 Provide support for transitions from primary to second level school and second to third level	Schools have access to a downloadable resource that they can use with their students	Resource developed for primary to secondary school in Monaghan	Develop own resource similar to "Mind the Gap" transitions publication for Co. Monaghan to support the transition from primary to second level school. Higher levels of integration and successful transition at key stages. Funding for the preschool transition resource developed by Monaghan CCC	2019	CYPSC Secondary Schools Primary Schools DES	National Youth Strategy Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework	Outcome 1: Active and healthy Transformational Goal 5: Supporting transitions

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

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

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)</i>
<b>11.Early Years forum</b>	11.1 Support the development of a forum which focuses on the needs and rights of babies and young children 0-6yrs and provides universal support to parents and delivers information on Infant mental health	Forum developed and plan drawn up for the year of information talks/workshops	12 free talks/workshops per year for new parents	Develop a suite of programmes /talks which will enhance the development of early relationships between parents and their children. Building on parent's skills and knowledge of their own well-being and child's well-being.	2019-20	CYPSC outcome 1 and 2 subgroups CFSN MCCC Primary Care PPFS CAMHS NCN	Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework Child Health Strategy CHO1 First Five :A whole Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019-2028.	1:Support parents
	11.2 Clear signposting for families and Early Years services for Meitheal, PPFS Support	Number of preschool practitioners trained in Meitheal.	25% of Early years services trained in Meitheal	Promote FRCS & Early Years Services as places for families to find out about and avail of support.	2019-2021	Monaghan Education centre PPFS Enable Ireland PHN		2: Early Intervention & Prevention
	11.3 Earlier Intervention for Children with additional needs	All preschools aware of AIM (Access and Inclusion Model) and how to apply for support	100% of Early years services aware of AIM and referral pathways for additional support for children	Information talk on AIM at the start of each year and establish links with the Early Years Inclusion Specialist Leaflets on AIM distributed to parents through primary clinics, preschools, Enable Ireland and through parenting programmes	2019-2021			

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

**Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm**

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)</i>
<b>12.Child protection awareness</b>	12.1 Development of Monaghan Public Awareness Week (PAW)	Collate the number of attendees throughout the county to the range of events and activities	250 people attending events and seminars annually	<u>Universal</u> Deliver a week- long programme of public awareness themed events in Monaghan building on last year's child protection event  Series of public seminars, events and workshops all aimed at promoting a better understanding of the support and services there are available to local families	Annual	Tusla CYPSC – Sub-group 3 FRCs CFSNC ISPCC	Children First 2017 Tusla Area Commissioning Plan National Youth Strategy	Transformation Goals 1: Support parents 2: Early Intervention & Prevention 3: Listen to and involve children and young people
<b>13.Domestic Abuse</b>	13.1 Support the awareness raising of domestic violence and abuse	Provide training on supporting children living with DV 150 Pre-school Staff Primary & second level teachers, youth workers in the county trained	<i>50 staff trained per year for 3 years</i>	Explore and identify training programmes that will develop the capacity of adults supporting children and young people living with DV	2019-2021  2019, 2020	CYPSC Tusla Garda DV & Sexual Assault Unit, Cootehill Primary and Secondary Schools YWI Foróige NCN	National Strategy on Domestic, sexual & Gender-based violence 2016-21 Tusla Area Commissioning Plan	Outcome 1: Active and healthy Outcome 5: Respected and connected
	13.2 Support the development of supports for children and young people who witness DA/DV in the home  13.3 Produce fact sheet on DV for young people and distribute through schools youth clubs	Improve supports available to victims  Raise awareness in young people around consent and unhealthy relationships	Tender Loving Care and other relevant training x 3  2000 factsheets produced and distributed to schools	Explore with Safe Ireland the ISPCC and Tusla the options available for intervention programmes for children and young people who witness DA/DV in the home.  Explore funding options under which training of support staff could be rolled out in Co. Monaghan and promote the programme delivery Work with young people to develop factsheet on raising awareness about domestic violence issues.	2019-2021  2019 - 2020	CYPSC – Sub-group 3 TUSLA Garda DV & Sexual Assault Unit, Cootehill ISPCC Tearmann Youth Work Ireland Foroige	National Strategy on Domestic, sexual & Gender-based violence 2016-21	Outcome 5: Respected and connected

ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S 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	Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)
<b>14. Family Support</b>	<p>14.1 Identify the most suitable family support model for Monaghan which will provide family support</p> <p>14.2 Identify how early years and school age childcare services in Monaghan support parents /families and consider how this support could be strengthened and developed</p>	<p>Understanding amongst key stakeholders about the different options of early intervention support models e.g. Life Start, ACEs, Community Mothers</p> <p>Work with service providers/NCN/CCC to explore different ways of building partnerships with parents</p>	<p>Conference/educational seminar with 100 key stakeholders attending showcasing examples of Family support</p> <p>Network of providers created with a focus on early intervention</p>	<p>Deliver a conference to inform and educate key stakeholders allowing them to develop greater insight into the early intervention family support options being used in Ireland and elsewhere.</p> <p>Highlight how high quality early years and school age childcare services who work in partnership with parents can support families</p>	2019-2021	<p>CYPSC Tusla ISPCC HSE Monaghan Childcare Committee NCN early years services</p>	Tusla Area Commissioning Plan	<p>Outcome 2: Achieving in learning &amp; development Transformational Goals – Support Parents</p>
<b>15. Safe socialising</b>	15.1 Making junior discos a safer place for young people	Build the capacity of young people to make informed choices about safe socialising.	Reduction in recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour and crime	<p>NASA Initiative engaging bus companies to become alcohol and drug free zones for under 18s</p> <p>Cross sectoral engagement to ensure a safer environment at junior discos</p> <p>Further develop work of Monaghan Safe Socialising Committee</p>	2019-2020	<p>Monaghan Youth Networks Monaghan County Council An Garda Siochana MID CMETB Comhairle na nÓg</p>	<p>Monaghan Drug and Alcohol Strategic Plan 2016-2021 LECP 5.3 National Youth Strategy LGBTI+ Objective 2 Healthy Ireland – Healthy Monaghan SICAP 2018-23</p>	<p>Outcome 1 Transformational Goal: 1 Support parents</p> <p>6. Collaboration and coordination</p>
	<p>15.2 Engagement of young people in positive lifestyle choices at vulnerable times to avoid anti-social behaviour</p> <p>15.3 All youth services to be more inclusive of LGBTI+ young people and other marginalised young people</p>	<p>Reduction in incidents of anti-social behaviour</p> <p>More diverse groups of young people attending mainstream clubs</p>	<p>% reduction in referrals to JLO</p> <p>% of children who feel discriminated against</p>	<p>Late Night Leagues x 2 Annually at Winter and Summer time: North Monaghan Town &amp; South Monaghan</p> <p>Don't Pour Your Dreams Away Junior cert initiative</p> <p>Creating environments and safe socialising places which are inclusive for all young people</p>	2018-2020	<p>Foroige LCDC MID CMETB YWI Co Council Monaghan Youth Networks An Garda Siochana</p>	<p>Monaghan Drug and Alcohol Strategic Plan 2016-2021 LECP 5.3 National Youth Strategy LGBTI+ Objective 2 Healthy Ireland – Healthy Monaghan SICAP 2018-23</p>	<p>Outcome 5 Transformational Goal: 1: Support Parents</p> <p>2. Earlier intervention and prevention</p>

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

**Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm**

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)</i>
<b>16. Drugs and Alcohol Misuse</b>	16.1 Link-in with existing drugs and alcohol forums to ensure the youth agenda is progressed in relation to developing drugs and alcohol supports for U18	Advocate for and secure an addiction counsellor for young people under 18 being delivered in the county	Delivery of a dual diagnosis service for U18s	Continue to write letters of support from CYPSC and regularly review and highlight the need for and under 18s addiction counsellor	2019	NERDF North East Regional Alcohol & Drugs Forum HSE FRCs CYPSC NE Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force Cavan Monaghan Drug and Alcohol services	Monaghan Drug and Alcohol Strategic Plan 2016-2021 COCO LECP 5.3 National Drug and Alcohol Strategy Reducing Harm Supporting Recovery National Youth Strategy	Outcome 3 Transformational Goal: 1: Support Parents 2 Early Intervention & Prevention 4: Ensure quality services
	16.2 Support the delivery of Monaghan Drugs & Alcohol Forum action plan on actions relating to youth	Run Parents under pressure programme  Run sibling support programme	Parents under pressure x1 per year I programme delivered per year	Support the NERDF in promotion of programmes for: Sibling Support Programme Support & Strengthen Families	2019-2021			

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

**Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity**

<i>Priority Area (To be identified based on the local needs analysis.)</i>	<i>Objective(s) (A brief statement of what the CYPSC wants to accomplish in relation to each priority area. The objective(s) should be measurable.)</i>	<i>Indicators (The measure which will be used to determine whether the objective is being achieved.)</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities (The activities that the CYPSC will undertake to deliver on its objectives.)</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans (e.g. documents from Government, state agencies, or local organisations e.g. RAPID)</i>	<i>Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)</i>
<b>17. NEETS</b>	17.1 Profile young people not in education, employment or training in Monaghan	More effective engagement with more NEETs in Co. Monaghan	Needs analysis developed	Map supports available for Neets in Co Monaghan Identify young people with high school absence levels or school refusal ie. prior to leaving school	2019-2020	CYPSC Sub-group as lead Partners: DSP, ETB, MID, CMETB, FRC, Youth Organisations, Community Groups, Employers National Learning Network CFSN Employability	SICAP 2018-2023 LECP 2.4 & 2.7 National Youth Strategy Whole government approach to tackling child poverty Pathways to work National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy, 2017-2021	Outcome 2: Achieving in learning & development Transformational Goal 4: Ensure Quality Services Effective Transitions
	17.2 Reduce the number of NEETS in Co. Monaghan	Reduction in % of NEET young people in Monaghan	Reduction in the number of NEET <200	To profile the needs of this group using best practice approach (eg. Rickter) Identify their key need including mental health supports: anxiety, resilience building  Examine and link with ongoing national research into this area Carry out primary research with NEETs participating in Journeys, IFI PYDP and Amplify Projects to identify common contributory factors to early school leaving				
	17.3 Develop a pro-active approach to the employment of young people with a disability	Number of young people with a disability in employment in Monaghan	Increase by 2%	Promote the National Disability Authority accessibility toolkit to help make services, buildings, information, and websites more accessible to customers/potential employees with disabilities.				
	17.4 Promote opportunities for young people especially from the Traveller and Roma ethnicity to engage in culturally appropriate apprenticeships, training and lifelong learning	An increase of young Traveller/Roma people in training employment	Increase by 2%	Encourage more placements for young Traveller /Roma young people for work experience and in training programmes within the county	2020-21	Empower MID Youthreach CMETB		

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

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

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)</i>
18. Creation of an outcome 5 subgroup	Sub-group developed to support and drive CYPSC identified priority actions	Sub-group established with 30% young people involved	Recruit young people under 24 from diverse backgrounds to form a major part of this subgroup	Establish an Outcome 1 sub-group to develop and drive specific actions in action plan	2019	CYPSC coordinator Comhairle na nÓg YWI Foroige An Garda Siochána	N/A	N/A
<b>19</b> Tackling discrimination and disadvantage.	19.1 Advocate and support the integration of children and young people on the margins: young minorities, new-comers, and other disadvantaged youths in Co. Monaghan	Recommendations identified from a needs analysis  Contribute to County Integration plan being developed as part of the Sanctuary Project based on the needs analysis	<i>Disadvantaged &amp; minority children and young people including travellers, disabled young people and LGBTI community</i>	Undertake a needs analysis of Co. Monaghan in relation children & young people in the Accommodation centre  Develop and disseminate best practice guidelines for inclusion of members of marginalised groups  Youth representatives from target groups in the county engaging in needs analysis	2019-2020	CYPSC co-ordinating LCDC/PPN/Monaghan Co.Co. TUSLA Foroige YWI Monaghan SICAP/MID Monaghan Disability Network/MID FRCs CMETB	LECP 3.10 SICAP 2018-23 National Youth Strategy Monaghan Co. Co. Integration Strategy Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework Diversity Equality and Inclusion Charter	Outcomes 1-4 Transformational Goal 3: Listen to & involve young people Transformational Goal 4: Ensure quality services
<b>20. Participation of Young People</b>	20.1 Enhancing democratic structures for all young people ensuring voices are heard and they are involved in the process	2 young people representatives at CYPSC committee meetings	2 Young people 16-18 attending CYPSC meetings 90% attendance	Advocate for the involvement of young people in the development of all strategies and action plans which are relevant to children and young people in the county.	2019-2020	CYPSC, Monaghan County Council LCDC Tusla, HSE, Youth Services, Schools, ECI/CC Networks	National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision Making National Youth Strategy LECP 4.4 Aistear -Early Childhood Curriculum Framework	Transformational Goal 3: Listen to & involve young people

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

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

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Links (to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goals)</i>
<b>21. Disadvantaged Young People</b>	21.1 Providing and support dedicated youth hubs and associated services in all main towns in the county	2 new hubs developed per year in the county	Monaghan town and North and South Monaghan	<p>Support applications to DCYA which provide finance and investment in youth provision in areas of need identified in the county i.e. VFM funding</p> <p>Support the development of a purpose built youth hub in Monaghan Town through the planned Peace Campus</p> <p>Ongoing support for existing youth services in Monaghan, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Ballybay and Clones and rural villages where groups exist</p>	2019-2021	Monaghan Co. Co Monaghan Peace Partnership LCDC CMETB CYPSC Monaghan Youth Network Foroige YWI Monaghan	LECP 3.7 CMETB Plan SICAP 2018-23 National Youth Strategy	Outcomes 1-4 Transformational Goal 4: Ensure quality services
<b>22. Local Transport</b>	22.1 To address the transport needs of young people who require transport for training, education, early employment opportunities, social engagement, sport and recreation and inclusion	Needs analysis completed with Local link and young people living in rural Monaghan	Work with local link to carry out needs analysis for young people living in rural locations	<p>To monitor developments in local transport and advocated for youth needs to the Rural Transport Scheme/Local Link</p> <p>To develop collaborative solutions under the wide range of options available under the scheme</p>	2020-2021	LCDC CYPSC Local Link Rural transport	LECP 2.9 & 3.6 National Youth Strategy	Outcomes 1-5

**ACTION PLAN FOR CO. MONAGHAN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

**Transformational Goal : Supporting Parents**

<i>Priority Area</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Timeframe for completion</i>	<i>Lead Responsibility and partners</i>	<i>Link to other plans</i>	<i>Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)</i>
<b>23.Supporting parents</b>	23.1 Supporting the development of a parenting Monaghan which offers Parents Plus training and support to parents at all stages of the parenting	Number of participants in Parents Plus classes across all parenting stages  Number of parents attending information events/on mailing list	140 per year  200 per year	Co-ordinate parenting programmes across the five primary care areas of County Monaghan, both universal and targeted age groups of children ranging from antenatal to adolescent	2019-2021	Parenting Monaghan CYPSC MID Monaghan County Childcare Committee ISPCC HSE Primary Care Tusla CMETB Youth Work Ireland Child and Family Support Networks	Tusla Area Commissioning Plan Parenting Monaghan Plan SCIAP 2018-2023 CHO 1Healthy Ireland Implementation plan 2018-2023	Outcomes 1-5 Transformational Goals 2: Early Intervention & Prevention 4: Ensure quality Services 5: Strengthen transitions
	23.2 Train facilitators in Parents under Pressure programme to support parents dealing with substance abuse or in recovery from addiction	20 people trained in Parents under pressure	Parents parenting and living with addictions	Support parents living with addiction through the delivery of the parents under pressure parenting programme		Tusla Cavan Monaghan drug awareness NEDADT		
	23.3 Support the development of Monaghan parents peer network	2 networks created in 2020	30 parents participating within the two networks	Create an easy accessible communication forum/network for parents to access peer support	2019-2020			

## Section 7: Monitoring and Review

### 7.1 National Level Monitoring and Review

The Monaghan CYPSC covers the period 2019-2021 and within this some key objectives and actions have been identified. Under the national framework for reporting an annual work plan submission is made to the National Coordinator, the National Steering Group and the Department of Children & Youth Affairs by the CYPSC coordinator. The Annual programme of work will be identified within the subgroups towards the end of the year and approved at the last CYPSC meeting in the Calendar year.

### 7.2 Monitoring at County Level

The CYPSC coordinator works with the subgroups to prioritise actions for the Annual Programme of Work and agree who will be the lead agency and action partners

Each of the CYPSC Monaghan sub-groups will progress specific outcomes through subgroup meetings and actions.

### 7.3 Review

An annual progress report will capture the progress of the work carried out against the indicators. The chairperson of each subgroup provides a bi monthly update on actions at each CYPSC meeting. An end of year review will be carried out in preparation for the development of the next year's work plan. As year 3 of the plan progresses steps will be taken to undertake a review of the progress achieved of the CYPSC 2019-2021 plan in anticipation of the preparation of the new 3-year action plan for the period 2022-2024.

## SECTION 8: APPENDICES

### 8.1 Terms of Reference for Monaghan CYPSC

#### **8.1.1 Monaghan CYPSC Terms of Reference –June 2019**

The purpose of Monaghan 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 Monaghan.

We will work toward this aim via the implementation of our agreed terms of reference which are:

- 1) Each member of the committee undertakes to promote the interests of the child and child centred planning in their organisation in relation to services which involve children, young people and families.
- 2) Monaghan CYPSC acknowledges that when organisations work together on policy development and delivery of services there is greater potential for better outcomes for children, young people and families. We (the member agencies and representatives) therefore commit to working together on strategic policy development and delivery of services for children, young people and their families in Monaghan.
- 3) Each member organisation will work in collaboration with other members of the committee to improve policy development and delivery of services for children and young people.
- 4) Each member organisation will seek to remove unnecessary duplication and blockages to the delivery of child centred policies and services both within their own organisation and in cooperation with other organisations.
- 5) In order to develop a framework for child centred policy development and service delivery the committee will identify existing models of good practice and develop new models where necessary.
- 6) The Committee acknowledges that there are other agencies involved in the delivery of services to children and families and will endeavour to work collaboratively and in partnership with these agencies to promote the ethos of the committee and best outcomes for children.

#### **8.1.2 Children and Young People Services Committee Meeting Principles**

- 1) The role of the chairperson of the CYPSC will be held by the Local Area Manager of Tusla. The Chairperson will oversee the operation of the committee and ensure that the committee delivers on its work programme. A vice-chairperson from Monaghan County Council will chair meetings from in the event that the Tusla Area Manager is not available.
- 2) The Committee will meet six times per calendar year. A quorum of at least half the membership is required for meetings to proceed.

Meeting agendas and minutes will be provided by the CYPSC Co-ordinator. This includes:

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

- 3) Agency representatives need to be mandated and empowered to act on behalf of the whole agency on the CYPSC. In accepting a position on the CYPSC Committee the respective agency undertakes to prioritise the work of the committee as part of the core work of the respective agency.
- 4) Each CYPSC Committee member will liaise as is appropriate with the co-ordinator regarding the workings of the Committee and sub groups e.g. apologies, information requests, correspondence etc.
- 5) In the unlikely event that a Committee member was unable to attend three consecutive meetings, the relevant member/agency will be asked to reconsider their ability to commit to the role and to consider the option of an alternative nominee.
- 6) The CYPSC reserve the right to co-opt a substitute representative nominated from any of the membership agencies in the event that the standing member is temporarily unavailable. The substitute member should be of sufficient authority to make appropriate decisions on behalf of the agency being represented.
- 7) It is envisaged that appropriate Committee members will be nominated to chair or participate in sub group meetings. Each chairperson should have an element of expertise in that specific priority area and would be expected to provide leadership and direction to the sub group.
- 8) It is expected that each Committee member will be prepared for each meeting by reading the relevant materials.
- 9) In the event that the committee cannot make a consensus decision and there is a tied vote the chairperson may exercise a casting vote.
- 10) Amendment, Modification or Variation  
The Terms of Reference may be amended, modified or varied in writing after consultation and agreement by Monaghan CYPSC members.

## 8.2 Membership of Monaghan CYPSC working groups

Monaghan CYPSC has identified a number of priority projects in 2016/17 which it wanted to develop on an interagency basis. Therefore, the following subgroups were established:

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1) Active and Healthy       | Chair Margaret Rafferty Primary Care HSE   |
| 2) Learning and Development | Chair: Bernie Farrell, IPPN representative |
| 3) Safe & Secure            | Chair: Cathal Grant, Tusla PPFS Manager    |
| 4) NEETS Subgroup Outcome 4 | Chair: Gerard Callan & Michael Donohue MID |

Two separate interagency committees Parenting Monaghan and the Safe Socialising committee were established in 2016 and the CYPSC coordinator sits on both steering groups.

- Parenting Monaghan Chair: Breda McKenna, Monaghan Childcare Committee
- Safe Socialising Committee Chair Pat Merrick JLO An Garda Síochána

It is the intention of the CYPSC to establish a further Outcome 5 sub-group in 2019, which will concentrate on the delivery of objectives and actions included in the CYPSC Monaghan Plan under Outcome 5.

### Membership of the CYPSC subgroups

Outcome 1 Active and Healthy		
Name	Organisation	Position
Margaret Rafferty	Physiotherapy manager HSE	Chair
Clíodhna Deeney	Senior Clinical Psychologist Primary Care Psychology	
Shauna Gaffney	Senior Clinical Psychologist Primary Care Psychology	
Michelle Murphy	Monaghan Sports Partnership	
Ellen Mc Meel	Parenting Monaghan/Healthy Families	
Fiona Mc Entee	Healthy Monaghan Coordinator Monaghan COCO	
Colin Mc Aree	Area Manager Foróige	
Caolan Faux	Youth Work Ireland Cavan/ Monaghan manager	
Erin Lynagh	Young person representative	
Maureen Mc Dermott	Training coordinator National Childcare Network	
Cheryl Commiskey	Social worker CAMHS	
Kristina Clerkin	Occupational Therapist CAMHS	
Jane Hand	Manager Cavan Monaghan Early intervention services Enable Ireland	
Angela Mc Elroy	Assistant Director Public Health Nursing	
Maureen Mc Intyre	Youth Officer Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board	
Sean Mc Groy	CHO 1 Youth Mental Health services development	
Celine Croakin	CHO1 Child Health Development	
Janice Niblock	Child and Family Support Networks ISPC	

## Membership of the CYPSC subgroups continued

Outcome 2 Learning and Development		
Name	Organisation	Position
Bernie Farrell	Irish Primary Principals Network	Chair
David Mc Cague	Monaghan Education Centre	
Bridgín Boyle	ISPCC	
Monica Mc Grory	Health Schools Promotion HSE	
Anne Finn	National Educational Psychological Service	
Elizabeth Downey	Chatterbox Speech and Language HSE	
Denise Mc Cormilla	CEO National Childhood Network	
Maria Keirnan	Education Welfare Officer TUSLA	
Helen Warmen	CAMHS	
Outcome 3 : Safe and Secure		
Name	Organisation	Position
Cathal Grant	Prevention Partnership & Family Support manager TUSLA	Chair
Siobhan Mc Kenna	Manager Tearmann	
Charlene Duff	Senior coordinator Child and Family Support Networks	
Janice Niblock	Child and Family Support Networks ISPCC	
Erin Lynagh	Young person representative	
Michelle Morgan	Support worker ISPCC	
Angela Graham	Clones Family Manager Resource Centre	
Lisa Gavillet	North East Drug and Alcohol Taskforce	
Pat Merrick	JLO An Garda Síochána	
Ciara Markey	TUSLA	
Tina Russell	Youth Work Ireland	
Liam Devanney	Comhairle na nÓg coordinator Youth Work Ireland	
Outcome 4:Economic Security and Opportunity NEET Subgroup		
Name	Organisation	Position
Gerard Callan	Monaghan Integrated Development Ltd	Joint Chair
Michael Donaghue	Monaghan Integrated Development Ltd	Chair
Karen Tonry	Journeys project YWI	
Martin Fox	Moving On Programme	
Maureen Mc Intyre	Youth Officer Cavan Monaghan ETB	
Gemma Gallagher	Jobpath	
Marlene Rice	School Completion	
Packie Kelly	Teach na nDaoine Family Resource Centre	
Erin Lynagh	Teach na nDaoine Family Resource Centre	
Melissa Mackin	Youth Work Ireland	
Tracey Mc Ardle	Youth Work Ireland	
Celine Sherry	Aftercare Tusla	
Una Coyle	Monaghan LES	
David Mc Adam	Youth Reach	
Maria Mc Quaid	Monaghan LTI	
Sonya Mc Quaid	Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board	



### 8.3 Strategies and plans reviewed as part of the research process

Author	Report Name	Year
Belong To	Budding Burning Issues – The issues facing Ireland’s LGBT+ young people LGBTI National Youth Strategy 2018-2020	2017 2018
CSO	Vital Statistics 2017	2017
Department of Children & Youth Affairs	Better outcome Better Futures	2014
Department of Children & Youth Affairs	National Strategy on Children and Young People’s Participation in Decision Making 2015-2020	2015
Department of Children & Youth Affairs	Life as a child in Ireland	2012
Department of Children & Youth Affairs	Growing up in Ireland 2014	2014
Department of Children & Youth Affairs	National Youth Strategy 2015-2020	2015
Department of Education and Skills	Early Leavers – What Next	2016
Department of Education and Skills	Retention Rates of Pupils in second level schools – 2009 entry cohort	2016
Department of Education and Skills	School Completers - What Next	2016
Department of Health	A Healthy Weight for Ireland	2016
Department of Housing	Annual count of Travellers in all categories of accommodation	2016
Department of Justice and Equality, COSC	Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based violence, 2016-2021	2016
ESRI	A Social Portrait of Travellers in Ireland	2017
EU Agency for Fundamental Rights	Violence against women – an EU-wide survey	2014
Health Service Executive, Health Ireland	Connecting for Life – Suicide Prevention Action Plan, 2Cavan and Monaghan 2017-2020	2017
Healthy Ireland	Monaghan Alcohol Related Harm Profile	2017
Higher Education Authority	Key Facts and Figures	2016/2017
IPSOS MRBI	Healthy Ireland Survey	2016
Monaghan Drugs and Alcohol Forum	Strategic Plan 2016-2021	2016
National Council for Curriculum and Assessment	Aistear – The Early Childhood Curriculum Framework	2009
National Learning Network	Mental Health Matters – Mapping Best Practices in Higher Education	2016
National Suicide Research Foundation	National Self-harm registry	2015
Spun Out.ie	Youth Health Report	2015
Tearmann Domestic Abuse Service	Strategic Plan 2017-2020	2017
Tusla	Cavan and Monaghan Commissioning plan	2018
Tusla	School Attendance form Primary and Post Primary Schools	2014/15
UNICEF	Report Card 2017	2017
Women’s Aid	Impact Report 2017	2017
Department of Children & Youth Affairs	LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy	2018-2020
Department of Children & Youth Affairs	First Five ;A whole-of Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families 2019-2028	2019-2028

## 8.4 Summary of outputs from consultations

The emergent themes from the consultations undertaken are outlined in the sections below:

### Pre-school children

#### OUTCOME 1

The importance of positive environments to play in – appropriate and stimulating indoor and outdoor spaces, where that can explore, communicate, learn, develop and express themselves. Children are active in their play. During the visits the children were either coming from or going to outdoor play which is extremely important. A large number of children included outdoor in their artwork. The children were very much at home in their setting and with each other. The attendance was high and they appeared used to their routine. They were focused and engaged and full of ideas. The children depicted who was important in their life and then some gave more detail on their pictures, some had the scene outdoors in the sunshine perhaps influence by the time of year.

#### OUTCOME 3

- The importance of their relationship with caregivers and their close connection with those closest to them – family, childcare worker and community in that order. Grandparents had a special place in the child's life, even more so if they live with the child or close by or if they shared this. It was also notable where pets but also Uncles, 'God parents' or others were included.

- 



#### OUTCOME 4 & 5

- Engagement with community featured as an important influence in the children's lives, and a medium through which they learnt about exploring the wider world, diversity, career possibilities it held for them and again reflecting the importance to them of the outdoors and play. The children also knew about the buildings in their community. The first place they talked about was the fire station, then the police station, they also talked about their homes and their pre-school. When it came to future jobs the Gardaí were popular among the boys, the fire fighters were also popular. One boy in particular said he liked computer games and wanted to make these when older.

#### OUTCOME 5

- Focus on the outdoors and the environment through a love of nature, animals and sports. These were important influences in terms of developing interests, learning about the world and themselves as well as providing them with ideas about future life opportunities. Evidence of awareness of the fire services, Gardaí and library in all the preschools was notable. Interest in farming and nature was present in each setting but stood out in the more rural areas.

## Primary school children

### OUTCOME 1

- There is a need for more choice in activities for children to be engaged in.
- There is a need for better communication about what is on in an area for children and their parents
- Family support and programmes around healthy eating and good lifestyle choices

### OUTCOME 2

- Within the school environment there may be a need to contextualise what they are learning and how they might use it in later life – give purpose.

### OUTCOME 3

- Develop signposting supports for primary school children to point them to key points of support/help they need – could be done through local youth clubs (objective, neutral and informed)
- Counteract bullying and cyber bullying by providing training programmes focusing on building confidence, building positive relationships, building mental resilience & internet safety

### OUTCOME 4

- Introduce career role models into schools which highlight local employment and developmental opportunities.

### OUTCOME 5

- Examine the possibilities of rural transport and other transport links for those without own transport.

### GOAL 1

- Parents need support to help them address challenges their children are facing – educational, behavioural, bullying, financial management.

## Young People

### OUTCOME 1

- Counselling services in youth cafes, someone for young people to talk to, and for parents to consult with to help them support their young people through difficulties. Youth cafes that are open for longer and staffed consistently with more male youth workers.
- Preventative measures relating to drink and drugs, addiction supports information, awareness and harsher fines and consequences for those selling both to children and young people. Guidance and information from drugs and alcohol counsellors for young people in youth cafes
- Safe socialising activities for young 14-18 yr olds in Monaghan town
- Cheaper/free activities for teens – music, dancing, gym membership

### OUTCOME 1-6

- One-stop-shop information app providing a range of signposting and guidance on what's on (activities) where to get help, details of support groups, including parent's area, careers information, jobs information
- Youth café in Monaghan

### OUTCOME 2

- Job education in school during 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year, CV development, mock interviews etc.

#### OUTCOME 4

- Youth employment app for Co. Monaghan featuring season job opportunities that young people are qualified for

#### GOAL 1

- Support for parents and siblings for children and young people with mental health issues
- Information and education for parents on drugs and drink issues, addictions, and how to handle setting boundaries

### Parents

#### OUTCOME 1

- Physical health, mental health and involvement in activities were the dominant three factors of most importance for parents across the age groups, with development of addictions and sexual health the most important for secondary school and post primary youths. They suggested education on the importance of the right food and exercise, broader range of activities for children and young people and for families, targeted programmes, and mental health services additional facilities in addition to improved facilities and youth drop in centres  
Exemplars: Monaghan Phoenix AC, Healthy Families Programme, Community Games, Coder Dojo, Summer camps

#### OUTCOME 2

- Developing good social and emotional wellbeing, engaging in learning and engaging in informal learning were the top three factors which were most important to parents. They suggested parenting education and support groups especially for single parents, more support in school, Smart Start programmes, more play based activities for young children. More volunteering involvement of young people with special needs groups and old people.  
Exemplars: Community Games, GAA, ISPCC, Toddler group in Doohamlet preschool, Library in Carrickmacross, Taking tours to DCU, Parents Plus courses, Teach na Daoine homework club.

#### OUTCOME 3

- Vulnerable children and young people having access to support and protection, safety from crim and anti-social behaviour, and having a secure, stable and caring home were the three most important to parents. They suggested youth clubs/hubs – safe spaces where young people can hang out, get specific support, socialise safely with peers, specific forums for older young people (18-24). They also suggested education for young people and parents about bullying, drugs and alcohol, bullying. Also counselling support, family support workers and greater awareness by social workers and in school of difficulties at home that may be affecting them.  
Exemplars: Garda Diversion, courses on challenging behaviours

#### OUTCOME 4

- The factors of most importance to parents were that they are protected from poverty and social exclusion, that they can get employment and learn to live independently and that they have opportunities for on-going education and training. They suggested, schools offering life skills programmes working with parents and communities, education, parenting classes with a focus on raising independent children, free education and grant aid for education.  
Exemplars: FIS, not for profits run by community groups

#### OUTCOME 5

- Being part of positive networks, having a sense of their own identity and being free from discrimination, and being aware of their human rights, were the three most important factors for parents.  
They suggested sports clubs, community activities, education, involving children in community activities, and positive role models in the community.  
Exemplars: Big brother big sister

#### GOAL 1

- Primary in the suggestions of support for parents crossing all age groups is information/education/training and peer support. Parents want to be able to go to a one stop shop for information, guidance and signposting on different parenting issues. They want to learn from other parents – perhaps a parenting buddy system, parent’s forum, and help-line or group support structure.

### Stakeholders

#### OUTCOME 1-6

- Healthy relationships programme including
  - Social media and sexting
  - Consent and respect
  - Sex and STIs
  - Domestic violence
- Youth hubs – physical safe space for youths open late and at weekends to meet, hang out socialise safely, get support, learn through training programmes like:
  - Mental resilience programmes
  - Internet safety – handling social media, sexting, cyber bullying
  - Personal development programmes
  - General wellbeing
  - Exploring sexual identity
  - Access to specific support like counselling, LGBTI support, DV support, addiction support, mental health support, support for 18-24yrs olds
- Supports for specific target groups
  - LGBTI
  - NEETS
  - Traveller youths
  - 16-24 yr olds
  - Children and young people with specific learning and physical needs
  - New communities and residents of St. Pats.

#### OUTCOME 1

- Mental health services
  - Consistent supply of service and easier access to services for emergency situations, diagnosis and treatment
  - Counselling services for children and young people
  - Support for children and young people witnessing domestic violence

#### OUTCOME 2

- Consistent careers guidance in school and/or youth clubs

#### OUTCOME 3

- Internet safety initiative including handling social media and sexting
- Refuge for families experiencing DV

#### OUTCOME 5

- Improve transport links internally in Monaghan

#### GOAL 1 and OUTCOMES 1-6

- Parenting support and education framework including:
  - Internet safety
  - Tackling obesity
  - Confidence building
  - Building resilience in parents and children
  - Parenting education programmes for children of all ages
  - Parental mentoring/buddy system
  - Signposting where to access help and services
  - Family support programmes
  - Importance of outdoor play
  - Online parent's directory and forum
  - Support for development of life skills
  - General wellbeing

### LGBTI

#### OUTCOME 1-5

- LGBTI group/club
- Mental health services
- Health and well-being support
- Resources and activities – make up classes. Queer music and art groups, clothes donation box at youth cafes for those transitioning

#### OUTCOME 1

- A queer ball

#### OUTCOME 2

- More education for school authorities and teachers and peers to try to make school less of a nightmare

#### OUTCOME 3

- Safe spaces for LGBTI/support groups
- Education for the wider community, and school
- Gender neutral toilets

#### OUTCOME 5

- Education on queer history
- More education for school authorities and teachers and peers to try to make school less of a nightmare

#### GOAL 1

- Support for parents and siblings
  - a. General education about coming out and transitioning

## Disability

### OUTCOME 1

- Confidence building programmes
- Integrated sports programmes
- Purpose built day service facility which caters to clients' needs with supports to maximise everyone's potential
- Improved accessibility

### OUTCOME 2

- Appropriate education and training, career guidance at an early stage
- Centralised location for specialist education to reduce travel for students
- Educational options for young people 18+yrs with disabilities

### OUTCOME 3

- More respite and therapeutic activities for adults with complex needs
- Dedicated adult respite service – the service is shared between adults and children in Cavan and Monaghan. There are capacity issues.
- Supported living provision

### OUTCOME 4

- Centre for independent living for 18-24yr olds and future supports for those growing into this demographic
- Work placements for 18+ in services – positive experience engaging and welcoming.

### OUTCOME 5

- A dedicated social worker for young people with disabilities
- Peer support groups
- Irish Sign Language advocate for more support for Monaghan deaf club
- Implementation/ratification of UN Declaration for the rights of people with disabilities

## 8.5 Index of Acronyms

Acronym	Explanation
<b>BOBF</b>	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures
<b>CAMHS</b>	Child and Adult Mental Health Service
<b>CES</b>	Centre for Effective Services
<b>CSO</b>	Central Statistics Office
<b>CSS</b>	Childcare Subvention Scheme
<b>CYPSC</b>	Children and Young Peoples Services Committee
<b>CYPP</b>	Children and Young Peoples' Plan
<b>CFSN</b>	Child & Family Support Networks
<b>CF</b>	Children First
<b>CIP</b>	Critical Incident Plan
<b>CMETB</b>	Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board
<b>NEDATF</b>	North East Drugs & Alcohol Task Force
<b>DCYA</b>	Department of Children and Youth Affairs
<b>DEIS</b>	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
<b>DNE</b>	Dublin North East
<b>DV</b>	Domestic Violence
<b>ECCE</b>	Early Childhood Care Education
<b>ESL</b>	Early School Leavers
<b>EWS</b>	Educational Welfare Service
<b>GP</b>	General Practitioner
<b>HSE</b>	Health Service Executive
<b>HSLs</b>	Home School Liaison Scheme
<b>LCDC</b>	Local Community Development Committee
<b>JLO</b>	Juvenile Liaison Officer
<b>MCCC</b>	Monaghan County Childcare Committee
<b>MH</b>	Mental Health
<b>NCN</b>	National Childhood Network
<b>NDRDTF</b>	North Dublin Regional Drugs Task Force
<b>NEET</b>	Not In Education Employment or Training
<b>NEPS</b>	National Educational Psychological Service
<b>NEWB</b>	National Educational Welfare Board
<b>NEYAI</b>	National Early Years Access Initiative
<b>OMCYA</b>	Office Minister Children Youth Affairs
<b>PH</b>	Physical Health
<b>PHN</b>	Public Health Nurse
<b>PPFS</b>	Prevention Partnership and Family Support
<b>SCP</b>	School Completion
<b>SCICAP</b>	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation

## 8.6 Figure Tables and Maps

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Monaghan Children and Young People's Services Committee are working collaboratively to improve outcomes for children and young people 0-24 years; Making small changes which will make big differences in young people's lives.

"You can't go back and change the beginning,  
but you can start where you are and change the ending"  
C.S. Lewis