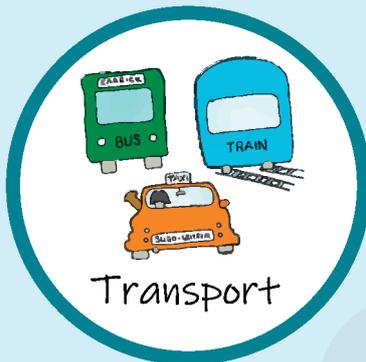




CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES

Sligo Leitrim



# SLIGO LEITRIM CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2024- 2026





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Copies of the plan are available for download at <https://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/sligo-leitrim.249.html>

# Contents

<b>Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Foreword</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 1: Introduction</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Section 2: Socio-Demographic Profile of Sligo Leitrim</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>Section 3: Overview of Services to Children and Families in Sligo Leitrim</b> .....	<b>48</b>
<b>Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in Sligo Leitrim</b> .....	<b>63</b>
<b>Section 5: Summary of Children and Young People’s Plan for Sligo Leitrim</b> .....	<b>75</b>
<b>Section 6: Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People’s Services Committee</b> .....	<b>77</b>
<b>Section 7: Monitoring and Review</b> .....	<b>110</b>
<b>Section 8: Appendices</b> .....	<b>111</b>



Balance Bikes Project in Leitrim in 2023 supported by Healthy Ireland Fund

**List of Tables**

Table 1.1	Review of Progress in Achieving Objectives per Priority Area for 5 National Outcomes in CYPP 2020-22
Table 1.2	Collaborative projects undertaken by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC during CYPP 2020-22
Table 1.3	Steps in developing the Children and Young People's Plan 2024-26
Table 2.1	Summary Socio Demographic Indicators for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Area, compared with National Data
Table 2.2	Infant, Neonatal and Perinatal Mortality 2020 and change from 2019.
Table 2.3	Self Perceived General Health for 0-24 years in Census 2022 and change from 2016.
Table 2.4	Population of children and young people with a disability in 2022
Table 2.5	Number of Births to Mothers aged under 20 or 20-24 years in 2022 and change from 2019.
Table 2.6	Notifications of Sexually Transmitted Infections in 2022 and change from 2018.
Table 2.7	Presentation to Hospital with Self harm in 2020 and change from 2018.
Table 2.8	Age Standardised Rates of Self-Harm in 2020 and change from 2018.
Table 2.9	Deaths by Suicide in 2019 and change from 2015.
Table 2.10	Rate of Death by Suicide in 2022 and change from 2017.
Table 2.11	Participation in Early Learning Care and School Aged Childcare in 20/21 and change from 19/20
Table 2.12	Access to Early Learning Care and School Aged Childcare Services
Table 2.13	School Enrolment 2022-23 and change from 2021-22
Table 2.14	Average class size at primary school in 2022-23 and change from 2021-22
Table 2.15	Mean % days lost and Absenteeism in Post Primary Schools in 2020-21 and change from 2019-20
Table 2.16	Retention Rates, by Junior and Leaving Certificate for 2015 Cohort
Table 2.17	Census 2022 Population by Age at which Full Time Education Ceased
Table 2.18	Child Protection and Welfare Activity end April 2023 SLWC and State
Table 2.19	Profile of Children in Care Q4 2023 SLWC and State
Table 2.20	Referrals to Garda Youth Diversion project (YAP) in 2020 and change from 2019.
Table 2.21	Poverty measured by survey of Living Conditions 2022 and change on 2020.
Table 2.22	Homelessness – Accessing Local Authority Managed Emergency Accommodation during 22-28 May 2023 and change from equivalent week May 2022
Table 2.23	Traveller pupils' participation in second level education in 2020/21 and change from 2015/16
Table 2.24	Employment among Young People under 25 years: Census 2022 and Live Register 2023
Table 2.25	Young People engaged in Volunteering Activity Census 2022
Table 2.26	Young Carers as % of Total Population Census 2022 and change from 2016.

**List of Figures**

Figure 1.1	Structure of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC
Figure 1.2	Review of Objectives, across 17 Priority areas, 2020-22
Figure 2.1	SLWC Child Welfare and Protection Referrals Q4 2017-2021

**Figure 3.1 Hardiker Model**

Figure 7.1	CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework
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**List of Appendices**

Appendix 1	Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Terms of Reference
Appendix 2	Membership of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Subgroups and Task group

**Glossary**

ACEs	Adverse Childhood Experiences
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
AIM	Access and Inclusion Model
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorder
ATU	Atlantic Technological University
BOBF	Better Outcomes Better Futures
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CBT	Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
CCC	County Childcare Committee
CCSP	Community Childcare Subvention Plus
CCSU	Community Childcare Subvention Universal
CDNT	Children's Disability Network Team
CFA	Child and Family Agency
CFSN	Child and Family Support Network
CHO	Community Health Organisation
CLG	Company Limited by Guarantee
CSO	Central Statistics Office
C&V	Community and Voluntary
CYPP	Children and Young People's Plan
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committee
DCEDIY	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
DoE	Department of Education
DoH	Department of Health
DPSU	Divisional Protective Services Unit, Garda Síochána
DVAS	Domestic Violence Advocacy Service
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
ESL	Early School Leaving
EIS	Early Intervention Service
ETB	Education and Training Board
EWS	Educational Welfare Services
FRC	Family Resource Centre
FSC	Family Support Centre
GAA	Gaelic Athletic Association
GP	General Practitioner
HSE	Health Service Executive
HBSC	Health Behaviours in School Aged Children
HEA	Higher Education Authority
HI	Healthy Ireland
HIQA	Health Information and Quality Authority
HSLs	Home School Liaison Service
HYLS	Home Youth Liaison Service
INTO	Irish National Teachers Organisation
IPAS	International Protection Accommodation Service
IPPN	Irish Primary Principals' Network
IYJS	Irish Youth Justice Service
JLO	Juvenile Liaison Officer
LA	Local Authority
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LDC	Local Development Company
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan

LDC	Leitrim Development Company
LGBTQIA+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (or questioning), Intersex, Asexual.
LGFA	Ladies Gaelic Football Association
MABS	Money Advice and Budgeting Service
MACE	Multiple Adverse Childhood Experiences
MSLETB	Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board
NAPD	National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals
NCS	National Childcare Scheme
NEETs	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NEPS	National Educational Psychological Service
NDA	National Drugs Strategy
NOSP	National Office for Suicide Prevention
NWRDATF	North-West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force
PCT	Primary Care Team
PPFS	Prevention Partnership and Family Support
PPN	Public Participation Network
PS	Probation Service
SCP	School Completion Programme
SICAP	Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme
SLPC	Sligo Leader Partnership CLG
SONC	State of Our Nation's Children
STSG	Sligo Traveller Support Group
TESS	Tusla Education Support Service
TENI	Transgender Equality Network Ireland
YAPSL	Youth Action Project Sligo Leitrim
SLWC	Sligo Leitrim West Cavan
WBF	We're Breastfeeding Friendly
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection

## Foreword

As chairperson of the Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Service Committee (CYPSC) it is my great pleasure to present the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for 2024-2026. Immense work and interagency collaboration led to the development of this Plan.

I would like to acknowledge and pay tribute to the tireless work of the members of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC, and the CYPSC subgroups who worked to deliver the priority actions of the Sligo Leitrim CYPP 2020 – 2022. As chairperson I can see the quality and effectiveness of this work and the many benefits that flow from effective interagency collaboration and partnership working.

Implementation of the CYPP 2020 - 2022 was affected by the onset of the COVID 19 pandemic. Key resources provided by CYPSC were directed to those most negatively impacted by the pandemic through member organisations who were flexible and willingly adapted delivery of activities despite the challenges faced. This experience of implementing the Plan during COVID strengthened collaborative processes and enhanced the confidence of member organisations.

It is important too to acknowledge that there has been an increase in both counties of refugee families and families seeking asylum over the course of the previous CYPP. Many families from Ukraine have been hosted in Sligo and Leitrim since April 2022 and continue to arrive on a weekly basis, while the number of families and individuals seeking asylum is ever increasing. This will result in the need for additional support by CYPSC member organisations to meet the new and emerging needs of these families.

The priority actions of the 2020-2022 Plan were needs led, identified by members of the subgroups following vigorous consultation with children, young people, parents and services. Not least of these was an awareness of the adverse childhood experience associated with the impact of trauma. It is hoped to further build on this work going forward by promoting trauma informed practice and awareness. The research conducted, and the projects delivered through the life of the 2020 – 2022 plan demonstrates how young people and their families have benefitted from the priority actions of the Plan.

The value of grants to CYPSC and the investment and support from DCEDIY BOBF CYPSC Programme Fund, Department of Health/ DCEDIY Healthy Ireland Fund, DCEDIY CYPSC Ukrainian Support Fund along with funding directly provided by Tulsa Local Area budget, enabled CYPSC to develop and support initiatives across both counties to provide better outcomes for children, young people and their families. This funding also enhanced and improved the overall value and work of CYPSC and added great value to the work of the various subgroups, and task groups.

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC continues to facilitate and enable effective interagency planning and cooperation. The CYPSC co-ordinator provides strong and clear direction with a focus on delivering enhanced service provision that meets the needs of children and young people in this area. There is an implicit commitment in all CYPSC undertakes to ensure the voice of children is heard and participation of children and young people is maximised. The impetus of promoting shared learning and using the collective knowledge and experience of all CYPSC members also underpins the success of this Committee.

There will undoubtedly be challenges facing CYPSC going forward. It is vitally important to maintain the high standards set by the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC. There will also be potential challenges to address with amendments to the Child Care Act (1991) that may impact on the role and function of CYPSCs. Nevertheless, the dedicated work of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC will continue to strive to ensure that children

and young people in this area are happy and safe and able to reach their full potential in their life course.

**Dr Liam White,**  
**Tusla Area Manager Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan**  
**Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Chairperson**



Liz King, A/Chairperson CYPSC Learning & Development Subgroup, Liam White, Tusla Area Manager and Chairperson Sligo Leitrim CYPSC, Maeve Whittington, Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Coordinator at the launch of the Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026.

## 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.

CYPSCs work towards the five national outcomes for children and young people in Ireland. These are that children and young people:

1. Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental wellbeing.
2. Are achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.
3. Are safe and protected from harm.
4. Have economic security and opportunity.
5. Are connected, respected and contributing to their world.

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

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

The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA), now the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Inclusion and Youth (DCEDIY), established the Children and Young People's Services Committees (formerly Children's Services Committees) in 2007 with the purpose of improving outcomes for children and families at local and community level. Since then, CYPSCs have increased incrementally in number and are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years, in every county in Ireland.

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

*Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014 – 2020* underscores the necessity of interagency working and tasks Children and Young People's Services Committees with a key role in this regard. This remains a core theme in the latest framework: *Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023<sup>1</sup> – 2028* which also focuses on those areas which pose significant challenges for children and young people, especially those who may be vulnerable to poor outcomes.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/80ac4-young-ireland-the-national-policy-framework-for-children-and-young-people-0-24-2023-2028/>

## Children and Young People’s Services Committee in Sligo Leitrim

Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People’s Services Committee (CYPSC) was established in September 2014 and has over the course of the past nine years brought together a range of statutory, community and voluntary agencies to better co-ordinate, jointly plan and deliver services and supports to meet the emerging needs of children and young people and their families living in Sligo and Leitrim.

Membership of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC spans a wide range of statutory, community and voluntary organisations across a range of areas that take account of the complex and inter-woven determinants of children and young people’s health, wellbeing, development and outcomes. Membership is detailed on page 11 and in the Terms of Reference presented in Appendix 1.

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC works with other key local partnerships including Sligo and Leitrim Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs), Sligo Leader Partnership Company CLG and Leitrim Development Company, Tusla Child and Family Support Networks (CFSNs) as well as Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership and Leitrim Sports Partnership. In doing so, it seeks to align its Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) with local and regional plans including the Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP), avoiding duplication, maximising synergies and amplifying the impact and outcomes for children and young people and their families. This is facilitated by representation of these partnerships on CYPSC and its sub-groups as well as through the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Coordinator’s membership of a range of interagency committees including the following:

- Sligo County Childcare Committee
- Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committees in Sligo and in Leitrim
- Sligo Ukrainian Community Forum, Sligo Co Council
- Parenting Support Initiative for HSE, Community Healthcare, Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo (CH CDLMS), formerly CHO1
- Peace Plus, Sligo County Council
- Sligo Healthy Ireland/Healthy Sligo Sub Committee LCDC
- Connecting for Life, HSE
- We’re Breastfeeding Friendly Sligo and We’re Breastfeeding Friendly Leitrim.
- HSE Early Intervention Youth Mental Health Task group

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC has established five CYPSC sub-groups aligned to the five National Outcomes that comprise frontline staff from member agencies who are well placed to identify emerging needs and to advocate on behalf of children and young people and their families accessing their supports and services. Membership of these sub-groups and one task group sits within Outcome 1 is detailed in Figure 1.1 and Appendix 2. CYPSC sub-groups and the task group assist the CYPSC co-ordinator in the development and implementation of the CYPP. In addition, a Change Management sub-group that includes the chairperson of each CYPSC sub- group leads on the development, implementation, monitoring, and review of the CYPP.

This Children and Young People’s Plan 2024-26 is the third Plan developed by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC. The process of developing this Plan provided an important opportunity to reflect on implementing the previous Plan during the COVID pandemic and to capture key insights and learning for the work of Sligo CYPSC into the future. First, the COVID experience has emphasised the importance of being adaptable, flexible and responsive to the needs of children and young people and their families. This is important in view of the fact that the impact of the pandemic is only beginning to emerge and manifest in children and young people’s mental health, anxiety and their resilience to manage change and pressures associated with school. Second, it is important to acknowledge that there has been an increase into the counties of Sligo and Leitrim of refugee families and families seeking asylum over the course of the previous CYPP. In addition, a number of families from Ukraine have been hosted since April 2022.

While it is not possible to plan for all emerging issues in the CYPP 2024-26, Sligo Leitrim CYPSC is committed to escalating emerging information and needs to relevant bodies, and to responding to the emerging needs of children and young people and their families living in Sligo and Leitrim. CYPSC and its CYPSC sub-groups and task group will continue to build on activity undertaken in the previous CYPP to promote awareness of trauma and adverse childhood experiences through the programme of work across all five National Outcome areas and will advocate for ongoing issues that include homelessness, food poverty and access to foster care placements for children in care.

Figure 1.1 Structure of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC



Mary Kilroy, Development Worker, Tubbercurry Family Resource Centre, engaging with a family during an Intercultural Event at the centre in 2023.

## Who we are:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Role</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
<b>Liam White</b> CYPSC Chairperson	Area Manager	Tusla Child and Family Agency
<b>Mary Quinn</b> CYPSC Vice-Chair	Director of Services Housing, Corporate Services, Community and Cultural Services and Manorhamilton Municipal District	Leitrim Co Co
<b>Dorothy Clarke</b> CYPSC Vice Chair	Director of Services Planning, Community & Economic Development, Arts & Culture	Sligo Co Co
<b>Emma Ball</b>	General Manager Primary Care Division CHO1 Area	HSE
<b>Brid Brady</b>	Child Health Lead, Health & Wellbeing, CHO1 Area	HSE
<b>Michelle Ni Thiarnain</b>	Senior Manager PPFS	Tusla PPFS
<b>Alan O’Ceallaigh</b>	Principal Carrigallen NS	Irish Primary Principals Network
<b>Carla Curry</b>	Garda Inspector	Sligo Leitrim Gardai
<b>Chris Gonley</b>	Chief Executive	Leitrim Development Company
<b>John Feerick</b>	Chief Executive	Sligo LEADER Partnership
<b>June Murphy</b>	Programme Manager	Sligo LEADER Partnership
<b>Claire Gavigan</b>	Area Manager Foróige Northwest	Sligo Leitrim Voluntary Network.
<b>Mick Hedigan</b>	Manager	HYLS
<b>Elizabeth King</b> <b>Sharon Boles</b>	Manager Sligo Family Resource Centre Manager	FRC Representative Sligo Leitrim Sligo CCC
<b>Tommy Lavelle</b> <b>Trevor Sweetman</b> <b>Sinead Barrins</b> <b>Daragh McDaid</b>	Manager Youth Officer Lecturer <sup>2</sup> Director	Leitrim CCC MSLETB ATU Sligo Sligo Education Centre
<b>Orla Finnegan</b>	Director	Carrick Education Centre
<b>Niall Rabbitt</b>	Tess Integrated Services Manager	Tusla TESS
<b>Olivia Boyle</b>	Senior Probation Officer	Probation Service

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<sup>2</sup> Discussion is ongoing that Atlantic Technological University Sligo will provide a Young Person 18-24 years to join CYPSC.

## Review of Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People’s Plan 2020-22

In reviewing the Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) 2020-22, an audit of objectives achieved per priority area had been completed within each CYPSC sub-group and the task group early in 2023. Members of CYPSC, its five sub-groups and one task group were then engaged in an anonymous online survey and a series of seven workshops.

The **survey** sought to capture learning from members’ experience of and engagement with implementing the Children and Young People’s Plan 2020-22. It comprised 20 multiple choice style questions that asked members about their:

- organisation and membership of CYPSC and its sub-groups engagement with CYPSC
- thoughts and perceptions of interagency working through CYPSC and its sub-groups
- insights and learning for developing the CYPP 2024-26

A link to the survey was distributed with an explanatory invitation email to all members of CYPSC and its five sub-groups and one task group. This was followed up by two prompt/reminder emails. The survey was completed by 66 members, a response rate of 81.48%.

**Workshops** were then facilitated online with CYPSC, its five sub-groups and one task group. These workshops invited members to

- Reflect on their membership of CYPSC and CYPSC sub-groups over the course of the CYPP 2020-22 and identify what has worked well, less well, learning, what has changed and what has been the impact?
- explore the impact of COVID on implementation of the CYPP 2020-22 and achievements, CYPSC response to children and families, how work is undertaken, and post Covid priorities for children and young people.
- Identify examples of innovative good interagency practice.

### Achievements

Implementation of the Children and Young People’s Plan was impacted by the COVID pandemic, including the launch which was postponed until 2022 due to public health restrictions.

Responding to the emerging needs of children and young people and their families for support, was given precedence in 2020 – 2021 over some of the originally planned objectives and associated activities. While member agencies reconfigured their way of working with children, young people and families and CYPSC and its sub-groups and task group moved to online working, a number of new activities, not documented in the 2020-2022 plan were undertaken.

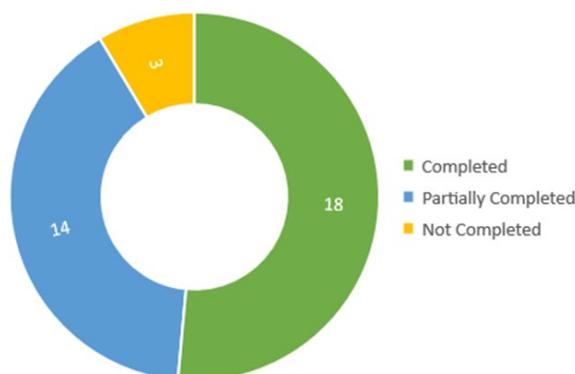
These included the following.

- Compiling, updating and the regular circulation of an *Outline of Supports and Services* available to children, young people and families across Counties Sligo and Leitrim. This shared information on the availability of support with families and promoted their access and help seeking at a time of great uncertainty and reduced service provision.
- Development and implementation of a COVID risk reduction campaign for young people by young people. This campaign provided supportive and positive messaging to young people during the pandemic when many experienced isolation and poorer mental health and wellbeing.
- Support for the delivery of food parcels to families.
- Design and delivery of a series of podcasts and webinars that provided information and support to parents.

Fuller detail on these and other collaborative activities undertaken during the plan is presented in Table 1.2 below.

As Figure 1.2 below shows, the audit of objectives detailed in the plan cross the five national outcomes and priority areas found that 51.43% were completed, 40% were partially completed/ in progress and 8.57% were not completed.

Figure 1.2 Review of Objectives, across 17 priority areas<sup>3</sup>, 2020-22



Fuller detail on the achievement/completion of objectives per national outcome and priority area is presented in Table 1.1 below. This does not include additional activities undertaken during and in response to the COVID pandemic.

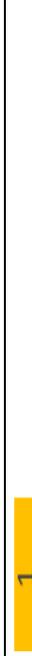
The collaborative activities described in Table 1.2 confirms that a significant volume and range of projects were successfully completed during a very challenging period for children, young people and families, and for the professionals working within the context of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC. These projects involved;

- providing access to services and programmes for children and young people who may not otherwise have received support e.g., SMILY LGBTQIA+ Youth Group<sup>4</sup> project.
- completing research across a range of emerging areas to support evidence-informed decision making and planning e.g., responding to knife crime and young people.
- training (including awareness of domestic violence, ACEs), the development of a Parenting Support Strategy for Sligo and Leitrim and a range of resources e.g., webinars, podcasts and research reports (including on domestic violence, knife crime, review of bullying supports) disseminated through the Parent Hub.
- design and delivery of the COVID WORD social media campaign by young people which was shared and leveraged by local and national CYPSC and partner agencies across the country.
- continued and new funding for key roles of Parent Hub coordinator and a participation worker.

<sup>3</sup> Includes Objectives across 5 National Outcomes and Change Management.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.ncycs.ie/smily-lgbt-youth-group/>

Table 1.1 Review of Progress in Achieving Objectives per Priority Area for 5 National Outcomes in CYPP 2020-22<sup>5</sup>

National Outcome	Priority Areas	
Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	Healthy choices	
	Child and youth mental health	
	Nutrition and food poverty	
Achieving full potential in learning and development	Parent/guardian support	
	Education and learning	
	Safety	
Safe and protected from harm	Trauma awareness	
	Violence, physical emotional and psychological	
	Violence: carrying of knives, offensive weapons	
	Children of service users experiencing domestic violence	
	Overcoming barriers	
Economic security and opportunity	Transitions	
	Social inclusion	
	Connection	
Connected, respected and contributing to their world	Participation	

<sup>5</sup> 1, 2, 3 refer to number of objectives either completed, partially completed, or not completed per priority area. This review took place within structured meetings of the five CYPP Sub-groups and following discussion by members, progress ratings were agreed and assigned to the objectives within each CYPP priority area.

In April- May 2023, CYPSC and its working/subgroup members identified the following five key achievements in delivering positive outputs and/or outcomes for children, young people and families and in exemplifying good interagency working.

1. **A Brief Intervention Therapy<sup>6</sup> service<sup>7</sup>** provided 382 one to one sessions across six weeks to 63 young people aged 10-18 years. These young people would not have received a service otherwise and reported positive outcomes in terms of feeling listened to and having increased confidence and ability to better manage stress and emotions as well as resolve issues and conflict using a range of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) strategies and techniques. There was strong evidence of joint planning and joint working across CYPSC member agencies at every stage of developing this service from writing the business case for funding, designing the referral criteria and pathways to promoting the service through member agencies and networks e.g., CFSN.
2. Development and launch of the **Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-26<sup>8</sup>** was also identified as a key achievement. This Strategic Plan was underpinned by robust needs assessment research and a stakeholder consultation<sup>9</sup> process that engaged 334 parents, 31 organisations and 14 young people. It provides important insight into and understanding of local parent support needs and a robust platform for evidence-informed decision-making and working to support parents and their children. In addition, publication of the Research and Consultation Report and Strategic Plan has shared learning across other CYPSC areas and contributed to the body of evidence on what is known and understood about parents' need for support.
3. A significant body of work was undertaken in relation to **domestic violence** following the onset of the COVID pandemic and the announcement of public health restrictions. This included development of a resource handbook and hosting an interagency awareness raising and training event for professionals over 1.5 days in November 2022. Raising the profile of this issue among professionals and building their capacity to recognize and provide support for families was identified as a key achievement. A task and time bound Domestic Violence task group was established and led a systematic programme of work premised on strong interagency working and a clear focus on child centered outcomes. This also included a research review<sup>10</sup> and mapping<sup>11</sup> of provision, delivery and evaluation of the locally developed evidence-informed Healthy Vs Unhealthy Relationships programme to 1,661 young people in 19 secondary schools. These young people report increased awareness and new knowledge to help them recognize and seek help in the context of an unhealthy relationship. A number

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<sup>6</sup> [Report on Brief Intervention Service Sligo and Leitrim.pdf](#)<sup>7</sup> Funded by the Community Mental Health Fund.

<sup>7</sup> Funded by the Community Mental Health Fund.

<sup>8</sup> [Sligo-Leitrim-Parenting-Support-Strategic-Plan-2022-2026-2.pdf \(sligochildcare.ie\)](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Framework-for-Parenting-Support-Strategy-for-Sligo-and-Leitrim-Consultation-Report-2021-1.pdf \(sligochildcare.ie\)](#)

<sup>9</sup> [DVAS-CYPSC-RESEARCH-REPORT-A4.pdf](#)

<sup>10</sup> [DVAS-LENS-ON-DV-A4-v2 04112022 \(1\).pdf](#)

of disclosures concerning coercive relationships were made by young people to the programme delivery team.

4. The **Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS) Project** undertaken by the Economic Security and Opportunity sub-group has been identified as a key achievement during the life of CYPP 2020-22. This Project exemplifies evidenced informed working and the meaningful participation of children and young people, and it has delivered a significant service outcome locally with funding for the development of a new Youth Service in South Leitrim and additional funding for existing services in County Sligo (provided by the International Fund for Ireland (IFI)). As a result, more children and young people living in both counties now have access to the support they need. The learning and insights have been shared nationally in a recorded webinar attended by approximately 70 professionals.
  
5. The work of the **Participation Lab** has demonstrated evidence of joint planning and co-ordination and has involved the delivery of training by young people, the development of training videos, and the ongoing rollout of training to staff in CYPSC member organisations. This has been identified as a key achievement with key outputs and outcomes for service delivery for children and young people that include:
  - Tusla and CYPSC BOBF funding has been assigned for a part-time role of Participation Worker.
  - Children and young people living in IPAS have had new opportunities to take part in summer camps, and other children and young people have experienced increased access to new therapies in FRCs. Children and young people have participated in needs assessment research that has provided a growing evidence base to support funding applications by member organisations.

*Table 1.2 Collaborative projects undertaken by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC during CYPP 2020-22*

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funding
<p>Consultation, delivery, and publication of the CYPP 2020 – 2022. The launch was delayed until 2022 due to public health guidelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation, publication and launch video prepared for the launch by young people and presented by them on the youth version of the CYPP 2020 – 2022.</li> </ul>	<p>BOBF CYPSC Programme Fund 2019, 2020</p>
<p><b>The Sligo Leitrim Participation Lab</b> to promote the involvement of children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim in decision-making was developed with children and young people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Local Participation Practice Guidelines</b> were updated in 2022.</li> <li>• <b>Participation Training.</b> Young people were trained as trainers and delivered training on the use of the Local Participation Practice Guidelines to staff working with children and young people and management across CYPSC partner agencies during 2021 on a pilot basis.</li> <li>• A <b>Participation Workbook</b> for services in Sligo and Leitrim was developed as a resource for the Participation Training during 2022.</li> </ul>	<p>BOBF CYPSC Programme Fund</p> <p>Tusla Child and Youth Participation Seed Grant.</p>

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of four <b>'Byte-size' training tutorial videos</b>, with young people leading out on the process, as a tool to support Participation Training in 2022.</li> <li>• <b>The Child and Youth Self-Assessment Tool</b> was launched in April 2023 to assist services assess their participation practices. <a href="https://sligoleitrimyouthparticipationtoolkit.ie/">https://sligoleitrimyouthparticipationtoolkit.ie/</a></li> <li>• <b>Participation Youth Support Worker</b> employed, part-time, in 2021, to provide coordination, delivery, and enhancement of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Child and Youth Participation 'Lab' programme, through the provision of direct youth engagement in consultation, training and policy evaluation relating to services engaged with Sligo Leitrim CYPSC. This project is hosted by Leitrim CCC</li> <li>• <b>Translation of the Local Participation Practice Guidelines (2018)</b> into Spanish for use with services in Chile. Nicolás Russell Véjar, Coordinator of the Knowledge Management area of the Chilean Association for the United Nations (ACHNU), now uses the guidelines in their work, making adaptations to their context.</li> </ul>	Tusla Local Area Budget
<p>Provision of a <b>'Mental Health Decider Programme'</b> training for front-line staff, working with children presenting with anxiety/mental health concerns, to support their resilience in 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from staff has been very positive indicating that the skills are being used daily with children and young people presenting with anxiety.</li> </ul>	HSE funded.
<p>Local Communities for <b>Healthy Ireland</b> funded projects which were approved in 2019, aiming to finish in early 2022 (delivery impacted by Covid-19 and Public Health Guidelines):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy Food Made Easy – Sligo Social Service Council</li> <li>• 'Mental Health Decider Programme' for Teachers at Primary School level, for 8 – 12-year-olds, Sligo and Carrick Education Centres.</li> <li>• Balance Bike and Biking for Life for Early Years and School Age Children, Sligo CCC</li> <li>• 'Friends for Life' and 'Fun Friends' for younger children, Leitrim CCC</li> <li>• Mental Health Decider Programme for frontline staff, led by Leitrim CCC and MSLETB</li> <li>• Foróige Health &amp; Well-being Project, Foróige Sligo and Leitrim</li> <li>• LGBTQIA+ and Youth Project, YWINC</li> <li>• School Age Childcare Child Consultation Project, February 2022</li> <li>• Community Mental Health – Brief Intervention Therapy, West Sligo FRC</li> </ul> <p>An interim report on the outcomes of these projects was provided to Pobal with the final report provided in 2022.</p> <p>Additional projects that were supported from June 2022, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autism Research and Application Preparation - carry out a needs analysis and develop a service response to deliver on this action of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC, Breffni FRC.</li> <li>• 'Play in Nature' with children, Sligo CCC</li> </ul>	<p>Healthy Ireland Funding Round 3</p> <p>Government of Ireland, Healthy Ireland Funding, Sláintecare, Pobal, grant of €96,000</p> <p>Additional funding from Healthy Ireland Funding for continuation of actions, July 2021: €36,841</p> <p>Community Mental Health Fund for CYPSC, Department of Health, via Pobal €32,050</p>

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decider Skills Training, MSL ETB and Leitrim CCC</li> <li>• Family Support and Youth and Family Support Services, Foróige.</li> <li>• Balance Bikes, Leitrim CCC</li> <li>• Confidence in the Kitchen, Ballymote FRC.</li> <li>• Creative Play, Ballymote FRC.</li> <li>• Intercultural Event for young women, Sligo FRC.</li> <li>• Relax Kids, Schools Programmes, Tubbercurry FRC</li> <li>• Equipment for Autism Programme, Tubbercurry FRC</li> <li>• Work with young people with autism in Sligo and Leitrim, to encourage attendance at a group of their peers, to meet staff and engage with other people to improve social confidence and interactions, Foróige.</li> </ul>	Healthy Ireland Funding 2022 €48,000
Grant to support <b>families from Ukrainian</b> , allocated to the six FRCs in Sligo and Leitrim to support activities for parents and children recently arrived from Ukraine (2022).	DCEDIY CYPSC Ukrainian Support Fund 2022 €2,555
Development of an <b>‘Outline of Supports &amp; Services’</b> in March 2020, to support families and professionals in Sligo and Leitrim. This document outlined services and supports for children, young people, and families across the two counties. Information was provided by services and organisations, with each service outlining and updating their respective service details, including accessibility to, availability of and contact details to the CYPSC coordinator and the CYPSC administration support worker. The document was circulated weekly as Covid-19 restrictions were introduced and then monthly during 2020 and in 2021.	No cost
Delivery of an <b>Art Project for young people in Sligo and Leitrim</b> , 2020. A series of impactful posters were created to raise awareness as part of a mental health and well-being project by Sligo Comhairle na nÓg and Foróige Leitrim. The poster artwork was distributed and displayed outdoors as well as on social media platforms across Sligo/ Leitrim.	BOBF CYPSC Programme Fund 2020
Delivery of a <b>Music Project</b> in 2021, Foróige Sligo. A piece of music was created by a group of young people.	BOBF CYPSC Programme Fund 2021
<p>Delivery of two projects under the <b>Community Resilience Fund (CRF)</b>, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design and delivery of a series of <b>Podcasts and Webinars</b> to support parents – Sligo CCC</li> <li>• Revision of the <b>Sligo Leitrim Directory of Services</b> to make it more user-friendly for young people – MSL ETB.</li> </ul>	Community Resilience Fund, Government of Ireland, Pobal, Sláintecare. €18,500
<p><b>Covid Word Campaign, 2022:</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Youth Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing and Covid Safety  Collaborative project between Sligo Leitrim CYPSC and South Dublin CYPSC and CYPSC National Office, Tusla.  Foróige hosted this project with young people from Sligo, Leitrim and South Dublin. The project aimed to develop and deliver a youth specific digital</p>	CYPSC National Office, Tusla €27,000

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funding
<p>Covid risk reduction campaign, designed by young people, for young people. In so doing, the group worked with a company to design a series of key posters. A social media campaign was prepared, targeting online platforms to increase awareness and reach young people with the key messages.</p> <p>The project was transferrable right across Ireland, had national relevance and was capable for adoption by all CYPSC wishing to positively respond to the emerging needs of young people directly as an impact of Covid-19. A further strand of this Project was a request to and response from several Local Authorities across the country to display the assets/posters designed by young people in prominent locations through each county. Sligo Co Council responded to this request and displayed a large poster on the Hughes Bridge Sligo, where an estimated 25,000 motorists passed daily, for several months.</p> <p>Digi signs, bus shelters and billboards were used throughout the country to display the posters.</p>	
<p><b>Research and Mapping of services and supports 2020/2021:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping of Anti-Bullying Supports &amp; Services, 2021 (Safe &amp; protected from harm sub-group).</li> <li>• Mapping of Resilience Programmes and Supports, 2021 (Active &amp; Healthy sub-group)</li> <li>• International Fund for Ireland (IFI) Good Practice Research, 2021 (Economic Security &amp; Opportunity sub-group)</li> <li>• Review of national and international literature on interventions to address the carrying of concealed weapons among young people, 2021. (<i>Young People and Knife Crime</i> – a systematic literature review) (Safe and Protected from Harm sub-group)</li> </ul>	<p>Supported by students from ATU and DCU</p> <p>BOBF CYPSC Programme Fund 2020, 2021, 2022</p>
<p><b>Domestic Violence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping of Domestic Violence Supports and Services, 2021 (Child &amp; Youth Domestic Violence subgroup), (Safe &amp; Protected from Harm sub-group)</li> <li>• Desk-based research on supports and services for children and young people impacted by or experiencing the impact of domestic violence, 2021 (Safe &amp; Protected from Harm sub-group)</li> <li>• Training of 20 facilitators to deliver ‘Circles of Security Parenting Programme’ who delivered training on this early intervention attachment-based programme within Tusla Social Work and Alternative Care teams and Lifestart building parental skills and confidence to support children and young people.</li> <li>• <b>Publications:</b> Production and publication of <i>Lens on Domestic Violence</i> Production and publication of <i>Domestic Violence Resource Handbook</i></li> <li>• Domestic Violence Awareness Raising and training event over 1.5 days November 2022</li> </ul>	<p>CYPSC BOBF CYPSC Programme Fund, DVAS, SLP</p> <p>MACE</p> <p>CYPSC BOBF Programme Fund, DVAS, SLP DCEDIY ‘What Works’</p>
<p><b>Framework for Parenting Support Strategy for Sligo and Leitrim Consultation Report 2021</b> Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026</p>	<p>HSE, 2021 and 2022</p>

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Collaborative Project	Funding
(Learning & Development sub-group and Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board)	
<b>Support of the Sligo Leitrim Parent Hub and Parent Hub Coordinator Development and delivery of the Parent Hub website <a href="http://parenthubslwc.ie">parenthubslwc.ie</a></b>	Tusla PPFS, Tusla Parenting Learning Communities Funding 2022
<b>I AM BABA</b> workshop for parents and babies 0 – 12 months through Lifestart, Sligo FRC and West Sligo FRC in 2020; Tubbercurry FRC and West Sligo FRC in 2021; Tubbercurry FRC, Sligo FRC, Ballymote FRC and Mohill FSC in 2023.	CYPSC BOBF Programme Fund 2020, 2021 and 2023.
<b>Let's Play Ireland National Playday, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.</b> An annual government-led campaign for families was delivered in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 by Sligo Co Council, assisted by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC, Sligo CCC, SSRP and Sligo Leitrim Gardai	DCEDIY for Sligo Co Co, Sligo CCC and CYPSC BOBF Programme Fund in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023.

### Challenges

CYPSC and its sub-groups and task group identified several challenges to be addressed during the implementation of the new CYPP 2024-2026.

1. Persistent gaps in membership and poor attendance of key partners including HSE, CDNT and education partners including NEPS. This impacts knowledge and capacity to deliver projects/priority actions. The wider engagement of schools and teachers outside of a representative from the Irish Primary Principal's Network (IPPN) continues to be a challenge.
2. Some organisations and members have joined CYPSC and its sub-groups in the last year or during COVID and are at an early stage on their journey of interagency working with CYPSC. There is a need to enhance the local induction process to clarify with them their role and purpose in relation to CYPSC.
3. Members across CYPSC and its sub-groups are challenged with capacity and workload, to attend meetings and deliver on tasks/projects alongside their organisational roles. This is a barrier to fostering distributed leadership across CYPSC sub-groups.
4. Staff shortages, and issues with the recruitment and retention of staff in the HSE, Tusla and in the Community and Voluntary sector pose a challenge for CYPSC and implementation of the new Plan 2024-26.
5. There are ongoing challenges regarding sustainability and succession of children and young people's involvement across CYPSC and sub-groups.
6. Review of the Childcare Act and pending structural change in Tusla creates uncertainty for CYPSC and its sub-groups.

### Key Learning:

The following learning points were also identified by the CYPSC and its sub-groups and task group.

1. There exists strong established practice of interagency working characterised by joint planning, co-ordination, and pooling of resources across some agencies on a range of projects/actions that will provide a solid platform from which to launch a new CYPSC plan and to further develop interagency working. Members perceive that the experience of implementing CYPP 2020-22 during COVID strengthened collaborative processes and developed confidence, a 'can-do' attitude, as well as the flexibility/ adaptability of sub-groups and the task group.

2. Interagency working can be further developed among organisations and professionals new to CYPSC and its sub-groups by adopting practical activities that support and enable interagency working. These include sharing CYPSC meeting minutes in their organisation and by adding agenda items to the CYPSC meeting agenda.
3. The review highlighted distinct knowledge, trust, expertise, and capabilities especially among agencies and members longer established with CYPSC that should be leveraged in implementing the new CYPP 2024-26. This can be applied to the ongoing challenge of engaging schools and teachers by taking a planned approach to nurturing new relationships through existing links via the Home School Liaison Service, CFSN, Leitrim Development Company and the Teacher Education Centres.
4. CYPSC sub-groups should take confidence from the key achievements of CYPP 2020-22 and replicate approaches and processes that worked well. These include systematic approaches to developing projects informed by needs assessment and research, evidence-informed working and data driven decision-making, stakeholder engagement and strategy development.
5. Strong and distributed leadership was identified as a significant factor in good interagency working and the achievements of CYPSC sub-groups. CYPSC and its sub-groups and task group should take action to foster this by securing member buy-in at CYPP/project planning stage, clarifying the role and purpose of members and their organisations, and building the capability of new members by co-opting them onto sub-groups and the task group.
6. COVID has impacted how CYPSC undertakes its work, and the benefits should continue to be harnessed. This includes delivering training online to maximise reach and engagement, and hosting CYPSC meetings online or using a hybrid option to promote member attendance without the need to travel.
7. The COVID pandemic has had a significant impact on children, young people and families, the impact of which is only beginning to emerge and will need to be taken into account in implementing the new CYPP 2024-26.
8. Funding applications for work with families in IPAS must include the costs for transport.
9. A range of social media channels should be used to target messaging to children, young people, and parents effectively.
10. CYPSC and its sub-groups and task groups should seek to create/influence opportunities to ensure the routine collection of outcomes and impact data is considered when services are being designed and planned. This will help secure mainstream funding, promoting the sustainability of effective services and will address the issue of short-term funding cycles.



Parents, babies and children at the launch of the We're Breastfeeding Friendly Leitrim Project in 2023

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

Development of the Plan followed a robust and systematic process that included:

- consultation with 191 key stakeholders to capture learning and insights from implementing the previous Plan and to identify emerging needs and priorities.
- SWOT<sup>12</sup> analysis which identified the strengths and weaknesses within CYPSC and its sub-groups and task group that should be taken into account in designing activities within the new Plan.
- a review of policy documents and a PESTLE<sup>13</sup> analysis identified the key opportunities and threats in the environment that CYPSC should manage in developing and implementing a new CYPP 2024-26. Reviewing local strategy documents also identified synergies and opportunities for collaboration with other county-level or local area planning.
- Review of learning from research commissioned during CYPP 2020-22 to identify actions/priorities.

*Table 1.3 Steps in developing the Children and Young People’s Plan 2024-26*

Year	Process	Stakeholders	Outputs
Late 2022, early 2023	Review of CYPP 2020-22: Audit of objectives per priority area for the 5 National Outcomes and change management	CYPSC sub-groups and task group with CYPSC co-ordinator	Assessment of progress per objective  (1) Completed (2) Partially completed (3) Not completed
April 23	Online Survey of CYPSC and 5 sub-groups/ 1 task group members. Included adapted Interagency Collaboration Activities Scale (IACAS) <sup>14</sup> as well as questions on interagency working used in a survey during development of the CYPP 2020-22.	Sub-groups and task groups developed and analysed by independent research consultant.  Survey completed by 66 members, Response Rate = 81.48%.	Assessment of members’ perceptions of interagency working in 2023 and change from 2019 on some questions.  Collated members’ insights and learning for developing the CYPP 2024-26 as well as priority issues from professional practice with children, young people and families.
April-May 2023	1 hour Review ‘Looking Back’ Workshop with CYPSC, its 5 sub-groups/1 task group.  7 Workshops attended by 85 members.	CYPSC, 5 sub-groups, 1 task group facilitated online using MS Teams and analysed by independent research consultant.	Key themes and learning identified in relation to CYPP 2020-22, including: (1) What has worked well, and less well, learning, what has changed /impact? (2) Impact of COVID on implementation (3) Achievements, examples of innovative good interagency practice.

<sup>12</sup> SWOT is a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats analysis. SWOT provided a framework for identifying and analysing CYPSC and its Working Groups and Subgroup’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

<sup>13</sup> PESTLE analysis provided a framework for identifying and analysing the key external factors (Political, Economic, Sociological, Technological, Legal and Environmental) that influence CYPSC and its Working Groups and Subgroup.

<sup>14</sup> Dedrick, R.F. and Greenbaum, P.E. (2011) Multilevel Confirmatory Factor Analysis of a Scale Measuring Interagency Collaboration of Children’s Mental Health Agencies, *J Emot Behav Disord.* 9(1): 27–40. doi: [10.1177/1063426610365879](https://doi.org/10.1177/1063426610365879)

Year	Process	Stakeholders	Outputs
April– May 2023	<p>Consultation with children and young people aged 3-24 years using a range of methods appropriate to children and young peoples’ age and stage of development.</p> <p>(1) Creative art-based needs and wishes activities/circle time for children aged 3-12 years.</p> <p>(2) Open Space and World Café methods for young people aged 13-17 years.</p> <p>(2) Anonymous online<sup>15</sup> survey for young adults aged 18-24 years.</p> <p>Designed, facilitated and analysed by independent research consultant.</p>	<p>91 children and young people: 54 aged 3-12 years and 37 aged 18-24 years.</p> <p>Diverse convenience sample<sup>16</sup> accessed through CYPSC member agencies included children and young people living in IPAS(IPAS), members of Comhairle na nOg, attending Youth Cafes within FRCs.</p>	<p>Identification of</p> <p>(1) issues, activities and actions/solutions that are important to children and young people aged 3-24 years, and the impact of COVID</p> <p>(2) services used and activities undertaken (as well as gaps in provision) by children and young people</p> <p>(3) their experience of specific services and activities provided within CYPP 2020-22 and identify what works for children and young people in Sligo Leitrim.</p>
May 2023	<p>Consultation with diverse convenience sample of 30 parents accessed through CYPSC member agencies.</p> <p>3 in-person focus groups</p> <p>9 1-1 telephone interviews</p> <p>2 online focus groups using MS Teams</p> <p>Designed, facilitated, and analysed by independent research consultant.</p>	<p>Included the Traveller Community, Parents living in IPAS in Sligo and Leitrim, service users across range of services with children and young people experiencing a range of issues e.g., ASD, mental health, school refusal.</p>	<p>Exploration of</p> <p>(1) parents’ awareness of services and supports available in Sligo Leitrim</p> <p>(2) parents' experience of seeking support/accessing services</p> <p>(3) parents’ views on services and supports currently needed post COVID, issues to be addressed and potential solutions.</p>

<sup>15</sup> Diverse sample accessed through CYPSC member agencies engaged in Education, Youth Work and Social Care. A link to a QR code was circulated to staff members across organisations to share with young people attending Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board youth projects, Youthreach and Education Training Centres, as well as Post Leaving Certificate courses, Atlantic Technological University Students Union, Foroige Youth Diversion Projects, Youth Work Ireland North Connaught projects, the National Learning Network and Tusla Children After Care teams, as well as Sligo Gaelic Athletic Association, Sligo Ladies Gaelic Football Association, Leitrim Gaelic Athletic Association and Leitrim Ladies Gaelic Football Association.

<sup>16</sup> Young people living in IPAS accommodation, members of Comhairle na nOg, attending Youth Cafes within Family Resource Centres, members of the SMILY LGBTQIA+ Youth Group, as well as children attending Early Years Learning and Care and School Aged Childcare services.

Year	Process	Stakeholders	Outputs
May-June 2023	Audit of services completed by CYPSC coordinator.	Statutory, Community and Voluntary sector agencies in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area.	Descriptive profile of services available to children and young people and their families.
May-June 2023	Online focus groups and interviews with 5 professionals facilitated and analysed by independent research consultant.	Statutory partners with experience of, and insight into new issues/gaps emerging from the consultation process.	Exploration of emerging issues (1) the engagement of education sector and education professionals in the work of CYPSC (2) supporting families from Ukraine living in Sligo Leitrim (3) the needs of children and young people in care.
May 2023	Socio demographic profile and review of research and policy documents.		Key elements of local assessment of need.
May-June 2023	2-hour planning 'Looking forward' workshop with CYPSC, 5 sub-groups and 1 task group.  7 workshops attended by 89 members.	CYPSC, 5 sub-groups, 1 task group facilitated online using MS Teams by independent research consultant.	Review of local needs analysis  Voting to identify priorities.  Design of activities, objectives, targets, and indicators within draft CYPP
June 2023	Draft CYPP circulated to all members for feedback and comments. Further round of feedback sought at sub-group meetings that took place in June/early July.	CYPSC, 5 sub-groups, 1 task group	Feedback sought.

Fuller detail on the consultation process is available in a report available at the following link.  
<https://www.cypsc.ie/fileupload/Documents/Resources/Sligo%20Leitrim/Sligo%20Leitrim%20CYPSC%20Consultation%20report%20July%202023.pdf>

## Section 2: Socio-Demographic Profile of Sligo Leitrim

### Demographic Profile of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Area

In 2022, the population of Sligo was recorded as 70,198 while the population in Leitrim was 35,199 and this represents 1.36% and 0.68% respectively of the total population nationally.

This was an increase in both counties from Census 2016, of 4,663 in Sligo and of 3,155 in Leitrim and in line with the national trend where the population in the State increased by 387,274. However, the rate of increase in the 6 years from 2016 and 2022 in Leitrim at 9.8% is higher than in Sligo (7.3%) and higher than the national rate of 8.13%.

The population of children and young people aged under 25 years has also increased in both counties since Census 2016 in line with the national trend. However, the rate of increase is higher in Leitrim at 8.7% (+902) than in Sligo (+795) which reported a 3.6% increase. The rate of increase nationally was 4.6%.

The average age in Sligo is 40.7 years, up from 39.2 years in 2016. It is also 40.7 years in Leitrim, up from 39.8 years. The average age nationally is 38.8 years and is lower than in both counties.

The Youth Dependency Ratio<sup>17</sup> declined from 2016 and was 30.1 nationally in 2022. It is higher in Leitrim at 33.4 than in Sligo (30.4).

In 2022, the average population density is 82.80 persons per square kilometre in Sligo and 23.87 in Leitrim compared to 73 persons per square kilometre nationally.

Table 2.1 below presents a summary of socio-demographic indicators for Sligo Leitrim relevant to Sligo Leitrim CYPSC. Following that, this section of the Plan presents a detailed socio-demographic profile by National Outcome area. It draws on Census 2022 data and compares with the previous Census or other relevant data, where available and comparable. Change over time is presented in brackets with (+) denoting increase and (-) denoting decrease.

*Table 2.1: Summary Socio Demographic Indicators for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Area, compared with National Data (where available and comparable)*

Indicator	Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Area	State
Child and youth population (0-24)	33,035 (31.34% of total population; +1,608/+5.11% on 2016 <sup>18</sup> )	1,657,058 (32.18% of total population; +74,054/+4.67% on 2016)
	2022 total population = 105,397 (+7,818/+8.45 <sup>19</sup> % on 2016)	2022 total population = 5,149,139 (+387,274/+8.1% on 2016)

<sup>17</sup> Young dependency is a ratio of the number of people aged under 15 compared with the working age population.

[https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censuofpopulation2022-summaryresults/populationchanges/#:~:text=The%20total%20dependency%20ratio%20increased,increased%20by%2024%2C791%20\(8%25\).](https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censuofpopulation2022-summaryresults/populationchanges/#:~:text=The%20total%20dependency%20ratio%20increased,increased%20by%2024%2C791%20(8%25).)

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.cso.ie/en/statistics/population/>

<sup>19</sup> Average of rate across Sligo 7.1% and Leitrim 9.8%

Child population (0-17)	24,855 (23.5% of total population; +706/+2.92% on 2016)	1,218,567 (23.66% of total population; +28,065/+2.35% on 2016)
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Indicator	Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Area	State
Young adult population (18-24)	8,180 (7.76% of total population; +902/+12.39% on 2016)	438,491 (8.51% of total population; +45,989/+11.71% on 2016)
Infant mortality	2.7 (2 infants) in Sligo, 0 in Leitrim in 2020	3.1 (178 infants) in 2020
Ethnicity (0-24) <sup>20</sup>	Comparable data not available due to change in data collection and recording procedures in Census 2022	White Irish 1,238,850 White Irish Traveller 17,971 White Roma 6,319 Arab 9,448 Black or Black Irish 36,470 Asian or Asian Irish 59,952 Other White Background 131,632 Other Background 31,224 Not Stated 103,143
Irish Travellers <sup>21</sup> adults and children (0-24 years) living in Ireland in 2022.	Leitrim: 180, 5.2 per 1,000 population (-23, -12.77% on 2016)  Sligo: 418, 6 per 1,000 population (+32, + 8.29% on 2016).	32,949, 6.5 per 1,000 population (+1,962, +6.33% on 2016).
Number and rate (per 1,000) of Traveller children in 2022 <sup>22</sup>	Leitrim: 78, 9 per 1,000 population. 0.89% of all children Sligo: 192, 11.9 per 1,000 population, 1.18% of all children	14,142, 11.6 per 1,000 population, 1.16% of all children
Children and young people with a disability (0-24)	2,948	143,497
Number and rate (per 1,000) of children with a disability in 2022 <sup>23</sup>	Leitrim: 832, 95.9 per 1,000 population. 9.58% of all children Sligo: 1778, 109.9 per 1,000 population, 10.99% of all children	131,764, 108.1 per 1,000 population, 10.81% of all children

<sup>20</sup> Change in data collected and reported between Census 2016 and 2022 limits potential to calculate change over time for ethnicity. Census 2022 ethnicity data categorized by age group and county not available.

<https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/pressreleases/2023pressreleases/pressstatementcensus2022resultsprofile5-diversitymigrationethnicityirishtravellersreligion/>

<sup>21</sup> Irish Travellers per 1,000 population <https://data.cso.ie/product/C2022PS>

<sup>22</sup> State of the Nation: Sociodemographics <https://assets.gov.ie/217089/c81cc2ed-a2c9-48d9-baa3-6c6a93488a80.pdf>

<sup>23</sup> State of the Nation: Sociodemographics <https://assets.gov.ie/217089/c81cc2ed-a2c9-48d9-baa3-6c6a93488a80.pdf>

Family structure	185,000 <sup>24</sup> in border region that includes Sligo Leitrim CYPSC	2,302,000
Self-perceived general health of children (0-24 years) reported as very good	77.53% (-3.64%) <sup>25</sup>	75.32% (-4.95%)
Notifications of sexually transmitted infections % notifications of herpes simplex (genital)	In 2022 30.23% (+15.53% change on 2018) among 15-19 years and 72.09% (+33.86% on 2018) among 0-24 years in Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal	In 2022 10.87% (-0.38% change on 2018) among 15-19 years and 41.19% (+1.97% on 2018) among 0-24 years nationally



Mohill School Aged Childcare - Wishes and needs tree art activity.

*Consultations for Sligo Leitrim CYPP 2024 – 2026*

<sup>24</sup> Labour Force Survey 2019

<sup>25</sup> Average across Sligo and Leitrim – see Table 2.3 below for fuller details.

## Outcome 1 Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing

### Infant Mortality

Table 2.2 Infant, Neonatal and Perinatal Mortality 2020<sup>26</sup> and change from 2019

Category <sup>27</sup>	Sligo (Number & %)	Leitrim (Number & %)	State (Number & %)
Number of Infant Mortalities	2 (+2)	0	178 (+11)
Number of Neonatal Mortalities	0	0 (-4)	134 (+6)
Number of Perinatal Mortalities	2 (+2)	0 (-4)	226 (-2)
Rate of Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	2.7% (+2.7)	0	3.1% (+0.3)
Rate of Neonatal Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	0	0 (-9.4)	2.4% (+0.2)
Rate of Perinatal Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	2.7% (+2.7)	0 (-9.4)	4% (-0.2)

### Breastfeeding

The most recent HSE data available on breastfeeding rates<sup>28</sup> indicates that in the Community Healthcare Organisation 1 (CHO1) area<sup>29</sup>, 48.9% of mothers in Quarter 1 2022 reported any breastfeeding at first visit while 34.4% reported breastfeeding exclusively at this time. Reduced rates were reported at the 3-month visit, falling to 33.5% and 24.7% respectively.

All of these rates were below the national averages: 8.9% lower for any breastfeeding and 4.7% lower for exclusive breastfeeding at first visit. The reported rates were also below the national targets for this period.

While also below the national average and target, it is interesting to note that data relating specifically to Sligo University Hospital during this period shows higher rates of any breastfeeding at the first (51%) and 3-month (37.1%) visits than the overall CHO1 area. This is also true for mothers reporting exclusively breastfeeding at the 3-month visit.

Review of 2020<sup>30</sup> data relating to exclusive breastfeeding at time of discharge from hospital or following home birth notes that the rates in Sligo and Leitrim are below 35%, and below the national average of 44.2%. Comparison with the same data for the 2019<sup>31</sup> period highlights a fall in the rate of breastfeeding nationally (-1.3%) as well as in Sligo and Leitrim where the reported rates were between 35-39.9%.

<sup>26</sup> Vital Statistics Annual Report 2020 Infant Mortality, Stillbirths and Maternal Mortality 2020  
<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vsar/vitalstatisticsannualreport2020/infantmortalitystillbirthsandmaternalmortality2020/>

<sup>27</sup> Neonatal mortality: Deaths at ages under 4 weeks of live born infants. Perinatal mortality: Stillbirths or late foetal deaths plus early neonatal deaths. Infant mortality: Deaths at ages under 1 year of live born infants.

<sup>28</sup> HSE CHO1 Breastfeeding data report for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

<sup>29</sup> HSE CHO 1 area Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan, Donegal, Cavan and Monaghan

<sup>30</sup> Perinatal Statistics Report 2020 Healthcare Pricing Office October 2022  
[http://www.hpo.ie/latest\\_hipe\\_nprs\\_reports/NPRS\\_2020/Perinatal\\_Statistics\\_Report\\_2020.pdf](http://www.hpo.ie/latest_hipe_nprs_reports/NPRS_2020/Perinatal_Statistics_Report_2020.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> Perinatal Statistics Report 2019 Healthcare Pricing Office  
[https://www.hpo.ie/latest\\_hipe\\_nprs\\_reports/NPRS\\_2019/Perinatal\\_Statistics\\_Report\\_2019.pdf](https://www.hpo.ie/latest_hipe_nprs_reports/NPRS_2019/Perinatal_Statistics_Report_2019.pdf)

### Self-Perceived General Health

Fewer Census survey respondents living in Sligo and Leitrim in 2022, reported that the general health of the children and young people aged 0-24 years present in their household as very good, when compared to 2016. Table 2.3 below confirms this is similar to the national picture for this age group across the county. The national data highlights a general shift from good to less good health for all age groups with the exception of those aged 75 years and over.

Table 2.3 Self Perceived General Health for 0-24 years in Census 2022<sup>32</sup> and change from 2016.

Category	Sligo % of respondents (Change from 2016)	Leitrim % of respondents (Change from 2016)	State % of respondents (Change from 2016)
Very Good	77.08% (-3.09%)	77.98% (-4.19%)	75.32% (-4.95%)
Good	14.96% (+0.51%)	15.01% (+1.98%)	15.20% (+1.2%)
Fair	2.22% (+0.4%)	1.79% (+0.31%)	2.0% (+0.32%)
Bad	0.22% (+0.04%)	0.15% (0%)	0.22% (+0.03%)
Very Bad	0.04% (0%)	0.02% (-0.01%)	0.06% (+0.01%)
Not Stated	5.48% (+2.15%)	5.05% (-1.91%)	7.19% (+3.39%)

### Children with a disability

Table 2.4 Population of children and young people with a disability in 2022<sup>33</sup>

Population (number and % <sup>34</sup> ) and age profile of children and young people aged 0-24 years with a disability	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Number of children and young people with a disability to some extent <sup>35</sup> ,			
0-24 years	2,095	853	143,497
0-4 years	84 (2.14%)	36 (2.28%)	6,098 (2.22%)
5-9 years	318 (7.09%)	73 (6.1%)	13029 (6.43%)

<sup>32</sup> Census of Population 2022- Summary Results: Health, Disability, Caring and Volunteering

<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/healthdisabilitycaringandvolunteering/>

<sup>33</sup> Census 2022 Persons with a disability to any extent as a percentage of all population by administrative county, 2022

<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/healthdisabilitycaringandvolunteering/> data not comparable with 2016 due to change in question in 2022.

<sup>34</sup> Percentage of all population by State or County

<sup>35</sup> Composite indicator created at analysis stage from respondents' answers to questions on the Census. Q15 concerned the existence of long-lasting conditions e.g., blindness or a vision impairment, an intellectual disability, difficulty with learning. Q16 concerned difficulties experienced by persons doing a range of daily activities e.g., dressing, attending school, participating in leisure activities. Persons who ticked at least one of the boxes for 'Yes, to some extent' in Q15 or 'Yes, a little' in Q16 but did not tick any of the 'Yes to a great extent' in Q15 or 'Yes, a lot' in Q16 were used as part of the calculation of the 'disability to some extent' rate. Persons who ticked at least one of the 'Yes, to a great extent' boxes in Q15 or 'Yes, a lot' boxes in Q16 were used as part of the calculation of the 'disability to a great extent' rate. Persons who ticked any of the 'Yes' boxes in Q15 or Q16 were included in the 'disability to any extent' rate. Available data does not allow for disaggregation to report by type of disability. <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/backgroundnotes/>

and % of total population in county	10-14 years	501 (10.06%)	82 (9.15%)	16,719 (9.17%)
	15-19 years	593 (12.82%)	109 (9.93%)	18,563 (11.57%)
	20-24 years	599 (14.83%)	93 (12.43%)	18,039 (13.5%)
<b>Population (number and %) and age profile of children and young people aged 0-24 years with a disability</b>	<b>Sligo</b>	<b>Leitrim</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Population (number and %) and age profile of children and young people aged 0-24 years with a disability</b>
Number of children with a disability to a great extent, and % of total population in county	0-24 years	880	393	72,448
	0-4 years	78 (1.99%)	49 (1.67%)	6,573 (2.06%)
	5-9 years	141 (3.14%)	150 (2.96%)	22,046 (3.8%)
	10-14 years	182 (3.65%)	234 (3.20%)	34,334 (4.46%)
	15-19 years	248 (5.36%)	228 (4.74%)	39,075 (5.49%)
	20-24 years	231 (5.71%)	192 (6.02%)	41,469 (5.87%)

### Teenage pregnancy

The data in Table 2.5 below shows that the number of births to teenage mothers aged under 20 years in Sligo and in Leitrim was below the average across the country. The Sligo and Leitrim data showing a slight decrease in numbers in 2020 is in line with a decreasing trend over the past 20 or more years from a peak in 1999.

While the average age at maternity in 2020 was 33.7 years in Sligo and 33.3 years in Leitrim, it is also interesting to note that approximately 7% of births in 2020 in these counties were to mothers aged 20-24 years and is similar to the rate for this age group nationally.

Table 2.5 Number of Births<sup>36</sup> to Mothers<sup>37</sup> aged Under 20 or 20-24 years in 2022 and change from 2019.

Category	Sligo (change from 2019)	Leitrim (change from 2019)	State (change from 2019)
Number of Births to mothers aged under 20 years	6 (-1) 0.8%	3 (-1) 0.78%	857 (-1) 1.5%
Number of Births to mothers aged 20-24 years	59 (+10) 7.94%	29 (-12) 7.61%	4313 (-369) 7.56%

<sup>36</sup> CSO Vital Statistics Annual Report 2020 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vsar/vitalstatisticsannualreport2020/births2020/>

<sup>37</sup> Healthcare Pricing office 2022 Perinatal Statistics Report 2020 [https://www.hpo.ie/latest\\_hipe\\_nprs\\_reports/NPRS\\_2020/Perinatal\\_Statistics\\_Report\\_2020.pdf](https://www.hpo.ie/latest_hipe_nprs_reports/NPRS_2020/Perinatal_Statistics_Report_2020.pdf)

### Sexual Health and Wellbeing

Data presented in Table 2.6 which compares the number of new cases of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) reported by young people under 24 years in Ireland in 2022 with 2018 highlights the impact of COVID -19 and shows a decline during the pandemic. However, the rates of Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea and Herpes Simplex among young people in the North-West Public Health Area<sup>38</sup> that includes Sligo and Leitrim are higher than the national rate across the country. It is also important to note that the rate of Herpes Simplex has increased by 33% overall for this age group since 2018, including by 15.53% among young people aged 15-19 years.

National data for 2020 has identified that 51% of new cases of Chlamydia, 28% of new cases of Gonorrhoea and 50% of new cases of Herpes Simplex were among young people aged 15-24 years.

*Table 2.6 Notifications of Sexually Transmitted Infections in 2022<sup>39</sup> and change from 2018<sup>40</sup>.*

Notifications of Sexually Transmitted Infections	North-West Public Health Area (Sligo, Leitrim & Donegal) 2022 (% change from 2018)	State 2022 (% change from 2018)
% notifications of chlamydia among 15-19 years	12.77% (-1.65%)	8.48% (-0.6%)
% notifications of chlamydia among 0-24 years	64.81% (-0.25%)	49.33% (-0.32%)
% notifications of gonorrhoea among 15-19 years	13.4% (-16.95%)	7.48% (-1.75%)
% notifications of gonorrhoea among 0-24 years	57.73% (-10.12%)	33.37 (+1.4%)
% notifications of herpes simplex (Genital) among 15-19 years	30.23% (+15.53%)	10.87 (-0.38%)
% notifications of herpes simplex (Genital) among 0-24 years	72.09% (+33.86%)	41.19 (+1.97%)

<sup>38</sup>Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo

<sup>39</sup> Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) notifications, Ireland, 2022 Data Tables Health Protection Surveillance Centre April 2023

[https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/sexuallytransmittedinfections/publications/stireports/2022reports/Sexually%20Transmitted%20Diseases%20\(STIs\)%20in%20Ireland%20Annual%20Data%20Tables%202022.pdf](https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/sexuallytransmittedinfections/publications/stireports/2022reports/Sexually%20Transmitted%20Diseases%20(STIs)%20in%20Ireland%20Annual%20Data%20Tables%202022.pdf)

<sup>40</sup> Comparison with Pre-Covid data. Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) notifications, Ireland, 2018 Data Tables Health Protection Surveillance Centre September 2019 <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/sexuallytransmittedinfections/publications/stireports/2018reports/STI%20annual%20data%20tables%202018%20v1.pdf>

## Binge drinking

The results from a recent Planet Youth Survey<sup>41</sup> with 4,473 young people living in the West of Ireland, in the counties of Galway, Mayo and Roscommon that border Sligo Leitrim CYPSC, showed that 34.1% of aged 15–16-year-olds reported ever binge drinking.

- Having friends who drink alcohol, self-rated 'bad/very bad' mental health, current cigarette or cannabis use, getting alcohol from parents and participating in team/club sports increased the odds of ever binge drinking.
- Parental supervision and negative parental reaction to adolescent drunkenness reduced the odds of ever binge drinking.

Data from the 2019-20 Irish National Drug and Alcohol Study<sup>42</sup> of which the sample included approximately 600 participants from the North-West, found that 63.1% of young male drinkers aged 15-24 years engaged in monthly heavy episodic drinking and 37% had an Alcohol Use Disorder. In addition, 18.5% of young people aged 15–24 years reported recent illegal drug use.

## Self-Harm

The number of young people presenting to hospital with self-harm declined during the COVID 19 pandemic, in the HSE CHO 1 area that includes Sligo and Leitrim and nationally across the country. This is evident in the most recent data available for 2020 when compared to 2018, as presented in Tables 2.7 and 2.8 below.

Table 2.7 Presentation to Hospital with Self harm in 2020<sup>43</sup> and change from 2018<sup>44</sup>

Number of Presentations to Hospital with Self Harm	HSE CHO 1 Area <sup>45</sup> 2020 (change from 2018)	State 2020 <sup>46</sup> (change from 2018)
Number of males 0-19 years	43 (-21)	632 (-112)
Number of females 0-19 years	123 (-8)	1571 (+60)
Number of males 20-24 years	35 (-37)	632 (-168)
Number of females 20-24 years	54 (-3)	693 (-79)

Despite the decrease, the 2020 rate among young males in Sligo Leitrim West Cavan is higher than the national rate.

Table 2.8 Age Standardised Rates of Self-Harm in 2020 and change from 2018<sup>47</sup>

<sup>41</sup>Kelly, C., Major, E., Durcan, M. *et al.* Adolescent binge drinking in the West of Ireland: associated risk and protective factors. *BMC Public Health* 23, 1064 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-023-15577-z>  
<https://bmcpublichealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-023-15577-z>

<sup>42</sup>Mongan, D., Millar, S.R., and Galvin, B. (2021) 2019-20 Irish National Drug and Alcohol Study <https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/34287/>

<sup>43</sup> National Self Harm Registry Ireland Annual Report 2020 [NSRF-National-Self-Harm-Registry-Ireland-annual-report-2020-Final-for-website.pdf](https://www.nsr.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NSRF-National-Self-Harm-Registry-Ireland-annual-report-2020-Final-for-website.pdf)

National Self Harm Registry Ireland Annual Report 2018 <https://www.nsr.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/NSRF-National-Self-Harm-Registry-Ireland-Annual-Report-2018-for-website.pdf>

<sup>44</sup> Self-harm data, 2018 CHO Area 1 <https://www.nsr.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CHO-1-2018.pdf>

<sup>45</sup> Self-harm data, 2020 CHO Area 1 [https://www.nsr.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CHO-1\\_2020.pdf](https://www.nsr.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CHO-1_2020.pdf)

<sup>46</sup>Number and rate of persons based on presentations to all except one hospital in the Republic of Ireland during 2020.

<sup>47</sup> Self-harm data, 2018 CHO Area 1 <https://www.nsr.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CHO-1-2018.pdf>

Age Standardised Rates of Self-Harm per 100,000 population	HSE CHO 1 Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan 2020 (change from 2018)	State 2020 (change from 2018)
Rate for males of all ages	179 (-12)	168 (-25)

<b>Age Standardised Rates of Self-Harm per 100,000 population</b>	<b>HSE CHO 1 Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan 2020 (change from 2018)</b>	<b>State 2020 (change from 2018)</b>
Rates for females of all ages	197 (-24)	212 (-17)
Rate for males 15-19 years		302 (-75)
Rate for males 20-24 years		405 (-138)
Rate for females 15-19 years		733 (-455)
Rate for females 20-24 years		458 (-314)

In the absence of regional or county level data for children and young people of different age groups, this national data points to key insights and learning in the following areas.

- The high rates of self-harm among young people aged 15-19 and 20-24 years in 2020 and prior to the pandemic.
- The rate was highest for 15 - 19-year-old girls, with one in every 128 girls in this age group presenting to hospital due to self-harm.
- The rate among girls was more than three times that of boys in 10 -15-year-olds.
- Increase in self-harm among children aged 10-14 years indicating that the age of onset is decreasing, and the rate for girls increased almost threefold between 12 -13 years.
- Further increase in the rate of self-harm among those experiencing homelessness.

## Suicide

*Table 2.9 Deaths by Suicide in 2019<sup>48</sup> and change from 2015.*

<b>Registered Deaths by Suicide<sup>49</sup></b>	<b>Border Region (Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, Monaghan &amp; Donegal) (change from 2015)</b>	<b>State (change from 2015)</b>
Total number of deaths by suicide	43 (-15.71%)	524 (+5.4%)
Number of male deaths by suicide	33 (-13.2%)	408 (+4.6%)
Number of female deaths by suicide	10 (-23.1%)	116 (+8.4%)

While the age profile per county is not available, national data from 2019 indicates that suicide was the number one cause of death among young males under 25 years and accounted for 22% of total deaths in that age group. Suicide was the third cause of death among young females under 25 years and accounted for 15% of all female deaths in this age group.

<sup>48</sup> Deaths by suicide classified by region and sex, 2015 – 2019 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-ss/suicidestatistics2019/>

<sup>49</sup> Revised Data - Annual data from the CSO is delivered in three stages: provided firstly by year of registration – “provisional” Revised later, by year of occurrence – “official” Revised later again, to include “late registrations”.

Table 2.10 Rate of Death by Suicide in 2022 and change from 2017<sup>50</sup>

Rate of death by suicide per 100,000 population	Sligo (change from 2017)	Leitrim (change from 2017)	State (change from 2017)
Rate of death by suicide	17.3% (-5.1)	2.9 %(-12.5)	8.1% (-0.1%)
Rate of death by suicide for males	35.1 % (+10.4)	5.8 % (-18.8)	13.1% (-0.1)
Rate of death by suicide for females	0 (0)	0 (-6.2)	3.1% (-0.2)

As Table 2.10 above shows, the rate of death by suicide in Sligo is higher than in Leitrim and higher than the national rate. This is driven by the high rate recorded among males in Sligo.

Data from 2022, while subject to revision and the inclusion of late registrations, notes a total of 412 deaths by suicide across the country. This includes 1 death in Leitrim and 12 in Sligo, all males. No female suicide deaths were recorded in Sligo or Leitrim in 2022.

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

Table 2.11 Participation in Early Learning Care and School Aged Childcare in 20/21<sup>51</sup> and change from 19/20<sup>52</sup> (where available/comparable)

Category	Sligo (change from 2019/20)	Leitrim (change from 2019/20)	State (change from 2018/19)
Number of services	83 (+5)	37 (-2)	4527 (-163)
Number of children currently enrolled in services	1,969	811	103,870 <sup>53</sup>
Number of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) registrations and participation rate where available	1,350 96.4% as of January 2024 <sup>54</sup>	802	112,835
Number of Community Childcare Subvention Plus (CCSP) and Community Childcare Subvention Universal (CCSU) registrations	2,009	860	76,285

<sup>50</sup> Suicides classified by county of residence of deceased, 2017, 2021 and 2022 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticsyearlysummary2022/>

<sup>51</sup> Number of services and Number of children currently enrolled in services Annual EARLY YEARS SECTOR PROFILE Report 20 21 DCEDIY and Pobal May 2022 [https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2022/05/Pobal\\_22\\_EY\\_20-21-Report\\_final\\_2.pdf](https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2022/05/Pobal_22_EY_20-21-Report_final_2.pdf)

<sup>52</sup> Number of ECCE, CCSP and CCSU registrations, and AIM programme data Annual EARLY YEARS SECTOR PROFILE Report 2019/20 DCEDIY and Pobal June 2021 <https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2021/05/Annual-Early-Years-Sector-Profile-Report-201920.pdf>

<sup>53</sup> 2017 OECD data suggests participation rates in Ireland for 0–2-year-olds was 30% compared to OECD average of 33%, and for 3 year olds at 46% was lower than the OECD average of 71%. <https://web.archive.org/2017-02-06/417893-ececdncn-ireland.pdf>

This does not reflect significant recent investment and development of early years provision in Ireland including National Childcare Scheme which began in 2019.

<sup>54</sup> Participation rates reported by Sligo CCC are 89.7% in Full Day Care and 86.3% for School Aged Childcare.

Category	Sligo (change from 2019/20)	Leitrim (change from 2019/20)	State (change from 2018/19)
Number of services receiving Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) supports	22	18	2,428
Number of services receiving Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) Level 7 support	16	14	2,170

Data<sup>55</sup> relating to January 2023 noted 78 Early Learning and Care services in County Sligo, as well as 21 childminders known to Sligo County Childcare Committee. Data relating to Leitrim noted 35 Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare services.

In January 2024, an independent evaluation<sup>56</sup> of the AIM programme was published by the DCEDIY. This evaluation engaged the voice and views of up to 2,000 parents, educators, providers and representative groups. The findings highlight that the vast majority of parents (82%) report that the programme has benefited their child while 69% report that it has supported their child's meaningful participation in pre-school and interaction with peers.

Data collated for the 12 Month Review of the National Childcare Scheme (NCS<sup>57</sup>) reported that 12% of total applications received on behalf of the 93,902 across the country during the initial 17 months between September 2019 and March 2021 were from the border counties that included Sligo and Leitrim.

- It is estimated that applications received, and successful claims made relate to 13% and 7% respectively of the child population in the border counties.
- Analysis of the hours associated with successful claims highlights that the mean weekly hours spent within the service setting was 30 hours for children under 2, 21 hours for children aged 2-4 years and 13 hours for children aged 5 years and over.

*Table 2.12 Access to Early Learning Care and School Aged Childcare Services (where available/comparable)*

Category	Sligo (change from 2019/20)	Leitrim (change from 2019/20)	State (change from 2019/20)
Number of Childcare Services in 2022 <sup>58</sup>	82	40	4653
Average distance to Childcare Services in 2022 <sup>59</sup> (Kilometers, Km)	2.3 km	3.2 Km	1.6Km

<sup>55</sup> Email communication from Sligo County Childcare Committee

<sup>56</sup> End of Year Three Evaluation of the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) DCEDIY January 2024

<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/281323/204d30d4-774a-4327-a059-4f0df00fdab5.pdf#page=null>

<sup>57</sup> 12 Month Review of the National Childcare Scheme DCEDIY October 2021 <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/30b92-12-month-review-of-the-national-childcare-scheme-october-2021/>

<sup>58</sup> Distance to Remote Work Hubs and Childcare Services February 2022 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-drwhc/distancetoremoteworkhubsandchildcareservicesfebruary2022/data/>

<sup>59</sup> Distance to Remote Work Hubs and Childcare Services February 2022 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-drwhc/distancetoremoteworkhubsandchildcareservicesfebruary2022/data/>

Average weekly fee <sup>60</sup> for full day care (Euro) in 2020/21	165.64 (+1.62)	163.81 (+11.93)	186.84
<b>Category</b>	<b>Sligo (change from 2019/20)</b>	<b>Leitrim (change from 2019/20)</b>	<b>State (change from 2019/20)</b>
Average weekly fee for part-time care (Euro) in 2020/21	97.02 (+5.80)	89.58 (+4.98)	110.92
Current reported capacity <sup>61</sup> (enrolled + vacant places) and % of national capacity in 2020/21	2233, 1.8%	1,062, 0.9%	126,144, 100%

Parents from the Border counties who took part in a survey for the 12 month review of the NCS reported that the scheme covered a proportion of their childcare costs. For 19%, it covered between 25-50% of the costs, for 27% it covered between 50-75% of their costs and for 10% of parents, it covered the total costs of childcare.

### School Enrolment

Table 2.13 School Enrolment 2022-23<sup>62</sup> and change from 2021-22

Category	Sligo (change from 2021-22)	Leitrim (change from 2021-22)	State (change from 2021-22)
Number of primary schools	64 (-2)	37 (0)	3,095 (-9)
Number of children attending primary school	7,264 (0) in 333 classes (0)	3,802 (+146) in 165 classes (+4)	539,075 (+1,709) in 23,596 classes (+24)
Number of Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) primary schools	21 (+6)	16 (+6)	967 (+280)
Number of children attending Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) primary school	2,303 (+815) in 114 classes (+40)	1,206 (+607) in 56 classes (+23)	149,551 (+45,126) in 7,244 classes (+2048)
Number of post-primary schools	13 (14)	7 (0)	727 (-2)
Number of children attending post-primary school	5,628 (-604)	2,855 (+89)	406,392 (+14, 694)
Number of DEIS Post-primary schools	3 (0)	0 (0)	235 (+38)

<sup>60</sup> Annual EARLY YEARS SECTOR PROFILE Report 20 21 DCEDIY and Pobal May 2022 [https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2022/05/Pobal\\_22\\_EY\\_20-21-Report\\_final\\_2.pdf](https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2022/05/Pobal_22_EY_20-21-Report_final_2.pdf), Annual EARLY YEARS SECTOR PROFILE Report 2 19 1 DCEDIY and Pobal June 2021 <https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2021/05/Annual-Early-Years-Sector-Profile-Report-201920.pdf>

<sup>61</sup> Annual EARLY YEARS SECTOR PROFILE Report 20 21 DCEDIY and Pobal May 2022 [https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2022/05/Pobal\\_22\\_EY\\_20-21-Report\\_final\\_2.pdf](https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2022/05/Pobal_22_EY_20-21-Report_final_2.pdf)

<sup>62</sup> List of Schools into DEIS 2022-23 Primary/Post-primary Department of Education 2023 <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/7938e-list-of-schools-into-deis/>

The number of DEIS primary schools, targeting and promoting social inclusion is increasing in Sligo and in Leitrim as well as across the country. Consequently, more primary school children are being educated in a DEIS school. While Leitrim has a higher proportion of DEIS primary schools (43.24%) than Sligo (32.81%), it does not have any DEIS post primary schools.

### Quality of education services

Average class sizes in primary and DEIS primary schools in Leitrim are higher than in Sligo and are higher than the national average.

Table 2.14 Average class size at primary school in 2022-23<sup>63</sup> and change on 2021-22<sup>64</sup>

Category	Sligo 2020-21 (change from 2019-20)	Leitrim 2020-21 (change from 2019-20)	State 2020-21 (change from 2019-20)
Average primary school class size	21.81 (0)	23.04 (+1.41)	22.84 (+0.05)
Average DEIS primary school class size	20.20 (+0.10)	21.53 (+3.35)	20.64 (+0.55)

### School Attendance<sup>65</sup>

Absenteeism has increased in primary and post primary schools in Sligo, in Leitrim and across the country. The data in Table 2.15 below shows that for the mean % of days lost in post primary schools is higher in both counties than the national rate. This is also the case for the mean % of 20-plus day absences in Sligo post primary schools.

Table 2.15 Mean % days lost and Absenteeism in Post Primary Schools in 2020-21 and change from 2019-20.

Category	Sligo 2020-21 (change from 2019-20)	Leitrim 2020-21 (change from 2019-20)	State 2020-21 (change from 2019-20)
Mean % of 20-plus day absences in primary schools	29.2 (+21.6)	28.5 (+19.1)	29.5 (+20.9)
Mean % days lost in post primary schools	17.2 (+5.3)	19.5 (+1.7)	12.9 (+9.5)

<sup>63</sup> National School Annual Census 2022/2023 Class Size Information – Mainstream primary classes <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/class-size-information-at-individual-primary-school-level/>

<sup>64</sup> National School Annual Census 2021/2022 Class Size Information – Mainstream primary classes <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/class-size-information-at-individual-primary-school-level/>

<sup>65</sup> Tusla Education Support Service June 2023 School Attendance Data Primary and Post-Primary Schools And Student Absence Reports Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2019-2022 [https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/AAR\\_SAR\\_2019\\_22.pdf](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/AAR_SAR_2019_22.pdf)

Mean % of 20-plus day absences in post primary schools	30.9 (+12.9)	18.9 (+3.1)	28 (+13.3)
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## School Retention

Table 2.16 Retention Rates, by Junior and Leaving Certificate for 2015<sup>66</sup> Cohort

Area/County	Entry Cohort	Junior Certificate		Leaving certificate	
	2015	Number of Pupils	Rate of Retention %	Number of Pupils	Rate of Retention %
Sligo	855	839	98.1	812	95.0
Leitrim	432	417	96.5	392	90.7
State	62,248	60,685	97.5	57,336	92.1

Retention rates in Sligo schools at Junior and Leaving Certificate are higher than in Leitrim and higher than the national rate. Moreover, the most recent data available for this 2015 cohort who completed their Leaving Certificate in 2020 (no Transition Year) or 2021 shows retention at Leaving Certificate in Sligo is the highest in the country at 95%.

While the data also shows that retention rates are lower at both Junior and Leaving Certificate for DEIS schools, comparison of data for the 2014 and 2015 cohort of students indicates that the gap is reducing at Leaving Certificate, i.e., from 8.6% to 7.6%.

2022 Census data set out in Table 2.17 below confirms that a considerable number of children and young people across the country and in Sligo and in Leitrim leave full time education early, and before reaching 16 or 18 years.

Table 2.17 Census 2022 Population by Age at which Full Time Education Ceased<sup>67</sup> and Comparison with 2016 Data (where available/comparable)

Age category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Under 15	1,794	1,078	151,321 (- 17.87% on 2016)
Age 15	1,467	942	118,431 (-4.98% on 2016)
Age 16	3,356	1,945	233,389 (+3.2% on 2016)

<sup>66</sup> Retention rates of pupils in second level schools Entry cohort 2015 Department of Education January 2023 [file:///C:/Users/Aisling%20McElearney/Downloads/245285\\_64e8651c-04e1-495a-8ddc-f4662f6fcd88.pdf](file:///C:/Users/Aisling%20McElearney/Downloads/245285_64e8651c-04e1-495a-8ddc-f4662f6fcd88.pdf)

<sup>67</sup> Population aged 15 years and over by age at which full-time education ceased <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/educationandirishlanguage/>  
Change in reporting limits comparison across Census 2016 and 2022 <sup>67</sup> Retention rates of pupils in second level schools Entry cohort 2015 Department of Education January 2023 [file:///C:/Users/Aisling%20McElearney/Downloads/245285\\_64e8651c-04e1-495a-8ddc-f4662f6fcd88.pdf](file:///C:/Users/Aisling%20McElearney/Downloads/245285_64e8651c-04e1-495a-8ddc-f4662f6fcd88.pdf)

<sup>67</sup> Population aged 15 years and over by age at which full-time education ceased <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/educationandirishlanguage/>  
Change in reporting limits comparison across Census 2016 and 2022

Age 17	3,285	1,683	237,196 (+8.97% on 2016)
Age 18	5,956	3,198	420,506 (+17.24% on 2016)

### Outcome 3 Safe and protected from harm.

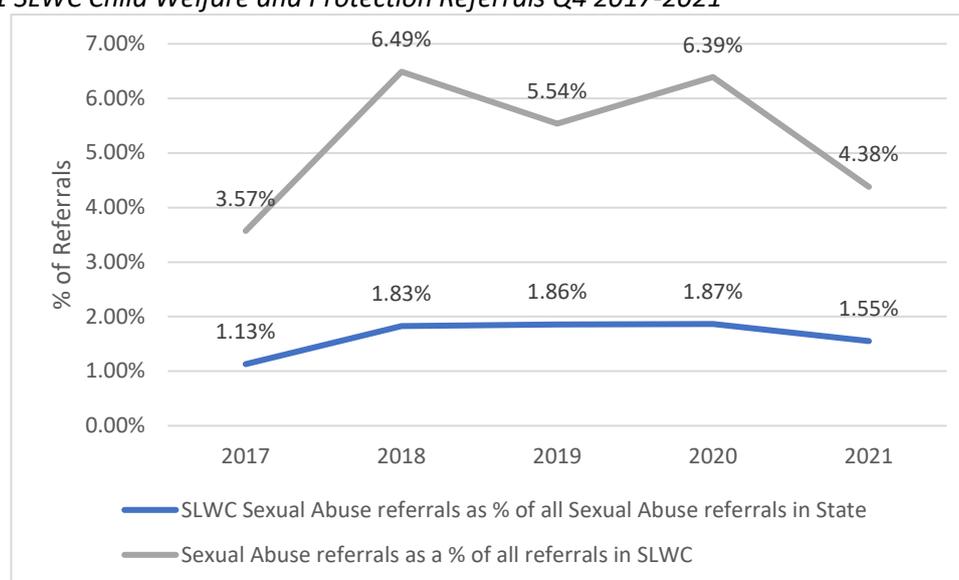
#### Child Welfare and Protection referrals

The number of referrals to Tusla in the Sligo Leitrim West Cavan (SLWC) region has increased as has the number of referrals nationally. Quarter 4 data shows that referrals in SLWC have increased by more than 50% in the five years since 2017, from 224 to 411, mirroring an increasing national trend where the rate of increase was 61%.

Referrals in relation to sexual abuse in the SLWC region have more than doubled in this period to 18 in Q4 2021. As Figure 2.1 shows, these referrals accounted for

- 4.38% of all referrals received in SLWC in Q4 2021, and
- 1.55% of all Sexual Abuse Referrals in the State.

Figure 2.1 SLWC Child Welfare and Protection Referrals Q4 2017-2021



Current data<sup>68</sup> shows that 29,953 referrals have been received between January and April 2023 (+3,821), 15% more than the same period in 2022.

Table 2.18 Child Protection and Welfare Activity end April 2023 SLWC and State

Category	SLWC	State
Number of child protection and welfare referrals	86	6,575 (+336)
Open cases	358	22,868

<sup>68</sup> Tusla MONTHLY SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY REPORT April 2023

[https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Monthly\\_Service\\_Performance\\_and\\_Activity\\_Report\\_Apr\\_2023\\_V1.0.pdf](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Monthly_Service_Performance_and_Activity_Report_Apr_2023_V1.0.pdf)

Cases awaiting allocation to a social worker <sup>69</sup>	89 (+51, +134%)	5,785 (+1154, 25%)
<b>Category</b>	<b>SLWC</b>	<b>State</b>
Cases awaiting allocation to a social worker categorised as high priority	8	457
Number of children listed as 'active' on Child Protection Notification System (CPNS <sup>70</sup> ), and change from end April 2022	5 (-23)	845 (-150)
Rate of children being listed as 'active' on CPNS per 10,000 population	2.1	7.1

### Children in care

*Table 2.19 Profile of Children and Young People in Care Q4 2023 SLWC and State*

<b>Category</b>	<b>SLWC</b>	<b>State</b>
Number of children and young people in care	109 (+3)	5,597 (-170)
Rate of children and young people in care per 1,000 children	4.6/1,000	4.7/1,000
Number of children and young people in care waiting to have a Social Worker allocated	25	873
% of children in care with an allocated social worker	77%	84%

### Access to Education Welfare Support

National data indicates that just under 5,000 children and young people have been screened by the Tusla Education Support Service by the end of April in the 2022/23 academic year, this represents little change year on year from 2022. However, for the same period, there were 3,643 referrals on a waiting list for this service, an increase of 3% on the same period in 2022.

### Level of offending by children and young people

The most recent data available on referrals to the Garda Youth Diversion project shows a decline in 2020. This is evident not only in Sligo Leitrim but also in the North-West region and across the country and is likely impacted by the COVID pandemic. National data for the two years of 2019 and 2020 highlights that approximately 30% of the young people are under 15 and 30% are 17 years while approximately 75% are male.

<sup>69</sup> Cases awaiting allocation include cases held on duty, unallocated child protection and welfare cases including children in care.

<sup>70</sup> The Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) is a securely held national list that records the names of children who have been identified as being at ongoing risk of significant harm and are, or have been, subject to a Child Protection Plan agreed at a Child Protection Conference (Tusla, 2015 p17). The CPNS is managed by Tusla. [https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/CPNS\\_Prof\\_Booklet.pdf](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/CPNS_Prof_Booklet.pdf)

Table 2.20 Referrals to Garda Youth Diversion project<sup>71</sup> (YAP) in 2020, and change on 2019

Category	Sligo Leitrim	North Western Region <sup>72</sup>	State
Number of young people referred	209 (-39%)	2,930 (-15%)	16,301 (-12%)
Recommendation: Informal Caution	79 (-68)	894 (-678)	5,178 (-1782)
Recommendation: Formal Caution	45 (-32)	820 (-142)	3,732 (-314)
Recommendation: Unsuitable for Diversion programme	64 (-24)	808 (-145)	5,629 (-433)
Recommendation: Restorative Caution	9 (+6)	255 (+210)	716 (+591)
Other incl. Request for additional information, Criteria not met, No information available on referral status at time of analysis	12 (-9)	153 (-30)	1,046 (-97)

### Online safety

Survey data reported by the National Anti-Bullying Centre for Research<sup>73</sup> found that 33.3% girls and 17.4% boys in Ireland received unwanted sexual photos. The survey identified a clear knowledge gap on gender based sexual harassment and abuse, and that young people are dissatisfied with Relationship and Sexuality Education content and delivery. Another study concerned with bystander behaviour noted that 45.3% of 13-17 year-olds witnessed cyber abuse in recent months and that 11.72 years is the mean age at which young people get their first smartphone.

## Outcome 4 Economic security and opportunity

### Consistent poverty

Table 2.21 Poverty measured by survey of Living Conditions 2022<sup>74</sup> and change on 2020

Category	North-West	State
Consistent Poverty Rate	7.7 (+3.6)	5.3 (0.6)
At Risk of Poverty Rate	18.6 (+0.4)	13.1 (-0.1)

<sup>71</sup> 2020 Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme Department of Justice June 2023 <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/71e23-2020-annual-report-of-the-committee-appointed-to-monitor-the-effectiveness-of-the-diversion-programme/> and 2019 Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme Department of Justice April 2021 <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/b6549-2019-annual-report-of-the-committee-appointed-to-monitor-the-effectiveness-of-the-diversion-programme/?referrer=http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/Annual-Report-of-the-Committee-Appointed-to-Monitor-the-Effectiveness-of-the-Diversion-Programme-2019>

<sup>72</sup> North West Region includes Cavan/Monaghan, Donegal, Galway, Louth, Mayo, Roscommon/Longford and Sligo/Leitrim

<sup>73</sup> Ging, D. and Castellini da Silva, R. (2022) Young People's Experiences of Sexual and Gender-based Harassment and Abuse During the Covid-19 Pandemic in Ireland: Incidence, Intervention and Recommendations. Dublin, DCU Anti-Bullying Centre <https://antibullyingcentre.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Young-Peoples-Experiences.pdf>

Sanmartín Feijóo, S., Sargioti, A., Sciacca, B. and McGarrigle, J. (2022) Bystander Behaviour Online Dublin, DCU Anti-Bullying Centre. <https://antibullyingcentre.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Bystander-Behaviour-Online-Report.pdf>

<sup>74</sup> [Survey on Income and Living Conditions \(SILC\) 2022 - CSO - Central Statistics Office](#)

Category	North-West	State
<u>Increases with indicators of vulnerability:</u>		
• 1 adult household with children under 18	23.8	14.1
• Unemployment	35.6	18.0
• Living in rented or rent-free accommodation	23.6	12.9

In recognition of the significance of addressing poverty for children and young people, the Government, in November 2023, published a report *Breaking the Cycle*<sup>75</sup>: *New Measures in Budget 2024 to Reduce Child Poverty and Promote Well-being* that included a range of cross departmental measures aimed reducing the at-risk-of-poverty rate for children. Moreover, Child Poverty and Wellbeing has been identified as a spotlight issue of *Young Ireland*<sup>76</sup>, *National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023 – 2028*.

### Deprivation

The Pobal HP Deprivation Index<sup>77</sup> using Census 2022 data classifies Sligo (-0.25) and Leitrim (-2.41) as marginally below average. While the classification remains the same as when 2016 Census data was used, the rates show improvement (Sligo up from -1.57 and Leitrim up from -3.18). Similar improvement is evident nationally and has been driven by employment and population growth.

### Homelessness

Data from 2017-22 presented in the Homelessness Action Plan North-West Region 2023 – 2028 indicates an increasing trend in the number of adults, families and children and young people experiencing homelessness in the region in counties Donegal and Sligo but not in Leitrim. The number of families has increased by 73% between 2018 and 2021 while the number of children has increased by 55%. The number of applicants on housing waiting lists has also increased by 42.3% in Sligo and by 21.55% in Leitrim, and the North-West region as a whole between 2017 and 2022. This increasing trend year on year is evident in the most recent data available from May 2023 presented in Table 2.22 below when compared with May 2022.

However, North-West Simon Community Services data<sup>78</sup> for 2022 indicates that accommodation and/or support was provided to 87 households with 116 adults and 113 children in Leitrim and to 64 households with 80 adults and 98 children in Sligo.

<sup>75</sup> <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/276511/000d959e-9721-4168-92a5-db365dd81ec8.pdf#page=null>

<sup>76</sup> <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null>

<sup>77</sup>The HP Deprivation Index for Small Areas. Introduction and Reference Tables September 2017

<https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2018/06/The-2016-Pobal-HP-Deprivation-Index-Introduction-07.pdf>

<sup>78</sup> [Statistics & Reports on Homelessness - North West Simon Community](#)

Table 2.22 Homelessness – Accessing Local Authority Managed Emergency Accommodation during 22-28 May 2023<sup>79</sup> and change from equivalent week May 2022

Category	North-West (Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim)	State
Number of adults	122(+46)	8,742 (+1445)
Number of adults 18-24 years	10 (+2)	1,506 (+264)
Number of families	20 (+10)	1,770 (+404)
Number of single parent families	15 (+8)	992 (+272)
Number of dependents in families	48 (-1)	3,699 (+491)

The Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) Index 2022<sup>80</sup> shows a rise in the Average Quarterly Rent for new tenancies in both counties. In Sligo the rate of 10.6% is a rise of 2.2% on the equivalent period in 2021 while in Leitrim, the rate of 18.3% represents a rise of 6.6% from 2021.

### Traveller Community – participation and retention rates in Education

The most recent Department of Education data on enrolment of pupils from the Traveller community presented in Table 2.23 below highlights that the numbers attending primary school are much higher than post primary school in both counties. While the number of pupils in primary school in Leitrim has grown over the past 5 years, there is a decline in the proportion relative to the total number of pupils in primary schools.

Table 2.23 Traveller pupils' participation in second level education in 2020/21<sup>81</sup> and change from 2015/16<sup>82</sup> (where available and comparable)

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Number of Traveller pupils in mainstream primary school classes, and % of all pupils	102 (108) 1.3% (-1.68%)	59 (41) 0.7% (0.43%)	8,148 (8207) 1.5% (0.12%)
Number of Traveller pupils in mainstream post-primary school classes, and % of all pupils	26 (39) 0.8%	6 (23) 0.2%	3,292 (2689) 0.9% (+0.1%)

While county retention data is not available, national rates of retention for the 2015 cohort at Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate are 69% and 27.1% respectively. While these have improved from the 2011 cohort by 7.4% and 4.7% respectively, they are significantly lower than retention rates that

<sup>79</sup> Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Monthly Homelessness Report May 2023 <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/departments-of-housing-local-government-and-heritage/> and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Monthly Homelessness Report May 2022 <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/dfd87-homeless-report-may-2022/>

<sup>80</sup> Residential Tenancies Board Rent Index Quarter 4 2022 [https://www.rtb.ie/images/uploads/Comms%20and%20Research/RTB\\_Rent\\_Index\\_Q4\\_2022.pdf](https://www.rtb.ie/images/uploads/Comms%20and%20Research/RTB_Rent_Index_Q4_2022.pdf)

<sup>81</sup> Pupils from the Traveller Community 2016-2020 Department of Education May 2023 <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/258672/64703960-5409-4314-a829-5e6b6603018b.pdf#page=null>

<sup>82</sup> Number of Pupils who are Members of the Traveller Community Department of Education and Skills February 2017 <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/27568/cff76c5c868a41f2852cb9196962dc08.pdf#page=1>

range from 97.5 -98.1 for Junior Certificate and from 90.5-95.9% for Leaving Certificate in Leitrim and Sligo.

It is also important to note that over the 5 years to 2021, the rate of progression to further education and training among the Traveller community has declined. In 2021, 35.1% or 212 young people, 25.2% of whom had completed their Junior Certificate and 10.5% who had completed their Leaving certificate progressed. Five years earlier, 41.9% or 234 young people progressed and 33% had completed their Junior Certificate and 15.6% their Leaving Certificate.

## Youth Unemployment

*Table 2.24 Employment among Young People under 25 years: Census 2022 and Live Register 2023*

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Labour Force Participation Rate <sup>83</sup> among young people 15-24 years in Census 2022, and change on Census 2016	29.8% (+1.5)	30.9% (+0.1)	33.3% (+0.8)
Unemployment Rate among young people 15-24 years in Census 2022, and change on Census 2016	15.4% (- 13.3)	15.6% (-14.6)	15.8% (- 9.8)
Number of young people Under 25 years on the Live Register <sup>84</sup> in June 2023 compared to June 2022	240 (+33)	165 (+32)	19799 (+500)

The Unemployment Rate has fallen significantly among young people in Sligo and in Leitrim, and across the country. Yet, the rate among young people under 25 is higher than across all age groups which is 8.3% nationally and 9.3% in Leitrim and 8.4% in Sligo.

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

### Diversity and Inclusion

Summary Census 2022 data indicates an 18% increase in the number of non-Irish citizens. This group now makes up 12% of the population and includes people who identified as Indian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi, Arab and Roma.

The number of Roma and Travellers living in Ireland has increased since 2016. An additional 1,962 (+6.33%) Travellers<sup>85</sup> were recorded in 2022, 6.5 per 1,000 population. This includes 17,971 children and young people aged 0-24 years from the Traveller community and 6,319 aged 0-24 from the Roma community. County level data, though not available categorized by age group, shows that the number of Travellers recorded as living in Leitrim fell by 12.77% (-23) to 180 between 2016 and 2022. This is 5.2 per 1,000 population. During this period, data for Sligo confirms an 8.29% (+32) increase to 418 Travellers and is 6 per 1,000 population.

<sup>83</sup> The Census Labour Force Participation rate is calculated as the proportion of persons aged 15 and over who are economically active (i.e., working, looking for their first regular job or unemployed) in the entire population over the age of 15.

<sup>84</sup> The Live Register is used to provide a monthly series of the numbers of people (with some exceptions) registering for Jobseekers Benefit (JB) or Jobseekers Allowance (JA) or for various other statutory entitlements at local offices of the Department of Social Protection. Live Register June 2023 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-lr/liveregisterjune2023/>

<sup>85</sup> Irish Travellers per 1,000 population <https://data.cso.ie/product/C2022PS>

Data from the national consultation on Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying<sup>86</sup> with children and young people and staff representing primary and post primary schools across the country, carried out on behalf of the Department of Education highlighted a lack of respect and inclusion faced by some children and young people in schools.

### **Children living in International Protection Accommodation Services<sup>87</sup>**

IPAS (IPAS) Occupancy data confirms that 296 people were living in IPAS accommodation in Sligo and 106 in Leitrim at the beginning of July 2023. Data indicates that 0.48% of total IPAS population are accommodated in Leitrim and 1.27% in Sligo.

Available monthly national data for May 2023 indicates that 42% of those who have received accommodation across the country are families, and 9,146 are children under 18 years (45.9%). This includes 1,157 children aged 0-4 years (12.65%), 2,093 children aged 5-9 years (22.88%) and 949 children aged 13-17 years (10.37%). Approximately 23 people arrive daily and 183 weekly into the country.

As of 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023, available data confirms that there are 380 people living in the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) and 1,901 Ukrainian nationals County Sligo,<sup>88</sup> 188 people living in Globe House, Sligo and 91 in Carraig Accommodation Centres, Mohill.

### **Discrimination**

National Data from 2019<sup>89</sup> on equality and discrimination noted that 18% of those aged 18 and above reported experiencing discrimination in the previous 2 years. The highest rates of discrimination were reported by those who identified as LGBTQIA+ (33.2%), were from non-white ethnic backgrounds (33.1%), were unemployed (33.1%) and those who identified as non-Irish (26.7%). This research included representation from the Border counties where almost 1 in 4, 23.9% of those reporting that they had experienced discrimination were aged 18-24 years.

### **Positive relationships, support and participation**

In the absence of local data for Sligo and Leitrim, the Growing Up in Ireland Longitudinal Study<sup>90</sup> data collected from 6,375 13-year-olds across the country and their primary caregivers between July 2021 and June 2022 notes that 83% of young people said that they would talk to a parent, 78% a friend and 44% to a sibling if they had a problem or needed support.

Almost 4 in 5, 78%, and more girls than boys reported being engaged in structured past times at least once a week and 70% reported participating in team sports. Those living in low income or lone parent households reported lower participation in team sports and having less access to computers suitable for home learning.

<sup>86</sup> Report on Focus Group Consultations with Children and Young People Review of the Action Plan on Bullying and of the Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2013) Department of Education October 2022 [241004\\_fb24c9c9-2462-42f2-ad52-90c13ad735a8 \(2\).pdf](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/262595/737f62fc-b324-490c-a143-cc61eb8cc95b.pdf#page=null)

Report on Focus Group Consultation with Primary and Post-Primary school staff Review of the Action Plan on Bullying and of the Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools (2013) Department of Education October 2022 [241001\\_783198ee-ba39-4aea-8584-527976a6d972.pdf](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/262595/737f62fc-b324-490c-a143-cc61eb8cc95b.pdf#page=null)

<sup>87</sup> IPAS Weekly Accommodation and Arrivals Statistics DCEDIY 2 July 2023

<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/262595/737f62fc-b324-490c-a143-cc61eb8cc95b.pdf#page=null>

IPAS Monthly Statistics may 2023 DCEDIY May 2023 <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/260289/28971a10-2c34-482d-9759-dc16bdaeaf5f.pdf#page=null>

<sup>88</sup> Email communication Sligo County Council 27 October 2023.

<sup>89</sup> Equality and Discrimination 2019 CSO July 2019. <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/er/ed/equalityanddiscrimination2019/>

<sup>90</sup> Growing Up in Ireland Key Findings: Cohort '08 at 13 Years Old DCEDIY July 2023 <https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/055c8-department-publishes-growing-up-in-ireland-report-on-the-lives-of-13-year-olds/>

## Volunteering

Table 2.25 Young People engaged in Volunteering Activity Census 2022<sup>91</sup>

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Number of 0–14-year-olds involved in 1 or more volunteering activity	430 or 3.21% of total population of 0-14 years	278 or 3.88% of total population of 0-14 years	30,133 or 3% of total population of 0-14 years
Number of 15–24-year-olds involved in 1 or more volunteering activity	1,111 or 12.82% of total population of 15-24 years	587 or 15.28% of total population of 15-24 years	73,813 or 11.69% of total population of 15-24 years

Approximately half of the young people aged 15-24 years who reported engaging in volunteering activity in both Sligo and Leitrim volunteered within sport while 1 in 4 volunteered in their community. Between 10-15% volunteered related to social/charitable or religious organisations and for a small minority, their volunteering related to a political organisation.

## Young carers

Table 2.26 Young Carers<sup>92</sup> as % of Total Population Census 2022 and change from 2016

Category	Sligo	Leitrim	State
Young carers 0-9 years as % of total population	0.3 (+0.1)	0.4 (+0.2)	0.3 (+0.1)
Young carers 10-14 years as % of total population	1.1 (+0.4)	1.6 (+1.0)	0.8 (+0.1)
Young carers 15-19 as % of total population	1.6 (-0.1)	2.3 (+1.0)	1.8 (+0.4)
Young carers 20-24 years as % of total population	2.6 (+0.2)	3.4 (+0.8)	2.4 (+0.5)

The proportion of young carers relative to the total population has increased in Sligo, Leitrim and nationally between 2016-2022. The rate of increase has been highest in Leitrim where the number as a % of the total population is higher than Sligo and nationally for all age bands up to 24 years in 2022. In Sligo, the proportion of young carers aged 10-14 years and young adult carers aged 20-24 years is also higher than nationally.

National research,<sup>93</sup> that engaged participants from Sligo and Leitrim found that 32% of young carers and 61% of young adult carers struggle to balance caring with school or employment, and that more than 4 in 5 report feeling stressed. The research also noted that teachers and employers are often unaware or lack understanding of the caring responsibilities these young people manage.

<sup>91</sup> Census 2022 Health Disability caring and Volunteering CSO 2022 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/healthdisabilitycaringandvolunteering/#:~:text=and%20city%2C%202022-Volunteering,over%20engaged%20in%20voluntary%20work.>

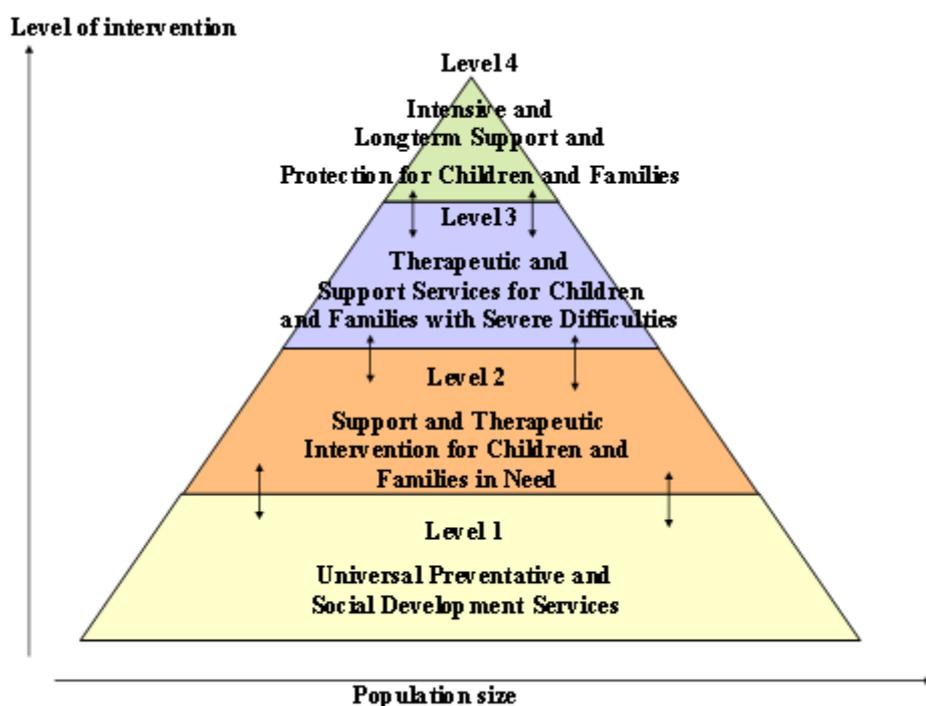
<sup>92</sup> Census 2022 Health Disability caring and Volunteering CSO 2022 <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpsr/censusofpopulation2022-summaryresults/healthdisabilitycaringandvolunteering/#:~:text=and%20city%2C%202022-Volunteering,over%20engaged%20in%20voluntary%20work.>

<sup>93</sup>SHARING The Caring: No one should have to care alone MARCH 2023 Young Carers' Experiences and Access to Supports in Ireland. Family Carers Ireland March 2023 <https://familycarers.ie/media/2947/sharing-the-caring-young-carers-experiences-and-access-to-supports-in-ireland.pdf>

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

This section presents an overview of the range of statutory and voluntary services provided for children, young people and families in Sligo and Leitrim indicating whether universal or targeted and the level of intervention as per the Hardiker Model<sup>94</sup> - see below:

**Figure 3.1 Hardiker Model**



The model outlines four levels of intervention:

- Level 1 refers to those mainstream services that are available to all children – health care, education, leisure, and a range of other services provided in communities.
- Level 2 represents services to children who have some additional needs. Services at Level 2 are characterised by referral, and full parental consent and negotiation.
- Level 3 represents support to families or children and young people where there are chronic or serious problems.
- Level 4 represents support for families and individual children or young people where the family has broken down temporarily or permanently 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.

The following table details the range of services to children, young people and families in Sligo and Leitrim provided by the Statutory (S) and the Community and Voluntary (C&V) sector and an indication of the level of intervention (1, 2, 3 or 4) and whether it is targeted or universal.

<sup>94</sup>Hardiker, P., Exton, K. and Barker, M. (1991). Policies and Practices in Preventive Child Care. Aldershot: Ashgate

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES			
<b>Health Service Executive</b>	Provides a wide range of health and personal social services across Counties Sligo and Leitrim and West Co. Cavan, from the Local Health Offices in Sligo and Carrick-on-Shannon, or through Health Centres. These include a range of public primary care, health and social care services through clinics, hospitals, local health teams and health centres. Services include eye; dental; dietician; GPs and family doctors; GP out of hours; public health nurses; and more specialised services - speech and language therapy, psychology services; disability, homelessness, and mental health services.	S	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>Tusla Child and Family Agency</b>	The statutory agency is responsible for improving wellbeing and outcomes for children and young people. It offers a range of support services including Alternative Care <sup>95</sup> ; Family and Community Support including FRCs; Meitheal <sup>96</sup> and Family Support Services; Child Protection and Welfare; Aftercare; Education Welfare Services; Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Service; PPFS <sup>97</sup> ; Pre- School Inspections.	S	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>Family Resource Centres</b>	There are 6 Family Resource Centres (FRC) in Sligo and Leitrim, providing a range of community, family, and child supports including Parents Plus Parenting and Decider Skills Programmes in groups sessions, one-to-one with parents and with children in schools (Working Things Out and Decider Skills), breastfeeding support group, parent and toddler groups, peer parent support groups (Dads and parents of children with a disability), children and family camps, parent information sessions, space for access visits, play therapy, counselling, Meitheals, social prescribing (for adults over 18 years) and family events  Location, in Co Sligo: Sligo FRC, Ballymote FRC, Tubbercurry FRC, and West Sligo FRC in Enniscrone;	S	Universal and Targeted 1-3

<sup>95</sup> The Child and Family Agency has a statutory responsibility to provide Alternative Care Services under the provisions the Child Care Act, 1991, the Children Act, 2001 and the Child Care (Amendment) Act, 2007. Children who require admission to care are accommodated through placement in foster care, placement with relatives, or residential care. The Agency also has a responsibility to provide Aftercare services. Aftercare services are support services that build on and support the work that has already been undertaken by many including, foster carers, social workers and residential workers in preparing young people for adulthood. It is a service that builds on the skills and capacity that young people have learned and developed during their time in care. In addition, services are provided for children who are homeless or who are separated children seeking asylum. The Agency also has responsibilities with regards to adoption processes.

<sup>96</sup> Tusla has developed the Meitheal approach to help children where they may need the support of more than one service. Meitheal is a case co-ordination process for families with additional needs who require multi-agency intervention but who do not meet the threshold for referral to the Social Work Department under Children First.

<sup>97</sup> The Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) Programme is a comprehensive programme of early intervention and preventative work which has been undertaken by Tusla.

	Location, in Co Leitrim: Mohill Family Support Centre, Mohill, and Breffni FRC, Carrick on Shannon.		
<b>Lifestart, Leitrim Sligo West Cavan</b>	Lifestart is a home- based family support service which delivers the evidence based Lifestart Growing Child Programme, monthly (universally) to all first-time parents of children (0-3 years). Supports parents of children with additional support needs (0 to 5 years).	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-3
<b>Sligo Springboard Family Support Service</b>	This is a community-based family support project which offers family support and childcare. It serves Sligo town and environs.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>Family Support Services</b>	Funded by PPFs this Service offers home-based family support to children and families in their own homes. They also roll out the Parents Plus Parenting and Decider Skills programmes in groups, one-to-one and In schools.  Sligo Family Support Services: Lifestart Springboard; Sligo FRC; Ballymote FRC; West Sligo FRC Foróige  Leitrim Family Support Services: Breffni FRC; Mohill FSC Foróige; Lifestart	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1- 4
<b>C &amp; V funded organisations</b>	A detailed list of community & voluntary funded organisations in Sligo and Leitrim is provided on <a href="http://www/sligoleitrimdirectory.ie">www/sligoleitrimdirectory.ie</a>	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES – Homelessness</b>			
<b>Sligo Social Services Council</b>	Provides a school age childcare service, counselling for young people and adults, an open access and substance misuse service for people with addiction and at risk of becoming homeless, and homeless services including hostels for single adults, short-term family accommodation, Housing First in Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-3
<b>Sophia Housing Association, Co. Sligo</b>	Sophia Housing Association works with people who find themselves out of their own home. There are 56 units in Sligo	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>Simon</b>	The North-West Simon Community Housing Information and Tenancy Support Service assists households at risk or experiencing homelessness to identify and access the supports they require to establish a secure home.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 2

<b>Focus Ireland</b>	Focus Ireland Sligo provides homeless and housing services including tenancy support and sustainment, advice and information service, as well as long-term and short-term supported accommodation.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1- 2
<b>HAIL</b>	This specialist housing association provides housing primarily to those with mental health difficulties, to integrate and live independent lives in the community.	C&V	Universal 1- 4
<b>Social Housing bodies</b>	There are social housing estates and one-off housing in Sligo provided by approved housing bodies, Focus, Clúid, Respond, Tuath and Oaklee.  There are social housing estates and one-off housing in Leitrim provided by approved housing bodies, Clúid, Respond, Tuath, Oaklee and Simon.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>St Vincent De Paul</b>	Working primarily with person-to-person contact, St Vincent De Paul provides direct assistance to those in need, caring for the homeless, providing social housing, and other social support activities, promotes community self-sufficiency and enabling people to help themselves. These supports are available in both counties.	C&V	Universal 1 - 4
<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES - Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services</b>			
<b>Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan Rape Crisis Centre</b>	Rape Crisis and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre provides counselling and support to men, women and young people who have experienced sexual violence.	C&V	Targeted 2 - 3
<b>Domestic Violence Advocacy Service (DVAS)</b>	DVAS provides support, information and advocacy to women who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence, coercive control, and other forms of gender-based violence through a range of free, confidential and accessible services that focus on maximizing women and children's safety. DVAS provides short-term accommodation to women and their children who need to leave home due to the impact of domestic violence and coercive control.	C&V	Targeted 2 - 3
<b>Breffni FRC</b>	Provides a family drop-in clinic with DVAS staff	C&V	Targeted 2 - 3
<b>Men Overcoming</b>	MOVE aims to support the safety and wellbeing of women and children who are experiencing or have experienced violence/abuse in an intimate	C&V	Targeted 2 - 3

<b>Violence (MOVE) Ireland</b>	relationship. They provide a combination of group support and intervention work through CHOICES programme coupled with individual sessions. Support also offered to ex-partner or partner.		
<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES - Travellers and Refugees and Migrants</b>			
<b>Sligo Traveller Support Group</b>	The group provides supports to Travellers living in Sligo. These include mental health, Traveller men and young men's support, education, Early Years' Services (2), Primary Health Care Project, as well as support with accommodation, health, discrimination, cultural days and Traveller Pride.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-3
<b>HSE Social Inclusion</b>	Traveller Health Projects in Sligo & Leitrim. The Regional Traveller Health Action Plan (2022-2027) for Community Healthcare has been developed which focuses on Working Together to improve the health experiences and outcomes for Travellers.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Leitrim Integrated Development Company</b>	Leitrim Development Company manages the Shannonside Community Childcare Centre which provides and promotes supports to Travellers in Leitrim, including: an Early Years' Service, a School Age Childcare Programme, Primary Health Care Project as well as support with accommodation, education and health.	C&V	Universal 1 - 2
<b>Accommodation Centres/ International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS)</b>	There are several accommodation centres contracted by the Reception & Integration Agency (RIA) to house asylum seekers in Co Sligo and Co Leitrim. These include Co Sligo: San Antone Guest House, Avena Apartments, Eagles Heights, Cois Inbhir, City Gate, Lake Isle, Harbour House, Milligan Court as well as accommodation centres in Leitrim (Carrick) and Sligo (Globe House)  In addition there are 15 accommodation centres in Leitrim and 14 in Sligo for people from Ukraine	S	Targeted 1 - 3
<b>Diversity Sligo</b>	Diversity Sligo offers support in the form of a listening service, information, referrals, financial support for educational needs, counselling, language tuition, integration, managing donations of toys and clothes, summer camps and after-school activities	C&V	Universal 1-2
<b>Sligo FRC Intercultural Service</b>	This service provides one-to-one support, information, English conversation classes and signposting to migrants, refugees and asylum seekers Sligo as well as coordinates intercultural events/workshops/camps	C&V	Universal 1-2
<b>Failte Isteach Sligo Leader Partnership</b>	Failte Isteach is a community project supporting migrants through conversational English classes with older volunteers	C&V	Universal 1-2

<b>Leitrim International Cultural Group, (LICG)</b>	This group brings cultures together in a shared space, to reduce racism and make presentations in community settings to learn about different cultures.	C&V	Universal 1-2
<b>North Leitrim Intercultural Group</b>	The group offers a range of services to the migrant communities who have come to reside in Co Leitrim. There are two branches, one in North Leitrim and one in South Leitrim.	C&V	Universal 1
<b>Mohill FSC Carraig Accommodation</b>	Mohill FSC provides a part-time family support worker in Carraig AC, Ballinamore, Co Leitrim. The worker provides information on parenting programmes, form filling, as well as a toy library	C & V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 3
<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES - Drug and Alcohol Services</b>			
<b>Northwest Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force:</b>	Multiple services are provided in Sligo and Leitrim through the NWRDATF including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foróige Youth Drug &amp; Alcohol Workers:</li> <li>• Assertive Outreach Workers:</li> <li>• Traveller Men Programme</li> <li>• Drug Alcohol Family Support Worker:</li> <li>• White Oaks Aftercare Support Worker:</li> </ul>	C&V	Targeted 2- 4
<b>Alcohol Forum Ireland</b>	M-PACT Programme- Moving parents and children together is a programme working with families affected by parental substance misuse in Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan. 5 Step Programme is a free, one-to-one consultation programme for any adult affected by the misuse of alcohol or other drug by another individual, either family member or friend.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1- 3
<b>HSE Alcohol and Substance Misuse Counselling Service Sligo/Leitrim</b>	The Counselling Service works across primary care and mental health for adults and young people and those affected by a family member with alcohol and substance misuse problems. It provides a service to youth and adults including comprehensive assessment of drug/alcohol use, care planning / case coordination / key-working, motivational interviewing, individual substance misuse counselling, family support, relapse prevention, rehabilitation / inpatient assessment and referral, dual diagnosis interventions, inter-agency case management, assessment and facilitation of opioid substitution, and a harm reduction approach.  The HSE Alcohol and Substance Misuse Counselling Service also has a dedicated Youth Addiction Counsellor who works across Primary Care, is a	S	Targeted 2 – 4

	member of the CAMHS Team and provides a Family Therapy service.		
<b>Residential/ Detox</b>	White Oaks Addiction and Treatment Centre in the Northwest is where a 28-day residential programme is provided. Access to residential beds is available at the centre, which is funded by HSE.  Hope House, is an Addiction Treatment Centre located in Foxford Co. Mayo. Services provided include, assessments, 30- Day residential programme, 2-year continuing care programme, family programmes.	C&V	Targeted 2 – 4
<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES – Mental Health Supports</b>			
<b>HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service</b>	CAMHS team based in Nazareth House, Sligo consist of psychiatrist, psychologists, nurses, social workers, occupational therapists, and speech & language therapists.	S	Targeted 3
<b>HSE Mental Health Services</b>	National Counselling Service (12-24 years), Self- Harm Clinical Care Programme (3 nurses based in SUH Emergency Department) and one suicide bereavement liaison officer.		
<b>Community Mental Health</b>	GROW, AWARE, North-West STOP Suicide Leitrim, Rennafix, Mental Health Promotion, Rainbows Programme for children and teenagers at both national and local level.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>Youth Community Mental Health Support</b>	Services include NEPS, Suicide Resource Office, school guidance teachers, counselling available in the Carrick-on-Shannon Family Life Centre, for 6–17-year-olds, Foróige, Northwest Hospice, Sligo, Sligo Social Services, St Michaels's Centre, Sligo, for 9-17 Year Olds, Youth Services, Pieta, Samaritans, StopSuicide, Youth Community Mental Health Support.	S & C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 4
<b>HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES Disability Specific Interventions</b>			
<b>Children's Disability Network Team HSE</b>	CDNTs delivers therapeutic services to children 0-18 with complex disabilities and require several different disciplines. The team comprises of occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech & language therapy, psychology, social work, community facilitator for disability & autism therapists. The team offers parent information sessions and groups to children and/or parents learning new skills and how to support their child's development.	S	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>Community and national</b>	National organisations and multiple local community and private services provide information support on education, family support, programmes, respite, and	C&V	Universal & Targeted

<b>information support</b>	supportive services throughout Sligo and Leitrim. These include Irish Autism Action, Irish Society for Autism, <i>AsIAM</i> , ASPIRE, Enable Ireland, National Learning Network, National Council Blind of Ireland, RehabCare, Deaf Hear.ie, Sligo Hard of Hearing Group, Irish Wheelchair Association, Centre for Independent Living and Acquired Brain Injury Ireland and more.		1 – 4
<b>North-West Parents and Friends Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability</b>	Provides services for children and adults with Intellectual Disabilities from 2.5 years up to end of life in Sligo and Leitrim. Services include pre-school, day services, respite care, educational, community, social and recreational and enterprise.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-3

<b>EDUCATION</b>			
<b>Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education Training Board</b>	MSLETB provides: second-level schools, further education colleges and a range of adult and further education centres delivering education and training programmes, Post Leaving Certificate Courses (PLCs), Youthreach Centres, Outdoor Education, Youth Services, Local Creative Youth Partnership, Music Generation, Apprenticeships and Traineeships.	S	Universal & Targeted 1-3
<b>Community Training Centres</b>	Provides training, educational and employment related services for young people (16-21year) in Sligo and Leitrim.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Mainstream Primary and Secondary Schools</b>	<b>Mainstream Primary and Primary Schools, Sligo:</b> 68 Primary Schools (4 DEIS schools) 12 Post-Primary, Schools (3 DEIS schools) <b>Mainstream Primary and Primary Schools, Leitrim:</b> 37 Primary Schools (16 DEIS) 7 Post Primary Schools	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Education Centres</b>	<b>Special Schools</b> – 2 (Sligo) St Cecilia’s, Cregg, Sligo, and St Joseph’s, Ballytivnan, Sligo. <b>Education Centres</b> , 1 in Sligo and 1 in Carrick-On-Shannon, Co Leitrim.		
<b>National Educational Psychological services (NEPS) Sligo/Leitrim</b>	NEPS provides psychologists to work with both primary and post- primary schools, concerned with learning, behaviour, and social and emotional development.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3

<b>Tusla Education Welfare Services</b>	The EWS works with schools and other relevant services to secure better educational outcomes for children and young people by providing educational welfare officers posts (2) in Sligo and Leitrim; a School Completion Project in Sligo (1) and one school in Co. Leitrim (Roscommon Leitrim School Completion Programme): four home school community liaison coordinators covering three Post Primary schools and three Primary schools in Sligo, Easkey and Ballymote. There is one ISCOIL Blended Centre based in Sligo which has an intake of three Post Primary pupils presently.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Youthreach</b>	Operated by MSL ETB, Youthreach provides fulltime education and training programmes for early school leavers 16 -20 years. There is one Youthreach centre in Sligo and one in Mohill, Co. Leitrim.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Home Youth Liaison Services</b>	The HYLs works in all post primary schools in Sligo and Leitrim providing one-to-one support to young people. Staff link young people to community and statutory services, following consultation with the parents on home visits. HYLs also delivers programmes within the school, e.g., Healthy v Unhealthy relationship, anti-bullying, internet safety and parent programmes. It provides residential weekends twice each month for young people linked with and referred by the Tusla social work teams and through the Meitheal process. Some members of the staff team are working directly with the Child Protection, Children in Care, and duty teams. During summer month HYLs provides summer camps and camping trips to young people referred by Tusla. The service also provides two Youth Support workers These workers work mainly in the evenings and at weekends. All referrals for this Programme are received from senior social workers.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3
<b>Third Level Institutions</b>	ATU has two campuses in the area ATU Sligo and St. Angela's College of Education, Lough Gill. Programmes including engineering, science, business, creative arts, education, and social sciences. Focus is on accessibility through the provision of on-line, apprenticeship and part-time options to facilitate participation. Other access initiatives include the part-time Access Programme Foundation course at St. Angela's for school leavers and mature students and the Cranmore Education mentoring community-based programme run in conjunction with the Cranmore Regeneration project.	S	Universal & Targeted 1 – 3

<b>Sligo Co Childcare Committee</b>	As of January 2023, there were in Co Sligo: 78 Early Learning and Care services including: 10 community based, and 22 private service providers offer Early Learning and Care. 14 community-based services and 22 private services offer Early Learning and Care and School Aged Childcare. 5 community services and 5 private services offering School Aged Childcare only. There were 21 Childminders known to SCCC and 2 Childminding services, registered with Tusla and 12 Parent and Toddler groups.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-3
<b>Leitrim Co Childcare Committee</b>	As of January 2023, there were in Co Leitrim: 38 Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare services. Including 26 Community Childcare Providers and 12 Private Childcare Providers, 9 Early Learning and Care only 21 services that offer both Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare. 6 services offer School Age Childcare only. 12 Parent & Toddlers groups and 8 Childminders in Leitrim,	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1-3
<b>Parent Education - Sligo Leitrim Parent Hub</b>	The Parent Hub Coordinator leads on the implementation of an annual workplan delivering on key strategic objectives as set out in the Sligo Leitrim Parent Support Strategy (2022-2026).	C & V	Universal & Targeted 1-3

## POLICING AND YOUTH JUSTICE

<b>An Garda Siochána</b>	17 Garda Stations across Sligo and Leitrim provide a range of safe, secure, and confidential services to residents and communities to assist in keeping them safe. Services operating from Garda Stations include but are not limited to Juvenile Liaison Officers (JLO), Divisional Protective Service Units (DPSUs) Community Gardaí and Immigration Gardaí.	S	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>The Probation Service</b>	The Probation Service is the lead agency in the assessment and management of offenders in the community. Community teams have mixed caseloads, working with both adults and children, providing a distinct approach and tailored responses for young people (12-18 years) and their families.	S	Targeted 2-3
<b>Youth Diversion Projects Sligo and Leitrim (Youth Work</b>	Youth Diversion Project is a community-based youth crime prevention initiative which seeks to divert young people away from the criminal justice system, antisocial/negative behaviours. YAPSL works with 8-11years (early intervention) and 12-17year olds in	C&V	Targeted 2 – 3

<b>Ireland, North Connaught)</b>	Sligo & Leitrim. Programmes include Life of Choices, Decider Skills, Drug & Alcohol Programmes and Personal Development Programmes.		
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## LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

<b>Sligo County Council</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b> provides a range of services in the areas of economic, social, cultural and community development. Many services and activities support children & young people in Co Sligo. Services include housing services & supports; sports, recreation & amenity development - swimming pool, playground facilities, walks, trails and cycleways, National Surf Centre, National Mountain Bike Centre, Yeats Trail; cultural facilities, including four libraries, arts venues - The Model, Hawkswell, Blue Raincoat, Coleman Centre, etc. community services - Comhairle na nÓg, Age Friendly Healthy Ireland, Peace Plus Programme, social inclusion; others - transport infrastructure, environment, planning, heritage services, tourism development & promotion, enterprise and job creation services and supports fire and emergency services; Public Participation Network.	S	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>Leitrim County Council</b>	<b>Leitrim Co Council</b> provides a range of social, housing, community and welfare services including Homelessness supports; Traveller accommodation and supports; social work; sports and playground facilities; Leitrim Sports Partnership; libraries: park/amenity area, sports centres; arts officer; Comhairle na nÓg; in Leitrim; Public Participation Network	S	Universal & Targeted 1-4

## SOCIAL WELFARE

<b>Local Area Partnerships</b>	2 Partnerships in Sligo and Leitrim: Sligo LEADER Partnership Co CLG; Leitrim Integrated Development Company. Both provide a range of employment, education, training, and support services to communities, including Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1- 3
<b>Department of Social Protection</b>	Provides Intreo Offices located in Sligo and Leitrim. Employment services supports, access to the labour market for jobseekers at local, regional, and national level and assists employers who are seeking to fill job vacancies.	S	Universal and targeted 1 - 3

<b>Local Employment Supports Services</b>	Various Community Employment Projects: Employment Response North-West which supports people with disabilities; Sligo Youth Information Centre; Foróige Youth Employability South Sligo; North Connaught Youth Employment Programme; Personal Youth Development Programme, Leitrim; Employability Northwest,	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1- 2
<b>Money Advice and Budgeting (MABS)</b>	MABS offices in Sligo and Leitrim provide free, impartial, confidential support for those concerned about or experiencing problems with debt or managing their budgets. MABS aims to help manage money and take control of debt especially with the current increased cost of living in Ireland at present.	S	Universal & Targeted 1-4
<b>Legal Aid</b>	The Board is responsible for the provision of legal aid and advice on matters of civil law to persons unable to fund such services from their own resources. It also provides a family mediation service.	S	Targeted 1 - 4
<b>Citizens Information Centres (CICs)</b>	North Connacht & Ulster Citizens Information serving counties Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal, Monaghan, and Cavan Citizens Information Services provide Information, advice, and advocacy services on range of social and public services in areas e.g., social welfare, health, housing, employment etc.	S	Universal 1-3
<b>Services to the Most Deprived (formerly known as FEAD)</b>	Food parcels are given to families and individuals in need through various community groups in Sligo and Leitrim. This initiative is funded by Department of Social Protection (DSP) and the EU. In addition, free feminine hygiene products are made available through various outlets including the FRCs, the Libraries and other community groups.	C&V	Universal
<b>SPORTS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE</b>			
<b>Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) and Ladies Gaelic Athletic Association (LGFA)</b>	The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) and Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA) provide opportunities for children and young people to play football, hurling, camogie and handball, and take part in Scór na nÓg competitions. Children and young people from 5-17 years can join juvenile club training/teams while 18–24-year-olds can join senior club teams. Children u12 can attend Summer Cúl Camps and take part in Cumann na mBunscol competitions with their primary school. Some clubs facilitate Inclusive Camps for children with special education needs and disabilities.	C&V	Universal
<b>Sligo Leitrim Youth and</b>	The Sligo Leitrim Youth and Schoolboys/Girls League has 20 clubs registered where boys and girls have an	C&V	Universal

<b>Schoolboys/Girls League</b>	opportunity to play soccer. boys and girls in Sligo Leitrim		
<b>Rugby in Sligo and Leitrim</b>	The Sligo Rugby Club supports juvenile (boys and girls), youth (boys and girls), senior men and senior women teams.  The Carrick on Shannon Rugby Club supports juvenile, youth and senior teams and straddles Leitrim and Roscommon. The club offers summer camps to 6 – 12-year-olds, boys and girls.		
<b>Hawk' Well Theatre Sligo</b>	Hawk's Well Theatre programme for children and young people includes early years workshops that engage babies and young children in music and drama through weekly classes, camps or workshops. Drama at the Well is a drama course for young children. Singskool is a music education programme with interactive classes in singing, playing instruments and dancing.	C&V	Universal
<b>Blue Raincoat Theatre company</b>	Blue Raincoat Theatre company		
<b>The Model, Sligo</b>	The Model contemporary arts centre and gallery, Sligo, hosts creative arts summer camps for children and young people.		
<b>The Dock</b>	Hosts workshops and summer camp for children and young people		
<b>Island Theatre</b>	Host Music Generation and a number of community activities		

## YOUTH

<b>Youth Clubs/Projects</b>	There are multiple youth clubs, projects and resources including those provided by: Youth Work Ireland North Connaught (Sligo and Leitrim); HYLs (Sligo and Leitrim); Foróige (Sligo and Leitrim); West Sligo FRC Youth Project; Tubbercurry FRC Youth Project; Ballymote FRC Youth Project; Mohill FSC Youth Service; Breffni FRC Youth Service. Volunteer-led and operated youth groups include those affiliated to national youth organisations such as Scouting Ireland, Foróige, Irish Girl Guides, Girls' Brigade Ireland, Girls' Friendly Society, Macra na Feirme, Order of Malta Cadets).	C&V	Universal 1-3
<b>Youth Work Ireland North</b>	YWINC provides a free, confidential information service to young people and those who work with	C&V	Universal

<b>Connaught Sligo &amp; Leitrim</b>	<p>them including issues such as: careers, education, employment matters, rights and entitlements, leisure, sport, travel, and European opportunities. Young people are referred when further information or specialist help is required.</p> <p><b>Youth Information Chat Service</b> Is a free, online chat service is available to 16–25-year-olds</p> <p><b>Smily LGBTQIA+ Youth Project</b> Provides young LGBTQ+ people, aged 14-18 with a safe and inclusive space, in Sligo and Leitrim, where they can meet with their peers in a safe environment to relax, talk, listen to music, and participate in games and organised social and educational activities, supported by trained and professional youth practitioners. Through these services issues and concerns that affect LGBTQ+ young people are addressed which helps increase the self-confidence and self-acceptance of LGBTQ+ young people. Staff also work with other community groups, organisations, and schools to increase awareness about homophobic bullying and discrimination.</p>		1 - 3
<b>Foróige (Sligo and Leitrim)</b>	<p>Foróige provides one-to-one or group programmes with young people and parents. In Sligo/Leitrim projects include: Youth &amp; Family Support Projects, Big Brother Big Sister, Youth Drug &amp; Alcohol Education, Entrepreneurship/Employability Project, Youth Specific Services and Support to operate Volunteer led Clubs are available.</p>	C&V	Universal 1-4

### OTHER SERVICES (Transport)

<b>The Rural Transport Programme - Donegal Sligo Leitrim Local Link</b>	<p>TFL Local Link provides local public transport in rural areas nationwide where other services are limited. The services are low-cost and available for anyone wishing to travel to or from their local town, village or parish. The service, addresses issues of unmet transport need from a social inclusion and community-based perspective. It focuses on responding to rural isolation and enhancing the mobility, accessibility, and community participation of local people, particularly those at risk of social exclusion. It is available across Sligo and Leitrim.</p>	S	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
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<b>Community of Lough Arrow Social Project (CLASP)</b>	The community of Lough Arrow in rural Sligo provides a transport service that serves the needs of residents using both scheduled and unscheduled bus and voluntary car services on a weekly basis.	C&V	Universal & Targeted 1 - 2
<b>Leitrim Volunteer Centre</b>	The Centre offers a range of volunteer training, supports and advice, a Garda Vetting Service and information technology support in Leitrim.	S	Universal 1
<b>Sligo Volunteer Centre</b>	The Centre offers a one stop shop for volunteering in Sligo, assistance to not-for-profit groups in setting up volunteer programmes, runs regular training and recommends useful resources for voluntary groups.	S	Universal 1



Domestic Violence Awareness Raising and Training Workshop, November 2022.

Front row: Sgt Helen Munnelly, Dr. Liam White, Tusla Area Manager and Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Chairperson, Chief Superintendent Aiden Glacken, Carmel Mc Namee, Manager DVAS, Maeve Whittington, Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Coordinator, Dr Caroline Forde, University of Galway, and Board Members DVAS, Áine Costello, Barnardos.

Back row: Sgt Mary Gallagher, Garda Laura Fahy, Inspector Angela Cummins, Garda Aileen Cox, Sgt Orla McGrath, Inspector Pat Harney, Inspector Melissa Martin, Supt Padraic Burke, Supt Mandy Gaynor, Inspector Frank Egan

## Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in Sligo Leitrim

Planning meetings were hosted with members of CYPSC and five sub-groups and one task group in May and June 2023. Members were presented a local assessment of need that comprised the evidence and learning generated from the consultation with 191 key stakeholders as well as data and insights collated from the socio-demographic profile and the audit of services.

- Prior to voting to select key priority areas for CYPP 2024-26, a SWOT analysis was presented to members. This identified the strengths and weaknesses within CYPSC and its sub-groups and task group that should be taken into account in designing activities within the new Plan.
- A PESTLE analysis that identified the key opportunities and threats in the policy and practice environment that CYPSC should manage in developing and implementing a new CYPP 2024-26 was also shared with members. A review of local strategy documents was also included to identify synergies and opportunities for collaboration with other county-level or CYPSC area planning.

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

<p><b>How are Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim doing?</b></p>	<p>The following indicators suggest a positive picture.</p> <p>(1) Rates of <b>Infant, Neonatal and Perinatal Mortality</b> are all below the national rate.</p> <p>(2) <b>Self-Perceived General Health</b> of children and young people in the household was rated as very good/good by 92% in Census 2022.</p> <p>(3) Rates of <b>teenage pregnancy</b> are below the national rate.</p> <p>However, the following indicators suggest children and young people in Sligo Leitrim are not doing well.</p> <p>(1) Uptake and maintenance of <b>breastfeeding</b> (any or exclusive) are below national targets and the national average at time of discharge from hospital, at the first and the 3-month visits with the Public Health Nurse.</p> <p>(2) Proportion of children and young people with a mild or moderate <b>disability</b> are higher in Sligo than nationally. From 10 years, the proportion is 10-14% of children and young people in Sligo.</p> <p>(3) Rates of <b>STI</b> (Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea, and Herpes Simplex) among young people 15-24 years are higher in Sligo, Leitrim and Donegal than nationally. The rate of Herpes Simplex has increased by 33% from 2018, including by 15.53% among 15–19-year-olds.</p> <p>(4) The rate of <b>Self Harm</b> recorded through presentation at hospital declined during COVID. Yet national data for 2020 highlights high rates among young people 15-24 years, with the highest rate among 15–19-year-olds girls. The rate among girls is 3 times that of boys in 10–15-year age group and the age of onset is decreasing.</p> <p>(5) The rate of death by <b>suicide</b> is higher among men in Sligo than nationally. National data from 2019 indicates suicide is the number one cause of death in</p>
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	<p>young men under 25 years and the number three cause among young women under 25 years.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with Children and Young People and parents tell us?</b></p>	<p><b>Children and Young People</b></p> <p>The need for a house, garden, car, bike and scooter was raised consistently among the workshops with children aged between 3 and 12 years. Food was also mentioned alongside friends and football, though less frequently.</p> <p>Mental health support emerged consistently in the workshops with teenagers and was named as three of top five priorities by 18–24-year-olds who completed the anonymous survey. These were anxiety (68%), not enough mental health services for young people (55%) and waiting for an appointment for mental health service (50%). Teenage young people across groups raised the gap in provision of early help and expressed a clear need for young person-centered support with self-referral that was “lower than Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), higher than GP”. They also expressed a need for education to teach young people to recognise mental health, good and poor and to manage increased anxiety related to school and social experiences post COVID.</p> <p>Teenagers expressed a clear gap and a need for age appropriate and relevant information and education on healthy and unhealthy relationships. Many had not received this to date in school, and in the event when this was delivered in school, the sensitive topics (e.g., what is an unhealthy relationship), were not covered in any detail or were just ‘touched on’.</p> <p><b>Parents</b></p> <p>Significant gaps continue to exist with access to statutory Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), and disability services for children and young people who do not have severe disabilities or physical disabilities e.g., ASD. This is resulting in lost opportunities for early intervention, significant stress for families (parents’ ability to work/earn, risk to safety, trauma for siblings) and negative mental health, education and social outcomes for children and young people. There is an identified need to build professional awareness and skills and provide access to early intervention and universally provided mental health support.</p> <p>Families living in International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) have expressed a need for access to bikes and scooters for young children. It was noted that, in some centres, the lack of privacy in mixed accommodation, poor access to family cooking facilities, lack of protected outdoor play space, and the inability to host visitors impacts opportunities for children’s healthy development and family life.</p> <p>Parents of children with mild and moderate disabilities including ASD expressed a need for funded access to after school clubs, summer camps, social activities, and other opportunities to promote children and young peoples’ social and physical health and development.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with</b></p>	<p><b>Identified needs from professional practice and service delivery in the following areas:</b></p>

<p><b>professionals who work with Children and Young People and families tell us?</b></p>	<p><b>(1) Mental Health and Wellbeing:</b> The need to access support is escalating among children, young people, and their families. There is a rise in the number of children and young people presenting with more complex mental health issues and this includes anxiety, self-harm and eating disorders. Yet diminished capacity within mental health services is limiting access for families. Schools are increasingly challenged to support children with anxiety. Professionals have identified a need for increased play therapy support for younger children in primary schools.</p> <p>Professionals across a range of youth services have expressed a need for training and support to build staff capacity to debrief and better manage and cope as children and young people present with more complex mental health issues including anxiety and self-harm.</p> <p>In line with an increased awareness of the importance of early intervention and prevention approaches, professionals have identified a need to focus on Infant Mental Health to promote bonding, attachment and healthy emotional and social development among babies and toddlers.</p> <p><b>Substance misuse:</b> The rise in vaping among children and young people continues to be an issue. Professionals have noted the ongoing prevalence and negative impact on children, young people and families of alcohol and drug addiction including Foetal Alcohol Syndrome. The rising use of cocaine is impacting family finances and families are reaching out to family support services for help with this issue.</p> <p><b>Sexual Health and Wellbeing</b> Professionals are acutely aware that many young people struggle with recognising an unhealthy relationship and making healthy and safe choices. Professionals have identified an ongoing need for appropriate information and education for children and young people that addresses this gap and challenges messaging received through pornography.</p> <p><b>Disability Services</b> Professionals identified very significant gaps in provision of services and access to support for families. Children and young people face lengthy waiting lists for assessment without any interim support. Assessment is often unsatisfactory. There is a noted increase in requests for assessment and support for children and young people from new communities.</p> <p><b>Families:</b> Professionals have identified that COVID has had a significant impact on baby development and parents including mothers who experienced trauma giving birth during the pandemic. Promoting the role of fathers in parenting and child development has been identified as an area requiring development. Housing, including for young people leaving care, and homelessness continue to be significant issues faced by families. Professionals also noted the impact of the rising cost of living and food poverty. Access to GP services for families seeking asylum in Sligo Town has been identified as an issue.</p>
<p><b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b></p>	<p>Services for children, young people and their families are not sufficient. There exist significant gaps that need to be addressed in the following areas.</p> <p>The provision of child/ youth friendly mental health and wellbeing support services to children and young people and families. The provision of adequate</p>

	<p>information, assessment and support services to children and young people with ASD (ASD) other mild and moderate disabilities, and their families.</p> <p>Teachers and schools are key partners in delivering Outcome 1 and need to be engaged in CYPSC activity.</p>
<b>What are the emerging priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC?</b>	<p>Develop awareness and provide education on sexual health and wellbeing including of LGBTQIA+ for children and young people, parents and professionals working with children and young people across education, health and social care including mental health, and youth settings.</p> <p>Create opportunities for children and young people with ASD and mild disabilities to socialise with peers to promote their social development and wellbeing.</p> <p>Support families cope in a changing context; this may include coping with a traumatic birth experience during the COVID pandemic, coping with increasing homelessness, and supporting the increasing population of New Communities.</p> <p>Promote the uptake of breastfeeding. Promote physical activity and wellbeing to foster resilience, coping and positive mental health and wellbeing. Provide support to families on managing the impact of substance misuse.</p> <p>Support children and young people's mental health by advocating and supporting the development of an appropriate support service.</p>

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

<b>How are Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim doing?</b>	<p>The following indicators suggest a positive picture.</p> <p>(1) Children across both counties are <b>actively enrolled in Early Learning and Care and School Aged Childcare</b> services. They are also participating in a range of government funded programmes e.g., ECCE, AIM, CCSP, NCS<sup>98</sup> aimed at supporting quality early learning and care and promoting social inclusion.</p> <p>(2) There is an increase in the number of Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) primary schools in both counties, and <b>more children being educated in a DEIS school that seeks to target and promote social inclusion.</b></p> <p>(3) <b>Retention rates</b> to Junior and Leaving Certificate are higher than the national rate.</p> <p>However, the following indicators suggest that children and young people in Sligo Leitrim are not doing well.</p> <p>(1) <b>School absenteeism is increasing</b> in both primary and post primary schools across both counties. The Mean % of days lost in post-primary in both counties is higher than the national %, and this is also the case for the Mean % 20 plus days in Sligo.</p>
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<sup>98</sup> ECCE Early Childhood care and Education programme; AIM Access and Inclusion Model; CCSP Community Childcare Subvention Plus; NCS National Childcare Scheme.

	<p>(2) <b>Class sizes in Leitrim primary schools are now higher</b> than the national average.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with Children and Young People and parents tell us?</b></p>	<p>Children aged 3-7 years and children living in IPAS identified the need for <b>opportunities for outdoor play</b> to support their physical development e.g., a playground and garden, and having bikes, scooters, and a football.</p> <p>Older primary school children aged 8-12 years living in IPAS also identified the need for a <b>bus to school and having access to school equipment such as pencils and drawing stuff</b>. One child expressed the need for a non-itchy school uniform to accommodate children with sensory processing issues.</p> <p>Teenagers aged 13-17 years noted how <b>young people’s engagement with and expectations of education have reduced since COVID</b>, particularly among the cohort that transitioned from primary to post primary school during the pandemic.</p> <p>Teenagers identified a <b>rise in anxiety related to school</b> since COVID and expressed a need for support in managing anxiety in going to school and around heightened teacher and parent expectations to catch up and do well academically. Young people reported experiencing poor relationships with teachers and a lack of empathy in these relationships.</p> <p>The survey of young people aged 18-24 years identified a <b>need for more English tuition for refugees</b>.</p> <p><b>Parents</b></p> <p>Parents <b>lacked awareness</b> of the Parent Hub and the Sligo Leitrim Directory of Services. Overall, parents expressed a need for <b>more targeted context specific information</b> on supports available for parents in a range of contexts e.g., mental health, ASD, anxiety, family separation. Parents expressed a need for <b>parenting programmes and support to be normalised</b> for all families.</p> <p><b>Parents living in IPAS</b> have expressed a need for access to physical space to study for older children undertaking state examinations, and access to childcare for parents with babies who wish to continue their formal education. Parents expressed a need for <b>English language tuition</b> at a level more advanced than conversational English.</p> <p><b>Parents of children with mild/moderate disabilities including ASD</b> expressed a need to link with other parents to source and share information and provide support.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with professionals who work with Children and Young People and families tell us?</b></p>	<p><b>Identified needs from professional practice and service delivery in the following areas:</b></p> <p>Professionals across a range of services identified the need to support parents, guardians, and carers to support children and young people with anxiety, mental health, school avoidance and refusal at primary and post-primary school as well as transitioning to a new school.</p> <p>This support should focus on all areas of parenting including where education is not viewed as a priority by parents, where their own experience of school has been poor, and on building positive relationships between schools and parents.</p>

	<p>The involvement of the School Completion Programme and the Home Youth Liaison Service was identified as important to this work. Reviewing progress of the Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and revising the Sligo Leitrim Directory of Services were also identified as key tasks.</p> <p>Professionals emphasized a need for the right support to help children and young people remain in school, manage anxiety, and mitigate the longer-term impacts of COVID. This should include focusing on building resilience, confidence, and skills including employability skills of children and young people.</p> <p>Identified training needs for professionals included managing anxiety and supporting children and young people post COVID; developing partnerships between school, parents and children and young people, as well as building awareness of and the skills to manage the impact of Adverse Childhood experiences (ACES) and childhood trauma.</p> <p>Professionals identified that English language proficiency and skills pose a barrier for parents who are refugees, asylum-seekers, migrant workers or partners of migrant workers when accessing information and support.</p>
<p><b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b></p>	<p>There are sufficient services in most areas. However, these existing services require mapping, co-ordination and promotion so member agencies and professionals are aware and can signpost/refer as appropriate. A gap exists in the provision of assessment and support for children and young people with ASD. This includes an emerging group of children and young people from new communities.</p> <p>Schools, teachers and education support services including the National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS) are key partners in delivering Outcome 2 and need to be engaged in CYPSC activity.</p>
<p><b>What are the emerging priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC?</b></p>	<p>Parenting support should be normalised for all parents.</p> <p>Meeting the identified information and support needs of parents are a priority. This includes parents living in IPAS (IPAS), parents of children experiencing anxiety and school refusal, and parents of children with ASD or mild and moderate disabilities.</p> <p>The provision of training on ACES, trauma, and attachment for professionals</p> <p>Implementation of Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-2026.</p>

### **Outcome 3 Safe and protected from harm.**

<p><b>How are Children and Young People in Sligo Leitrim doing?</b></p>	<p>The following indicators suggest a positive picture.</p> <p>Fewer young people from Sligo/Leitrim were referred to the Garda Youth Diversion project between 2019 and 2020. This mirrors a national trend and may have been impacted by COVID.</p> <p>However, the following indicators suggest that children and young people in Sligo/Leitrim are not doing well.</p>
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	<p>(1) <b>Child protection and welfare referrals</b> have increased by 50% in SLWC in the 5 years to 2021, and referrals relating to sexual abuse have more than doubled in this period.</p> <p>(2) While fewer children and young people from SLWC are listed as ‘active’ on the Child Protection Notification System<sup>99</sup> and the rate at which this happens is lower than the national rate, the number of cases <b>awaiting allocation of a Social Worker</b> has risen by 134% in SLWC in the 12 months to April 2023.</p> <p>(3) 77% of <b>children and young people in care in SLWC have an allocated Social Worker</b> compared to 84% nationally.</p> <p>(4) There are 3,600 children on a waiting list nationally to be screened by the <b>Tusla Education Support Service</b>, and this is a 3% increase over the 12 months from April 2022.</p> <p>(5) National research highlights that teenagers from 13 years are facing challenges with <b>being safe online</b>. This includes cyber abuse and receiving unwanted sexual photos.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with children and young people and parents tell us?</b></p>	<p><b>Children and young people</b></p> <p>Teenagers 13-17 years consistently identified a gap in their education in relation to <b>healthy and unhealthy relationships</b>, particularly the most sensitive content e.g., how to recognize an unhealthy relationship and what to do. A large cohort of older teenagers have not had any formal education in this area and have missed out on the Healthy vs Unhealthy Relationships programme rolled out to first years in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC area during the previous plan.</p> <p>Challenges related to <b>managing friendships online</b> emerged as important to teenagers, particularly in relation to making comments and posting photos without consent.</p> <p>Teenagers reported <b>increased anxiety related to school</b> since COVID and expressed a need for support in managing anxiety in going to school. Young people reported experiencing poor relationships with teachers and a lack of empathy in these relationships.</p> <p><b>Parents</b></p> <p>Some families living in <b>IPAS</b> raised concerns about <b>safeguarding risks</b> in mixed accommodation where families with young children were sharing accommodation with young single men who were engaging in smoking and drinking in common areas.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with professionals who work with children and</b></p>	<p><b>Identified needs from professional practice and service delivery in the following areas:</b></p>

<sup>99</sup> The Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) is a securely held national list that records the names of children who have been identified as being at ongoing risk of significant harm and are, or have been, subject to a Child Protection Plan agreed at a Child Protection Conference (Tusla, 2015 p17). The CPNS is managed by Tusla. [https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/CPNS\\_Prof\\_Booklet.pdf](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/CPNS_Prof_Booklet.pdf)

<p><b>young people and families tell us?</b></p>	<p>(1) An effective interagency response to knife crime and concealed weapons is needed that considers the types of weapons, role of agencies and incorporates the work of the Gardai, HYLS and YAP Sligo/Leitrim.</p> <p>(2) Professionals across a range of agencies have identified that children and young people report fear of assault from gangs who are now gathering in town centres. Anti-social behaviour and intimidation by young people is also creating fear among the older populations. Professionals highlight the need for messaging and the important role of schools and parents in messaging alongside agencies.</p> <p>(3) Professionals report that children and young people continue to experience bullying outside school, including online and that this is having a negative impact on the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people.</p> <p>(4) Increased access to drugs is challenging for young people who require education and support on healthy choices.</p>
<p><b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b></p>	<p>There exists an identified gap in provision of information and education in relation to healthy and unhealthy relationships to children and young people that meets their needs as per their age/stage of development.</p> <p>Education and schools are key partners in the delivery of this outcome and need to be effectively engaged in this work.</p>
<p><b>What are the emerging priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC?</b></p>	<p>Safeguarding the welfare of children and young people online is a priority.</p> <p>Ensuring a supportive school environment and supporting children and young people to manage relationships with peers and teachers and manage associated anxiety.</p> <p>Providing information and education to children and young people on healthy relationships including sexting and domestic violence.</p> <p>Develop an effective local interagency response to Knife Crime and Antisocial Behaviour. The engagement of schools and parents is critical.</p> <p>Ongoing awareness raising of drug trends and supports available to children, young people and families.</p>

#### **Outcome 4 Economic security and opportunity.**

<p><b>How are children and young people in Sligo/Leitrim doing?</b></p>	<p>The following indicators suggest that children and young people in Sligo/Leitrim are not doing well.</p> <p>(1) While overall the <b>unemployment</b> rate among young people 15-24 years has fallen in Sligo and Leitrim in line with the national rate, the number of young people in this age group registering to receive Jobseekers Benefit/Allowance/entitlement from the Department of Social Protection has risen. In the 12 months from June 2022, the number increased by 15.94% in Sligo and by 24.06% in Leitrim compared with 2.5% nationally.</p>
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	<p>(2) The Consistent <b>Poverty</b> Rate and the At Risk of Poverty rates have increased in the North-West between 2020 and 2022 and are higher than the national rate. The rate increased further and significantly for vulnerable families including Lone Parent families, those experiencing unemployment or living in rented /rent-free accommodation.</p> <p>(3) The HP <b>Deprivation</b> Index based on 2016 Census classifies Sligo and Leitrim as marginally below average.</p> <p>(4) More families and children are experiencing <b>homelessness</b>: 73% more families and 55% more children and young people accessed Local Authority managed emergency accommodation between 2018 and 2022 in the North-West. The number of applicants on <b>housing waiting lists</b> has increased by 42.3% in Sligo and by 21.55% in Leitrim between 2017-2022. The Residential Tenancies Board Index 2022 shows <b>rents</b> are increasing in both counties.</p> <p>(5) <b>Traveller participation in education</b> is higher in primary than in post primary schools in both counties and national retention rates for pupils from the Traveller Community have increased in the past 5 years. Yet, these participation rates are significantly lower than the national rate for all pupils. Progression to further education and training has also declined in the 5 years to 2021 for pupils from the Traveller Community.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with children and young people and parents tell us?</b></p>	<p>Children aged 8-12 years living in IPAS identified the need for <b>a job</b> when they grow up to become adults. Some of these children conveyed their enjoyment of school and high expectations regarding their education e.g., one spoke of his brother wanting to be a doctor and work in a hospital.</p> <p>Older teenagers aged 15-17 years reported that since COVID, young people appear <b>less engaged with school</b> and their education, particularly those who transitioned from primary during the pandemic. This group of young people spoke of being “scared of life” after school and that the sole focus in school on points and college has left them feeling ill-prepared for life after school. They expressed a need for <b>employability and careers workshops</b>.</p> <p><b>Moving on from school into other education, training and employment</b> was identified as a Top 5 issue by 53% of young adults aged 18-24 years. More than half also reported that COVID has made a difference to the support and services needed and 3 in 5 reported being aware of support available to move on from school into other education, training, and employment.</p> <p><b>Parents</b></p> <p>Families from the <b>Traveller Community</b> continue to face barriers to access training and employment for 16–24-year-old males. Parents reported that their children have a poor secondary school experience characterized by low teacher expectations. Parents expressed a need to build social inclusion in and through schools, to build family-school relationships and employer connections for 16–24-year-olds at risk of leaving school early.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with professionals</b></p>	<p>Professionals across a range of agencies noted the need to:</p> <p>(1) Keep a focus on encouraging children and young people to attend and remain in school.</p>

<b>who work with children and young people and families tell us?</b>	(2) Support the transition of 18 – 24-year-olds with ASD into education, training and apprenticeships. (3) Develop programmes that foster skills, set goals and motivate children and young people, asking ‘where do you intend to go’ in life. (4) Provide training in the right format (short term, bitesize) to meet needs and address barriers to getting experience and recommendation for job/apprenticeship for socially excluded groups. This includes young people leaving care, young people with ASD and young people from the Traveller Community. There is also a need to promote employability and connect young people with employers.
<b>Are there sufficient services in this outcome area?</b>	There are sufficient services available through Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board, Leitrim Development Company and Sligo Leader Partnership but specific projects/programmes are needed to provide targeted opportunities for training and employment for socially excluded young people aged 16-24.
<b>What are the emerging priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC?</b>	Provision of targeted work experience, further education and training and employment opportunities for 16–24-year-olds from socially excluded groups of young people including the Traveller Community.  Support the transition of young people with ASD into education, training and apprenticeships.

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

<b>How are children and young people in Sligo/Leitrim doing?</b>	<p>The following indicators suggest a positive picture.</p> <p>(1) Longitudinal data for those participating in the <i>Growing Up in Ireland</i> study who are aged 13 shows that many have someone to talk to if they have a problem or need support and that 78% report that they participate in structured pastimes. This includes 70% who report taking part in team sports. Children from low income and lone parent households report lower participation in structured pastimes.</p> <p>(2) Children are growing up in a more diverse Ireland.</p> <p>(3) Children and young people in Sligo and Leitrim are actively engaged in volunteering in sport, community, social/charitable, religious and political organisations.</p> <p>The following indicators suggest that children and young people in Sligo/Leitrim are not doing well.</p> <p>(1) June 2023 data indicates that 296 and 106 people are living in IPAS in Sligo and Leitrim respectively and estimates<sup>100</sup> indicate this may include 185 children under 18 years.</p> <p>(2) National equality and discrimination data collated in 2019 confirm that young people aged 18-24 years’ experience discrimination in relation to their sexuality, race and employment status.</p>
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<sup>100</sup> National data indicates that 45.9% are children under 18 years.

	<p>(3) The number of young carers and young adult carers in Sligo and Leitrim as a proportion of the total population has increased between Census 2016 and 2022. The proportion in Leitrim is higher than in Sligo and nationally. National research data indicates that many of these young people struggle to balance caring responsibilities with other areas of their lives.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with children and young people and parents tell us?</b></p>	<p><b>Children and Young People</b></p> <p>Younger children 3-7 years identified <b>family and friends</b> as being important to them. Teenagers noted that many young people their age were challenged to manage family issues and parental expectations around achievement in school and doing jobs at home.</p> <p>Teenagers aged 13-17 years, particularly those not living in Sligo town, expressed a need for <b>free social groups/activities</b>. They felt that most activities are based in Sligo town and are not very accessible to young people living elsewhere. A specific gap was identified in West Sligo. All teenagers noted the decline in opportunities for socialising with peers since COVID. Young people aged 18-24 years from both counties also identified a need for more recreational activities for children and young people.</p> <p><b>Access to transport</b> was identified by children aged 8-12 years living in Leitrim e.g., a car, bus to school. This was also raised by 55% of young people aged 18-24 years from across the two counties where it emerged in their Top 5 issues.</p> <p><b>Parents</b></p> <p>Parents from the Traveller Community noted the <b>discrimination</b> faced by their children in post primary school and in seeking apprenticeship/employment opportunities locally in Leitrim. A number noted that their children need to move away to Dublin or the United Kingdom to gain experience and a reference that will later enable them to secure a basic grade job locally.</p> <p>Parents of children and young people with <b>mild/moderate disabilities including ASD expressed</b> a need for opportunities to be created (e.g., summer camps, after school clubs) to enable their children to socialise with peers who do not have severe disabilities.</p> <p>Parents of children and young people in rural villages across Sligo and in Leitrim expressed a strong need for <b>universal provision of social activities and youth clubs for teenagers</b>, particularly those not interested in sport.</p>
<p><b>What did the consultations with professionals who work with children and young people and families tell us?</b></p>	<p>Professionals across a range of agencies identified the need to address the ongoing issue of transport affordability and accessibility in rural counties. Access to transport is a very significant issue for children and young people living in County Leitrim. The ongoing participation of children and young people in local decision-making was also identified as important by professionals. This included promoting the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Participation Toolkit and developing Comhairle na bPaistí. Professionals also identified the importance of promoting diversity and inclusion in view of the changing demographic locally and nationally.</p>
<p><b>Are there sufficient</b></p>	<p>There exists a need to scope and explore provision of social and recreational activities and access to universal youth clubs for young people including summer schemes and afterschool activities for children and young people with</p>

<p><b>services in this outcome area?</b></p>	<p>disabilities and ASD. This scoping is needed to understand if provision is adequate and if communication is adequate/effective. Access to transport that meets the needs of children and young people living in rural areas remains an issue.</p>
<p><b>What are the emerging priorities for Sligo Leitrim CYPSC?</b></p>	<p>Continued engagement of children and young people in participation activity, and review of progress to inform ongoing capacity building with CYPSC partners.</p> <p>Promote transport access and affordability.</p> <p>Provision of social and recreational opportunities for children and young people, including those with disabilities and ASD.</p>



A warm welcome from Martina Gallagher in Tubbercurry FRC Childcare Service

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

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
<p>1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sexual health and wellbeing: awareness and education for children, young people, parents and professionals</li> <li>• Supporting children and young people with a disability: opportunities for social development and wellbeing</li> <li>• Supporting families: coping in changing circumstances</li> <li>• Promoting physical activity and wellbeing: to foster coping, resilience and mental wellbeing</li> <li>• Substance misuse: managing the impact on families.</li> <li>• Child and youth mental health: supporting the development of a new service</li> </ul>
<p>2. Achieving full potential in learning and development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address the identified support and information needs of all parents in line with and through implementation of the <i>Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-26</i>.</li> <li>• Provision of training for parents and professionals on infant mental health<sup>101</sup> including ACEs, trauma and attachment</li> </ul>
<p>3. Safe and protected from harm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding children and young people online</li> <li>• Enhance young peoples’ experience of school, post COVID: creating a supportive environment, supporting children and young people to manage their relationships.</li> <li>• Domestic violence: awareness and education</li> <li>• Healthy relationships: awareness and education</li> <li>• Effective interagency response to knife crime and concealed weapons, antisocial behaviour and intimidation by young people</li> <li>• Build awareness of drug trends and supports available to children, young people and families</li> </ul>
<p>4. Economic security and opportunity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-employment opportunities for socially excluded young people.</li> <li>• Training opportunities for socially excluded young people.</li> <li>• Support the employment of young Travellers.</li> <li>• Develop transition supports for young people with autism</li> </ul>
<p>5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance the participation of children and young people in services, groups and organisations that they are accessing.</li> <li>• Research and evidence progress and impact of implementation of the <i>Lundy Model of Child and Youth Participation</i> through Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Participation Lab.</li> <li>• Promote transport affordability and accessibility.</li> </ul>

<sup>101</sup> Identified priority within Outcome 1. Will be addressed by Outcome 2 Working Group due to existing capability and skills in this Working Group.

<p><b>Outcome Areas</b></p>	<p><b>Local Priority Areas*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Digital Youth Work Hub in the region.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Change Management</b></p> <p>Change management</p>	<p><b>Local Priority Areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alignment of CYPSC members organisational strategy and business plans (national and local) with CYP 2024-26</li> <li>• Commitment of senior personnel across agencies to CYPSC.</li> <li>• Effective interagency working</li> <li>• Membership and contribution of schools and teachers.</li> </ul>

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



Sligo Comhairle na nÓg members: Dara Kilcommons, Beth Candon, Eoin O'Connor, Alfie Barron meet with Junior Minister Chambers in 2023.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26									
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
Sexual Health & Wellbeing	Increase access for children and young people to appropriate information and education on sexual health and wellbeing.	Number of programmes identified. Number of programmes delivered	Produce map of Sexual Health & Wellbeing programmes, including availability, mode of presentation, level of programmes, including location Delivery of 2 programmes via partner agencies annually	Consultation with key stakeholders Map current provision of programmes. Promote and deliver existing/new evidence-based/informed local and national sexual health resources/programmes	2024 - 2026	HSE Foroige Home Youth Liaison Service Sligo Rape Crisis Centre Schools: primary and post primary	National Sexual Health Strategy 2015 – 2020 Review of National Sexual Health Strategy 2023 Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025	Support parents. Listen to and involve children and young people. Ensure quality Services. Cross government and interagency collaboration and cooperation. Strengthen transitions. Early intervention and prevention. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014	
	Support LGBTQIA+: Deliver Trans Awareness/ Training to Health Care Practitioners, to youth service providers and teachers. Raising awareness about mental health supports and services for	Number of events delivered. Number of Health Care Practitioners, Youth Service Providers and Teachers attending events. Animation video promoted through social media platforms, youth	2 awareness /training events held in Sligo and 1 in Leitrim annually. 10 schools in Sligo Leitrim annually.	Organise, promote and deliver Awareness/training events. Deliver Awareness/training events. Disseminate animation video	2024 - 2026	SMILY LGBTQIA+ Youth Group Youth Work Ireland, North Connaught Trans Equality Network Ireland (TENI) Foroige Schools	National Sexual Health Strategy 2015 – 2020 National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019 - 2021	Listen to children and young people. Supporting Parents Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination. Ensure quality services. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014	

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26							
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 Link to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	LGBTQIA+	services and schools.		widely on social media platforms. Target post-primary schools, youth services and directly disseminate.			
Supporting children and young people with a disability	Promote social outlet/activities for children and young people with a disability – Autism Spectrum Disorder / mild disability to socialise with other children who do not have severe disabilities.	Consultation with stakeholders. Map produced. Gaps and barriers identified. New responses developed.	Map produced.  2 stakeholder meetings held.  2 new responses developed.	Map social outlet/ activities for children and young people with a disability.  Identify gaps and barriers.  Develop responses.	2024 - 2026	HSE FRCs Youth Services Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership (SSRP) Leitrim Sports Partnership. GAA. Sligo Leader Partnership CLG HSE CDNT	Listen to and involve children and young people.  Support Parents.  Ensure quality Services.  Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  Strengthen transitions.  BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014     Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world.
	Promote engagement by children and young people with additional needs in multi-sport and other sporting initiatives.	Information about multi-sports and other initiatives to be promoted e.g., surfing, Kayaking, GAA, Tennis, cycling, Jolly Hockey, Sensory	Information about multi-sport and other sporting activities will be publicised.	Work collaboratively with Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) newsletter to promote and support the uptake of existing social	2024 - 2026		

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Supporting Families	Normalising breastfeeding 'We're Breastfeeding Feeding Friendly' (WBF) Sligo and Leitrim	Walks, Dancing, etc.	12 breastfeeding friendly organisations and businesses, annually in Sligo Increase of 1% in breastfeeding rates on first visit of PHN.	outlets/activities and facilitate the development of new initiatives. Continue to promote the provision of Leitrim and Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership (SSRP) programmes and activities, afterschool, camps for children 5 years+ with autism through partner agencies.	2024 - 2026	Lifestart Leitrim Sligo West Cavan Mohill Family Support Centre HSE Health and Wellbeing	Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025 Breastfeeding in a Healthy Ireland 2016 - 2021 Healthy weight for Children HSE Action Plan 2021-2023	Support Parents Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination. Strengthen transitions. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26									
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
	Convene a Steering Group to review Traumatic Births and compile a report	Steering Group convened. Report compiled in relation to Traumatic Births	Report on scoping exercise produced.	Convene the steering group. Conduct a literature review. Produce a report, with recommendations.	2024 - 2026	HSE 6 FRCS across Sligo and Leitrim Lifestart Leitrim Sligo and West Cavan	HSE Community Healthcare CDLMS Operational Plan 2023  My pregnancy: Expert Advice for every step. My Child 0 – 2: Expert Advice for every step. MyChild.ie	Support Parents Ensure quality services. Early Intervention and Prevention	
	To identify and support interagency opportunities to respond to needs of children and young people in relation to homelessness.	Successful interagency collaboration achieved to ensure a pathway and open communication with the Local Authorities.	3 meetings with key stakeholders held. Define and deliver on 3 CYPSC actions areas.	Meet with stakeholder agencies. Identification of key action initiatives. Deliver on key actions.	2024 - 2026	Sligo and Leitrim Co Councils Homeless agencies across both counties – Focus, Sligo Social Services, Simon, Foroige, Family Resource Centres Sligo Leader Partnership Leitrim Development Co.	HOMELESS ACTION PLAN NORTH-WEST REGION (2023 – 2028) The National Policy Framework for Children and young people 2023-2028 Rebuilding Ireland - Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness	Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014	
	To identify and support interagency	Interagency meeting held.	2 consultation events with young people held.	Connect and engage with young people from new	2024 - 2026	Diversity Sligo. Sligo Leader Partnership CLG	Good Practice: NEW COMMUNITIES	Listen to and involve children and young people.	



## Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Substance Misuse	To reduce the impact of addiction on children and families.  Promote and raise awareness of addiction services in Sligo and Leitrim.  Support implementation of the recommendations of the Vaping Report 2023, (NWRDATF, Foroige and MSL ETB)	Increase in the number of professionals trained in programmes e.g., Hidden Harm.  Number of recommendations of the Vaping Report 2023 implemented.	preschools in Leitrim.  20 staff trained in Leitrim.  20 programmes delivered to 300 rural youth in Leitrim.  30 frontline services will have participated in training on Hidden Harm.  3 recommendations of Vaping report implemented.	Training promoted with partner agencies on the impact of addiction on families.  Disseminate and promote awareness of the Vaping report in primary and post primary schools, Sligo Leitrim West Cavan CFSNs and on partners social media platforms.  Support implementation of 3 recommendations	2024 - 2026	North West Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force (NWRDATF) Foroige Youth Work Ireland NCYCS M-PACT Tusla PPFS Alcohol Forum Ireland MSLETB HSE	Action Plan 2021 – 2023 National Sports Policy 2018 – 2027.  Sligo 2030 One Voice, One Vision	Support Parents  Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  Early intervention and prevention. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Child and Youth Mental Health.	Support the establishment of the HSE Early Intervention Youth Mental Health Service for Sligo and Leitrim.  Provide accessible information for parents to help them understand and navigate mental health supports.	Service established.  Roadmap resource developed and promoted to parents.	Service is established on a 'hub' and 'spoke' model.  To develop one road map in print and online formats.	of the Vaping Report.  Actively participate on the HSE Steering Group to represent the voice of children and young people and feed back to the Subgroup.  Support the roll out of service and influence the integrity of the model as defined by young people and other successful models. Promote and communicate about the service when up and running to ensure it is used optimally.	2024 – 2026	HSE Youth Work Ireland North Connaught CYPSC Child & Youth Mental Health Task Group FRCS	Connecting for Life: Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015 – 2020  Connecting for Life (CFL) Sligo Leitrim Implementation Plan 2022 – 2024  Community Healthcare Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo CFL Implementation plan 2022 – 2024. Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025  CHO1 Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing	Listen to and involve children and young people.  Support Parents  Cross government and interagency collaboration and cooperation  Early Intervention and Prevention  Ensure quality services. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014
	Provide training /support to frontline Youth Work staff working	Number or training events and number of			2024 – 2026	HSE MSLETB		

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26									
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
	with young people experiencing moderate to severe mental health issues: suicide ideation, self-harm.  Support frontline staff to build resilience with young people.	youth workers supported.  Number of frontline staff trained.	One training event.  12 youth workers trained annually.  40 frontline staff trained, year 1 and 40 over years 2 and 3.	Organise, promote, and deliver a training event, in partnership with clinical services.  Deliver the Decider Skills Training Programme.	2024 - 2026	Foroige FRCs Schools	Framework, 2020 – 2023 The National Policy Framework for Children and young people 2023-2028	Strengthen transitions. Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  Early Intervention and Prevention  Ensure quality services. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014	

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Address the identified support and information needs of all parents in line with the <i>Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-2026</i>	Promote, implement, review and report on <i>Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-2027</i> in line with CYPSC projects and work of CYPSC members organisations.	<i>Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-2026</i> <sup>102</sup> Strategic Focus Area 1 measures e.g., additional resources available through Parent Hub, increased presence on range of social media platforms.	100% completion of 2024 scheduled actions  100% completion of 2025 scheduled actions  100% completion of 2026 scheduled actions	Implement actions in the Strategic Focus Areas of plan.  Review progress annually and share insights for learning and improvement across task groups.	2024 - 2026	CYPSC Learning and Development subgroup.  CYPSC Learning and Development subgroup.	Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan 2022-2026  Tulsa Parenting Support Strategy 2022-2027	Support parents. Early intervention and prevention. Ensure quality services. Good interagency collaboration and coordination.
	Provide information on access to parent support groups and childcare for parents accessing study while living in International Protection Accommodation Services.	Information provided to IPAS centres. Number of parents accessing education/study opportunities.  Number of training events provided.  Number of parents supported.	5 IPAS centres in Sligo and Leitrim targeted to ensure parents resident in centres receive information.  Number of parents who attended programmes or received 1:1 support.	Dissemination of information on NCS, ECCE AIM Provision of information on evidence-based parenting programmes.  Advocate for a review of the format of parenting programmes so they are tailored to respond to the	2024 - 2026	Sligo and Leitrim CCCs	Sligo and Leitrim  CCCs	National Traveller Health Action Plan 2022-2027)  Working together to improve the health experiences and outcomes for Travellers.  The Migrant Integration Strategy 2017 – 2020  First 5 – A Whole of Government Strategy for Babies Young Children and their Families 2019-2029

<sup>102</sup> <https://www.sligochildcare.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Sligo-Leitrim-Parenting-Support-Strategic-Plan-2022-2026-2.pdf>

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26									
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
				current needs of parents. Seek funding for members of new communities to be trained in programme delivery.			Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028  Report on the Responses to the Public Consultation		
	Provide information and signpost parents to services that can assist them to support their children manage anxiety regarding transitions to school managing change and school refusal.	Number of parents signposted to support services.  Map of transition programmes developed.  Information on transition programmes, tips for parents, podcasts etc. shared on social media platforms.	60 parents signposted to services/organisations who provide supports to parents.  Map the provision of transitions programmes/projects available to parents and professionals in Sligo Leitrim.  8-12 relevant podcasts and resources shared on social media platforms.	Advocate a collective approach to supporting transitions 0 -18 years.  Map current delivery of transitions programmes. Provide information to parents on transitions in line with national policies.	2024 - 2026	CYPSC Learning and Development subgroup.	Partnership for the Public Good (DCEDIY, 2021)  Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025  AIM (DCEDIY)  First 5 (DCEDIY 2019-2028) Goal B, Objective 5		
		Interagency event arranged.							

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
			1 interagency event held on school refusal/school avoidance.	Host a community of practice to share learning, using a strengths-based approach, supporting positive experiences for children, young parents, and professionals in transitioning.  Share resources/top tips/podcasts, animations, videos/ resources with all parents via Parent Hub and social media channels. Convene an interagency task group to consider school refusal/school avoidance.	2024 and 2025			
	Promote Parents Plus Early Years Core Delivery Programme for a	Parents Plus Early Years Core Delivery achieved.	2 Parents Plus Early Years Core Delivery	Promote the delivery of the Parents Plus Early Years Programme.	2024	CYPSC Learning and Development subgroup.		

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Infant Mental Health	Promote positive infant mental health among professionals and parents.	Parents and professionals reporting an increased awareness of Infant mental health	20% of parents and 20% of professionals reporting knowledge of practices to support infant mental health in survey to be completed as part of process that will review implementation of the <i>Sligo Leitrim Parenting Support Strategic Plan</i> .	<p>Target delivery to caregivers who care for a child/children with additional support needs.</p> <p>Encourage delivery of the resource pack to compliment sessional intervention work.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for professionals in Early Years and School Aged Childcare settings to engage in a community of practice in supporting the promotion of positive infant mental health.</p> <p>Promote positive infant mental health messaging for parents.</p>	2024 - 2026	Sligo and Leitrim CCCs Parent Hub HSE C&V organisations	Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025  The National Policy Framework for Children and young people 2023-2028	Support Parents Ensure quality services. Early intervention and prevention Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee 2024-26								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	Promote the development of parent-child relationships and attachment.	Number of Circles of Security Programmes delivered.  Information on supports and resources available to families.	Delivery of 2 Circles of Security Programmes yearly.  Information on programmes and resources updated on social media platforms	Continue to promote parenting programmes (Circles of Security) for parents and babies.  Share learning and top tips resources with all parents via Parent Hub and social media channels.				Young People 2023-2028

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Safeguarding children and young people online	Create opportunities for children and young people, appropriate to their age and stage of development, to learn, understand and respond in situations of images /comments being posted online	Number of programmes identified. Social media plan/campaign delivered. HSE Information is disseminated.	3 Programmes delivered across Sligo/ Leitrim each year, over the 3-year period of Plan.	Coordinate delivery of programmes in Sligo/ Leitrim through workshops to young people in school and youth settings.  Design and deliver a social media campaign with input from the young people who accessed the workshops to widen the reach to other young people who haven't accessed workshops and to reinforce learning for those who have.  Review existing HSE resources on learning hub, disseminate and share across other	2024 - 2026	Safe & Protected from Harm Subgroup.	Department of Education Cinealtas Action Plan on Bullying, Department of Education, 2022 Cinealtas  Implementation Plan on Bullying 2023-2027.  Zero Tolerance: The National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2022-2026	Listen to and involve children, and young people. Support Parents Ensure quality services. Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Enhance young peoples' experiences at school, post COVID	Support development of an environment where children and young people feel safe and supported.	Meetings with NAPD and IPPN in association with Sligo and Carrick Education Centres.  Research and resources shared through Education Centre partners newsletters.  Input to teacher CPD training through Education Centre partners	2 meetings, 1 in Sligo and 1 in Leitrim with NAPD and IPPN.  Anti-bullying, Resilience Research and Trauma toolkit resources shared.  20 teachers and school staff attend training through Education Centre partners.	groups as per identified gaps (parents/ professionals etc).  Support schools to review and update their anti-bullying policies – timely in view of new communities and differences in cultural/social norms and new Cinealtas implementation plan from Dept of Education.  Raise awareness to educate children and young people to understand and recognise bullying via meetings with Principals Network  Raise teachers' awareness of ACEs and trauma	2024 - 2026	Sligo and Carrick Education Centres Irish Primary Principals Network (IPPN) National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (NAPD) Sligo and Carrick	Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying Ireland's Whole Education Approach to preventing and addressing bullying in schools December 2022  The National Policy Framework for Children and young people 2023-2028	Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee							
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm							
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				informed approaches. Engage with schools to raise awareness of the effect of domestic violence, parental separation, waiting for diagnosis, e.g., ADHD, 'coming out' for children and young people			
				Collaborate with schools and services to deliver resilience programmes and build young people resilience to manage/ respond to incidents where they feel they are subject to bullying.			
	Deliver resilience programmes through schools and services across both counties.	Number of resilience programmes identified. Number of young people who take part in the training.	10 resilience programmes delivered per year. 250+ young people attending the programmes per year.				
Domestic violence: awareness and education	Children and young people are safe from the impact of domestic violence	Engagement of a domestic violence worker. Number of training opportunities developed.	Domestic violence worker employed. 3 domestic violence training programmes	Support the sourcing of funding to engage a youth domestic violence worker. Support the sourcing of	2024 - 2026	Safe & Protected from Harm Subgroup  DVAS	Listen to and involve children, and young people. Cross government and interagency collaboration and
							Zero Tolerance: The National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2022-2026

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
		Number of youth workers/frontline staff taking part in this training	delivered per year. 25 of youth workers/frontline staff trained.	funding to deliver a series of domestic violence training programmes to frontline staff, as identified in the domestic violence research.		Tusla DSGBV	The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028	cooperation. Early intervention and prevention Ensure quality services. <i>BOBF 2014-2020, DCYA, 2014</i>
	Raise awareness of the importance of identifying community places/businesses where people can make a safe call to access services such as domestic violence service.	Awareness of campaigns to identify a safe space to access services required.	Campaign designed which identifies a safe space to make a call to access services.	Delivery of a campaign which identifies a safe space to make a call to access services, e.g., Donegal CYPSC/CFSN 'Safe to Call' Project, 'Reducing the Risk', (Oxfordshire, UK).	2024 - 2026	Safe & Protected from Harm Subgroup. HYS Sligo Rape Crisis Centre DVAS	Zero Tolerance: The National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence 2022-2026	Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination. Early intervention and prevention. <i>BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014</i>
	Raise employers' awareness about domestic violence among staff teams.	Number of training programmes delivered at workplaces to support staff experiencing Domestic Violence	3 workplace organisations offered 'Help her Tell' training programmes.	Deliver training programme to workplaces to support staff at risk/experiencing Domestic Violence	2024 - 2026	Safe & Protected from Harm Subgroup DVAS	Zero Tolerance: The National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence 2022-2026	Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination. Early intervention and prevention <i>BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014</i>

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Healthy relationships: awareness and education	Young people are aware of healthy and unhealthy relationships.	Number of programmes delivered.	19 schools to receive the programmes.	Support the delivery of programmes (e.g., Healthy vs Unhealthy Programme) that ensure young people have heightened awareness of healthy relationships.	2024 - 2026		Zero Tolerance: The National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2022-2026	Listen to and involve children, and young people. Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination. Early intervention and prevention. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028
		Number of young people taking part in programmes	1,000 first year students across Sligo and Leitrim to receive the programmes					
Effective interagency response to knife	Young adults up to 25 years are supported to access training on identifying healthy vs unhealthy relationships.	Number of programmes delivered.	3 training programmes delivered per year for young adults up to 25 years.	Support the delivery of programmes (e.g., Healthy vs Unhealthy Programme) that ensure young adults have heightened awareness of healthy relationships.	2024 - 2026		An Garda Síochana Garda national Community	Cross government and interagency collaboration and
		Number of young people and young adults taking part in programmes	Publication of 'Young people and Knife Crime- a					
Effective interagency response to knife	Share the learning from the research	Knowledge of issues identified in research.		Disseminate the findings from the research to	2024 - 2026	Safe & Protected from Harm Subgroup.		

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
crime and concealed weapons, anti-social behaviour, and intimidation by young people		Knowledge of interventions identified in the research. Supports available.	<i>systematic literature review</i>	services, including the Gardai.  Identify the most suitable interventions to address the risks associated with this priority area.  Interagency collaboration to address emerging local issues as they arise.		Gardai	Engagement Bureau Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy 2021-2024.	coordination.  Early intervention and prevention.  BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028
Awareness of drug trends and supports available	Share received information from North-West Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force (NWRDATF), Alcohol Forum Ireland, Gardaí and other organisations in relation to trends as they arise.	Awareness of trends, information and supports.	Share information on supports and raise awareness.	Disseminate information from NWRDATF, Alcohol Forum Ireland, Gardaí and other organisations on emerging trends.  Provide information received to NWRDATF, Alcohol Forum Ireland,	2024 - 2026	Safe & Protected from Harm Subgroup.  NWRDATF  Alcohol Forum Ireland  Gardai  Youth Services	Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery 2017-2025.  The Strategic Action Plan for the National Drugs Strategy 2023-2024.  Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025	Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  Early intervention and prevention BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
				<p>Gardaí and other organisations.</p> <p>Disseminate 'safety messages' on behalf of NWRDATF, Alcohol Forum Ireland, Gardaí and other organisations in relation to emerging local issues or trends.</p>				Young People 2023-2028

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Pre-employment opportunities for socially excluded young people	To ensure that socially excluded young people have work experience before they leave school	Number of socially excluded young people who can avail of work experience	20 socially excluded young people will avail of work experience	Review examples of good practice in relation to this, e.g., 'Way2 Work' Ireland <a href="http://www.way2work.ie">www.way2work.ie</a> Identify a target group. Develop work placements for the target group. Work with employers to develop work placement opportunities Develop a local policy/guide to support employers. Link young people to employers. Support the young people to attain their work placement.	2024 - 2026	Economic Security & Opportunity Subgroup Leitrim Development Company Sligo Leader Partnership CLG MSLETB Schools	Sligo LEADER Partnership Local Development Strategy 2023 - 2027 Leitrim Local Economic and Community Plan 2015-2021 County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030	Listen to and involve children and young people. Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination. Strengthen transitions. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014 Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028
Training opportunities for socially excluded young people	Identify need and work with MSL ETB in developing short term, bitesize training	Number of training opportunities developed.	3 training opportunities each year.	Engage the views of young people on ideas for developing new courses that are	2024 - 2026	Economic Security & Opportunity Subgroup	Future FET: Transforming Learning The National Further	Listen to and involve children and young people. Cross government

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	opportunities for socially excluded young people	Number of socially excluded young people taking part in this training.	36 socially excluded young people over the life of the plan	relevant to employers and of interest to socially excluded young people. Support young people with work preparation skills, including CV preparation, etc. Engage MSLETB in developing short term bite sized training that meets the needs of socially excluded young people e.g., barista, service industry, customer service. Support the engagement of young people in these training opportunities.		Leitrim Development Company Sligo Leader Partnership CLG MSLETB CFSN	Education and Training (FET) Strategy  The National Policy Framework for young people 2023-2028	and interagency collaboration and coordination.  Strengthen transitions.  Ensure quality services.  BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028
Support the employment of young Travellers	Support 16 – 24-year-old young people from the Traveller Community who	Number of young people from the Traveller Community participating in the	12 young Travellers to participate in pre-training programme and	Development of links between Sligo Traveller Support Group and MSLETB.	2024 - 2026	Economic Security & Opportunity Subgroup MSLETB	Future FET: Transforming Learning The National Further	Listen to and involve children and young people. Cross government and interagency

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
	are not in school to progress to training provision.	training programme	progress to mainstream training provision.	Development and implementation of pre-training and training programme, based on model of good practice in Ballina, Co. Mayo.		Sligo Leader Partnership Co CLG  Sligo Traveller Support Group Youth Services	Education and Training (FET) Strategy  National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2017 - 2021	collaboration and coordination.  Strengthen transitions.  Ensure quality services. <i>BOBF 2014- 2020, DCYA, 2014</i>
Develop transition supports for young people with ASD	Assist young people with autism to progress to further/higher education, training, or employment.	Development of autism transition support programme.  Number of young people with autism successfully transitioning to further / higher education, training or employment.	10 young people with autism will successfully transition to further / higher education, training, or employment.	Completion of research and business case  Investigation of funding options for such a programme (e.g., PEACE Plus), securing funding for same.  Development and implementation of programme.	2024 - 2026	HSE Children's Disability Network Team (CNDT)  MSLETB  Sligo County Council PEACE Programme. Youth Services.	National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017 – 2022.	Listen to and involve children and young people.  Cross government and interagency collaboration and coordination.  Strengthen transitions.  Ensure quality services.

Action Plan for Sligo Leitrim Children and Young People's Services Committee									
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world									
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Link to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)	
Enhance the participation of children and young people in services groups and organisation that they are accessing.	Maintain progress on implementing the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Participation Lab	Number of children and young people engaged in Participation Lab supports.  Number of services, organisations, groups etc. engaged in Participation Lab supports and training.  Number of young people engaged directly/indirectly in CYPSC.  Extent to which feedback from children and young people directly and indirectly influences Sligo Leitrim CYPSC decisions.	78, 6 – 12-year-olds per year, leading to 234 children over the 3-year plan  40, 13 – 16-year-olds, leading to 120 over the 3-year plan  16+ year olds - 10 young people for continuous engagement over the life of the plan	Participation worker to continue to deliver training to CYPSC member organisations in response to expressed need/requests.  Develop the training pathways to support organisations on their Participation Lab engagement.  Support organisations, groups etc. to engage young people to co-deliver Participation Lab training with adult practitioners.	2024 - 2026	Connected and Respected and contributing to their World Subgroup CYPSC member organisations/ Partners	Tusla Child and Youth Participation Strategy 2019 – 2023  Sligo Leitrim Participation lab Resources <sup>103</sup>  National Strategy for the Participation of Children and Young People in Decision-making 2015-2020.  National Framework for Children and Young People's Decision-making	Listen to and involve children and young people.  Good interagency collaboration and coordination.  Ensure quality services.  BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028	



<p>Research and evidence progress and impact of implementation of the Lundy Model of Child and Youth Participation through Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Participation Lab</p>	<p>Measure progress, in implementing the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC Participation Lab Demonstrate the engagement of children and young people in participatory programmes, specifically those which use the Lundy Model quadrants</p>	<p>Number of children and young people engaged in Participation Lab supports No of services, organisations, groups etc., engaged in Participation Lab supports and training. Extent of evidence/examples of children and young people participation in Sligo Leitrim CYPSC region</p>	<p>Production of research and a report</p>	<p>Provide tailored support to CYPSC and its task groups to address gaps identified in child and youth participation in baseline assessment. Explore engagement with and promotion of Tusla Child &amp; Youth Participation Award for work of CYPSC and its Task groups.</p>	<p>2024 - 2026</p>	<p>Connected Respected and contributing to their World Subgroup</p>	<p>Participation Framework National Framework for Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making Tusla Child and youth participation strategy 2019 – 2023.</p>	<p>Listen to and involve children and young people. Good interagency collaboration and coordination. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014 Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028</p>
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<p>Promote transport: affordability and accessibility.</p>	<p>Improve children and young people's knowledge and awareness of transport options available to them as a means of enhancing their participation in community life.</p>	<p>Greater knowledge and awareness among young people of transport options available to them.  Number of meetings with transport partners  Campaign delivered</p>	<p>A 'youth mobility' map  Sligo and Leitrim LECP, under the Local Authorities and Local Community Development Committees meetings with transport partners  Campaign delivered</p>	<p>Develop a 'youth friendly' youth information hub/package of transport information that collates and facilitates young people's access to and navigation of this information. Advocate to address identified gaps in transport accessibility /affordability.  Review past and existing schemes e.g., Community Transport Initiative Leitrim, electric bikes Sligo-rental bike provision etc. and advocate on accessibility for young people.  Create a youth focused PR campaign about existing TFI services and their reduced fees for u18s.  Identify possible new routes and</p>	<p>2024 - 2026</p>	<p>Connected and Respected and contributing to their World Subgroup will establish an expert group with relevant partners to advance this priority.  LCDC</p>	<p>Leitrim Local Economic and Community Plan 2015-2021  County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030</p>	<p>Listen to and involve children and young people.  Good interagency collaboration and coordination. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014  Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028</p>
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Develop a Digital Youth Work Hub in the region.	Establishment and operation of Digital Youth Hub	Digital Youth Hub established in the region.	Identify and pursue relevant funding opportunities. Equip a physical space for Digital Youth Hub Put in place personnel to operate the Digital Youth Hub Involve young people in the design and development of the delivery model. Ensure there is opportunity to provide feedback/evaluation	work with providers to develop new routes where feasible. Identify possible funding sources to develop a hub, provide personnel and operate a Digital Youth Hub. Support the engagement of young people to assist in the design and delivery of a model	2024 - 2026	Connected Respected and contributing to their World Subgroup. MSL ETB Local Enterprise Office Western Development Commission Foróige ATU Sligo Sligo Co Council Sligo Leader Partnership Co CLG	Leitrim Local Economic and Community Plan 2015-2021 County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2030 Sligo LEADER Partnership Local Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 Harnessing Digital – The Digital Ireland Framework 2022 Western Development Commission Strategy 2019-24.	Listen to and involve children and young people. Ensure quality services. Good interagency collaboration and coordination. BOBF 2014 – 2020, DCYA, 2014 Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028
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Change management								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Alignment of CYPSC members organisational strategy and corporate business plans (both national and local) with CYPP 2024-26	Align all CYPSC members' local and national business plans	Local and national business plans reflect CYPSC priorities.	CYPSC named as a partner or lead in relation to any interagency plans relating to children and young people. Reviewed in survey of members to inform development of next CYPP in 2026.	All CYPSC members to ensure alignment of their respective business plans with the CYPP 2024 - 2026. CYPSC members will support staff to attend CYPSC meetings and engage in collaborative working. Individual agencies seek to influence national plans relevant to children and young people.	Ongoing - annual reviews	Change Management Subgroup Individual CYPSC members. Partner agencies.	National Implementation Plan for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 - 2023	Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
Commitment of senior personnel across member agencies to CYPSC	Encourage full engagement of relevant agencies at senior level.	Full CYPSC membership at appropriate level. Attendance rates.	Membership attendance at CYPSC and task group meetings is 70%.	CYPSC Chair to invite new members to join CYPSC. CYPSC Chair to invite existing members who do not attend to CYPSC meetings.	Ongoing.	All member agencies represented on CYPSC.	National Implementation Plan for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.	Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination

Effective interagency working	Promote and optimise effective interagency working.	Baseline measure of Interagency Collaboration Activities Scale <sup>104</sup>	Positive change on 2023 baseline measure.	Information sharing between agencies and between agencies and CYPSC.	Ongoing	CYPSC and its Subgroups	National Implementation Plan for the UN Sustainable	CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 - 2023	Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
				Review Terms of Reference to promote sharing of minutes within members' organisations, onward communication of issues identified at meetings and raising of meeting agenda items by members. Induction to include meeting with CYPSC chairperson/task group chairperson and CYPSC coordinator to clarify role and contribution and explicitly identify how member organisation's strategy goals aligns with CYPSC goals and task group projects.					

<sup>104</sup> Dedrick, R.F. and Greenbaum, P.E. (2011) Multilevel Confirmatory Factor Analysis of a Scale Measuring Interagency Collaboration of Children's Mental Health Agencies, *J Emot Behav Disord*. 9(1): 27-40. doi: [10.1177/1063426610365879](https://doi.org/10.1177/1063426610365879)

		<p>Evidence of pooled resources including staff and funding</p>	<p>Mechanism/ structure established to engage voice of Children and Young People in CYPSC decision-making.</p>	<p>Mechanism/ structure established to engage voice of Children and Young People in CYPSC decision-making.</p>	<p>Clarify roles and contribution as part of induction of new members and organisations. Co-opt new members onto Subgroups to build capability and confidence for interagency working.  Review capacity of Task group Chairs across CYPSC and its Task groups.  Extend and strengthen membership of Economic Security &amp; Opportunity Task group to foster distributed leadership.  Create structures and processes to ensure the voice of children and young people is core to work of CYPSC and the task groups.  Identify the engagement of</p>		<p>Development Goals. CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 - 2023</p>	<p>Ensure quality services.</p>
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<p>Membership and contribution of schools and teachers</p>	<p>Build relationships and seek representation and contribution from NEPS, schools and teachers who are key statutory partners, and include NAPD.</p>	<p>Engagement of Children and Young People as a cross-cutting theme for activity of all Task groups.</p>	<p>Subgroup established</p>	<p>Audit and review of Task group projects/activity</p>	<p>Appropriate representation of NEPS and teachers on CYPSC Task groups, good attendance at meetings and engagement in Task group projects</p>	<p>Children and Young People as a cross-cutting theme for activity of all Task groups.</p>	<p>Develop action plan to promote engagement of NEPS and schools/ teachers. Implement action plan to seek representation and contribution to CYPSC Task group projects. Seek expertise for specific projects if not full membership of Task group and attendance at meetings.</p>	<p>2024 - 2026</p>	<p>CYPSC Chairperson and Coordinator. CYPSC Subgroups</p>	<p>National Implementation Plan for the UN Sustainable Development Goals. CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 - 2023</p>	<p>Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination Ensure quality services.</p>
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## Section 7: Monitoring and Review

Monitoring and review of the Sligo Leitrim CYPP 2024-26 by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC will follow the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework detailed in Figure 7.1 below.

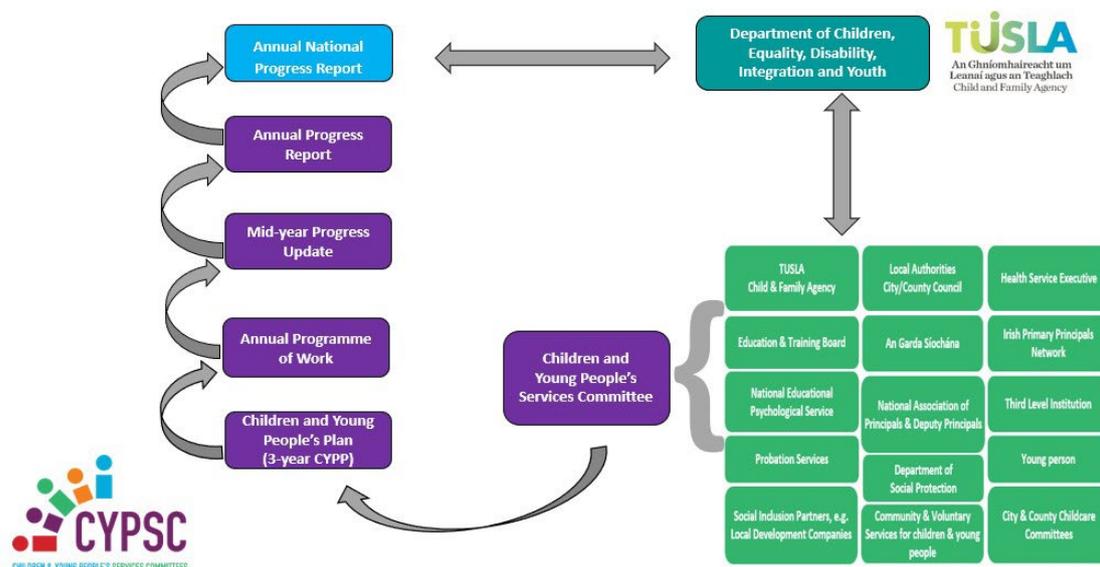
Sligo Leitrim CYPSC will produce an *Annual Programme of Work* that will be undertaken and achieved by CYPSC in each calendar year of this 3-year CYPP 2024-26.

A *Mid-Year Progress Update* will be produced to report on progress with the Annual Programme of Work. This will include issues and challenges being experienced with implementing the programme.

An *Annual Progress Report* will also be produced documenting progress with actions in the Annual Programme of Work as well as inter-agency activity, the participation of children and young people in decision making and achievements and challenges.

CYPSC Task groups will present an update on progress at each CYPSC meeting and contribute to the Mid-Year and Annual progress Update.

Figure 7.1 CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework<sup>105</sup>



<sup>105</sup> CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework November 2023, provided by the National CYPSC Office.

## Section 8: Appendices



# Terms of Reference for the Sligo Leitrim Children & Young People's Services Committee

### Mandate and Purpose:

Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people (0-24) in every county in Ireland. The overall purpose is to improve outcomes for children and young people through local and national interagency working. The shared vision for CYPSC is to consolidate and build upon the positive work to date. (CYPSC 'Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 – 2024, DCYA 2019)

CYPSC bring together the main statutory, community and voluntary providers of services to children, young people, and families. Their role is to enhance interagency co-operation and to realise the national outcomes and transformational goals set out in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for children and young people 2014 - 2020*. The successor Strategy, *Young Ireland, National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023 – 2028*, focuses on those areas which pose significant challenges for children and young people, especially those who may be vulnerable to poor outcomes. See: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/80ac4-young-ireland-the-national-policy-framework-for-children-and-young-people-0-24-2023-2028/>

The work of CYPSC is informed by the five national outcomes and six transformational goals for children and young people.

### Objectives of the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC:

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC works with its strategic partners and through its subgroups to:

- Ensure that the needs of children and young people are identified and addressed.
- Plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people.
- Ensure effective collaboration and interagency working.
- Promote quality, evidence-informed actions and outcomes-focused planning and practice.
- Optimise the use of resources.
- Promote best practice in the participation of children and young people in decision-making.
- Influence and shape practice and policy development at local, regional, and national level.

### Term:

These Terms of Reference are effective from Dec 2023 to the end of Dec 2024, when they will be reviewed by Sligo Leitrim CYPSC or when they will be terminated by agreement between all parties.

### Membership

Membership of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC is as determined in the Blueprint for Children and Young People's Services Committee (DCYA, 2015). A full list of current members is attached.

Additional members may be proposed and approved by the Committee.

### ***Co-opted Members***

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC may co-opt additional members from other agencies it may consider relevant to its operations. Other persons may be invited to attend the meetings at the request of the Chairperson to provide technical advice and assistance where necessary.

### ***Resignation***

Individual Committee members will cease to be members of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC if they:

- Resign from the committee.
- Fail to attend 3 consecutive meetings without apologies (legitimate excuse of absence submitted to the chairperson). After three consecutive meetings where non-attendance of a member is recorded that they may be asked to resign, and their nominating body or organisation may be asked to nominate somebody else in their place.

### ***Membership responsibilities***

As the development of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is the responsibility of the CYPSC, the committee will aim to:

- Ensure the drawing up and effective implementation of the CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).
- Ensure individual organisational members adhere to the responsibilities and activities described in the CYPSC Blueprint for the Development of CYPSC 2015 – 2017, and the Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019 – 2024, and through Sligo Leitrim CYPP 2024 - 2026.
- Ensure regular attendance at ordinary and extraordinary meetings, and participation in technical and policy discussions to achieve the agreed CYPP 3- year plan objectives towards better outcomes and brighter futures for children and families, in the Sligo Leitrim Area.
- Ensure integration with and awareness of Sligo Leitrim CYPP 3-Year plan objectives through CYPSC individual member organisations and their strategic priorities, decisions and activities directly concerned with children, young people and their families in Sligo and Leitrim.
- To seek, and respond to, opportunities for funding related to the CYPP or other emerging issues relevant to children, young people, and their families.
- Seek members to take on the role of Chair of a subgroup; to represent this group at the main CYPSC meetings. The chair will be accountable for their subgroup's actions, and relevant action plan progression. Decision making at subgroup level will be made by consensus. Where required, these decisions may be taken to the CYPSC for consideration, where relevant and appropriate.
- To share information and data that may be helpful to CYPSC in its undertakings.

### ***Meetings***

#### ***Regular and Special Meetings***

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC meetings shall be held 6 times per year.

Meetings will be agreed in advance, and as necessary, to ensure completion of objectives as detailed above.

Meetings will be chaired by Tusla's Area Manager for Sligo Leitrim West Cavan.

In the Chairperson's absence, this role will be fulfilled by the Vice-Chairperson, Leitrim Co Council/Sligo Co Council.

Decisions will be made by consensus (i.e., members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice), balanced with the need to make quick and timely decisions. If consensus isn't possible, a majority decision will be sought from members using a voting mechanism agreed by members at the meeting. In the event of a tie, the chairperson will have the deciding vote.

Other meetings such as subgroups and task groups will be scheduled outside of these times, as convenient for those groups.

Agendas will be drawn up by the Chairperson and Coordinator of CYPSC in advance of each meeting.

Notes from each meeting will be recorded by the coordinator or other nominated person and distributed in advance.

A special or extraordinary meeting may be convened by:

- The Chairperson of the committee
- Or
- Half of the committee members request to call such a meeting.

#### **Quorum**

40% plus 1

#### **Functions:**

Refer to the Governance Framework: *The Governance Framework for the Working Together for Children initiative (OMYCA)*

#### **Chairperson (As per the 'Governance Framework Doc re: Working together for Children')**

The Chairperson's responsibilities shall, with the support of the CYPSC Coordinator, include in consultation with the Committee:

- Facilitate open and balanced discussion and to guide the meeting according to the meeting agenda and time available.
- Ensuring all discussion items end with a decision, action, or definite outcome.
- Reviewing and endorsing the draft minutes for distribution.
- Being the official spokesperson of the committee or nominate a representative.
- Leading the development of any annual or other reports to be submitted to the DCEDIY.
- Inviting experts to attend meetings when required by the committee.

#### **Secretariat**

The coordinator is responsible for:

- Preparing meeting agendas in consultation with the Chairperson; issuing notices for meetings; and ensuring all necessary documents requiring discussions or comments are attached to the agenda sent in advance to all members along with meeting invitations.
- Taking notes of proceedings and preparing minutes of meetings in co-operation with the CYPSC Administration Support.
- Sending out minutes of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC meetings within a reasonable timeframe for each meeting.

Distributing all correspondence relating to the affairs of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC.

### **Sub-Groups /Task Groups**

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC shall from among its members, appoint a person to act as chairperson on each subgroup/task group. Sligo Leitrim CYPSC shall task subgroups/task groups to facilitate the implementation of the CYPP. The responsibilities of the various groups shall be stated in their Terms of Reference. Membership of the Subgroups/Task groups shall be by invitation from Sligo Leitrim CYPSC with reference to engaging the expertise and skills relevant stakeholder groups can contribute to the delivery of a specific task theme under the Sligo Leitrim CYPSC 3- year plan.

Sligo Leitrim CYPSC will provide a template Terms of Reference in support of the establishment of CYPSC Subgroups/Task groups to include membership, function, communication, and reporting.

### **Amendments**

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

### **Appendices:**

Membership of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC

5 National Outcomes

6 Transformational Goals

### **SLIGO LEITRIM CYPSC MEMBERSHIP (January 2024)**

- |                            |             |   |
|----------------------------|-------------|---|
| • Liam White               | Chairperson | Tusla, Sligo Leitrim West Cavan               |
| • Mary Quinn               | Vice-Chair  | Leitrim Co Council                            |
| • Dorothy Clarke           | Vice-Chair  | Sligo Co Council                              |
| • Emma Ball                |             | HSE, Community Healthcare Organisation Area 1 |
| • Brid Brady               |             | HSE, Community Healthcare Organisation Area 1 |
| • Michelle Ni Thiarnain    |             | Tusla PPFS                                    |
| • John Feerick/June Murphy |             | Sligo Leader Partnership Co CLG               |
| • Chris Gonley             |             | Leitrim Development Company                   |
| • Elizabeth King           |             | FRC Representative Sligo and Leitrim          |
| • Alan O’Ceallaigh         |             | Irish Primary Principals’ Network             |
| • Sharon Boles             |             | Sligo Co Childcare Committee                  |
| • Tommy Lavelle            |             | Leitrim Co Childcare Committee                |
| • Orla Finnegan            |             | Carrick Education Centre                      |
| • Daragh Mc Daid           |             | Sligo Education Centre                        |
| • Carla Curry              |             | Sligo Leitrim Gardai                          |
| • Olivia Boyle             |             | Probation Services                            |
| • Claire Gavigan           |             | Sligo Leitrim Voluntary Network               |

- Mick Hedigan
  - Niall Rabbitt
  - Sinead Barrins
- Sligo Leitrim Voluntary Network  
Tusla Educational Welfare Service  
ATU Sligo

## **5 National Outcomes**

CYPSCs work towards the five national outcomes for children and young people in Ireland. These are that children and young people are:

1. Active and Healthy.
2. Achieving in Learning and Development.
3. Safe and Protected from Harm.
4. Have economic security and Opportunity.
5. Connected, respected, and contributing to their World.

## **6 Transformational Goals**

1. Support Parents.
2. Early Intervention & Prevention.
3. Listen to and involve children and young people.
4. Ensure quality services.
5. Strengthen transitions.
6. Cross-Government and inter-agency collaboration & collaboration.

## **Subgroup Titles**

- Active and Healthy Subgroup.
- Achieving in Learning and Development Subgroup.
- Safe and Protected from Harm Subgroup.
- Economic Security and Opportunity Subgroup.
- Connected Respected and Contributing to their world Subgroup.
- CYPSC Planning Subgroup.

# Services engaged with, supporting and members of Sligo Leitrim CYPSC.





CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES

Sligo Leitrim

