



Dún Laoghaire Rathdown CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan

September 2024 – September 2027



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

TÚSLA
An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

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Glossary of Abbreviations

ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CCC	County Childcare Committee
CDNT	Childrens Disability Network Team
CFSN	Child and Family Support Network
CHO	Community Health Organisation
CPNS	Child Protection Notification System
CSO	Central Statistics Office
C&V	Community and Voluntary Sector
CYP	Children and Young People
CYPP	Children and Young People’s Plan
CYPSC	Children and Young People’s Services Committee
DCEDIY	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
DCYA	Department of Children and Youth Affairs
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
DLR	Dún Laoghaire Rathdown
dIr CoCo	Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
DLR DATF	DLR Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce
DoE	Dept. of Education
DoH	Dept. of Health
DSGBV	Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence
DMR	Dublin Metropolitan Region
ELC	Early Learning and Care
EBSA	Emotionally Based School Avoidance
ED	Electoral Divisions
ETB	Education and Training Board
EU SILK	European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions
EWO	Education Welfare Officer
FRC	Family Resource Centre
GP	General Practitioner
HBSC	Health Behaviour of School-aged Children
HSE	Health Service Executive
HI	Healthy Ireland
IADT	Institute of Art, Design and Technology
IECMN-NG	Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Network Group
IPAS	International Protection Accommodation Service
IPPN	Irish Primary Principals’ Network
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LDC	Local Development Company
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
LGBTQIA+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (or questioning), Intersex, Asexual
NAPD	National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals
NDAS	National Drug and Alcohol Survey
NEPS	National Educational Psychological Service
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NVR	Non-Violence Resistance
NOSP	National Office for Suicide Prevention
OMCYA	Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
PEEP	The Peep Learning Together Programme
PPFS	Prevention Partnership and Family Support
SAVE	Southside Addressing Violence Effectively
SSP	Southside Partnership
STAG	Southside Travellers Action Group
TESS	Tusla Education Support Service
UCD	University College Dublin

Contact

The Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (DLR) Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) welcomes queries or comments about this Children and Young People's Plan, as well as relevant information or offers of potential collaboration on specific actions, and recommendations for future interagency work.

Please direct any queries or comments to: Helena O' Brien, Co-ordinator DLR CYPSC via email: Helena.OBrien2@tusla.ie, or via post: Carysfort House, Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co Dublin.

Copies of the DLR CYPSC plan are available on: www.cypsc.ie on the Dublin.

National CYPSC Office in Tusla Child and Family Agency:



cypsc@tusla.ie



www.cypsc.ie



National Office [@CypscIrl](https://www.instagram.com/CypscIrl)

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown CYPSC: [@CypscDlr](https://www.instagram.com/CypscDlr)

Chairperson's Foreword

It is my great pleasure to present Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown's (DLR) second interagency Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) Plan for September 2024-September 2027. The essence of this plan as per the national policy imperative (DCEDIY, 2023), is that services in the county shall work together to consider the needs of the child and youth population and collaborate in evidence-informed responses to those needs. To this end, this plan is the product of intensive analysis through consultations with children, young people, parents and service providers, alongside analysis of available socio-demographic data, economic data and an audit of services.

DLR is a dynamic, vibrant, and active community renowned for having excellent natural amenities. It is home to 72, 777 children and young people (0-24 years), almost a third of the entire population of DLR (233,860). There are 50, 583 children aged 0-17 living in DLR, and 22,194 young people aged 18-24.

There are however a significant number of children and young people who live in the 'Small Areas' of socio-economic disadvantage dispersed across DLR. These child populations are rendered more vulnerable to negative outcomes such as poverty, homelessness, early school leaving, social emotional problems and ill health. This vulnerability is exacerbated by factors particular to DLR such as small areas of very disadvantaged and very affluent being side by side.

In the Census of 2016, DLR had only 2 Very Disadvantaged small areas (Hillview / Loughlinstown), however in the most recent Census of 2022 this increased to 6 Very Disadvantaged Areas (Hillview and 5 other very disadvantaged small areas in the Loughlinstown / Ballybrack / Shankill areas).

Additionally, there is a cohort of children and young people who are highly vulnerable to poor health, poor educational, social and economic outcomes due to adverse childhood experiences such as emotional and physical neglect and abuse, domestic violence, mental illness, parental addiction or parental separation. These traumatic experiences are structural, systemic issues which are not related to where children live, and which cannot be remedied by a simple intervention by one service.

In turn, demands on service provision has been impacted by several challenges including the COVID 19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine which has resulted in many displaced children and young people being accommodated in the county and increasing numbers of people from non-EU countries seeking asylum in the county. A number of new International Protection Accommodation Centres have opened in the county to accommodate both Ukrainians and migrants seeking asylum from a range of non-EU countries.

This plan aspires to building the capacity of services to hear and respond to the voice of diverse young service users in meaningful ways and to build the capacity of young leaders to participate in the various CYPSC structures and initiatives.

By far the biggest concerns for children and young people and parents in our consultations to develop this Children and Young People's Plan was body image, waiting lists for mental health and disability services, social media / phone use and safe spaces for young people to use.

This CYPSC plan for DLR is an ambitious, evidence-informed, detailed plan that can only be implemented through effective interagency collaboration between a wide range of organisations, services and sectors. This kind of collaboration requires senior management leaders across all service types and sectors willing to try different ways of working together for the greater collective good, as

well as implementation champions within services willing to take on additional responsibilities to their already busy workloads.

To that end, as Chairperson, I would like to sincerely thank each of the members of the DLR CYPSC, our CYPSC Subgroup chairpersons and implementation group members for contributing their time, expertise and commitment to this co-created plan. I also wish to acknowledge the leadership and support of Therese Langan, Vice-Chair of the DLR CYPSC and Director of Community, Cultural Services and Parks in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

In closing, I wish to acknowledge the excellent work of Helena O' Brien, Co-ordinator of the DLR CYPSC, in leading and managing the research and development process that has informed this plan, and I would also like to thank Marjo Moonen, Independent Consultant for her significant contribution to the development of this plan.

I have no doubt that the collaborative implementation of this Children and Young People's Plan will significantly and measurably improve outcomes for and contribute to building a better and brighter future for children and young people in DLR.

Michelle Mc Nicholas

Area Manager – Tusla, Child and Family Agency

CYPSC Chairperson

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Children and Young People's Services Committee

September 2024

Acknowledgements

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown (DLR) Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to everyone who helped develop this Children and Young People's Plan. To Marjo Moonen, independent consultant, who went above and beyond to ensure the data gathering and consultations of all tied together to complete this plan. Thank you also to Marjo for guiding the DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator through this process, bringing fun into the consultations and her attention to detail. To all the local service providers and individuals who not only participated in our surveys, meetings and consultations, but who also encouraged and supported parents, children and young people's voices to be heard through our surveys and focus groups. To our Chairperson Michelle Mc Nicholas and the DLR CYPSC Change Management Subgroup; Lorraine Stewart, Kevin Webster and Sarah Donnelly who dedicated their time and expertise to planning the process of the plan and reviewing the draft documents.

To the DLR CYPSC Main Committee, chairpersons and subgroup members for your perseverance, advice and participation in this process. And finally, this plan would not have been possible without the contributions, and voice of over 750 children, young people, and parents who took part in surveys and focus groups. Thank you for your participation, your honesty and time, and we hope that the plan will go some way towards helping support better outcomes for you and your families in the local area of DLR.

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 Background for Children and Young People’s Services Committees

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 strategic interagency interventions based on evidenced need at local authority level.

The Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA), now the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration 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, CYPSC have increased incrementally in number and are now 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.

*Young Ireland: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028*¹ provides the national policy context for the CYPSC to play a key role with regards to interagency collaboration to improve outcomes for children and young people. In each local authority area in the Republic of Ireland, the CYPSC facilitates interagency work to progress the five national policy outcomes specified, which are that that children and young people in Ireland:

1. Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental well-being
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

To achieve these national outcomes, CYPSCs bring together key organisations from the statutory, community and voluntary sectors in local county areas to engage in joint planning of services and interagency initiatives to benefit children and young people. Each CYPSC develops and implements a 3-year Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP), which outlines that committee’s priorities and action plan. Each CYPP is informed by CYPSC members and the voice of children, young people, and families.

In 2019, the then Department of Children and Youth Affairs published, *Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019-2024*² which provided a vision and a road map for the future development of the CYPSC. It set out ten key high-level actions for the CYPSC initiative over that period. These were: strengthened Leadership, collaboration, building capacity, resourcing, planning, and reporting, data and evidence, communications, participation of children and young people, joint commissioning, and evaluation.

Effective information sharing and networking between these various committees and their member organisations provides opportunities for increased joined up thinking and planning, more effective needs identification, and more co-ordinated policy making and service delivery at a local and national level.

1.2 Who are we?

There are now 27 CYPSC across Ireland with 5 Dublin CYPSC (DLR CYPSC being one of them). DLR CYPSC was established in 2017 and the first DLR CYPSC Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) was launched in 2020. The implementation of CYPSC in Ireland is led by Tusla Child and Family Agency who report to Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) who oversee the

¹ <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null>

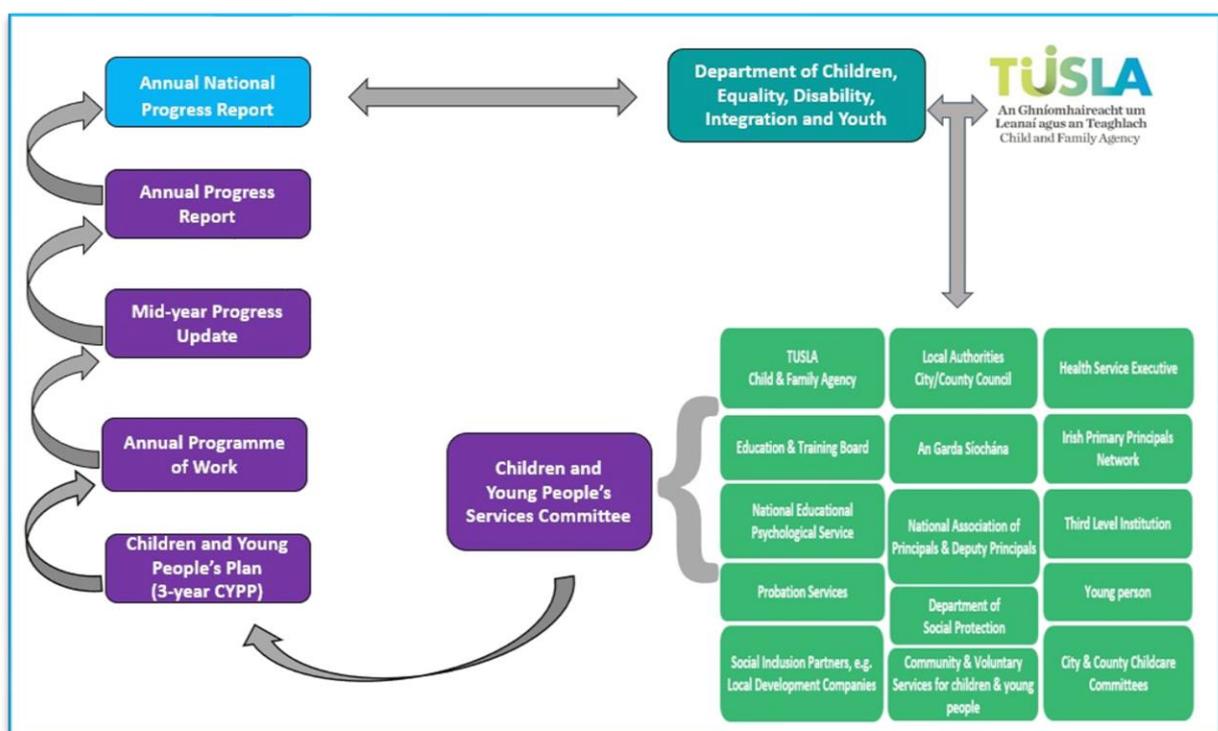
² [8b1c7844c61c40758f28975a22218648.pdf](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null) (www.gov.ie)

strategic progress of CYPSC. Therefore, the DLR CYPSC Coordinator reports progress directly to the Tusla Area Manager for Dublin South East and Wicklow, who also is Chairperson of the DLR CYPSC.

Nationally, CYPSC progress reports are submitted to the National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People’s Services Committees, who in turn reports to Tusla Senior Management and the (DCEDIY) under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Additionally, the DLR CYPSC Coordinator participates as a member of the CYPSC Co-ordinators’ National Network which acts as a vehicle of communication between the DCEDIY, the National CYPSC Office and the CYPSC Coordinators in local authority areas across Ireland.

Locally, progress briefings are also presented to the main DLR CYPSC, which consists of 21 Senior Managers of key statutory and community stakeholder organisations. See Figure 1 below outlining CYPSC members and the Planning and Reporting Framework.

FIGURE 1 : CYPSC PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK



DLR CYPSC Committee

As of April 2024, the DLR CYPSC Committee consists of 21 members representing senior management of 15 statutory and community organisations who provide a range of key services to children and young people aged 0-24 in the county of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and the greater South-Eastern region.

Each member organisation has agreed to the Terms of Reference for membership (see Appendix 1) which includes a commitment to provide strategic direction and area leadership to facilitate effective interagency collaboration to implement the DLR CYPSC plan to improve the 5 national outcomes for children and young people in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

The current members of DLR CYPSC are listed in **Table 1**:

TABLE 1 DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN (DLR) CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S SERVICES COMMITTEE (CYPSC) MEMBERSHIP

Agency	Representative
Chair: Tusla Child and Family Agency	Michelle Mc Nicholas
Deputy Chair: DLR County Council	Therese Langan
An Garda Síochana	Trevor Scanlon
Barnardos	Kerri Smith
Blackrock Education Centre	Niamh Murray
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	Sarah Donnelly
Crosscare	Ger Magee
DLR County Council (Chief Officer LCDC)	Mary Ruane
DLR County Childcare Committee	Harriet Massey
DLR Drugs and Alcohol Task Force	John Doyle
Dublin Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board	Claire Barkey
Healthy Service Executive (HSE Health and Well-being)	Imelda Halton
HSE (Mental Health-South East)	Aisling White
HSE (Mental Health-South)	Eithne Ní Longphuirt
HSE (Disability)	Philippa Lansdown
Irish Primary Principals’ Network	Lisa Breen
Southside Partnership	Sinead Sherwin Lorraine Stewart
Southside Travellers Action Group	Geraldine Dunne
Tusla Child and Family Agency	Kevin Webster
Tusla Education Support Service	Glenn Perry
University College Dublin (UCD)	Jason Last
National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (NAPD)	Orla Condrón
National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS)	TBC
Department of Social Protection	TBC
Probation Service	TBC
Young Person	TBC

DLR CYPSC Subgroups

There currently are five interagency DLR CYPSC subgroups, each with a specific thematic focus:

1. Health and Mental Health Subgroup (Outcome 1)
2. Education and Learning Subgroup (Outcome 2)
3. Safety Subgroup* (Outcome 3)
4. Economic Security Subgroup* (Outcome 4)
5. Parenting Subgroup³ (Outcome 1)

Another subgroup will be developed in DLR CYPSC in 2025 and will be aligned with Connected, respected and contributing to the world, the fifth outcome area of Young Ireland⁴. Different working groups are developed to work on specific actions of each subgroup area. *The Safety and Economic Security Subgroups are merged due to the high level of membership overlap.

Members of the subgroups total more than 60 service managers and practitioners across multiple sectors and organisations. Details of the DLR CYPSC Subgroup membership is included in **Appendix 2**.

³ DLR CYPSC has established an additional subgroup of Outcome 1: Active and Healthy that focuses specifically on Parenting which is recommended by Supporting Parents: A National Model of Parenting Supports available:

[www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/221981/a8e73d11-c910-4abf-9f80-95bd46e641a0.pdf#page=null](https://assets.gov.ie/221981/a8e73d11-c910-4abf-9f80-95bd46e641a0.pdf#page=null)

⁴ [www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null](https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null)

Links between DLR CYPSC and other County Wide Structures and Plans

The CYPSC in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (DLR) is represented by the DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator on a range of interagency committees, which facilitates the two-way information flow between DLR CYPSC and other county wide structures and plans. Leadership from interagency structures in the county is also represented on the DLR CYPSC structures to inform CYPSC development.

The interagency structures with established relationships with the CYPSC in DLR are listed below. Further detail on these county structures is available in **Appendix 3**:

- DLR Active Cities
- DLR Comhairle na nÓg
- DLR Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce (DLR DATF)
- DLR Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
- The Connecting for Life Workstream C-Psychotherapeutic Support for Children and Adults (HSE Community Healthcare East)
- Southside Addressing Violence Effectively (SAVE)

1.3 SWOT Analysis and Review of DLR CYPSC previous plan

Overview

Implementation of the DLR CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2020-2022⁵ was impacted by the COVID pandemic, including the launch of the first plan, which was postponed from March 2020 until September 2020 (online launch) due to public health restrictions. In addition, the CYPSC Co-ordinator left the post in March 2021 and the post was not filled until January 2022. These disruptions had an impact on the number of actions in the plan that were completed.

Once the new co-ordinator was in post, it was agreed with the National Co-ordinator for CYPSC to extend the plan into 2023. In addition, an audit of completed work was undertaken with DLR CYPSC and subgroups by an independent consultant. A facilitated session with the main CYPSC Committee helped to prioritise actions for the remainder of the DLR Children and Young People's Plan 2020-2022 (see **Appendix 4**). The impacts of both the Covid 19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and its subsequent arrival of refugee families in the DLR area were acknowledged as factors that impacted on the delivery of the plan.

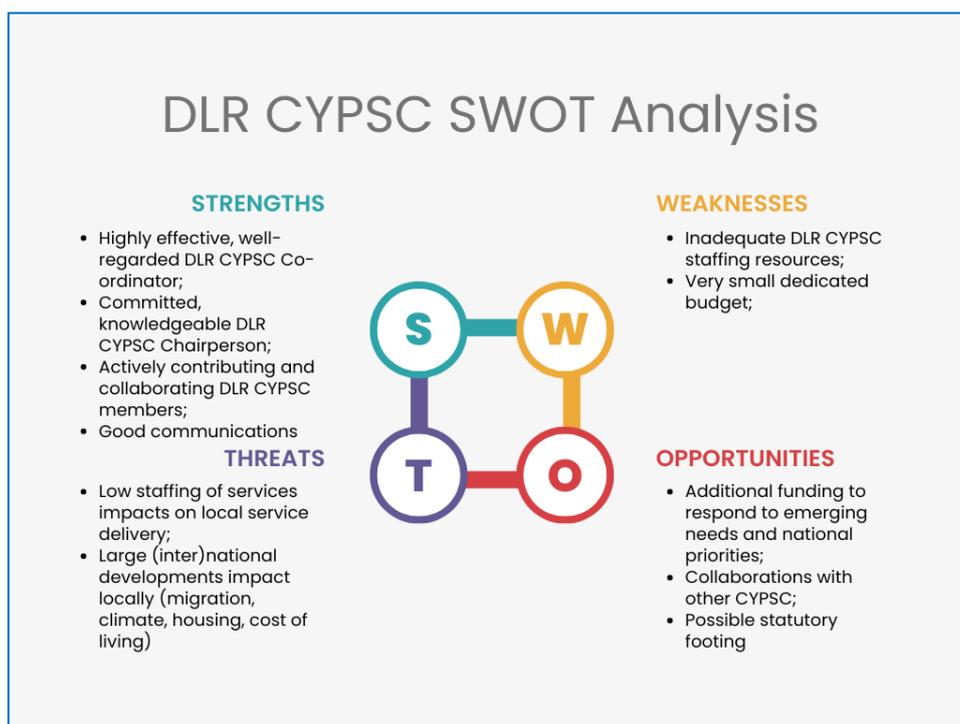
An overall SWOT analysis is presented below, followed by a review of the previous DLR CYPP by outcome area.

SWOT Analysis DLR CYPSC

As part of the planning process for the current plan a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis was undertaken. This was achieved through analysis of the CYPSC Member surveys and external consultations. A summary of this is presented in **Figure 2**.

⁵ [Microsoft Word - DLR CYPSC-CYPP-2020-2022-Formatted.docx](#)

FIGURE 2 DLR CYPSC SWOT ANALYSIS

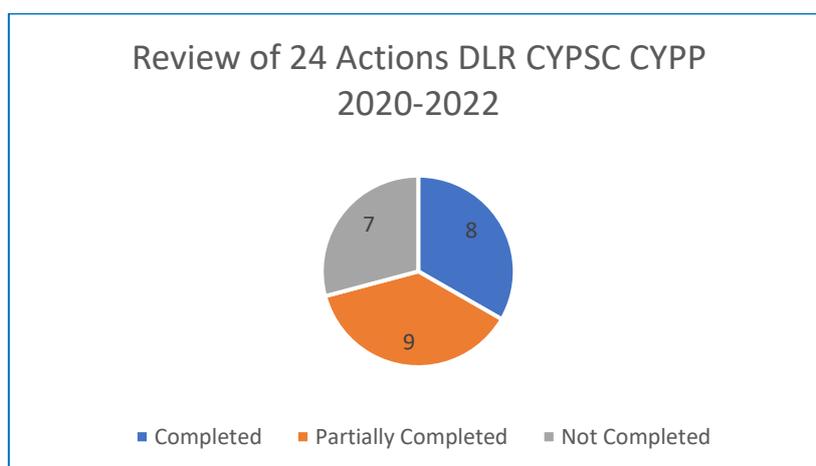


Review and achievements DLR CYPP 2020-2022

The inter-agency subgroups worked collaboratively to implement the plan, undertaking a wide range of activities and programmes (often in collaboration with each other) and all overseen by the main DLR CYPSC committee. The full list of activities that DLR CYPSC undertook in the implementation of its first CYPP can be seen in the DLR CYPSC CYPP 2019-2022 Summary⁶.

Figure 3 summarises progress of the 24 actions across the DLR CYPSC CYPP 2020-2022, which indicates that DLR CYPSC is making a positive difference in the lives of children and young people across the five national outcomes outlined in Young Ireland⁷.

FIGURE 3 REVIEW OF 24 ACTIONS DLR CYPSC CYPP 2020-2022



⁶ CYPSC DLR Summary Plan - FINAL

⁷ [www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null](https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null)

The sections below outline a review of DLR CYPSC CYPP 2020-2022 (which have been extended to Q3 2024) and an overview of the achievements of DLR CYPSC 2020-2023. It is organised into each outcome area using a traffic light system i.e. Green = completed, amber = partially completed/started and red not commenced/completed.

Active and healthy with physical and mental well-being

Table 2 below provides a review of progress under ‘Active and healthy with physical and mental well-being’.

TABLE 2 SUMMARY REVIEW 2020-2024 ACTIVE AND HEALTHY WITH PHYSICAL & MENTAL WELL-BEING

Review 2020-2024 – Active and healthy with physical and mental well-being	Progress
1.1 Perinatal Parental Support	Partially
1.2 Breastfeeding Support	Not Completed
1.3 Child and Youth Population Health Data – scope adapted during Covid	Completed
1.4 Youth Mental Health Support	Completed
1.5 Health and Mental Health Supports for Children, Young People and Parents in Homelessness	Partially
1.6 Health and Mental Health Supports for Traveller Children, Young People and Parents	Partially
1.7 A supported Programme for Adolescents who have withdrawn from school due to mental health difficulties – see 2.6 and Education and Learning Achievements	Completed

Figure 4 highlights *The Wagon Project: An initiative by Southside Travellers Action Group (STAG)*⁸. This was a Healthy Ireland (HI) project that spanned across 18 months where the skill of wagon building was passed on from the older generation to the youth at STAG.

FIGURE 4 THE WAGON PROJECT 2022-2024



⁸ [The Wagon Project A4 brochure lores.pdf](#)

Table 3 below provides details of the achievements under the outcome area ‘active and healthy with physical and mental well-being’.

TABLE 3 DLR CYPSC ACHIEVEMENTS 2020-2024 ACTIVE AND HEALTHY

Achievements 2020-2024 - Active and healthy with physical and mental well-being	Funding
<p>Perinatal Parental Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building interagency capacity to support the psychological well-being and mental health of children and parents in DLR CYPSC area. This action included training and delivery in the Lighthouse Mentalisation-Based Treatment⁹ (MBT) parenting program (currently provided by HSE Primary Care twice a year for 12 weeks), perinatal yoga and baby massage community-based programme, support for PEEP+DLR Learning Together Training¹⁰ and development of a 3-year strategic plan. The impact for children and young people includes improved parenting capacity and parenting relationships. 	<p>CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund; CYPSC Programme Fund</p>
<p>Child and Youth Population Health Data – scope changed during pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Your Youth Health Project Exploring young people’s mental health and well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic</i>¹¹. Your Youth Health project is a nationwide survey developed by UCD School of Psychology. It aimed to gain insight into the psychological well-being and the mental health needs of young people aged 12-25 years old during this unprecedented public health crisis. Its impact includes services having a greater understanding of young people’s mental health and how/where they seek information. 	<p>CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund; Pobal</p>
<p>Youth Mental Health Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The www.LetsTalkDLR.ie website provides the facts about the mental health services in DLR and helps young people to connect and access support. The website is hosted by Crosscare Youth Services, was designed in consultation with young people and set the blueprint for the Lets DLR platform. The site to date has 18000 website visits. As a result, young people have a greater knowledge of supports available in DLR and how to access them. In 2023, the Health and Mental Health Subgroup wanted to address the waiting lists for Youth Mental Health and support the community services who are ‘holding spaces’ whilst young people are on waiting lists. Training was provided to over 100 professionals in Jigsaw’s <i>Minding Youth Mental Health</i>, Somatic Experiencing¹², The Decider Skills¹³ and Autism Level UP!¹⁴ Figure 5 outlines the universal and targeted training steps provided to professional across DLR. The impact for young people included increased awareness of youth mental health by community staff across DLR. See School Withdrawal due to mental health difficulties in Learning and Development Achievements 	<p>What Works Fund; CYPSC Programme Fund; CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund</p>
<p>Health and Mental Health Supports for Children, Young People and Parents in Homelessness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund in 2022 supported a homeless family hub to set up a play area, sensory dark den, toys and outdoor equipment. The impact for children and young people included a sense of belonging with dedicated play areas. A summer sports taster session was also run in collaboration with DLR Sports Officer and Active Cities. A pilot 6-week sports session for two age groups was trialled along with gym passes and swimming pool passes. Attendance was limited and the team will adapt to ensure the sessions are more accessible. The impact for children and young people is increased physical activity and well-being. 	<p>CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund</p>

⁹ [The Lighthouse MBT Parenting Programme | Anna Freud](#)

¹⁰ [how the learning together programme helps children's learning | people](#)

¹¹ [content \(ucd.ie\)](#)

¹² [Ireland Somatic Experiencing \(irelandse.org\)](#)

¹³ [The Decider Skills | The Decider](#)

¹⁴ [Autism Level UP!](#)

<p>Health and Mental Health Supports for Traveller Children, Young People and Parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Southside Travellers Action Group (STAG) initiated a project which was led by two men from the STAG Men’s Shed who passed on the tradition of wagon building to the younger generation. The aim of the project was to promote positive mental health amongst Traveller men and Young Travellers through culturally appropriate means as well as signposting them to available services. The project aimed at building resilience amongst young people, strengthening cultural identity and building trust in services. 13 young people participated. The project was evaluated¹⁵ and included The Wagon Project documentary by Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT)¹⁶. 	<p>CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund; CYPSC Programme Fund; HSE Health and Well-being; Resource Office for Suicide Prevention</p>
<p>The Arts – Additional Collaborations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cruinniú na nÓg Commission 2022: DLR Arts Office in partnership with DLR CYPSC and First Friends (now PEEP+DLR) Parent and Baby/Toddler Groups (Southside Partnership) commissioned four artists to develop Small Wonders a multi-sensory experience for babies/toddlers and their carers. The development of this experience was evaluated in <i>A Case Study: Development and delivery of Small Wonders</i>¹⁷. Cruinniú na nÓg Commission 2023: DLR Arts Office in partnership with DLR CYPSC and Carmona Services commissioned artists who developed their work with Carmona School and brought SPARK performances to the Lexicon library for students and their siblings/family during Cruinniú na nÓg 2023. The outcome enabled the young people and their families to access the arts who are largely underserved. BabyGROOVE¹⁸ and IAMBABA¹⁹ performances are an adventure for babies 0-12 months and their parent / caregivers. Sessions ran across 2022 and 2023 in DLR in collaboration with Anna Newell and DLR County Childcare Committee, involving 34 babies and their families. The impact for children and young people included building connection with caregivers/siblings, cognitive and emotional growth. 	<p>Creative Ireland; CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund; CYPSC Programme Fund</p>

Figure 5 provides a summary of training initiatives under DLR CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund 2023: Project 2 on youth mental health training for professionals.

FIGURE 5 CYPSC HEALTHY IRELAND FUND 2023: PROJECT 2 YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONALS



¹⁵ [The Wagon Project A4 brochure_lores.pdf \(cypsc.ie\)](https://www.cypsc.ie/files/2023/07/The_Wagon_Project_A4_brochure_lores.pdf)

¹⁶ <https://youtu.be/bC4eBiV9Ay4?si=kK1cgH5cGfqp1wKX>

¹⁷ [Case Study of Development and Delivery of Small Wonders.pdf \(cypsc.ie\)](https://www.cypsc.ie/files/2023/07/Case_Study_of_Development_and_Delivery_of_Small_Wonders.pdf)

¹⁸ <https://youtu.be/5maj-nQkm2c?si=FLUcb37grVqbO13V>

¹⁹ https://youtu.be/cZoJqjLzo4?si=fQJ8nkur_cIYDebH

Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development

Table 4 provides a summary of progress under the outcome area ‘achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development’.

TABLE 4 SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT 2020-2023

Review 2020-2024 - Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development	Progress
2.1 Social-Emotional Behavioural Difficulties in Early Childhood Care and Education	Not completed
2.2 Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Programmes	Not completed
2.3 Educational Supports for Homeless Children and Young People	Partially
2.4 Educational Supports for Traveller Children and Young People	Partially
2.5 Safe and Informed Online	Completed
2.6 School Withdrawal due to mental health difficulties	Completed
2.7 Safe Relationship Skills and Sexual Violence Prevention	Completed

Figure 6 depicts resources and outputs of projects delivered by the Education and Learning sub-group including the Alternative Education Learning Options Fair, Launch of www.LetsLearnDLR.ie, CyberSafeKids Tools for Schools Project and My Place to Play. Table 5 provides the summary.

FIGURE 6 SUMMARY OF EDUCATION AND LEARNING SUB-GROUP PROJECTS 2020-2023



TABLE 5 LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACHIEVEMENTS 2020-2023

Achievements 2020-2024 – Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development	Funding
<p>Educational Supports for Homeless Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> My Place to Play Mats/Bags²⁰: Provided to Homeless Hubs for 0-12mths (play mat) and 1-3 years (play bag). Professionals working in emergency accommodation provide families with a play mat/bag and accompanying materials, which enable parents to create a dedicated space for play with their baby and support their infants' / toddler's development. The impact for babies is a sense of belonging, building connection with carers and overall development. 	<p>National CYPSC Office; CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund; Dublin City South CYPSC</p>

²⁰ [My Place to Play \(cypsc.ie\)](http://My Place to Play (cypsc.ie))

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with Dublin CYPSC, professionals who work with children who are living in homeless services in our areas were trained in Theraplay²¹. The impact for children is an improved quality of the parent-child relationship. 	
<p>Cyber Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cybersafety webinar on 18th November 2020 – Chaired by Professor Jason Last (UCD) with 4 interagency keynote speakers (Tusla Child Protection; Barnardos; Cybersafe Ireland, HSE Psychology Dublin South East). CyberSafeKids Tools for Schools was rolled out to Primary schools in DLR. It offered a unique opportunity as a quick and efficient way to assess a school’s approach to online safety. By completing a short online survey, they can get a clear snapshot of where their school stands on its online safety journey, measured against standards of best practice. In addition, each school then received a workshop for staff, parents or children. The impact for children and young people has been increased understanding of Cyber Safety and improved Cyber Safety policies in their schools. 	CYPSC Programme Fund
<p>Not in Education, Employment or Training / Educational Transitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New 12 week ‘Junior Reach’ programme was piloted for young people withdrawing from school due to mental health difficulties in DLR. Three 12 weeks programmes were led by St. John of God’s (psycho-social input and parenting support) Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education Training Board (DDLETB) (educational project work), Tusla TESS (educational welfare support) and Crosscare (youthwork). This pilot was hugely impacted by Covid-19 however the impact demonstrated how the different services collaborated together to support young people who were withdrawing from school due to mental health difficulties. Development of website www.LetsLearnDLR.ie. It is hosted by Crosscare Youth Services and it provides information about the education services in the area, shares other young people’s experiences, helps to connect to services that can help overcome challenges, and provides links to important advice and resources. The impact for young people is a clear understanding of all alternative education routes in DLR and the surrounding areas. Alternative Education Learning Options Fair Nov 2023: 14 alternative education services came together from the DLR CYPSC area to host information stands for young people, their parents and other professionals. Young local speakers shared their education journey and DLR CYPSC and Crosscare Youth Services launched LetsLearnDLR. The event for those on an alternative education route was fully subscribed. The impact for young people was knowledge of an education route for them. 	Healthy Ireland Fund; What Works DCEDIY; CYPSC Programme Fund
<p>Safe Relationship Skills and Sexual Violence Prevention</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DLR CYPSC members training in ‘REAL U²²’ relationships and sexuality programme initially led out by Barnardos, My Project and in 2022 the Youth at Risk Network. The impact for young people was increased skills, knowledge and confidence to develop healthy relationships and delay the onset of early sexual activity. 	CYPSC Programme Fund; Healthy Ireland Fund

Safe and protected from harm

Table 6 below provides a review of progress under ‘Safe and Protected from Harm’.

TABLE 6 SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN SAFE AND PROTECTED FROM HARM 2020-2023

Review 2020-2024 – Safe and Protected from Harm	Progress
3.1 Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence (DSGBV) protective and recovery services	Partially
3.2 Contact centre for children and separated parents.	Not Completed

²¹ [Home - Theraplay](#)

²² [REAL U Programme | Foroige](#)

3.3 Male Domestic Violence	Partially
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Table 7 below provides details of the achievements under the outcome area ‘Safe and Protected from Harm’.

TABLE 7 SAFE AND PROTECTED FROM HARM ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements 2020-2024 – Safe and Protected from Harm Achievements	Funding
<p>DSGBV protective and recovery service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment of a fulltime DSGBV Outreach worker for DLR. Hosted by Sonas in Tusla, Blackrock. Training and implementation of the TLC Kidz²³ programme which is a community coordinated response for children and mothers in recovery from domestic violence and abuse. There is now a full time TLC co-ordinator secured under Barnardos for DLR and Wicklow. DSGBV Refuge coming to DLR 2025, led out by DLR County Council and Sonas. <p>Enhanced DSGBV services in the county will impact positively on children and young people by ensuring adequate access to services that can support the family with a view to helping them to address the recognised negative impact of DSGBV.</p>	CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund
<p>Additional Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tusla Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) and Wicklow CYPSC and DLR CYPSC collaboratively support Non-Violence Resistance (NVR) Advanced Training for HSE, Tusla Education Support Service (TESS) and community services. In addition, DLR CYPSC supported an online seminar <i>Building a Support Network in NVR – Possibilities and Challenges</i> with the East Coast NVR Practitioners Network and Dr. Peter Jacob in June 2022. The impact on children and young people is improved relationships and reduced conflict in the home. PPFS and DLR CYPSC have supported Crosscare Youth Services and An Garda Síochana in the training of staff up to train the trainer level in Restorative Practice. Restorative Practice training is now being delivered in the community. The impact for children and young people includes having a consistent approach from support services to conflict, changing community cultures, especially with regard to behaviour. 	CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund; PPFS; CYPSC Programme Fund

Economic security

Table 8 below provides a review of progress under ‘Economic Security’.

TABLE 8 SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC SECURITY

Economic Security Review	Progress
4.1 Improving outcomes for homeless children and young people – see 1.5	Partially
4.2 Hearing Homeless children, young people and parents.	Not Completed

Table 9 below provides details of the achievements under the outcome area ‘Economic Security’.

TABLE 9 ECONOMIC SECURITY ACHIEVEMENTS 2020-2024

Economic Security Achievements	Fund
<p>New Communities Additional Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing bikes, scooters and translation services to the Ukrainian community. 	CYPSC Ukrainian

²³ [TLC Kidz - Barnardos](#)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022 DLR CYPSC, Southside Partnership and Crosscare Youth Services applied for the CYPSC International Protection Fund and were successful. There were 5 projects delivered which included National My Place to Play Mats²⁴ and Bags, preschool/after-school and youth space equipment in emergency accommodation, development of serenity garden with parents and local Men's Sheds, Curriculum Vitae development and support, camps and activities with young people and families including culinary connects in Airfield Estate. <p>The impact for children and young people is a sense of belonging and having the space to express themselves within emergency accommodation. In addition, families have been supported to integrate with local services and the community.</p>	Fund; CYPSC-IPSS Fund
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Connected, respected and contributing to their world

Table 10 below provides a review of progress under 'Connected, Respected and Contributing to their world'.

TABLE 10 SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN CONNECTED, RESPECTED AND CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR WORLD

Review 2020-2024 Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World	Progress
5.1 Information for parents on available parenting supports.	Completed
5.2 Accessible 'What Works' parenting support evidence base	Not Completed
5.3 Participation of parents and service users	Partially
5.4 Engage with DCYA (now DCEDIY) Parent Support Policy Unit	Completed
5.6 Young Leaders Participation Forum	Not Completed

Figure 7 displays different projects led out by the Parenting Subgroup such as IAMBABA, Small Wonders, Parenting Awareness Event and Launch of www.LetsParentDLR.ie. Table 11 below provides details of the achievements under the outcome area 'Connected, Respected and Contributing to their world'.

FIGURE 7 LETSPARENTDLR LAUNCH AND THE ARTS COLLABORATIONS



²⁴ [My Place to Play \(cypsc.ie\)](http://My Place to Play (cypsc.ie))

TABLE 11 CONNECTED, RESPECTED AND CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR WORLD ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements 2020-2024 – Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World	Fund
<p>Information for parents on available parenting supports / Participation of parents and service users / Engage with DCEDIY Parent Support Policy Unit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLR CYPSC re-engaged with the Parent Support Policy Unit upon appointment of the new CYPSC co-ordinator in Jan 2022 and throughout the development of LetsParentDLR. • Development of www.LetsParentDLR.ie which is a friendly guide to parenting and children’s services in the area of DLR, lists parenting courses / webinars, and shares parent’s experiences. The website is hosted by My Project...Minding You – Family Support Service and features short videos of each service listed on the website. The impact for children and young people is improved sharing of local and national services and training courses for parents. • A Parenting Awareness Day in Airfield Estate November 2023 with over 20 services including Tusla, HSE, CAMHS, STAG, Library Services, Family Resource Centres and Family Support Services to support parents awareness of all the services in DLR. The event was also utilised to launch the LetsParentDLR website. 	<p>CYPSC Programme Fund; Parenting Awareness Fund DCEDIY; PPFS Parenting Participation Fund</p>
<p>Youth Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLR CYPSC collaborates with different services i.e. Crosscare Youth Services / Southside Travellers Action Group / Comhairle na nÓg to engage young people to consult on different pieces of CYPSC work i.e. LetsTalkDLR, LetsLearnDLR, The Wagon Project, consultations, panels etc. • The DLR Co-ordinator sits on DLR Comhairle na nÓg (CNN) Steering Committee and once a year the committee presents to the CYPSC. The Foroige Co-ordinator of DLR CNN sits on the DLR CYPSC Health and Mental Health Subgroup. 	

1.4 Summary of the Development Phase of DLR CYPSC Children and Young People’s Plan September 2024-September 2027

Overview

The development phase of this CYPP was a collaborative and comprehensive process, engaging all stakeholders to ensure the inclusion of diverse perspectives and voices. An overview of the main components of the planning and consultation process (September 2023-September 2024) is presented in **Figure 7** below.

FIGURE 7 DLR CYPSC PLANNING PROCESS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S PLAN 2024-2027

DLR CYPSC CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES PLAN SEPT 2024-SEPT 2027



Through an inclusive and participatory approach, the CYPSC developed a progressively more detailed understanding of the main consultation findings, identified collaborative responses and worked out the main elements of the Committee’s actions for the coming period.

This section of DLR CYPSC CYPP describes the methodology and processes involved in the development of the plan, highlighting the consultations conducted with children and young people of diverse ages and backgrounds, parents and service providers.

Children and Young People

Aiming for inclusivity from the outset, a wide range of children and young people, of different ages and with a variety of backgrounds and personal circumstances were consulted in the development phase of the plan. Online survey results were enhanced with more in-depth focus groups, using a variety of methods.

An online survey was distributed widely through schools and youth services to gather the views of young people. In addition, targeted focus groups and further consultations organised by local services provided an in-depth insight into the views and priorities of children and young people. **Figure 8** displays the localities of young people who responded to the survey, **Figure 9** outlines the age of young people who responded to the survey and **Figure 10** outlines their life stage.

FIGURE 8 LOCATION OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

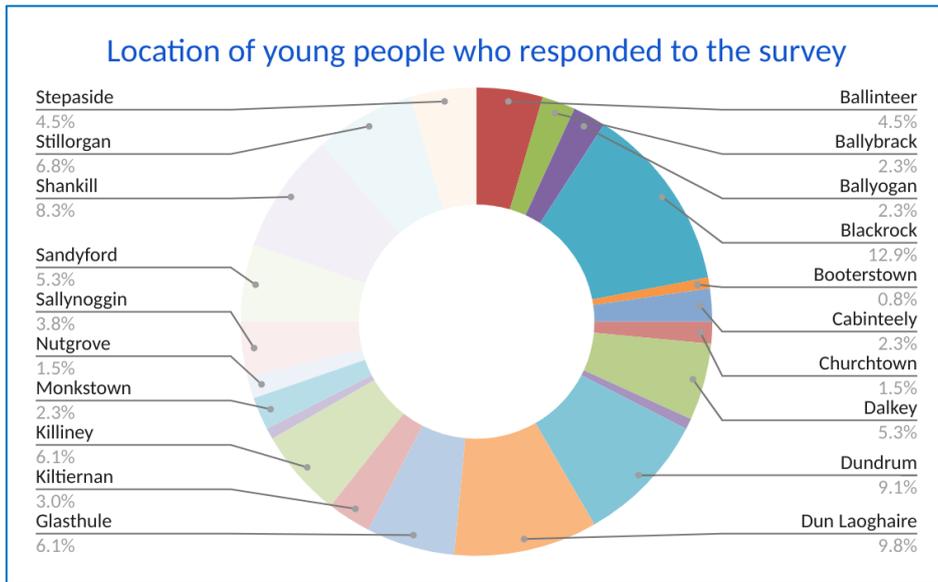


FIGURE 9 AGE RANGE OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

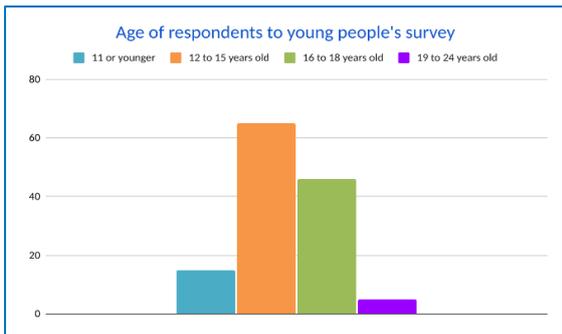
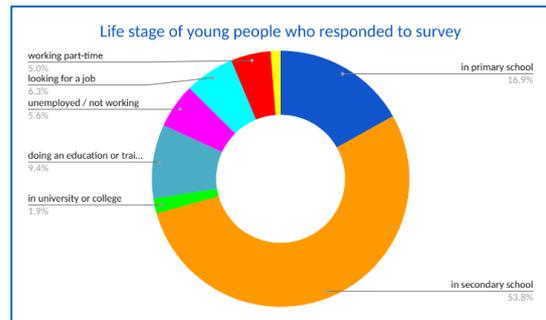


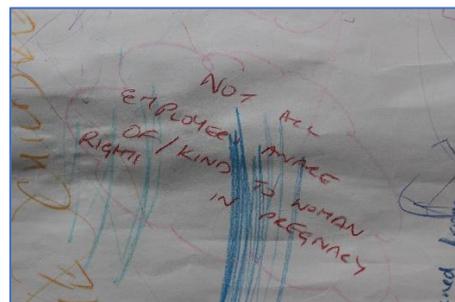
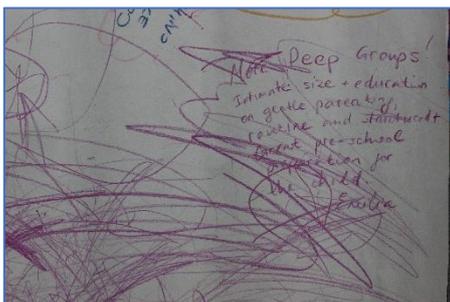
FIGURE 10 LIFE STAGES OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS



Further consultations with children and young people

- Young children were engaged through creative methods. A combined group of **children aged 0-2** (and their parents) who are participating in parenting groups in the DLR CYPSC area were asked about the best and least positive things in their lives in DLR and contributed through drawings. **Figure 11** provides a visual representation of these responses.

FIGURE 11 PARENT AND BABY (0-2) FOCUS GROUP



- Children of **pre-school** age from the Shankill area were asked the same questions and their answers were noted by the staff in the childcare service, using specially developed templates.
- An **after-school group** from the same area participated in the consultations aged 7-12 years. Their contributions were noted by staff from the service, using the same templates.
- The CYPSC worked with a disability service who supported **young people with intellectual disabilities** over a number of months to utilize photovoice methodology.
- DLR CYPSC participated in large scale consultations with young people organised by **DLR Comhairle na nÓg** and **Dublin Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board UBU-Your Place Your Space**. These groups, of approximately 170 young people aged 12 to 18 years were asked to reflect on the key issues in their lives and the results are used in the needs analysis and development of actions for this DLR CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan.
- A focus group was held with young people from the **Traveller community** participating in a training project to identify the unique challenges faced by young Travellers and integrate their perspectives into the plan.
- A final focus group took place with young people enrolled in further education.

Consultation with parents

An online survey targeting parents in the DLR area was conducted to gather insights into their perspectives on the services provided to children and young people and their needs. The consultation asked a wide range of questions about their experiences and their views on the best and least positive elements of children and young people's lives in Dun Laoghaire.

Figure 12 depicts the areas across DLR that the 534 parents/guardians reside in. 78% of survey respondents were female and 92% of white ethnicity. **Figure 13** provides a full breakdown of ethnicity. **Figure 14** displays the age of parents and guardians and **Figure 15** displays the life stage of parents children. Most parents and guardians were aged 41 to 50, with children in primary and secondary school, with an almost even split between both.

In addition to the survey, six parents of 0-2 year-old children who are participating in parenting groups were asked, along with their children, what they think of the best and least positive elements in the lives of their children and themselves (see **Figure 11** above).

FIGURE 12 LOCATIONS OF PARENT SURVEY RESPONDENTS

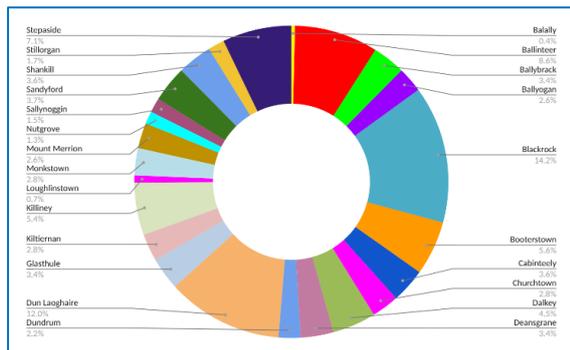


FIGURE 14 AGE RANGES OF PARENT SURVEY RESPONDENTS

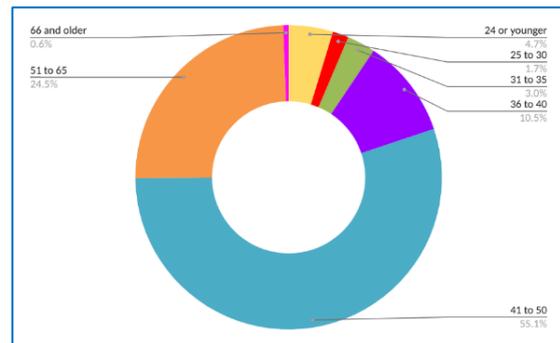


FIGURE 13 BREAKDOWN OF ETHNICITY OF PARENTS

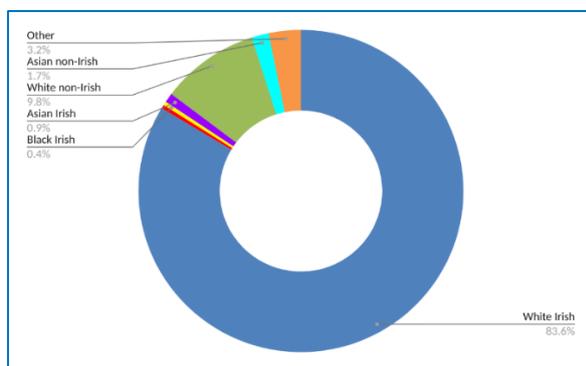
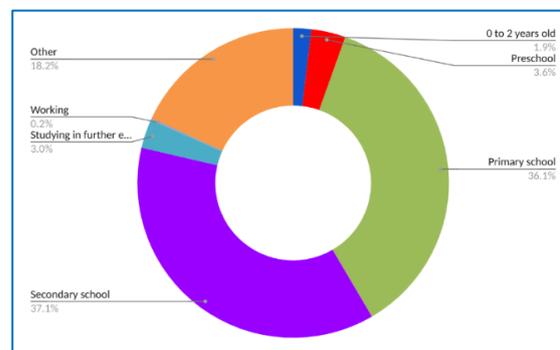


FIGURE 15 LIFE STAGE OF PARENT SURVEY RESPONDENTS' CHILDREN



Service Providers

An **online survey** targeting members of the CYPSC and the DLR CYPSC subgroups was conducted at the start of the consultation process to gather first insights into the key issues from service providers' perspectives. The results of this survey, guided the following steps in the process, including **interviews** with five key stakeholders. These provided opportunities for in-depth discussions and insights into specific areas of concern or expertise and enriched the consultation by capturing nuanced perspectives and expertise.

The DLR CYPSC CYPP was developed in an iterative process with active involvement from frontline service providers. This approach is intended to ensure the effectiveness of the plan in its implementation phase September 2024 - September 2027.

Section 6 of this DLR CYPSC CYPP is an Action Plan; the Action Plan is the core of the CYPP, describing the main actions of the CYPSC and its members for the next years. The actions are based on the socio-demographic profile of the area, the needs analysis and prioritisation through an interagency lens. They have been developed and agreed in a workshop process with the DLR CYPSC members.

An interactive **World Cafe planning day** took place to facilitate dialogue and collaboration among members of the CYCSC and its subgroups. This interactive session enabled 76 professional stakeholders to brainstorm ideas, identify priorities, and co-create strategies for the CYPSC CYPP. **Figure 16** shows this World Café planning day that took place in Airfield Estate.

The results of the planning session were used to initiate the Action Plan. The national planning template for this section of the plan includes the five outcome areas. It also includes *Change Management* which is an area for organisational / internal CYPSC actions.

FIGURE 16 PLANNING DAY PHOTOS



The outcome areas are aligned with DLR CYPSC subgroups, and all actions were discussed in **five further planning sessions** with the subgroups and the main DLR CYPSC. These sessions were used to develop the details of the actions for each of the relevant outcome areas. In collaboration with the TUSLA Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) manager the Tusla PPFS actions were finetuned and incorporated into the CYPSC CYPP as per the Blueprint for the Development of Children and Young People's Services Committee p. 22²⁵.

The consultation process as described and underpinning the DLR CYPSC CYPP served as a platform for collective planning and exploration of possible solutions for the most pressing needs, ensuring alignment of efforts across different sectors and stakeholders. It ensured consensus among committee members regarding the strategic direction of the plan. Finally, it established broad participation and representation within the committee, fostering ownership and accountability for the plan's implementation.

²⁵ [Blueprint for the development of CYPSC.pdf](#)

2. DLR CYPSC Socio-Demographic Profile

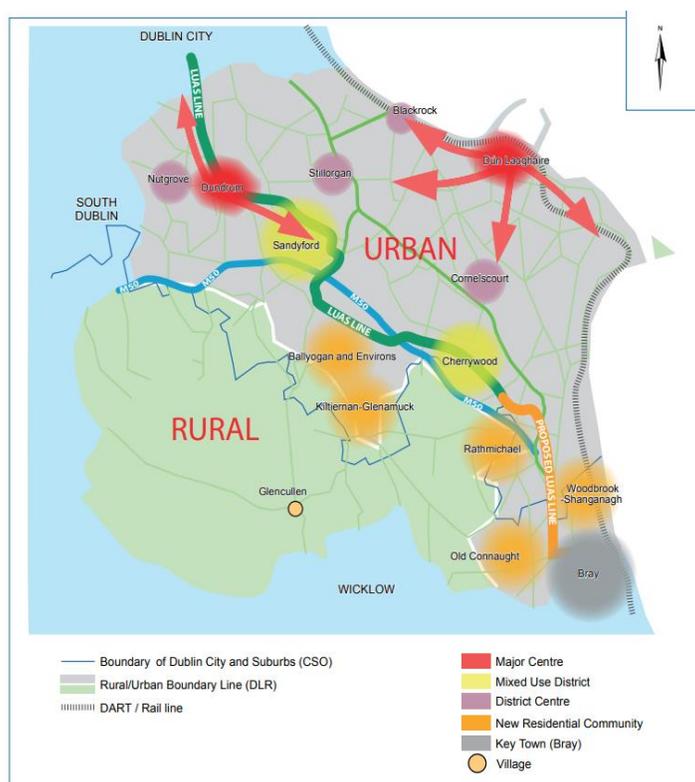
2.1 Overview and general socio-demographic profile

The profile of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown (DLR) below starts with general socio-demographic information about the people living in the area and is followed by sections with specific data for each of the five domains of Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028: **Active and Healthy**; **Achieving in Learning and Development**; **Safe and Protected from Harm**; **Economic Security and Opportunity**; **Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World**.

General Socio-Demographic Profile

DLR is located South and Southeast of Dublin City, covering an area from the Irish Sea towards the tops of the Dublin Mountains. The County is mainly urban in character but has a substantial rural hinterland, visible in the map in Figure 17²⁶.

FIGURE 17 MAP OF DUN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN

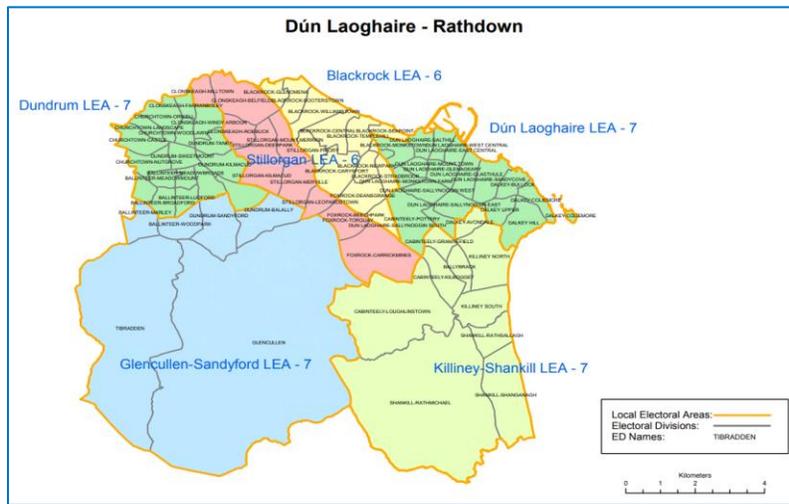


Administratively, the County is divided into six Local Electoral Areas (LEA), 68 Electoral Divisions (ED) and 760 Small Areas (SA), depicted in **Figure 18**²⁷.

²⁶ Source: https://www.dlrcoco.ie/sites/default/files/atoms/files/chapter_2.pdf

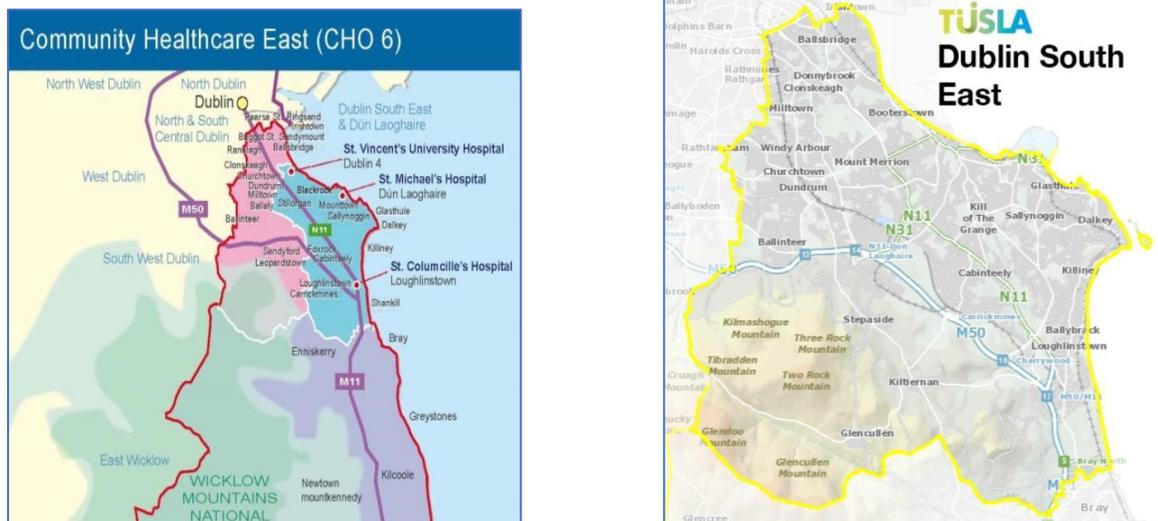
²⁷ Source: <https://www.boundarycommittee.ie/Maps/DLR%20LEA%20Report%20Map%202018.pdf>

FIGURE 18 LEAS WITHIN DLR



The key service delivery areas of the Health Service Executive and Tusla Child and Family Agency that cover the County are Community Healthcare East (CHO6 - which also covers East Wicklow and part of Dublin City) and Dublin South East (including parts of Dublin City). Both service delivery areas are depicted on in **Figure 19**²⁸.

FIGURE 19 HSE COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE EAST / MAP 2.4: TUSLA DUBLIN SOUTH EAST



The County has two major centres, Dundrum in the West and Dún Laoghaire in the East, flanked by smaller district centres. Reinforced by (public) transport connections which are mainly north-south oriented, there is less frequent travel between the east and west of the County to access services. It is reported, by local services, that service provision for children and young people is stronger on the east side of the County than on the west side. New housing developments in the County consist of infill housing (often

²⁸ <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/primarycare/east-coast-diabetes-service/overview-and-welcome/area/>

“build to let” apartments) and large new estates on the southern edges of the County, notably in the Glencullen ED and the Cherrywood area. The latter will be home to 25,000 people when finished. In the Shanganagh area a new housing area is being developed of 597 apartments and houses, mainly social and affordable housing²⁹, while planning permission has been granted for the redevelopment of the Central Mental Hospital in Dundrum, consisting of 852 dwellings (mainly apartments)³⁰.

Table 12 below contains a Summary Indicator Table - summarising the main statistics on the DLR population in comparison with national population statistics.

TABLE 12 SUMMARY INDICATOR TABLE

Indicator	Dun Laoghaire Rathdown	Ireland
Child and Youth population (0-24) Census 2022	72,777 (31.1%)	1,657,058 (32.1%)
Child population (0-17) Census 2022	50,583 (21.6%)	1,218,567 (23.7%)
Young adult population (18-24) Census 2022	22,194 (9.5%)	438,491 (8.5%)
Infant mortality (<1 year) 2022	1.2 per 1,000	3.1 per 1,000
Child mortality (0-24) 2022	Under 1 year: 3 1-4 years: 0 5-9 years: 1 10-14 years: 0 15-19 years: 1 20-24 years: 3	Under 1 year: 191 1-4 years: 19 5-9 years: 16 10-14 years: 26 15-19 years: 71 20-24 years: 104
Citizenship other than Irish of children and young people	0-14 year: 12.9% 15-24 year: 14.8%	0-14 year: 11.1% 15-24 year: 14.3%
Family structure Census 2022	Total families with children: 39,186 Total families with children under 15: 22,785 Lone parents with children under 15: 5,785 (25.4% of all families with children under 15)	Total families with children: 885,899
Parental education level Census 2016	1,940 or 4.8% of children with mothers with no formal or primary education only	79,607 or 8.1% of children with mothers with no formal or primary education only
Children and young people with a disability Census 2022	0-14 years: 7.9% (3,344) 15-24 years: 20.5% (6,244)	0-14 years: 98,799 or 9.8% 15-24 years: 117,146 or 18.2%
Traveller population	429 (of which 167 aged 0-17)	32,949 (of which 14,142 aged 0-17)

²⁹ <https://lda.ie/projects/shanganagh-shankill-dublin>

³⁰ <https://lda.ie/projects/dundrum-central-dublin>

Population

DLR is the smallest of the four Dublin's local authority areas, with a population of 233,860 people according to the 2022 Census, made up of 121,828 females (52%) and 112,032 males (48%). This equals 4.5% of the State's total population. The population of DLR has increased by 7.3% or 15,842 people since 2016, which is slightly lower than the national population increase of 7.6% in the same period, but higher than the previous inter-Census growth of 5.7% between 2011 and 2016. The Local Authority's projections in the Local Development Plan expect further growth of between 2,500 and 3,000 people per year in the next decade. The EDs in DLR vary significantly in population size, from 945 people in Tibbradden to neighbouring Glencullen with a population of 23,596 people. This last area has grown by 19.3% (3,823 people) since 2016, mainly due to newly built apartments and housing estates.

Age profile

Of the 233,860 people living in DLR in 2022, there were 72,777 people aged between 0-24 years, or 31.1% of the population. This is slightly lower than the 32% recorded in 2016 and a bit lower than the national average of 32.1%. There are 50,583 children aged 0-17 living in DLR and 22,194 young people aged 18-24. **Figure 20** depicts the age profile of DLR, showing the smaller size of the youngest age group of 0-4 compared to the next one aged 5-9³¹.

FIGURE 20 DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN POPULATION PYRAMID



Figure 21 below depicts the number and gender breakdown of children and young people of each age between 0 and 24 in DLR. It shows that while boys are in the majority in the earlier years, from age 17 onwards there are slightly more girls than boys in each age group.

³¹ Source: <https://visual.cso.ie/?body=entity/ima/cop/2022&boundary=C03789V04537&guid=2ae19629-149f-13a3-e055-000000000001>

FIGURE 21 DLR POPULATION 0-24 YEARS

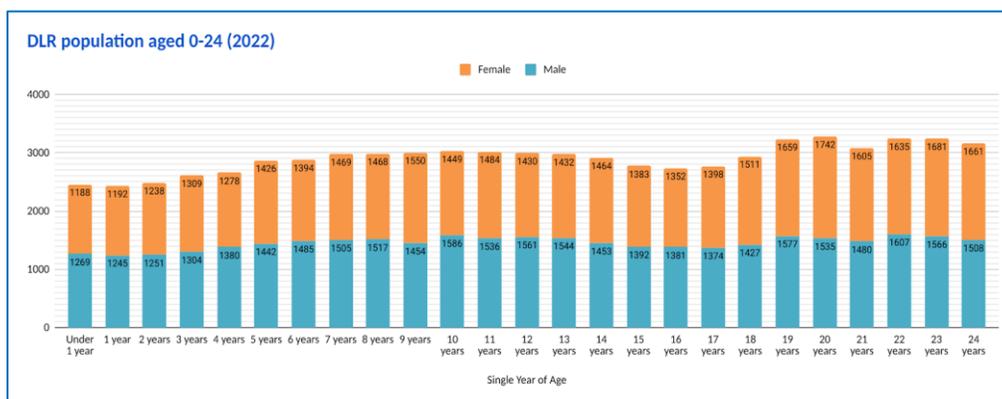


Table 13 shows the distribution of different age groups of children and young people across the six Local Electoral Areas in DLR and the percentage of the total population they represent, which varies between 28% and 36%.

TABLE 13 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN DLR LOCAL ELECTORAL AREAS

Age group	Blackrock	Dundrum	Dun Laoghaire	Glencullen Sandyford	Killiney Shankill	Stillorgan
0-4	1713	1758	2421	3161	2011	1586
5-9	2056	1998	2587	3394	2473	1946
10-14	2094	1913	2954	3304	2629	2045
15-19	2000	1680	2843	2833	2553	2801
20-24	2654	2074	2425	2856	2328	3687
Total children & young people (CYP)	10517	9423	13230	15548	11994	12065
Total population	34280	31861	46603	48568	39352	33196
% CYP	31%	30%	28%	32%	30%	36%

The geographical distribution within DLR of children and young people of different ages correlates with the total population size of each area, e.g. Glencullen has the largest population and consequently also has the largest number of people aged 0-24 that is 8,563 people. See Figure 64 in Appendix 5 for further detail.

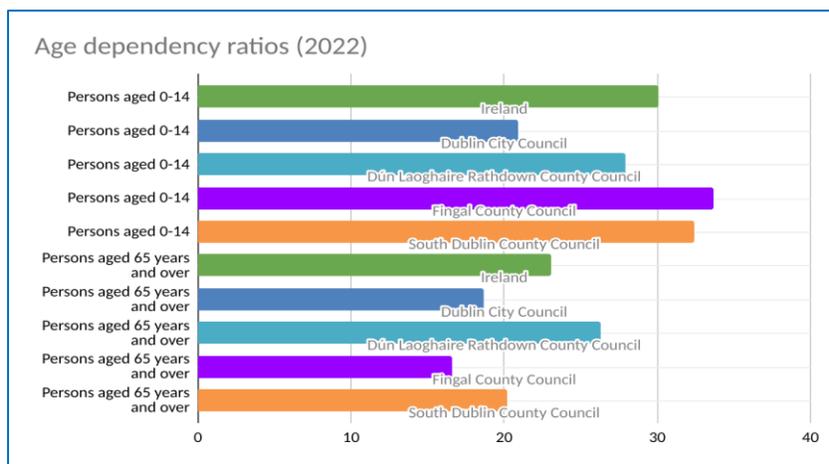
Dependency Rates

DLR has a total age dependency rate³² of 54.2%, which is slightly higher than the national figure of 53.2% and also higher than the other Dublin areas. This is due to both a relatively small group of children and a

³² Age dependency is an indicator which gives an insight into the proportion of the population that can be economically active (15-65) compared to the proportion of people in an area that is either younger (0-14) or older (65 and over) than this group and thereby deemed dependent.

large group of older people compared to other areas, as **Figure 22** below shows. Census 2022 indicates that the young age dependency in DLR has remained static since 2016 at 27.9% while the old age dependency has increased from 24.2% to 26.3%.

FIGURE 22 DLR AGE DEPENDENCY RATIOS



Nationality, Birthplace, Ethnic / Cultural Background

There were 54,228 people living in DLR in 2022 who were born outside of Ireland (there is no age breakdown for this data yet), with the largest group (23,377) born in ‘Rest of the world’, followed by born in the UK (12,609). **Table 14** below gives the distribution of people born outside of Ireland across the six Local Electoral Areas.

TABLE 14 DLR ETHNIC/CULTURAL BACKGROUND

	Stillorgan	Dundrum	Glencullen-Sandyford	Killiney-Shankill	Dún Laoghaire	Blackrock	Total
United Kingdom	1846	1516	2016	2087	3035	2109	12609
Poland	150	224	823	426	605	188	2416
India	584	340	2061	625	1140	826	5576
Other EU27 (Ex IRL & Poland)	1312	1173	2759	1322	2267	1417	10250
Rest of World	3579	2787	6019	2910	4767	3315	23377
Total	7471	6040	13678	7370	11814	7855	54228

The ethnic or cultural make-up of the DLR population is broadly in line with national statistics, with a few notable differences. The percentage of people who did not state their ethnicity or cultural background was for instance very low in DLR (2.9%) compared with 13% in Dublin City. This is illustrated in **Figure 23**. A large majority of the population in DLR indicate they are White Irish (175,653 people/ 76.4%), with Other white, the next largest group at a significant distance (24,050 people/ 10.5%). This is outlined in **Figure 24**.

FIGURE 23 DLR POPULATION BY ETHNIC/CULTURAL BACKGROUND (%)

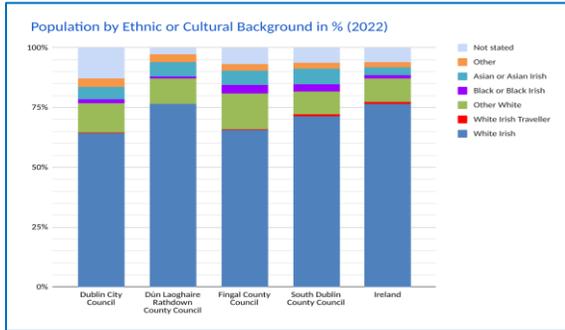
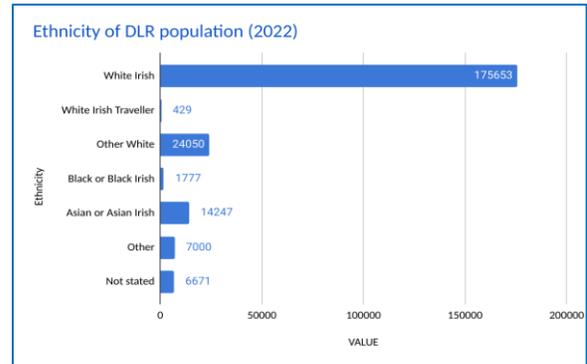
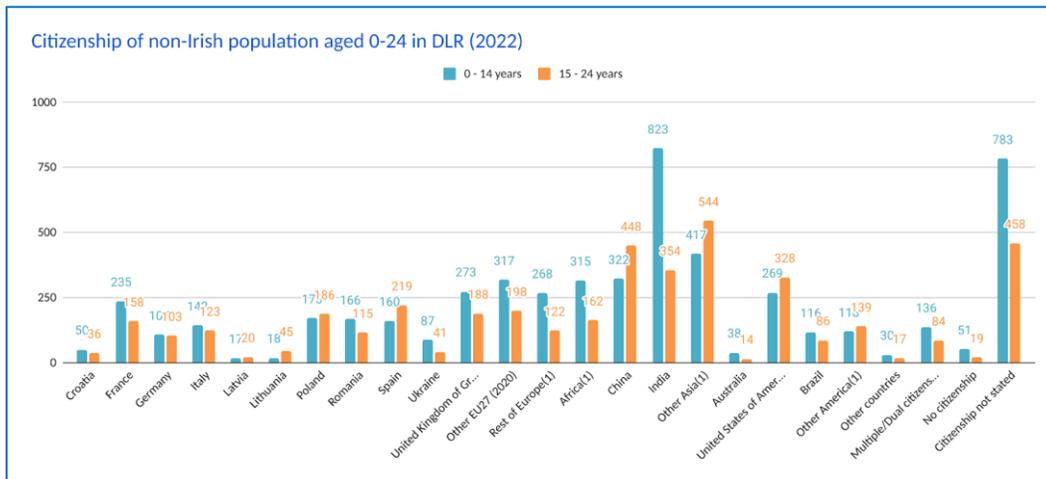


FIGURE 24 ETHNICITY OF DLR POPULATION



There are 36,538 children aged 0-14 and 24,157 young people aged 15-24 with Irish citizenship living in DLR. An additional 9,635 children and young people have other or double nationalities or have not stated their nationality. **Figure 25** below depicts the citizenship of children and young people in DLR. These figures give some insight into the cultural backgrounds of the young population in the area, even though for many respondents no citizenship has been recorded. Additionally, many children from parents who migrated to Ireland have Irish nationality. There are 51 children and 19 young people who noted no citizenship status.

FIGURE 25 CITIZENSHIP OF NON-IRISH POPULATION 0-24 IN DLR



Travellers

There are 429 people living in DLR in 2022 who identify as members of the Traveller community, which is 0.18% of the population - lower than the national figure of 0.6%. The population increased by 4.8% from the 411 people recorded in 2016, which is below the 6% national growth level of the Traveller population.

In the DLR Traveller Accommodation Plan 2019 - 2024³³ the Local Authority identified 85 families living in Traveller-specific accommodation and in total 139 families living in a range of accommodation types²¹. There are 22 sites for the Traveller community in DLR, as indicated in **Figure 26**.

FIGURE 26 MAP OF EXISTING AND NEW TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION



Data on the age breakdown of the Traveller population in DLR has not been released, but according to the *State of the Nation 2023* report, there are 167 Traveller children (0-17) in DLR. Nationally³⁴ the Traveller community is significantly younger than the general population. While children (0-14) make up one fifth of the total population, in the Traveller community they make up 36%. The Traveller community in DLR is expected to include about 154 children aged 0-14. At the other end of the age spectrum, just 5% of Travellers are aged 65 and over, while the figure is 15% for the population overall. Travellers nationally report a significantly poorer health status than the general population, with 67% reporting good or very good health, compared with 83% for the population overall and 4% reporting bad or very bad health, which is double the 2% for the total population.

Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and International Protection Applicants

The outbreak of the war in Ukraine in 2022 and the subsequent arrival in Ireland of people fleeing from Ukraine, brought an important change to DLR. There are no exact statistics for the number of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection who have fled the war and who are living in DLR, but some figures give an indication³⁵. The most important one is the number of PPSN numbers provided by DLR offices of the

³³ https://www.dlrcoco.ie/sites/default/files/atoms/files/adopted_tap_2019-2024.pdf

³⁴ <https://www.cso.ie/en/csolatestnews/pressreleases/2023pressreleases/pressstatementcensus2022resultsprofile5-diversitymigrationethnicityirishTravellersreligion/>

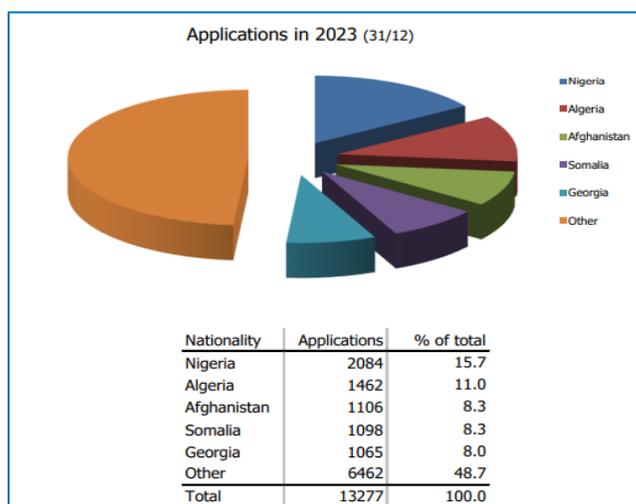
³⁵ The regular updates from the CSO on Ukrainian arrivals are very useful in this regard, but not exact as some data is only available on Dublin level (overall) and not for the four separate local authorities. <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/FP/p-ai/arrivalsfromukraineinirelandseries11/>

Department of Social Protection.³⁶In total 15,152 PPSN numbers were allocated in DLR. There is no age breakdown available for this number.

Data from Southside Partnership DLR in April 2024 indicates that the number of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection arriving in the County has dropped significantly over the last period, with only about 45 men, women and children living in Ballyogan Rest Centre, which has capacity for circa 350 people. In other temporary accommodation in the County, it was estimated that there were 289 adults and 68 children as of April 2024. The number of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection living with Irish hosts in DLR is not available.

Tusla figures³⁷ indicate that currently (November 2023) there are no children on the caseload of social workers in the county caring for separated children seeking asylum. School enrolment figures from the CSO for the school year 2023/24 show that in total 1,916 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection children in the greater Dublin area are enrolled: 1,109 in primary and 807 in secondary schools. It is not known how many of these children attend schools in DLR. The national figure for International Protection Applications in 2023 is 13,277 which represents a decrease of 2.7% compared to 2022. The top five countries of origin are depicted below in **Figure 27**³⁸.

FIGURE 27 INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION APPLICATIONS 2023



Nationally, there was a net increase of 40 children accommodated with families for the month of December from 5,581 to 5,621 and a net increase of 187 for the overall number accommodated from 26,092 to 26,279 people.

The number of International Protection Applicants housed in DLR is not clear and constantly changing. Data from April 2024 indicates that there were seven IPA locations, four for families (277 adults / 198

³⁶ The disclaimer for this figure is that people did not necessarily stay in the area after they were allocated a PPSN number, they could have moved to a different area in Ireland or left the country altogether

³⁷ <https://data.tusla.ie/>

³⁸ Source:

<http://www.ipa.gov.ie/en/IPO/20240109%20IPO%20Website%20Statistics%20Report%20Dec%202023%20FINAL.pdf/Files/20240109%20IPO%20Website%20Statistics%20Report%20Dec%202023%20FINAL.pdf>

children), one for single women (20 adults) and two for single men (490 adults). Currently the numbers indicate 787 adults and 198 children residing in DLR.

Families

Of the 59,431 family units recorded in DLR in 2022, the largest single group consist of families without children (20,245 or 34.1%), followed by families with 1 child (15,564 or 26.2%) and two children (14,944 or 25.1%). Only 14.6% of all family units have 3 or more children. This is visualised in **Figures 28 and 29**.

FIGURE 28 FAMILY UNITS IN DLR BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN

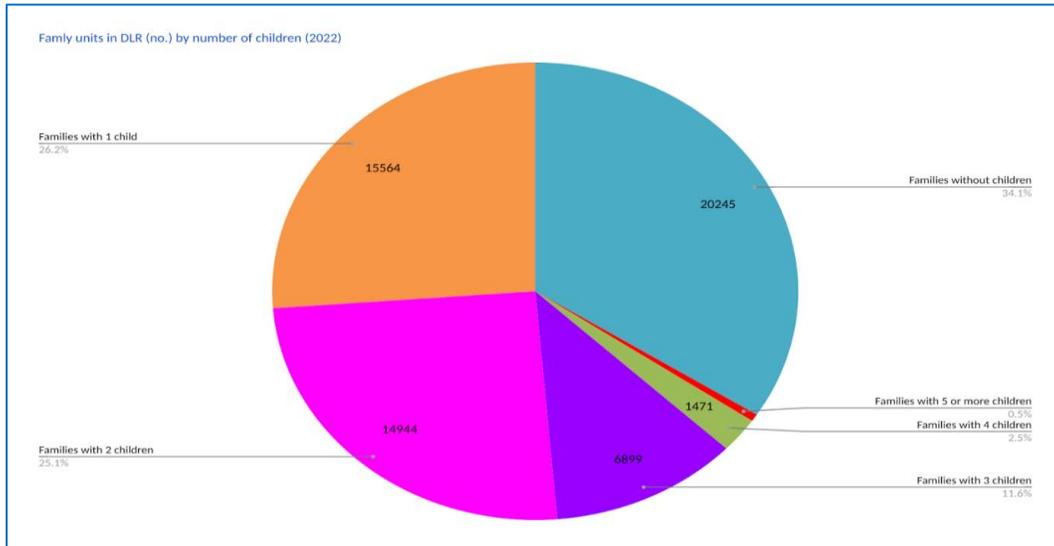
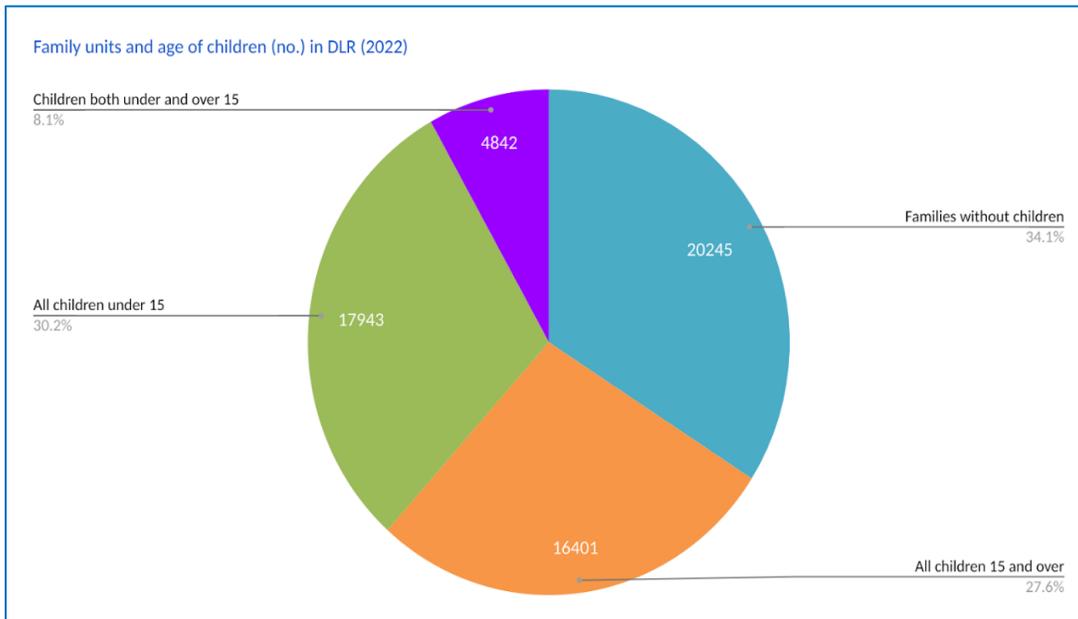


FIGURE 29 FAMILY UNITS AND AGE OF CHILDREN (NO.) IN DLR BY NUMBER OF CHILDREN

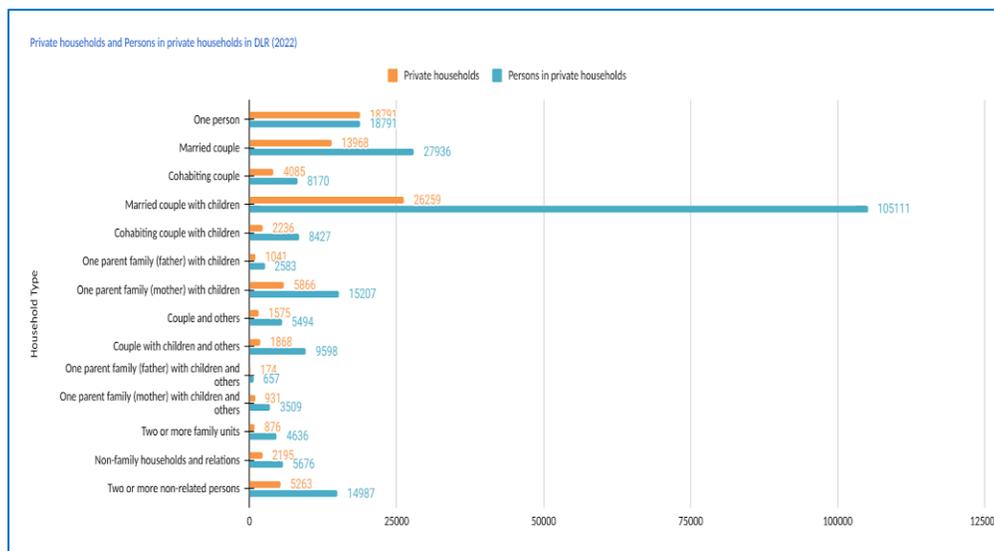


Of the 73,661 children in DLR in family units, the vast majority (82.1%) live in a family of a couple with one or more child(ren), while 11,274 children (15.3%) live in a family of a mother with children and 1,879 (2.6%) in family unit of a father with children.

As shown in **Figure 30**, there were 6,907 households in DLR headed by one parent (out of a total of 85,128 private households), constituting 8% of households (5,866 lone mothers and 1,041 lone fathers). An additional 1,105 households were headed by one parent and included other adult(s). This brings the total of one-parent households to 8,012 or 9.4% of all households.

There is historically a strong correlation between areas with high percentages of people renting property from the local authority and high lone parent ratios. With the current more dispersed development and allocation of social housing, it is likely that these concentrations of lone parents (and disadvantage generally) will become less prominent.

FIGURE 30 PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS AND PERSONS IN PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS IN DLR



Analysing data on families from the perspective of a lifecycle approach can be helpful for the targeting of interventions. As **Figure 65** in **Appendix 5** shows, there are certain geographical areas in the County where the number of families with children and young people is much larger than others. **Figure 65** excludes the Glencullen ED because the very large population in that area skews the display of the bar chart, rendering the details hard to read. Glencullen is the area with the most family units with children in DLR: 742 pre-school families; 837 early school families, 862 pre-adolescent and 737 adolescent family units.

Figure 31 provides further insights into the family cycle in DLR for all families, with and without children, showing that families with adults form the vast majority across the County. **Figure 32** provides the number of family units of different make-ups across the County's Electoral Areas, showing that Glencullen-Sandyford, Killiney-Shankill and Dun Laoghaire house the most families with children and young people.

FIGURE 31 FAMILY CYCLE IN DLR (2022)

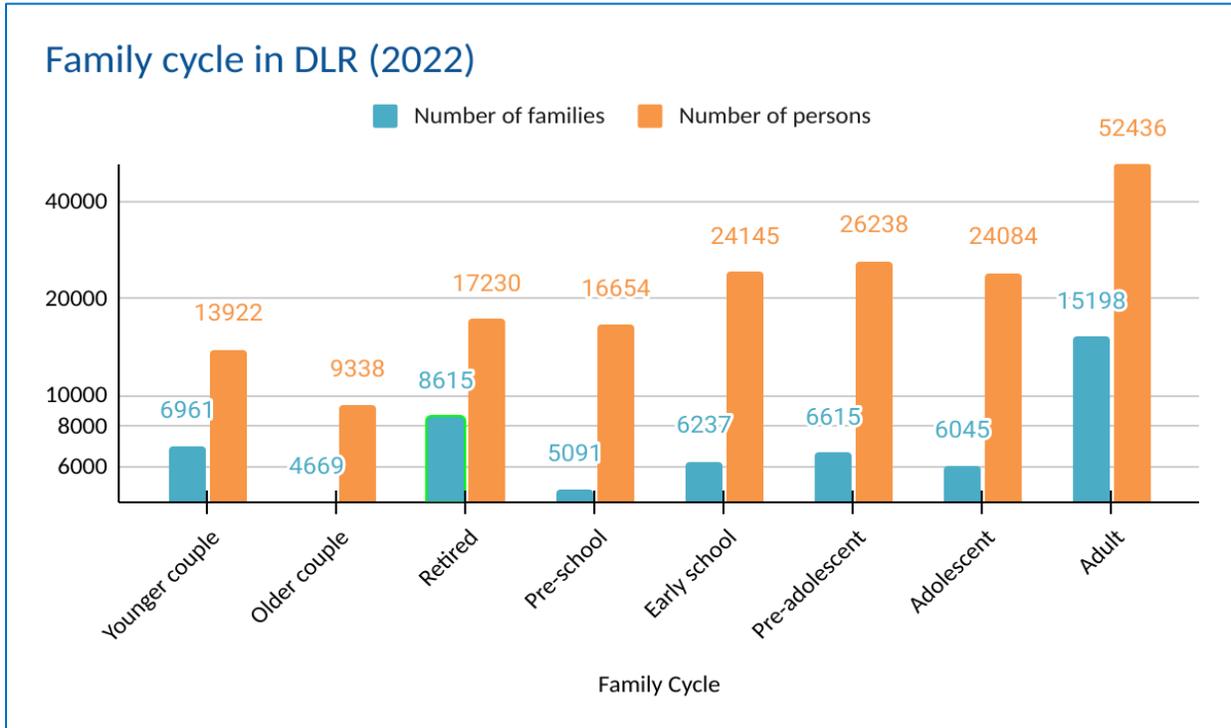
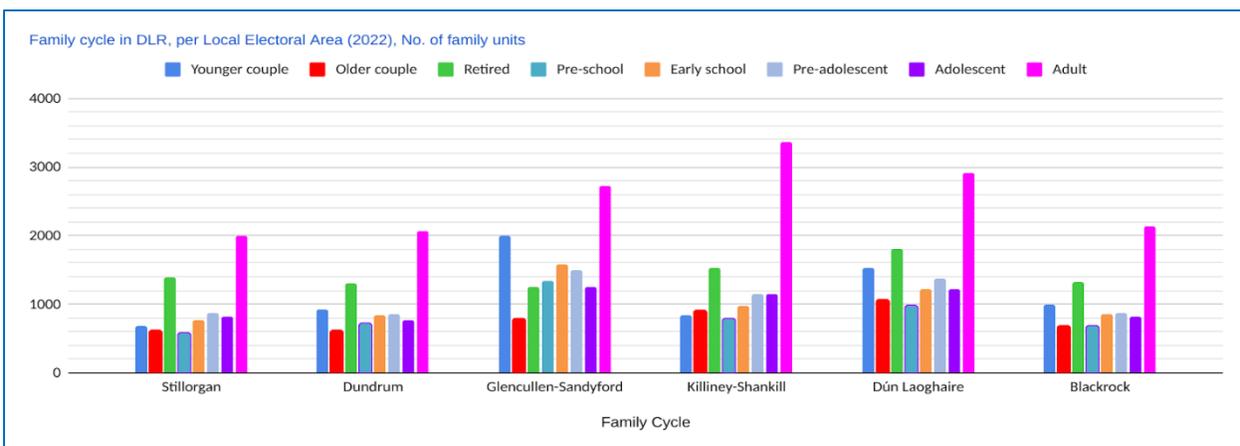


FIGURE 32 FAMILY CYCLE IN DLR PER E.D. (NO OF FAMILY UNITS)

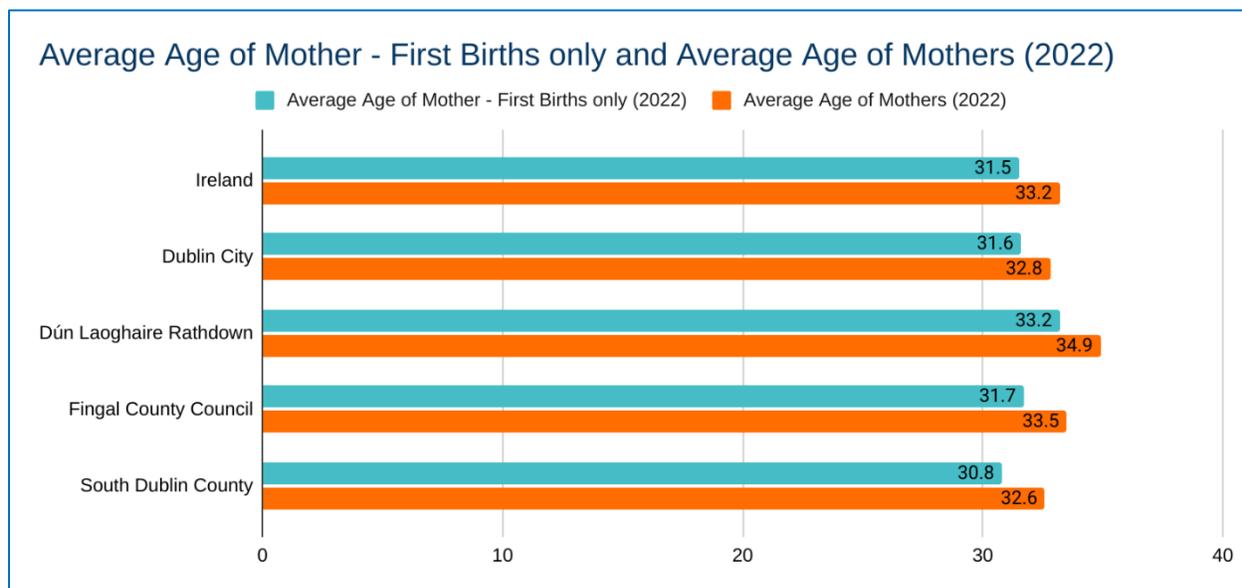


2.2 Active and Healthy

Births

In 2022 there were 2,434 children born in DLR. Mothers in DLR are on average 1.7 years older than the national average when they have their first child (33.2 vs 31.5) and they are also the oldest mothers in the Dublin area, as **Figure 33** shows. This pattern is repeated when all births are taken into account, with mothers in DLR almost 35 years old on average (34.9), while the national average age to give birth is 33.2 years old.

FIGURE 33 AVERAGE OF MOTHER – FIRST BIRTHS ONLY & AVERAGE AGE OF MOTHERS



The ratio of births taking place within and outside of marriage varies considerably in the Dublin area and nationally, with a significantly higher percentage of DLR births taking place within marriage at 72.5% than either national (56.8%) or the surrounding Dublin Counties (51.4% in the City; 51.9% in South Dublin and 61.57% in Fingal).

Infant and Neonatal Mortality

There were 191 Infant deaths registered in 2022 in Ireland, giving an infant mortality rate of 3.3 deaths per 1,000 live births, an increase of 0.2 from 2021. In DLR 3 infant deaths were recorded, an infant mortality rate of 1.2, significantly below the national figure and the lowest in the Dublin area.

A similar pattern occurs for neonatal deaths (deaths of infants at ages under 4 weeks). There were 140 neonatal deaths registered in 2022 in Ireland, a neonatal mortality rate of 2.4 deaths per 1,000 live births, unchanged from 2021. In DLR 3 neonatal deaths were recorded in 2022, a neonatal mortality rate of 1.2.

Breastfeeding

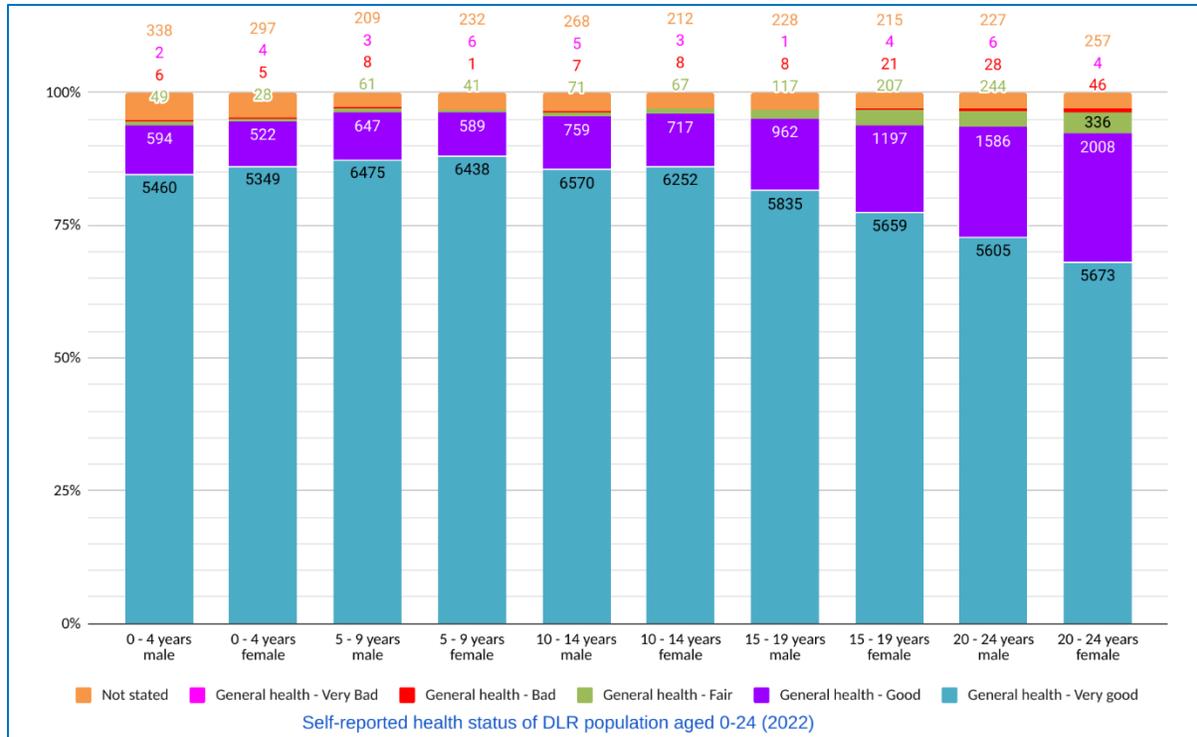
According to the 2020 Perinatal Statistics Report, the breastfeeding rate in County Dublin is 44.8% which is slightly higher than the 44.2% recorded nationally³⁹.

³⁹ https://www.hpo.ie/latest_hipe_nprs_reports/NPRS_2020/Perinatal_Statistics_Report_2020.pdf

Self-Reported Health

The Census 2022 data on the self-reported general health status of the population aged 0-24 shows that the age group 5-9-year-olds is experiencing the best health, after which a gradual decline sets in. **Figure 34** below displays this. The decrease in positive health status becomes more pronounced in the teenage age group of 15-19-year-old and a difference between male and female health becomes evident in this age group as well. This gender difference, with fewer females reporting a “very good” health, is one that continues amongst adults.

FIGURE 34 SELF-REPORTED HEALTH STATUS OF DLR POPULATION AGED 0-24 (2022)



Healthy Ireland 2022 data⁴⁰ for the entire population shows that for the 15-25 age group asthma and mental health are the main long-term conditions confirmed by a medical diagnosis. Notable is that female prevalence (5%) of emotional, nervous and psychiatric conditions is more than double that of males (2%).

Mental Health

Healthy Ireland 2023 data⁴¹ described the 15-24 age group nationally as the one with the highest levels of psychological distress amongst all age groups. **Table 15** shows that amongst women aged 15-24 the prevalence of probable mental health problems has declined since 2021, from 27% to 24%, but prior to the pandemic (2016) this level was only 14%. Men aged 15-24 experience much lower levels, with 13% having probable mental health problems. Amongst students the prevalence of probable mental health problems decreased by 5%: to 16% from 21% in 2021.⁴²

⁴⁰ <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f9e67-healthy-ireland-survey-2022/>

⁴¹ <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/277357/7ff5c433-4e1f-44ec-9d68-d0decc2ddd7c.pdf#page=11>

⁴² Source: Healthy Ireland 2023.

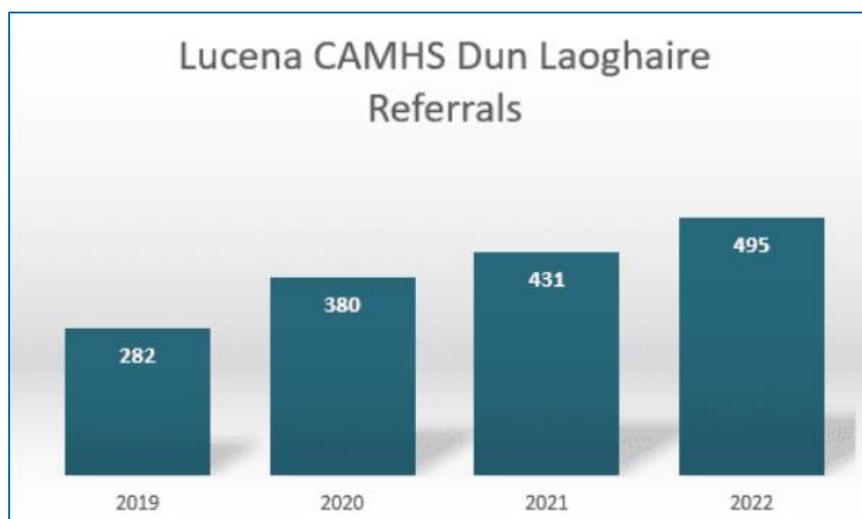
TABLE 15 PROPORTION WITH NEGATIVE MENTAL HEALTH BY AGE AND GENDER

Proportion with negative mental health by age and gender (% with an MHI-5 score of 56 or lower, indicating a probable mental health problem)

	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Men 2016	19	8	11	7	6	9	8
Men 2021	13	13	14	13	11	6	12
Men 2023	13	12	14	10	6	7	6
	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Women 2016	14	16	11	11	9	8	13
Women 2021	27	18	14	18	22	12	16
Women 2023	24	16	12	14	16	10	7

The local Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) have noted, for the purposes of informing this Children and Young People’s Plan, an increase in young people with school refusal or Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) due to anxiety and a significant increase of young people presenting with eating disorders. In general referrals have increased from 282 in 2019 to 495 in 2022⁴³ as depicted in **Figure 35**, of which approximately over 50% are for young people who have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

FIGURE 35 LUCENA CAMHS DLR REFERRALS



Waiting times for assessment and diagnosis, and following that for treatment, are a key concern nationally and in DLR. A review of CAMHS in Community Healthcare East (CHO6) over the 2022-23 period carried out by the Mental Health Commission⁴⁴, based on an analysis of circa 10% of the files, found the following

⁴³ Source: CAMHS correspondence with CYPSC

⁴⁴ <https://www.mhcirl.ie/sites/default/files/2023-08/CHO%206%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>

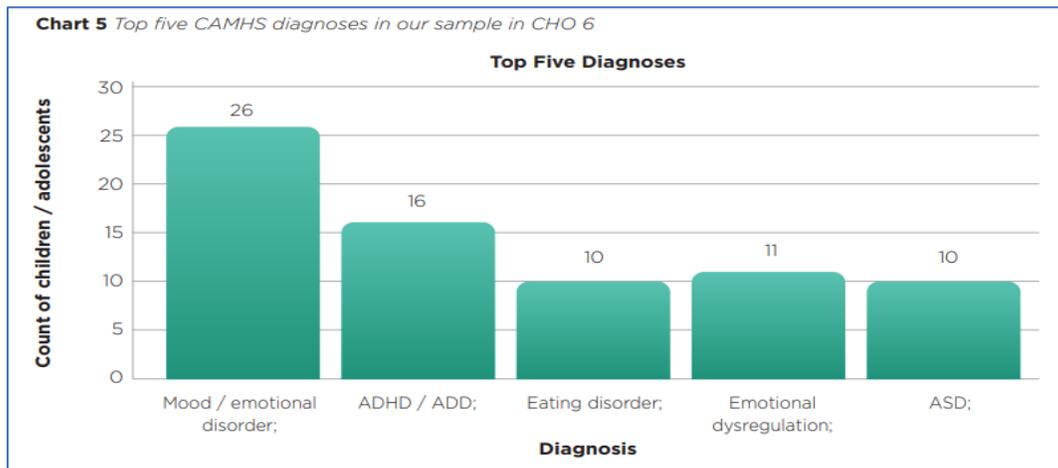
average waiting times for GP-referrals into CAMHS for Deliberate Self-Harm, Suicidal Ideation and Eating disorder, displayed in **Figure 36**.

FIGURE 36 LUCENA CAHMS WAIT TIMES FOR HIGH RISK REFERRAL



The same review by the Mental Health Commission identified the following top 5 diagnoses in CHO6 as shown in **Figure 37**.

FIGURE 37 TOP 5 CAHMS DIAGNOSES IN CHO6 SAMPLE



The same audit by the Mental Health Commission⁴⁵ found the following (see Table 16 below) in relation to waiting times from assessment to treatment for the top 5 diagnoses in Community Healthcare East (CHO6):

⁴⁵ <https://www.mhcirl.ie/sites/default/files/2023-08/CHO%206%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>

TABLE 16 % OF CHILDREN/ADOLESCENTS WAITING LESS THAN 3 MONTHS FOR TREATMENT BY TOP FIVE DIAGNOSIS

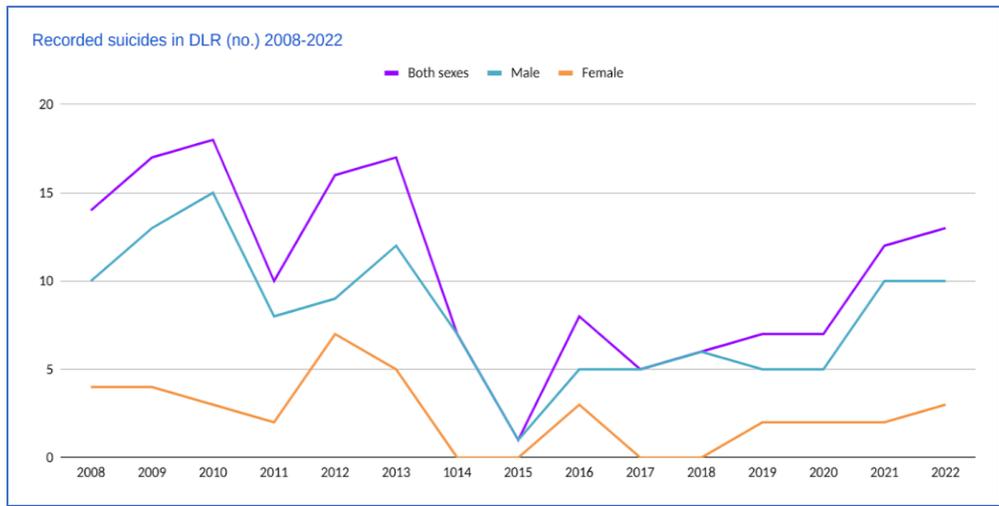
Table 10 Percentage of children/adolescents with the top five diagnoses who waited approximately three months or less from assessment to treatment.

Top five diagnoses	Percentage of children/adolescents waiting approx. 3 months or less
Mood/Emotional disorder	88%
ADHD / ADD	25%
Emotional dysregulation	91%
Eating disorder	90%
ASD	60%

Suicide and Self-Harm

There are no records of suicides disaggregated into different age groups. The CSO vital statistics data⁴⁶ records the total numbers as shown in **Figure 38** for the DLR area.

FIGURE 38 RECORDED SUICIDES IN DLR 2008-2022



There were 744 self-harm presentations recorded in 2020 (amongst 588 individuals) for the whole Community Healthcare East (CHO6) area, of which 315 (42%) are in the 0-24 age group (see **Table 17**).⁴⁷

⁴⁶ <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-vs/vitalstatisticssecondquarter2023/>

⁴⁷ Source: https://www.nsrif.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CHO-6_2020.pdf

TABLE 17 NUMBER OF PRESENTATIONS BY CHO6 BY AGE AND GENDER

	0-19yrs	20-24yrs	25-34yrs	35-44yrs	45-54yrs	55+yrs	Total
Male	44	53	89	41	22	27	276
Female	157	61	78	75	53	44	468

Disability

The Census figures show that in 2022 some 49,000 people in DLR reported a disability to some extent: 22,766 men and 27,223 women. This equates to 21.37% of the population, which is very similar to the national figure of 21.54%. 15,890 people in DLR reported having a disability to a great extent (6,846 men and 9,044 women) and 34,109 people to some extent (15,930 men and 18,179 women). It is important to note that this is a self-reported figure (people deem themselves to have a disability to some extent or not) and not an official one based on official diagnosis, receipt of services or other more objective criteria.

As **Figure 39** shows, the percentage of the population aged 0-24 with a disability to any extent is higher nationally than in DLR for the younger age groups, while from age 15 years upwards the DLR young people report higher levels of disability than the national average. In the age group 0-14 there are 3,344 children with a self-reported disability at any level of severity in DLR and in the 15- 24 age group 6,244.

FIGURE 39 PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION 0-24 WITH DISABILITY

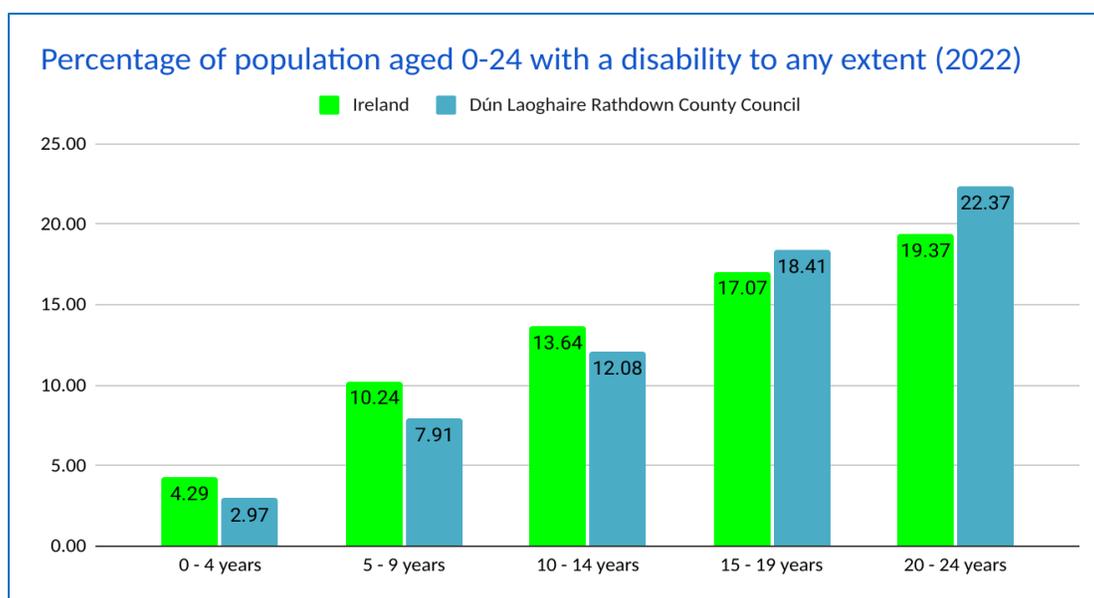


Figure 40 displays the numbers of children and young people who report a disability across Electoral Districts (ED) in DLR. This is important information for the allocation of resources and service delivery. While largely in line with the general demographic distribution (e.g. Glencullen has high numbers), it is key to note the number of young people with a disability in the Clonskeagh-Belfield ED, linked to the large student population of the UCD campus, based in that area.

The Healthy Ireland 2023 survey asked respondents for the first time about long-lasting conditions or difficulties. In total 36% of the population suffers from a long-lasting condition or difficulty, prevalence is more common amongst women than men and not surprisingly increases with age, as shown in **Table 18**. The most common conditions across age groups are listed below in **Table 19**, with visual impairment and psychological difficulties the largest ones for the 15-24 age group.

TABLE 18 PREVALENCE OF LONG-LASTING CONDITIONS/DIFFICULTIES BY AGE (%)

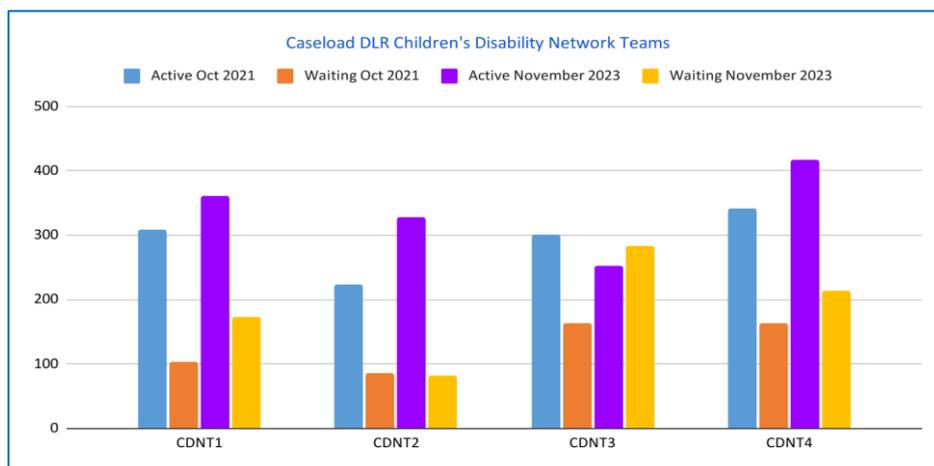
<i>Prevalence of long-lasting conditions or difficulties by age (%)</i>								
	Total	15-24	24-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
All	36	25	24	27	38	43	53	64
Men	33	18	19	26	35	41	51	60
Women	39	33	29	27	40	44	55	67

TABLE 19 TYPES OF LONG LASTING CONDITIONS BY AGE (%)

<i>Types of long-lasting conditions or difficulties by age (%)</i>								
	Total	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Blindness or vision impairment	15	10	10	9	16	19	22	29
A difficulty with basic physical activities	12	4	4	7	14	19	20	32
A difficulty with pain, breathing, or any other chronic illness or condition	11	4	6	9	14	16	18	18
A psychological or emotional condition or a mental health issue	8	10	9	9	9	8	5	3
Deafness or a hearing impairment	7	1	2	3	5	8	15	26
A difficulty with learning, remembering, or concentrating	7	6	6	6	9	6	8	11
An intellectual disability	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1

The HSE Disability Services have been reconfigured nationally in 2021 into Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNT). For Community Healthcare East (CHO6) this resulted in 7 CDNT, of which 4 are in DLR CYPSC area. **Figure 41** shows the active caseload, the waiting caseload in 2021 and late 2023 in these four CDNTs. In total in November 2023 there were 999 children on the caseload and 752 on the waiting list.

FIGURE 41 DLR CASELOAD CDNT



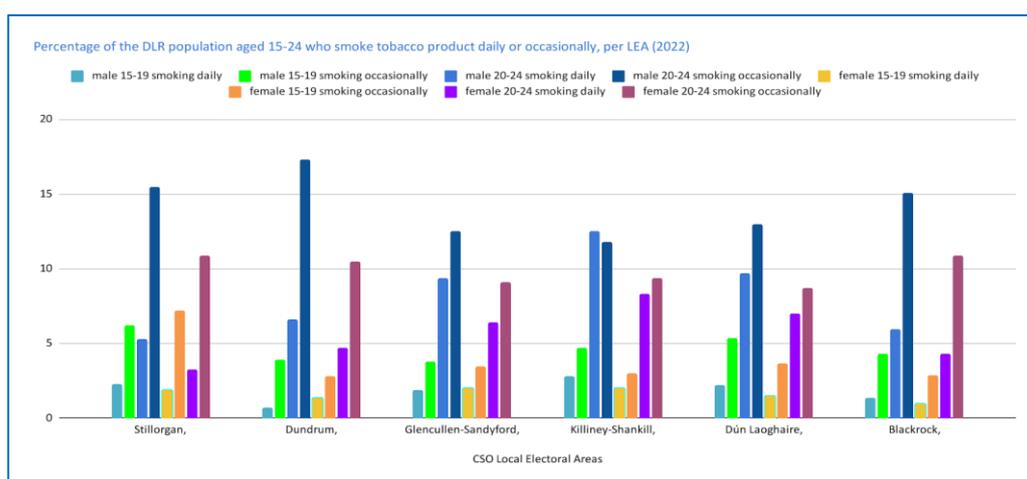
Drugs and Alcohol

Data on the people seeking treatment for drug and alcohol use are reported by the Health Research Board on a CHO level⁴⁸ and for each Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force area. For 2022, there were 97 people aged under 18 and between 18 and 24 treated for problem substance use. Their main problem drug was almost evenly split between cannabis (30), cocaine (26) and alcohol (31)⁴⁹.

Smoking

Census data, displayed in **Figure 42**, indicates that the percentage of young people in DLR aged 15-19 who smoke daily is generally higher amongst men than women (in line with the national figures) and for the 15-19 age group varies between 0.7% (males in Dundrum) and 2.8% (men in Killiney-Shankill), while in the 20-24 age group smoking of tobacco products on a daily basis ranges between 3.3% (females in Stillorgan) and 12.5% for men in Killiney-Shankill. Occasional smoking levels are significantly higher and are lowest for women in Blackrock aged 15-19 (2.9%) and highest for men aged 20-24 in Dundrum (17.3%).

FIGURE 42 % OF 15-24 POPULATION WHO SMOKE TOBACCO PRODUCT DAILY OR OCCASIONALLY BY E.D.



⁴⁸ https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/37426/1/CHO_6_Drug_Factsheet_Ireland_July2023.pdf

⁴⁹ <https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/tables/#results-anchor>

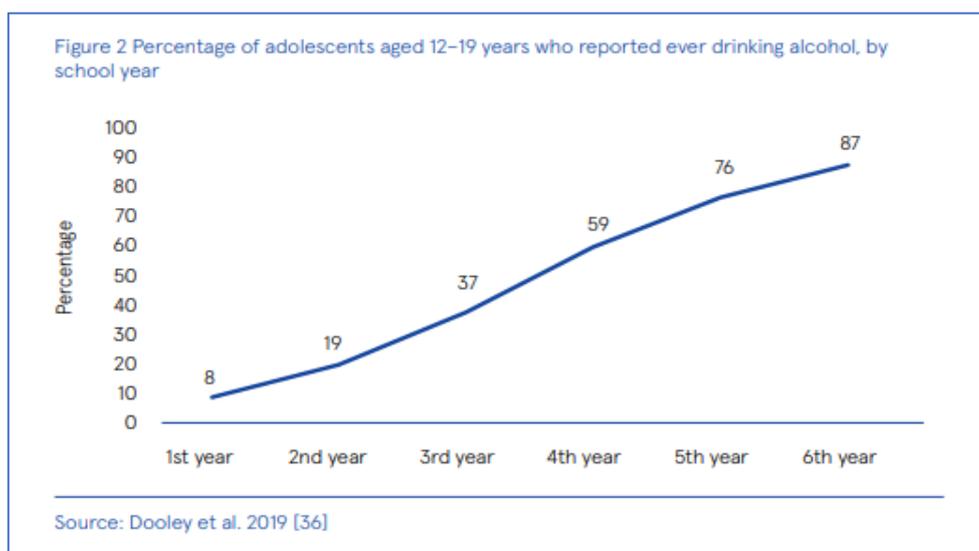
The National Drug and Alcohol Survey (NDAS)⁵⁰ collects information on alcohol and tobacco consumption and drug use among the general population in Ireland. The 2019-20 NDAS collected information from 5,762 people aged 15 years and older across Ireland, including 537 in Community Healthcare East (CHO6). Amongst the residents of Community Healthcare East (CHO6), the following profile (see **Table 20**) of lifetime drug use was found, displaying alcohol as the drug of choice for every age group, including the 15-34 group, of which 86.4% male and 80.9% of the female respondents indicate that they have consumed alcohol.

TABLE 20 NATIONAL DRUGS AND ALCOHOL SURVEY, CHO6

Table 2: NDAS 2019-20, CHO 6: Lifetime drug use, by percentage							
	All	Male	Female	Age 15-34	Age 35-64	Age 15-64	Age 65+
Any illegal drug	33.1	36.5	30.5	38.5	37.4	37.8	10.8
Cannabis	32.6	36.5	29.7	37.5	37.4	37.4	9.8
Ecstasy	9.9	15.1	6.0	11.7	12.1	11.9	0.5
Cocaine	13.0	14.5	11.7	18.6	13.7	15.5	1.0
Cocaine (incl. crack)	13.0	14.5	11.7	18.6	13.7	15.5	1.0
LSD	5.7	9.0	3.1	4.5	8.1	6.8	0.5
Magic mushrooms	7.6	11.0	5.0	4.9	11.4	9.0	1.0
Amphetamines	4.2	7.0	2.1	1.7	6.5	4.7	2.0
Poppers	3.3	5.6	1.6	1.5	5.5	4.0	0.0
New psychoactive substances	3.6	4.3	3.2	5.8	3.6	4.4	0.0
Solvents	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.5	1.7	1.3	0.0
Crack	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Heroin	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0
Opioid pain relievers	51.0	48.6	52.9	44.1	57.2	52.4	44.4
Sedatives or tranquillisers	16.6	15.2	17.7	10.8	18.6	15.7	20.9
Anabolic steroids	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Methadone	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Alcohol	83.3	86.4	80.9	82.5	86.8	85.2	74.2
Tobacco	39.8	46.9	34.4	31.9	43.6	39.3	42.4

A detailed review of Irish young people’s use of alcohol and drugs⁵¹ includes the following pattern of alcohol use amongst secondary school students (**Figure 43**).

FIGURE 43 % OF ADOLESCENTS AGED 12-19 YEARS WHO REPORTED EVER DRINKING ALCOHOL, BY SCHOOL YEAR



The same publication also reports an increase of the average age young people first consume alcohol from 15.6 in 2022 to 16.6 in 1919-20 and describes a slowly decreasing proportion of young people

⁵⁰ https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/37426/1/CHO_6_Drug_Factsheet_Ireland_July2023.pdf

⁵¹ https://www.hrb.ie/fileadmin/user_upload/HRB_Overview_Series_12.pdf

(aged 15-24 years) reporting lifetime, last year, and last month alcohol use. Lifetime alcohol use amongst this age group went from 88.7% in 2002-03 to 73.6% in 2019-20.

2.3 Learning and Development

Childcare

The DLR County Childcare Committee⁵² currently has 196 services on their listing. However, only 185 of these are registered for the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth funding programmes. All of them are Tusla registered. Of the 196 services, 107 are Early Learning and Care only, while 30 are School Age Care only and 59 offer combined ELC and SLC services.

The Pobal Early Years Sector Profile for 2020/21⁵³ (the latest one available) counts 178 early years services in the DLR area, 23 community-based and 155 private ones. This is amongst the lowest numbers (and percentages) of community childcare services in the country and indicates a shortage of available childcare places in the area.

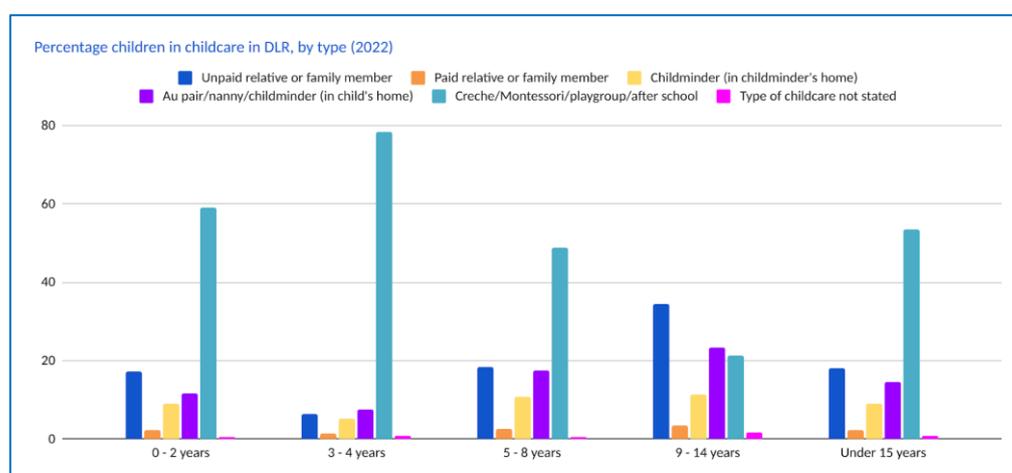
There were 3,784 children enrolled in the DLR services, according to the same Pobal survey, with 403 vacant places, which was the lowest vacancy rate (11%) in the country. Nationally, the waiting lists for babies was highest of all age groups, with a 154% waiting list (up from 84% in 2018/19). This sharp increase is related to the staffing ratio requirements for this age group, which makes it not economically viable for many private providers to offer this service.

The capacity in DLR (enrolments plus vacancies) across childhood stages is described as: 1.5% babies; 14.6% toddlers; 67.2% pre-school; 12.3% school age.

The fees for all types of provision in DLR were the highest nationally, with the average full-time fees in 2020/21 at €244.08 for a full day, €139.10 for part-time and €84.71 for sessional. These averages hide considerable differences between fees in affluent and less affluent areas of DLR.

As shown in **Figure 44**, the Census indicates that almost 80% of children in DLR aged 3-4 years are enrolled in a creche / Montessori / playgroup. The Early Childhood Care and Education scheme (ECCE) plays an important role in this uptake, as the scheme provides free care for pre-school children for 3 hours a day (5 days/week; 38 weeks per year). In the earlier age group of 0-2 just under 60% receive care from these services; a number which may be skewed by the fact that very few childcare services actually offer care for babies under 1 year of age.

FIGURE 44 % CHILDREN IN CHILDCARE IN DLR BY TYPE

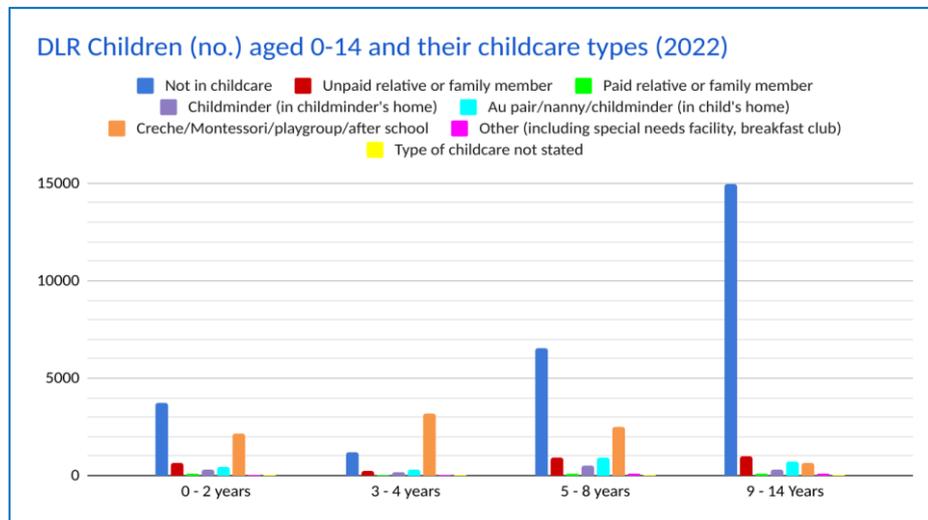


⁵² Correspondence with DLR County Childcare team.

⁵³ https://www.pobal.ie/app/uploads/2022/05/Pobal_22_EY_20-21-Report_final_2.pdf

Figure 45 shows the numbers of children and young people in childcare of different types. It shows the not insignificant role of unpaid family members as childcare providers for children of all ages outside of the ECCE cohort.

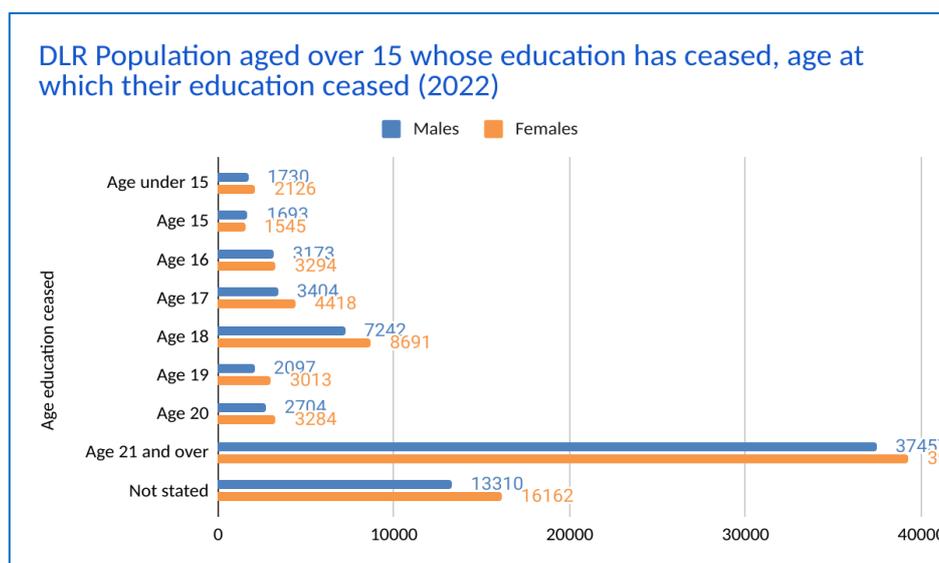
FIGURE 45 CHILDREN 0-14 BY CHILDCARE TYPE IN DLR



Educational Attainment

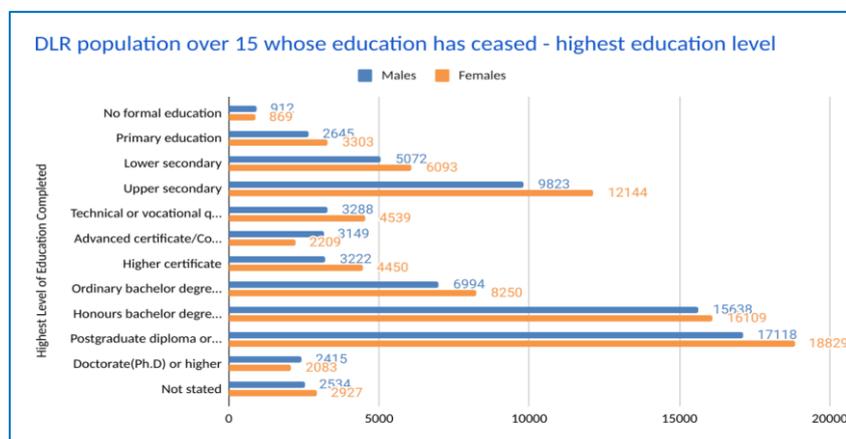
According to the 2022 Census, there are 18,894 people (10,292 women and 8,602 men) in DLR aged over 15 who are no longer in education and whose highest level of education is lower than Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) Level 5 (Leaving Cert. equivalent): 10,292 women and 8,602 men. As shown in **Figure 46**, the largest group within this population, at 59% or 11,165 people, has lower secondary level, which is the level of the current Junior Certificate, while 1,781 people (9.4% of this group) have no formal education. Historically, there is a correlation between age and social class and educational attainment, with older working-class areas showing relatively high levels of primary and lower secondary education only.

FIGURE 46 DLR POPULATION OVER 15 BY AGE AT WHICH EDUCATION CEASED



DLR is the County with the highest education level nationally, with 65% of the population aged 15 and over whose education has ceased having a third level degree. This is followed by Galway City (53%) and Fingal (50%). See **Figure 47** for absolute numbers.

FIGURE 47 DLR POPULATION OVER 15 WHOSE EDUCATION HAS CEASED – HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL



The data on school enrolment and retention rates published by the Department of Education report mostly on Dublin’s four local authority areas as one overall Dublin area, making detailed analysis of DLR challenging. The latest publication⁵⁴ on school retention indicates that of the 2,591 pupils who enrolled in secondary school in 2016 in DLR, 98.1% completed their Junior Certificate and 93.8% did their Leaving Certificate - the second highest after Sligo Leaving Certificate completion rate.

School Attendance

The latest school attendance data reported by Tusla⁵⁵ covers three school years in the period 2019-2022. This period was heavily impacted by Covid closures and quarantines, in terms of both attendance and record keeping. What has become clear is that in the reporting period, absences by students of more than 20 days (which must be reported by the school) have increased significantly and cannot only be ascribed to Covid-related absences as they have persisted after Covid cases decreased.

The average percentage nationally of students in primary school who missed more than 20 days of school per year was 11.6% before the pandemic but had almost quadrupled to 40.3% (173,072 students) in the 2021/22 school year. In post-primary education the national average prior to Covid was 15% of students and this figure had increased to 26.8% (69,097 students) in 2021/22.

Dublin, reported on as one area rather than on a local authority level, shows a pattern in line with national developments for post-primary schools, while primary schools’ absentee levels in Dublin are slightly higher than nationally (this was also the case prior to the COVID pandemic).

There are 13 primary schools with DEIS status (5 in Urban Band 1 and 7 in Urban Band 2) in DLR and 5 secondary schools. Traditionally, DEIS schools have higher absentee rates. This pattern has continued, but absentee rates increased more strongly in non-DEIS schools than in DEIS schools. In the three school years reported on, the percentage of students who lost more than 20 days in a school year increased from 12.1% to 57.6% in DEIS Band 1 primary schools and from 8.2% to 50.7% in Band 2 primary schools, while non-DEIS schools increased from 6.2% to 42%. For post-primary schools the

⁵⁴ <https://assets.gov.ie/272338/d91a62d5-3550-4df0-858c-e7602d67aa7e.pdf>

⁵⁵ https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/AAR_SAR_2019_22.pdf

absentee student percentage rose from 17.1% to 36.8% for DEIS schools, while non-DEIS schools more than tripled from 7.7% to 24.5%.

While Covid-related absences accounted for 2.9 million days of absence in that year, perhaps the more worrying figure relates to the ‘unexplained’ absences, which had increased across the education system from 542,318 days to 2.23 million nationally. The results for the 2022/23 school year, which are not yet available, will be important to determine whether this is a permanent shift or whether absentee levels start reducing. There is a fear amongst professionals working in the education area that more relaxed attendance patterns have become normalised for some parents and children due to Covid disruptions.

2.4 Safe and Protected from Harm

Child Protection

Child Protection figures are reported for Tusla area Dublin South East / Wicklow and are not broken down for Dublin South East separately. There were 34 children active on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) in Dublin South East / Wicklow in Q3 of 2023, of which 3 were 12-18 months old, 7 children were between 7-12 months old and 24 were aged between 0-6 months. All had an allocated social worker⁵⁶. The Garda Dublin Metropolitan Region (DMR) East Division have been notified through the official channels of 92 Domestic Abuse orders issued by the courts in the first quarter of 2024 for the area⁵⁷. It is not known how many of these cases involve households with children.

There were 1086 open social worker cases in the area in November 2023, 848 open cases were allocated to a social worker and 238 cases were waiting for a social worker, 35 of which were high priority. Tusla data shows nationally 24% of open cases were unallocated at the end of December 2023. Nine areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 24%, Dublin South Central (48%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (35%), Dublin South East/Wicklow (31%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (29%) and Midwest (29%).⁵⁸

Table 21 shows the number of Child protection and welfare referrals in Dublin Southeast / Wicklow in Q3/2023.⁵⁹ “The number of referrals for Q2 2023 equates to about 20 referrals per 1,000 population under 18 years. The rate of referrals ranges from about 10 per 1,000 (Dublin South East/Wicklow) to 30 per 1,000 (Midlands).⁶⁰

TABLE 21 CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE, DUBLIN SE/WICKLOW

Child Protection and Welfare Dublin SE / Wicklow			
	2022	Q1/2023	Q2/2023
All referrals	3,257	946	886
Child Welfare		457	471
Child Abuse total		435	415
Neglect		66	59
Sexual Abuse		79	83
Emotional Abuse		205	170
Physical Abuse		85	103

⁵⁶ <https://data.tusla.ie/>

⁵⁷ Data from correspondence between Sergeant in An Garda Síochána and CYPSC coordinator.

⁵⁸ https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Monthly_Service_Performance_and_Activity_Report_Dec_2023_V1.0.pdf

⁵⁹ Source: Tusla Q3/23 Report (Ibid)

⁶⁰ https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Q3_2023_Service_Performance_and_Activity_Report_V1.0.pdf

As **Table 22** below shows, there were 194 children reported in care in Dublin South East / Wicklow at the end of Q3 2023, which is down from 210 children in the same quarter of 2022.

TABLE 22 AREA BREAKDOWN OF CHILDREN IN CARE WITH AN ALLOCATED SOCIAL WORKER – DECEMBER 2023

Area breakdown of children in care with an allocated social worker –December 2023				
Area	Allocated	Awaiting Allocation	Total	% Allocated
Dublin South East/Wicklow	188	6	194	97%
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow	255	138	393	65%
Dublin South Central	241	94	335	72%
Midlands	257	65	322	80%
Dublin North City	457	2	459	99.6%
Dublin North	358	30	388	92%
Louth/Meath	315	113	428	74%
Cavan/Monaghan	132	25	157	84%
Kerry	144	21	165	87%
Cork	669	35	704	95%
Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary	113	206	319	35%
Waterford/Wexford	376	51	427	88%
Donegal	213	0	213	100%
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	88	20	108	81%
Mayo	141	0	141	100%
Galway/Roscommon	330	26	356	93%
Midwest	281	223	504	56%
Total	4,558	1,055	5,613	81%

As shown in **Table 23**, most areas nationally (12) reported a decrease of children in care, while 5 reported an increase in the same period. The highest rate of children in care per 1,000 children was reported by Dublin North City (10.2) followed by Waterford/Wexford (6.2). The Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.2) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.6)⁶¹.

TABLE 23 RATE OF CHILDREN IN CARE/1,000 POPULATION 0-17 YEARS

Rate of Children in Care / 1,000 population 0-17 years							
Area	Dec-22	Nov-23	Dec-23	Dec-23 v Dec-22	Dec-23 v Nov-23	Population	Rate/1,000
Dublin North City	463	451	459	-4	8	44,927	10.2
Waterford/Wexford	404	430	427	23	-3	68,513	6.2
Cork	706	706	704	-2	-2	134,015	5.3
Midwest	531	509	504	-27	-5	96,266	5.2
Dublin South Central	355	345	335	-20	-10	65,564	5.1
CW/KK/ST	307	317	319	12	2	63,009	5.1
Donegal	217	214	213	-4	-1	42,865	5.0
Kerry	158	163	165	7	2	34,527	4.8
Louth/Meath	420	422	428	8	6	93,093	4.6
Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan	109	109	108	-1	-1	23,554	4.6
Galway/Roscommon	350	355	356	6	1	79,912	4.5
Mayo	137	142	141	4	-1	31,968	4.4
Cavan/Monaghan	149	159	157	8	-2	36,446	4.3
Midlands	328	321	322	-6	1	80,193	4.0
Dublin North	374	385	388	14	3	100,654	3.9
DSW/K/WW	413	391	393	-20	2	108,186	3.6
Dublin South East/Wicklow	205	195	194	-11	-1	86,810	2.2
Total Areas	5,626	5,614	5,613	-13	-1	1,190,502	4.7

⁶¹ https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Monthly_Service_Performance_and_Activity_Report_Dec_2023_V1.0.pdf

Nationally, 81% (4,558) of children in care at the end of December 2023 had an allocated social worker. In Dublin South East / Wicklow 97% of the children in care had a social worker allocated (188 allocated and 6 waiting - total 194).

There were 65 young people aged 18-20 receiving after-care support in the Dublin South East / Wicklow area, all of which were in education or training (100%). Nationally this figure is 77%. All 23 young people aged 21-22 in receipt of after-care were in education and training as well (nationally 73%). In total there were 125 young people receiving after-care in the area, all of whom had an after-care plan and an after-care worker.

Family Support Services

Nationally, 68% (15,074) of children referred to family support services in the first six months of 2023 received a service during that period. In Dublin South East / Wicklow this was significantly lower. Of the 730 children referred in that period, only 374 children referred in that period, only 374 children received a service (51%).⁶²

Crime

The DLR area is mostly covered by the DMR East Division of An Garda Síochana, which is split between District F Dun Laoghaire and District W Blackrock, as shown in the map in **Figure 48**⁶³. However, Marlay Park is in the DMR South Division and the Woodbine / Booterstown areas are in the DMR South Central Division.

FIGURE 48 DUBLIN METROPOLITAN REGION (DMR) EAST DIVISION OF AN GARDA SÍOCHANA



There are three Garda stations in the Dún Laoghaire District 'F': Cabinteely, Dún Laoghaire, and Shankill, and three Garda stations in the Blackrock District 'W': Blackrock, Dundrum and Stepside. For five of these, there are statistics available on the CSO website, reporting the following statistics for recorded crime incidents in 2022 (**Table 24**).

⁶² https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Q3_2023_Service_Performance_and_Activity_Report_V1.0.pdf

⁶³ Source: https://www.dlrco.ie/sites/default/files/atoms/files/draft_dlr_ipc_six_year_strategy_2023-2028.pdf

TABLE 24 CENSUS STATISTICS (2022), REPORTING RECORDED CRIME INCIDENTS IN 5 GARDA STATIONS IN DLR

	Blackrock	Cabinteely	Dun Laoghaire	Dundrum	Shankill
Attempts/threats to murder, assaults, harassments and related offences	91	74	147	203	78
Dangerous or negligent acts	28	23	41	54	20
Kidnapping and related offences	1	0	3	0	0
Robbery, extortion and hijacking offences	11	9	30	19	16
Burglary and related offences	89	48	81	167	42
Theft and related offences	519	478	724	1306	272
Fraud, deception and related offences	127	71	150	196	48
Controlled drug offences	37	47	114	123	68
Weapons and Explosives Offences	10	2	17	21	8
Damage to property and to the environment	71	89	190	200	102
Public order and other social code offences	142	61	222	205	64
Offences against government, justice procedures and organisation of crime	14	23	318	53	18
TOTAL	1140	925	2037	2547	736

Provisional statistics of recorded crime in the Dublin Metropolitan Region East Division in the period 2023 Q1-Q3 (see **Table 25**) indicate four reported cases of “Abandoning a child, child neglect and cruelty” in the area, while for the whole year 2022, 13 of such cases were reported to the Garda⁶⁴. There appears to be a decreasing trend of these cases in the area.

TABLE 25 REPORTED INCIDENTS OF ABANDONING OF A CHILD, NEGLECT AND CRUELTY IN DUBLIN METROPOLITAN, EAST DIVISION

Reported incidents of abandoning of a child, neglect and cruelty in Dublin Metropolitan East	
2020	19
2021	22
2022	13

2.5 Economic Security and Opportunity

Poverty and Deprivation

The most recent national data from the CSO on poverty (SILC, 2022)⁶⁵ show that 13.1% of the Irish population was at risk of poverty,⁶⁶ showing that their household equivalised disposable income

⁶⁴ https://ws.cso.ie/public/api.restful/PxStat.Data.Cube_API.ReadDataset/CJQ06/XLSX/2007/en

⁶⁵ <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-silc/surveyonincomeandlivingconditionssilc2022/poverty/>

⁶⁶ A useful explanation of the different poverty indicators can be found here:

https://www.cso.ie/en/media/csoie/releasespublications/documents/ep/surveyonincomeandlivingconditions/2022/factsheets/0127101_At_Risk_of_Poverty_Explained_Leaflet.pdf

(taking account of household composition) is lower than 60% of the median equivalised disposable income.

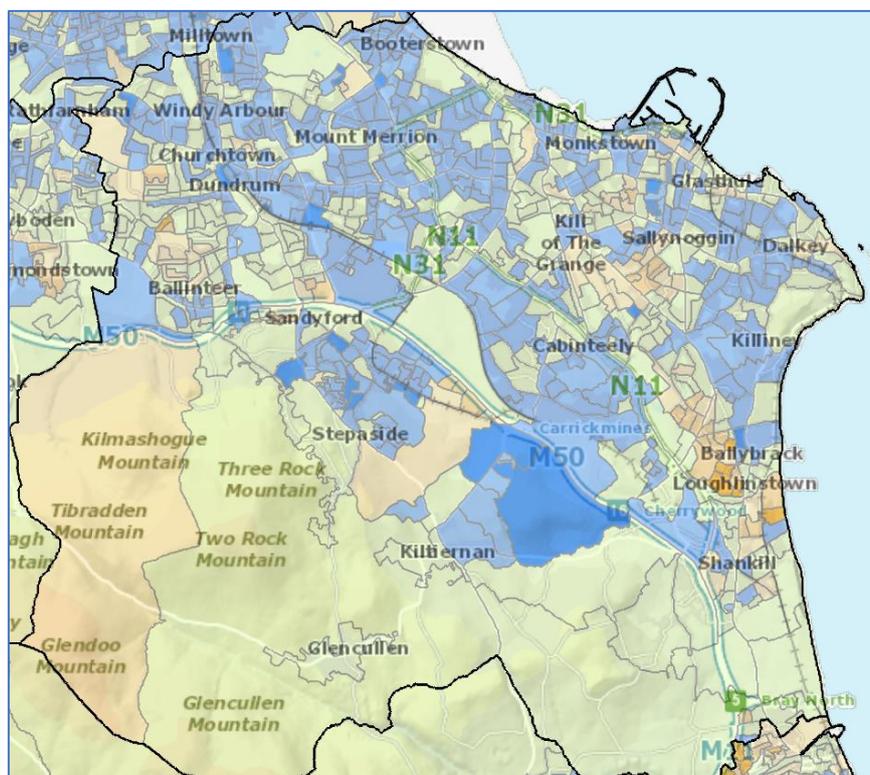
Of the total population 17.7% experienced enforced deprivation, which means a household experiences two or more deprivation items from a standard list of 11 items, including meals, clothes and heating, while 5.3% of the population lived in consistent poverty: they are both at risk of poverty and experience two or more deprivation items. With a population of 5,149,139 people, that means 272,904 people in Ireland live in consistent poverty. For all these indicators, females score higher than males.

Of all people living in consistent poverty 34% are aged 0-17, which amounts to 92,787 children - or 7.5% of all children in that age group. Of the 674,537 people at risk of poverty, 28.1% or 189,545 are children aged 0-17 while of the 911,398 people experiencing enforced deprivation, 27.3% or 248,812 are aged 0-17, which is almost 20% of all children of that age (19.9%).

Key correlations exist between poverty and health status, employment status, tenure type and household composition, with people in one-parent households, people indicating they are unemployed, people in rented accommodation and people with chronic health conditions significantly more likely to experience poverty.

The Pobal HP deprivation index gives the most detailed insight into the geographical distribution of relative deprivation, based on the latest Census statistics. The 2022 data show that six Small Areas in DLR are classified as Very Disadvantaged (lower than -20 on the deprivation scale), and an additional 27 Small Areas are Disadvantaged (between -10 and -20). These areas are indicated in orange in the map in **Figure 49**.⁶⁷

FIGURE 49 POBAL HP DEPRIVATION INDEX DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN



⁶⁷ Source: <https://data.pobal.ie/portal/apps/experiencebuilder/experience/?id=3b0acba7eb694ffa85340a60f81d516c>

Details on the six very disadvantaged Small Areas in DLR show that five of them are in a cluster close together in the Southeast of the County (Ballybrack - Loughlinstown), while one, Meadowmount is located centre-west near Dundrum. There are 1896 people living in these six Small Areas. It is striking that some of the areas are right next to very affluent areas. Some of the Small Areas in the East have deteriorated in terms of the deprivation index, they have become very disadvantaged, while in 2016 they were disadvantaged.

The maps below (**Figures 50,51 and 52**) show the six Very Disadvantaged Small Areas in more detail, including the differences in Ballybrack / Loughlinstown between 2016 and 2022.

FIGURE 50 BALLINTEER MEADOWMOUNT 2022

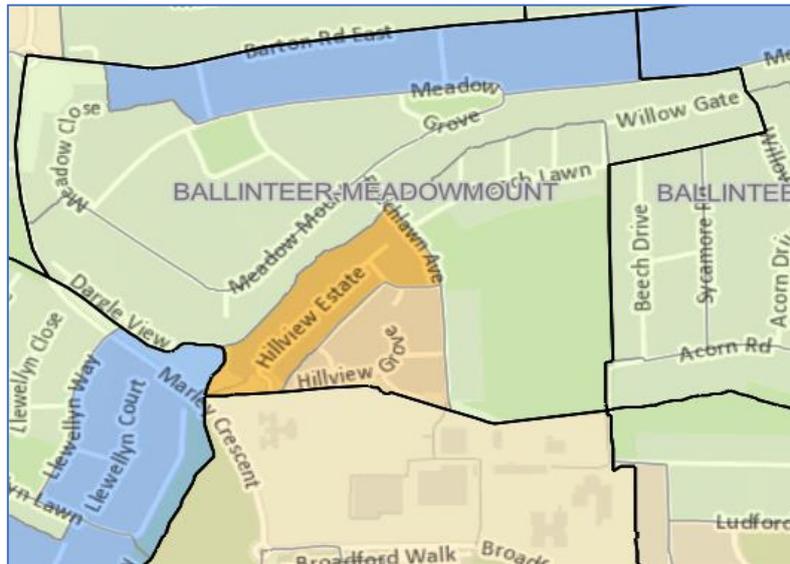


FIGURE 52 LOUGHLINSTOWN/BALLYBRACK 2016

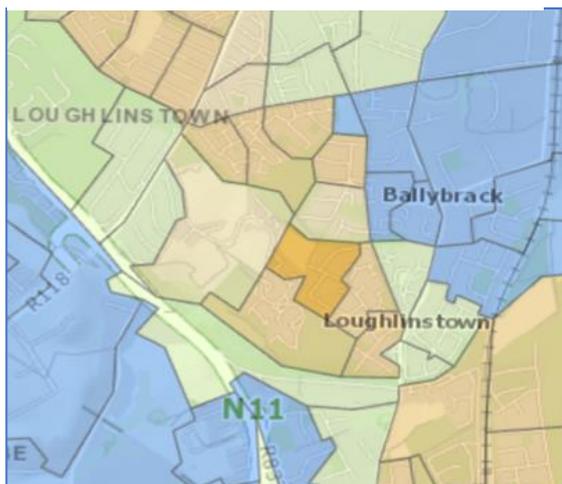


FIGURE 51 LOUGHLINSTOWN/BALLYBRACK 2022

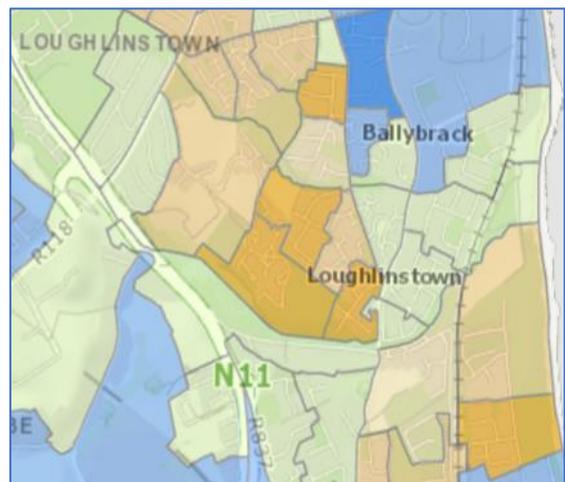


Table 26 provides details of the very disadvantaged areas in DLR.

TABLE 26 SIX VERY DISADVANTAGED SMALL AREAS IN DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN, POBAL HP INDEX

Small Area ID	267121002	267097007	267097009	267097010	267097018	267012004
ED Name	Shankill-rathsallagh	Killiney South	Killiney South	Killiney South	Killiney South	Ballinteer-meadowmt
County	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin
Pobal HP Index 2022	-20.87	-23.61	-22.49	-23.47	-20.57	-20.37
Pobal HP Description 2022	Very Disadvantaged	Very Disadvantaged	Very Disadvantaged	Very Disadvantaged	Very Disadvantaged	Very Disadvantaged
Population 2022	367	330	340	355	277	227
Age Dependency Ratio 2022 %	35.15	28.79	32.94	40	37.91	40.09
Lone Parent Ratio 2022 %	44	46.15	41.38	50	32	26.67
Prop. Primary Education Only 2022 %	25.94	20.78	19.15	29.73	28.64	28.57
Proportion at 3rd Level 2022 %	13.53	9.96	11.06	13.13	15.08	11.31
Unemployment Rate - Male	17.39	21.88	16.84	21.05	12.86	5.77
Unemployment Rate - Female	14.67	16.46	14.29	7.58	19.05	17.65

Households with children that are headed by one parent are at significantly more risk of poverty and deprivation. The most recent analysis of European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU SILC) data shows that 43% of people in a household headed by one adult with children under 18 experiences deprivation⁶⁸ (general population is 17.7%), while 23.8% of people in these households were at risk of poverty (general population figure is 13.1%). The same data shows that 14.1% of households headed by one parent experiences consistent poverty, almost three times the national average of 5.3%.

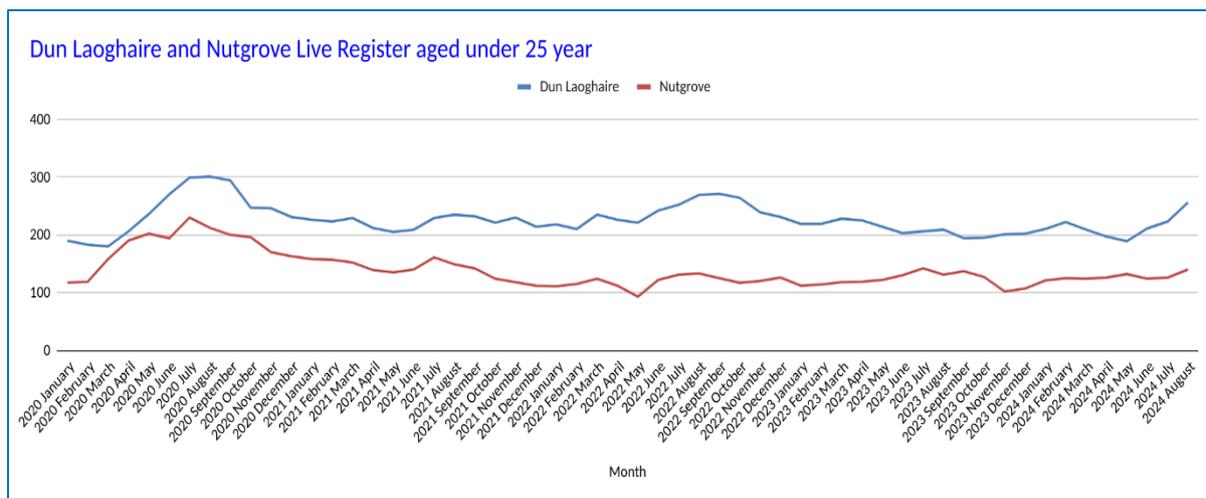
Youth Unemployment

There were 396 people aged under 25 on the Live Register in the DLR area in August 2024: 256 in the Dun Laoghaire office and 140 in the Nutgrove office⁶⁹ which is one of the lowest levels since early 2020, however it shows an increase since the end of 2023. **Figure 53** shows fluctuations in youth unemployment between January 2020 and December 2023.

⁶⁸ <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-silc/surveyonincomeandlivingconditionssilc2022/poverty/>

⁶⁹ <https://data.cso.ie/>

FIGURE 53 LIVE REGISTER OF PEOPLE AGED UNDER 25 FOR DUN LAOGHAIRE AND NUTGROVE OFFICES



Homelessness and Housing

As shown in **Table 27**, in Dublin, during the week of 25th-31st of March 2024, there were 1,453 families in emergency accommodation.⁷⁰ Of that figure, 769 were single parent families.

TABLE 27 FAMILIES ACCESSING EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION 25-31 MARCH 2024

Families accessing emergency accommodation during the week of 25-31 March 2024

Region	Total Families	(of which) single parent families	Total Adults	Total child dependants
Dublin	1,453	769	2,512	3,181
Mid-East	98	55	172	149
Midlands	32	26	38	49
Mid-West	94	58	145	160
North-East	52	37	78	113
North-West	23	16	31	52
South-East	37	28	47	60
South-West	83	59	115	151
West	109	50	172	232
TOTAL	1,981	1,098 (55%)	3,310	4,147

The local authority in their April Monthly Report on Homelessness in the Dublin Region 2024⁷¹, reported 84 homeless families for the DLR area, shown in **Table 28**.

TABLE 28 HOMELESS FAMILIES AS PER CENSUS 2022

3.4 Homeless Services				
Table 11: Homeless Services				
	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4
No. of Homeless Families	77	81	81	84
No. of Homeless Individuals	156	157	150	160
No. of Allocations to homeless individuals/families	15	27	53	69
No. of social housing offers made to homeless individuals/families who have signed for or accepted a tenancy	7	13	13	17
No. of Housing First Tenancies	4	8	13	21

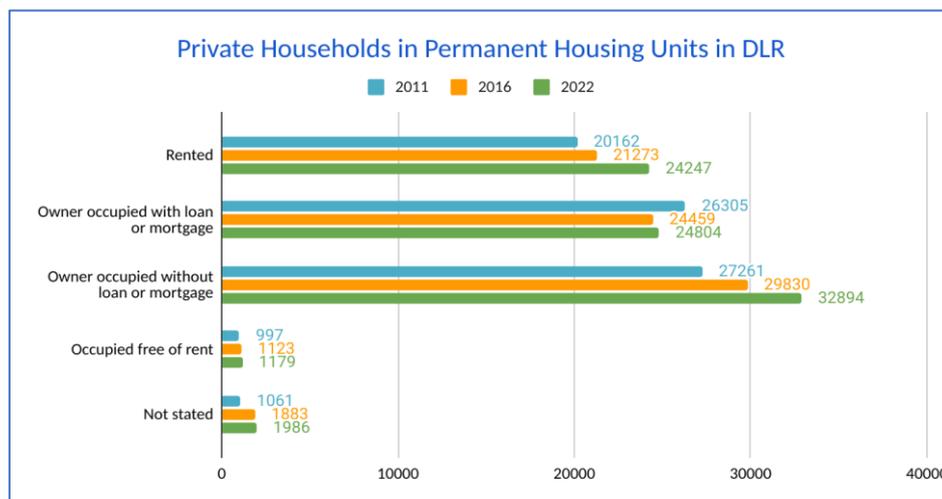
Census 2022 data on housing tenure in DLR shows there are two types of occupier status that are increasing since 2011, displayed in **Figure 54** below: rented (5.5% between 2011 and 2016: and 14% since 2016) and owner occupied without a loan or mortgage (9.4% between 2011 and 2016: and 10.3%

⁷⁰ Source: 291514_ad110785-912f-4e64-a83b-f82262017212.pdf

⁷¹ [Report-to-Dublin-LAs-April-2024.pdf \(homelessdublin.ie\)](#)

since 2016), while owner occupied with a mortgage or loan is a category that shrank between 2022 and 2016 and experienced only 1.4% growth since 2016.

FIGURE 54 PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS IN PERMANENT HOUSING UNITS IN DLR



Census 2022 data on rented households in DLR shows that 17,807 households (48,794 people) are rented from private landlords, while 5,245 households (13,449 people) are rented from the local authority. **Table 51** in **Appendix 5** shows a stable occupancy rate of housing in DLR (90.9% in 2016 vs 91.8% in 2022). The largest proportion of non-occupied households is made up of vacant houses (63.3% of non-occupied houses and 8.2% of the total housing stock). The number of temporarily absent households is almost a quarter lower in 2022 compared with 2016, while doubling of holiday homes is recorded, from 192 to 444.

2.6 Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World

Loneliness

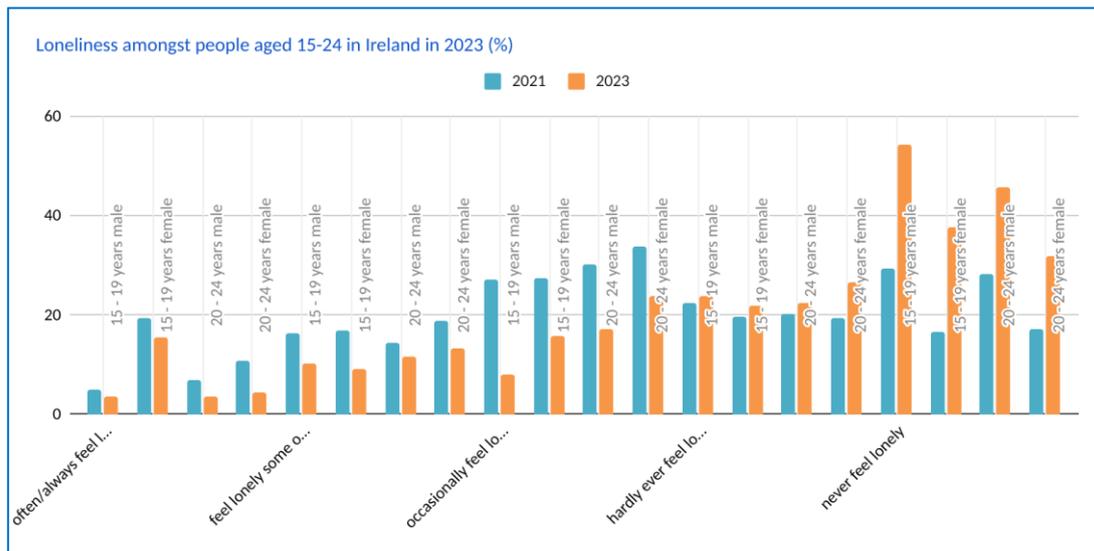
Loneliness is a key factor impacting on mental health, and for young people the effects of loneliness can be wide-ranging⁷², including self-harm, unhealthy lifestyle choices (e.g. smoking) and lower educational results.

National data from Healthy Ireland 2023 (see **Figure 55** below) indicates that women aged 15-19 are the group most likely to state they often/always feel lonely, at 15.6% in 2023. This level is down from 19.4% for the same group in 2021 but contrasts starkly with men in the same age group, of whom 3.6% in 2023 indicated they often/always feel lonely. In 2021 this level was 4.9%.⁷³

⁷² <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/unlock-loneliness/loneliness-young-people-research-briefing> and <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20220203/Loneliness-during-teenage-years-increases-risk-of-many-negative-outcomes.aspx>

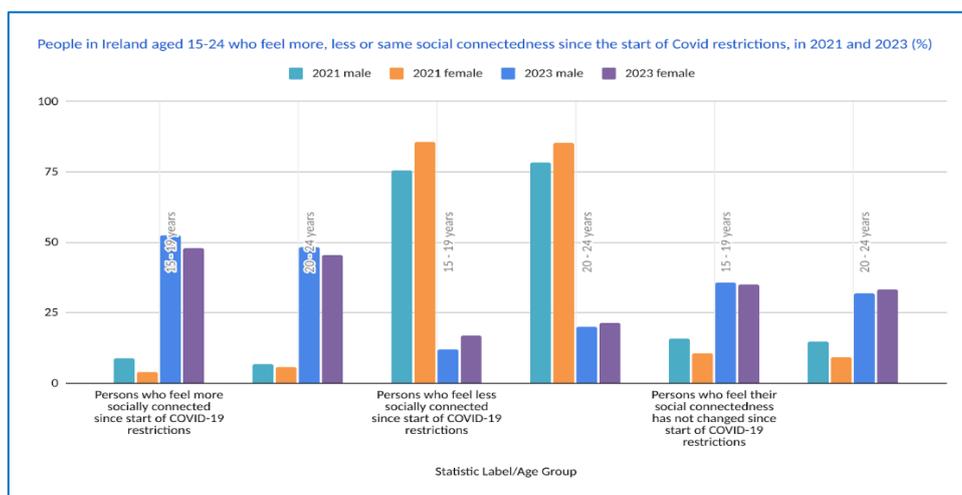
⁷³ Source: Healthy Ireland 2023, CSO

FIGURE 55 LONELINESS AMONGST PEOPLE AGED 15-24 IN IRELAND IN 2023 (%)



Looking at the reported levels of connectedness amongst young people in Ireland during the Covid period (see Figure 56 below), shows a recovery of reported feelings of connectedness in 2023 compared with 2021, which was in the middle of Covid restrictions.⁷⁴

FIGURE 56 PEOPLE IN IRELAND AGED 15-24 WHO FEEL MORE, LESS OR SAME SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS SINCE THE START OF COVID RESTRICTIONS, IN 2021 AND 2023 (%)



Volunteering

As shown in Table 29, children and young people in DLR are involved in volunteering to an extent that is broadly similar to the national one. Nationally 3% of children aged 0-14 are involved while in DLR 2.2% volunteers. For the age group 15-24 the figures are 11.4% nationally and 11.7 for DLR according to Census 2022.

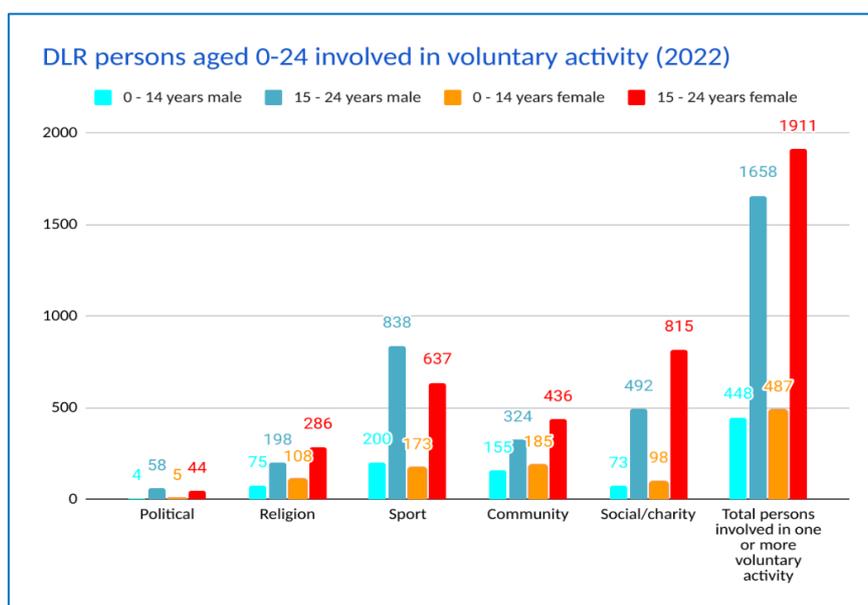
⁷⁴ Source: Healthy Ireland 2023

TABLE 29 PERCENTAGE OF THE YOUTH POPULATION INVOLVED IN VOLUNTEERING (2022)

Percentage of the youth population involved in volunteering (2022)				
	IRL aged 0-14	DLR aged 0-14	IRL aged 15-24	DLR aged 15-24
Total persons involved in one or more voluntary activity	3	2.2	11.4	11.7
Social/charity	0.4	0.4	2.8	4.3
Religion	0.5	0.4	1.6	1.6
Sport	1.5	0.9	5.8	4.8
Persons not involved in voluntary activity including not stated	97	97.8	88.6	88.3
Political	0	0	0.2	0.3
Community	1	0.8	2.8	2.5

Figure 57 shows that more girls and young women volunteer in the community, social and charity organisations, while boys and young men are active in sports organisations. Overall, more girls and young women are volunteering (2,398) than boys and young men (2,106).

FIGURE 57 PERCENTAGE OF THE YOUTH POPULATION INVOLVED IN VOLUNTEERING (2022).



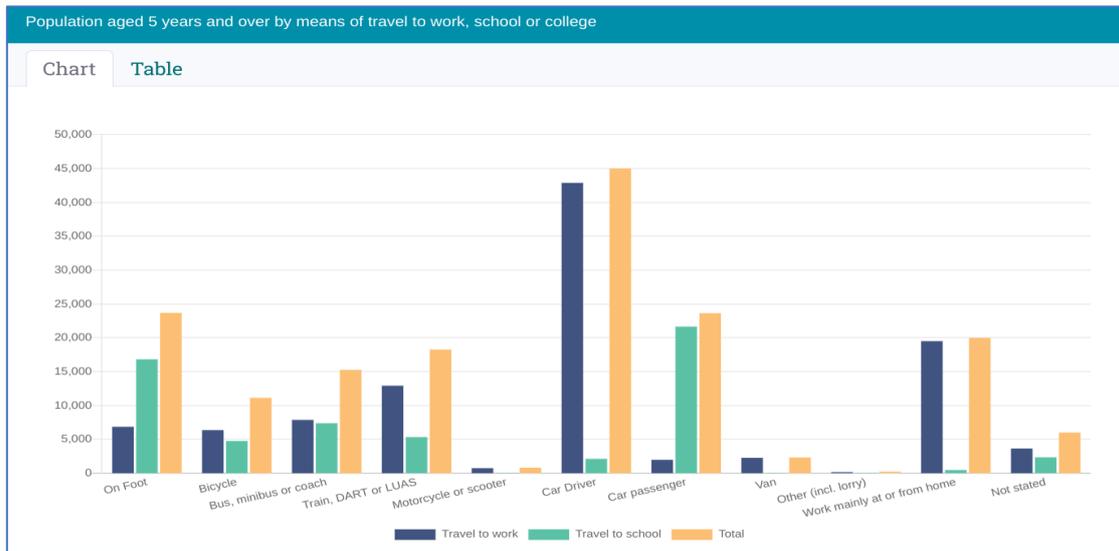
Transport

DLR County Council has embarked on an ambitious plan to improve walking and cycling infrastructure in the area. This will hopefully result in an increase in the number of people who travel to school or college on foot or by bike. The Census 2022 results (see Figure 58) show that 16,827 people walk and 4,763 cycle to school⁷⁵. In addition, 7,390 take the bus to school and 5,342 use the train, DART or

⁷⁵ Source: <https://visual.cso.ie/?body=entity/ima/cop/2022&boundary=C03789V04537&guid=2ae19629-149f-13a3-e055-000000000001&theme=10>

LUAS. The number of people travelling to school by car is 23,778 (2,124 as the driver and 21,654 as a passenger).

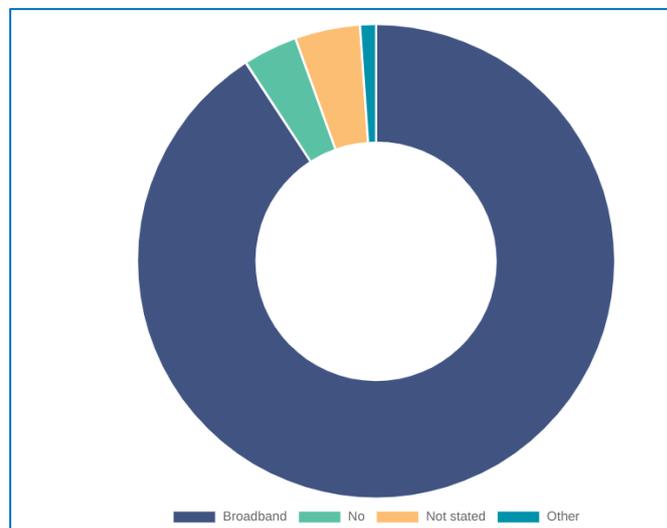
FIGURE 58 POPULATION AGED 5 YEARS AND OVER BY MEANS OF TRAVEL TO WORK, SCHOOL OR COLLEGE



Internet Access

Census 2022 data shows that 90.8% of DLR households have internet access, while 3.7% state that they do not⁷⁶. This is visualised in **Figure 59**.

FIGURE 59 % OF DLR HOUSEHOLDS THAT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS



⁷⁶ <https://visual.cso.ie/?body=entity/ima/cop/2022&boundary=C03789V04537&guid=2ae19629-149f-13a3-e055-000000000001&theme=14>

3. Overview of Services for Children and Families in DLR

3.1 Introduction

This section details the available services to children, young people and families in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (DLR). This is not an exhaustive list of individual services, rather a broad profile of services existing in the area. The categories used are Health and social services; Education; Policing and youth justice; Local authority services; Social welfare; Sports, recreation, arts, culture; Youth and Other services. However, it is acknowledged that many services operate across some or even all these outcome domains.

Additionally, the service criteria and geographical boundaries of some of the listed services range across geographical areas that go beyond DLR, and it is acknowledged children, young people and parents in DLR often choose or need to use services that are located outside the county.

Therefore from 2017-2019 DLR CYPSC collaborated to develop a comprehensive website with Dublin CYPSC (Dublin City North, Dublin City South, Fingal and South Dublin) to identify and list services for children, young people and families living, studying or working in the greater Dublin area. This website is currently being updated and once re-launched can be accessed at www.dublincypschub.ie.

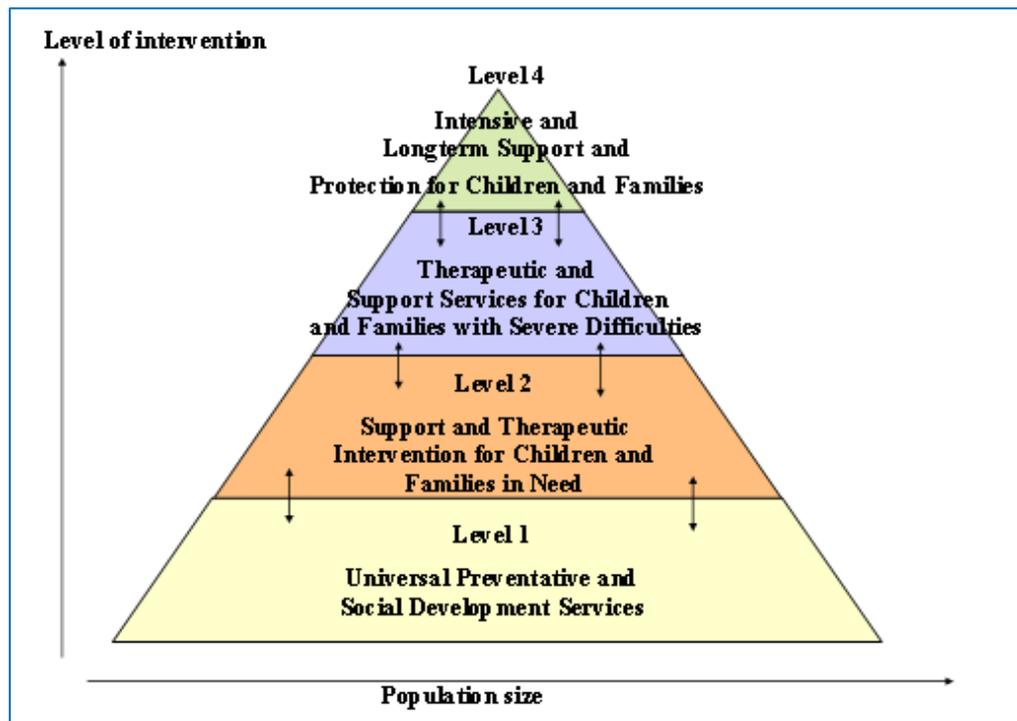
In addition, the 'Let's DLR' suite of websites has been developed over the past 3 years 2020-2023 to support young people, parents and professionals in accessing information on the services available in DLR: www.LetsTalkDLR.ie, www.LetsLearnDLR.ie and www.LetsParentDLR.ie. LetsTalkDLR is a website developed by and for young people on Youth Mental Health supports available in DLR. LetsLearnDLR is the second website which was also developed by and for young people to showcase the different education options and pathways through education in DLR. The final and most recent website is LetsParentDLR which was developed and co-designed with local parents. LetsParentDLR provides a friendly guide to parenting and children's services in the area, lists parenting courses, and shares parent's experiences.

3.2 Hardiker Model

Services are presented using the Hardiker Model to reflect the level of intervention which services are providing from Level 1 being universal preventative and social development services to Level 4 being intensive and long-term support and protection⁷⁷.

⁷⁷Morgan, M., Rochford, S., and Sheehan, A. (2016) Adversity in Childhood – Outcomes, Risk and Resilience. Centre for Effective Services, Dublin.

FIGURE 60 HARDIKER MODEL OF INTERVENTION



3.3 Overview of Services

TABLE 30 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Health and Social Services			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Túsla Child and Family Agency	The Child and Family Agency is charged with: Supporting and promoting the development, welfare and protection of children, and the effective functioning of families; Main services include Child Protection and Welfare; Alternative Care; Birth Information and Tracing and Adoption; Family Support; Children's Services Regulation; Tusla Education Support Service; Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence. www.tusla.ie	Statutory	Level 1 and 2
Health Service Executive Offering a range of public primary care and health services. The DLR area is located in HSE Community Healthcare East (CHE) area. www.hse.ie	2 Community Services Offices: There are 2 HSE Community Services Offices in DLR (Dublin South East [Sandymount, Ballsbridge, Ranelagh, Donnybrook, Milltown, Dundrum, Ballinteer, Sandyford, and Kilternan] and Dún Laoghaire [Dún Laoghaire, Booterstown, Blackrock, Monkstown, Stillorgan, Sallynoggin, Dalkey, Foxrock, Killiney, Cabinteely, Shankill, and Loughlinstown). These are the administrative entry points to community health and personal social services.	Statutory	Level 1
	Community Healthcare Networks: There are 8 Networks in CHE of which Community Healthcare Networks (CHN) 2 to 6 cover DLR; CHN2 (Clonskeagh, Churchtown, Dundrum, Balally, Ballinteer); CHN3 (Booterstown, Blackrock, Stillorgan); CHN4 (Dún Laoghaire, Sallynoggin, Dalkey, Killiney, Loughlinstown); CHN5 (Foxrock, Cabinteely, Carrickmines, Cherrywood, Shankill); CHN6 (Sandyford, Leopardstown, Ballyogan, Stepside, Kilternan)	Statutory	Level 1
	12 Health Centres: There are 12 HSE Health Centres operated by the HSE in DLR: Blackrock, Cabinteely, Dún Laoghaire, Dalkey, Shankill, Stillorgan, Loughlinstown, Sallynoggin, Ballinteer, Balally, Churchtown and Leopardstown. Access to a local health centre and its clinicians and services is determined by people's address.	Statutory	Level 1
	12 HSE Primary Care Teams: There are 12 HSE Primary Care Teams in DLR: Blackrock, Cabinteely/Foxrock, Dalkey, Dún Laoghaire/Glasthule, Loughlinstown/Killiney, Sallynoggin/Glenageary, Shankill, Stillorgan, Leopardstown/Ballyogan, Balally, Churchtown and Dundrum/Milltown.	Statutory	Level 1
	The Domino and Homebirth Service: Operated by Holles Street Maternity Hospital, can attend antenatal clinics in St. Michael's Hospital Dún Laoghaire, Leopardstown Health Centre and Churchtown Health Centre. This service is available to women living in a certain geographical area who are deemed at low risk of complications during pregnancy and birth.	Statutory	Level 2
	Public Health Nursing: The Public Health Nurse Service is a Community based service aimed at promoting and protecting the health of the population. The PHN is involved in the care of clients throughout their life span. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maternity Health Services 2. Child Health Services 3. Services for Adults and Older Persons 	Statutory	Level 1

Health and Social Services			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
	Find more information HERE.		
	GP and Family Doctors: There are 86 GP and Family Doctors in DLR. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 1
	Dentist: HSE Dental Clinics are located in the following care/health centres: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balally Primary Care Centre, Balally, Dublin 16. Phone: 01 2924536 Loughlinstown Health Centre, Loughlinstown Drive. Phone: 01 7785050 Our Lady's Clinic, Patrick St, Dun Laoghaire. Phone: 01 6637304 Find more information HERE. Find list of Dentists HERE from Dept of Social Protection.	Statutory	Level 1
	Hospitals: The main hospital is St. Vincent's on the Merrion Road. (There are 2 private hospitals Blackrock and the Beacon, the National Rehabilitation Hospital, St. John of Gods [Mental Health], St. Columcilles [Loughlinstown] and St. Michaels [Dún Laoghaire]).	Statutory	Level 2, 3 and 4
Addiction Services	DLR Drugs and Alcohol Task Force seeks to coordinate an interagency community response to drug and alcohol problems. Activities include training, research and resourcing of prevention and early intervention programmes. www.dlrdatf.ie	Statutory	Level 1, 2 and 3
	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Community Addiction Team (DLR CAT) is a person-centred support agency which aims to empower clients with addiction issues to make changes which they see as appropriate in their lives. www.dlr.cat.ie	Community	Level 2, 3 and 4
	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Outreach Project (DROP) is a community-based organisation providing support services to people in recovery from addiction including individual support, rehabilitation, aftercare, family support, training and employment support. www.drop.ie	Community	Level 2, 3 and 4
	Youth Drug and Alcohol Service (YoDA) provides assistance and treatment to under 18's who are having problems related to their drug or alcohol use. YoDA provides expert treatment based on the individual needs of the service user. More information available HERE. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 2, 3 and 4
Counselling	Counselling for Children and Young People is available in HSE Psychology, Crosscare Teen Counselling, Barnardos and some Family Resource Centres. See www.LetsTalkDLR.ie for information on all Youth Mental Health supports in DLR.	Statutory, Community and Voluntary	Level 2, 3 and 4
Disability	Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT): The CDNT provides specialised support and services for children who have a disability and complex health needs associated with their disability. There are four CDNT in DLR: CDNT 1 Sandymount (Sandymount, Blackrock, Stillorgan); CDNT 2 Sandymount (Balally, Ballinteer, Churchtown, Dundrum, Milltown); CDNT	Statutory	Level 2

Health and Social Services			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
	3 Leopardstown (Dalkey, Dun Laoghaire, Sallynoggin, Killiney, Loughlinstown); CDNT 4 Leopardstown (Cabinteely, Foxrock, Shankill, Leopardstown, Sandyford). Find more information HERE.		
	St John of God Intellectual Disability Service: Saint John of God Community Services is funded by the HSE to provide supports to people with an intellectual disability and mental health difficulties. They are divided into five regions, and Dublin South East is one of these regions. Within the region they are mandated to support children and adults with all levels of intellectual disabilities from birth to old age. The main base is in Glenageary. Find more information HERE.	Voluntary	Level 2, 3 and 4
	Several Voluntary services operate in DLR such as: Spinal Injuries Ireland www.spinalinjuries.ie Acquired Brain Injury Ireland www.abiireland.ie PRISM DLR: Family Support Across the Spectrum www.prismdlr.com Neurodiversity Ireland www.neurodiversityireland.com ASIAM Ireland Autism Charity www.asiam.ie Open Spectrum www.openspectrum.ie	Voluntary	Level 2

TABLE 31 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - EDUCATION

Education			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown County Childcare Committee	DLR County Childcare Committee: Develop and implement a co-ordinated strategy for the provision of quality Early Learning and Care (ELC) and School Age Care (SAC) in the county. They proactively work in partnership and effecting positive change with partners, providers and key stakeholders and implementing the National Childcare Funding Programmes on behalf of DCEDIY at local level in DLR. They are also responsible for providing information to parents and guardians on Baby / Toddler Groups, ELC and SAC in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown. www.dlrccc.ie	Statutory	Level 1 and 2
Early Learning and Care (ELC)	There are currently 166 ELC services operating in DLR. For more information see www.dlrccc.ie	Private and Community	Level 1 and 2
Early Intervention Supports	Barnardos work with children and families experiencing adversity in ways that meet their needs and build resilience. This includes individual child and parent support, group programmes, and ELC. There are three Barnardos services in DLR, including Dún Laoghaire, Loughlinstown and Ballyogan. www.barnardos.ie	Voluntary	Level 3 and 4

Education			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
	<p>The ‘Early Start Programme’ is a pre-school project which targets some areas of urban disadvantage. The programme is a one-year scheme to meet the needs of children, aged between 3 and 5, who are at risk of not reaching their potential in school. It has both primary school staff and early years staff. The project involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing the child's overall development • helping to prevent school failure • reducing the effects of social disadvantage <p>It is operated in Holy Family National School in Monkstown, St. Johns National School, Ballybrack and Scoil Colmcille Junior National School, Ballybrack. Find more information HERE.</p>	Statutory	Level 2
Primary Schools	<p>There are 70 Primary Schools in the DLR area of which 13 are of DEIS status. See: gov - List of Schools into DEIS (www.gov.ie)</p>		
School Age Care (SAC)	<p>According to Túsla, School Age Care is defined as an early years’ service, play group, day nursery, crèche, day-care or other similar service that cater for children under the age of 15 years enrolled in a school providing primary or post primary education. This care takes place outside of school hours. As of January 2019, SAC services are required to be registered with Tusla and the County Childcare Committee. There are currently 89 SAC (30 SAC only) services operating in DLR. For more information see www.dlrccc.ie</p>	Private and Community	Level 1 and 2
Post-Primary Schools	<p>There are 31 Post-Primary Schools in DLR of which 5 are currently allocated a DEIS Status. See: gov - Schools (www.gov.ie)</p>	Statutory	Level 1
Special Education	<p>There are 9 Special Education Schools in DLR (St Augustine’s School, St Michaels House Special School, Our Lady of Lourdes School, Benincasa Special School, Ballyowen Meadows, St Oliver Plunkett Special School, St Kieran’s Special School, Carmona Special National School and the Red Door Special School). See: gov - Schools (www.gov.ie)</p>	Statutory	
	<p>The National Council for Special Education provides Special Educational Needs Officers (SENOs) who interact with parents and schools and liaise with the HSE in providing resources to support children with special educational needs. There is 1 SENO officer for DLR based in Tallaght. See: www.ncse.ie</p>		
National Educational Psychological Service	<p>National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS): NEPS psychologists work with both primary and post-primary schools to support learning, behaviour, social and emotional development. Each psychologist is assigned to a group of schools. They offer a range of services aimed at meeting these needs, for example, supporting individual students (through consultation and assessment), special projects and research. Find more information HERE.</p>	Statutory	Level 1 and 2

Education			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Educational Welfare Officers	Educational Welfare Officers (EWOs) are based throughout the country to offer advice and guidance to parents who need support in ensuring that their child attends schools regularly. If a school principal is concerned about the attendance of a student they can make a referral to Tusla Education Support Service (TESS) . Once this referral is screened and assigned to the local EWO the EWO will contact the school principal to get a picture of what's going on and to ensure that efforts have been made by the school to help the child. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 2, 3 and 4
Different Paths through Education	Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET): There are a number of alternative education options such as Alternative Learning Programme, Youthreach, Dún Laoghaire Community Training Centre, Tivoli Training Centre, Southside Travellers Action Group (STAG) TASK Programme etc. see www.LetsLearnDLR.ie for a full listing to support young people find their way through education and training options in DLR.	Statutory, Community and Voluntary	Level 1, 2 and 3
Education and Training	The Adult Education Service is part of Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB South East). The courses provide new learning opportunities that lead to employment, self-development or progression to further study. www.adulteducationsoutheast.com	Statutory	Level 1
Third Level	There are 5 Colleges of Further Education in DLR (Dún Laoghaire, Sallynoggin, Blackrock, Stillorgan and Dundrum) There are 2 Third Level Institutions in DLR (University College Dublin [UCD] and the Institute of Art, Design and Technology [IADT]) For more information see www.LetsLearnDLR.ie	Statutory	Level 1
Educational Representatives	The Blackrock Education Centre provides professional development to primary and post-primary teachers. See: www.blackrockec.ie	Private	Level 2
	The Irish Primary Principals Network (IPPN) is a national organisation representing the interests of Principals of Primary Schools. See: www.ippn.ie	Statutory	Level 2
	The National Association of Post-Primary and Deputy Principals (NAPD) is a national organisation representing the interests of Principals and Deputy Principals'. See: www.napd.ie	Statutory	Level 2
	The UCD Students Union represents the interests of students attending UCD. www.ucdsu.ie	Statutory	Level 2
	The IADT Students Union represents the interests of students attending IADT. www.iadt.ie More information available HERE.	Statutory	Level 2

Education			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
	Comhairle na nÓg is the youth council representing the interests of secondary school students in the county. It is coordinated by Foróige and supported by DLR County Council. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 2

TABLE 32 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - POLICING AND YOUTH JUSTICE

Policing and Youth Justice			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
An Garda Síochána	There are 5 Garda Stations in DLR, located in; Dundrum, Blackrock, Dún Laoghaire, Cabinteely, and Shankill. Services in Garda Stations include Juvenile Liaison Officers. An Garda Síochána provide a range of safe and secure services to residents and the communities including Child Protection and Child Welfare.	Statutory	Level 1-4
	There are 3 Garda Youth Diversion Projects in DLR; SAY Garda Project, Castle Garda Project and LAB. There are Community based educational, recreational, skills building interventions for children under 18 at risk of criminal behaviour. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 2
Young People's Probation	Le Chéile Mentoring is a national, volunteer mentoring and family support service, which works with young people and their families, where the young person is involved in or at risk of offending. Established in 2005, the service work in partnership with the Probation Service, An Garda Síochána, Oberstown Children Detention Campus and other agencies to reduce the level of crime in the community. www.lecheile.ie	Voluntary	Level 2 and 3

TABLE 33 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

Local Authority Services			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	DLR County Council is responsible for housing and community, roads and transportation, urban planning and development, amenity and culture , and environment . The council has 40 elected members. See: www.dlrcoco.ie	Statutory	Level 1 and 2
Housing	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Housing Dept offer general advice on housing such as social housing support services and advice for those in private rented accommodation.	Statutory	Level 2
	DLR County Council offers a Homeless Assessment and Placement Service to those that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in DLR. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 3 and 4

TABLE 34 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Welfare			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Travellers	Southside Travellers Action Group (STAG) located in Sandyford is a provider of accommodation support, education and training services, employment, Traveller Health-care and youth services to over Traveller families resident in the DLR area. Travellers in DLR can contact STAG with queries about social welfare, medical cards, rent arrears and homelessness, Domestic Violence, advocacy and any other support needs. See www.southsideTravellers.org	Community	Level 1-4
	Exchange House Ireland's National Travellers Services is Ireland's largest Traveller specific service and offers family support, crisis intervention services, addiction services, homelessness supports, domestic violence supports, education and training as well as children and young people's services. See: www.exchangehouse.ie	Voluntary	Level 1-4
	Pavee Point is a national Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) comprised of Travellers, Roma and majority population that works at local, regional, national and international levels to address Traveller and Roma inequalities and promote human rights. See: www.paveepoint.ie	Voluntary	Level 1-4
	The Traveller Accommodation Unit of the Housing Department in DLR County Council is responsible for providing Traveller specific accommodation such as halting site and a group housing scheme to Travellers in the county. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 3-4
Local Area Partnership	There is 1 Local Area Partnership in DLR; Southside Partnership . The community development service funded by the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) offers a range of training, (adult) education, employment and enterprise supports. The Partnership also provides 0-2 years supports through the PEEP(Parents Early Education Partnership)+DLR programme. See: www.southsidepartnership.ie	Community	Level 2 and 3
Intreo Offices	Intreo is a single point of contact for all employment and income supports. There are 2 Intreo offices in DLR; Dún Laoghaire and Nutgrove. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 2
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	Additional Support/Crisis Counselling (Referral Service) Southside Addressing Violence Effectively (SAVE) Interagency Network 087 3935955		
	Legal Support Citizens Information Centre Dundrum 0818 077 430 Citizens Information Centre Dun Laoghaire 0818 077 400 Law Centres Dolphin House 01 888 6344 Legal Aid Board 066 947 1000 / 01 646 9600 Court Contact Numbers for the DLR Area	Statutory	Level 2, 3 and 4

	Dublin District Family Law Office, Dolphin House 01 888 6344/6347/6350 Bray District Court 01 274 4800 Support in Court Domestic Abuse Information and Support (D.A.I.S) – A Drop-In Service for Women at Dolphin House Family Law Court 4 th Floor, Mon-Fri: 9.30 am – 12.30 pm & 2 – 4.30 pm or call 1800 341 900		
	Support for Men Experiencing Domestic Abuse Men’s Aid 01 5543811 Men’s Development Network National Helpline 1800 816 588	Statutory	Level 2, 3 and 4
	Elder Abuse HSE Elder Abuse Service 1850 241 850 SeniorLine Freephone 1800 80 45 91	Statutory	Level 2, 3 and 4
	Migrant Victims of Domestic Violence & Trafficking Immigrant Council of Ireland Information & Referral 01 674 0200 Support for Muslim Women in ICCI (Islamic Cultural Centre Ireland) Community Welfare/Women’s Depart. 01 208 0000 AMAL Women Association Court & Accompaniment Service 089 612 2893 AkiDwa Information & Referral 01 834 9851 Ruhama for women affected by sexual exploitation, prostitution & human trafficking - Freetext REACH to 50100 or call 01 836 0292 Freephone 1800020202	Statutory and Voluntary	Level 2, 3 and 4

TABLE 35 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - YOUTH SERVICES

Youth Services			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Youth Services	Youth Services in DLR are primarily provided by Dublin Dún Laoghaire Education Training Board and Crosscare Youth Services . Crosscare run a number of projects and services in Dún Laoghaire (Cois Cairn, Shankill, Ballybrack, Loughlinstown, Sallynoggin, Meadowlands and Dun Laoghaire) and in Dundrum-Rathdown (Ballyogan, Nutgrove, Sandyford). See: www.ddletb.ie See: www.crosscare.ie	Statutory	Level 1, 2 and 3
Youth Clubs	There are 37 active Youth Clubs and Groups registered with DDLETB in DLR. This figure includes; Community Groups, Scouts, Foroige groups and the Order of Malta. See: www.ddletb.ie	Voluntary	Level 1

Empowering People in Care (EPIC)	EPIC is a national child rights-based organisation that works with and for children and young people who are currently living in care or who have experience of living in care. See: www.epiconline.ie	Voluntary	Level 3
Extern	Extern works alongside children, young people, and families facing challenges to empower positive change and support family unity. The service support people who are homeless or facing homelessness, those dealing with mental health issues and the impact of suicide, people experiencing problem drug and alcohol use and people living with problem gambling. The service also support refugees, the Traveller community and people living with an offending past, to change their lives. See: www.extern.org	Voluntary	Level 2 and 3

TABLE 36 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - SPORTS, RECREATION, ARTS AND CULTURE

Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Sports	DLR County Council has a Sports Development Office which includes Sports Officers, Football / Cricket / Rugby Officers etc.	Statutory	Level 1
	The key aims and objectives of the DLR Sports Partnership are to increase participation in sport and to ensure that local resources are used to best effect. DLR Sports Partnership engages in participation initiatives, Sports Ability, Club Supports and Directory, Volunteer Supports, Active Cities Dublin and School Programmes. According to the DLR Sports Partnership there are 332 Sports Clubs in DLR ranging from GAA, soccer, martial arts and clubs on the sea to name but a few. See: www.dlrsportspartnership.ie	Statutory	Level 1 and 2
	There are three Leisure Centres in DLR managed by DLR County Council; Loughlinstown, Meadowbrook and Monkstown. See: www.dlrleisure.ie There are additional sports facilities in ETB schools, e.g Newpark, Cabinteely etc.	Statutory	Level 1 and 2
	The Cuala Sports and Social Integration Project covers the DLR area and provides a wide range of programmes for after school clubs, projects and the wider community. It provides blitzes, coaching blocks and promotes Youth Health and Drug Education through a series of health sessions based on sports performance. See: Community Initiative – Cuala CLG (cualagaa.ie)	Statutory	Level 1 and 2
Public Libraries	There are 8 branch libraries managed by dlr County Council including the Lexicon Cultural Centre located in Dun Laoghaire, Deansgrange library, Dalkey library, Stillorgan library, Dundrum library, Shankill library, Cabinteely library and Blackrock library. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 1

Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture			
Name of Service / Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Arts	The DLR Arts Office supports programmes and develops a wide range of arts activities and opportunities. They work with local childcare facilities to engage the very young, we have one of the longest running primary arts programmes in the country and we support young people every day. Find more information HERE.	Statutory	Level 1
	Newpark Academy of Music provide quality music education for young people and adults, to strive for excellence while focussing on enjoyment, to train both recreational and professional musicians and to foster a love of music in both. See: www.newparkmusic.ie		
	Music Generation is a national partnership programme whose mission is to create inspiring experiences for children and young people (0-18 years) through music . It is managed by DDLETB in partnership with Tusla, Southside Partnership, Royal Irish Academy of Music, Blackrock Education Centre, IADT, UCD and Crosscare. Find more information HERE.		
Public Theatre	There are 2 Performing Arts Theatres in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, the Pavilion Theatre in Dun Laoghaire and the dlr Mill Theatre in Dundrum. See: www.pavilliontheatre.ie www.milltheatre.ie		
Parks and Playgrounds Community Centres	The DLR County Council's Parks section is responsible for over 1,200 hectares of Parks and Open Spaces. There are currently 19 Parks in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown which include Marlay Park, Cabinteely Park, Fernhill, Blackrock Park, Killiney Hill and the People's Park. The Parks department organises a programme of free events to encourage people to use the public spaces. These include outdoor cinemas, teddy bear's picnic, and science and technology events. Find more information HERE. DLR County Council has also just launched their Play Policy 2022-2028 ⁷⁸ which will be developing play provision for 0-5 years, 6-11 years, teenage provision and intergenerational play.	Community	Level 1
	There are 25 Community Centres in DLR owned and managed by DLR County Council. These community facilities provide a range of services and supports for older people, young people, parents, families, people with disabilities and ethnic minority groups. Find more information HERE.	Community	Level 1

⁷⁸ [Playgrounds | Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council \(dlrcoco.ie\)](#)

TABLE 37 OVERVIEW OF SERVICES - PARENTING AND FAMILY

Other Services - Parenting and Family Services			
Name of Service/ Service Type	Description / More Information	Category	Intervention
Parenting Support LetsParentDLR	LetsParentDLR is provides a friendly guide to parenting and children's services in the area of DLR, lists parenting courses / webinars, and shares parent's experiences. The website was developed in consultation with parents who co-designed the website. Parents can select Services tab to get a listing of all services available to them as parents in DLR or specially search for services based on child's age, what the family may need or what they are looking for. The Parenting Classes tab provides a live listing of different courses and webinars such as HSE Managing Big Emotions, CyberSafeKids Training, Responding to School Avoidance – What can a Parent do? webinar to name but a few. The website is hosted by My Project...Minding You – Family Support Service and features short videos of each service. See: www.LetsParentDLR.ie	Statutory, Voluntary and Community	Level 1, 2, 3 and 4

4. Needs Analysis

4.1 Overview

This section presents an overview of the main strengths, concerns and issues or priority areas for children and young people in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown (DLR), which were identified through a range of consultations with stakeholders (children, young people, parents, services) and national research and an understanding of current outcome and service provision. A description of the consultation process is included in Section 1.4 of this Plan.

After an overview of the key identified challenges, it was evident that many of the priorities were cross-cutting into multiple outcome areas i.e. (Outcome area 1 Active and Healthy and Outcome area 5 Connected, Respected and Contributing). For this reason, they are organised into priority areas and presented (in alphabetical order) in more detail to form the basis for CYPSC actions over the next three years.

4.2 Key Issues According to Parents

The key challenges as identified in a survey by parents in DLR (n=475) were diverse, but some clear patterns emerged. Parents could select a maximum of 5 issues out of a list and the average number selected was 4.1 issues. The top 6 of issues that were selected more than 100 times by parents are presented in **Table 38** below. An overview of *all* issues parents identified is presented in **Figure 66** in **Appendix 6**.

TABLE 38 KEY ISSUES ACCORDING TO PARENTS (CYPSC PARENT SURVEY 2024)

Issues (alphabetical)	No. times selected	% of parents selected issue
Body image (or pressure to look a certain way)	158	33.3%
Long waiting times/difficulties accessing services needed	152	32%
Social media	150	31.6%
Not enough things/activities for young people to do in area	135	28.4%
Cost of living/money worries	126	26.5%
Bullying (online)	124	26.1%

Parents were also asked which services for children and young people are priorities for improvement. **Figure 67** in **Appendix 6** presents their priorities. Interestingly, there is no simple, direct relationship between the issues parents identified and the services they would like to see improved; the focus here is on activities and spaces / facilities for children and young people. Mental health services and shorter waiting times for services are also scoring high. It seems reasonable to assume that parents selected these because they expect these services to offer help with the key challenges of body image, bullying and young people's worries about cost of living.

4.3 Key Issues According to Children and Young People

Children and young people's views were sought via an online survey and through a range of focus groups. The results of these different consultation methods pointed in largely similar directions. The survey results therefore represent a sufficiently accurate reflection of young people's views; where there are additional insights from other sources these will be stated.

The young people had the same list of issues to choose from as the parents and on average picked 4 each. The main challenges identified are shown in **Table 39**.

TABLE 39 : KEY ISSUES ACCORDING TO YOUNG PEOPLE (DLR CYPSC SURVEY 2024)

Issues (alphabetical)	No of times selected	% of YP selected issue
Alcohol use	21	16.41
Body image (or pressure to look a certain way)	48	37.50
Bullying (in person)	25	19.53
Bullying (online)	23	17.97
Cost of living/money worries	30	23.44
Not enough things/activities for young people to do in area	26	20.31
Stress/Worry/Anxiety	25	19.53

There are key differences between the parental and young people’s views, but also some important similarities. The most striking one is that body image is recognised by both groups as the single most important challenge. Worries about the costs of living feature in both groups, as does bullying, even though parents seem to underestimate the extent to which in-person bullying is an issue. A lack of activities for young people is also selected by both groups as a challenge.

Interestingly, while young people identify alcohol and vaping or smoking as challenges, these do not feature on the list of top issues for parents. In a reversal of this, social media are absent at the top for young people, while parents do see it as an issue. **Figure 68** in **Appendix 6** provides an overview of all the challenges young people identified.

In focus groups with young people, most notably the Comhairle na nÓg youth conference, climate change surfaced as one of three main issues as well, alongside school stress and the need for facilities / spaces to meet. The latter runs like a red thread through all the results.

The surveys asked an open question at the end about the one thing respondents wanted to change to make the lives of children, young people and their families better. The key things identified here by both groups were activities for children and young people, places and facilities (indoor and outdoor). In addition, transport surfaced as an area for improvement (both in terms of better cycling facilities and more buses), while parents also mentioned safety and more police, even though these were not identified as key challenges in earlier questions.

4.4 Key Issues According to Service Providers

A survey of CYPSC members identified the following as the most pressing issues outlined in **Table 40**.

TABLE 40 KEY ISSUES ACCORDING TO SERVICE PROVIDERS (DLR CYPSC SURVEY AND CONSULTATIONS 2024)

Issues identified by service providers	Did parents also identify these?	Did young people also identify these?
Access to disability services (=waiting lists?)	yes	No (yes for waiting lists)
Developmental delays and socialisation difficulties post-covid	no	no
Domestic violence (Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence)	no	no
Drugs and alcohol	no	Yes, alcohol
Homelessness	no	no
Mental health: anxiety, stress, eating disorders, worries about climate change and cost of living	yes	yes
Migration: International Protection Applicants (IPA) and Ukrainian arrivals	no	no
School refusal (Emotional Based School Avoidance) and isolation	no	no
Social media	yes	yes
Vaping	no	yes
Waiting lists (for assessments, disability services and CAMHS)	yes	yes

As **Table 40** above shows, there were similarities between the issues identified by different stakeholders, but also some key differences. This may be related to the background and experience of the people who answered the surveys and participated in consultation events, but in some instances this variation likely points to different perspectives on what is worrying or problematic.

4.5 Priority Areas

The priority areas that have emerged in the DLR CYPSC area have been organised into themes which are now presented (in alphabetical order) in more detail in **Table 41**. They are combined with local and national data and research to form the basis for CYPSC actions in the next three years.

DLR CYPSC is clear that these actions need to be ones which are not the sole responsibility of any one of the member organisations. CYPSC actions are those which require the energy and collaboration of several organisations, joined-up thinking, shared risk-taking and a willingness to try something new.

Where the CYPSC members have identified a specific action to address an issue, the action is highlighted in a coloured box, with the colour indicating the relevant National Outcome Area.

TABLE 41 PRIORITY AREAS

Outcome 1: Active and Healthy (including Parenting actions)
Outcome 2: Achieving in Learning and Development
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm
Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity
Outcome 5: Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World
Change Management

1. Activities, places and spaces for children and young people

In all consultations with children, young people (YP) and parents the opportunities to be active were a major topic. This focused on the availability and accessibility of activities and events as well as on the existence of safe indoor and outdoor places and spaces to play, spend time with friends and just hang out without being perceived as a threat or a nuisance. Consultation with preschool and primary school aged children identified play, both indoors (monopoly, playing games) and outdoors (walks on the beach, making dens, playing football) as the things they like most. Teenagers in the Comhairle na nÓg and UBU (Your Place Your Space) consultations identified activities and places to meet and hang out as areas where they'd like to see improvement.

Children and young people identified good friends as the best thing in their life in DLR. It follows that opportunities to spend time with their friends are important, as are places to do so. Of the young people who answered the survey, 20.7% answered negatively on the question whether they currently have safe places in the area to play or hang out with friends and the same percentage selected "not enough things / activities to do for young people in the area". The young people participating in the Comhairle na nÓg workshop also identified this issue as one of their three top issues.

"Besides sports clubs and parks, there are no other activities or venues for young people to gather. It would be nice if the council will organise more local events and activities" (YP, Online Survey)

'Things to do' for children and young people do not feature prominently in the reflections of parents and children on the main challenges or issues, but surface strongly when they are asked 'What one thing they would do to make their lives better?' When asked what services require improvement, parents also mention the need for more activities.

"More activities for teenagers of all ages. Way too much anti-social behaviour due to nowhere for these kids to hang out. So, they end up being antisocial due to boredom. Major issue in our neighbourhood." (Parent, Online Survey)

The wish for more places to gather and play includes indoor and outdoor (sports) facilities. It is important to note that in the open question about desired change at the end of the survey, parents also mention the need for non-sport activities and facilities. The closure of certain specific facilities in the locality was also mentioned, such as the Leisureplex in Stillorgan. Interestingly, the existence of a lot of sports and other facilities is also mentioned by many parents and young people as one of the good things about life and living in the DLR area.

Specific mention of this challenge is made by parents of children with additional needs, including neurodivergence. A focus group for children with moderate to severe disability highlights the many barriers to participation by the children in activities as part of the family and as part of normal school life, including accessibility, suitable provisions in libraries, musical venues and in particular playgrounds, such as bucket swings, toilet facilities, suitable surfaces for people with mobility issues etc. Several parents in the survey also mention the difficulty of finding activities for children with neurodivergence or other additional needs, including swimming slots that are sensory-appropriate, slow-paced Santa experiences etc.

"I have a child with neurodiversity and dyslexia. I would like to see more free/ inexpensive support groups for children with ADHD and Dyslexia. Art and music workshops / camps." (Parent, Online Survey)

"More youth clubs for children with a moderate-severe intellectual disability. Our young people when they go home do not get to access youth services due to lack of appropriate transport,

training, accessibility and specialists (nurse). More opportunities need to be created.” (Teacher in Special School)

The importance of activities and places which are inclusive of children and young people with and without additional needs is well-documented nationally and internationally, as is the recognition of play for children as a universal right. The increase of physical activity for children and young people is an official policy goal in Ireland⁷⁹ and the difficulties for children with a disability to participate in sports and other activities are well-known.⁸⁰ Sport Ireland has a policy to include people with disabilities in sport⁸¹.

There is a clear responsibility for public spaces within the local authority and DLR County Council recognises the importance of appropriate and universally accessible public spaces for children and young people to gather and play in their Play policy⁸². This policy identifies which identifies existing and new areas for improvement and development within the County. The idea of getting teenagers actively involved in the design of spaces for them has gained traction, as a project in Cellbridge (Kildare) with UCD shows⁸³.

“I like the park behind my house, we bring our own music and hang out there, use the swings. It’s good for the mind.” (Young Traveller Woman)

DLR CYPSC recognises that there are several spaces in the county that are currently underused and that could potentially be made available for use by young people. An audit of existing indoor and outdoor community spaces in the DLR area is needed to identify suitable spaces, with a focus on the additional requirements that would enable use by and for young people. Led by a working group and involving young people themselves to create ownership, DLR CYPSC plans to pilot and review the use by young people of two identified spaces, one in the east and one on the west side of the County.

Identify existing spaces and places (community, local authority, schools) and additional requirements for use by young people and pilot two spaces.

The CYPSC has a key role to play in the inclusion in activities and access to spaces by children and young people with additional needs and for specific groups that may be at risk of discrimination and exclusion. In that context, collaboration with the local authority and youth services will continue the promotion of LGBTQI+ activities.

To increase the availability of activities for children and young people with disabilities, collaboration with the Sports Partnership will continue to support existing activities for children with a disability. In addition, an interest has been expressed in exploring the feasibility of a youth group specifically for young people with moderate to profound disability. This pilot would involve local youth services (Crosscare) and disability services (Carmona) and will explore the participation of young people as volunteers to support the children with a disability. It would provide support to staff through the development of training and resources⁸⁴.

⁷⁹ <https://activehealthykidsireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PA-Report-card-full-report-final.pdf>

⁸⁰ https://www.oco.ie/app/uploads/2021/03/MindTheGap_OCO_NUIG_Disability_Report.pdf

⁸¹ <https://www.sportireland.ie/sites/default/files/2019-12/sport-ireland-policy-on-participation-in-sport-by-people-with-disabilities.pdf>

⁸² https://dlrcoco.ie/sites/default/files/2023-12/dlr_Play%20Policy_ENG_SCREEN%20%284%29.pdf

⁸³ <https://www.irishtimes.com/life-style/2024/02/17/we-just-want-some-space-to-hang-out-designing-public-areas-with-teenage-girls-in-mind/>

⁸⁴ https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sites/default/files/assets/document/Towards%20equitable%20access%20to%20quality%20services%20for%20children%20and%20young%20people%20with%20disabilities%20in%20Ireland%20Mac%20MacLachlan%202019_0.pdf

DLR CYPSC is also interested in looking at innovative ways to reach children who are isolated and refusing to attend school through the development of an online youth group, based on the experiences with web-based autistic youth groups.

Support working group and engage young people to deliver LGBTQI+ project
Support existing sports activities for children with a disability
Pilot youth group for children with moderate-profound disability
Explore development of online youth group model for isolated young people

As an ongoing activity, DLR CYPSC supports activities with DLR Arts Office and local organisations in the area for babies, children, young people and vulnerable groups with a focus on the arts.

Increase arts activities for babies, children, young people, vulnerable groups and their parents

2. Body Image

Body image is the concern which both parents and young people identified as the single biggest challenge, with 37.5% of young people and 33% of parents selecting this as one of their five key concerns. CYPSC members also identified body image as a worrying issue, noting an increase in the number of young people presenting to services with eating disorders.

Less than half of adolescents in Ireland are satisfied with their bodies and recently there has been a rise in eating disorders among adolescents in Ireland⁸⁵. The impacts of worries about body weight and appearance are globally recognised as a serious mental health concern⁸⁶ and research amongst Irish young people (2019) indicates that 26% of young people are dissatisfied with their body⁸⁷. The imminent Irish report of the Health Behaviour of School-aged Children is expected to provide more recent details, with the global research already identifying a link between body image and mental health⁸⁸. The connections between body image, bullying and social media are well-documented.⁸⁹ Not surprisingly, the last two are also identified as key concerns for children and young people in the DLR area.

DLR CYPSC is aware of several school-based programmes aimed at supporting young people to develop a positive and healthy body image, for instance workshops developed by BodyWhys and a pilot researched by UCD of the evidence-informed BodyKind programme⁹⁰. In the coming years, the CYPSC plans to work with partners to identify one effective best practice approach and to pilot this in five schools in DLR.

⁸⁵ <http://www.imj.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Eating-Disorders-During-the-COVID-19-Pandemic.pdf> and <https://www.myworldsurvey.ie/findings>

⁸⁶ <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/global-mental-health/article/body-image-as-a-global-mental-health-concern/714C55AA233B4FED1A67061BB7D1669B>

⁸⁷ https://www.myworldsurvey.ie/content/docs/My_World_Survey_2.pdf

⁸⁸ <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/373201/9789289060356-eng.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y>

⁸⁹ See for instance: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8835292/>

⁹⁰ <https://bmcpublihealth.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12889-023-17002-x> and <https://www.irishtimes.com/health/your-wellness/2023/06/27/body-image-at-the-beginning-of-my-career-it-was-teenagers-buying-magazines-whereas-now-its-a-total-bombardment-of-social-media/>

DLR CYPSC has also identified the need to support parents to increase their understanding of positive ways to talk with their children about body image and of the potential impact of their own behaviour (e.g. dieting) on their children.

CYPSC members expressed concerns that some very young children are already expressing body image worries and the CYPSC will explore the need for interventions targeting a younger age group.

Identify and pilot validated best practice school-based programme(s)

Explore need for early years and primary school age interventions

Develop and deliver talks for parents about body image

The Irish organisation dedicated to eating disorders, Bodywhys, based in DLR, will be sought for representation on DLR CYPSC working group for these actions.

3. Bullying

Bullying, both online and in-person, has been identified as a key issue for children and young people in Ireland for more than a decade. The Health Behaviour of school-aged Children survey (HBSC) reported in 2018 that 29.2% of school children in Ireland report having been bullied (29.8% of boys and 30.2% of girls)⁹¹. Among the DLR respondents of the survey for young people, 25.4% answered that they currently experience discrimination or bullying sometimes, while 38.4% indicate that they witness bullying or discrimination sometimes. Research amongst Irish children and young people found that 40% of 12 to 16 year olds have experienced bullying online. 43% of girls have been bullied compared to 30% of boys and 74% identifying as non-binary⁹².

Despite considerable efforts to curb it, bullying remains a concern for parents and children in DLR. Parents especially identify online bullying as a challenge, with 26% of parents (126) selecting this as one of five key challenges for children and young people in the area (and 15.3% of parents (also) identifying in-person bullying as an issue). Amongst children and young people, 19.5% selected in-person bullying and 18% online bullying as a challenge.

“Have schools do more about bullying and name calling in schools and for members of staff to stop pretending it's not happening.” (YP, online survey)

“If I could change one thing it would be for everyone to get along and not fight over social media making it worse because it is worse on social media.” (YP, online survey)

Schools (primary and secondary) and third level institutions are key settings where bullying takes place or originates, even if online media are often used to spread bullying messages. Many policies therefore focus on the role and responsibilities of schools in addressing occurrences of bullying. In the course of the consultations, a more holistic approach against bullying was mentioned which includes the wider community and parents. The Olweus methodology has been piloted in Ireland⁹³ and evaluations in Norway and the USA describe positive results. The DCU Anti-bullying Centre has also developed an anti-bullying and online safety programme called Fuse, with sessions for primary schools, secondary schools and information for parents.⁹⁴ DLR CYPSC will in the next period work with partner organisations to identify best practice and support further pilots / roll-out in local schools.

⁹¹ <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/media/healthpromotionresearchcentre/hbscdocs/factsheets/2018-Factsheet-6---Bullying-behaviour.pdf>

⁹² https://www.cybersafekids.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/CSK_Data-Trends-Report-2023-Web-Version-Final.pdf

⁹³ <https://whatworks.gov.ie/hub-search/report/20/Olweus%20Bullying%20Prevention%20Programme>

⁹⁴ <https://antibullyingcentre.ie/fuse/>

The negative impact of (cyber)bullying on the mental health of children and young people, sometimes as young as 7,⁹⁵ is well supported⁹⁶ and several anti-bullying policies, supports, research, reports and teaching resources have been developed⁹⁷. Responding to cyberbullying was identified as a significant need in the DLR CYPSC consultations.

In 2022 the Department of Education launched an Action Plan to combat bullying in schools⁹⁸ and following on from DLR CYPSC consultations (2023 / Quarter 1 2024) the Bí Cineálta procedure to prevent and address bullying behaviour for primary, post-primary and special schools was launched in June 2024⁹⁹. Pending the implementation of this programme, DLR CYPSC is not committing to any further actions at this time and aspects of online bullying will be addressed in Priority Area 14: Social media / mobile phone use.

4. Child poverty and food poverty

The Government has identified addressing child poverty as one of the key objectives of Young Ireland, the current policy for children and young people¹⁰⁰, selecting the issue as the first of three “spotlight areas”. The DLR area has often been described as the most affluent county in the country and poverty in the area tends to be dispersed and almost hidden in small pockets, rather than larger estates. But poverty does exist in DLR and both parents and young people identify worries about the cost of living as an issue, with 26.5% of the parents and 23% of the young people selecting this as one of their five main concerns.

As was described in the Socio-demographic profile of this Plan, there is a concentration of some disadvantaged and very disadvantaged Small Areas in the Southeast of the County, right next to very affluent neighbourhoods in Killiney. These communities are also close to disadvantaged areas in Bray, County Wicklow and DLR CYPSC has started work with partners in Wicklow / Bray on the development of a strong joint application for the Local Area Child Poverty Action Plan Pilot Scheme.

Apply for Local Area Child Poverty Action Plan Pilot Scheme under Dormant Accounts

Food poverty is a specific manifestation of poverty which was identified by service providers in the area as an issue for some families and children. The Department of Education has announced their intent to provide hot school meals to every primary school by 2030 and moving towards this have identified 900 additional schools for the programme in 2024. This brings the total to 1400 primary schools across the country. DLR CYPSC is interested in the uptake of the scheme in the county. DLR CYPSC will encourage schools to avail of this programme where appropriate. It will also encourage the uptake of the HSE delivery of the HSE Healthy Food Made Easy – Food Dudes programme in primary and secondary schools in the county.

Encourage uptake of hot school meals programme in the area and align with Healthy Food Made Easy – Food Dudes

⁹⁵ <https://antibullyingcentre.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/School-Bullying-and-The-Impact-on-Mental-Health.pdf>

⁹⁶ <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00787-022-02128-x>

⁹⁷ <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/media/healthpromotionresearchcentre/hbscdocs/factsheets/2018-Factsheet-6---Bullying-behaviour.pdf>

⁹⁸ <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/52aaf-cinealtas-action-plan-on-bullying/>

⁹⁹ [gov - Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/52aaf-cinealtas-action-plan-on-bullying/)

¹⁰⁰ <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null>

5. Collaborations and Communications

DLR CYPSC provides a positive and effective arena for collaboration between members and members feel that there is benefit in extending this approach beyond the County boundaries. There are issues which can and perhaps should be addressed on regional and perhaps even national level, rather than through the development of a range of local initiatives. Examples are Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA), social media, bullying and body image. While local implementation requires place and needs-based adaptations, a communications campaign targeting parents to promote safe internet use, for instance, will be more effective with a regional or national approach. DLR CYPSC will proactively seek opportunities that are based on local need for collaboration to enhance effectiveness and avoid duplication.

Proactively identify opportunities for multi-CYPSC collaboration

Over the past 3 years DLR CYPSC has developed a suite of “LetsDLR” websites. These include LetsTalkDLR to support young people to find mental health supports in their local area and information to support their mental health; LetsLearnDLR is a website to support young people through their educational journey and LetsParentDLR enables parents to find parenting services in DLR and includes a live listing of National and Local Parenting courses / webinars and parent stories. To date the oldest and most popular website LetsTalkDLR has had 18,000 visits from 11,800 users. This demonstrates that users are returning to find information. It is also useful to note that there is a spike of traffic in December / January and March / April.

DLR CYPSC will continue to update and improve these websites with consultation from young people and parents. In addition, DLR CYPSC sends out weekly updates sharing National and Local news of interest to CYPSC members. CYPSC will continue to share information / training and different opportunities provided by its members to the wider DLR Network to strengthen relationships and communication channels.

Establish and implement an agreed mechanism for information sharing with CYPSC members

Continue sharing information with the network, using established and new mechanisms

6. Climate Action

Climate change and actions to move to a sustainable society were mentioned in some consultations with young people, but they did not feature largely, and the issue did not surface amongst parents or service providers. The young people who brought up climate change seemed mainly overwhelmed by the complexity of the problem and worried about the lack of direction from leaders in terms of what actions are necessary to make a difference. The Comhairle na nÓg for instance, identified climate action as one of three key issues, endeavouring to make this more concrete in terms of a specific action to undertake.

There is therefore evidence of a leadership vacuum in relation to the steps required to address climate change. Research shows that young people are concerned about climate and willing to take personal action, but that they need leadership and look to the Government to provide direction on this issue¹⁰¹.

¹⁰¹ <https://www.esri.ie/news/young-people-support-more-radical-climate-action>

Equally, the Government has shown its desire to seek young people to take on a leadership role, as stated in Young Ireland.¹⁰²

From a DLR CYPSC perspective, climate worries are potentially an issue because they are part of the factors that can cause anxiety and stress for young people. Mental health is increasingly a problem for young people, resulting in long waiting lists for mental health support and services. Priority Issue no 11. Mental health goes into more detail and describes the DLR CYPSC actions to address mental health issues.

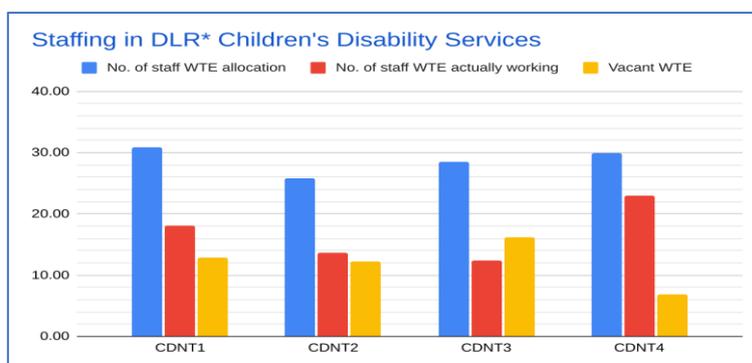
In addition, on a practical level, DLR CYPSC will encourage and support local groups working with young people to apply for relevant local and national funding opportunities for climate change projects.

Support and encourage local groups to apply for funding to address climate change with young people

7. Disability Waiting Lists

Service providers and parents in DLR identify waiting lists for assessments and services as a key issue for children and young people. As described in the socio-demographic profile, in November 2023 children’s disability services in the area had 999 children on caseload while 752 were waiting. Staffing appears to be an issue; of the 115.2 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) staff posts allocated to the area, 48.1 WTE were vacant. While all four Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNT) in DLR had vacancies, the lack of staff was not spread evenly. **Figure 61** shows that CDNT3 has 16.2 WTE vacant and only 12.3 WTE filled. This CDNT is active in the most disadvantaged areas in DLR, around Sallynoggin and Loughlinstown.

FIGURE 61 STAFFING IN DLR CHILDREN’S DISABILITY SERVICES



Not surprisingly, staff shortages lead to long waiting lists. In the CDNT3 area alone there were 281 children waiting more than a year for an initial CDNT contact in November 2023. Waiting lists in the four CDNT in DLR are shown in **Table 42** below.

¹⁰² <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/280807/66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261.pdf#page=null>

TABLE 42 CHILDREN’S DISABILITY NETWORK TEAM WAITING LISTS IN DLR

Date	Metric	CDNT 1	CDNT 2	CDNT 3	CDNT 4
11/1/2023	No. of children waiting 0-3 months for an initial CDNT contact @ month end	9	2	3	10
11/1/2023	No. of children waiting 4-6 months for an initial CDNT contact @ month end	14	5	10	18
11/1/2023	No. of children waiting 7-12 months for an initial CDNT contact @ month end	34	17	15	37
11/1/2023	No. of children waiting over 12 months for an initial CDNT contact @ month end	121	61	281	150

Source: HSE Children’s Disability Services

In conversations with service providers, it becomes clear that children with neurodiversity, especially Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) make up a large part of the waiting lists for both assessment and access to services. This is in line with significant recorded increases in the incidence of autism recorded in most Western countries, including Ireland. The reasons for these increases are not yet completely understood and appear to be a combination of “real” increases, changing diagnostic criteria, increased awareness amongst parents and less stigma associated with the diagnosis¹⁰³. Nationally between 2010 and 2022 the number of classes for children with autism in primary schools increased by 584% from a total of 214 in 2010 to 1,463 in 2022 and in post-primary education grew from 65 special classes in 2010 to 653 in 2022; a 905% increase¹⁰⁴. The expectation is that this growth will continue in the future.

“There should be more services to support and help families with children on the CDNT waiting lists. If your child is waiting to be seen by the CDNT they cannot access any support or therapies through primary care and have no other choice but to do it privately, which costs a lot.” (Parent, Online Survey)

There is a sense amongst service providers that many neurodiverse children and their parents could be supported better while waiting for assessment and / or services and that some may not need (the full range of) additional supports. One key way to support waiting parents and children is increased inclusivity in mainstream places that are seen as “holding spaces”, such as schools, youth services and other services for children and young people. This approach is in line with a recent policy paper from the National Council for Special Education¹⁰⁵, which proposes the development of an inclusive education system through a range of recommended measures. These include training and education for staff / teachers and access to appropriate behavioural, psychological and therapeutic support for children and young people within the system.

DLR CYPSC plans to develop a pilot project to strengthen inclusivity in mainstream services, especially schools or youth services. This pilot will start with an analysis of local waiting lists and research of the specific support, educational and training needs for staff to develop more neurodiversity inclusive services. This project can be aligned with the Government's spotlight area for disability in Young Ireland and monitor possible funding applications associated with that policy accent.

¹⁰³ *Estimating Prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in the Irish Population*
<https://assets.gov.ie/10707/ce1ca48714424c0ba4bb4c0ae2e510b2.pdf>

¹⁰⁴ *An Inclusive Education for an Inclusive Society Policy Advice Paper on Special Schools and Classes* <https://ncse.ie/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Inclusive-Education-for-an-Inclusive-Society.pdf>

¹⁰⁵ *Ibid.*

Support those on waiting lists through strengthening of inclusivity for neurodiverse / disabled children and young people in mainstream “holding spaces”

8. Drugs and alcohol

To the surprise of many service providers, alcohol and drug use did not feature prominently amongst the concerns identified by parents and young people. While 14.3% of parents selected alcohol and 11.3% of them drugs, amongst the young people who answered the survey 16.4% ticked alcohol and 11.7% drugs. In conversations and in-person consultations alcohol and drugs were not mentioned as issues either. Vaping however was seen as a concern by young people and this will be addressed in Priority Area 19.

Service providers pointed out in planning and consultation sessions that some young people’s use of alcohol and drugs is problematic. DLR CYPSC receives regular updates in relation trends in drug and alcohol use amongst young people. The CYPSC coordinator and key Tusla staff are active members of the DLR Drug and Alcohol Task Force.

Collaborate with DLR DATF to support effective drug and alcohol services in the area

Early years parenting

Family support services in the area have long identified the absence of an Area-Based Childhood initiative (ABC) in DLR as a concern. These programmes target families in areas of disadvantage and poverty to support early childhood development through prevention and early intervention. Services also note an increase in developmental delays and socialisation issues, possibly connected to the isolation families experienced during Covid lockdowns.

While local service providers, including Barnardos, have developed effective inter-agency support for vulnerable families with children aged 0-2 through the PEEP+DLR project¹⁰⁶, there are as of yet no sustainable funding sources for this work, which is delivered on six sites spread across the County, all targeting vulnerable families in disadvantaged communities. Evaluations of this work and consultation for this plan highlighted the importance of its intimate size and focus on routine, gentle parenting and structure to prepare vulnerable children for preschool. DLR CYPSC will continue to support PEEP+DLR and embed the work in its work through the incorporation of the PEEP+DLR working group under the aegis of the CYPSC Parenting subgroup and through the provision of appropriate training.

Support PEEP+DLR working group

The PEEP+DLR project currently does not include home visits by staff, which the professionals working on the project have identified as a key missing intervention. In the past, there was a Community Mothers (now Community Families) project active in the area, which fulfilled an important role in providing informal advice and information to vulnerable mothers and their infants through a peer-led approach. They also made important connections between families who needed help and service providers. Consultation with parents currently participating in PEEP+DLR programmes identified the

¹⁰⁶ PEEP+ DLR is a multi-agency collaboration providing intensive, targeted parenting supports in disadvantaged areas in DLR. The successful programme is currently funded through five independent sources.

lack of sufficient pregnancy and postnatal support (including learning how to feed, care, bathe, change etc.) as a major issue which leads to isolation and stress.

“Very hard through pregnancy – had Covid, lack of support.”

“Not much services when pregnant.”

“If on own can be isolating, extended family not around, living in another country so not here for support – care and information.” (Parents from Parent and Baby / Toddler Group)

DLR CYPSC will work to advocate for the development and delivery of a new home visiting programme i.e. Preparing for Life / Community Families in the area to provide home visit services as a first stage and wrap-around service for vulnerable new families.

Establish Home Visiting Programme in DLR

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Network Groups (IECMH-NG) are inter-agency collaborations to support vulnerable families in specific areas across the country with services to strengthen mental health from a prenatal stage to the early childhood of their child(ren)¹⁰⁷. They are mostly active in areas where an ABC is operational¹⁰⁸, but DLR had established a local network as part of the previous DLR CYPP 2020-2023 and PEEP+DLR collaborations. The network has ceased post Covid and members of DLR CYPSC and PEEP+DLR are looking to re-establish it. DLR CYPSC will actively support the network with re-establishment, training and external facilitation of reflective practice sessions for members as and when required.

Re-establish Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Network Group in DLR

9. Homelessness

Another major societal issue which did not surface prominently in the consultations was homelessness. As of April 2024, there were 84 families in DLR homeless accommodation¹⁰⁹. Research¹¹⁰ shows that homelessness and living in emergency accommodation have significant negative impacts on children’s lives and development as a result of reduced social networks, a lack of play spaces, frequent changes of schools and behavioural and mental health problems. The CYPSC has a responsibility to strengthen services for the families and children living in homelessness accommodation locally¹¹¹.

In collaboration with the other Dublin CYPSC a meeting for service providers will be organised to discuss the issues families face and how CYPSC can support them. Another collective action will be to

¹⁰⁷ https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/ABC_IMH_Position_Paper_2022.pdf

¹⁰⁸ IECMHFrameworkDocumentFINAL.pdf (tusla.ie)

¹⁰⁹ <https://www.dlrcoco.ie/sites/default/files/2024-02/Q4%20October%20to%20December%202023%20Quarterly%20Management%20Report.pdf>

¹¹⁰ <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/cfs.12968> and <https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/31348/1/Impact-of-Homelessness-full-position-paper-final.pdf>

¹¹¹ Monkstown Family Hub (Peter Mc Verry); Proby Square (Peter Mc Verry); Sophia; Bently House (Crosscare); Blackrock House (DLR CoCo); Trafalgar House (DLR CoCo).

provide Theraplay training to staff in emergency accommodation hubs and / or to local support services to run in hubs. In conjunction with local service providers practical play opportunities within hubs and local communities will be developed and supported.

Develop better wrap-around services to support parents and children in homeless accommodation

CYPSC organisation and resources

Throughout the consultations it was apparent that the internal structures of DLR CYPSC facilitate the very active and involved membership and participation of a wide range of local services. It also became clear that the structures don't always align with the national priority outcomes, which are fundamental to the CYPSC national model of interagency working structure and that this makes planning and reporting less straightforward. Examples are the existence of the Parenting Subgroup which does not have a specific corresponding Outcome Area and the absence of a subgroup within DLR CYPSC currently of a subgroup for national outcome area 5.

At the same time, areas of work with committees have been incorporated as part of the DLR CYPSC structure, for instance the PEEP+DLR subgroup, which is part of the DLR CYPSC Parenting Subgroup.

It was also noted during the consultations and planning phases that some relevant members / organisations are missing from the membership, e.g. Bodywhys and secondary schools. A review of DLR CYPSC internal structures and membership will be organised to further strengthen the work in the next period.

Review committee structures and membership

A large number of respondents to the CYPSC members' survey commented on the lack of adequate staffing resources for the CYPSC, in particular the absence of administrative support. This limits the number of activities the CYPSC can actively support and is not an effective use of human resources. In addition, there is concern about the lack of dedicated CYPSC funding for local actions. This means the coordinator spends significant time applying for external funding streams to support activities in the area or supporting member organisations to do so. DLR CYPSC will advocate for increased staffing resources and an enhanced project budget to support actions in the Plan for the next period.

Advocate for increased staffing and activity budget

10. International Protection Applicants (IPA) and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP)

Whether it is to escape from war in Ukraine or to seek International Protection, the number of people fleeing their country and arriving in Ireland to build a safe life has increased significantly over the last couple of years. Since 2022 Ireland has welcomed more than 100,000 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and in 2023 more than 13,000 people applied for International Protection. Families who arrive often live for long periods in state-provided accommodation. The risks and detrimental impact of life in this communal type of accommodation on children's health, education, family life and safety have been clearly described by the Ombudsman for Children¹¹² from a human rights perspective. The

¹¹² https://www.universityofgalway.ie/media/irishcentreforhumanrights/files/reports/Direct-Provision-Report_-ICHR_Final-23.09.pdf

reality is that the current acute housing shortage will make these periods in congregated settings even longer. As described in the socio-demographic profile, there are several locations in DLR where new arrivals live.

The national funding streams made available to support local integration activities are channelled through CYPSC. DLR CYPSC will continue to apply for this funding to enable local service providers to develop and deliver projects for and with families who have arrived in recent years to participate and integrate in Irish society and local community life.

Apply for CYPSC-IPSS funding to support integration of International Protection Applicants

11. Mental health and well-being

Mental health and stress, worry and anxiety are serious issues for young people, parents and service providers. This is reflected in the number of people looking for mental health support from the Child and Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS), which increased by 33% from 2020 to 2021¹¹³ and has continued to grow since then.

Mental health concerns, especially school-related anxiety and worries about societal issues such as climate change and the cost of living, featured prominently in consultations with teenagers; it was one of the three most pressing issues for the young people in the Comhairle na nÓg, and in the UBU Your Place Your Space consultation, young people also repeatedly mentioned mental health, increased awareness and better services.

More than a third of the young people who responded to the CYPSC survey (35.4%) indicated negatively (score 1 or 2) to the statement “are you currently feeling positive about things, with good mental health?”, with 9.2% selecting “not at all”. In another question, 40.7% of the respondents indicated that they do not have good friends who they spend time with regularly. Almost 27% of respondents even answered “not at all” on this question. Furthermore, worries about the cost of living are a concern for 26.5% of parents and 23.4% of young people.

When parents were asked about which issues they would like the CYPSC to organise talks, the following topics were mentioned the most, illustrated in **Table 43**.

TABLE 43 TOPICS DLR PARENTS WOULD LIKE TO SEE COVERED IN PARENTING SUPPORT TALKS

Parenting Talk/Webinar Topic	No. of Parents
Helping your child with worries	186
Supporting your anxious teenager	252
Cybersecurity for children and young people	294
Communicating with teenager	297
Understanding Neurodiversity	188

As described in the socio-demographic profile of the area, waiting lists for CAMHS in DLR are long and getting longer. Anecdotal explanations for this from service providers point towards the significant increase in young people with ASD who are experiencing mental health difficulties.

“Better mental health services for young people and access to support to help people cope with their lives.” (YP, Online survey)

¹¹³ <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/mental-health-services/camhs-hubs/model-of-care-for-camhs-hubs.pdf>

“Mental health services for children, learning supports, assessments for ADHD etc. that don’t involve lengthy waiting lists like some sort of lottery system!” (Parent, Online Survey)

A key contributing factor is the absence of a mental health intervention which can diagnose and treat children and young people with mild issues such as school-related stress, worries about societal developments (climate, cost of living), body image and anxiety. Many of these have the potential to spiral into more serious issues when not addressed at an early stage. Jigsaw provides services for this group in other areas of the country and DLR CYPSC is committed to advocate for and support the development of Jigsaw or similar low level mental health interventions in the DLR area, in line with the “Growing and learning well” actions of Stronger Together.¹¹⁴

Support the development of local low level mental health interventions

At the same time, parents’ understanding of mental health and the ways to engage with their children about mental health will be strengthened through effective signposting, information provision and (online) talks by experts in the field, using the LetsParentDLR website to build a repository of webinars and other resources for parents.

“Parenting groups with a variety of speakers coming along to cover various topics e.g. gentle parenting, dealing with bullying/pre-bullying, how to support children’s emotional growth, preparing for the pre-teen years, inclusive parenting, mindful parenting.” (Parent, Online Survey)

Support parents’ understanding of children’s mental health through signposting, information and talks

Traveller mental health is an ongoing concern, as Traveller health overall is poorer than that of the general population¹¹⁵. DLR CYPSC along with many other partners (Southside Travellers Action Group, HSE, The Hazel House, Institute of Art, Design and Technology, DLR Social Inclusion Office and Exchange House) has developed a very successful Wagon project for young people with a local Traveller group and will continue to develop actions based on the recommendations from the external evaluation of that project¹¹⁶.

Develop further mental health project for young people of the Traveller community

12. Parent Participation

To make sure the interests of parents are included in this DLR CYPSC Children and Young People’s Plan process and their needs are taken into account, DLR CYPSC has established a Parenting Subgroup which specifically focuses on issues from a parent / guardian perspective and identifies appropriate supports. Under Outcome Area 1 Active and Healthy, there will be 1. Health and Mental Health Subgroup and 2. Parenting Subgroup which will describe this parent-focused work.

¹¹⁴ <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/healthwell-being/our-priority-programmes/mental-health-and-well-being/hse-mental-health-promotionplan.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2sKkKQNIHgTEHQDmAO0wjUUaCigAKc3UQf6xN6pAthermCifDdo4kdif4#:~:text=Stronger%20Together%20is%20a%20five,for%2>

¹¹⁵ <national-traveller-health-action-plan-2022-2027.pdf> (hse.ie)

¹¹⁶ <The Wagon Project A4 brochure lores.pdf> (cypsc.ie)

In addition, the CYPSC, through its members, has access to groups of parents from different geographical areas and backgrounds and will consult them on specific issues to include parents' voices. The emphasis will be on connecting with more marginalised parents who may not find it easy to have their voices heard.

Engage with local parent groups to get input on CYPSC plans and projects

13. School Avoidance

Service providers mention school refusal or Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) as an increasingly serious issue. As indicated in Section 2 of this Plan, absences of more than 20 school days in any school year have increased significantly. There are no figures available to quantify this problem in DLR or even nationally, but absenteeism due to emotional problems (rather than truancy) seems to have emerged as a notable concern in the course of the previous decade¹¹⁷. The forced isolation and online education during Covid lockdowns has contributed significantly to the issue and services like Parentline report for instance that in 2022 one in almost every 10 calls from parents was about their child refusing to attend school.¹¹⁸

DLR CYPSC is interested in developing an accurate understanding of EBSA in the area. It plans to establish a working group of relevant stakeholders to research the issue and report back. Existing research, perspectives and approaches to address EBSA in other CYPSC areas will be included in this work.

Research (scale of) EBSA in DLR

The National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS) has recently developed a set of national resources to address EBSA at primary and post-primary level, for both parents and schools¹¹⁹. DLR CYPSC plans to strengthen local responses to EBSA by supporting the roll-out of these resources through interactive (peer) workshops with schools and parents.

Roll out existing NEPS / EBSA resources through interactive workshops and talks

14. Social media / mobile phone use

Safe and responsible social media and mobile phone use are an issue of serious concern for all stakeholders. This includes online bullying, which especially young people are worried about, and associated mental health problems. The internet, social media and the connectivity provided through

¹¹⁷ In 2018 one of the first Resource packs was developed in Roscommon to support people addressing school refusal:

<https://assets.gov.ie/41312/42f49a05e354465db8a6aab3b9ba98a4.pdf>

Since then at least three CYPSCs have developed similar resources:

<https://www.cypsc.ie/fileupload/Clare%20CYPSC/ClareSATWebVersion%20Final.pdf>;

<https://www.cypsc.ie/fileupload/Documents/Resources/Fingal/Fingal%20School%20Avoidance%20V%205.pdf>;

<https://www.wexfordcypsc.ie/emotionally-based-school-avoidance-ebsa-resource-pack>

¹¹⁸ <https://parentline.ie/school-refusal/>

¹¹⁹ [Managing Reluctant Attendance and School Avoidance Behaviour | A Good Practice Guide for Primary Schools - 5c49a18e-5f61-4125-86ca-a0c76f068bfc.pdf \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-statements/2018-05-18-managing-reluctant-attendance-and-school-avoidance-behaviour-a-good-practice-guide-for-primary-schools-5c49a18e-5f61-4125-86ca-a0c76f068bfc.pdf); [Supporting your Child when they are Reluctant to Attend School: Guidance for Parents and Guardians of Primary School Children - ea6dbab8-8c8e-4658-9ec1-e4e5b274532d.pdf \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-statements/2018-05-18-supporting-your-child-when-they-are-reluctant-to-attend-school-guidance-for-parents-and-guardians-of-primary-school-children-ea6dbab8-8c8e-4658-9ec1-e4e5b274532d.pdf); [Managing Reluctant Attendance and School Avoidance Behaviour | A Good Practice Guide for Post-Primary Schools - 305b0aa1-3951-409b-9d85-78a21550a71d.pdf \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-statements/2018-05-18-managing-reluctant-attendance-and-school-avoidance-behaviour-a-good-practice-guide-for-post-primary-schools-305b0aa1-3951-409b-9d85-78a21550a71d.pdf); [Supporting your Child when they are Reluctant to Attend School: Guidance for Parents and Guardians of Post-Primary School Children - 6bcbfd8d-067b-41f1-b704-8f97b6901fab.pdf \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-statements/2018-05-18-supporting-your-child-when-they-are-reluctant-to-attend-school-guidance-for-parents-and-guardians-of-post-primary-school-children-6bcbfd8d-067b-41f1-b704-8f97b6901fab.pdf)

mobile phones bring many advantages and research shows that young Irish girls report¹²⁰ positive experiences such as communication, inspiration, motivation and education. They also identify certain risks, including cyberbullying and anonymity, fake content, addictive potential and social pressure.

Research in Ireland amongst children and young people aged 8 to 16 in academic year 2022/23¹²¹ identified that 94% of 8-12 year olds and 100% of 12 to 16 year olds have their own smart device. Of the younger age group, 28% of boys play over-18 games and 33% of the children in this group play games with strangers online. 61% were contacted by a stranger in an online game. Of the older age group, 26% have seen or experienced something online that “bothered” them and 40% did not tell anyone about it. Of that same age group, 40% reported that they post videos of themselves online, 83% of which used TikTok to do so.

“I’d change now how kids have phones and have access to online to how it was back a few years ago when there were no phones no internet nothing just because nowadays the amount of kids going online and getting bullied and ending their lives isn’t right.” (YP, Online Survey)

The impacts of social media on mental health, while anecdotally significant and intuitively strong, are not yet well understood. There is evidence amongst teenagers that high usage (more than 3 hours daily) is “associated with increased psychiatric symptoms in both males and females, with moderate usage associated with positive effects on symptoms compared to both our high usage, and low usage groups.”¹²² But the process by which social media have this effect is not clear and the impacts are different for males and females, making straightforward recommendations for effective policy interventions more complicated.

Schools are an important setting for the use of mobile phones, for both social and educational purposes, but many schools are challenged to manage mobile phone use effectively. A cluster of primary schools in Greystones (Wicklow CYPSC area) has decided to ban the use of smart phones, starting in 2023. The Minister for Education is said to support this initiative and to prepare plans for legislation,¹²³ and research by the Irish League of Credit Unions found that 84% of parents favour banning mobile phones in both primary and secondary schools¹²⁴.

“Support for parents to respond to rapidly changing technology that their children use e.g. many primary schools have created an opt-in charter to not provide their child with a mobile phone in primary school. Many parents still seem to feel like there is no harm in them, but perhaps easily accessible information - places to listen and discuss, could help more parents make more informed decisions, even if these decisions are harder.” (Parent in online survey)

DLR CYPSC plans to support local schools with the implementation of measures to manage mobile phone use in schools. In particular, the CYPSC is interested in piloting a “no smart phone” code for children of primary school age. Such a policy, which is implemented in Greystones already, asks parents and schools to sign up for a voluntary code which delays smartphone use until children go to secondary school. The community-wide approach removes peer pressure and supported by activities to foster play and interaction, fosters a positive childhood setting.

¹²⁰ <https://www.ucc.ie/en/media/research/car/LaurenFlynnCARLresearchreport.pdf> and <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10476631/>

¹²¹ https://www.cybersafekids.ie/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/CSK_Data-Trends-Report-2023-Web-Version-Final.pdf

¹²² <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0747563222001121>

¹²³ <https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/education-minister-norma-foley-to-back-primary-schools-in-banning-smartphones/a1222344072.html>

¹²⁴ <https://www.creditunion.ie/news/latest-news/ilcu-survey-shows-84-of-parents-favour-a-ban-on-mo/#:~:text=For%20primary%20parents%2C%20the%20top,concerned%20about%20excessive%20screen%20time.>

Support local schools with the implementation of phone use policies

Explore a pilot to implement a “no smart phone” code and phone readiness programme for children of primary school age

As part of this pilot and to support parents and strengthen their understanding of and skills in ensuring safe social media use for their children, DLR CYPSC will organise talks and workshops to roll out the many resources that have already been developed by State and non-profit organisations¹²⁵.

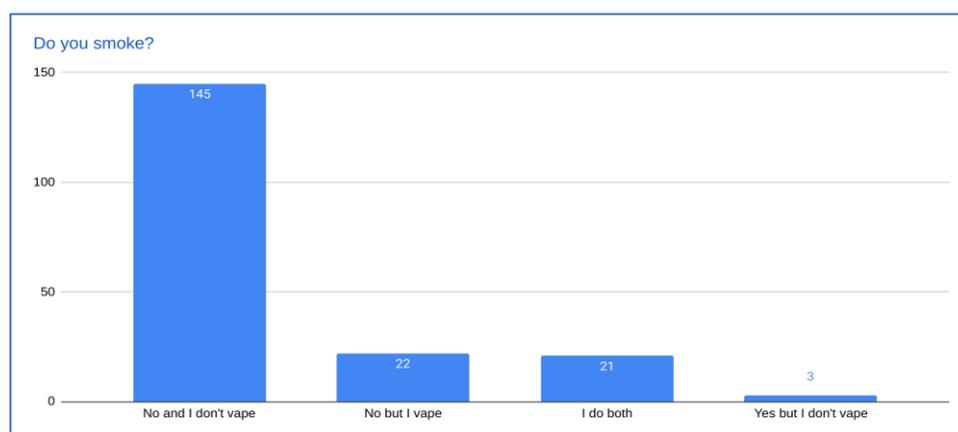
15. Vaping

Vaping is seen as an issue amongst young people and service providers but does not feature amongst the key concerns from parents. Of the respondents of the online survey for young people 20.3% selected vaping as one of the issues they consider a problem for young people. While the long-term health impacts of vaping have not yet been clearly identified, national policy recommendations are clear that exposure of a developing brain and body to a highly addictive substance (nicotine) and toxins is detrimental and to be avoided¹²⁶.

A Foróige youth services survey of young people in DLR explored the prevalence of and attitudes towards vaping. Of the 192 young people aged 12-18 who responded, 84 said they have vaped at least once. Of these 84 young people, 29 had vaped only once. In the 12-15 age group (n=49) 10 young people had vaped, of which 3 vape daily and 3 on a weekly basis. In the 15-18 age group, 74 young people had vaped. This was broken down into 13 daily, 11 weekly and 20 once a month or less.

There is some inconsistency between questions about the number of young people who consider themselves people who vape, but it appears that between 22% and 29% of the young people just vape or do both. A question into smoking habits vis a vis vaping, is illuminating in this regard as represented in **Figure 62**.

FIGURE 62 FORÓIGE YOUTH SERVICES SURVEY OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN.



¹²⁵ For example: <https://www.garda.ie/en/about-us/organised-serious-crime/garda-national-cyber-crime-bureau-gnccb/-a-parents-guide-to-cyber-safety-small-file-size-.pdf>; <https://www.webwise.ie/>; <https://www.cybersafekids.ie/samerulesapply/#pdfviewer>; https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/guide_that_provides_helpful_tips_how_to_support_children_to_be_safe_online.pdf

¹²⁶ <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/tobaccocontrol/resources/hse-joint-response-to-vaping-and-youth.pdf>

Interestingly, of the young people who vape, almost as many both smoke and vape as only vape. Of the young people who smoke, half indicated that they smoked first and started vaping later, while the other half started vaping and started smoking after that.

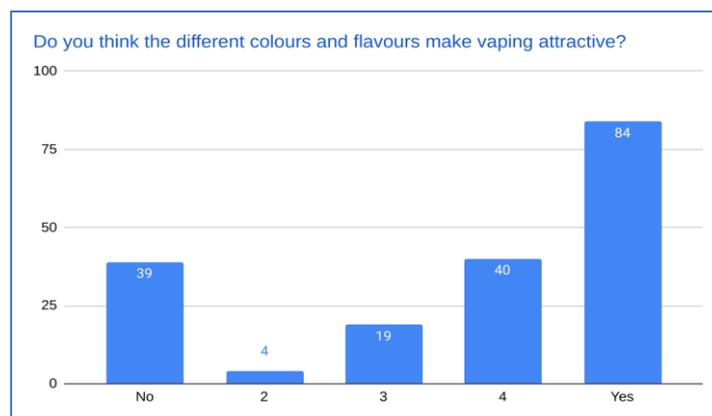
“Vaping is a real problem, it’s very addictive. I’ve gone back to smoking.” Young Person in Further Education Centre

There is limited research about the success factors of vaping cessation programmes¹²⁷ and considering that the combination of smoking and vaping seems common, a general nicotine-addiction programme would be useful as well. Collaboration with Tobacco Free Ireland¹²⁸ and other (Dublin) CYPSC and relevant partners will be actioned to expand the reach of this work.

Support dissemination of Tobacco Free Ireland resources to Schools and Youth Services

Not surprisingly, the main reasons why young people in Foroige’s survey stated they first tried vaping were their friends and curiosity. While few mention advertising as the reason they started or tried vaping, the evidence indicates that the different colours and flavours are clearly making the product more attractive in the eyes of young people as displayed in **Figure 63**.

FIGURE 63 YOUNG PEOPLE’S RESPONSE (DLR) REGARDING COLOURS AND FLAVOURS MAKING VAPING ATTRACTIVE



This points towards the usefulness of a ban on sweet and fruity flavours and coloured packaging, which the UK is planning to implement. DLR CYPSC will advocate with other CYPSC and relevant organisations to implement such a ban in Ireland as well. There are signals that this policy is currently being developed¹²⁹.

Advocate to ban marketing to young people, fruity flavours and coloured packaging

16. Violence and aggression in families and communities

Several members of DLR CYPSC identify domestic violence or Domestic Sexual, Gender Based Violence (DSGBV) and aggression amongst young people as an issue and mention that child to parent aggression is increasing amongst the people who use services. While this isn’t a concern that surfaced in either parents’ or young people’s survey results, it is useful to note that 14.6% of the young people who responded to the online survey indicated that they currently experience crime sometimes and 20.7% indicated that they currently witness crime sometimes.

¹²⁷ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0306460320308170>

¹²⁸ [information-and-guidance-on-e-cigarettes-and-vaping-for-schools.pdf \(hse.ie\)](https://www.hse.ie/information-and-guidance-on-e-cigarettes-and-vaping-for-schools.pdf)

¹²⁹ <https://www.irishtimes.com/health/2024/09/10/plan-to-ban-disposable-vapes-in-ireland-and-to-restrict-appealing-colours-and-flavours/>

Service providers recognise a lack of understanding amongst young people of healthy relationships, boundaries, consent etc. as a risk factor and propose a project to strengthen this understanding. There are several existing “healthy relationship” programmes for school and community settings, such as Real U,¹³⁰ Shine¹³¹, The Manuela Programme¹³² and B4udecide¹³³ which will be explored to identify a suitable programme and support further roll-out in schools amongst TY students.

Identify and implement a preventative programme for TY students to strengthen their understanding of healthy relationships

To further strengthen effective DSGBV services, a CYPSC project to train and deliver Restorative Practice (RP) training with local partner organisations will be continued, as will training and supervision in Non Violent Resistance¹³⁴ (NVR) and SPACE¹³⁵ (Supportive Parenting for Anxious Childhood Emotions) approaches for specific staff.

Support Restorative Practice “Train the trainer” training and roll-out further RP training

Continue Non Violent Resistance and SPACE training and supervision

Garda representatives on the CYPSC currently identify at least 50 cases of reported DSGBV as high risk in the County¹³⁶. The planned refuge for women and children experiencing DSGBV should make a real difference (a success from the previous DLR CYPSC CYPP 2020-2022) and DLR CYPSC will support the delivery of local services in and around the refuge, mainly through effective information provision (a leaflet with local services).

In tandem with this, DLR CYPSC will develop a local case conference group / inter-agency approach to DSGBV, with relevant services meeting to help identify cases, share information and collectively develop a coherent and effective package of services for people experiencing DSGBV. The MARAC approach in the UK¹³⁷ may provide useful learning to start for this exploration.

Support planned refuge with local services

Develop multi-agency DSGBV case conferencing approach

17. Youth participation

A core CYPSC objective is youth participation. DLR CYPSC is committed to include the voices and perspectives of local children and young people on matters that affect them in the CYPSC plan and its activities. To make sure that this is done in an effective and meaningful way, the CYPSC accesses existing groups of children and young people from different geographical areas and backgrounds through its members (e.g. DDL ETB, Crosscare, Foróige, Carmona Services) and consults them on any

¹³⁰ <https://www.foroige.ie/young-people/foroige-programmes/real-u>

¹³¹ <https://www.cypsc.ie/fileupload/Cavan%20CYPSC/Shine%20teen.pdf>

¹³² [The Manuela ProgrammeTusla - Child and Family Agency](#)

¹³³ <https://b4udecide.ie/>

¹³⁴ [Non Violent Resistance - Parentline - Helpline for Parents.](#)

¹³⁵ [SPACE | SPACE Treatment](#)

¹³⁶ Verbal comment during consultations from a member of An Garda Síochana dealing with DSGBV cases in DLR.

¹³⁷ <https://safelives.org.uk/practice-support/resources-marac-meetings>

issues that are important to them. The emphasis will be on connecting with more marginalised and vulnerable children and young people who do not always find it easy to have their voices heard, as was indicated in the consultation process with for instance children with disabilities.

Engage with local groups to get input of children and young people on CYPSC activities

5. Summary of DLR CYPSC Children and Young People’s Plan

Table 44 provides a summary overview of the Outcome Areas and the Local Priority Areas that DLR CYPSC have been agreed to address. Description of all actions is included in the Action Plan (Section 6). Some needs are the joint concern of more than one Outcome Area and associated CYPSC Subgroup (e.g. Emotionally Based School Avoidance and Social Media / Screen Use) and they are included in each with relevant actions.

TABLE 44 SUMMARY OF DLR CYPP

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Well-being	Body Image; Disability; Early Parenting; Homelessness Services for families in Homeless Accommodation; Mental Health; Social Media / Screen Use; Vaping; Parenting Participation
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in Learning and Development	Emotionally Based School Avoidance; Social Media / Screen Use
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm	Drugs and Alcohol; Emotionally Based School Avoidance; Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence; Tusla Prevention, Partnership and Family Support / Child and Family Support Networks
Outcome 4: Economic Security	Child Poverty; Food Poverty; International Protection Applicants and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Arrivals
Outcome 5: Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World	Places and Spaces; Youth Voice and Participation; Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups in Activities; Climate Action
Change Management-CYPSC may also identify priority areas relating to change management and supports needed to enable interagency collaboration at local level, e.g. development of interagency protocols.	Membership; Resources; Collaborations; Communications

6. DLR CYPSC Action Plan

TABLE 45 DLR CYPSC ACTION PLAN OUTCOME 1

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
1.1 Body image	Support parents' knowledge and skills in relation to body image and how to talk about it with children / young people.	No. of events and No. of parents engaged in sessions	Minimum once / year – 50 parents	Training / talks for parents on body image. Signposting through LetsParentDLR	Year 1-3	CYPSC, BodyWhys HSE Primary Care	Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028 Disability Action Plan 2023-2026 Progressing Disability Services (PDS) for Children and Young People 2023 Waiting List Action Plan Sharing the Vision 2020-2030 Connecting for Life: Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015-2020	O1: Active and Healthy O2: Learning and Development TG: Supporting Parents

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
	Rolling out effective school-based interventions to address body image issues.	No. of pilot projects for young people	Pilot 5-10 schools (Transition Year) in DLR	Identify and pilot / expand school-based programme (BodyKind Programme)	Year 1-3	BodyKind and Education and Learning Subgroup Partners: Secondary Schools, Crosscare and UCD	(extended to 2024) Well-being Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028 Supporting Parents: A National Model of Parenting Support Services 2022 First Five From Poverty to Potential The Disability Action Plan 2024-2026 Policy Statement and Framework for Practice	O1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing TG: Supporting Parents and Prevention and Earlier Intervention
	Research the benefit of early intervention programmes to improve positive body image in younger children.	No. of identified programmes for Early Learning and Care (ELC) No. of identified programmes for Primary Schools	1 Programme for ELC and one for primary schools	Explore early years and primary school age interventions	Year 2-3	DLR CYPSC Education and Learning Subgroup Partners: BodyWhys, Schools, DLR County Childcare Committee	Healthy Ireland Strategic Plan 2022-2027 The National Traveller Health Action Plan 2022-2027	O1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing TG: Supporting Parents and Prevention and Earlier Intervention

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
1.2 Disability	Support children on waiting lists through strengthening of mainstream inclusivity for neurodiverse children and disabled young people.	No. of training events delivered	Implement at least 1 training per year	Research into support needs with the staff, children and parents	Year 1	CYPSC Health and Mental Health Subgroup		O2: Learning and Development
				Explore and pilot training and supervision supports for staff in mainstream and “holding spaces”, e.g. schools and youth services. Identify and deliver staff support scheme	Year 2-3	Partners: HSE, Crosscare Teen Counselling, FRCs, CAMHS, My Project Minding You, Springboard, Barnardos, Primary and Secondary Schools		TG: Prevention and Earlier Intervention
	Strengthen parents’ understanding of services, referral processes and waiting lists.	No. of publications to explain pathways No. of families reached	One publication with referral pathways and contacts. Min. 100 parents reached	Promote HSE pathways resources on LetsParentDLR	Year 2-3	HSE Partners: DLR CYPSC and Members		O1: Active and Healthy TG: Supporting Parents

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
	Strengthen parents' skills in supporting their child with a disability (while on waiting lists).	No. of talks and parents attending	One series of 4 talks for 50 parents	Signposting and deliver a series of talks for parents of disabled / neurodiverse children to inform and offer peer support	Year 2-3	HSE, DLR CCC, DLR CYPSC		O1: Active and Healthy TG: Supporting Parents
1.3 Early parenting	Support and strengthen vulnerable families with children aged 0-2.	No. of supported programmes and No. of parents / babies	Ongoing success of the 6 PEEP+DLR groups for 48 parents and 48 babies / toddlers	PEEP+DLR Advisory Group to sit under DLR CYPSC Parenting Subgroup Support PEEP+DLR incl. appropriate training	Year 1 Year 1-3	SSP Partners: DLR CYPSC, DLR CCC, Tusla, Barnardos, MYP, Springboard, Ballyogan FRC, Hillview FRC, Balally FRC		O3: Safe and Protected from Harm TG: Supporting Parents
	Support vulnerable (new) families in DLR through Home Visiting as part of family support programmes	No. of established programmes that incorporate home visiting and no. of parents/children supported	Programme in Loughlinstown / Shankill	Advocate for home visiting as part of family support programmes i.e. through Community Families or Preparing for Life in DLR through existing Advisory Group.	Year 1-3	SSP Partners: CYPSC, Tusla, Barnardos, MYP, Springboard		O1: Active and Healthy O2: Learning and Development O3: Safe and Protected from Harm TG: Supporting Parents
	Re-establish a vibrant DLR Infant and Early Childhood	No. of meetings of DLR IECMH-	Network re-established with	Support re-established DLR IECMH-NG	Year 1	CYPSC Parenting Subgroup		O1: Active and Healthy

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
	Mental Health Network Group (IECMH-NG) for infant practitioners in DLR.	NG No. Of trainings for professionals in DLR IECMH-NG in DLR	min 9 meetings per year Min 1 training provided for members	Explore engagement of external facilitator for establishment process Annual provision of evidence-based training	Year 1 and 2 Year 1-3	Partners: SSP, Tusla, HSE, Barnardos, Childcare services, MYP, Springboard, HSE, FRCs, DLR CCC		O2: Learning and Development O3: Safe and Protected from Harm
1.4 Homelessness - services for families in homeless accommodation in DLR	Develop better wrap-around services and support to parents and children in homeless accommodation.	No. of events to support Parents, Children and Young People	Annual One day event with Dublin CYPSC	One day event where all Dub CYPSC homeless services come together for key note speakers, café style conversation on issues families and services face and how CYPSC can support Roll out supports	Year 1-3	Dublin CYPSC Partners: Peter Mc Verry, dlr CoCo, Sophia Housing, Tusla		O1: Active and Healthy TG: Supporting Parents
	Support parents in homeless accommodation to enhance attachment, self-esteem, trust in others, and joyful engagement.	No. of Theraplay programmes in homeless accommodation	1 Theraplay training in homeless hub DLR per year 1 Theraplay training in community service per year	With 4 other Dub CYPSC provide Theraplay Training with staff in Hubs Community Services to deliver in Hubs.	Year 1 Year 2-3	Dublin CYPSC Partners: Peter Mc Verry, dlr CoCo, Sophia Housing, CYPSC Members		O2: Learning and Development TG: Support Parents
	Provide opportunity for play, activities, events within homeless hubs and local communities.	No. of activity blocks	One 6 week activity block	Scope interest of activities in the Hub / Homeless Services Pilot activity	Year 1 Year 2	dlr Sports Partnership, dlr CoCo Partners: DLR CYPSC, Active Cities, Peter		O1: Active and Healthy TG: Participation

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
				Review and scale up	Year 2-3	Mc Verry, Sophia Housing		
1.5 Mental Health	Support development of low-level mental health interventions in DLR.	Agreed Plan with stakeholders	Low-level mental health implementation plan developed	<p>Identify main types of low-level mental health problems (e.g. worries about cost of living, exams, climate change)</p> <p>Scope current and further appropriate interventions / service</p> <p>Pilot intervention / service</p> <p>Review and evaluate</p>	<p>Year 1</p> <p>Year 2</p> <p>Year 2-3</p> <p>Year 2-3</p>	<p>CYPSC Health and Mental Health Subgroup</p> <p>Partners: HSE, Crosscare Teen Counselling, FRCs, CAMHS, My Project Minding You, Springboard, Barnardos, Primary and Secondary Schools</p>		TG: Supporting Parents and Prevention and Earlier Intervention
	Develop mental health project with Traveller young people.	No. of culturally appropriate projects / youth led projects	1 project per year	Develop action based on Wagon Project evaluation via The Wagon Project Steering Committee and Youth Participation	Year 1-3	<p>STAG</p> <p>Partners: HSE, The Hazel House, CYPSC, IADT, DLR CoCo, Exchange House</p>		<p>O2: Learning and Development</p> <p>TG: Prevention and Earlier Intervention</p>
	Strengthen parents' understanding and skills in managing mental health problems of their children 0-24.	No. of talks and parents attending	Minimum 3 talks / year with 50 Parents	Signposting and deliver regular training / talks for parents about mental health, anxiety, stress and develop as video resources on LetsParentDLR	Year 1-3	<p>Springboard, HSE</p> <p>Partners: DLR CYPSC, HSE others as needed, DLR CCC</p>		<p>O1: Active and Healthy</p> <p>O2: Learning and Development</p> <p>O3: Safe and Protected from Harm</p>

Outcome 1: Active and healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
								TG: Supporting parents
1.6 Vaping	Reduce vaping amongst young people and increase awareness of dangers of vaping.	Policy developed to ban flavours and coloured packaging of vapes	Government change in policy in relation to advertising, availability, tastes of vapes	Advocate with partners to ban flavoured vapes and coloured advertising targeting children and young people	Year 1-3	With other Dublin CYPSC Partners: TFI, HSE, Comhairle na nÓg schools, Crosscare		TG: Prevention and Earlier Intervention
1.7 Parent participation in CYPSC and local services	Include effective parenting voice in CYPSC actions.	No. of groups and parents engaged	Minimum 5 groups engaged	Engage with existing groups to get input from parents on CYPSC activities, especially parents of marginalised children and disabled / neurodiverse children	Year 2-3	DLR CYPSC		All Outcome Areas
	<i>Parental Participation Project across two ISA areas. Agencies working with support of Child and Family Support Network (CFSN) team to develop parent led participation projects. Support role of Parent Support Champions (PSC's) working together to meet local needs in terms of Parenting Supports.</i>	<i>No. of parent led projects developed under Lundy model of participation No. of PSCs, meetings and events</i>	<i>Min of 2 parent led participation projects 4 PSC meetings 1 learning event</i>	<i>Develop parent led participation projects Promote/share information about parenting support services and initiatives</i>	<i>Year 1-3</i>	<i>PPFS Partners: Member organisations with support of Tusla CFSN team and DLR CYPSC Tusla CFSN team and PSCs</i>		<i>Parenting Subgroup TG: Supporting Parents</i>

TABLE 46 DLR CYPSC ACTION PLAN OUTCOME 2

Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in Learning and Development								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time- frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
2.1 School refusal / Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)	Strengthen EBSA responses.	No. of events organised No. of participants (parents and school staff)	Twice yearly for min 50 participants	Roll out existing NEPS resources through interactive (peer) workshops with schools and parents	Year 2-3	DLR CYPSC Education and Learning Subgroup Partners: NEPS, TESS, Primary and Secondary School, Youth Services, Youthreach, Community Training Centres, Youth Information		O1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing O2: Education and Learning TG: Supporting Parents
	Identify scale of EBSA problem in DLR. <i>Link to Outcome 3 action on school EBSA.</i>	Research in collaboration with partners	1 report / needs analysis completed	Establish working group to investigate school refusal incidence in DLR, key drivers/causes locally and from international research etc. and report.	Year 1-2	TESS Partners: NEPS, TESS, Primary and Secondary School, Youth Services, Youthreach, Community Training Centres, Youth Information		O1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing O3: Safe and Protected from Harm TG: Supporting Parents
2.2 Social Media	Strengthen healthy use of social media / phones tablets and delay use of smart phones until post-primary age.	No. of schools taking part in pilot	Pilot 8 Primary schools	Identify what schools in DLR have started the process of exploring a “no smart phone / tablets” code for Primary school children Develop phone readiness program and Identify pilot primary schools Pilot readiness pilot in schools (children, teachers, parents)	Year 1 Year 1-2 Year 2	TBC (Procurement Process) Partners: DLR CYPSC, Primary Schools		O1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing O3: Safe and Protected from Harm

Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in Learning and Development

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time- frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
				Review and Scale up	Year 2-3			

***Note Outcome 3:** The “[Blueprint for the development of CYPSC](#)” and “[Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019-2024](#)” identify Tusla’s Prevention, Partnership and Family Support groups (PPFS) as the standing sub-group for Outcome area 3. DLR CYPSC therefore includes the work of the PPFS in the Action Plan and some of these actions do not feature in the Needs Analysis. Any actions in *italics* are part of the PPFS work plan; most are in Outcome Area 3, some are included in Outcome Areas 1, 5 and 6. The work however will be a collaboration between PPFS and CYPSC. **How we work together:** The DLR PPFS Steering Committee defines itself as a collective voice for those who provide services for children and families that are hard to reach in the DLR area. It employs a community development approach that values relationships between workers and with families, pays attention to process and strives to provide a network of support around families. Learning is core to the group’s task.

TABLE 47 DLR CYPSC ACTION PLAN OUTCOME 3

Outcome 3. Safe and Protected from Harm – See *Note above								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time- frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
<i>PPFS, CFSN and Meitheal DLR</i>	<i>To continue the existing PPFS Steering Committee to oversee the development of the CFSN’s and implementation of Meitheal</i>	<i>No. of meetings per annum No. of Meitheal Training Events No. of Meitheal Lead Practitioners [MLPs]</i>	<i>1 PPFS Steering Committee x 5 meetings pa and 4 CFSNs x 6 meetings pa No. of MLPs increased No. of Meitheals increased 1 Meitheal Training</i>	<i>Review CFSN Networks, purpose, structure, membership Look at Meitheal numbers, who are the MLP</i>	<i>Year 1-3</i>	<i>PPFS Partners: Member organisations with support of Tusla CFSN team and DLR CYPSC</i>	<i>Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028 Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence 2022 Assessment of Need for Provision of a Domestic</i>	<i>O1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing O2: Learning and Development</i>

Outcome 3. Safe and Protected from Harm – See *Note above

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
		No. of Meitheals	Event pa				Violence Refuge in the DLR Area 2021	
Hidden Harm and 3.1 collaboration with the DLR Drugs and Alcohol Task Force	<i>To support implementation of the Hidden Harm strategy through the Meitheal framework of family support.</i> To explore the needs of young people and their drug and alcohol use.	No. Hidden Harm Workshops No. of Meitheals initiated in response to Hidden Harm assessments of need Collaborations with DATF around what CYPSC can do to support the DATF	Minimum of 1 Hidden Harm Workshops / year Increased Meitheals initiated in response to Hidden Harm assessments of need Agreed relationship between CYPSC and DATF	Practice liaison worker will work with frontline group to implement Hidden Harm and face to face training across the region. Establish working group and activities if and when support project is identified	Year 1-3 Year 1-3	PPFS / DLR DATF Partners: Member organisations with support of Tusla CFSN team and DLR CYPSC	DLR DATF Strategic Plan 2022-2025	O1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Wellbeing TG: Prevention and Earlier Intervention
<i>Training</i>	<i>To identify and address training needs of PPFS Committee e.g. Restorative Practice, Non Violent Resistance (NVR) training, Trauma Informed Care.</i>	No. of training events No. of participants evaluation	2 events per annum 10 participants per event 1 evaluation per event	Annual Training Needs Analysis undertaken in consultation with PPFS members Training identified and delivered Monitored and evaluated	Year 1-3	Tusla, PPFS Members and CYPSC; Crosscare An Garda Síochana		O2: Learning and Development Parenting Subgroup
<i>Responding to Emerging Issues</i>	<i>To identify issues on which the committee could advocate on behalf of children and families.</i>	No. of issues identified and gaps in services, issues of concern raised and addressed	1 identified issue / year At least x1 application granted	Allow space on agenda for discussion of emerging issues, gaps in services identified, gaps in services addressed Respond to issues raised	Year 1-3 Year 1-3	PPFS Members Feedback from CFSNs PPFS Members Feedback from CFSNs		

Outcome 3. Safe and Protected from Harm – See *Note above

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
	<i>To make collective consortium bids where appropriate.</i>	<i>No. of applications</i>		<i>Identify and consider joint bids for funding re children and family work in DLR</i>				
3.2 Emotionally Based School Avoidance and Child to Parent Violence	Support the role out of NVR and SPACE training across the county by providing advanced training & supervision.	No. of training sessions No. of participants	Deliver minimum x1 up to 40 people	Non-Violent Resistant (NVR) and SPACE Training and supervision Review in 2025 to identify possible improvements	Year 1-3 Year 2-3	Springboard Partners: TESS, HSE, CAMHS, PPFS, DLR & Wicklow CYPSC, PPFS		O2: Learning and Development TG: Supporting Parents
3.3 Domestic, Sexual, Gender Based Violence (DSGBV)	Support effective service delivery in and around the local Domestic Violence (DV) refuge.	No. of services providing wrap around support	Min. 5 services provide agreed wrap-around services	Resource Booklet (RB) Support local delivery of effective abuse services including development of a refuge for people experiencing domestic abuse	Year 1 Year 2-3	SAVE, DLR DATF and DLR CYPSC Partners: Sonas (DV Refuge) DLR County Council and Sonas Partners: PPFS Members		TG: Supporting Parents
	Strengthen Young People's understanding of healthy relationships and DSGBV preventative project.	No. of pilot projects developed	1 pilot project developed and implemented	Establish a working group Identify relevant programme/s Pilot program Evaluate and scale up	Year 1 Year 1-2 Year 2 Year 3	DLR CYPSC Partners: SAVE, Barnardos, Women's Aid, Sonas		O2: Learning and Development TG: Prevention and Earlier Intervention
	Strengthen services for those experiencing DSGBV through interagency cooperation.	Relevant Statutory services and community services co-	Effective interagency DSGBV case-management group is in operation with all relevant partners	Multiagency working group Scope out National Support for an Initiative	Year 1 Year 2	Tusla (PPFS) / An Garda Síochana Partners: SAVE,		TG: Supporting Parents

Outcome 3. Safe and Protected from Harm – See *Note above

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
		operating		Terms of Reference and Governance Pilot operation of multiagency response Evaluate Pilot	Year 2-3 Year 3 Year 3	Tusla, Sonas, Women Aid, SAVE		

TABLE 48 DLR CYPSC ACTION PLAN OUTCOME 4

Outcome 4. Economic Security

Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time-frame	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
4.1 Child poverty	Reduce child poverty in DLR by supporting cross county collaboration addressing several key parent/family drivers of child poverty. Linked to Early Parenting Outcome 1.	Application for Local Area Child Poverty Action Plan Pilot Scheme	Develop a successful Application	Apply for Child Poverty Pilot Project in collaboration with DLR LCDC, Wicklow LCDC and CYPSC. Enhancement/rollout of Preparing for Life and PEEP across north Bray and south DLR TBC.	Year 1-3	DLR / Wicklow CYPSC, DLR / Wicklow LCDC Partners: SSP, Bray Area Partnership, HSE, Tusla, Barnardos, Philanthropic partners	Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028 Healthy Ireland Strategic Plan 2021-2027 Supporting Parents: A National Model for Parenting Support Services	TG: Supporting Parents EU Child Guarantee Poverty target
4.2 Food	Encourage uptake of	No. of Schools	All eligible local DEIS	Scope out Primary school	Year 2	Education and	Youth Homeless Strategy	

poverty	Hot School Meals programme in Primary Schools and enhance skills-based programmes Healthy Food Made Easy and Food Dudes that address food poverty and nutrition.	taking up Food Dudes / Hot meals programme	schools availing of Hot meals Programme and Food Dudes.	uptake of these programmes Promote and support schools to avail of these programmes	Year 2-3	Learning Subgroup Blackrock College of Education, Southside Partnership, DLR CYPSC	2023-2025; Housing for All Roadmap for Social Inclusion 2020-2025 Supporting Parents: A National Model for Parenting Support Services	
4.3 International Protection Applicants (IPA) and Beneficiary of Temporary Protection (BOTP)	Support IPA and BOTP people and their integration to DLR.	Funding application for IPA and BOTP support No of IPA and BOTP families availing of supports	Successful Application Year 1-3	Apply for CYPSC-IPSS Fund Deliver Actions based on 4 objectives: Mental Health; Supports for Parents; Pathways to Independence; Community Integration	Year 1-3	Southside Partnership Partners: DLR CYPSC, DLR CCC, Crosscare, Rosemount FRC, DLR CYPSC, DLR CoCo, HSE	Healthy Ireland Strategic Plan 2022-2027 Get Active Ireland! The National Physical Activity Plan for Ireland Ready, Steady, Play! A National Play policy CYPSC International Protection Fund Framework 2024)	O2 Learning and Development O5: Supporting Parents Connected, respected and contributing

TABLE 49 DLR CYPSC ACTION PLAN OUTCOME 5

Outcome 5. Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
5.1 Places and Spaces	Identify existing spaces and explore use by young people.	No. of spaces for young people	2 indoor spaces piloted, east and west of DLR County	Set up working group with reps from dlr CoCo and other "owners" of spaces; - Audit Consult with young people for diversity of spaces – multi use and multi-cultural – open to all regardless of background and disability (collective mixed	Year 2 Year 2	dlr CoCo, DDLETB and DLR CYPSC Partners: Active Cities, dlr Leisure	dlr Play Policy 2023-2028 Ready, Steady, Play! A National Play policy Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028	O1: Active and Healthy O3: Safe and Protected from Harm TG: Participation

Outcome 5. Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
				consultation) Consult with young people about "criteria" for spaces; Pilot and review use of space in consultation with young people	Year 2 Year 3		LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy 2019-2021 Disability Action Plan 2023-2026 dlr Sports Partnership Strategy	
5.2 Youth Voice and Participation in CYPSC and local services	Young people have an effective input in relevant CYPSC actions.	No. of groups and children engaged	Minimum of 5 different youth groups involved	Engage with existing groups to get input from children and young people on CYPSC activities, especially vulnerable groups	Year 1-3	DLR CYPSC Partners: HSE disability, As I Am, Carmona Services, Primary and Secondary Schools, Comhairle na nÓg and community services	Creative Youth Plan 2023-2027 National Sustainable Mobility Policy	Linked to all outcome areas. TG: Participation
	<i>Child Participation Projects and New Tusla Child and Youth Participation (CYP) Awards.</i>	<i>No. of child and young person (CYP) led projects developed under Lundy model of participation No. of services who apply and achieve a CYP award</i>	<i>Projects across two ISA areas</i>	<i>CFSN team supporting organisations to develop participation projects in line with Lundy model Give a presentation to Committee. CFSN staff to support applications.</i>	Year 1-3	<i>PPFS Partners: Member organisations with support of Tusla CFSN team and DLR CYPSC Tusla CFSN team</i>		<i>TG: Participation</i>
5.3 Inclusion of Vulnerable	Promote LGBTIQ+ activities and events in the local community.	No. of events	X2 Networking / Expo half-day events (day and evening)	Continue to support LGBTIQ+ activity working group	Year 1	Crosscare Youth Services		O1: Healthy and Active

Outcome 5. Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
Groups in Activities				Consult with LGBTI+ young people Put on day event Put on evening event Review with young people		Partners: dlr Co Co (Social Inclusion), dlr CYPSC		O2: Achieving full potential in Learning and Development O3: Safe and Protected from Harm TG: Participation
	Increase inclusivity of activities for disabled / neurodiverse children and young people.	No. of youth groups engaging disabled children and young people	1 youth group pilot	Establish working group with disabled young people Identify appropriate accessible service/centre and transport options Staff training and identify additional staff Pilot youth group for children with moderate-profound disability Review and upscale	Year 2 Year 2 Year 2 Year 2-3 Year 3	DDLETB and DLR CYPSC Carmona, Youth services, Sports Partnership, Youth Services		O1: Healthy and Active TG: Participation
	Increase inclusivity of sports and physical activity opportunities for vulnerable children and young people.	No. of collaborations	At least one collaboration with DLR Local Sports Partnership (LSP) in a relevant project annually	Collaborate and support DLR Co Co and DLR LSP with Local Sports Plan CYPSC to present at DLR Sports Forum	Year 1-3	DLR Sports Partnership		O1: Healthy and Active TG: Participation
	Engage and offer connection to children	No. of pilot projects	Pilot 1 youth group	Explore development of online youth group model for	Year 2	TBC Crosscare outreach		O1: Healthy and Active

Outcome 5. Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Time	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
	who are isolated / not leaving their room. See also school refusal action in Outcome Area 2.			isolated young people (based on autism model)		provision-		TG: Participation
	Increase activities for 0-24 years and their parents in the Arts in particular for vulnerable groups.	No. of events	Min x1 event per year	Continue collaboration with dlr Arts Office	Year 1-3	dlr Arts Office, Creative Ireland Partners: DLR CYPSC and Members		O1: Active and Healthy TG: Participation
5.4 Climate Action	Engage young people in climate activities.	No. of projects	Min x1 project per year	Support local groups to apply for funding for climate action with young people	Year 1-3	TBC		O1: Active and Healthy TG: Participation

TABLE 50 DLR CYPSC CHANGE MANAGEMENT & EFFECTIVE ORGANISATION

DLR CYPSC Change Management and Effective Organisation								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
7.1 Support Main DLR CYPSC: Membership	Maintain working relationships. Secure statutory membership on main CYPSC.	No of meetings No. of statutory members on main CYPSC % participation in meetings	4-6 meetings per year Strategic vision for children and young people 0-24 in DLR 80% participation in Main CYPSC At least 2 further statutory members are added to the main CYPSC	Meet CYPSC Chair in advance of meetings Review main committee members Identify gaps in statutory membership Meet with relevant organisations and agree plan for engagement Participation in Main CYPSC of all members	Year 1-3	DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator, Chair and Vice Chair of the CYPSC	CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019-2024	Overarching Young Ireland Implementation
	Subgroups	Secure relevant membership for all subgroups: 1. Health and Mental health 2. Education and Learning 3. Safety / PPFS / Economic Security 4. Parenting 5. Connected,	No. of working group meetings %of active members on subgroups	4-6 meetings per year per subgroup 80% participation in subgroups	Review chairs, membership of subgroups and addition of a new subgroup Identify gaps in membership Meet with relevant organisations/chairs and agree plan for subgroup meetings and new engagements	Year 1-3	DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator and Chairs	CYPSC Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019-2024

DLR CYPSC Change Management and Effective Organisation								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
	Respected and Contributing to their world - NEW			Participation in subgroups				
7.2 Resources	Support extra resources for CYPSC Co-ordinators.	No. of staff allocated to CYPSC	At least one additional part time staff (admin / project development) allocated to DLR CYPSC (total 2 people)	Advocate as a CYPSC to support the work of DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator	Year 1-3	DLR CYPSC Members	Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028	
	Respond to and leverage funding opportunities to implement the DLR CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan Sept 2024-Sept 2027.	No. of successful funding applications	At least one new funding channel applied for / year	Source funding for activities and apply	Year 1-3	DLR CYPSC Members		
7.3 Collaborations	Collaborate with fellow Dublin CYPSC and Wicklow CYPSC to enhance advocacy and reach.	No. of collaborations	At least one collaboration a year	Develop cross-CYPSC Dublin collaboration processes and projects, i.e. Dublin CYPSC Directory, homelessness, vaping, social media, school avoidance	Year 1-3	Dublin CYPSC Wicklow CYPSC	Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028	Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
	Get sign off of DLR CYPSC Critical Incident Plan (CIP) from HSE Chief Officer.	Formally agreed CIP	DLR CYPSC CIP signed off and in place	Secure sign off of DLR CYPSC Critical Incident Plan from HSE Chief Officer Provide information session for main CYPSC Members	Year 1	DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator, Chair, Vice Chair and HSE and all CYPSC members	DLR County Council Critical Incident Plan HSE Critical Incident Plan	Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination

DLR CYPSC Change Management and Effective Organisation								
Priority area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead and partners	Link to other plans	Link to national outcomes & transformational goals
				Provide information session for CYPSC members			Tusla Critical Incident Plan	
7.4 Communications	Establish and implement an agreed mechanism for information sharing with CYPSC and CFSN Membership and Networks.	No. of networks agreed mechanism	CYPSC and CFSN aligning with communication channels	Keep LetsTalkDLR, LetsLearnDLR and LetsParentDLR websites up to date Weekly / Bi-weekly email updates Update and relaunch Dublin CYPSC Directory / Hub	Year 1-3 Year 1-3 Year 1	DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator, CFSN and all CYPSC Members	Young Ireland: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028	

7. Monitoring and Review

The Children and Young People's Service Committees (CYPSC) Planning and Reporting Framework is premised on a number of core principles to be adopted by all tiers of CYPSC implementation. These principles unite CYPSC stakeholders in their approach to CYPSC planning and reporting and are in addition to the principles underpinning the CYPSC initiative as a whole, which are outlined in the *Blueprint for the development of Children and Young People's Services Committees*¹³⁸, page 7. The principles underpinning the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework are:

- **Evidence-informed:** That CYPSC puts the best available evidence at the heart of planning and reporting processes.
- **Outcomes based:** CYPSC planning is outcomes based i.e. its purpose is to achieve agreed outcomes.
- **Mutual accountability:** CYPSC members hold themselves and others accountable to the common agenda as expressed in national policy and in local plans.
- **Data supported decision-making:** CYPSC are committed to collecting and using data to make informed decisions.
- **Learning:** CYPSC stakeholders at local and national level are open to learning through reflection on how well the work has lived up to performance expectation.
- **Communication:** Regular and open communications will flow - bottom up, top down and across the CYPSC initiative.

The performance of each CYPSC will be monitored by the CYPSC itself on an ongoing basis, applying the principle of mutual accountability, and annually by TUSLA - Child and Family Agency, on behalf of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability and Youth (DCEDIY) through the CYPSC submission of an annual progress report.

The implementation of the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (DLR) CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan September 2024-September 2027 will be monitored and reviewed locally by the CYPSC during its 3 year lifespan, in alignment with the *CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework (2017)*¹³⁹ in the following ways.

- (1) The CYPSC will produce an annual statement of intent / action outlining the work to be undertaken and achieved by the CYPSC in each calendar year. This statement of intent will be called the Annual Programme of Work and it will be derived from the CYPSC three-year Children and Young People's Plan September 2024-September 2027. It will provide a high-level overview of what and how the CYPSC will deliver against each of the agreed local objectives and strategic actions for that calendar year.
- (2) The CYPSC Subgroup chairpersons will report progress and flag any challenges to implementation of the Subgroup plan at the main DLR CYPSC meetings.
- (3) A Mid-Year Review will be conducted mid-way through each year of the plan to support member's review and if necessary refinement of actions, resources and plans. The Mid-year Progress Update will be utilised locally by each CYPSC as a tool for mutual accountability and learning. It is primarily a monitoring tool to determine whether the CYPSC annual programme of work is on schedule. This Mid-year Progress Update will also provide CYPSC with a mid-year opportunity to highlight to national level structures any

¹³⁸ [Blueprint for the development of CYPSC.pdf](#)

¹³⁹ [CYPSC-PR-Framework-JUNE-2017.pdf](#)

issues or challenges being experienced locally. See Figure 8 for a diagrammatic representation of the local CYPSC Planning and Reporting Cycle.

- (4) An annual progress report will be prepared and submitted to the CYPSC National Office comprising of the following:
- ✓ An overview of how children and young people in the county / CYPSC area are doing under the five national outcomes for children and young people. Highlighting any significant changes, improvements and areas requiring further attention or exploration by the CYPSC.
 - ✓ Details of progress on those actions set out in the Annual Programme of Work to improve outcomes for children and young people.
 - ✓ Detail of CYPSC inter-agency activity including membership, engagement, distribution of leadership across CYPSC members and alignment of / linkages to CYPSC member agencies operational plans.
 - ✓ Detail of how the CYPSC is involving children and young people in its structures and decision-making.
 - ✓ CYPSC progress on national policy objectives and commitments as relevant.
 - ✓ Challenges, achievements, the value add of the CYPSC model of interagency working and lessons learned from implementation.
 - ✓ Record of leveraged funding into the county / CYPSC area and record of pooled resources by CYPSC member agencies.

Appendices

Appendix 1: DLR CYPSC Terms of Reference



Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Children and Young People's Services Committee

Terms of Reference

The following Terms of Reference were drawn up in consultation with the Children and Young People's Services Committee: Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019-2024 (Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Inclusion and Youth, 2019)

1. Purpose

The purpose of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (DLR) Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) will be to provide strategic direction and leadership to ensure effective interagency co-ordination and collaboration to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people in DLR.

Our vision is that children and young people in DLR are safe, happy and healthy from birth to adulthood, enjoying equal access as young citizens to excellent educational, recreational, social participation and employment opportunities to enable their highest human potential. Our mission is to facilitate the interagency collaboration, evidence-informed service planning and implementation structures and activities to achieve this vision.

2. Term

These Terms of Reference are effective from April 2024 and will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

3. Membership

The membership of DLR CYPSC consists of senior managers from all the major statutory, community and voluntary providers of services to children, young people and families in the DLR CYPSC area. This will help address issues in relation to local and nationally identified priorities and the five national outcome areas for children and young people. Members will be of sufficient seniority to represent their organisation and to exercise decision-making powers and should be expressly supported by their parent organisation in order to ensure meaningful representation and engagement.

Consideration of membership of the CYPSC should be determined by the contribution or influence an agency/organisation can have on the planning, funding, prioritisation or alignment of services within the area, while also considering the need for the CYPSC to be representative and to function effectively.

DLR CYPSC membership includes representatives from the following organisations:

Agency	Representative
Chair: Tusla Child and Family Agency	Michelle Mc Nicholas
Deputy Chair: DLR County Council	Therese Langan
DLR CYPSC	Helena O' Brien
An Garda Síochana	Trevor Scanlon
Barnardos	Kerri Smith
Blackrock Education Centre	Niamh Murray
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	Sarah Donnelly
Crosscare	Ger Magee
DLR County Council (Chief Officer LCDC)	Mary Ruane
DLR County Childcare Committee	Harriet Massey
DLR Drugs and Alcohol Task Force	John Doyle
Dublin Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board	Claire Barkey
Healthy Service Executive (HSE Health and Well-being)	Imelda Halton
HSE (Mental Health-South East)	Aisling White
HSE (Mental Health-South)	Eithne Ní Longphuirt
HSE (Disability)	Philippa Lansdown
Irish Primary Principals' Network	Lisa Breen
Southside Partnership	Sinead Sherwin Lorraine Stewart
Southside Travellers Action Group	Geraldine Dunne
Tusla Child and Family Agency	Kevin Webster
Tusla Education Support Service	Glenn Perry
University College Dublin (UCD)	Jason Last
National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (NAPD)	Orla Condron
National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS)	TBC
Department of Social Protection	TBC
Probation Service	TBC
Young Person	TBC

4. Roles and Responsibilities

DLR CYPSC Chairperson

The DLR CYPSC will be chaired by local Area Manager of Tusla – Child and Family Agency. The key responsibilities of the Chair include:

- Provide leadership and direction for the CYPSC.
- Ensure the effectiveness of the committee in all aspects of its role, including delivery of its Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).
- Ensure active participation and contributions from all members across all sectors.
- Ensure appropriate interaction between the committee and external stakeholders.
- Ensure an appropriate balance between the voice of the Chairperson's organisation and that of other member organisations.

DLR CYPSC Vice-Chairperson

The Vice-Chairperson of DLR CYPSC will be the DLR County Council, Director of Services (Community and Cultural Development). The responsibilities of the Vice-Chairperson are to:

- Support the CYPSC Chairperson in the performance of his or her duties.
- In the case of unavailability of the Chairperson at any committee meeting, to take the role of Chairperson for that meeting.
- Ensure an appropriate balance between the voice of the Chairperson’s organisation and that of other member organisations.

CYPSC Co-ordinator

The DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator will support DLR CYPSC in its work to bring together a diverse group of agencies in its local county area to engage in joint planning and co-ordination of services for children and young people. The Co-ordinator role is essential to realising the potential of a CYPSC. The key responsibilities of the CYPSC Co-ordinator are to: Support the establishment and development of the CYPSC and its sub-groups.

- Communicate a clear sense of purpose and direction on behalf of the CYPSC.
- Co-ordinate the development and implementation of the CYPSC three-year CYPP in line with the five national outcomes for children and young people as set out in *Young Ireland: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028*¹⁴⁰,
- Assist the overall committee and sub-groups to implement the three-year work plan and monitor and report progress in line with the *Planning and Reporting Framework* (2017).

CYPSC Subgroups

CYPSC establish a number of sub-groups, aligned to the five National Outcomes for children and young people and the priority areas for action that the CYPSC has identified locally. CYPSC may also establish sub-groups dealing with specific issues associated with interagency working and change management, such as information sharing, data collection and working together.

The sub-group structure extends participation in the CYPSC beyond the main committee to practitioners, front-line staff and people from the voluntary and community sectors involved in direct service provision that have a specific interest and expertise in a particular sub-group action area/theme.

All sub-groups should be responsive to local needs and trends, and the work of the respective sub-groups should reflect both national and local priorities. All sub-groups will have regard to the views of children and young people, including seldom heard children and young people. The Chairperson of each sub-group will provide a progress update at each CYPSC meeting with the sub-group updates being a standing agenda item at each CYPSC meeting. The Chairperson of each sub-group will in turn relay information from the CYPSC meeting to their respective sub-groups.

Children and Young People’s Plan

DLR CYPSC launched their Children and Young People’s Plan in 2020. The CYPSC oversee the implementation of this three-year CYPP for DLR that is designed to improve outcomes for children and young people. The CYPP outlines local priorities that the CYPSC has agreed to address and includes a detailed action plan of activities which will be undertaken by the CYPSC and its sub-groups to make impact on those priorities. The CYPP is developed in partnership with children, young people and families as well as in partnership with member agencies and sub-groups and is responsive to local needs.

¹⁴⁰ [280807_66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261 \(1\).pdf](#)

The CYPSCs priorities named in their plan are clearly linked to the five national outcomes outlined in *Young Ireland: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028*¹⁴¹, have clearly stated objectives and indicators, and are time-framed to assist monitoring and ensure delivery.

In addition, the CYPP is to be linked to all member agencies service/annual plans as well as to all other local and regional plans such as the county Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). The CYPSC undertakes ongoing monitoring and review of progress on its objectives over the course of the CYPP.

5. Meetings

All meetings will be chaired by Michelle Mc Nicohlas. A meeting quorum of not less than 50% of the subgroup membership agencies applies i.e. 10 members must be in attendance for proposing actions. Decisions made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice). If not possible, CYPSC Chairperson makes the final decisions.

Meeting agendas and minutes will be provided by CYPSC Co-ordinator Helena O' Brien. This includes:

- Preparing agendas and supporting papers; preparing minutes/meeting notes and information.
- Meetings will be held at least 4 times a year for 1-2 hours.
- A hybrid approach to meeting will be adapted with a mix of online meetings and face to face meetings.
- If required, task group meetings will be arranged outside of these times at a time convenient to members.

6. Amendment, Modification or Variation

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

¹⁴¹ [280807_66d25198-b019-4734-b516-0014a119e261 \(1\).pdf](#)

Appendix 2: Subgroup Membership (Organisations) April 2024

Health and Mental Health Subgroup
<p>HSE (Primary Care, Mental Health Co-ord for Travellers, Youth Drugs and Alcohol Service [YoDA], Senior Health Promotion and Improvement Officer)</p> <p>Lucena CAMHS</p> <p>Barnardos</p> <p>My Project Minding You</p> <p>Springboard</p> <p>Crosscare Teen Councelling</p> <p>Crosscare Youth Service</p> <p>Exchange House</p> <p>Southside Travellers Action Group (STAG)</p> <p>National Educational Psychology Service (NEPS)</p> <p>DLR Sports Partnership</p> <p>Crosscare</p> <p>Rosemount Family Resource Centre (FRC)</p> <p>Senior Health Promotion and Improvement Officer</p> <p>UCD Resilience and Health Lab</p>
Education and Learning Subgroup
<p>UCD</p> <p>Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT)</p> <p>Tusla Education Support Service (TESS) Education Welfare Office (EWO)</p> <p>Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education Training Board (DDLETB)</p> <p>Youthreach</p> <p>Dún Laoghaire Community Training Centre (DLCTC)</p> <p>Crosscare Youth Service</p> <p>NEPS</p> <p>School Completion Officer</p> <p>Home School Liaison</p> <p>Guidance Councillor</p> <p>Blackrock Education Centre</p> <p>Airfield Estate Education Officer</p> <p>Young Social Innovators</p> <p>CyberSafeKids</p> <p>Rosemount FRC</p> <p>Tusla</p>
Safety, Economic Security and Prevention Partnership and Family Support
<p>Tusla</p> <p>HSE</p> <p>FRC (Rosemount, Hillview, Balally, Ballyogan)</p> <p>My Project Minding You</p> <p>Springboard</p> <p>Le Cheile</p> <p>Southside Partnership</p> <p>Southside Addressing Violence Effectively (SAVE)</p> <p>An Garda Síochana</p> <p>Women's Aid</p> <p>Sonas</p> <p>Sophia House</p> <p>Peter Mc Verry</p> <p>DLR County Council</p> <p>DLR Community Addiction Team (CAT)</p>

Barnardos
Carrs Child and Family Service
Lucena CAMHS
Crosscare
Foroige
DLR Drugs and Alcohol Task Force (DATF)

Parenting Subgroup

HSE
Tusla
TESS EWO
Barnardos
Southside Partnership
FRC (Rosemount, Hillview, Balally, Ballyogan)
Springboard
My Project Minding You
DLR County Childcare Committee (CCC)
Lucena CAMHS

Appendix 3: Linkages between DLR CYPSC and Other County Interagency Structures

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Active Cities

Sport Ireland's Active Cities project is funded by the dormant accounts fund and invests in sport and physical activity initiatives in Ireland's five largest cities – Dublin, Limerick, Waterford, Cork and Galway, with the aim of creating, maintaining and increasing the numbers of citizens, regardless of age and ability, participating in sport and physical activity in their city. Active Cities strives to create social norms about the benefits of sport and physical activity, create opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to be active, work in partnership to increase physical activity and decrease inactivity, and create/maintain environments where sport and physical activity can happen, working toward healthier lifestyles of their citizens. The DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator is a representative on DLR Active Cities Steering Committee and the Active Cities Co-ordinator sits on the DLR CYPSC Health and Mental Health subgroup and has an active input on the agenda.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Comhairle Na NÓg

Comhairle na nÓg are youth councils for young people under the age of 18 in each of the 31 local authorities of the country, which give children and young people the opportunity to have a voice on services, policies and issues that affect them in their local area. In Dún

Laoghaire Rathdown (DLR), the Comhairle na nÓg is coordinated by Foroige, and supported by the Community and Cultural Department in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

The DLR CYPSC Coordinator is an active member of the DLR Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committee which includes representation from Comhairle na nÓg youth membership, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Foroige, the DLR Public Participation Network, the Dublin Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB), An Garda Síochána, Southside Travellers Action Group (STAG) and Crosscare Youth Service.

Several DLR CYPSC consultations have taken place with DLR Comhairle na nÓg members in 2022 and 2023, all of which have informed the DLR CYPSC Needs Analysis. DLR Comhairle na nÓg presents to the CYPSC each year, the Foroige co-ordinator sits on the Health and Mental Health Subgroup and the CYPSC Co-ordinator feeds back information at CYPSC meetings to ensure the voice of the youth council is heard.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce (DLR DATF)

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce (DLR DATF) is a Health Services Initiative that works with a range of statutory, community and voluntary stakeholders to reduce population harmful drug and alcohol use. The Coordinator of the DLR DATF is a member of the DLR CYPSC and the DLR Co-ordinator sits on the DLR DATF.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The governing legislation underpinning the establishment of Local Community Development Committees (LCDC) is set out in Section 36 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which provides for the establishment of LCDCs in all local authority administrative areas *“for the purposes of developing, coordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development”*.

Nationally there is a protocol regarding interagency working between the LCDC and the CYPSC issued by the then called Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) and by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in 2017. This protocol states that:

‘The work and planning of both groups (LCDC and CYPSC) in respect of children and young people is framed by Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures. This provides the overarching framework for the development and implementation of policy and services for children and young people. The commitments in Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures³ have the backing of all Government Departments. The Framework is

recognition by Government of the need to connect all of the resources available to support our vision for children and young people.

Beyond the general principles shared by all stakeholders, there are a number of areas for progression that are of mutual interest for the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and the Department of the Housing, Planning and Local Government. These include: ensuring that local county-level implementation and monitoring through the CYPSC will be formally linked with LCDC, and ensuring consistency between the priorities for children and young people set out in the Better Outcomes Brighter Futures Framework and the priorities and actions set out in the relevant Local Economic Community Plan.'

In the local authority area of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown, good communication channels have been established between the LCDC and CYPSC through mutual representation on key structures. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has ensured consistent, senior representation on the CYPSC to maintain communications and on-going engagement with regard to issues relating to children and young people. The Director of Community and Cultural Development, Therese Langan, is in the position of the Vice-Chairperson of DLR CYPSC. Additionally the Chief Officer of the DLR LCDC, Mary Ruane, is a member of DLR CYPSC which ensures that relevant LCDC matters are communicated and considered by the DLR CYPSC.

Additionally, the DLR CYPSC Coordinator represents Tusla Child and Family Agency as a non-voting member on the DLR LCDC which meets every six weeks. This representation ensures that relevant CYPSC and Tusla information is offered to the LCDC meetings where appropriate and that the Tusla Area Manager and DLR CYPSC Chair are kept updated on DLR LCDC developments.

Southside Addressing Violence Effectively (SAVE)

SAVE is a dynamic Inter-Agency Group addressing the issue of domestic abuse against Women and Children in DLR. SAVE is also offering free domestic abuse related counselling only by referral from a domestic abuse support service. The DLR CYPSC Co-ordinator sits as a representative on SAVE and the Co-ordinator sits on the DLR CYPSC Safety Subgroup.

The Connecting for Life Steering Group (HSE Community Healthcare East)

The 'Connecting for Life' suicide and harm reduction strategy for HSE Community Healthcare East (CHO 6) was launched in 2017, with specific actions for services to collaborate on to reduce harm and suicide in the area. A number of these actions involve services working with children, young people and parents.

The DLR CYPSC Coordinator therefore participates in the 'Connecting for Life' Psychotherapeutic Support for Children and Adults Workstream (Workstream C). These interagency structures are coordinated by, the Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention, Mental Health Division, HSE CHO Area 6 (Dublin South East and Dún-Laoghaire).

The HSE Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention, attends the DLR CYPSC Health and Mental Health Subgroup as a member and this facilitates timely communication across the structures with regards to interagency collaboration to reduce self-harm and suicide in the county.

Appendix 4: Review of DLR CYPSC Children and Young People’s Plan 2020-2022 and One Year Plan

DLR CYPSC Review 1 Year Plan FINAL COPY, May 2022-May 2023

Below is the one-year plan for the DLR CYPSC and its sub-groups. The plan is based on the current CYPSC three-year plan and recent consultation with the CYPSC and the five established sub-groups by independent consultant Rita Burtenshaw. It was signed off by the CYPSC committee on the 5th of May 2022.

National Outcome 1 Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Well-being – Health and Mental Health Subgroup	
Priority Objectives	Actions
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further develop the subgroup. 2. Your Youth Health Project DLR – UCD, review and agree any actions. 3. Let’s Talk DLR Website – Update. 4. Scope out the actions, agree a plan and support delivery of the Healthy Ireland (Round 4). 5. DLR CoCo Play Policy – make input/submission from sub-group-had consultation with CYPSC (poor attendance) letter sent re: Homelessness. 6. Infant Mental Health Network – scope out potential CYPSC role/Education event. 7. Develop a process to enable cross sub-group work on Mental Health (MH). 8. Scope out future actions with traveller support group and homeless networks-STAG Barrel project – hard to engage with homeless services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Further development (including additional members) of the sub-group given the additional work: impact of Covid on youth MH, refugees from Ukraine etc. -Explore Infant Mental Health Network/Group Reflective/Supervision Sessions/Education Event. -Support the collaborative role out of Healthy Ireland Round 4. -Provide information on number of hits for Let’s Talk. Translate to Ukrainian/Russian. -Review data from HSE on increase in eating disorders. -Bring together cross sectoral task group/s on youth mental health due to connection with school avoidance, parenting work etc.
National Outcome 2 Achieving Full Potential in all Areas of Learning and Development – Education and Learning Subgroup	
Priority Objectives	Actions
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Progress Let’s Learn DLR website. 2. Develop further supports for children/YP Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). 3. Further review and refinement of the actions in this section. 5. Scope out future actions with traveller support groups and homeless networks. Running CyberSafeKids Tools for Schools for 25 Primary Schools in DLR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the development of the Let’s Learn Website. -Review School Refusal Packs from other CYPSC areas and propose pack for DLR. -Scope out further NEET related actions. -Continue to share information and training opportunities. -Await Junior Reach evaluation results from Collaboration Ireland and identify relevant actions. -Review, streamline and realign actions in this section of the plan.
National Outcome 3 Safe and Protected from harm/National Outcome 4: Economic Security – Safety Subgroup	
Priority Objectives	Actions
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Progress the merging of Safety Subgroup and PPFS Subgroup as agreed. 2. DV: Support DLR DV Refuge led out by DLR CoCo and Sonas. 3. DV: Develop information pack specific to DLR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Both sub-groups chairperson and co-ordinator to work together on sub-group merger: PPFS Chair to feedback progress, proposal for two action plans and one sub-group, membership review.

4. Homelessness: work with agencies to agree priority actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure everyone aware of PPFS plan. -Review materials from other CYPSCs and develop the DV information pack in consultation with relevant services. Continue to support the development of the refuge. -Links with UCD Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) regarding research (Homelessness and DV Info Booklet). -Workshop with Homelessness Interagency Service to gain feedback on Homelessness Actions specifically their progress, relevance post covid and emerging priorities. -Support Advanced NVR Training and Supervision.
National Outcome 5 Connected, respected and contributing to their world – Parenting Subgroup	
Priority Objectives	Actions
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review relevant national documents and policy. 2. Complete strategic Mapping and gap analysis of parent supports. 3. Complete operational Mapping of parent supports for more immediate information for parents. 4. Scope out the development of Lets Parent Website-have working group ready hope to launch in summer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Re-establish links with DCEDIY Parenting Support Policy Unit re: National Model of Parenting Supports-have asked us to be pilot for Lets Parent DLR. -Review Tusla Parenting Strategy and parenting support mapping for commissioning. -Consider Health Atlas and Review HSE mapping of Parenting Supports. -Review approaches to strategic mapping and gap analysis, e.g. Meath/Louth PPFS/CYPSC. -Review hosting approach taken in Wicklow (invite to group etc.) -GEO Mapping Training. -Scope out the potential for a part time post re: maintaining website (critical for CYPSC that website is updated).
National Outcome 5 Connected, respected and contributing to their world – Participation (no subgroup in place)	
Priority Objective	Actions
1. Scope out approaches to strengthen youth participation in the work of the DLR CYPSC, sub-groups and its participating agencies-discussed with CYPSC, Foroige and Tusla Youth Participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Clarify role, remit and reach of relevant current agencies and structures: Comhairle Na NOg, Sports Partnership, youth services/Crosscare, Local Schools, PPFS/Tusla actions. -Research different approaches (approx. 3) CYPSC participation models. -Present finding to CYPSC for decision making-awaiting the CNN to get back and discussions with UCD Access (have young person).
Change Management – DLR CYPSC Committee	
Priority Objectives	Actions
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roll out Critical Incident Protocol for DLR, ensuring consistency across CHO6. 2. Continue to strengthen Senior Management commitment to CYPSC through high attendance at meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review and adjust if required the Wicklow CIP (signed off by HSE Senior Management) and work with HSE CYPSC representative to finalise the roll out of the DLR Protocol (noted

<p>3. Continue to engage in interagency research commissioning and training.</p> <p>4. Highlight the work of the CYPSC and its sub-groups.</p> <p>5. Agree one major strategic objective e.g. Parent Support Mapping, for CYPSC 2022/2023.</p>	<p>Interagency protocols in place in South Dublin City, Wexford etc. alongside agency protocols).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CYPSC Chairperson to remind members of attendance/quorum and decision making. -Track attendance levels. -Continue to support interagency agency research/training i.e. Research with UCD and training with HSE under Healthy Ireland. -Scope out the potential for a large event possibly in 2023 to highlight the work undertaken by CYPSC and potentially to commence planning for 2024. -Review current CYPSC actions, agree major key action/s for further development and actions that have not yet commenced.
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Appendix 5 Additional socio-economic data

FIGURE 64 DLR POPULATION 0-24 PER E.D

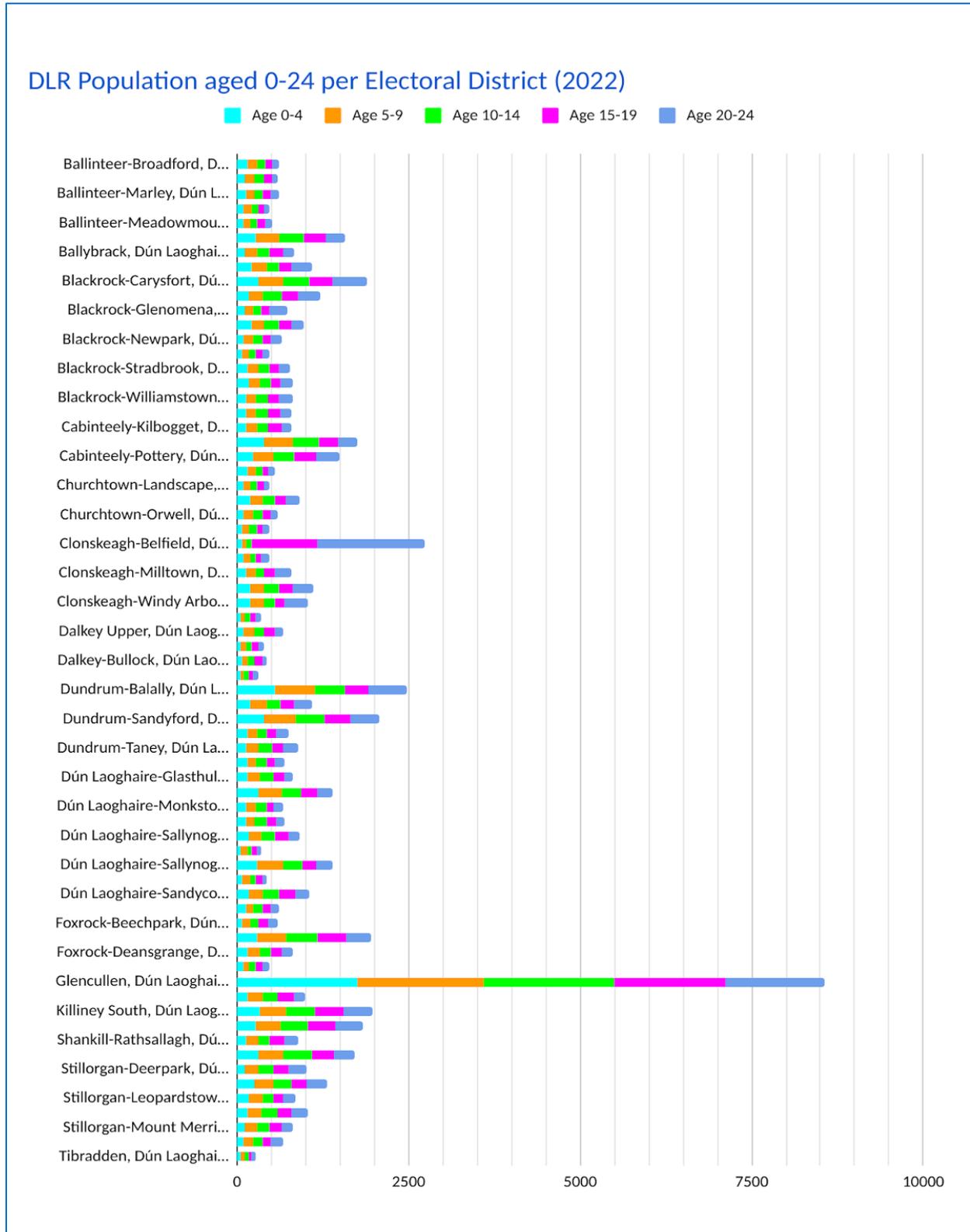
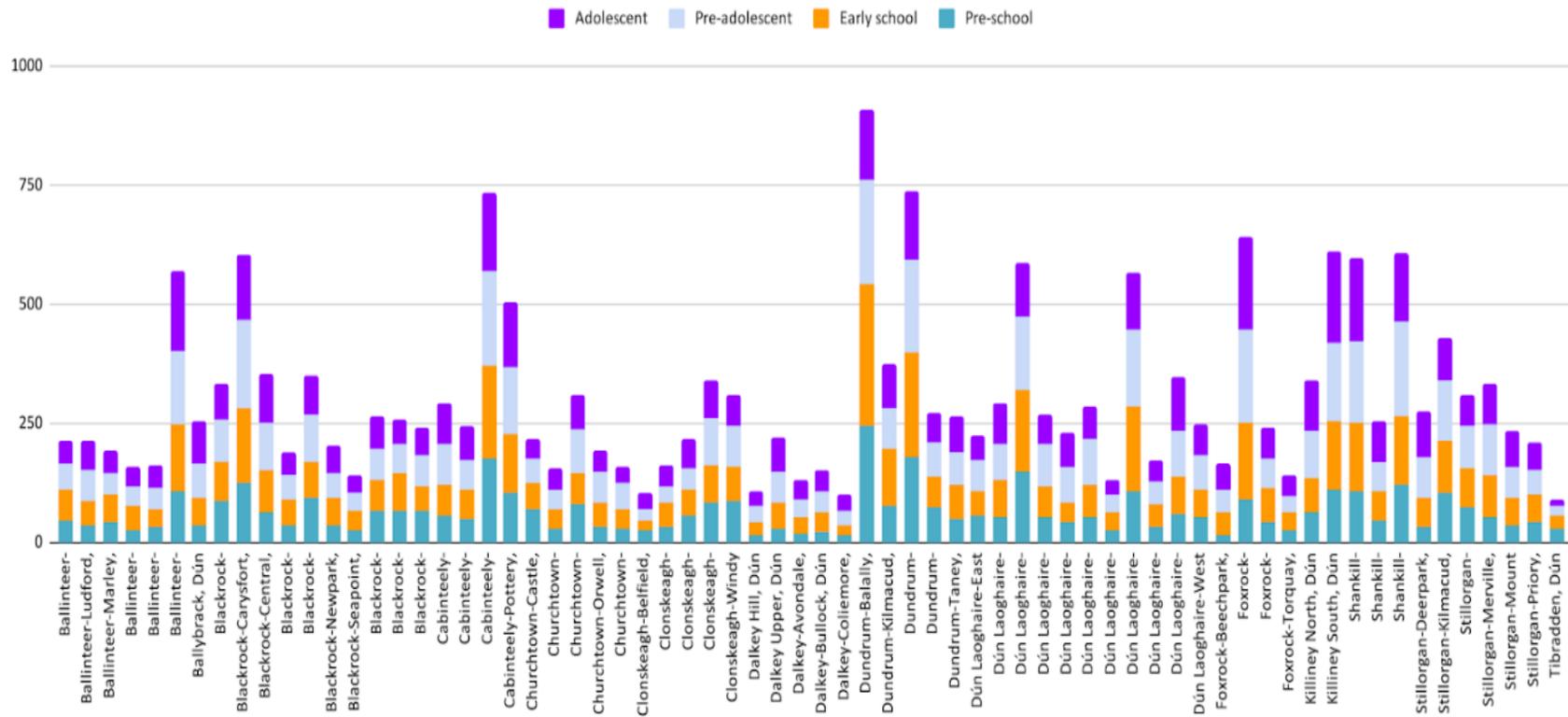


TABLE 51 OCCUPANCY STATUS OF DLR DWELLINGS ON CENSUS NIGHT (2022)

Type of Private Household	Housing Stock	2016	2022	change	% change
All households	Total housing stock	86962	93257	6295	7.24
	Occupied	79081	85590	6509	8.23
	Temporarily absent	3093	2372	-721	-23.31
	Vacant house/apartment	4596	4851	255	5.55
	Holiday home	192	444	252	131.25
Detached house	Total housing stock	18171	18327	156	0.86
	Occupied	16738	16910	172	1.03
	Temporarily absent	635	492	-143	-22.52
	Vacant house/apartment	773	848	75	9.7
	Holiday home	25	77	52	208
Semi-detached house	Total housing stock	32843	31400	-1443	-4.39
	Occupied	30839	29558	-1281	-4.15
	Temporarily absent	913	598	-315	-34.5
	Vacant house/apartment	1077	1201	124	11.51
	Holiday home	14	43	29	207.14
Terraced house	Total housing stock	14573	19269	4696	32.22
	Occupied	13345	17814	4469	33.49
	Temporarily absent	473	430	-43	-9.09
	Vacant house/apartment	729	953	224	30.73
	Holiday home	26	72	46	176.92
Flat or apartment in a purpose-built block	Total housing stock	19086	22387	3301	17.3
	Occupied	16280	19777	3497	21.48
	Temporarily absent	973	787	-186	-19.12
	Vacant house/apartment	1711	1587	-124	-7.25
	Holiday home	122	236	114	93.44
Flat or apartment in a converted dwelling	Total housing stock	1774	1874	100	5.64
	Occupied	1364	1531	167	12.24
	Temporarily absent	99	65	-34	-34.34
	Vacant house/apartment	306	262	-44	-14.38
	Holiday home	5	16	11	220

FIGURE 65 FAMILY CYCLE OF FAMILY UNITS (NO.) WITH CHILDREN IN DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN, PER ELECTORAL DISTRICT, EXCLUDING GLENCULLEN ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Family cycle of family units (no.) with children in DLR, per ED, excluding Glencullen ED (2022)



Appendix 6: Needs Analysis Data

FIGURE 66 OVERVIEW OF ALL ISSUES ACCORDING TO PARENTS (DLR CYPSC PARENT SURVEY 2024).

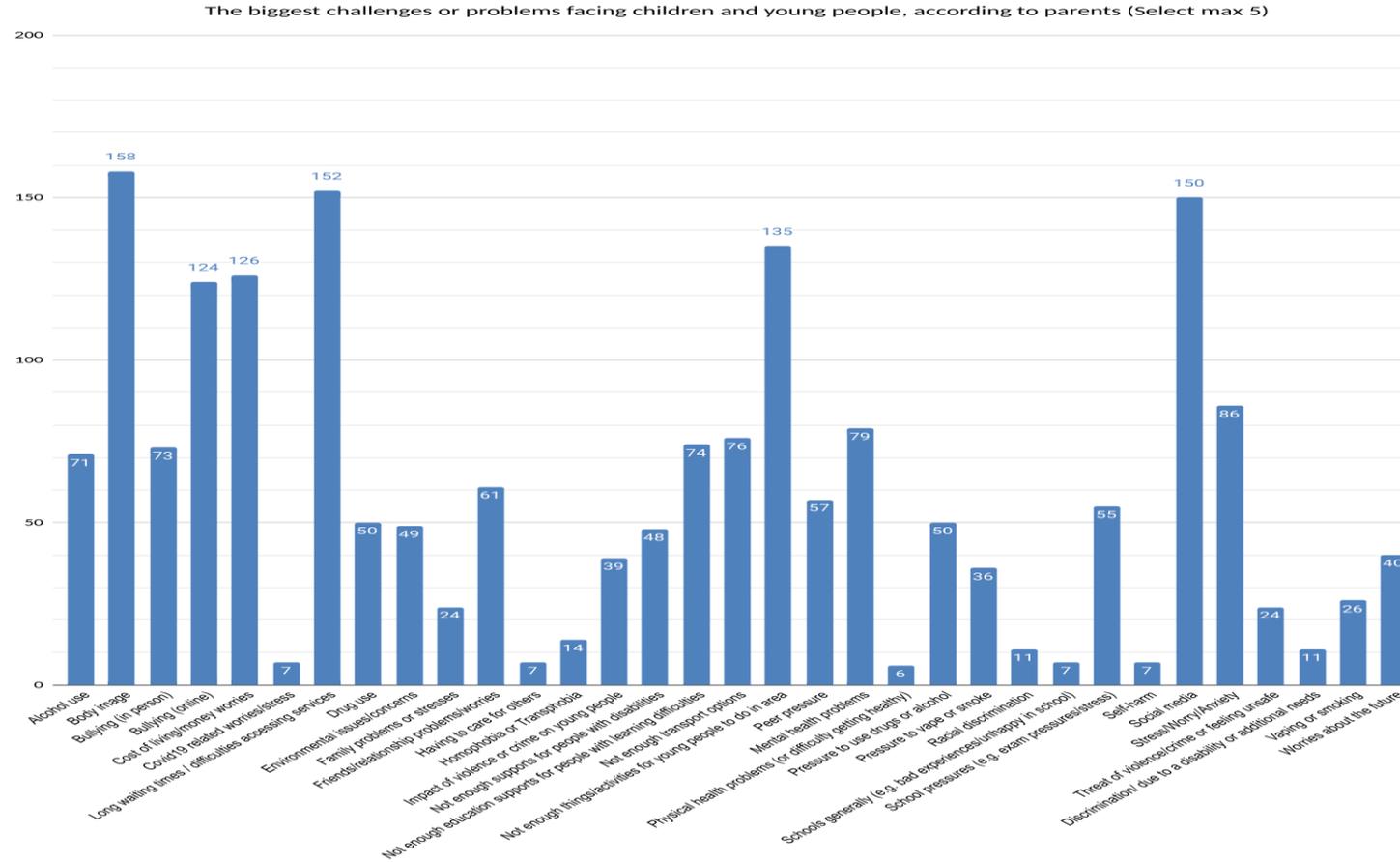


FIGURE 67 PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVING SERVICES FOR CYP AND FAMILIES IN DLR ACCORDING TO PARENTS

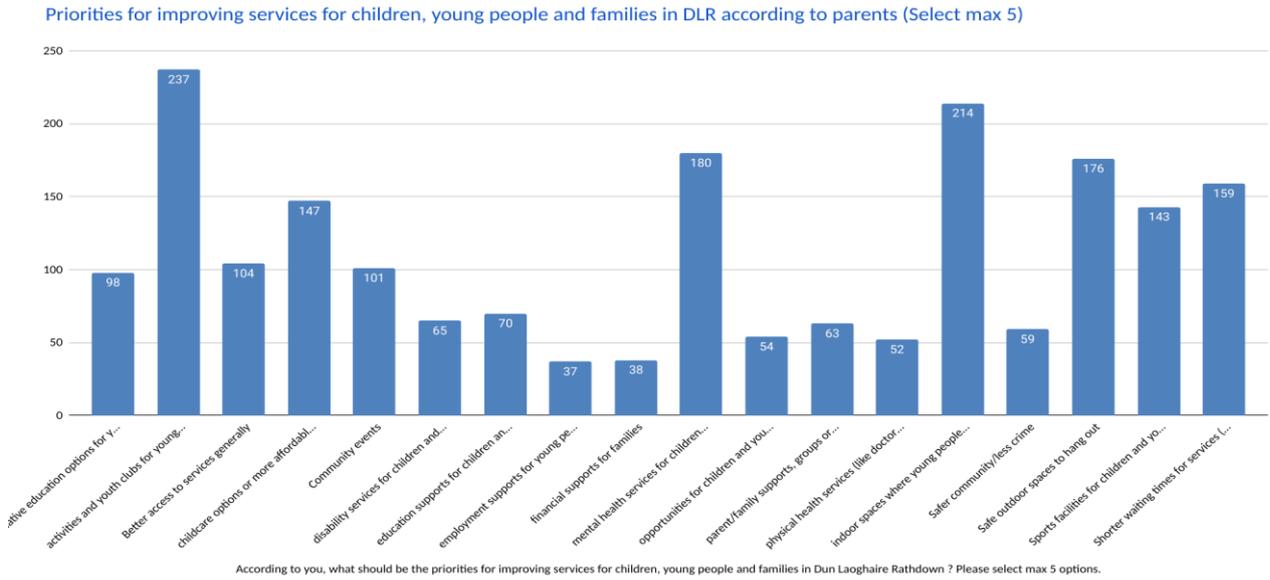


FIGURE 68 : BIGGEST CHALLENGES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, ACCORDING TO YOUNG PEOPLE (DLR CYPSC SURVEY 2024).

