

DONEGAL CYPSC

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The Donegal Children & Young People's Committee (CYPSC) aims to improve outcomes for children and young people aged 0-24 years in County Donegal.

The purpose of CYPSCs are to bring statutory, community and voluntary agencies providing services to children and young people together to cooperate and plan and work in a coordinated way. CYPSC's are funded through the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Chaired by Tusla.

The local authority holds the position of Deputy Chair. They work to support children, young people and their families to achieve the five national outcomes set out in Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020.

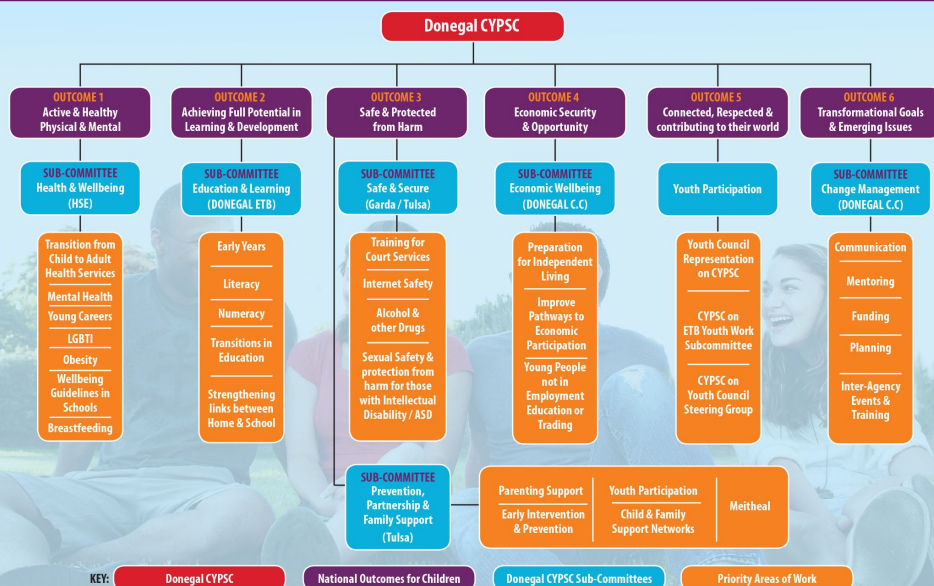
The national outcomes are that Children & Young People are:

- *Active and healthy with physical and mental well-being
- *Achieving full potential in all areas of learning & development
- *Safe and protected from harm
- *Have economic security and opportunity and
- *Are connected, respected and contributing to their world.

Over forty organisations across Donegal work in partnership to achieve these outcomes.

BETTER
OUTCOMES
BRIGHTER
FUTURES

STRUCTURE OF DONEGAL CYPSC



DONEGAL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE

Is CYPSC Dhún na nGall muid i gcuideachta le chéile

NEWSLETTER

Quarter 4 2018

Donegal CYPP Launch Event 10 Oct 2018

Wednesday 10th October 2018:

Donegal Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) celebrated the Launch of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2018 -2020 at the Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. This celebration, chaired by Gerry Hone, CYPSC Chairperson, Tusla and Liam Ward, CYPSC Deputy Chair, Donegal County Council, included a multi-agency networking and sharing event and learning seminar. The 178 attendees included representatives from 12 disability focused organisations. Dr. Bronagh Byrne and Liam Ward, Deputy Chair of Donegal CYPSC, launched the CYPP accompanied by a swinging performance from the Errigal Sax Quartet, (Donegal Music Education Partnership). Many thanks to Eoin Bond, Rory McLaughlin, Caoimhe Drumm,

Siubhan O'Donnell and tutor Sean McCarron. Commenting on the Children & Young People's Plan Liam Ward said, "As Deputy Chairperson of Donegal CYPSC, I am privileged to present the Donegal Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2020. It is a credit to all members of the CYPSC who developed and will implement this plan, which is the end product of sterling work during a period of re-generation and re-focusing of Donegal CYPSC. The time & commitment given by all to establish & maintain Donegal Children & Young People's Services Committee is admirable." Dr. Bronagh Byrne launched the Directory of Disability Services in Donegal, developed in collaboration between Donegal CYPSC & Bluestack Special Needs Foundation.



'Re-imagining disability, from accepting diversity to true inclusion'

The learning seminar, 'Re-imagining Disability, from Accepting Diversity to True Inclusion', focused on the challenges to social inclusion experienced by Children & Young people who have a physical, sensory or intellectual disability, and the challenges this poses for them and their families. Dr. Bronagh Byrne, currently Co-Director of the Centre for Children's Rights and Co-Chair of the Disability Research Network at

Queens University Belfast, delivered a thought provoking key note address; "The way we imagine disability is changing and needs to continue to change. It is not simply a medical issue, it is a rights issue. Disability is a fundamental facet of human diversity. It has always been and will always be part of the human condition. By challenging our perceptions of disability, we can recognise, accept

and respect children with disabilities, and continue the journey to meaningful inclusion" Dr. Bronagh Byrne specialises in the area of disability and equality. Stephen Barrett, DLDC gave a Socio demographic Profile of Disability in Donegal. An overview of services was provided by HSE Early Intervention Team & Physical & Sensory Team.

Inspiring young men Liam Wheldon, Eoin Rooney & Albie Dinsmore Clarke, described their personal journey & how their involvement with Foróige initiatives & activities made a difference to their lives.



"A great event, very inspiring & thought provoking. Particularly enjoyed Dr. Bronagh Byrne's presentation and the Young people" Lifestart



"Seeing the person first and the disability second is the overwhelming message of the day, a fantastic event putting the spotlight on disability services in Donegal"

Lorraine Thompson, DYS

"Inspiring, eye opening, as always nothing is as powerful as hearing the voices of young people"

Marie Crawley, Tusla



Stephen Barrett, Anita Gallagher & Alvin Doherty, Wendy McCarry, Bairbre Cahill, Leona McMenamin Gerry Clark, Garry Glennon, Downs Syndrome Photographic Exhibition, The 'Outcomes for Children Information & Data Hub' Team.

Local examples of Best Practice highlighted simple changes any organisation can make to support the inclusion of this group of children & young people in their activities. Drawing on her experience working in this area Wendy Mc Carry from Bluestack Special Needs Foundation challenged delegates to change their mindset & approach to children & young people with disability. Gerry Clark, Letterkenny Tennis Club focused on Inclusion in Sporting Activities. Bairbre Cahill, Parent Hub Donegal presented on Parent Support Training opportunities available via Tusla Prevention Partnership & Family Support. Leona Mc Menamin Mevagh FRC described their Parent Peer Support group and Garry Glennon took us through the experience of

Letterkenny Youth & Family Services in how small changes can have an impact on inclusion for example running Sensory Santa for children with ASD. Delegates had the opportunity to; network and view over 30 Information Stands from local service providers and organisations providing specialist supports to children & young people with disabilities and their families; Try out the Tusla Outcomes for Children Data & Information Hub, & enjoy the Donegal Down Syndrome Photographic Exhibition.



The Inspiring Bluestack Choir & Friends



Ciaran McDonnell exhibiting photographer, Donegal Downs Syndrome Photographic Exhibition.



The enthusiastic Bluestack Choir, charmed the audience with their inspiring performance, received a standing ovation, and sent us off to lunch on a high note with a spring in our step. The Choir is supported by staff and volunteers of the Bluestack Special Needs Foundation.

"Brilliant content and very honest information showcasing the great work happening in Donegal."

The Bluestack Choir was a great addition and feel very grateful to have seen this"

Chloe Mc Ginty, Springboard

Directory of Disability Services in Donegal

This Directory was compiled by the Bluestack Special Needs Foundation in collaboration with Donegal CYPSC, in response to a need identified during community consultations held to inform the Donegal Children & Young People's Plan 2018-2020. The need to support children & young people with physical, sensory and or intellectual disability and their families, was highlighted by statutory and community & voluntary organisations across County Donegal. This Directory aims to improve access to and awareness of the supports and services available. It will be updated Bi-annually and is available to download from www.cypsc.ie, www.parenthubdonegal.ie & www.bluestackfoundation.com.

Info for inclusion to info@bluestackfoundation.com

CYPSC Project Funds

Healthy Ireland Fund:

€37,099 was granted to Donegal CYPSC to support the implementation of the following projects aligned to the Healthy Ireland strategy and will run until end of March 2019.

BreakOut LGBTI led by Donegal Youth Service. This will allow support to continue to 2 LGBTI youth peer groups established in Inishowen and Glenties in early 2018.

Fun Moves Programme led by Donegal Sports Partnership. This fundamental movements programme for young children will run in a new area in Co. Donegal.

The evidence based obesity prevention programme, **Motivate Educate Exercise Together** led by Letterkenny

Youth & Family Services will train facilitators and run the programme for a new group of families in Donegal.

This funding will allow Fóroige to bring their **Be Healthy, Be Happy programme** to Young people in rural areas.

The **Young Carers Project** led by Donegal Youth Service, will use this funding to bring the **Fit for Life programme** to young carers in the Donegal town area.

DCYA CYPSC Funding: The Department of Children & Youth Affairs granted €20,000 to each CYPSC in 2018. Activities being funded include the Launch Event / Seminar and the Directory of Disability Services in Donegal. This fund also supports the implementation of Actions in the

Donegal Children & Young People's Plan 2018-2020. **For Example:** Developing a guide for Parents on Internet Safety and how to access the parental controls on social media & digital devices.

Updating a resource to support young people who are in contact with the Courts Services.

A stock of books for the Creating life long Readers project.

Improving furniture storage facilities for young people transitioning out of care.

Supporting a schools transitions project and a Children's Mindfulness Project as well as supporting the coordination of Parent Hub Donegal.

A further €28,000 will be allocated to Donegal CYPSC in 2019

National CYPSC Event:

The 2018 CYPSC National Event CYPSC: Enhancing Child & Youth Well-being took place on the 3rd & 4th October 2018 in the City West Hotel, Dublin. Minister Zappone gave the opening address and spent time with each individual CYPSC to hear how work is progressing at local community level. The event was



hosted by Tusla and the Dept. of Children & Youth Affairs. National Outcome 1 'Active & Healthy' was the theme to report & discuss CYPSC work across the country.

Donegal CYPSC was selected to do a

presentation on supports to LGBTI young people with Cavan/ Monaghan, Dublin City North & Dublin South CYPSC. Each CYPSC also took part in a showcase Exhibition of their work. See www.cypsc.ie

Happy Christmas & Every Good Wish for 2019

Donegal CYPSC would like to thank all those who contributed to the launch event & seminar, Information Stands, Speakers, & helping on the day. A very special thank you to all the young people who took part & helped make this a most meaningful, inspiring experience. Special thanks also to Fintan Gallagher &

rock band 'Serial Twin' for providing the sound system and to the Bluestack Special Needs Foundation for their support. As 2018 draws to a close Donegal CYPSC would like to sincerely thank all our member organisations for their commitment to partnership working, cooperation and collaboration. Special

thanks to LYIT for hosting the CYPSC Meetings, Donegal ETB, Tusla, HSE, & Donegal County Council for hosting the Subcommittee meetings throughout the year. Thanks also to Donegal Youth Council who send representation to CYPSC.

Nollaig Shona!