

# Children and Young People's Plan

**2018-2020**



COISTÍ NA SEIRBHÍSÍ DO LEANAÍ & DO DHAOINE ÓGA

Maigh Eo

## Contact

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

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Copies of this plan are available on <http://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/mayo.245.html>

(Plan will be available here once approved)

## Table of Contents

1	Introduction .....	14
	Background to Children and Young People’s Services Committees .....	15
1.1.1	Children and Young People’s Services Committees in Ireland. ....	15
1.1.2	Children and Young People’s Services Committee in Mayo .....	15
1.1.3	Who we are.....	15
	Achievements to date .....	17
1.1.4	Family Support Subgroup.....	18
	How the Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) was developed .....	19
1.1.5	The socio-demographic profile .....	19
1.1.6	The audit of Services .....	20
1.1.7	The local needs analysis .....	20
1.1.8	The identification of priorities, objectives and actions.....	25
2	Socio Demographic Profile of Mayo .....	26
	County Mayo.....	26
	Vital Indicators .....	28
	Population.....	29
2.1.1	Net Migration.....	29
2.1.2	Births .....	29
2.1.3	Population aged 0-24 years .....	30
2.1.4	Young Dependency Ratio, 2016 .....	31
2.1.5	Marital Status.....	32
2.1.6	Irish Language .....	32
	Diversity and Ethnicity .....	32
2.1.7	Diversity .....	32
2.1.8	Ethnicity .....	34
2.1.9	Asylum Seekers .....	35
	Vulnerable Young People.....	36
2.1.10	Young Carers .....	36
2.1.11	Disabled Population aged 0-18 years.....	36
	Key Statistics .....	37
2.1.12	Outcome 1: Active and Healthy .....	37
2.1.13	Self-harm.....	39
2.1.14	Mindspace Mayo.....	39

Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development.....	40
2.1.15 Childcare and Early Years.....	40
2.1.16 Primary School Children.....	41
2.1.17 Post-primary schools.....	42
2.1.18 Mother’s highest education achievement.....	44
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm .....	44
2.1.19 Referrals to Family Support Services .....	45
2.1.20 Child Protection and Children in Care.....	45
2.1.21 Juvenile Crime .....	46
2.1.22 Drugs Task Force .....	47
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity.....	47
2.1.23 Live Register .....	48
2.1.24 Child related Social Welfare Payments.....	49
2.1.25 Housing .....	50
2.1.26 Deprivation.....	51
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world.....	52
2.1.27 Key findings from Socio Demographic Profile.....	54
3 Overview of services to Children and Families in County Mayo.....	57
Outcome 1: Active and Healthy (physical and mental wellbeing).....	57
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development.....	59
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm.....	61
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity.....	63
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contribution to their world.....	65
3.1.1 Gaps identified .....	67
4 Local Needs Analysis in County Mayo.....	68
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing.....	68
4.1.1 Health and Wellbeing.....	68
4.1.2 Outdoor play 0-6 years .....	69
4.1.3 Child and Youth Mental Health.....	70
4.1.4 Parental Mental Health.....	71
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development.....	72
4.1.5 Young Asylum Seekers .....	73
4.1.6 Young Travellers.....	74
4.1.7 Other Education Needs identified during the research process.....	75



4.1.8	Young People not attending school .....	76
4.1.9	Lifeskills for young people.....	77
	Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm .....	77
4.1.10	Responses from young people.....	77
4.1.11	Responses from parents Safety and Security .....	79
4.1.12	Responses from Service Providers .....	81
4.1.13	Prevention, Partnership and Family Support.....	82
4.1.14	Parenting support and engagement .....	82
4.1.15	Safeguarding Children and Young People.....	82
	Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity .....	83
4.1.16	Responses from young people.....	83
4.1.17	Responses from parents .....	85
4.1.18	Responses from Service Providers .....	86
4.1.19	Young People not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETs).....	86
	Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world .....	87
4.1.20	Voice of children and young people .....	87
4.1.21	Connecting and respecting young people .....	88
4.1.22	Rural Transport .....	89
	Change Management.....	89
4.1.23	Interagency Working and collaboration .....	89
4.1.24	Information, Research and Communications .....	90
4.1.25	Advocacy and Influencing Policy .....	91
5	Summary of Children and Young People’s Plan for Mayo .....	92
6	Monitoring and Review.....	113

## List of Tables

Table 1: Summary of consultations for Mayo Children and Young People’s Plan .....	20
Table 2: Focus Groups with Young People.....	23
Table 3: Process for identifying priorities and key dates .....	25
Table 4: Vital Indicators for children and young people, Mayo and State .....	28
Table 5: Annual Estimated Net Migration 2006 to 2016 per 1,000 of Average Population (Number) by Intercensal Period, Census Year, Mayo and State . .....	29
Table 6: Total births, Mayo and State, 2014, 2015 and 2016.....	29
Table 7: Population aged 0 to 24, by single year of age, Mayo and State, 2016.....	30
Table 8: Electoral Division with highest population aged 0-24 years (number and percentage), Mayo, 2016 .....	31
Table 9: Persons aged 0-14 (Ratio), both sexes, Mayo and State, 2011 and 2016.....	32
Table 10: Population aged 3 years and over by ability to speak Irish.....	32
Table 11: Population usually present and resident in the State by county of usual residence, age group and nationality.....	33
Table 12: % Population Usually Resident and Present in the State 2016, nationality and town of usual residence, Mayo .....	33
Table 13: Number and percentage of persons by language spoken, Mayo and State, 2011 .....	34
Table 14: Population by Ethnicity, Mayo and State, 2016.....	35
Table 15: Irish Travellers (total) and as a proportion (per 1,000) of the total population, Mayo and State, 2016 .....	35
Table 16: Asylum Seekers, as a % of total population, Mayo and State, November 2016 (RIA 2016)	36
Table 17: Disabled Population aged 0-18 years by type of disability, Mayo and State .....	36
Table 18: Health of Children and Young People, 0-24 years, 2011.....	37
Table 19: Percentage of infants who are breastfed (exclusive or combined) on discharge from hospital, by mothers' county of residence (2015) .....	38
Table 20: Number and percentage of live births that weigh <2,500g.....	38
Table 21: Deliberate self-harm by age group and number, Mayo, 2014 (HSE 2015) .....	39
Table 22: Childcare services by type, Mayo (MCCC 2017).....	40
Table 23: ECCE and CCS registrations, Mayo and State, 2015/16 (Pobal 2017) .....	41
Table 24: Highest level of Education Attainment of Mothers (2011) .....	44
Table 25: Mayo Women’s Support Service, Jan-Sept 2016 .....	44
Table 26: Children referred to Family Support Services .....	45
Table 27: Families referred to Family Support Services.....	45
Table 28: Child Protection Referrals 2016 .....	45
Table 29: Children listed as 'Active' on CPNS per 10,000 populations 0-17 years Q1 2017 .....	46
Table 30: Number of children in care and rate per 1,000 population 0-17 years Q4 2016.....	46
Table 31: Individuals who received treatment for drug or alcohol abuse, 2015 HSE Western Area ..	47
Table 32: Population aged 15 years and over by principal economic status and sex .....	47
Table 33: Persons (male and female) under and over 25 years, on the Live Register, Mayo (CSO 2017) .....	48
Table 34: Family units with children by size of family .....	48
Table 35: Private households by type .....	49
Table 36: Child related payments, 2016 .....	49

Table 37: Social Welfare Payments by type of payment, Mayo and State, 2016.....	50
Table 38: Private households by type of accommodation.....	50
Table 39: Irish Travellers in Private Households 2011 and 2016 by Type of Household, Mayo and State .....	51
Table 40: Pobal HP Deprivation 2016, Mayo and Municipal District.....	51

## List of Charts

Chart 1: Percentage of children who have been vaccinated at 2 years of age (2014) .....	38
Chart 2: Average percentage of primary school children per county who are absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2015/16 .....	42
Chart 3: Leaving Certificate retention rates 2010 cohort .....	43
Chart 4: Average percentage of post-primary school children per school who are absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2015/16 .....	43
Chart 5: Level of importance, having your voice heard .....	52
Chart 6: Children and Young People are involved in the planning of activities.....	53
Chart 7: Level of importance, Being Aware of Your Rights .....	53
Chart 8: What is very important to young people .....	54
Chart 9: Importance of 'a sense of accomplishment' .....	72
Chart 10: Importance of 'a sense of belonging' .....	73
Chart 11: Feeling Safe and Secure .....	78
Chart 12: Safe and protected from bullying and discrimination .....	78
Chart 13: Children and young people live in a secure, stable and caring environment .....	79
Chart 14: Children and young people are safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation .....	79
Chart 15: Children and young people are protected from bullying.....	80
Chart 16: Children and young people are exposed to unsuitable material on the internet/social media .....	80
Chart 17: Level of importance 'financial stability' .....	84
Chart 18: Level of importance 'living in a youth friendly community'.....	84
Chart 19: Most young people move away for work/education.....	85
Chart 20: There is a lack of supports for young people to progress to employment.....	85
Chart 21: Experience of Interagency Collaboration.....	90
Chart 22: Service Levels on Hardiker Scale .....	90
Chart 23: Preferred communication tools .....	91

## List of Pictures

Picture 1: Boards for “My wish for children in Mayo” at International Children’s Day.....	22
Picture 2: Youth Focus Group Session ‘Brick Wall’ .....	24
Picture 3: Youth Focus Group Session ‘Opportunities Tree’ .....	24
Picture 4: My wish for children in County Mayo – post-it from GMIT Outdoor Play day.....	69

**List of Maps**

Map 1: County Mayo with Electoral Divisions and Municipal Districts ..... 27

## List of Appendices

Appendix I: Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey .....	115
Appendix II: Mayo CYPSC Parents' Survey .....	124
Appendix III: Mayo CYPSC Service Providers Survey.....	135
Appendix IV: Mayo CYPSC Youth Focus Group Question Schedule.....	147
Appendix V: Service Providers Focus Group Question Schedule.....	149
Appendix VI: 8 Key Messages: What young people want adults to know.....	150
Appendix VII: Membership of Mayo CYPSC Subgroups.....	151
Appendix VIII: Service Providers who participated in CYPSC Planning Workshop .....	154
Appendix IX: Service Providers (members of Child and Family Support Networks) who participated in Mayo CYPSC Focus Groups .....	156
Appendix X: Mayo CYPSC Discussion Document .....	157
Appendix XI: Hardiker Model.....	158

## List of Acronyms

<b>AIRO</b>	All Ireland Research Laboratory
<b>CCS</b>	Community Childcare Subvention
<b>COPMI</b>	Children of Parents with Mental Illness
<b>CPC</b>	Child Protection Conference
<b>CPNS</b>	Child Protection Notification System
<b>CPP</b>	Child Protection Plan
<b>CSO</b>	Central Statistics Office
<b>CYPAG</b>	Children and Young People's Advisory Group
<b>CYPP</b>	Children and Young People's Plan
<b>CYPSC</b>	Children and Young People's Services Committee
<b>ECCE</b>	Early Childhood Care and Education
<b>ED</b>	Electoral Division
<b>ETB</b>	Education Training Board
<b>FIS</b>	Family Income Supplement
<b>FRC</b>	Family Resource Centre
<b>HP</b>	Haase Pratschke
<b>HSE</b>	Health Service Executive
<b>IWA</b>	Irish Wheelchair Association
<b>LDC</b>	Local Development Company
<b>LEA</b>	Local Electoral Area
<b>MCC</b>	Mayo County Council
<b>MCCC</b>	Mayo County Childcare Committee
<b>MD</b>	Municipal District
<b>MIA</b>	Mayo Intercultural Action
<b>MRCC</b>	Mayo Rape Crisis Centre
<b>MSL ETB</b>	Mayo Sligo and Leitrim Education Training Board
<b>MSP</b>	Mayo Sports Partnership
<b>MTSG</b>	Mayo Travellers Support Group
<b>MWSS</b>	Mayo Women's Support Services
<b>NPRS</b>	National Perinatal Reporting System
<b>OMCYA</b>	Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
<b>PHN</b>	Public Health Nurse
<b>PPFS</b>	Prevention, Parenting and Family Support
<b>PPN</b>	Public Participation Network
<b>SA</b>	Small Area
<b>SAPS</b>	Small Area Population Statistics
<b>SONC</b>	State of the Nation's Children
<b>TEC</b>	Training and Employment Childcare



## Foreword

As Chair of the Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) I am delighted to see the publication of our first Children and Young People Plan 2018-2020.

The CYPSC is an initiative of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. It has a role of bringing together all the organisations involved in providing supports to children and young people. This includes the statutory, community and voluntary sectors. The key goal is to agree a strategic plan to improve the outcomes for children and young people.

Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures, (The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020) identify these outcomes as:

- Active and healthy.
- Achieving in all areas of learning and development.
- Safe and protected from harm.
- Economic security and opportunity.
- Connected, respected and contributing.

The implementation of the plan will strengthen the support system around the child and young person and improve their outcomes. This strategic and collaborative approach has culminated in identifying the needs and priorities of children, young people and families in our area.

I would like to thank all the agencies for their dedication, time and effort to ensure we have a realistic and achievable plan.

I look forward to assessing its success through the established working groups and seeing the improved outcomes for children and young people becoming a reality.

Yours Sincerely,  


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**Paddy Martin,  
Area Manager.**

# **1 Introduction**

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

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

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

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

### 1.1.1 Children and Young People’s Services Committees in Ireland.

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

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

Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014 – 2020 underscores the necessity of interagency working and tasks Children and Young People’s Services Committees with a key role in this regard.

### 1.1.2 Children and Young People’s Services Committee in Mayo

Mayo Children’s and Young People’s Services Committee was established in 2015. Initially, its work focused on engaging relevant stakeholders, establishing a county committee, recruiting a CYPSC Coordinator and information sharing regarding CYPSC as well as other relevant information among its membership. Presentations were made to the Committee from relevant groups and agencies.

### 1.1.3 Who we are

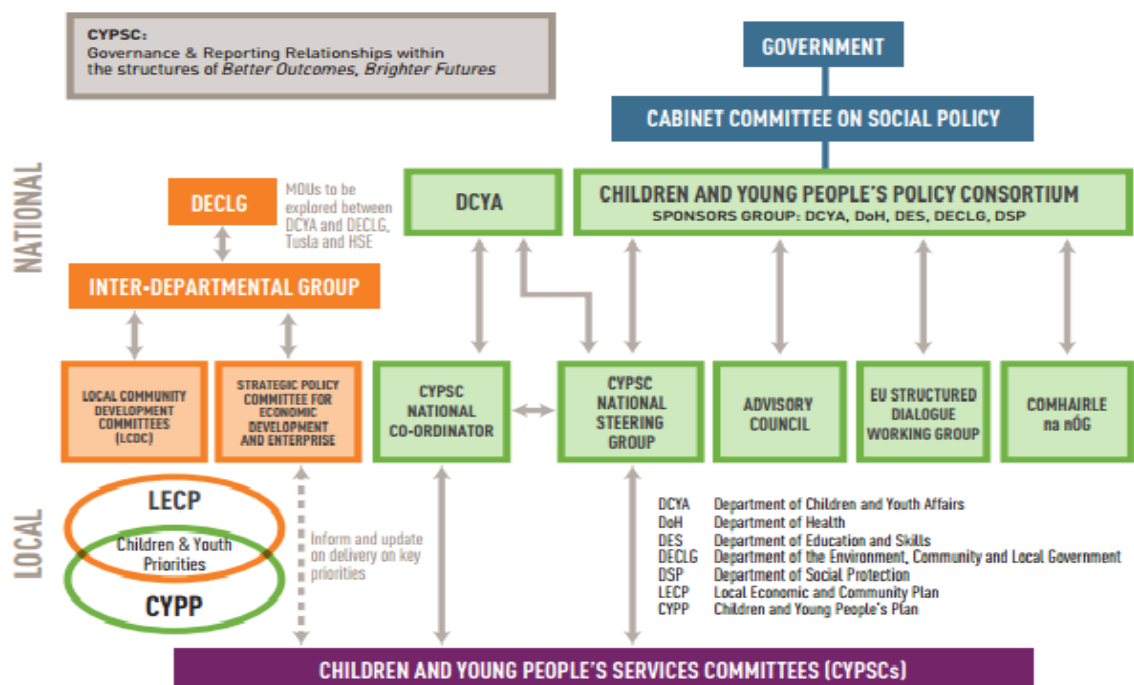
Current Membership of Mayo Children and Young People’s Services Committee	
Chair: Tusla, Child and Family Agency	Paddy Martin
Mayo County Council, Community and Enterprise	Síofra Kilcullen
Probation Service	Helena Morrin
Galway Mayo Institute of Technology	Sheila Mc Ardle
Irish Primary Principal’s Network	Nessa Mc Gowan
Tusla, Social Work Department	Heather Wilson
Mayo County Childcare Committee	Jim Power
Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board	Breda Ruane
An Garda Síochána	Mandy Gaynor
Tusla, Prevention, Partnership and Family Support	Liam Whyte
Health Service Executive, Health Promotion	Thelma Birrane
Family Resource Centres Mayo	Mary Jackson
National Association Principals and Deputy Principals	Liam Ó Ruáin

Current Membership of Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee	
Health Service Executive, Primary Care	Helen Browne
South West Mayo Development Company	Catherine Mc Closkey
Mayo Sports Partnership	Charlie Lambert
Mindspace Mayo	Peadar Gardiner

**Note:** As former members of the Mayo CYPSC Committee, the following individuals and services have made a major contribution to the development of Mayo CYPSC and to the CYPP. While they are no longer members of the CYPSC Committee, having stepped down in January 2018, they will continue to contribute to the work of Mayo CYPSC through its subgroups. They are: Declan Turnbull, Mayo County Council; Michele Reynolds, Foróige; Bernard O Regan, Western Care; Ruth Kneafsey, Western Care; Pippa Daniel, Mayo Traveller Support Group; Sandra Claxton, Tusla; Patricia Quinn, Mayo Intercultural Action; Martin Greaney, HSE; Anne O Neill, HSE; Miriam Tallon, Probation Service and Ann Conway, Family Resource Centres Mayo

### 1.1.3.1 Governance and Accountability

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) provides strategic and policy direction toward the development of CYPSCs. As the CYPSCs form an integral part of the new structures provided for in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*, they will be accountable to the CYPSC National Steering Group and the DCYA and in turn to the Children and Young People's Policy Consortium. The national Governance and reporting relationships of CYPSC are described below.



## Achievements to date

A Mayo CYPSC Coordinator was appointed in October 2016. The focus and achievements of the Committee during 2017 was on the following:

- Networking and building alliances
- Raising the profile and build awareness of CYPSC locally
- Developing the Children and Young People's Plan
  - Research and Information Working Group<sup>1</sup> established
  - Communications
  - Consultation including involving children and young people
- Established Early Years Subgroup<sup>2</sup>
  - Coordinated events for International Children's Day June 2017 as well consultation with Early Years as part of planning process
- Progressed Child, Youth and Family Services on mayo.ie LIVING section
- Organised Social Media Workshops for CYPSC members
  - Dedicated Facebook pages established for:
    - Mayo CYPSC (<https://www.facebook.com/MayoCYPSC> )
    - Mayo Parenting (<https://www.facebook.com/mayoparenting/?fref=ts> )
    - Mayo Youth Network (<https://www.facebook.com/mayoyouthnetwork/?fref=ts>)
  - Guidelines for 'dos and don'ts' of good practice when posting online agreed
- Healthy Mayo county status launched in October 2017
  - Healthy Lough Lannagh learning story and Info-graphic presented by children from Curious Minds preschool to Minister Byrne at launch and also to Castlebar Municipal District council in December 2017
- Healthy Ireland Fund
  - Mayo CYPSC and Mayo LCDDC submitted joint application
  - Governance working group established<sup>3</sup>
- Mayo Social Inclusion Awareness Week
  - Participation on Working Group and schedule of events organised
  - '*Linking Generations in Mayo – Building a Socially Inclusive County*' seminar to be delivered in March 2018<sup>4</sup>
- **'This is Me' and 'Me and My Conference':**
  - Two booklets have been designed, published and disseminated to support the participation of children and young people so that their voice is heard in different situations such as in school, child protection conferences etc.
  - 'Me and My Court' booklet planned for 2018 to use as an aid to children's participation in Family Court.

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<sup>1</sup> See Appendix VII for list of members of Research and Information Working Group

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix VII for list of members Early Years Subgroup

<sup>3</sup> See Appendix VII for list of members of Healthy Mayo Governance Working Group

<sup>4</sup> Postponed in October 2017 due to storm Ophelia

#### **1.1.4 Family Support Subgroup**

A Family Support Subgroup<sup>5</sup> (FSS) was established in 2015 and the work of CYPSC was channelled through this group (prior to the appointment of the CYPSC Coordinator) and included delivery on the following initiatives:

##### **Parental Participation Project:**

- Provision of universal information and advice to parents in Mayo
- Increase participation of ethnic minority families in planning and delivery of child and family services
- Developed Info-graphic “10 free things to do with your child in Mayo”
- Research project: Cultural diversity and parenting styles

##### **Youth Participation Project:**

- Children and Young Peoples Advocacy Group established. A partnership between Tusla and Foróige, its work centres on promoting the voice of young people in Tusla services.
  - Research findings presented at Tusla Youth Participation Conference 2017
  - Conference held in January 2018 “How young people are helped and heard”
  - The research findings from the youth-led initiatives have been incorporated into the Children and Young People’s Plan.

##### **Family Support Website:**

- Child, Youth and Family directory of services developed and will be available on mayo.ie LIVING section in 2018

##### **Parenting the anxious child:**

- Working group established
- Developing an information leaflet for parents

##### **Online Virtual Child and Family Support Network for Erris/Ballina:**

- Virtual network established
- First online meeting held in November 2017

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<sup>5</sup> See Appendix VII for membership of Family Support Subgroup

## How the Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) was developed

This section details the work undertaken in developing the Mayo CYPP and includes information on the following:

1. Socio-demographic profile of County Mayo
2. Audit of Services in County Mayo
3. Local Needs Analysis (including extensive consultation process)
4. Identification of priorities, objectives and actions for Mayo CYPSC

### 1.1.5 The socio-demographic profile

An initial socio-demographic profile was prepared in February 2017, drawing from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) Census of Population Data 2011 and supplemented with additional data sourced from the online SONC (State of our Nations Children) interactive report; and the Institute of Public Health (healthwell.info). Online open source mapping tools provided by Pobal and the All Island Research Observatory (AIRO) were used extensively to interrogate and extrapolate the data in relation to the Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS). The Pobal HP Deprivation Index (Haase and Pratschke, 2012) was used to identify the most disadvantaged areas at Electoral Division (ED) and Small Area (SA) levels (same as Small Area Population Statistics). This was circulated to the Research and Information Working Group to identify data gaps and potential local sources that would enhance the profile.

Following the publication of the State of our Nation’s Children (Ireland 2016), a table was prepared and circulated to all CYPSC members highlighting the vital indicators and other relevant statistics. The table presented the data for Mayo and where possible compared with the State figures.

The socio-demographic profile was updated with the Central Statistics Office (CSO) Census of Population Data 2016 to the end of September 2017 and with The 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index focusing on data in relation to Children and Young People under the following headings:

- Population
- Migration, Ethnicity, Religion and Foreign Languages
- Health
- Education and Learning
- Economic Indicators
- Families and Households
- Deprivation

A comparative analysis with the State level data is presented in the data tables where possible and relevant. Sources include CSO 2016, CSO 2011, State of the Nation’s Children (SONC) 2016, Institute of Public Health (IPH) – Community Profiles, HSE, Department of Employment Affairs and Social

Protection, and the 2015 Report on the effectiveness of the Garda Diversion Programme<sup>6</sup>. National level data was provided by the Probation Services, Tusla Education Welfare Officers, and HSE West Suicide Prevention Office. Local data sources include organisations such as Mindspace Mayo, Mayo Women’s Support Services and the Western Region Alcohol and Drugs Task Force (WRADTF).

### 1.1.6 The audit of Services

A table was prepared documenting the services provided by statutory agencies and by community and voluntary organisations covering

- Health and Social Services
- Education
- Policing and Youth Justice
- Local Authority Services
- Social Welfare
- Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture
- Youth
- Other Services

Membership of CYPSC and the Children and Family Support Networks were referenced to ensure that all services were included in the initial table. Each member was then emailed individually to verify the data captured, and followed up by phone calls from the CYPSC Co-ordinator. The data are presented in the Audit of Services by outcome.

### 1.1.7 The local needs analysis

This aspect of the planning was supported by the Research and Information Working Group and mixed approaches to capturing a range of voices and opinions were agreed to ensure a comprehensive and robust consultation process fed into the planning process. This included consultations with Children, Young People, Parents/Guardians and Service Providers (See Table 1 for summary of all consultations).

**Table 1: Summary of consultations for Mayo Children and Young People’s Plan**

Method	Total
<b>Surveys</b>	
Youth 13-24	572
Parents	248
Service Providers	97
<b>Focus Groups</b>	
Young People x 7 groups	60
Pre-school children x 7 groups	42
Primary school children x 2 schools	20

<sup>6</sup>

[http://www.iprt.ie/files/Annual\\_Report\\_of\\_the\\_Committee\\_Appointed\\_to\\_Monitor\\_the\\_Effectiveness\\_of\\_the\\_Diversion\\_Programme\\_2015.pdf](http://www.iprt.ie/files/Annual_Report_of_the_Committee_Appointed_to_Monitor_the_Effectiveness_of_the_Diversion_Programme_2015.pdf)



Method	Total
East Mayo Child and Family Support Network	24
South Mayo Child and Family Support Network	26
<b>Wish Board</b>	
International Children's Day	96

Survey questions used by other CYPSCs helped inform the final design used by Mayo CYPSC. The Youth Survey questions were reviewed by members of Comhairle na nÓg (local youth council) that were representative of different age profiles, gender and geographic spread across the county. Their input was invaluable and the questions amended based on their recommendations. All of the online surveys were tested and changes made prior to circulation online (through Social Media and email) and in hard copy.

The surveys were promoted online using the Mayo CYPSC Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/MayoCYPSC/>), circulated to the CYPSC members as well as the Child and Family Support Network members. In addition, the CYPSC Co-ordinator attended an interview with Mid-West Radio (local radio station) to promote the work of CYPSC and encourage participation in the online surveys.

#### **1.1.7.1 Children**

An Early Years Sub Group was established by CYPSC to support the research process with membership from Mayo County Childcare Committee, Private Childcare Providers and GMIT Mayo Campus.

**Pre-school:** Mayo County Childcare Committee distributed a short survey to Childcare Providers to capture the voices of children in pre-school settings. The providers used the questions as a guide to capture the responses from the children with 7 providers responding.

**International Children's Day:** International Children's Day was held on 1st June 2017 and an outdoor event was organised by the Early Years Sub-Group and led by GMIT Mayo Campus. Over 300 children attended the event. A board with sticky notes was used to allow parents and their children to feed into the planning process.

**Primary Schools:** Focus Groups were held with the children in St Angela's National School and Scoil Raiftearaí, Castlebar with ten children participating in each group.

Picture 1: Boards for “My wish for children in Mayo” at International Children’s Day



Source: Mayo CYPSC, GMIT Outdoor Play Day

### 1.1.7.2 Young People

A number of different approaches were used to capture the voice and opinions of children and young people from pre-school to 24 years. This included Focus Groups and an online survey. Focus Groups were held with a range of young people to capture the different needs and range of voices. The survey design was based on surveys provided to the Co-ordinator from other CYPSCs that had already been through the process. A draft was compiled and circulated to the Research and Information Working Group for testing and feedback.

It was subsequently tested with a group of young people from Comhairle na nÓg (balanced in terms of gender, age and location). Additional changes were made to the survey questions based on feedback from the young people. The survey was then promoted online using the Mayo CYPSC Facebook page and by circulating to Schools, Youth Clubs, Youth Services and Sports organisations to encourage participation. A total of 572 young people responded to the survey. Focus Groups were held with different groups of young people to ensure that their voices fed into the planning process.

**Table 2: Focus Groups with Young People<sup>7</sup>**

<b>Name of Group</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Total Female</b>	<b>Total Male</b>
Comhairle na nÓg Research Group	Representing youth throughout Mayo	7	5
Involve	Young Travellers	2	4
Castlebar GYM	(representing young single mothers under 24 years)	3	0
Mayo Intercultural Action	Young migrants	2	8
Mayo Intercultural Action	Young Asylum Seekers	8	5
South West Mayo Development Company	Young people not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETs)	1	5
Mindspace Mayo Youth Panel	Representing young people concerned with Youth Mental Health throughout Mayo	10	0

The Focus Groups sessions were constructed to get additional data in relation to “What a Youth Friendly County Mayo” should look like. Participants were asked to state individually what they liked best and least about living in the county. Following this, an open discussion took place in relation to what needs to change in order for County Mayo to become a Youth Friendly County.

At the end of the session, participants were asked to identify what for them personally was the biggest challenge (Brick Wall) and to come up with a proposed solution (Opportunities Tree). A laminated picture of a tree and a brick wall was used and participants given post-its document what they felt was the most significant challenge and a proposed solution.

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<sup>7</sup> See Appendix IV for Focus Group outline and explanation of Brick Wall and Opportunities Tree

**Picture 2: Youth Focus Group Session 'Brick Wall'<sup>8</sup>**



*Source: Mayo CYPSC, CYPP 2018-2020*

**Picture 3: Youth Focus Group Session 'Opportunities Tree'**



*Source: Mayo CYPSC, CYPP 2018-2020*

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<sup>8</sup> See Appendix IV for Focus Group outline and explanation of Brick Wall and Opportunities Tree

### 1.1.7.3 Parents

A survey was distributed online (and made available in hard copy) to capture parents' views with a total of 248 parents responding. It was circulated to staff providing frontline supports to families in Mayo to circulate and encourage participation of their contacts.

### 1.1.7.4 Service Providers

Three focus groups were facilitated with the Children and Family Support Networks (CFSN) in Mayo. An initial Focus Group was facilitated with the East Mayo CFSN to commence the process. A schedule of guiding questions were then finalised and with support from the CFSN Coordinators, Focus Groups were organised with the East Mayo CFSN (24 Child and Family Services) and the South Mayo CFSN (26 Child and Family Services). In addition a survey was distributed online (and also made available in hard copy) to elicit the views, gaps and opportunities presented by the Service Providers resulting in 97 responses. The survey was targeted at all organisations that work with children, young people and families to get a good overview of current provision.

## 1.1.8 The identification of priorities, objectives and actions

The findings from the consultations, together with the summary socio-demographic profile were presented to the CYPSC on 26 April 2017. Once the deadlines for completion of the surveys had been reached, the data from the surveys, focus groups and individual interviews were collated and circulated to the Research and Information Working Group. This group met on 7 June to consider the findings and to make recommendations on presentation of same to the CYPSC. The findings were then condensed into a Discussion Document<sup>9</sup> that included:

- Key Figures and Statistics (with notable findings)
- Gaps and needs emerging from consultation process
- Suggestions for actions emerging from consultation process from young people, parents and service providers

**Table 3: Process for identifying priorities and key dates**

26 <sup>th</sup> April, 2017	Presentation to CYPSC (preliminary findings, summary socio-demographic profile.
7 <sup>th</sup> June, 2017	Discussion document
22 <sup>nd</sup> June, 2017	Planning meeting – agreed priority themes under the five National Outcomes
13 <sup>th</sup> July, 2017	Planning meeting – Lead partners and key stakeholders
20 <sup>th</sup> September, 2017	Workshop with external Facilitator to develop actions based on national Children and Young People's Plan Action Template
16 <sup>th</sup> November, 2017	Workshop with members of all Subgroups to work on the priority actions
31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2017	Meeting of CYPSC and Subgroup members to finalise plan. CYPSC official sign off on plan.

<sup>9</sup> See Appendix X

This document was circulated to the CYPSC members prior to a planning meeting on 22 June, 2017. Feedback from the members was taken into consideration and additions made where recommended to the socio-demographic data. The members then spent some time discussing gaps/needs identified and agreeing priority themes under each of the five national outcomes. The next planning workshop was on 13 July and members identified potential Lead Partners and other stakeholders to be involved in the delivery of actions. A full-days planning was subsequently organised for 20 September with an external facilitator to develop the actions based on the CYPP template and agree the subgroups for Mayo CYPSC. The work undertaken during the planning workshop was reviewed by the RIWG, the draft plan was updated and circulated to the CYPSC and subgroup members prior to the next workshop on 16<sup>th</sup> November. At this planning workshop, the attendees (included CYPSC and subgroup members) worked within their assigned Subgroup on the CYPP Action Templates to finalise same. Following this, the plan was updated and the revised plan was circulated to all CYPSC and Subgroup members. A meeting was held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 with all CYPSC and Subgroup members to finalise the plan. The main CYPSC committee officially signed off on the plan and agreed that it was ready for submission for approval.

## **2 Socio Demographic Profile of Mayo**

This section presents an overview of the relevant socio-demographic information for County Mayo. A summary of the Vital Statistics is presented at the beginning of the chapter and the more detailed analysis of the socio-demographic data is then presented and includes the following sub-sections:

- Population
- Migration, Ethnicity, Religion and Foreign Languages
- Health
- Education and Learning
- Economic Indicators
- Families and Households
- Deprivation

A comparative analysis with the State level data is presented in the data tables where possible and relevant.

Sources include CSO 2016, CSO 2011, State of the Nation's Children (SONC) 2016, Institute of Public Health (IPH) – Community Profiles, HSE, Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection. Local data sources include Tusla PPFs, Mindspace Mayo, and Mayo Women's Support Services.

### **County Mayo**

County Mayo (Contae Mhaigh Eo, meaning "Plain of the yew trees") is located in the west of Ireland in the province of Connaught and is the third largest county in terms of physical size in the state. The





## Vital Indicators

The table below summarises the key figures and statistics for the Mayo CYPSC. The Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) has identified a number of Vital Indicators (and associated statistics) to use as a baseline to measure outcomes for children and young people and are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4: Vital Indicators for children and young people, Mayo and State**

Vital Indicators (Mayo CYPSC)	Mayo Total	Mayo %/rate	State Total	State %/rate	+ or - State	Source
<b>Child and Youth Population:</b> Number and percentage (compared to overall population) of Children and Young People aged 0-24 years (CSO 2016)	40,691	31.2%	1,582,463	33.2%	-	CSO 2016
<b>Child Population:</b> Number and percentage (compared to overall population) of children under 18 years (0-17 years) (CSO 2016)	31,968	24.5%	1,190,127	25.0%	-	CSO 2016
<b>Young Adult Population:</b> Number and percentage of young people (compared to overall population) aged 18 - 24 years (CSO 2016)	8,723	6.7%	392,336	8.2%	-	CSO 2016
<b>Infant Mortality:</b> The number of deaths among infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births (CSO 2015)	6	3.8	205	3.1	+	CSO VSYS 2015
<b>Child Mortality:</b> The proportion of deaths among children under 18 years (SONC 2016 provisional T4)	unavailable	unavailable	333	2.8		SONC T4
<b>Traveller children and young people:</b> Number and rate (per 1,000) of Traveller children (2011) (SONC 2016)	708	21.8	14,245	12.4	+	SONC T16
<b>Non-Irish national children and young people:</b> Number and rate (per 1,000) of foreign national children (2011)	2,676	84.3	93,005	82.5	+	SONC T18
<b>Children with a disability:</b> Number and rate (per 1,000) of children with a disability (2011)	1,569	48.3	66,437	57.8	-	SONC T21
<b>Children registered as having a physical or sensory disability:</b> Number and rate (per 1,000) (2015 <sup>10</sup> )	384	11.8	6,230	5.4	+	SONC T73
<b>Children as Carers:</b> Number and rate (per 1,000) of children who provide regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member (2011)	234	7.2	6,449	5.6	+	SONC T23
<b>Family Structure:</b> Number and percentage of children living in a lone-parent household (2011)	4,447	14.2%	202,444	18.3%	-	SONC T11

Source: CSO 2016 and State of our Nations Children (SONC) 2016

<sup>10</sup> 2011 Census data have been used to calculate rate per 1,000. County level population estimates not available for 2015. (SONC p110).



## Population

According to the 2016 Census data, in the intercensal period 2002-2016, the total population in County Mayo grew by 10,763 persons. In 2016, the population in Mayo was 130,507 persons of which Males numbered 65,047 and Females 65,460 (CSO 2016). This represented a small decrease of 131 persons in the intercensal period 2011-2016. Whilst most counties experienced some level of population growth, two counties showed falls in population in this period, namely Donegal (-1.2%) and Mayo (-0.1%). Mayo has a long history of emigration and the economic downturn experienced in the country has contributed to this movement of people in the county.

### 2.1.1 Net Migration

Mayo was also identified as one of the counties with the highest levels of net migration according to the CSO 2016 preliminary results. The net migration figures are estimated with the State figure at -28,558 and Mayo estimated at -3,246 (-2,116 Males and -1,130 Females) representing 11.4% of the overall State figure. This is significant when one considers that the overall County Mayo population represented 2.74% of the national population.

**Table 5: Annual Estimated Net Migration 2006 to 2016 per 1,000 of Average Population (Number) by Intercensal Period, Census Year, Mayo and State<sup>11</sup>**

Census Periods	2016	
	Mayo	State
2006 - 2011	4.7	5.4
2011 - 2016	-5.0	-1.2

Source: Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

In the intercensal period 2011-2016, the annual estimated net migration per 1,000 of average population for Mayo was -5.0, significantly higher than the estimate for the State (-1.2). See Table 5 above. This is a negative finding with regards Mayo with many young people immigrating to other parts of the country for further education and abroad for work.

### 2.1.2 Births

There were 73 fewer births in 2015 compared to 2014 in Co Mayo, representing a decrease of 4.42% which is higher than the national decrease of 2.06% for births in that same period.

**Table 6: Total births, Mayo and State, 2014, 2015 and 2016<sup>12</sup>**

Births by statistical indicator	Mayo	Mayo	Mayo	State	State	State
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
All Births (Number)	1,650	1,577	1,567	67,295	65,909	63,897
First Births (Number)	..	..	..	25,470	24,867	24,042
Births within Marriage (Number)	1,150	1,058	1,053	42,906	41,919	40,549
Births outside Marriage (Number)	500	519	514	24,389	23,990	23,348
Average Age of Mother (Years)	32.6	32.7	32.9	32.4	32.5	32.7
Average Age of First Time Mother (Years)	30.8	30.9	31	30.5	30.7	30.9

Source: CSO 2016, VSA16

<sup>11</sup> Figures in this table for 2016 are preliminary figures only. [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) EP006 accessed 20/9/17

<sup>12</sup> Data up to 2014 is final. Data for 2015 and 2016 is provisional. (CSO VSA16)

The average age of mothers in 2015 was comparable between Mayo and the State (32.7 years and 32.5 years) and the average age of First Time Mothers was also comparable (31 years and 30.9 years) respectively. See Table 6 above.

### 2.1.3 Population aged 0-24 years

There was a reduction of 1,660 persons in the population aged 0-24 years in the intercensal period 2011-2016 (42,351 in 2011 compared to 40,691 in 2016). According to the CSO, the three factors determine population change (births, deaths and net migration) and that from an Irish perspective net migration is by far the most influential, volatile and uncertain.

**Table 7: Population aged 0 to 24, by single year of age, Mayo and State, 2016**

Age	Mayo				State				Mayo + or - State
	Male	Female	Total	% of Total Population	Male	Female	Total	% of Total Population	
0	855	754	1,609	1.20%	31,876	30,381	62,257	1.30%	-
1	823	776	1,599	1.20%	32,824	31,205	64,020	1.30%	-
2	861	810	1,671	1.30%	34,031	32,287	66,310	1.40%	-
3	918	847	1,765	1.40%	34,785	33,291	68,070	1.40%	0
4	896	853	1,749	1.30%	36,215	34,620	70,830	1.50%	-
5	923	893	1,816	1.40%	36,831	35,573	72,400	1.50%	-
6	960	893	1,853	1.40%	37,033	35,484	72,510	1.50%	-
7	918	892	1,810	1.40%	36,853	35,313	72,160	1.50%	-
8	968	933	1,901	1.50%	36,444	35,080	71,520	1.50%	0
9	887	879	1,766	1.40%	34,309	32,641	66,950	1.40%	0
10	934	897	1,831	1.40%	33,167	31,626	64,700	1.40%	0
11	941	853	1,794	1.40%	33,016	30,998	64,000	1.30%	+
12	896	900	1,796	1.40%	32,896	31,429	64,300	1.40%	0
13	928	894	1,822	1.40%	32,317	31,214	63,500	1.30%	+
14	871	901	1,772	1.40%	31,982	30,831	62,800	1.30%	+
15	885	923	1,808	1.40%	31,483	30,160	61,600	1.30%	+
16	922	937	1,859	1.40%	31,183	29,806	60,900	1.30%	+
17	899	848	1,747	1.30%	31,540	29,778	61,300	1.30%	0
18	861	776	1,637	1.30%	31,383	29,911	61,200	1.30%	0
19	675	619	1,294	1.00%	29,319	28,253	57,500	1.20%	-
20-24	2,991	2,801	5,792	4.40%	137,584	136,052	273,636	5.70%	-
<b>Total aged 0-24 years</b>	<b>20,812</b>	<b>19,879</b>	<b>40,691</b>	<b>31.20%</b>	<b>807,071</b>	<b>775,933</b>	<b>1,582,463</b>	<b>33.20%</b>	
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>65,047</b>	<b>65,460</b>	<b>130,507</b>		<b>2,354,428</b>	<b>2,407,437</b>	<b>4,761,865</b>		

Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

The total population aged 0-24 years in Mayo (CSO 2016) was 40,691 (20,812 males and 19,879 females) as presented in Table 7. This age cohort represented 31.2% of the overall population in

Mayo at that time, less than the State at 33.2%. The following Table 8 shows the total population aged 0-24 by Electoral Division with a total population over 1,200 persons and the percentage of the 0-24 year olds compared to the overall ED population.

**Table 8: Electoral Division with highest population aged 0-24 years (number and percentage), Mayo, 2016**

Electoral Division	Total Population (2016)	Total population aged 0-24 years	% 0-24 years of total ED population	+ or - Mayo % (31.2%)	+ or - State % (33.2%)
1. Ardnaree South Rural	3,083	1,105	35.8%	+	+
1. Ardnaree South Urban	2,417	810	33.5%	+	+
1. Ballina Rural	2,991	1,007	33.7%	+	+
1. Ballina Urban	4,136	1,261	30.5%	-	-
2. Breaghwy	1,839	628	34.1%	+	+
2. Castlebar Rural	7,334	2,540	34.6%	+	+
2. Castlebar Urban	6,162	1,745	28.3%	-	-
2. Turlough	1,436	489	34.1%	+	+
3. Kilmeena	1,514	500	33.0%	+	-
3. Westport Rural	1,516	513	33.8%	+	+
3. Westport Urban	5,894	1,567	26.6%	-	-
4. Béal an Mhuirthead	1,945	567	29.2%	-	-
5. Killala	1,247	377	30.2%	-	-
6. Mount Falcon	1,261	411	32.6%	+	-
7. Toomore	1,599	450	28.1%	-	-
8. Swinford	2,526	712	28.2%	-	-
9. Kiltimagh	1,427	390	27.3%	-	-
10. Balla	1,549	505	32.6%	+	-
11. Ballyhaunis	3,056	1,072	35.1%	+	+
12. Claremorris	4,487	1,401	31.2%	0	-
13. Ballinrobe	3,685	1,299	35.3%	+	+

Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

The highest populations are located in the main towns in the county namely Ballina, Castlebar, Westport, Belmullet, Swinford, Balla, Kiltimagh, Ballyhaunis, Claremorris and Ballinrobe. The total percentage at a county level for the population aged 0-24 years was 31.2% of the overall population. Table 8 above shows the total ED population, the total and percentage population aged 0-24 years in each ED. The final two columns show whether the percentage population aged 0-24 years is + or + the county and State percentage for each ED. Interestingly, the urban EDs of Castlebar and Westport reported lower percentages (28.3% and 26.6% respectively) for the age cohort 0-24 years than the county (31.2%) and State (33.2%) with the exception of Ardnaree Urban ED (located in Ballina) which reported 33.5%. The ED of Ardnaree South Rural (part of Ballina town) has the highest percentage (35.8%) of 0-24 years compared to the total ED population. The towns of Ballyhaunis and Ballinrobe both reported higher percentages than the county and State (35.1% and 35.3% respectively) with Claremorris reporting an equal percentage to the county (31.2%) but less than the State (33.2%).

#### 2.1.4 Young Dependency Ratio, 2016

The age dependency ratio is the ratio of dependents within the population and is concerned with young people aged 0-14 years and 65+ years. The working-age population is defined as those aged 15-64 years. Data is reported as a proportion of dependents per 100 of working-age population.

**Table 9: Persons aged 0-14 (Ratio), both sexes, Mayo and State, 2011 and 2016**

Area	2011	2016
Mayo	32.6	32.8
State	31.9	32.3

Source: CSO 2016 (E3013)

There was a slight increase in the youth dependency ratio reported for Mayo in the period 2011 (32.6) and 2016 (32.8) compared to the State (31.9, 32.3) as presented in Table 9 above.

### 2.1.5 Marital Status

Mayo had a lower percentage (50.1%) of single people than the State (53.6%) and a higher percentage of married persons (40.1% to 37.6%). A slightly lower percentage were Separated and Divorced (2.4%, 2.1%) in Mayo compared to the State (2.5%, 2.2%). A higher percentage of people were Widowed in Mayo (5.2%) compared to the State (4.1%).

### 2.1.6 Irish Language

As noted earlier in this section, Mayo has three defined Gaeltacht areas (Achill, Erris and Tourmakeady). There are twelve Naoinraí operating in the county, with four primary level Gaelscoilenna and two post-primary Gaelscoilenna. The Naoinraí are located in Ballycroy, Westport, Ballina, Swinford, Ballinrobe, Castlebar, Aughleim, Ceathrú Thaidhg, Gleann na Muaidhe, Thuar Mhic Eadaigh, Clochar, and Bun a Chorraigh. The Primary level Gaelscoilenna are located in Westport, Castlebar, Claremorris, Ballina and the Post-primary level Gaelscoilenna are based in Rosspoint and Tourmakeady.

**Table 10: Population aged 3 years and over by ability to speak Irish**

Ability to speak Irish	% Mayo	% State	+ or - State
Yes	43.9%	38.5%	+
No	54.2%	58.4%	-
Not stated	2.0%	3.1%	-
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Source: Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

According to the CSO 2016 data, a higher percentage of people in Mayo (43.9%) answered yes, in relation to their ability to speak Irish compared to the State (38.5%). Table 10 captures the level of frequency of speaking Irish; and Mayo reported higher percentages of people speaking Irish outside of the Education System with 29.1% speaking Irish daily only within the Education System compared to the State (31.5%).

## Diversity and Ethnicity

### 2.1.7 Diversity

Overall, according to the CSO data, the number of Irish residents born outside Ireland continued to increase and stood at 810,406 in 2016, an increase of 43,636 on the 2011 figure. In April 2016, persons born abroad accounted for 17.3 per cent of the population, up from 17 per cent in 2011.

**Table 11: Population usually present and resident in the State by county of usual residence, age group and nationality**

Nationality	Mayo 2016				State % of overall 0-24 years	+ or - State
	0 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	Total 0-24 years	Mayo % of overall 0-24 years		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26,403</b>	<b>14,336</b>	<b>40,739</b>			
Irish	24,346	12,921	37,267	91.5%	90.0%	+
French	13	23	36	0.1%	0.2%	-
German	14	12	26	0.1%	0.1%	0
Italian	6	6	12	0.0%	0.1%	-
Latvian	99	70	169	0.4%	0.4%	0
Lithuanian	200	126	326	0.8%	0.7%	+
Polish	566	270	836	2.1%	2.0%	+
Romanian	28	21	49	0.1%	0.5%	-
Spanish	3	15	18	0.0%	0.2%	-
UK	350	455	805	2.0%	1.0%	+
Other EU28	112	112	224	0.5%	0.7%	-
Other European	15	11	26	0.1%	0.2%	-
African	78	34	112	0.3%	0.4%	-
Indian	12	4	16	0.0%	0.2%	-
Other Asian	96	73	169	0.4%	0.8%	-
American (US)	40	31	71	0.2%	0.2%	0
Brazilian	10	21	31	0.1%	0.2%	-
Other American	6	2	8	0.0%	0.1%	-
Other nationalities	45	23	68	0.2%	0.2%	0
Not stated, including no nationality	364	106	470	1.2%	1.8%	-

Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

Mayo reported a slightly higher percentage of Irish nationals aged 0-24 years (91.5%), Lithuanian (0.8%), Polish (2.1%) and UK (2.0%) compared to the State (90.0%, 0.7%, 2.0% and 1.0% respectively) and was lower in percentage terms for all other nationalities. See Table 11.

**Table 12: % Population Usually Resident and Present in the State 2016, nationality and town of usual residence, Mayo**

Nationality	% of overall town population					
	Ballina	Castlebar	Westport	Ballyhaunis	Claremorris	Ballinrobe
Irish	<b>87.4</b>	83.2	81.7	58.8	75.9	75.0
French	0.1	0.1	<b>0.5</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0
German	0.1	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	0.0	0.0	0.1
Italian	0.1	0.1	<b>0.2</b>	0.0	0.1	0.1
Latvian	0.2	0.8	0.3	0.7	<b>4.5</b>	3.3
Lithuanian	0.1	1.6	0.6	3.2	<b>9.3</b>	3.6
Polish	5.3	5.9	6.7	6.7	3.3	<b>11.0</b>
Romanian	0.2	0.4	0.1	<b>0.8</b>	0.6	0.7
Spanish	0.0	0.1	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	0.1	0.1
UK	3.3	2.6	<b>3.7</b>	1.8	3.1	2.3
Other EU28	0.5	0.8	2.8	<b>11.3</b>	0.6	1.0
Other European	0.2	0.1	0.1	<b>1.2</b>	0.1	0.1
African	0.0	0.9	0.2	<b>5.0</b>	0.2	0.1
Indian	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	<b>0.5</b>	0.3

Nationality	% of overall town population					
	Ballina	Castlebar	Westport	Ballyhaunis	Claremorris	Ballinrobe
Other Asian	0.6	1.0	0.4	<b>7.7</b>	0.4	0.5
American (US)	0.2	0.2	<b>0.3</b>	0.0	<b>0.3</b>	0.2
Brazilian	<b>0.4</b>	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Other American	0.0	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	0.0	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Other nationalities	0.2	0.4	0.4	<b>0.5</b>	0.1	0.1
Not stated, including no nationality	1.0	1.0	1.2	<b>1.7</b>	0.6	1.2

Source: CSO 2016 (E7005)

The total population recorded for the above towns as per the CSO 2016 data (E7005) was 35,919. Table 12 shows Ballyhaunis as the most diverse town in the county reporting the lowest percentage of Irish as a percentage of the overall population (58.8%), followed by Ballinrobe (75.0%), Claremorris (75.9%), Westport (81.7%), Castlebar (83.2%) and Ballina as the least diverse with 87.4% identifying as Irish nationals. Ballina had the highest percentage of Brazilian nationals (0.4%) compared to the other towns. The highest percentages of non-Irish nationals in Ballina were Polish (5.3%) and UK (3.3%) with Castlebar following a similar trend reporting 5.9% and 2.6% respectively. The percentages of persons identifying as German (0.2%) and Other American (0.1%) were the same in Castlebar and Westport. The highest percentages of non-Irish nationals in Westport were Polish (6.7%), UK (3.7%) and Other EU28 (2.8%). The highest percentages of non-Irish nationals in Ballyhaunis were Other EU (11.3%), Other Asian (7.7%), Polish (6.7%) and African (5%). The highest percentages of non-Irish nationals in Claremorris are Lithuanian (9.3%), Latvian (4.5%), and Polish (3.3%). The highest percentages of non-Irish nationals in Ballinrobe were Polish (11.0%), Lithuanian (3.6%) and Latvian (3.3%).

**Table 13: Number and percentage of persons by language spoken, Mayo and State, 2011**

Language Spoken	Mayo (Number)	Mayo (%)	State (number)	State (%)	+ or - State
Polish	2,837	28.8%	119,526	23.3%	+
French	1,320	13.4%	56,430	11.0%	+
Lithuanian	754	7.7%	31,635	6.2%	+
German	700	7.1%	27,342	5.3%	+
Urdu	426	4.3%	8,443	1.6%	+
Latvian	358	3.6%	12,996	2.5%	+
Russian	351	3.6%	22,446	4.4%	-
Spanish	290	2.9%	21,640	4.2%	-
Arabic	211	2.1%	11,834	2.3%	-
Slovak	204	2.1%	9,481	1.8%	+

Source: CSO 2011

The total number of people in Mayo that spoke Polish according to the CSO 2011 data was 2,837 representing 28.8% of all languages other than English and Irish Spoken) and was significantly higher than the State at 23.3%. The next most common languages spoken in Mayo were French (13.4%), Lithuanian (7.7%), German (7.1%), Urdu (4.3%) and Latvian (3.6%) and were all higher in percentage terms than the State that reported 11.0%, 6.2%, 5.3%, 1.6% and 2.5% respectively. See Table 13.

### 2.1.8 Ethnicity

A question on ethnic or cultural background was asked for the first time in 2006 Census. On 1st March 2017, the State formally recognised Irish Travellers as an indigenous ethnic minority. The

Ombudsman for Children, Dr Niall Muldoon, meanwhile said the recognition of Traveller ethnicity must be followed by real change by stating "The recognition of Traveller ethnicity must be followed by concrete measures and timelines that will improve the situation for young Travellers"<sup>13</sup>.

**Table 14: Population by Ethnicity, Mayo and State, 2016**

<b>Ethnic or Cultural Background</b>	<b>% Mayo</b>	<b>% State</b>	<b>+ or - State</b>
White Irish	86.3%	82.2%	+
White Irish Traveller	1.0%	0.7%	+
Other White	8.7%	9.5%	-
Black or Black Irish	0.5%	1.4%	-
Asian or Asian Irish	1.1%	2.1%	-
Other	1.0%	1.5%	-
Not stated	1.4%	2.6%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

In terms of ethnicity, the majority of the population in Mayo identified as White Irish (86.3%) higher than the State (82.2%), followed by Other White (Mayo, 8.7% and the State 9.5%). Mayo reported a higher percentage of individuals identifying as White Irish Traveller (1.0%) compared to the State (0.7%). See Table 14.

**Table 15: Irish Travellers (total) and as a proportion (per 1,000) of the total population, Mayo and State, 2016**

<b>Irish Travellers</b>	<b>Mayo</b>	<b>Mayo</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>State</b>
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2016</b>
Irish Travellers (Number)	1,385	1,299	29,495	30,987
Irish Travellers per 1,000 total population (Number)	10.8	10.1	6.5	6.6

Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

There was a slight decrease in the number of Irish Travellers residing in Mayo in the intercensal period 2011-2016 (-86 persons) and a corresponding reduction in the rate per 1,000 in the same period (10.8 to 10.1). There was an increase of 1,492 Irish Travellers overall in the State with a slight increase in the rate per 1,000 from 6.5 to 6.6. See Table 15. The highest Traveller populations are based in Ballina, Castlebar, Ballyhaunis and Ballinrobe.

### 2.1.9 Asylum Seekers

There is currently one Direct Provision Centre for Asylum Seekers in operation in County Mayo, based in the Old Convent building in Ballyhaunis. Data provided by Mayo Intercultural Action shows that the current occupancy (January 2018) is at 235: 44 of these in the 7-12 age bracket; 12 aged between 18 and 24; and 99 adults. There are 43 people parenting alone and living in the Direct Provision Centre. These figures indicate a further increase in numbers from the data available from the Reception and Integration website. This shows that there was an increase from 148 to 217 persons seeking Asylum that were accommodated in the Centre in Ballyhaunis from September 2016 to September 2017. See Table 16.

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.rte.ie/news/2017/0301/856293-travellers-ethnic-status/>



**Table 16: Asylum Seekers, as a % of total population, Mayo and State, November 2016 (RIA 2016)**

Direct Provision	Mayo Sept 2016	Mayo Sept 2017	State Sept 2016	State Sept 2017
Pop 2016 Census	130,425	130,425	4,757,782	4,757,783
Contracted capacity	267	267	5,273	5,191
Current Occupancy	148	217	4,279	4,873
Capacity as % of Population	0.20%	0.20%	0.11%	0.11%
Occupancy as % of population	0.11%	0.17%	0.90%	0.10%

Source: Reception and Integration Agency

At the time of the report, there was a slightly higher occupancy as a % of the population in County Mayo (.11%) compared to the State (.09%). There was no further breakdown of data at a county level in the report. The Centre provides accommodation for couples, families and single men. There was no additional data available in relation to the number of children and young people in residence in the Centre in the reports.

## Vulnerable Young People

This section explores the data in relation to Young Carers and children and young people with a disability.

### 2.1.10 Young Carers

According to the most recent State of the Nation's Children<sup>14</sup> (SONC) report, a rate of 5.6 per 1,000 children provide regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long-term illness, health problem or disability. The number of males and females providing unpaid help was similar. Mayo reported the third highest rate per 1,000 in the country at 7.2 (number = 234) and was significantly higher than the rate reported for the State (5.6).

### 2.1.11 Disabled Population aged 0-18 years

A total of 1,694 children and young people in Mayo were documented as having a disability in the 2011 Census data. In both Mayo and the State, the most significant percentage relates to difficulties in learning, remembering or concentrating (47.2% and 49.4% respectively). See Table 17 below.

**Table 17: Disabled Population aged 0-18 years by type of disability, Mayo and State<sup>15</sup>**

Type of Disability	Mayo			State			+ or - State
	0 - 12 years	13 - 18 years	% of Total 0-18 years	0 - 12 years	13 - 18 years	% of Total 0-18 years	
Total persons with a disability	1,019	675		43,645	27,473		
A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities	161	72	13.8%	6,136	2,671	12.4%	+
Difficulty in learning, remembering or concentrating	441	359	47.2%	20,067	15,034	49.4%	-
Psychological or emotional condition	108	71	10.6%	5,878	3,859	13.7%	-

<sup>14</sup> State of the Nation's Children Ireland 2016 page 36.

<sup>15</sup> [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) Statbank/Disability, Carers, Health D0002 accessed 22/2/17



Type of Disability	Mayo			State			+ or - State
	0 - 12 years	13 - 18 years	% of Total 0-18 years	0 - 12 years	13 - 18 years	% of Total 0-18 years	
	Other disability, including chronic illness	361	182	32.1%	14,880	7,414	
Blindness or a serious vision impairment	93	43	8.0%	2,945	1,658	6.5%	+
Deafness or a serious hearing impairment	61	28	5.3%	2,493	1,405	5.5%	-
An intellectual disability	235	160	23.3%	10,953	6,581	24.7%	-

Census 2011 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

Mayo reports a higher percentage of children and young people with a condition that substantially limits one or more basic activities (13.8%) compared to the state (12.4%). The data also shows that Mayo has a higher percentage in relation to other disabilities, including chronic illness (32.1%); Blindness or serious vision impairment (8.0%) compared to the national figures of 31.3% and 6.5% respectively.

## Key Statistics

The following section presents data in line with the Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures Indicator Set<sup>16</sup> aligned with each of the five national outcomes.

### 2.1.12 Outcome 1: Active and Healthy

This section presents additional data drawn from local sources named at the beginning of the chapter as well as some data gathered from the CYPSC online surveys.

**Table 18: Health of Children and Young People, 0-24 years, 2011<sup>17</sup>**

General Health	Mayo	% of Total	State	% of Total	+ or - State
General health - All	42,351		1,559,840		
General health - Very good	34,029	80.3%	1,261,515	80.9%	-
General health - Good	6,631	15.7%	226,633	14.5%	+
General health - Fair	650	1.5%	23,738	1.5%	0
General health - Bad	62	0.1%	2,545	0.2%	-
General health - Very bad	29	0.1%	754	0.0%	+
Not Stated	950	2.2%	44,655	2.9%	-

Census 2011

The majority of young people aged 0-24 years reported their general health as being Very Good in Mayo (80.3%) and the State (80.9%). A slightly higher percentage reported their health as Good in Mayo (15.7%) compared to the State (14.5%). A slightly lower percentage was reported in Mayo for

<sup>16</sup> An Indicator Set for Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The national policy framework for children and young people 2014-2020 (Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Government Publications, 2017) accessed online 16/10/17

<sup>17</sup> [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) Statbank/Profile 8 Our Bill of Health CD880 accessed 22/2/17

Bad (0.1%) compared to the State (0.2%) with a slightly higher percentage reporting Very Bad in Mayo (0.1%) compared to the State (0.0%). See Table 18.

**Table 19: Percentage of infants who are breastfed (exclusive or combined) on discharge from hospital, by mothers' county of residence (2015)<sup>18</sup>**

Breastfeeding	Mayo %	State%	+ or - State
Exclusive	37.9	47.7	-
Combined	16.9	10.3	+
Total	54.8	58.0	-

Source: *State of the Nation's Children, 2016*

Overall in the State, 58.0% of infants in 2015 were breastfed (either exclusive or combined) on discharge from hospital and this percentage was lower for Mayo (54.8%). Mayo recorded a higher percentage of infants that were partially breastfed (combined) on discharge from the hospital (16.9% compared to the State 10.3%). See Table 19 above.

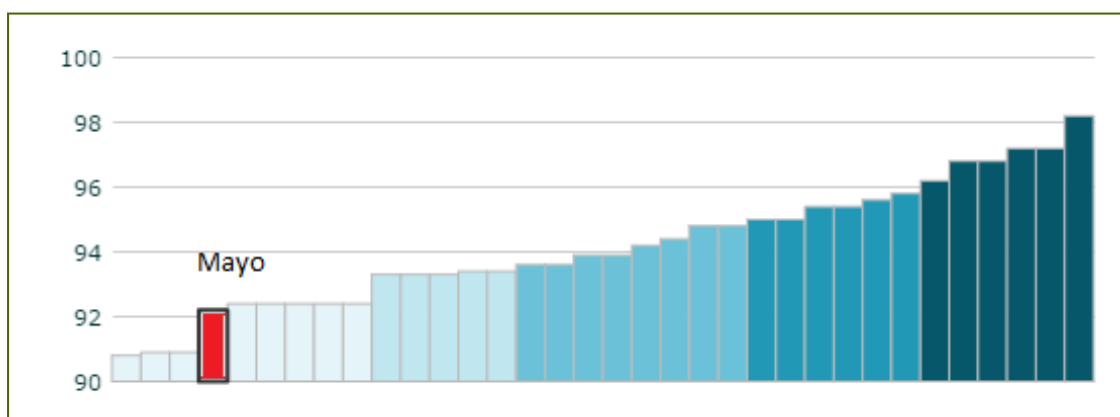
**Table 20: Number and percentage of live births that weigh <2,500g<sup>19</sup>**

Weighing < 2,500 grams	Mayo	State	+ or - State
Number of low birth weight babies	87	3,884	
Low birth weight babies as a % of all births	5.5%	5.9%	-

Source: *State of the Nation's Children, 2016*

Mayo reported a marginally lower percentage of Low birth weight babies as a percentage of all births (5.5%) compared to the State (5.9%). The average weight of babies born in Mayo is higher at 3,475.30g than the national average of 3,448.80g and was seventh highest overall in 2014 (IPH 2014<sup>20</sup>). Weight at birth is a strong indicator of maternal and new-born health and nutrition. The incidence of low birthweight, defined as the proportion of new-borns weighing less than 2,500 grams, is monitored through the National Perinatal Reporting System (NPRS) in Ireland. In 2014, Mayo had the 6th lowest percentage of live births weighing less than 2,500g. See Table 20 above.

**Chart 1: Percentage of children who have been vaccinated at 2 years of age (2014)**



Source: [www.thehealthwell.info](http://www.thehealthwell.info) Community Profiles

<sup>18</sup> State of the Nation's Children, 2016 p95 T64

<sup>19</sup> State of the Nation's Children 2016 p92 T62

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.thehealthwell.info/community-profiles/VIEWINDICATOR/atlas.html?data=final-master-roi&select=2>  
 Accessed 23/2/17

The percentage of children who had been vaccinated at two years of age in Mayo (92.2%) is in line with the State at 92.4%. The county with the highest percentage was Roscommon at 98.2% and the lowest Louth at 90.8%. See Chart 1.

### 2.1.13 Self-harm

The World Health Organisation describes self-harm as “An act with non-fatal outcome in which an individual deliberately initiates a non-habitual behaviour, that without intervention from others will cause self-harm, or deliberately ingests a substance in excess of the prescribed or generally recognised therapeutic dosage, and which is aimed at realising changes that the person desires via the actual or expected physical consequences.”<sup>21</sup>

**Table 21: Deliberate self-harm by age group and number, Mayo, 2014 (HSE 2015)<sup>22</sup>**

Age Band	Mayo		
	2012	2013	2014
< 15 years	< 10	12	12
15-19 years	45	48	47
20-24 years	56	41	33

Source: HSE, Suicide Prevention Profile 2015

Table 21 shows the numbers of persons by age cohort that presented at hospital due to self-harm in the years 2012, 2013 and 2014. The rate remained the same for children under 15 years in 2013 and 2014 (12 persons). There was a slight increase in the numbers presenting in the 15-19 years cohort from 2012 to 2014 (45 to 47 persons) and a significant decrease in the 20-24 age cohort for the same period (56 down to 33 persons). This is in line with national trends where rates do fluctuate over time. A dedicated Self-Harm Nurse was appointed to Mayo University Hospital (A&E) in 2011 and the reduction in self harm figures may also be impacted by this additional resource. According to 2012 data from the National Suicide Research Foundation, a higher rate of females in the age cohorts 10-14 years and 15-19 years, self-harm than males<sup>23</sup>. The opposite is true for males in the age cohort 20-24 years. See Table 21 above.

### 2.1.14 Mindspace Mayo

Mindspace Mayo<sup>24</sup> is a free and confidential support service to promote young people’s mental health (aged 15-25 years). It is funded by the HSE and St Vincent DePaul. The main service is based in Castlebar, with one day per week outreach provided in Ballina and in Belmullet (covering the Erris region). The following data was made available from Mindspace Mayo in relation to young people’s mental health to support the CYPSC planning process.

The total number of referrals received in 2016 (12 months) was 350 young people. For the nine months (Jan-Sept) in 2017, Mindspace Mayo has received 240 referrals. This is an average increase of 18 referrals per month. There are currently 12 young people on the waiting lists for Castlebar (approx. 4-5 weeks) and Ballina (6 weeks). There were no waiting lists for the newly established Outreach service in Erris at the time the plan was being developed.

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.nsrp.ie/our-research/what-is-self-harm/>

<sup>22</sup> HSE, Suicide Prevention Profile, Mayo, 2015

<sup>23</sup> National Suicide Research Foundation, <http://nsrf.ie/wp-content/uploads/presentations/DBT%20seminar%2017-01-2014.pdf>

<sup>24</sup> Submission by email

MindSpace Mayo has identified the need to extend the age band to include 12-14 year olds based on a total of 23 referrals relating to young people under 15 years of age received in the nine month period (January to September 2017). The service at that time was unable to accommodate these referrals due to age restrictions and resources.

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

This section explores the education profile of Mayo. It focuses on aspects of educational achievement at primary, secondary and third level education. By using a series of Census and non-Census indicators, a spatial profile of education attainment is presented across the CYPSC Area. Indicators include: Childcare Facilities, Population and Parental Education Attainment, DEIS Primary and Post-Primary Schools, Third Level Progression Rates and Third Level Enrolment.

### 2.1.15 Childcare and Early Years

According to the most recent State of the Nation's Children (SONC 2016) report, approximately 38% of pre-school services under contract to deliver the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme met the higher capitation criteria. This criterion is based on the number of Childcare Workers employed in a service that have a Level 7 or higher qualification. This was exceeded in County Mayo achieving 41% with 59% meeting the basic capitation criteria<sup>25</sup>. This is a positive finding insofar as the percentage of Childcare Workers employed in Mayo services has higher qualifications than the national average.

The data for the following tables have been extracted from the Mayo County Childcare Committee website section<sup>26</sup> and from the Pobal 2016 Early Years Sector Profile<sup>27</sup>. There are three main programmes available from the Government that provide childcare support to parents/guardians namely; Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), the Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Programme and Training and Employment Childcare (TEC). Further information in relation to the different childcare programmes is available as an endnote<sup>i</sup> (page 159) in this document.

**Table 22: Childcare services by type, Mayo (MCCC 2017)**

Type of Service	Number of Services by main towns and surrounding areas							Total
	Ballina	Ballinrobe	Erris & Achill	Castlebar	Claremorris	Swinford	Westport	
ECCE	22	13	10	22	22	11	21	121
TEC (Childcare Education and Training Support)	4	8	5	10	9	6	6	48
CCS	14	8	9	10	16	6	12	75
Childminding	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	4
Pre-school	22	13	10	22	22	11	21	121
Full day-care	4	2	1	11	9	3	2	32
School age childcare	5	6	5	10	9	4	7	46

<sup>25</sup> Page 67

<sup>26</sup> <http://www.mayochildcare.ie/en/FindChildcareinMayo/>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.pobal.ie/News/Pages/Early-Years-Childcare-Survey-Published.aspx>

Type of Service	Number of Services by main towns and surrounding areas							
	Ballina	Ballinrobe	Erris & Achill	Castlebar	Claremorris	Swinford	Westport	Total
Parent & Toddler Groups	7	1	1	9	6	5	8	37
Notified Childminders	11	8	4	19	7	1	9	59

Source: Mayo County Childcare Committee (Database of Services)

The data for the above Table 22 has been compiled using the database available on the Mayo County Childcare Committee website. Within the database, services had been allocated to towns and this was used to summarise the services by area.

**Table 23: ECCE and CCS registrations, Mayo and State, 2015/16 (Pobal 2017)**

Programme	Mayo		State	
	Comm	Priv	Comm	Priv
<b>Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)</b> registrations 2015/16	37%	63%	25%	75%
<b>Community Childcare Subvention Scheme (CCS)</b> registrations 2015/16	98%	2%	97%	3%

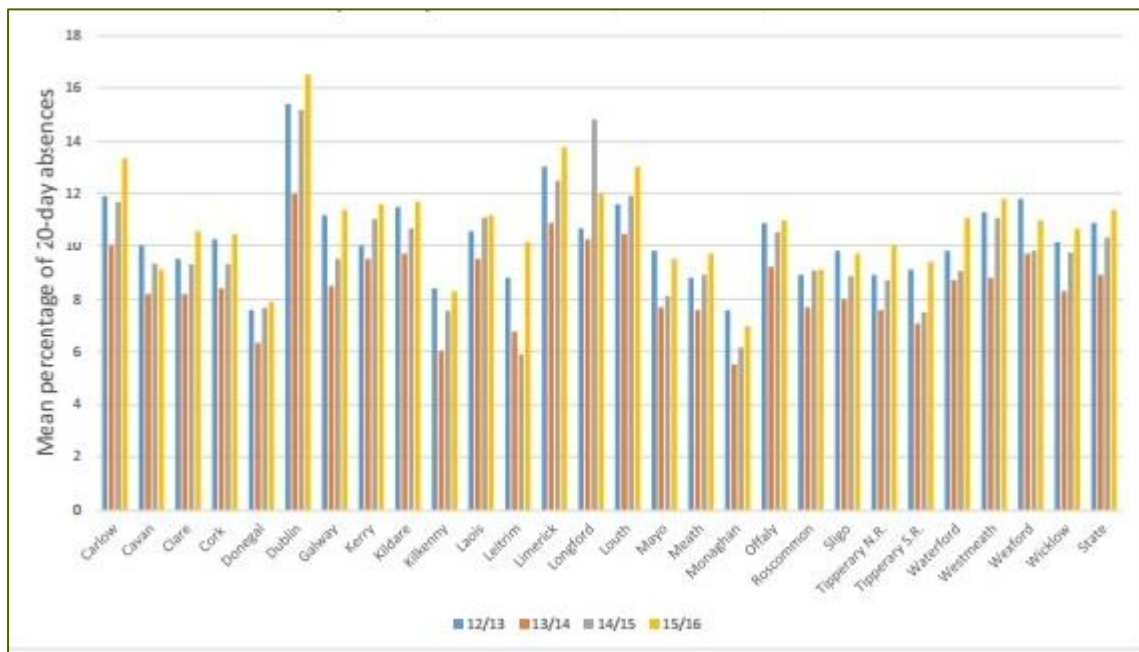
Source: Pobal 2016

In 2015/2016, 4,178 early years' service providers were contracted to offer the ECCE programme in Ireland, 75% of which were private and 25% were community (Pobal, 2017 p16). In County Mayo the percentage is significantly higher for the community sector (37% compared to 25% nationally). This can be expected given the low and dispersed population and rurality of Mayo. This is where the community and voluntary sector intervenes to deliver services where it would not be profitable for the Private Sector to do so. These are deemed to be part of the Social Economy (also known as Third Sector). The percentages for the Community Childcare Subvention Scheme (CCS) are comparable between Mayo and the State (97% and 98%) as presented in Table 23 above.

### 2.1.16 Primary School Children

The Department of Education and Science database (school year 2015/16) recorded 164 primary schools (62 with DEIS status) in Mayo and 4 Special Schools (2 in Castlebar and 2 in Ballina) with a total of 14,318 pupils attending.

**Chart 2: Average percentage of primary school children per county who are absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2015/16**



Source: Tusla (school attendance data 2015/16)

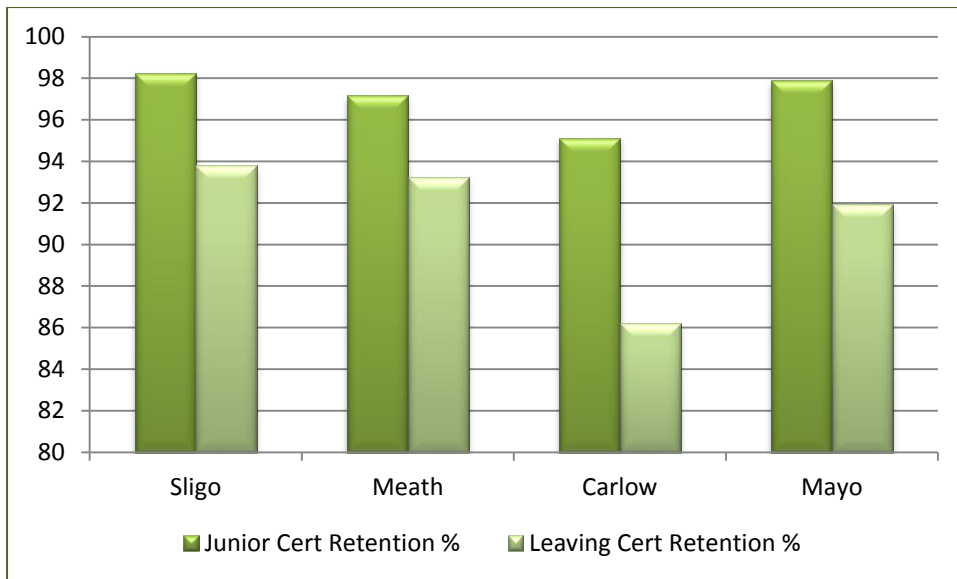
The mean of primary school children absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2015/16 reported for County Mayo was 5.4, less than the State (5.8). In comparison, the lowest percentage was for County Monaghan (4.6) and the highest was for Kildare (6.9). See Chart 2.

### 2.1.17 Post-primary schools

The Department of Education and Skills database (school year 2015/16) recorded 26 post-primary schools in Mayo (7 with DEIS status) with a total of 10,137 pupils enrolled. In November 2017 “Retention Rates of Pupils in Second-Level Schools 2010 Entry Cohort” published a report for the 2010 cohort. The highest retention rate to the Leaving Certificate was in Sligo County, with a rate of 93.81%, followed by Meath County with a rate of 93.25% and the lowest was Carlow with a rate of 86.21%. The retention rate for Mayo in that same period was 91.93% compared to the national average of 91.2%. See Chart 3.

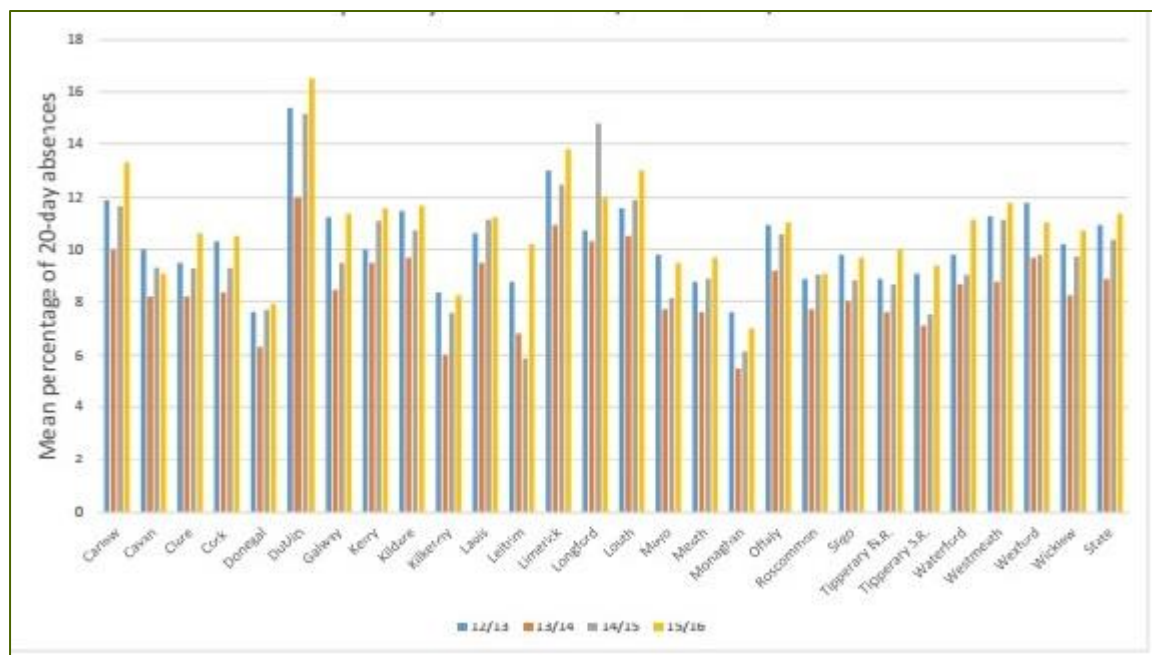
For the 2010 entry cohort, the Leaving Cert retention rate for all DEIS schools was 84.41% up from 82.7% for the 2009 cohort. Since 2005, the Non-DEIS retention rate to the Leaving Certificate has been between 91.7% and 92.9%. In contrast the DEIS rate has increased from 78.4% to 84.4% over the same period.

**Chart 3: Leaving Certificate retention rates 2010 cohort**



Source: Department of Education and Skills (Nov 2017)

**Chart 4: Average percentage of post-primary school children per school who are absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2015/16**



Source: Tusla (school attendance data 2015/16)

According to the data, the mean of post-primary school children per school who were absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2015/16 in Mayo was 8.8, which is marginally higher than the national mean of 8.2. The lowest level of absenteeism reported was in Louth and Waterford (7.5) and the highest was in Laois (9.9). See Chart 4.

### 2.1.18 Mother's highest education achievement

The research literature shows that there is a strong link between a mother's highest education achievement and learning outcomes for their children<sup>28</sup>.

**Table 24: Highest level of Education Attainment of Mothers (2011)**

Education Level	Mayo		State		+ or - State
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	
Primary including no formal education	1,359	4.7%	48,040	4.8%	-
Lower Secondary	3,593	12.5%	141,329	14.2%	-
Upper Secondary	13,386	46.6%	416,407	41.9%	+
Third-level (degree or higher)	9,887	34.4%	364,229	36.7%	-
Not stated/not available	482	1.7%	23,590	2.4%	-

Source: State of the Nation's Children, 2016

In Mayo, 17.2% of mothers had finished school at lower secondary or before, compared to the state (19.0%). 46.6% of mothers finished their education at Upper secondary level which is significantly higher than the state at 41.9%. A lower percentage of mothers in Mayo had completed a Third Level Degree or higher (34.4%) compared to the State (36.7%). See Table 24 above.

## Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

### Domestic Violence

The figures in Table 25 below have been provided by Mayo Women's Support Services and refer to the period January to September 2016. The data shows that there was on average 19.5 new referrals every month (total new referrals/9 months) during 2016. The data also showed that there were a total of 110 admissions of children to Mayo Women's Support Services.

**Table 25: Mayo Women's Support Service, Jan-Sept 2016**

Mayo Women's Support Service	Jan-Sept 2016
New Referrals:	176
No. of Service Users:	172
Individual Women in Refuge:	30
No. of Admissions to Refuge – Women:	38
Individual Children in Refuge:	74
No. of Admissions to Refuge – Children:	110
Support Sessions – Refuge:	835
No. of Bednights:	2,893
On-Call Hours:	6,656
No. of Outreach Appointments:	499
No. of Accompaniments:	92
Phone Calls To/From Women & on behalf of women	1,389
<b>Childcare:</b>	
Individual Children availing of Childcare Facility	92
No. of Freeplay Sessions:	818

Source: Mayo Women's Support Service (by email)

<sup>28</sup> Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures (2014-2020) p90



### 2.1.19 Referrals to Family Support Services

The following tables (Table 26 and Table 27) present data in relation to children and families referred to Family Support Services for Mayo and the State for the periods January to June 2016 and July to December 2016.

**Table 26: Children referred to Family Support Services**

Children referred to Family Support Services	Jan-Jun 2016		Jul-Dec 2016	
	Mayo	State	Mayo	State
Children referred by Social Work	54	4,242	74	4,580
Children referred by other sources	362	10,379	439	9,628
<b>Total</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>14,621</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>14,208</b>

Source: Mayo PPFS, 2016

In Mayo, in the first half of 2016, 13.0% (n=54) of the overall total of children referred to Family Support Services were referred by Social Work compared to the State at 29.0% (n=4,242). The pattern for the second half of the year in terms of referral source was similar with a slight increase reported in both areas in terms of referrals from Social Work (Mayo 14.4%, n=74 and the State 32.2%, n=4580). In Mayo, there was an increase of 77 children that were referred in total during the second half of the year (Table 26) and this indicates that the services are working better together.

**Table 27: Families referred to Family Support Services**

Families referred to Family Support Services	Jan-Jun 2016		Jul-Dec 2016	
	Mayo	State	Mayo	State
Families referred by Social Work	31	2,384	35	2,623
Families referred by other sources	156	8,318	144	8,681
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>10,702</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>11,304</b>

Source: Mayo PPFS, 2017

In Mayo, in the first half of 2016, 16.6% (n=31) of the overall total of families referred to Family Support Services were referred by Social Work compared to the State at 19.6% (n=2,384). The pattern for the second half of the year in terms of referral source was similar with a slight increase reported in both areas in terms of referrals from Social Work (Mayo 19.6%, n=35 and the State 23.2%, n=2,623). See Table 27 above.

### 2.1.20 Child Protection and Children in Care

At the end of 2016, there were 134 children and young people in the care of Tusla, Mayo. A total of 20 children were taken into care during 2016 and it was the first time in care for sixteen of these children.

**Table 28: Child Protection Referrals 2016<sup>29</sup>**

Referrals and rate	Mayo	State
Total Referrals	859	47,399
Rate/1,000	26	41

Source: Tusla, Q4 2016 Report

<sup>29</sup>

[http://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Q4\\_2016\\_Integrated\\_Performance\\_and\\_Activity\\_Report\\_Final\\_V2\\_Table\\_8\\_Amend\\_08Mar2017.pdf](http://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Q4_2016_Integrated_Performance_and_Activity_Report_Final_V2_Table_8_Amend_08Mar2017.pdf)

Mayo reported a lower rate per 1,000 than the State (26 v 41) in relation to Child Protection referrals in 2016. The lowest rate was reported by Donegal (21/1,000 children). The split at a national level between abuse and welfare referrals was 40:60 with Mayo reporting 45:55 (387 abuse referrals and 472 welfare referrals. See Table 28 above.

**Table 29: Children listed as 'Active' on CPNS<sup>30</sup> per 10,000 populations 0-17 years Q1 2017**

Active on CPNS	Mayo	State
Total active	53	1,318
Rate/10,000	16	11

Source: Tusla, Q4 2016 Report

At the end of March 2017, Mayo reported a higher rate per 10,000 children (16) than the State (11) that was listed as 'active' on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS). See Table 29 above.

**Table 30: Number of children in care and rate per 1,000 population 0-17 years Q4 2016**

Children in Care	Mayo	State
Total	142	6,308
Rate/10,000	4.4	5.5

Source: Tusla, Q4 2016 Report

At the end of 2016, Mayo reported a slightly lower rate (4.4) than the State (5.5) of children in care per 10,000 population as presented in Table 30 above. Seven Tusla areas reported an increase in children in care from Q4 2016, the highest increase was reported by Dublin South Central (n=11), followed by Dublin North (n=9) and Mayo n=8).

### 2.1.21 Juvenile Crime

Garda Youth Diversion Projects work with young people primarily aged between 12 and 18 years that have come in conflict or are at risk of coming into conflict with the law. The most recent statistics available at a county level at the time of the research were from 2015<sup>31</sup>. Overall, the report shows a national reduction of 2% in relation to young people being referred to the service and this was significantly lower for County Mayo (-23%). Currently, two Garda Youth Diversion Projects operate in County Mayo, one in Castlebar (Castlebar Youth Action Project) and one in Ballina (Youth Action Ballina).

<sup>30</sup> CPNS – Child Protection Notification System

<sup>31</sup> Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme (2015)

## 2.1.22 Drugs Task Force

**Table 31: Individuals who received treatment for drug or alcohol abuse, 2015 HSE Western Area**

County of Residence	Total	% of overall Total
Galway City	262	33.1%
Galway County	256	32.3%
Mayo	166	21.0%
Roscommon	108	13.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>792</b>	

Source: Submitted by Western Region Drugs and Alcohol Task Force – sourced from Health Research Board

The total number of individuals that received treatment for drug or alcohol abuse in 2015 from Mayo was 166 (representing 21% of the overall total that received treatment in the HSE Western Area). Of the overall total, 31 individuals were aged under 17 years (3.9%), 37 were aged 18-19 years (4.7%) and 95 were aged 20-24 years (12%).

## Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

The Census captures data in relation to all persons over 15 years of age in relation to their Principle Economic Status. It provides a snapshot in time of the numbers (and percentages) of those At work; unemployed; students, home duties, retired and unable to work.

**Table 32: Population aged 15 years and over by principal economic status and sex**

Principal Economic Status	Mayo % Total	State % Total	+ or - State
At work	49.5%	53.4%	-
Looking for first regular job	0.7%	0.8%	-
Unemployed having lost or given up previous job	7.5%	7.1%	+
Student	10.1%	11.4%	-
Looking after home/family	7.9%	8.1%	-
Retired	19.3%	14.5%	+
Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability	4.6%	4.2%	+
Other	0.4%	0.4%	0
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Source: Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

Table 32 above shows that at the time of the Census, a lower percentage of the overall population in Mayo (49.5%) were at work compared to the State (53.4%). The total percentage of Job Seekers (including looking for first regular job) was higher in Mayo (8.2%) compared to the State (7.9%). Mayo reported a significantly higher percentage of persons retired (19.3%) compared to the State (14.5%) and a slightly higher percentage of those unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability (4.6% compared to 4.2%).

### 2.1.23 Live Register<sup>ii</sup>

The Live Register is a monthly count of the number of persons under 65 years registering for Jobseekers Benefit or Allowance or various other statutory entitlements with the Department of Social Protection. Live Register statistics are compiled from administrative returns made to the CSO by each local office of the Department of Social Protection<sup>32</sup>.

**Table 33: Persons (male and female) under and over 25 years, on the Live Register, Mayo (CSO 2017<sup>33</sup>)**

Social Welfare Office	Under 25 years		Total Under 25 years	25 years and over		Total Over 25 years	Overall total on Live Register
	Male	Female		Male	Female		
Achill	14	9	23	163	98	261	284
Ballina	160	116	276	1,187	835	2,022	2,298
Ballinrobe	18	21	39	270	310	580	619
Belmullet	48	25	73	328	236	564	637
Castlebar	101	73	174	778	686	1,464	1,638
Claremorris	44	45	89	407	357	764	853
Swinford	64	54	118	486	433	919	1,037
Westport	50	22	72	487	452	939	1,011
<b>Total Mayo County</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>4,106</b>	<b>3,407</b>	<b>7,513</b>	<b>8,377</b>
<b>Total State</b>	<b>17,870</b>	<b>13,813</b>	<b>31,683</b>	<b>130,395</b>	<b>102,178</b>	<b>232,573</b>	<b>264,256</b>
<b>Mayo as % of State</b>	<b>2.80%</b>	<b>2.60%</b>	<b>2.70%</b>	<b>3.10%</b>	<b>3.30%</b>	<b>3.20%</b>	<b>3.20%</b>

Source: Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, 2017

According to the CSO Live Register data for August 2017, there were a total of 7,513 persons on the Live Register in Mayo representing 3.2% of the State total. Of this, 2.7% (n=864) were aged under 25 years and 3.2% (n=7,513) were aged over 25 years. See Table 33 above.

**Table 34: Family units with children by size of family**

Number of children	Mayo	State	+ or - State
	% of all children under 15	% of all children under 15	
1 child	34.1%	36.8%	-
2 children	38.7%	40.1%	-
3 children	19.6%	17.7%	+
4 children	6.1%	4.4%	+
5 or more children	1.5%	1.0%	+
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

Source: Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

Mayo reported higher percentages of family units with 3 (19.6%), 4 (6.1%) and 5 or more children (1.5%) compared to the State (17.7%, 4.4% and 1.0% respectively) and lower percentages of family units with 1 child (34.1%) and 2 children (38.7%) compared to the State (36.8% and 40.1% respectively). See Table 34 above.

<sup>32</sup> See Endnote i, page 159 for explanation of Live Register and Unemployment figures.

<sup>33</sup> [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) LRM07 August 2017

**Table 35: Private households by type**

Type of Household	Mayo	State	+ or - State	Mayo	State	+ or - State4
	% Households	% Households		% Persons	% Persons	
One person	28.0%	23.5%	+	10.7%	8.5%	+
Married couple	17.5%	15.0%	+	13.4%	10.9%	+
Cohabiting couple	3.1%	4.0%	-	2.4%	2.9%	-
Married couple and children	30.5%	31.1%	-	48.7%	46.5%	+
Cohabiting couple and children	3.2%	4.1%	-	4.7%	5.7%	-
<b>Father and children</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>+</b>
<b>Mother and children</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>-</b>
Couple and others	0.8%	1.2%	-	1.0%	1.5%	-
Couple children and others	1.5%	1.9%	-	2.9%	3.6%	-
Father children and others	0.2%	0.2%	0	0.2%	0.3%	-
Mother children and others	0.7%	1.0%	-	1.0%	1.4%	-
Two or more family units	0.7%	1.3%	-	1.5%	2.6%	-
Non-family households and relations	2.2%	2.2%	0	1.9%	1.9%	0
Two or more non-related persons	1.8%	4.1%	-	1.7%	4.1%	-
Total	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%	100.0%	

Source: Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

Table 35 explores the data in percentages for the types of households and the percentage persons of the overall number of persons living in each type of household. Married couples with children represent the highest percentage in terms of the overall type of household for both Mayo (30.5%) and the State (31.1%) with Mayo slightly less in percentage terms. There is a significant difference in the percentage of One Person Households in Mayo (28.0%) compared to the State (23.5%). The percentage of Cohabiting couples and children are less in Mayo (3.2%) than the State (4.1%); and for Mother and Children (8.4% and 9.0%). The percentage of Father and children households is the same for Mayo (1.5%) and the State (1.5%).

#### 2.1.24 Child related Social Welfare Payments

The data presented in this sub-section was sourced from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection refers to 2016. It explores the data for Child related payments as well as other Social Welfare payments.

**Table 36: Child related payments, 2016**

Child related payments	Mayo	State
Child Benefit		
Total Recipients	15,658	607,483
Total Children	31,542	1,163,327
Family Income Supplement	1,626	55,941
Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance	4,288	150,274

Source: Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection

Table 36 above shows that there were 15,658 recipients of Child Benefit payments in Mayo during 2016 for 31,542 children. A total of 1,626 families received Family Income Supplement (FIS) in 2016. This is a weekly tax-free payment available to employees on low pay with at least one child dependant and is one indicator of Low Income Households<sup>34</sup>. There were 4,288 recipients of the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance which is another indicator of Low Income Households. Households are eligible for this payment if they are already in receipt of another Social Welfare benefit payment or taking part in a Labour Market Activation Programme/Adult Education<sup>35</sup>.

**Table 37: Social Welfare Payments by type of payment, Mayo and State, 2016**

Type of payment	Mayo	State
Jobseeker's Allowance	6,941	218,260
One-Parent Family Payment	883	40,317
Direct Provision	63	2,502
Farm Assist	1,289	7,828
Jobseeker's Benefit	1,155	37,625

Source: Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection

The highest number of Social Welfare payments by type in Mayo were made on Jobseeker's Allowance (6,941), followed by Farm Assist (1,289). A total of 883 persons were in receipt of One Parent Family Payment, 1,155 in receipt of Jobseeker's Benefit and a total of 63 recipients of Direct Provision payments. See Table 37 above.

### 2.1.25 Housing

The following tables show the numbers and types of housing in Mayo.

**Table 38: Private households by type of accommodation**

Type of accommodation	Mayo	State	+ or - State	Mayo	State	+ or - State <sup>4</sup>
	% Households	% Households		% Persons	% Persons	
House/Bungalow	94.8%	86.5%	+	96.4%	89.5%	+
Flat/Apartment	4.0%	11.8%	-	2.4%	8.9%	-
Bed-sit	0.0%	0.2%	-	0.0%	0.1%	-
Caravan/Mobile Home	0.3%	0.3%	0	0.2%	0.2%	0
Not stated	0.9%	1.3%	-	0.9%	1.3%	-
Total	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%	100.0%	

Source: Census 2016 (<http://census.cso.ie/sapmap2016/Results>)

According to the CSO 2016 data for County Mayo, 94.8% of households lived in houses or bungalows (a slight reduction on 2011, 95.7%) while a further 4.0% lived in apartments, flats or bedsits (no change compared to 2011). 36,539 dwellings (75.0%) were owner occupied while 10,147 dwellings (20.8%) were rented. The average number of persons per household was 2.6, slightly below the national figure of 2.7. See Table 38 above.

<sup>34</sup>

[http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social\\_welfare/social\\_welfare\\_payments/social\\_welfare\\_payments\\_to\\_families\\_and\\_children/family\\_income\\_supplement.html](http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/social_welfare_payments_to_families_and_children/family_income_supplement.html)

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.welfare.ie/en/Pages/Back-to-School-Clothing-and-Footwear-Allowance.aspx>

**Table 39: Irish Travellers in Private Households 2011 and 2016 by Type of Household, Mayo and State**

Type of Household	2011		Mayo as % of State	2016		Mayo as % of State
	Mayo	State		Mayo	State	
All households	1,382	28,861	4.8%	1,281	30,393	4.2%
Permanent private	1,273	24,239	5.3%	1,147	25,263	4.5%
Temporary private	50	3,560	1.4%	88	3,718	2.4%
Not stated	59	1,062	5.6%	46	1,412	3.3%

Source: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) (EY032)

Mayo reported a decrease of 101 Households in the number of Irish Travellers in All Households in the intercensal period 2011-2016 (1,382 to 1,281). There was a decrease of 126 in the number of Irish Travellers in Permanent Private Households (1,273 to 1,147) and a corresponding increase of 33 Temporary Private Households from 50 to 88. See Table 39 above. There was a corresponding decrease in the Traveller population reported (see Table 15) by 86 persons in the same period.

### 2.1.26 Deprivation<sup>iii</sup>

Mayo is made up of 152 Electoral Divisions and according to the 2016 HP Deprivation Index, 31 of these EDs were Disadvantaged (> or = -10). These are rural EDs, located primarily on the West (incorporating Achill Island and the Erris Region), the North Coast and also bordering with Counties Sligo and Roscommon with just two Urban EDs (Ballina Urban and Ardnaree South Urban) in this category. The most affluent areas are the wider environs of Westport, Castlebar and Ballina, but excluding Castlebar and Ballina town areas. (See Endnote iii on Page 159/60 for full explanation).

**Table 40: Pobal HP Deprivation 2016, Mayo and Municipal District**

HP Index	Mayo County	Mayo Municipal Districts			
		Castlebar	Claremorris	West Mayo	Ballina
2016 Absolute HP Index Score	-7.7	-4.9	-7.5	-8.0	-10.7
2016 Relative HP Index Score	-3.8	-0.9	-3.6	-4.1	-6.9
2016 Total population	130,507	34,169	32,672	30,978	32,688
2016 Population Change	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00
2016 Age dependency ratio	37.9	36.2	38.7	38.1	38.7
2016 Lone parents ratio	18.0	18.1	14.5	18.9	20.6
2016 Proportion with primary education only	17.1	14.1	16.7	19.3	18.6
2016 Proportion with third level education	28.9	32.9	27.0	29.8	25.6
2016 Proportion of higher and lower professionals	31.7	35.1	29.9	32.0	29.8
2016 Proportion of semi and unskilled manual workers	20.6	17.9	20.8	22.7	21.1
2016 Unemployment rate - male	16.5	14.2	14.0	17.6	20.3
2016 Unemployment rate - female	12.3	10.6	12.0	12.3	14.4
2016 Average persons per room	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
2016 Proportion of LA rented in all permanent private households	5.3	4.5	4.4	6.0	6.4
2016 Proportion of private rented in all permanent private households	15.5	17.1	16.5	14.1	14.0
2016 Proportion of owner occupied	77.1	76.8	76.9	77.3	77.4

Source: Haase, T. and Pratschke, J. (2017) *The 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index*

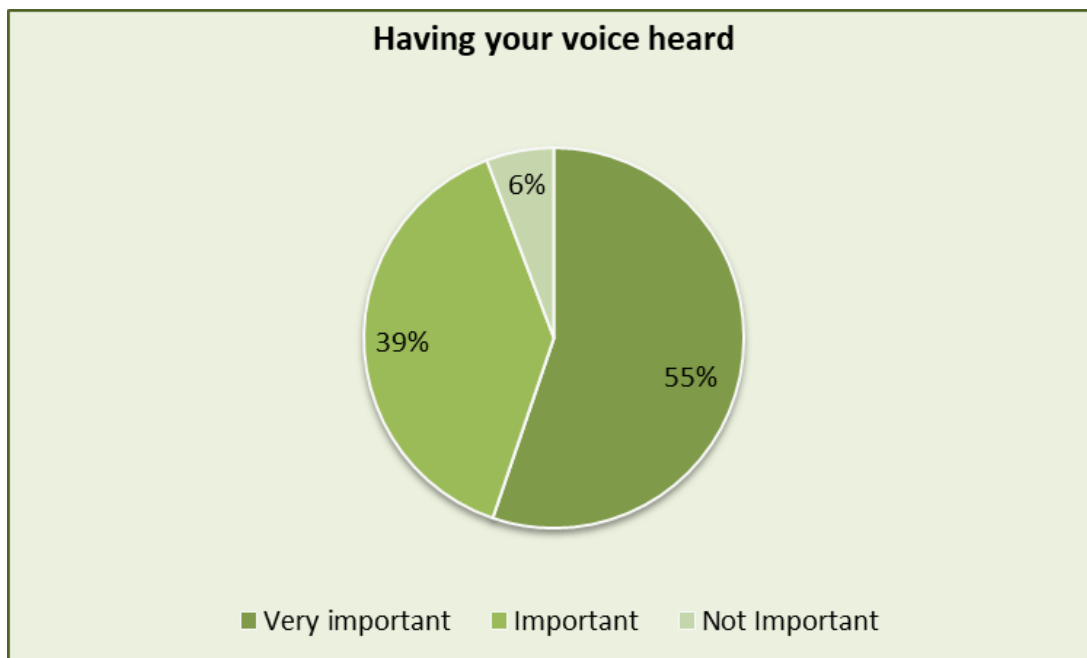
According to the 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index Ballina MD reported the highest absolute deprivation score at -10.7, followed by West Mayo at -8.0, Claremorris -7.5 and Castlebar -4.9. The figures for Ballina MD show that it has the highest rate of Lone Parents (20.6) with Claremorris MD reporting the lowest rate at 14.5. Ballina also reported the highest rates of both male and female unemployment (20.3 and 14.4) with the lowest male unemployment reported for Claremorris (14.0) and the lowest female unemployment reported for Castlebar (10.6). See Table 40 above.

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

In terms of the above outcome, the policy framework Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures (2014-2020) notes that *children and young people should be supported and encouraged to play a full role in society recognising that they themselves, through their choices and determination, can heavily influence their own lives now and in the future. Measures are needed to create a society in which all children and young people are valued and respected for who they are, so that they can freely express their identity.* An indicator set has been developed at a national level for all five outcomes<sup>36</sup> and was published in September 2017. It is not possible at this stage to present comparative data for Mayo and the State with respect to the national indicators for this outcome due to a data deficit (at national and local level).

However, some of the questions included in the Youth Survey conducted by Mayo CYPSC as part of the consultation process for this plan give a snapshot of Children and Young People’s perceptions in relation to this outcome at that time and these are presented in the charts below.

**Chart 5: Level of importance, having your voice heard**



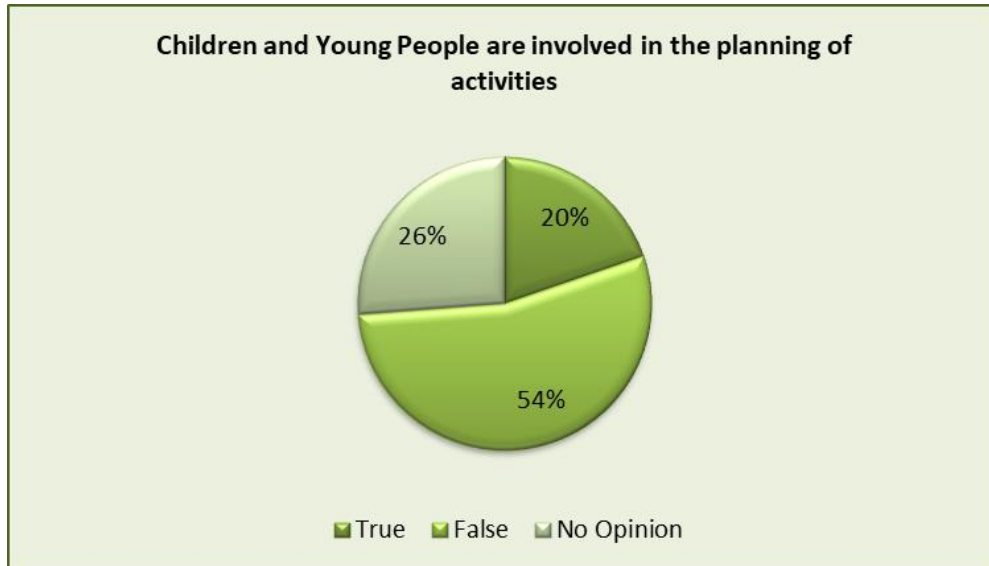
Source: Mayo CYPP, 2017 (Youth Survey)

<sup>36</sup> An indicator set for Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People, 2014-2020 (September 2017)



When asked to choose between three options (Very important, Important and Not important), in relation to having their voice heard, the majority (94%) of the youth respondents choose Very Important (55%) or Important (39%) with just 6% choosing the option Not important (6%) in relation to having their voice heard. See Chart 5.

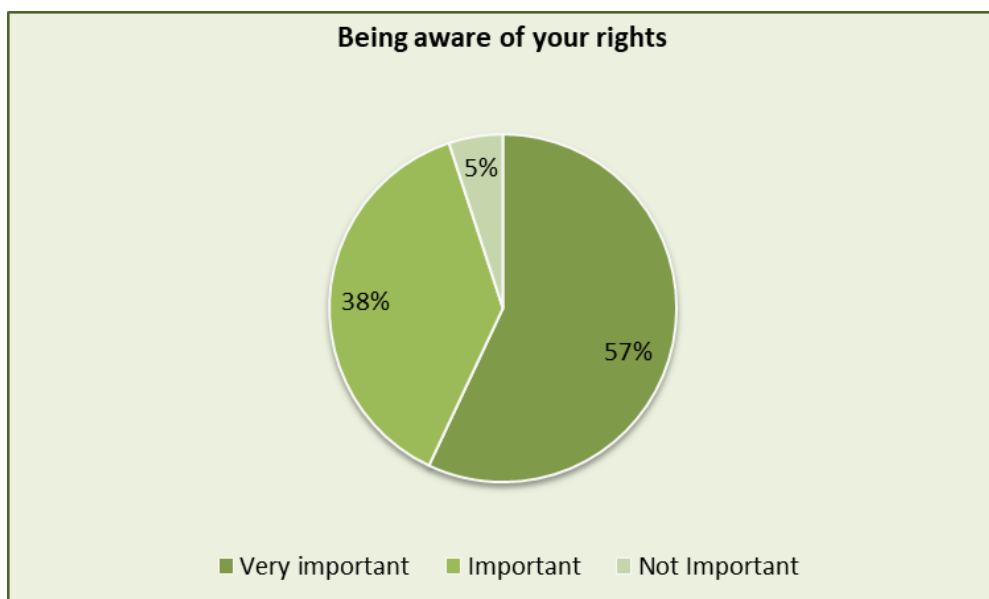
**Chart 6: Children and Young People are involved in the planning of activities**



Source: Mayo CYPP, 2017 (Parents Survey)

Parents were asked to comment whether in their opinion it was true or false that children and young people are involved in the planning of activities. The majority of parents choose to answer False (54%) to the statement, with one in five choosing True (20%) and 26% opted for No Opinion. See Chart 6.

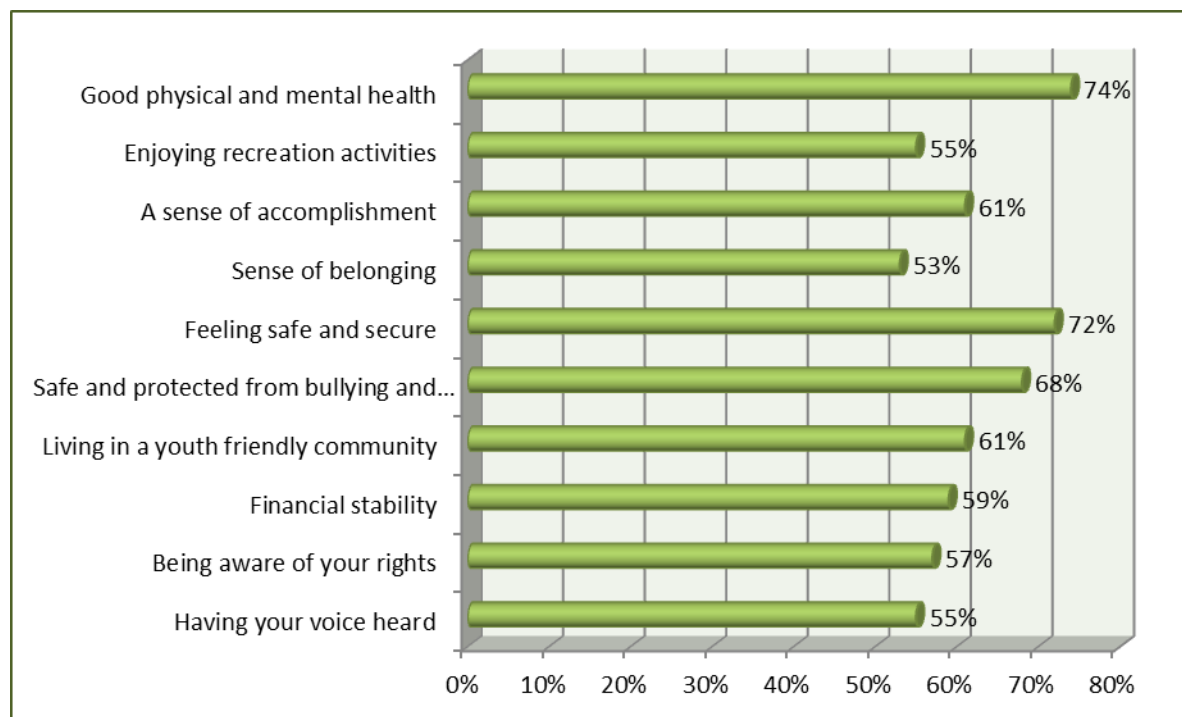
**Chart 7: Level of importance, Being Aware of Your Rights**



Source: Mayo CYPP, 2017 (Youth Survey)

When asked to choose between three options (Very important, Important and Not important), the majority (95%) of the youth respondents choose Very Important (57%) or Important (38%) with just 5% choosing the option Not important (6%) in relation to being aware of their rights. See Chart 7.

**Chart 8: What is very important to young people**



Source: Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey, 2017

According to the young people that responded to the survey, **Good physical and mental health** is very important to them, followed by **Feeling safe and secure** and **Safe and protected from bullying and harm**.

### 2.1.27 Key findings from Socio Demographic Profile

Mayo reported a slightly lower percentage (of the overall population) of Children and Young People aged 0-24 years (31.2%) compared to the State (33.2%) in 2016.

Mayo reported a lower percentage (of the overall population) of children aged 0-17 years (24.5%) compared to the State (25.0%) in 2016.

Mayo reported a significantly lower percentage of young people (of the overall population) aged 18 - 24 years (6.7%) compared to the State (8.2%) in 2016.

The percentage of children and young people by ethnicity or cultural background was lower for Mayo (14.1%) compared to the State (16.1%) in 2011.

Mayo reported a higher rate (per 1,000) of Traveller children (14.1) in 2011 compared to the State (16.1) in 2011.

Mayo reported a higher rate (per 1,000) of foreign national children in 2011 (84.3) compared to the State (82.5) in 2011.

Mayo reported a significantly higher rate (per 1,000) of children registered as having a physical or sensory disability (11.8) compared to the State (5.4)

Mayo reported a lower percentage of children living in a lone-parent household (14.2%) compared to the State (18.3%) in 2011.

Mayo reported a significantly higher annual estimated Net Migration in the intercensal period 2006 to 2016 per 1,000 of average population (-5.0) compared to the State (-1.2).

The Youth Dependency ratio was comparable between Mayo (32.8) and the State (32.3) in 2016.

Mayo reported the third highest rate per 1,000 of Young Carers in the country at 7.2 (number = 234) and was significantly higher than the rate reported for the State (5.6).

There were 73 fewer births in 2015 compared to 2014 in Co Mayo, representing a decrease of 4.42% which is higher than the national decrease of 2.06% for births in that same period.

Mayo reported a lower percentage of infants in 2015 that were breastfed (either exclusive or combined) on discharge from hospital (54.8%) compared to the State (58.0%).

Mayo reported a marginally lower percentage of Low birth weight babies as a percentage of all births (5.5%) compared to the State (5.9%) in 2014.

The percentage of children who had been vaccinated at two years of age in Mayo (92.2%) was in line with the State (92.4%) in 2014.

In Mayo the percentage of Early Childhood Care Education contracts with community based organisations was significantly higher than the State (37% compared to 25% respectively) in 2016.

The average percentage of primary school children absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2015/16 was lower in Mayo (5.4) compared to the State (5.8).

The Leaving Certificate retention rates reported for Mayo in the school year 2014/15 was higher than the State (91.4% and 90.2% respectively).

The mean of post-primary school children per school who were absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year 2013/14 in Mayo was 8.8 which marginally higher than the State at 8.2.

The percentage of mothers that had finished school at lower secondary or before, was lower in Mayo (17.2%) compared to the State (19.0%).

Mayo reported a significantly lower rate per 1,000 of Child Protection referrals in 2016 (26) compared to the State (41).

At the end of March 2017, Mayo reported a higher rate per 10,000 children (16) than the State (11) that was listed as 'active' on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS).

At the end of 2016, Mayo reported a slightly lower rate (4.4) than the State (5.5) of children in care per 10,000 population.

Nationally, there was a reduction of 2% in relation to young people being referred to Garda Diversion Projects and this was significantly lower for County Mayo (-23%).

At the time of the 2016 Census, a lower percentage of the overall population in Mayo (49.5%) were at work compared to the State (53.4%).

Mayo reported slightly higher percentages of family units with children by size of family with 4 children (4.6%) and 5 or more children (1.7%) compared to the State (3.9% and 1.2%).

In 2016, Mayo reported a significantly higher rate of Absolute Deprivation (-7.7) compared to the State (-3.6) according to the Pobal HP Deprivation Index.

In 2016, Mayo reported a significantly higher rate of Relative Deprivation (-3.8) compared to the State (-0.4) according to the Pobal HP Deprivation Index.

### 3 Overview of services to Children and Families in County Mayo

This section presents the services for children and families in Mayo allocated to each of the five national outcomes. A template was devised to collect the data required for this section. It was circulated by email to all of the CYPSC members and with the support of the Child and Family Network Coordinators to their network members. All of the data returned was cross referenced with the membership lists of CYPSC and the CFSNs. Telephone calls were made where there was no data returned to capture what was necessary to present a comprehensive list of the services for children and families in Mayo.

The data was then collated and allocated to the most relevant national outcome based on the description. While a five national outcome lens has been used to categorise services, many have a role across multiple outcome areas and, where appropriate, organisations are listed under a number of outcomes depending on the services they deliver.

Some learning that emerged from this process is that it would be beneficial to have a series of information workshops so that all providers (Statutory and voluntary) can apply a coherent approach to mapping and identifying the different aspects of the services that they provide in line with the Hardiker scale<sup>37</sup>.

#### Outcome 1: Active and Healthy (physical and mental wellbeing)

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both	
<b>Outcome 1: Active and Healthy</b>				
HSE	HSE Mayo University Hospital	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1	
	HSE Out-of-Hours GP Service			
	HSE Paediatric OT Service/Occupational Therapy			
	HSE Primary Care: PCTs provide a holistic approach to community needs on a social, welfare, housing, education and health needs basis. The services offered include GP, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Public Health Nursing. <b>Primary Care located in Ballinrobe, Castlebar, Ballyhaunis, Charlestown, Claremorris, Kiltimagh, Ballina, Crossmolina, Erris, Achill, Louisburgh and Westport</b>			
	HSE Public Health Nursing Service			
	HSE Dental Service			
	HSE Community Nutrition & Dietetic Service			Targeted: Hardiker Level 2
	HSE Addiction Service			
HSE Adult Mental Health Service This service provides both inpatient and outpatient community based secondary services. For the purposes of service delivery, the county is geographically divided into five sectors, each of which has a multi-disciplinary team composed of a consultant psychiatrist, non-consultant hospital doctor, occupational	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3			

<sup>37</sup> See Appendix XI for explanation of Hardiker Scale

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 1: Active and Healthy</b>			
	<p>therapist, social worker, clinical psychologist, addiction counsellor and nursing staff. The service is for clients 18 years and upwards.</p> <p>The service also has three specialist multi-disciplinary teams including old age psychiatry serving mental health needs of those aged 65; rehabilitation and recovery teams for those with enduring mental health difficulties as well as an intellectual disability and mental health team</p> <p><b>HSE Counselling Service</b></p> <p><b>HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)</b></p> <p><b>HSE Primary Care Psychology Service</b></p> <p><b>HSE Community Speech &amp; Language Service</b></p> <p><b>HSE Counselling in Primary Care</b></p> <p><b>HSE Disability Services</b></p>		
<b>MindSpace Mayo</b>	<p>MindSpace Mayo is a free and confidential support service to promote young people's mental health and wellbeing (15 to 25 year olds). Locations Castlebar and part-time outreach in Ballina and Belmullet</p> <p><a href="http://www.mindspacemayo.ie/">http://www.mindspacemayo.ie/</a></p>	Voluntary	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>Mayo County Council</b>	<p><b>Swimming Pools</b> (support for community owned pools in Kilmovee, Charlestown and Ballaghadereen). Maintenance of pool in O'Dwyer Cheshire Home, Bohola. Public pools in Ballina, Castlebar, Claremorris and Westport.</p> <p><b>150 Playgrounds</b> in 53 Amenity Areas</p> <p><b>Walking Trails</b></p>	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Mayo Sports Partnership</b>	<p>Aims to increase participation in sport and to ensure local resources and facilities are used to the best effect. Club development grant scheme; volunteer training; information provision; support for increased participation in sport and recreation at local level especially in 'seldom heard' target groups</p>	Statutory	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>Mayo Traveller Support Group</b>	<p>Traveller Support; Primary Health Care Projects in Ballina &amp; Castlebar. Community Development Worker for Traveller men &amp; family support</p>	Community	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>The Family Centre Castlebar</b>	<p>Services provided include: Counselling, Mayo Suicide Bereavement Liaison Service, Hope &amp; Flourish Projects, Family Mediation, Rainbows, Bereavement Support, Faith development &amp; formation, Educational Programmes, Parenting support, Legal advice, Money Advice &amp; Budgeting Service. Located in Castlebar. <a href="http://www.thefamilycentre.com/">http://www.thefamilycentre.com/</a></p>	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>South West Mayo Development Company</b>	<p><b>Community Food initiative</b> Mayo (also Roscommon and Galway)</p>	Community	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>Western Region Drug &amp; Alcohol Task Force</b>	<p>Deliver regionally appropriate responses to drug and alcohol issues in Mayo, Galway and Roscommon. Cross reference with South West Mayo Development Company.</p>	Voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>Sports Organisations</b>	<p>A total of 70 different categories of Sports Organisations are listed on the Mayo Sports Partnership website.</p>	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1

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

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 2: Learning and Development</b>			
<b>Mayo County Childcare Committee</b>	Support to childcare services in Mayo (i.e. Community, private, child-minders, parent and toddler groups, after-schools ) to deliver national childcare funding programmes and national curriculum frame works); Coordinate the promotion of sustainable supports that meet the needs of the Early childhood Care and Education & School Aged Sectors in their work towards achieving better outcomes for children and families. Administration of Childminder Development Grant and Parent & Toddler Grant. Information and support to parents, including referrals and signposting to other services or agencies. Implement 'Access Inclusion' model in Mayo (includes delivery of Inclusion/Wellbeing Seminar).	Statutory & Community & Private	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>ECCE (Early Childhood Care and Education Programme)</b> 121 services		
	<b>TEC (Childcare Education and Training Support)</b> 48 services		
	<b>CCS (Community Childcare Subvention)</b> 75 services		
	<b>Childminder Services:</b> Voluntary notified (59); Notified (4)		
	<b>Parent &amp; Toddler Groups</b> 37 groups		
<b>Department of Education and Skills</b>	<b>Primary:</b> 164 Primary Schools (62 of which have DEIS status)	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Post Primary:</b> 26 Secondary Schools (7 of which have DEIS status)		Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Special Needs Schools</b> x4 (Castlebar (2) and Ballina (2))		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
	<b>National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS)</b>		
<b>Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim Education &amp; Training Board</b>	<b>Post Leaving Certificate Programmes</b> - Full time courses offering a mix of practical, academic work as well as work experience. Centres located in Castlebar, Ros Dumhach, Ballina, Crossmolina & Westport	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Youthreach Centres</b> x3 (Early School Leavers programme for 16-20 year olds). Centres located in Ballina, Ballinrobe & Kiltimagh		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Community Education; Back to Education Initiative</b>		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Adult Education Guidance Service:</b> career and education information and advice service		Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Basic Education</b> - literacy, numeracy, ESOL(English for		Targeted:

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 2: Learning and Development</b>			
<b>Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim Education &amp; Training Board</b>	speakers of other languages), Family Literacy		Hardiker Level 2
	<b>VTOS</b> (Vocational Training Opportunity Scheme) for 21yrs+. Centres located in Achill, Ballina, Ballinrobe, Belmullet, Castlebar, Swinford		Targeted: Hardiker Level 2
	<b>Youth Office:</b> Support for Independent Youth Organisations; Management and Administration of DCYA grants; Monitoring of NQSF		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Music Generation Mayo:</b> a music education service for children and young people (0-18) in Co. Mayo. It is part of Music Generation – Ireland’s National Music Education Programme, initiated by Music Network, co-funded by U2 and The Ireland Funds, (2011-14) and by the Department of Education and Skills since July 2014. Locally, Music Generation Mayo is managed and co-funded by Mayo Music Education Partnership (MEP).		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>SOLAS (MSL ETB)</b>	Local Training Initiative for Job Seekers × 6. Current locations Castlebar; Belmullet; Ballinrobe (2); Claremorris (2). Statutory provision in partnership with Local Community Groups	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2
	Vocational Training Centre based in Ballina		Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>MSL ETB</b>	<b>North and South Mayo School Completion Programme</b> (DEIS Schools only) Provide supports and interventions that aim to have a positive impact on levels of pupil retention and the number of pupils who complete the senior cycle or equivalent. (DEIS Schools only). Funded by Tusla	Statutory	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
<b>Tusla</b>	<b>Educational Welfare Service:</b> has a statutory function to ensure that every child either attends school or otherwise receives an education	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2
<b>GMIT Mayo Campus</b>	GMIT Mayo Campus. Third Level Education offer Full-time Level 7 and Level 8 Programmes and a variety of Lifelong Learning programmes. Disciplines include; 1) Nursing, Health Sciences and Social Care (General Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, Applied Social Care and Early Childhood Education and Care; 2) Business (Business, Administration and ICT skills, Accounting and Financial management); 3) Humanities (History and Geography, Outdoor Education and Outdoor Education and Tourism; 4) Technology (Digital media and Information Technology Support)	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>National Learning Network</b>	Training courses and support services for people 18 years and over who need specialist support (jobseekers, unemployed, and people with an illness or disability). Located in Castlebar, covering all Mayo	Voluntary	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2
<b>South West Mayo Development Company</b>	<b>Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme:</b> Disadvantaged children, young people, NEETs and families. Claremorris and Castlebar MDs. Mayo Islands	Community	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2



Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 2: Learning and Development</b>			
<b>Mayo North East LEADER Partnership Company</b>	<b>Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme:</b> Disadvantaged children, young people, NEETs and families. Ballina and West Mayo Municipal Districts	Community	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>Mayo County Council</b>	<b>Libraries:</b> extends across the county. Achill, Ballina, Ballinrobe, Ballyhaunis, Belmullet, Castlebar, Charlestown, Claremorris, Clare Island, Crossmolina, Foxford, Kilkelly, Kiltimagh, Louisburgh, Swinford, Westport	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Foróige</b>	<b>Community &amp; Integrated Development:</b> Mayo Science and Technology week (promoting STEM to young people) Voluntary Youth Clubs: Aghamore, Ballina, Ballyhaunis, Ballyheane, Belcarra, Brickers, Cloontia, Cong, Fahy, Foxford, Keenagh, Kilmovee, Kiltimagh, Louisburgh, Mayo Abbey, Moygownagh, Newport, Tooreen, Turlough	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Involve Youth Service Ballina North</b>	Support for Young Travellers located in Ballina town.	Community	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>Connaught Youth and Community Service</b>	North Mayo Youth Project located in Ballina town. (c/f with An Garda Síochána Youth Action Projects	Voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>Maple Youth Centre</b>	Provides supports, services and advice to young people (including Youth Booth Café) located in Ballinrobe town.	Community	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 3: Safe and protected from Harm</b>			
<b>Tusla</b>	<b>Child Protection and Welfare</b>		
	<b>Tusla Children First Information and Advice Officer</b>	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Tusla Social Work Department</b> promotes the welfare and safety of children living in Mayo.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 4
	<b>Foster Care:</b> Placement and Support for children, foster parents and parents/relatives. It assesses potential foster parents.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2, 3 and 4

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 3: Safe and protected from Harm</b>			
	<b>Alternative Care:</b> Provide placements for children where parents are not able to manage and ask for assistance. Provide placements where a court has decided that a child needs to be in care to prevent them from harm.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2, 3 and 4
<b>Tusla</b>	<b>Community &amp; Family Based Support</b>		
	<b>The Edge:</b> Works with young people aged 10-17 years who present with challenging and risky behaviours.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Early Years' Service:</b> Works in partnership with parents of children aged 0 - 6 years where there is an identified child protection / welfare concern.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Community Based Family Support Service:</b> Through a partnership approach with parents, the service builds on families' strengths, promotes positive behaviours through teaching social skills, develops positive relations and empowers parents to gain self-discipline and self-control. Located in Ballyhaunis; Ballina; Ballinrobe; Claremorris; Westport	Voluntary	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Family Resource Centres (FRC);</b> To combat disadvantage and to support families and build communities through the principles of community development. Located in Ballina; Ballinrobe; Ballyhaunis; Castlebar; Claremorris; Kilmovee and Westport. Core funding from Tusla.	Voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
	<b>Family Focus:</b> Works in partnership with parents and young people in a family support context.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Play Therapy:</b> Provides a child with an opportunity to 'play out' their thoughts, feelings and problems.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Meitheal</b> is a National Practice Model which ensures that the needs and strengths of children and their families are effectively identified, understood and responded to in a timely way so that children and families get the help and support needed to improve children's outcomes.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Common Sense Parenting:</b> Six week evidence informed parenting course supporting parents of children/young people aged 2- 5/6-16 years to increase positive behaviours	Statutory/voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
<b>Foróige</b>	Youth and Family Support Service located in Ballina, Castlebar and Westport	Voluntary	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2&3
<b>Mayo Woman's Support Services</b>	A free, confidential service to all women and children whose lives have been affected by domestic violence. Supports include refuge accommodation outreach appointments throughout the County, information on rights and entitlements (Legal, Financial and Housing). Core funding from Tusla (Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence)	Voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
<b>Mayo Rape</b>	Mayo Rape Crisis Centre offers free and confidential	Voluntary	Targeted:

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 3: Safe and protected from Harm</b>			
<b>Crisis Centre</b>	counselling, support and advocacy to all victims of sexual violence (rape, sexual assault, and child sexual abuse). We also work with the partners, parents, siblings and friends of victims. We work with survivors of trafficking, prostitution and female mutilation. We also offer training, education and awareness raising workshops to other professionals and community groups.		Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>ISPPC</b>	Listening, supporting and protecting young people via ChildLine support line; Child and Family Support Service, Mentoring Programme for children and parents, Missing Children's Hotline and Advocacy on behalf of children in Ireland	Voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2, 3 and 4
<b>Probation Service</b>	Community Services for 16 years and over as an alternative to custody. Individual placements and supervised placements.	Statutory	Targeted: Hardiker Level 3
	Sex Offender Risk and Management Committee (SORAM): 6-weekly meeting of Gardaí, Probation & Tusla)		Targeted: Hardiker Level 4
<b>An Garda Síochána</b>	Garda Stations x 29 (full and part-time) (5 Districts - Ballina, Belmullet, Castlebar, Claremorris, and Westport)	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	Garda Youth Diversion Projects are community based and supported youth development projects which aim to divert young people (aged 12-18 years) from becoming involved (or further involved) in anti-social or criminal behaviour. These projects are a partnership between the Irish Youth Justice Service, Gardaí and North Connaught Youth and Community Service. Youth Action Projects located in Ballina and Castlebar. Juvenile Liaison Officers (x 2) located in Castlebar & Swinford.		Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>Mayo County Council</b>	<b>Roads and Water Safety:</b> Road Safety Officer - delivers safety awareness programmes with schools	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1

### Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity</b>			
<b>Western Care</b>	Empowerment of people with a wide range of learning and associated disabilities in Co. Mayo to live full and satisfied lives as equal citizens. Western Care provides targeted support to children and adults with learning disabilities, and to their families	Voluntary	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2
<b>Rehab Care</b>	Social services for people with disabilities (18-65) and their	Voluntary	Targeted:

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity</b>			
	families. Located in Castlebar, covering all Mayo		Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>South West Mayo Development Company</b>	<b>Rural Development Programme (LEADER)</b> South and West Mayo	Community	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Western Region Drugs &amp; Alcohol Task Force (WRDTF)</b> funded posts. Mayo (Also Part of Roscommon)		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Labour Market Activation Programmes:</b> Community Employment (CE); Tús South and West Mayo		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Rural Social Scheme</b> for rural dwellers. South and West Mayo		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Foundation for Life:</b> Activation and part-time training programme for NEETS.		Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Mayo North East LEADER Partnership Company</b>	<b>Rural Development Programme (LEADER).</b> North County Mayo	Community	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Local Employment Service</b> (supports for Job Seekers)		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Job Club</b> (Personal Development, CV and interview preparation for Job Seekers)		Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Labour Market Activation Programmes:</b> Community Employment (CE); Tús (covering North County Mayo and Job Initiative Scheme (countywide).		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Rural Social Scheme</b> for rural dwellers covering North County Mayo		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>Department of Employment Affairs &amp; Social Protection</b>	<b>Intreo offices</b> (× 5): single point of contact for all employment & income supports located in Castlebar; Ballina; Westport; Belmullet; Achill.	Statutory	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
	<b>Community Services Programme</b> (managed nationally by Pobal) supporting 32 Social Enterprises throughout Mayo.	Community	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
	<b>Job Path</b> (contracted to the private sector to deliver job activation supports to people that are unemployed)	Statutory	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity</b>			
<b>Mayo County Council</b>	<b>Local Enterprise Office:</b> Schools Enterprise Programme; Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Housing:</b> Traveller Accommodation and Social Housing		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2

### Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contribution to their world

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world</b>			
<b>Foróige</b>	Voluntary Youth Clubs: Aughamore, Ballina, Ballyhaunis, Ballyheane, Belcarra, Brickers, Cloontia, Cong, Fahy, Foxford, Keenagh, Kilmovee, Kiltimagh, Louisburgh, Mayo Abbey, Moygownagh, Newport, Tooreen, Turlough		Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	Comhairle na nÓg (Mayo Co. Co. & Foróige)		Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	Youth Participation Project. (Tusla & Foróige)		Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	Big Brother Big Sister Mentoring Programme		Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
	Young Mothers Group in Castlebar and Ballina.		Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	LGBTI Support in Castlebar and Ballina.		Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>North Connaught Youth and Community Service</b>	North Mayo Youth Project located in Ballina town. (c/f with An Garda Síochána Youth Action Projects	Voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1 and 2
<b>Maple Youth Centre</b>	Provides supports, services and advice to young people (including Youth Booth Café) located in Ballinrobe town.	Community	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world</b>			
<b>Involve Youth Service Ballina</b>	Support for Young Travellers located in Ballina town.	Community	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>No Name Club</b>	No Name Clubs respect the dignity, value and uniqueness of all young people by supporting, advocating and helping to safeguard their right to enjoy life, feel respected and to mature without a reliance on alcohol and other drugs. Locations: Achill, Ballinrobe, Castlebar, Claremorris, Crossmolina, Erris, Louisburgh, Swinford	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Family Resource Centres</b>	<b>Family Resource Centres (FRC);</b> To combat disadvantage and to support families and build communities through the principles of community development. Located in Ballina; Ballinrobe; Ballyhaunis; Castlebar; Claremorris; Kilmovee and Westport. Core funding from Tusla.	Voluntary	Universal & Targeted: Hardiker Level 1, 2 and 3
<b>Enable Ireland Mayo</b>	The Children's service in Mayo offers a variety of services to children with a primary physical disability.	Voluntary	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2
<b>St. Vincent de Paul</b>	Providing support and championing the rights of the poorest members of our society. Examples include a full-time office to meet with clients in financial need, a charity shop run by volunteers to fund their charitable work, and free classes in Computers, Cookery and Stress Management. Locations: Ballina, Castlebar, Ballyhaunis, Knock, Claremorris, Kiltimagh	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Cúram Family Centre</b>	Provides a caring and confidential environment where individuals, families and groups can empower themselves through education, training, information, support and participation. Services offered include, Counselling, Bereavement Support, Family Support, Adult Education, Supports for Seniors, Citizen's Information Service, Local Employment Service, Community Playgroup, Parent and Toddler Club, A.A and Al-anon Support and many more. Location: Claremorris	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Citizens Information Service</b>	Information, Advice and Advocacy on your rights and entitlements, Free Legal Advice Service (FLAC) monthly by appointment in Ballina and Castlebar and Threshold (housing) monthly drop in outreach. Locations: Ballina, Belmullet, Castlebar, Claremorris, Westport. Part-time outreach in Charlestown, Kiltimagh, Ballinrobe and Ballyhaunis	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Money and Advice Budgeting Services (MABS)</b>	A free, confidential and independent money advice service. Locations: Ballina and Castlebar. Outreach facilities in Achill, Ballinrobe, Ballyhaunis, Belmullet, Claremorris, Charlestown, Kiltimagh, Louisburgh, Westport	Community	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA)</b>	IWA provides services for those with limited mobility, promoting a quality of life to people with disabilities in Ireland. Locations: Belmullet and Castlebar	Voluntary	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>Arts Venues</b>	A total of 14 Arts Venues are spread throughout the county, the majority of which are managed by Voluntary Groups	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker

Organisation or Agency	Service	Statutory or Voluntary	Universal, Targeted or both
<b>Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world</b>			
			Level 1
<b>The Carers Association</b>	Provides services to family Carers, including young Carers. Services include Home Respite service; information; training; advocacy, lobbying, promotional work and a care line.	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>Mayo Volunteer Centre</b>	Mayo Volunteer Centre is an independent organisation working with volunteers and volunteer involving organisations with offices in Ballina and Castlebar. The Volunteer Centre also provides an outreach services in other parts of the county where resources allow.	Voluntary	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
<b>South West Mayo Development Company</b>	<b>Mayo Intercultural Action</b> - migrant support project	Community	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
	<b>Mayo Syrian Resettlement Project.</b> Locations Castlebar, Ballina, Westport & Claremorris		Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>Mayo Traveller Support Group</b>	<b>Traveller Support;</b> Community Development Worker for Traveller men & family support	Community	Targeted: Hardiker Level 2 and 3
<b>Mayo County Council</b>	<b>Arts Office</b>	Statutory	Universal: Hardiker Level 1
	<b>Music Generation Mayo;</b> support and grants to voluntary arts organisations and youth arts programmes		
	<b>Mayo.ie</b> online information hub		

### 3.1.1 Gaps identified

There is a gap in relation to Family Support Services and Youth Service Provision in the following areas:

- Erris
- Achill
- East Mayo (Swinford and Ballyhaunis catchment areas)

Gaps were also identified in relation to childcare provision on Clare Island and in the remote rural areas such as Erris due to low population densities.

## 4 Local Needs Analysis in County Mayo

This section highlights the main concerns and issues for Children and Young People in Mayo. The priorities presented are informed by the consultation process, socio-demographic profile and audit of services. It is also informed by related national, regional and local strategies and action plans developed by the relevant service providers.

The data is presented under the five national outcomes:

1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing
2. Achieving full potential in learning and development
3. Safe and protected from harm
4. Economic security and opportunity
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world

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

The data in the socio-demographic profile shows that Mayo is doing well with regards to most health outcome areas compared to the State. The youth survey included a question with a list of options from which to choose what types of services and activities that they would like to have access to in Mayo. The majority of respondents (54.5%, n=557) would like to see Adventure Activity Clubs for young people, which is a positive finding in relation to Outcome 1: Active and Healthy and this was supplemented by comments such as:

*More focus on Forest Schools, outdoor learning, and adventure activities. (Youth Survey Respondent)*

*Skate Park would be very communal and get youths more active and social. (Youth Survey Respondent)*

Other suggestions included: Gym (the majority of respondents from the Achill area), Hockey, Couch to 5K for Teens, Cricket, Water-based Sports, Darts and Yoga.

Through the research, consultation and planning process based on the feedback from the surveys and services mapping the following local priority areas were identified:

1. **Health and Wellbeing**
2. **Outdoor play 0-6 years**
3. **Child and Youth Mental Health**
4. **Parental Mental Health**

#### 4.1.1 Health and Wellbeing

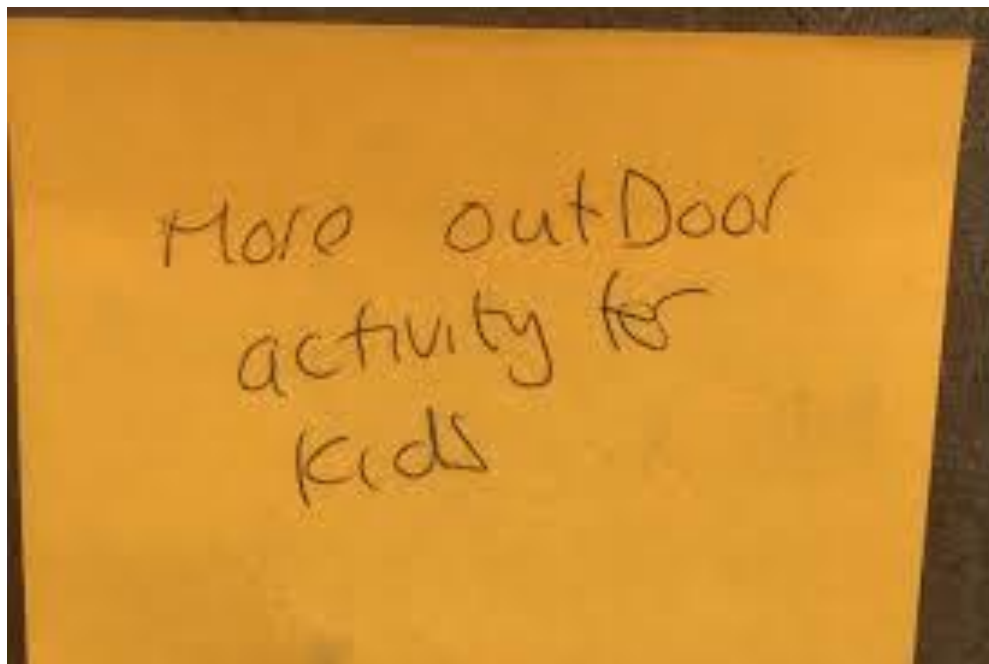
As a result of the consultation process, the Early Years Subgroup has prioritised the development of a Health and Well Being Plan for 0-3 year olds. The research framework will include questions to capture additional data in relation to the issues/gaps identified in the CYPSC research process such as Breastfeeding, Anxiety, Parental Mental Health; Substance Misuse (drugs and alcohol) and where



there are needs. The Early Years Sub-Group will liaise with other CYPSCs in HSE CHO Area 2<sup>38</sup> to ensure a coordinated approach to early years.

The research to be undertaken for the Health and Well Being Plan 0-3 years will be cognisant of the above and will put in place mechanisms to ensure the participation of children in the development of the plan.

**Picture 4: My wish for children in County Mayo – post-it from GMIT Outdoor Play day**



Source: Mayo CYPSC, GMIT Outdoor Play Day

#### **4.1.2 Outdoor play 0-6 years**

As a result of the Mayo CYPP findings, the Early Years Subgroup has also identified the need to promote a supportive environment for outdoor play for children and families as a priority. The benefits of outdoor play are well documented<sup>39,40</sup> (see also Louv, R 2008<sup>41</sup>, Aasen et al, 2009<sup>42</sup> ). Through play, children make sense of the world – infants and toddlers investigate and learn during this sensory motor stage of development. Playing outdoors provides, children’s senses are naturally stimulated through the ever changing sights, sounds, smells, taste and touch that are not available inside. Outdoor play also promotes physical activity needed to combat the growing obesity levels among young children.

<sup>38</sup> HSE CHO Area 2 includes counties Mayo, Roscommon and Galway

<sup>39</sup> Early Childhood Ireland <https://www.earlychildhoodireland.ie/work/quality-practice/play/outdoor-play/>

<sup>40</sup> Get Ireland Active <http://www.getirelandactive.ie/Children/>

<sup>41</sup> Louv, R. (2008). Last child in the woods: Saving our children from nature-deficit disorder. New York: Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill

<sup>42</sup> Aasen, W., Grindheim, L. & Waters, J. (2009). The outdoor environment as a site for children's participation, meaning-making and democratic learning: examples from Norwegian kindergartens. Education 3-13: International Journal of Primary, Elementary and Early Years Education. 37(1): 5-13

Some of the gaps/needs identified by parents in the consultation process support the evidence in the literature reviewed and include the following areas:

- Outdoor pre-schools and non-denominational primary schools
- Organised physical activities for children under 6
- Outdoor play areas for children and families

One of the issues emerging from the parents' survey that was carried out as part of the planning process was the 'lack of age appropriate activities' as evidenced by comments from parents such as:

*Many groups will only take 5 years and up. (Parents' Survey Respondent)*

*Not a lot offered for preschool age! (Parents' Survey Respondent)*

One unmet need expressed by some parents, youth and service providers during the consultation process was to ensure that there is inclusion of children who can be marginalised because of disability, ethnicity and poverty. In addition, the cost of some activities acts as an inhibitor from participating as well as the lack of a coherent rural transport network. Rural transport is addressed in Outcome 5 of the CYPP. One comment in relation to these issues submitted a parent in the survey was:

*Not all inclusive. Our 4 year old can join in but not our 2 year old with cerebral palsy. It's unfair on one to be able to join in and not the other. (Parents' Survey Respondent)*

### **4.1.3 Child and Youth Mental Health**

In Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures 2014-2020, it is recognised that good mental health is critical for parents to be able to support their children and that there are a myriad of factors that can impact negatively on a child's or young person's mental health. The document also states that having an early diagnosis and access to support services in a timely manner is of critical importance (p53).

The need for additional Mental Health Services was evident from the majority of survey respondents in each of the three categories (parents, youth and service providers) as well as an issue raised in some of the Focus Groups. A summary of the issues in relation to Children, Young People and Parents is presented in the following sub-sections:

#### **4.1.3.1 Children**

Feedback from the service providers' focus groups identified that there are an increasing number of children (aged as young as seven) presenting with anxiety and that services need to be developed/expanded to meet this need. One example given of the impact of the lack of supports for children, who are presenting with anxiety around school, is that it is leading to ongoing school refusal. This issue was raised by a number of providers in the focus groups and also by some of the survey respondents (parents and providers). It was suggested that earlier identification and

engagement, with interventions coordinated around the child would help manage transitions to post-primary level as well as giving the child the tools needed to cope with anxiety.

#### **4.1.3.2 Young people**

There is a deficit in relation to current provision for teenagers (MindSpace Mayo provides supports for young people aged 15+ years). It has been recommended that rather than establishing a new programme/organisation that MindSpace Mayo is supported/resourced to expand the age group to include children aged 12+ years. In addition, it is recommended that MindSpace Mayo is resourced to extend the geographic coverage in the county. At present, the organisation provides services in Castlebar and on a part-time outreach basis in Belmullet and Ballina.

It was outside the scope of the planning and consultation process to comprehensively document the different projects and supports delivered through schools that support transitions.

#### **4.1.4 Parental Mental Health**

Some of the survey responses and feedback from the service providers focus groups identified that some parents are struggling with poor mental health and that this is impacting on their children. In addition, some parents are also looking for support in 'parenting the anxious child'.

Workshops for parents to improve their knowledge and skills to gain a greater understanding and to recognise signs of poor mental health, developing skills to support the anxious child and referrals to the most appropriate service will be addressed as part of this priority action. It is proposed to develop a number of information workshops to look at areas identified in research such as youth mental health; appropriate use of technology; cyber bullying; school refusal and coping with anxiety; alcohol and drug misuse etc.

It is also proposed to continue to work together with Mayo Suicide Prevention Alliance and MindSpace Advisory Group and the LCDC Health and Well Being Subgroup in achieving their objectives as well as linking to regional plans such as the HSE Suicide Prevention Services Action Plan and Connecting for Life.

Through the use of open questions in the parents' survey, Mayo CYPSC was able to capture additional data in relation to the needs identified by parents as follows:

- More activities for parents and children to enjoy together
- Workshops/initiatives to promote Health & Well Being (all ages)
- Parenting Courses to incorporate Nutrition/Healthy Food
- Develop inclusive activities for children with disabilities

Some of the comments submitted in the surveys in relation to Mental Health Services are as follows:

*Mental health is a big problem and yet funding seems to cut any services available for people dealing with mental health issues. MindSpace Mayo seems to be a good facility but yet limited to what it can do. One wish would be for young*

*people to be able to attend mental health awareness groups and take it seriously (Youth Survey Respondent)*

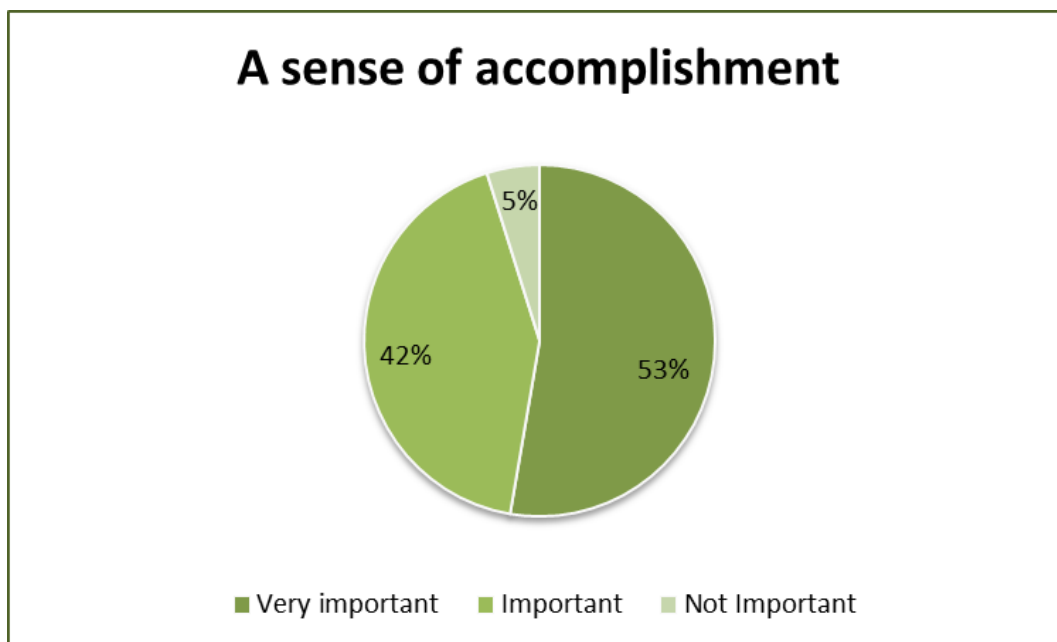
*No out of hour's mental health service available. Long waiting list for counselling ... Mindspace has just become available here and while it is a welcome step in the right direction it hasn't been available to my child. (Parents' Survey Respondent)*

*Investment in early intervention programmes provides excellent value for money and should be considered as an additional stream of care within the specialist mental health services. Approximately 10% of all children and adolescents 6-16 years have a diagnosable Mental Health disorder. 60 – 70% of these young people have not been offered or received any evidence based intervention. Earlier intervention increases the chances of preventing long-term negative outcomes. (Service provider survey respondent)*

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

In the policy document, Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures 2014-2020, the Government recognises the importance of early intervention strategies through the life cycle and through second chance education to enable children to achieve across the five national outcomes (p65). The policy document also acknowledges that positive experiences during adolescence can also somewhat counter negative experiences or deficiencies during childhood, thus reinforcing its importance as a key stage of interventions of all kinds including 'second chances' (p15). The importance of promoting resilience in children and young people is also recognised (ibid).

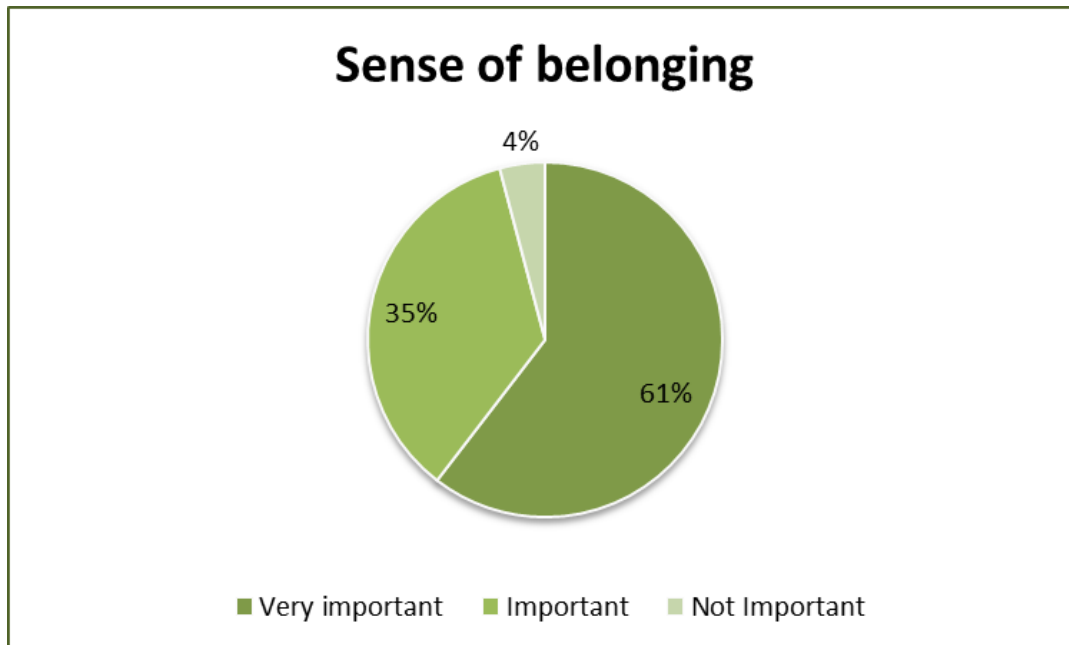
**Chart 9: Importance of 'a sense of accomplishment'**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Youth Survey Respondents)

One of the questions in the youth survey conducted as part of the consultation process asked the respondents to rate in terms of importance 'a sense of accomplishment'. The majority (53%) rated 'a sense of accomplishment as being very important, followed by 42% that rated it important and 5% rated it as not important.

**Chart 10: Importance of 'a sense of belonging'**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Youth Survey Respondents)

Some of the literature reviewed in relation to the concept of a 'sense of belonging' provides evidence that 'it predicts how meaningful life is perceived to be' (Lambert et al, 2017<sup>43</sup>), whilst others such as Sanders and Mumford (2016<sup>44</sup>) explore the concept of a sense of belonging as it relates to the way marginalised youth explain their experiences of school and an understanding of resilience for vulnerable youth. Other studies explore the concept in relation to sexual orientation (eg Hahm et al, 2017) and racial identity (Hunter et al, 2017). Fostering a sense of belonging is an important factor in ensuring that children and young people are achieving in learning and development. The majority of youth survey respondents identified 'a sense of belonging' as being very important to them (61%), followed by 35% rating it as important and 4% as not important.

#### **4.1.5 Young Asylum Seekers**

A body of research exists in relation to the Direct Provision system of accommodating Asylum Seekers in Ireland that explores issues such as overcrowding, diet, poverty, mental and physical health, parents' relationships with educators, family life, rights and much more. A report published

<sup>43</sup> Lambert, NM., Stillman, TF., Hicks, JA, Kamble, S., Baumeister, RF, Fincham, FD 'To belong is to matter – Sense of belonging enhances meaning in life', *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, Vol 39, Issue 11 (2013) accessed online 17/4/17

<sup>44</sup> Sanders, J, and Mumford, R, 'Fostering a sense of belonging at school – five orientations to practice that assist vulnerable youth to create a positive student identity.' *School Psychology International*. Vol 37, Issue 2 (2016). accessed online 17/4/17

by The College of Psychiatry in Ireland (2006)<sup>45</sup> noted that Asylum Seekers have higher levels of psychopathology than the general population and that they suffer higher rates of anxiety and depressive disorders than other sections of society with up to ten times the level of post-traumatic disorders than other sections of society. Moran et al (2017)<sup>46</sup> argue that *'the Direct Provision system adversely affects children's resilience, stifling their educational, emotional and social development'*. The length of time spent by children and young people in Direct Provision compounds this. There is one Direct Provision centre in Mayo, based in Ballyhaunis and a focus group was held with a group of young people there as part of the consultation process. The majority of children attend primary school in neighbouring villages which reduces their opportunity for interaction and contact with children their own age in the town. This has always been the case since the Direct Provision Centre was first opened. At post-primary level the young people attend the local community school, in Ballyhaunis town. At the time of the Mayo CYPP being developed, there was no afterschool provision in Ballyhaunis, including homework clubs.

The length of time spent by the focus group participants (ages ranged from 13 to 19 years) in the Direct Provision centre ranged from just over 4 years to 3 weeks. Their collective wish as young people living in Mayo could be summed up by one response which was *"to get out of here if that's possible"* (referring to the Direct Provision Centre) and their greatest fear was that of *'deportation'*. The young people also spoke about their desire to learn more about the town and county where they resided. The needs expressed primarily focused around outdoor activities and included *'going on trips around Mayo, hiking and mountain trekking, going to an activity centre to try new things like zip wires, take swimming lessons and then have a day at the seaside'*. Other interests vocalised were *'music and singing lessons'*.

#### **4.1.6 Young Travellers**

According to the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy (2017-2021), just 13% of Traveller children complete second-level education, compared to 92% in the settled community. Of those who drop out of second level, 55% have left by the age of 15 years, and the number of Traveller children who progress to third level represents just 1% of their community. The National Plan for Equity of Access to Higher Education 2015-2019 aims to more than double the number of Traveller students attending part-time or full-time third-level courses from 35 to 80 by 2019. Over two thirds (67.3%) of Traveller children lived in families where the mother had either no formal education or only primary education (SONC, 2016)<sup>47</sup>. The low enrolment of Traveller children in pre-schools has been noted by the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children, (2016)<sup>48</sup> as a concern as Traveller children are entering primary school already at a disadvantage and anecdotally is higher in Mayo. This would warrant further investigation.

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<sup>45</sup> The mental health service requirements for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Ireland, The College of Psychiatry of Ireland (2009) accessed online 17/4/17

<sup>46</sup> Moran, L., Garrity, S., McGregor, C., and Devaney, C., *'Hoping for a better tomorrow: a qualitative study of stressors, informal social support and parental coping in a Direct Provision Centre in the West of Ireland.'* Journal of Family Studies, Published online January 2017 accessed 16/7/17

<sup>47</sup> State of our Nation's Children (2016)

<sup>48</sup> Houses of the Oireachtas, Joint Committee on Health and Children, Report on Affordable and Quality Childcare, January 2016. Accessed 17/4/17

Some of the findings emerging from the focus group with young Travellers would support the above. All of the young Travellers that participated were early school leavers (ie they left school on reaching 16 years of age). The majority are what is termed a NEET (ie a young person Not in Education, Employment or Training). Their stories and experiences of school and school life were all negative. They did not feel that they belonged and one young person spoke of how depressed he was at school and summed up his daily experience as *“we’re there for forty minutes at a time – just four of us – not understanding what they’re saying (referencing the teachers) and just having to sit there. To be honest I’m depressed and bored to death at school. I don’t want to go no more. I’m not learning anything. Imagine being stuck there for forty minutes and how bad that is, and then imagine what it’s like when you have a double class!”*. The young Travellers all discussed the importance of having a qualification in order to get a job. According to them, the local Youthreach provides a learning space that will allow them to get a qualification. However, there is currently a waiting list to get into the Youthreach Centre (Ballina) and two of the young Travellers have been out of school for the past two years and are on the waiting list. The young Travellers that participated in the focus group are members of the local Involve Youth Service. They have taken part in Nutrition and Cooking classes and regularly go to the gym. They also spoke about their friends who have also left school and who are not involved in anything and how long the day seems without a routine. They stated that if training was organised with them, they would be able to get their friends involved. The discussion was also informed by their stories, negative in relation to discrimination, treatment in shops and public places, and positive in relation to their association with the Involve Youth Service and the supports, skills and confidence they gained as a result. Cross reference Action 4.1.

#### **4.1.7 Other Education Needs identified during the research process**

In relation to this outcome, needs identified in the parents’ survey responses included comments around *the lack of choice with current curriculum*; articulating that it is primarily focused on exam grades and not enough around practical skills (such as critical thinking and life skills); not enough emphasis on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and a need to provide pathways to apprenticeships. Additional needs in relation to this outcome that were identified by young people during the research and consultation process was access to practical Life skills training that would help them to prepare for independent living eg Budgeting; cookery/nutrition (transition from home to college and/or work), cyberbullying and online safety; and sexual health.

Supports for students with differing learning needs e.g. Dyslexia was identified as a need by parents and service providers. Children and young people need to be able to access timely and appropriate supports to enable them to participate and achieve in education and to live a fuller life.

Local priority areas identified for CYPP 2018-2020

#### **2.1 Young people not attending school**

#### **2.2 Life skills for young people**

#### 4.1.8 Young People not attending school

A number of meetings were facilitated by the CYPSC Coordinator and education providers to better understand the data presented in the socio-demographic profile in relation to school absenteeism. There has been an overall reduction in the levels of school absenteeism in the period 2010-2016. Since 2013, there are two Educational Welfare Officers (EWOs) providing support in Mayo which is positive. It has led to improved engagement with schools and more reporting which results in more young people being targeted, but also results in an increase in the numbers. Post-primary schools with DEIS status have the added advantage of getting support from the School Completion Programme and from Home School Liaison. Reduced timetabling was raised by education providers as a real issue, particularly in larger towns such as Ballina, which impacts negatively on young people. It was also reported that some young people have difficulties coping at school, many are presenting with anxiety and mental health issues with the issue of school refusal becoming more common.

Feedback from the NEETs Focus Group and the Young Traveller Focus Group also informed the planning process and identification of priorities. The CYPSC Education and Learning Subgroup will explore factors influencing poor educational outcomes for young people and to agree and implement appropriate solutions to address the following:

- Early School Leaving<sup>49</sup>
- Anxiety and poor mental health in the young person and school refusal
- Guidance Counselling
- Perceived inconsistencies in how data for the school absenteeism metric are being reported by schools
- Reduced timetabling
- Impact of supports for DEIS versus non-DEIS schools
- Difficulties in getting educational assessments for students presenting with learning difficulties and challenging behaviour
- Transitions programmes for all 6<sup>th</sup> class students to support the transition to second level school. Programmes to support secondary to Further education or training.
- Engaging and involving parents. Supporting parents in developing awareness around the transition to third level and the many other options available. Thus, reducing the levels of anxiety experienced by all.

One of the service provider survey responses summarised the issues in relation to school absenteeism/early school leaving as follows:

*[There is a] Huge gap in education services where mainstream school does not suit certain young people, they may be too young for Youthreach. Alternative education places for young people with challenging behaviour / those who really struggle to conform to mainstream education. (Service provider survey respondent)*

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<sup>49</sup> Definition: Young person that has finished their education at the legal age but without any formal qualifications



#### **4.1.9 Lifeskills for young people**

Some of the young people consulted identified the need for Lifeskills training that would support them in becoming more independent and better able to cope with new responsibilities once they transitioned from post-primary school to college or work. A number of parents also raised the need for Lifeskills training in the survey responses. Comments from the young people and parents in relation to this need are presented below:

*To have school education include things you will need to know in life, like first aid, what's in the news? We need to be taught about other cultures, sexualities and the difference between sexes and genders. (Youth survey respondent)*

*We need education about the practical side of going to college, like budgeting, cooking, managing in a new learning environment as well as mental health and cyberbullying (Youth Focus Group participant)*

*There is not enough education on general wellbeing including mental health, the importance of nutrition & exercise, sexual health or appropriate online behaviours or sexual behaviours. (Parents' survey respondent)*

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

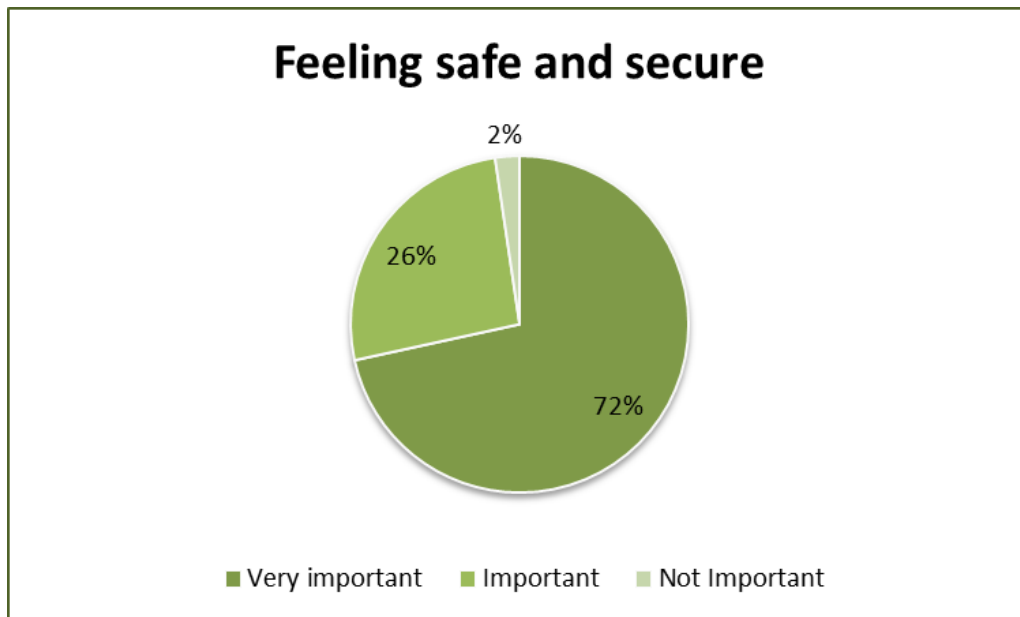
The nature and quality of family life influences not only how a child copes with life growing up, but also helps determine the quality of their relationships (Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures 2014-2020 p77). The Government recognises the importance of supporting parents to deal with a changing and technology driven world so that they can protect their children from harm and also recognises the need to support children who experience trauma as a result of other life experiences such as their parents' relationship breakdown, bereavement, abuse, exposure to domestic violence or taken into care (ibid). Providing support for parents is one of the six transformational goals.

The priority needs under this outcome have been informed by the socio-demographic data, the survey responses (youth, parents and service providers) as well as the Focus Groups facilitated with service providers and young people.

#### **4.1.10 Responses from young people**

In the youth survey, the respondents were asked in one question to identify how important it was to them to 'feel safe and secure' and in a follow-on question, how important it was to 'feel safe and protected from bullying and discrimination'. The results are presented in charts 11 and 12 below.

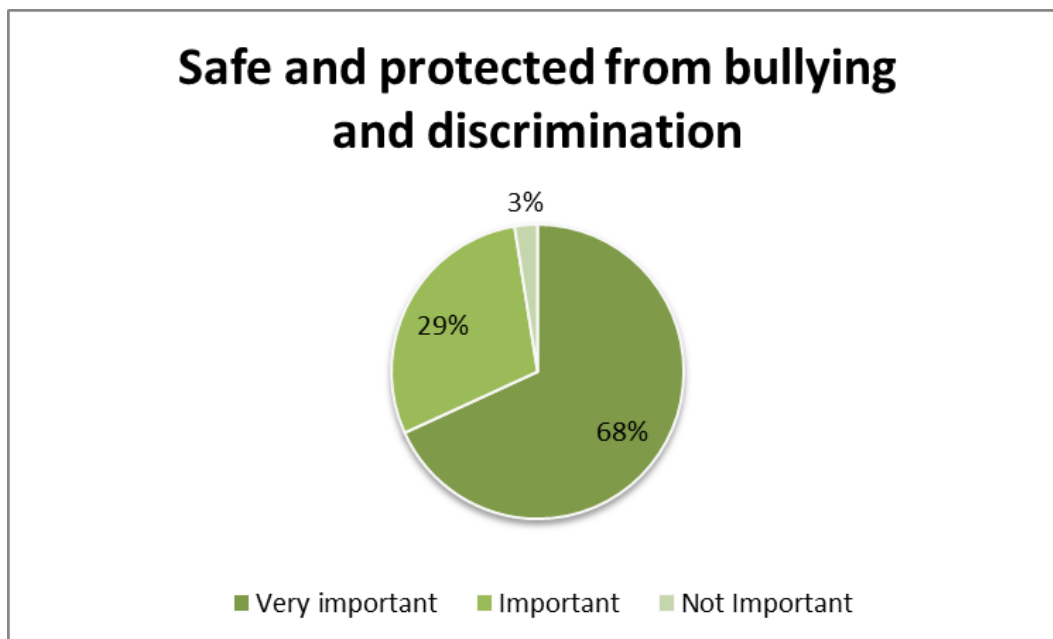
**Chart 11: Feeling Safe and Secure**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Youth Survey Respondents)

The majority (72%) rated 'feeling safe and secure' as very important; followed by (26%) important and just 2% rated it as not important. See Chart 11 above.

**Chart 12: Safe and protected from bullying and discrimination**



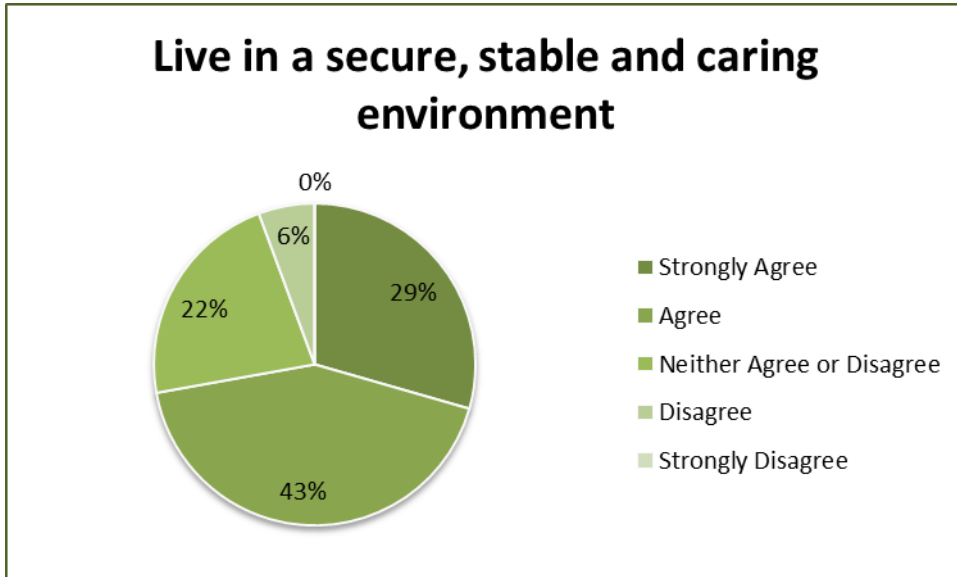
Source: Mayo CYPP (Youth Survey Respondents)

The youth survey respondents were also asked to rate the level of importance of feeling safe and protected from bullying and discrimination. The majority (68%) rated this as very important; followed by (29%) important and just 3% rated it as not important. See Chart 12.

#### 4.1.11 Responses from parents Safety and Security

Two questions in the parents' survey focused on the safety and security of children and young people. Their responses were analysed and are presented below in Charts 13 and 14.

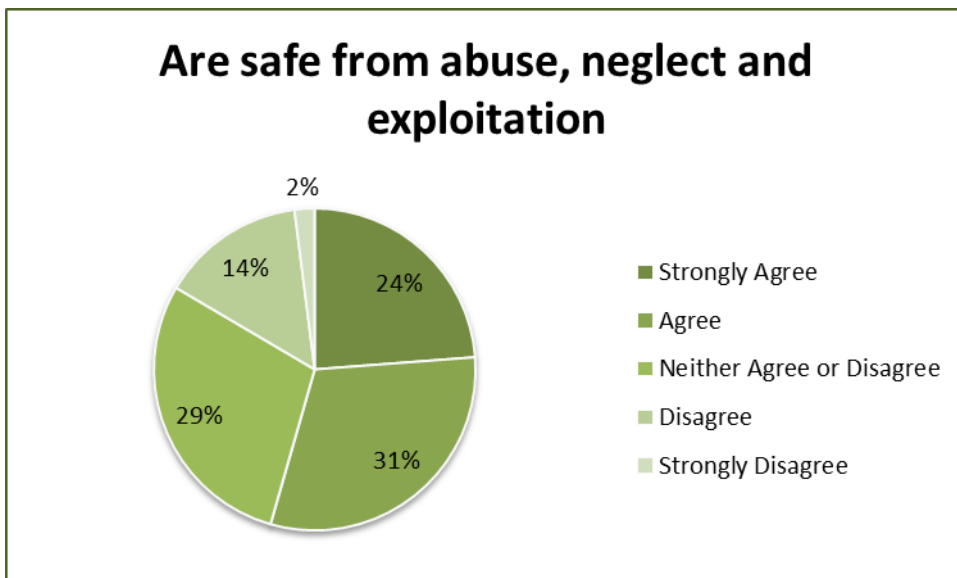
**Chart 13: Children and young people live in a secure, stable and caring environment**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Parents' Survey Respondents)

In the parents' survey, 72% either strongly agreed (29%) or agreed (43%) with the statement that children and young people in Mayo *live in a secure, stable and loving environment* - See Chart 13.

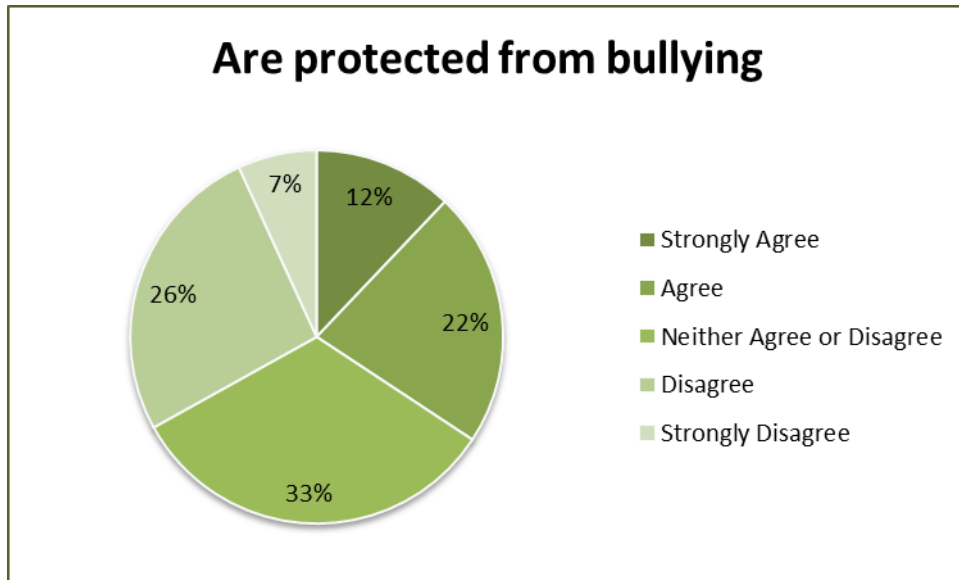
**Chart 14: Children and young people are safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Parents' Survey Respondents)

When asked to respond to the statement that *children and young people are safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation in Mayo*, a lower percentage (55%) either strongly agreed (24%) or agreed (31%) with it – See Chart 14 above.

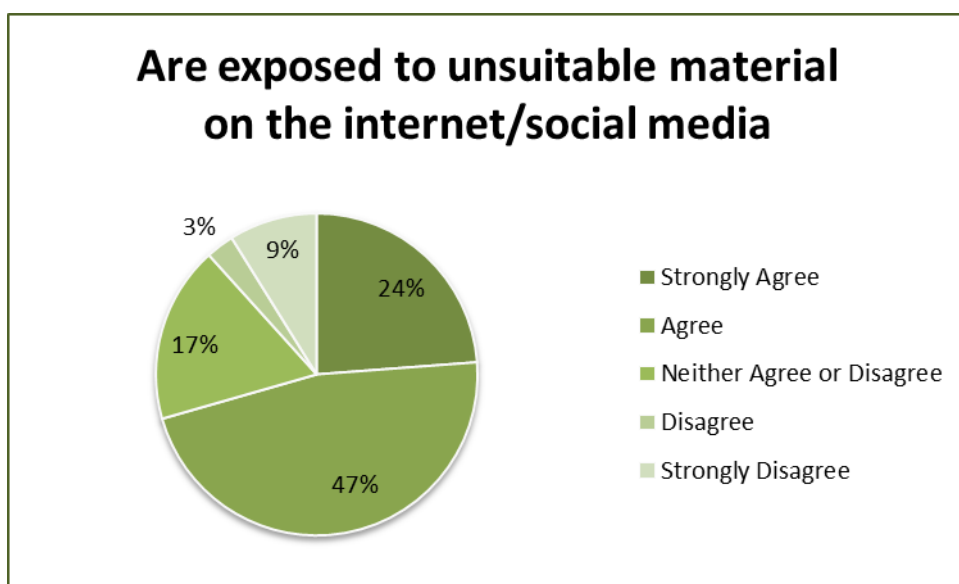
**Chart 15: Children and young people are protected from bullying**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Parents' Survey Respondents)

There was a three-way split with the responses to a question on bullying with 34% either strongly agreeing (12%) or agreeing (22%) with the statement that *children and young people are protected from bullying*, 33% choose to neither agree or disagree and 33% either disagreed or strongly disagreed. See Chart 15 above.

**Chart 16: Children and young people are exposed to unsuitable material on the internet/social media**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Parents' Survey Respondents)

When asked about the *exposure of children and young people to unsuitable material on the internet/Social Media*, 71% of the respondents either strongly agreed (24%) or agreed (47%) with the statement. See Chart 16.

Cost, distance and time were the main challenges identified by parents in accessing services for children and young people. Achill Island and the Barony of Erris are both located on the west coast and without access to transport, services that are located in larger towns such as Westport, Ballina and Castlebar can be difficult for parents (and children and young people) to access.

Parents also identified the need for supports around themes such as:

- Drugs and Alcohol Misuse
- Skills to deal with new technologies/Social Media
- Anti-bullying workshops

#### **4.1.12 Responses from Service Providers**

The main gaps/barriers in relation to service users identified by the Service Providers according to the survey responses were fear, stigma, distance, lack of knowledge of services, red tape and qualifying criteria. One survey respondent summed up the issues succinctly as follows:

*“Stigma, geography, knowledge, empowerment, isolation, discrimination.”*  
(Service provider survey respondent)

In addition, three geographic areas, namely Swinford, Erris and Achill were identified as being in need of Family Support Services and Achill, Erris and East Mayo were identified as in need of youth services.

Some of the service providers also noted that there can be confusion around what services are available and how to access them and this issue was also noted by some parents and young people in the survey responses. One parent’s response in relation to this was that:

*“It is difficult to know what services are actually available, and often you may have heard of a service but not know anything about it or how to access it or even know if it’s relevant to you or your needs. When my daughter needed bereavement counselling, it was really difficult to know how to go about getting information on counselling services”* (Parents’ survey respondent)

The recently established Child and Family Support Networks in different areas of the County should in time result in more clarity around what is available and how to access the different services leading to better outcomes for children, young people and their families. A number of activities have already commenced that will improve access to information about services (eg Social Media Workshops). The challenge of internal and external communications is something that is also addressed in the section under Change Management.

Three priority areas have been identified under outcome 3 and they are:

- 3.1 Prevention, Partnership and Family Support**
- 3.2 Parenting support and engagement**

### **3.3 Safeguarding children and young people**

#### **4.1.13 Prevention, Partnership and Family Support**

The objective of this priority area is to continue improve the referral mechanisms and pathways to ensure that children, young people and their parents/guardians are offered the support most appropriate to their needs. The Child and Family Support Networks<sup>iv</sup> (CFSN) bring together all the services that play a role in the lives of children and families and are organised on a geographic basis<sup>50</sup>. By networking, communicating, identifying gaps/issues and working in partnership to come up with solutions, outcomes for children, young people and their families should be improved. CYPSC will support the role of the CFSNs. The CFSNs will also provide a useful platform for sharing information so that all providers of services to children, young people and their families are aware of the different and most appropriate pathways and the Meitheal<sup>v</sup> (See Endnote page 160) national practice model. One of the objectives of the Meitheal is to ensure that the needs and strengths of children and their families are effectively identified and understood and responded to in a timely way so that children and families get the help and support needed to improve children's outcomes and realise their rights. The model is also intended to avoid duplication and particularly the need for families to repeatedly retell their story<sup>51</sup>. This will meet some of the needs identified during the CYPSC consultation process.

#### **4.1.14 Parenting support and engagement**

Common Sense Parenting is an evidence informed parenting programme delivered at present in Mayo. The need to recruit and train members of minority communities (such as Travellers and migrants) as facilitators for this programme was identified during the research process. The socio-demographic data (CSO 2016) showed that Mayo had a much higher rate of Travellers than the State per 1,000 (10.1 to 6.6). Mayo reported a slightly higher percentage of Irish nationals aged 0-24 years (91.5%), Lithuanian (0.8%), Polish (2.1%) and UK (2.0%) compared to the State (90.0%, 0.7%, 2.0% and 1.0% respectively) and was lower in percentage terms for all other nationalities. Accessing and understanding services that are not in a person's first language can be a challenge and it is recommended that the Common Sense Parenting material be translated into other languages to make it more accessible for parents as well as training members from migrant communities to become facilitators. Additional modules could be developed for the Common Sense Parenting Programme that would take into account the needs identified by parents for support around topics such as bullying, skills to deal with new technologies and workshops to be better informed around Drugs and Alcohol misuse. Difficulties in accessing information about services was another challenge raised by parents and by service providers and one of the recommendations was to establish an online 'hub' of parenting resources for the county would improve this access for parents and service providers alike.

#### **4.1.15 Safeguarding Children and Young People**

This section outlines the needs in relation to the implementation of the Children's First Act 2015 and unmet needs for children, young people and families in relation to Domestic and Sexual Violence.

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<sup>50</sup> At present, there are four networks in Mayo

<sup>51</sup> [http://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Tusla\\_Meitheal\\_A\\_National\\_Practice\\_Model.pdf](http://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Tusla_Meitheal_A_National_Practice_Model.pdf)

#### **4.1.15.1 Mandatory reporting**

The Children's First Act 2015 places additional responsibilities on all organisations working with children such as ensuring that a Child Safeguarding Statement (CSS) and supporting policies are in place. The CSS has to be reviewed every two years. Mayo CYPSC will work with local agencies and organisations to provide support and coordinate the local implementation of the Children First Act 2015.

#### **4.1.15.2 Domestic and Sexual Violence**

Service providers across the county have stressed the need to raise awareness of the impact of Domestic/Sexual Violence on Children, Young people and families. Ensuring the 'voice of the child' is heard; especially in relation to court mandated access with the abuser was named by a number of services. Issues such as teen sexual violence, consent and the importance of developing healthy, loving relationships were identified. Young People in rural areas also highlighted the need for easy and confidential access to information around sexual health.

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

Opportunities for ongoing education and training are part of a national commitment to lifelong learning (Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures 2014-2020) and the Government recognises the strong correlation between educational attainment, employment and future earnings. It also recognises the importance of providing flexible opportunities to continue formal education, particularly for early school leavers as well as others and in providing an alternative approach and learning environment for many early school leavers (p92).

The CSO Live Register data at the end of August 2017 showed that there were 864 young people less than 25 years of age on the Live Register, representing 10.3% of the total persons on the Live Register in Mayo at that time.

#### **4.1.16 Responses from young people**

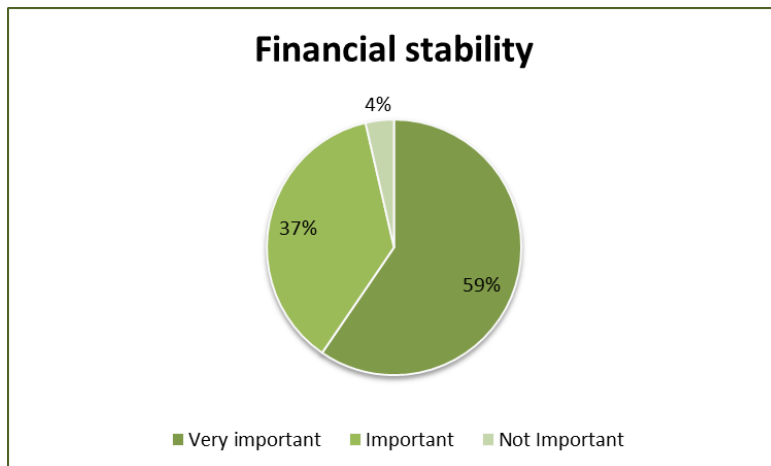
The research and consultation process undertaken for the Mayo CYPP engaged directly through Focus Groups with young people who are often not included as follows:

- Young Single Mothers
- Young People (who were NEETs and were on a short-term, part-time training course)
- Young Travellers

The learning from this process is that the category of NEETs can often include young people from different backgrounds, education levels, life experiences and outlooks. This means that the needs are different and a 'one size fits all' approach will not result in the best outcomes for the young people who fall into this category.

Mayo CYPSC captured additional data through the administration of the online survey to young people and the following charts present the levels of importance that the young people rated different statements in relation to Outcome 4.

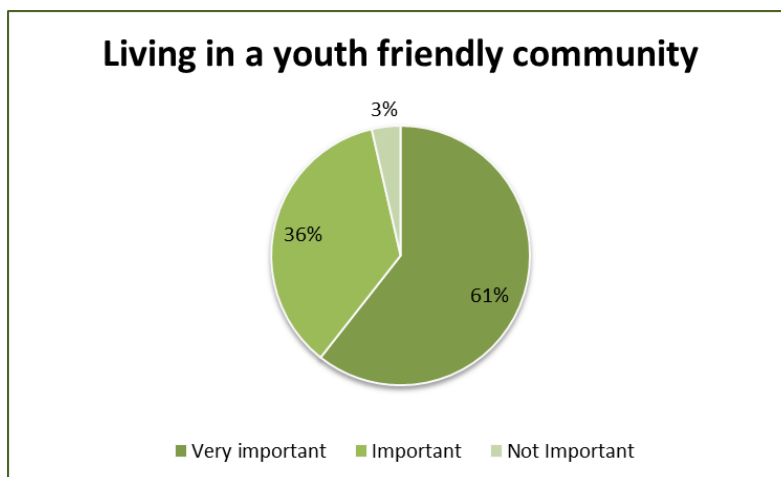
**Chart 17: Level of importance 'financial stability'**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Youth Survey Respondents)

The majority of young people (59%) that responded in the youth survey rated 'Financial stability' as being very important with 37% rating it as important and 4% as not important. See Chart 17.

**Chart 18: Level of importance 'living in a youth friendly community'**



Source: Mayo CYPP (Youth Survey Respondents)

The majority of young people (61%) that responded in the youth survey rated 'Living in a youth friendly community' as being very important with 36% rating it as important and 3% as not important. See Chart 18.

When responding to unmet needs, one in three of the young people that participated in the survey identified a need for *Services for Unemployed Young People* (33.3%). Additional suggestions made by young people included:

*Courses for young welders, sprayers, panel beaters, carpenters. (Youth Survey Respondent)*

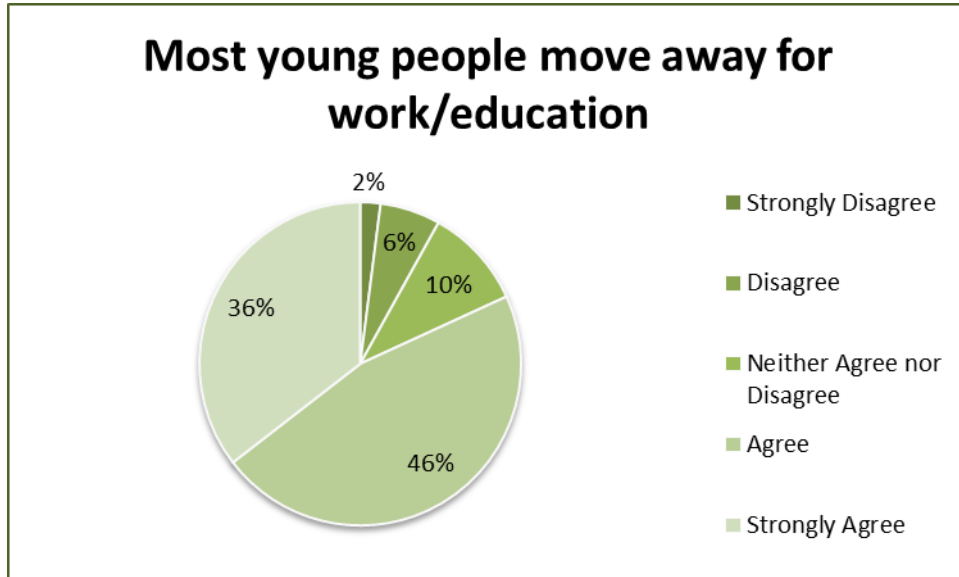
*Training centres specifically for young people, such as the Ballina Training Centre but for young people only (Youth Survey Respondent)*



#### 4.1.17 Responses from parents

Some of the parents' responses identified needs and gaps in relation to career guidance and supports for unemployed young people.

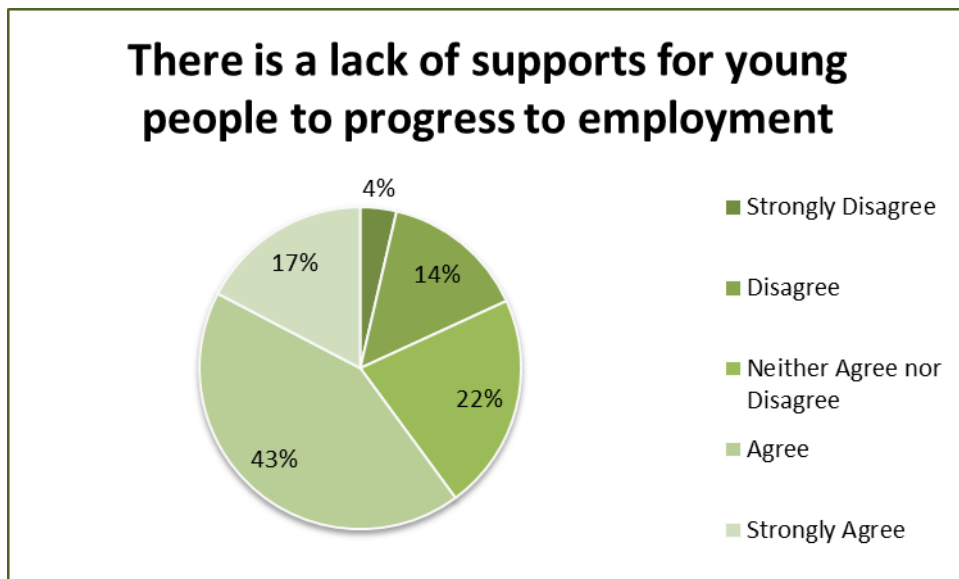
Chart 19: Most young people move away for work/education



Source: Mayo CYPP (Parents' Survey Respondents)

When asked to respond to the statement that *most young people move away for work/education*, the majority of respondents to the parents survey (82%) either Strongly Agreed (36%) or Agreed (46%) with the statement, with 10% neither agreeing nor disagreeing and 8% either disagreeing (6%) or Strongly Disagreeing (2%). See Chart 19.

Chart 20: There is a lack of supports for young people to progress to employment



Source: Mayo CYPP (Parents' Survey Respondents)

When asked to respond to the statement that *there is a lack of supports for young people to progress to employment*, the majority of respondents to the parents survey (60%) either Strongly Agreed (17%) or Agreed (43%) with the statement, with 22% neither agreeing nor disagreeing and 18% either disagreeing (14%) or Strongly Disagreeing (4%). See Chart 20.

Parents were also given an opportunity to provide additional comments in relation to services for this outcome. Many of the comments were similar across the five outcomes in relation to lack of knowledge about the services that are available, most services located in larger towns so transport is an issue, opportunities for young people with disabilities are limited. Some comments submitted by parents in the survey are presented below:

*There is a gap in services once young people leave school, regardless of age. There is no equivalent to a school guidance councillor [sic] once they leave which could be helpful for a lot of people trying to search for available services etc (Parents' survey respondent)*

*There are not enough services for those with physical and intellectual disability. (Parents' survey respondent)*

#### **4.1.18 Responses from Service Providers**

A common challenge emerging from the consultation with service providers is that it can be difficult to identify; access and engage with young people in the NEETs category by virtue of the fact that they are not engaged with any mainstream services. South West Mayo Development Company piloted a part-time training initiative for NEETs in the Castlebar area (Foundation for Life) in 2017. This evidence informed model will be further developed during the lifespan of the CYPP and will be formally evaluated in 2018.

One priority areas has been identified to be addressed under this Outcome in the Mayo CYPP 2018-2020 which is:

#### **4.1 Young People (16-24 years) not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETs)**

##### **4.1.19 Young People not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETs)**

The priority issue to be addressed focuses on young people that are Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETs). This priority area will also be informed from the learning in Action 2.1: Young People not attending school and will be informed by the most recent Pobal publication "Best practice for working with NEETs under the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) which was launched in October 2017. It will also be informed by the results from the proposed evaluation of Foundation for Life.

Mayo CYPSC will support the establishment of a Local Training Initiative targeting Early School Leavers in Ballina (Ballina has the highest level of youth unemployment in the county, with 32% of all young people under 25 years on the Live Register at the end of August 2017, number = 276 ). This

will be an alternative learning programme; the young people involved will be facilitated to design the modules ensuring that the providers/implementers listen to and involve the young people (aligned with transformational goal 3: Listen to and involve children and young people).

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

The policy framework (Better Outcomes, Better Futures 2014-2020) recognises that children and young people should be supported and encouraged to play a full role in society. It advocates that children and young people, through their choices and determination, can heavily influence their own lives now and in the future. It recognises the value to society of promoting equality and diversity, supporting children and young people to develop their own identity and to be free from discrimination. One of the aims (5.3) is that children and young people are civically engaged, socially and environmentally conscious (pp99-102). Mayo CYPSC approached consultation with children and young people as part of the planning process based on the Lundy's Model of Participation as outlined in the National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making 2015-2020.

The Mayo CYPSC has identified the following priority areas:

- 5.1 Voice of children and young people 0-24 years**
- 5.2 Connecting and respecting seldom heard children and young people**
- 5.3 Rural Transport**

### **4.1.20 Voice of children and young people**

The policy framework (Better Outcomes, Better Futures 2014-2020) notes that children and young people should be supported and encouraged to play a full role in society, recognising that they themselves through their choices and determination, can heavily influence their own lives now and in the future. This will involve the inclusion of the voice of children and young people of all ages using the appropriate structures and mechanisms. The Children and Young Persons Advocacy Group<sup>52</sup> undertook research in 2017 "An investigation into what young people in County Mayo want services and the adults who engage with children and young people to know" which was youth led. The research findings were formally presented at a Conference on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and included 8 key messages of what young people want adults to know (See Appendix VI). The tagline emerging was "Listen ..... just listen".

Mayo CYPSC will ensure that the most vulnerable and marginalised children and young people will be enabled to participate and have their voice heard. This will include participation of children and

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<sup>52</sup> A joint Tusla and Foróige project

young people in the planning and development of services, public spaces, the environment and decisions that affect them. **'Youth friendly zones'** as a concept was identified in the research process whereby young people would be given an opportunity to work with local community groups and statutory agencies to ensure that community and public spaces are meeting the needs of children and young people. The research also identified the need to have artistic and creative activities available as an alternative to sports.

#### **4.1.21 Connecting and respecting young people**

Many children and young people contribute significantly to their communities and are often keenly interested in social, political and environmental issues, envisioning the kind of world they want to be part of and taking action to create such a world (Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures 2014-2020 p102). The Government recognises the value of facilitating the active participation of children and young people in decisions that affect their individual and collective lives. Young people need opportunities to engage in meaningful civic discourse that contributes to policy-making. It recognises the importance of encouraging greater participation, particularly of young women, in public life and in decision-making roles. Outdoor learning spaces should be a feature of the lives of children and young people to raise their environmental consciousness (ibid).

A need emerging throughout the consultation process that cuts across different outcomes is for more local and free activities for children and young people. Costs, distance and lack of time are the three main factors that parents identified as specific challenges for them that can prevent their children/young people from being active. The main factors that prevent participation according to the youth survey participants were 'Friends not taking part', 'Distance from services' and a 'lack of services in my area'. The main factors that encourage involvement in youth services are that they are 'enjoyable', 'friends taking part' and that they are 'free or cheap'. The service mapping process identified some geographic areas where there were deficits in youth service provision and these included Ballyhaunis, Swinford and East Mayo, Achill and Erris.

The following data was also collected in the parents' and youth survey responses:

- 54.5% of the youth survey respondents would like to see adventure/activity clubs for young people
- 53.4% of the youth survey respondents would like to have a youth café (further exploration of this concept through the focus groups found that the young people wanted a dedicated space where they could hang out without being judged and that it would be a space to relax even if the young person was not a member of a structured youth group/service).
- 46% of the parents agreed with the statement that *children and young people in their local community are involved in the planning of activities*
- 80% of the parents agreed with the statement that *we live in a family friendly community*
- 61% of young people deemed it *very important to them to live in a youth friendly community*

The inclusion of marginalised children and young people in the work of CYPSC was cited as a priority during the planning and consultation process. It was recognised that some organisations already

have systems and protocols in place that promote inclusion resulting in equality of opportunity and outcomes. Mayo CYPSC also recognises the importance of public sector duty as set out in the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014. It was suggested that the use of an Ethnic Identifier by service providers would enable a baseline to be established that could be used to measure progress in relation to inclusion of ethnic minority children and young people. This concept is at the preliminary discussion stage and warrants further exploration and agreement by CYPSC prior to becoming actionable.

#### **4.1.22 Rural Transport**

Mayo is a predominately rural county and the lack of a rural and integrated public transport system leads to isolation especially for young people living in rural areas. This is an issue that was identified by young people, parents and service providers. Mayo CYPSC will ensure that the needs of young people in the county is communicated and that their voices are heard in the development of a Local Transport Strategy to be developed by Mayo Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

### **Change Management**

This is the first Children and Young People’s Plan prepared by Mayo CYPSC. The learning from the process has identified aspects of the work of the CYPSC that needs to be addressed during the implementation of the plan. These are covered in greater detail in the sub-sections below and are:

#### **Interagency Working and Collaboration**

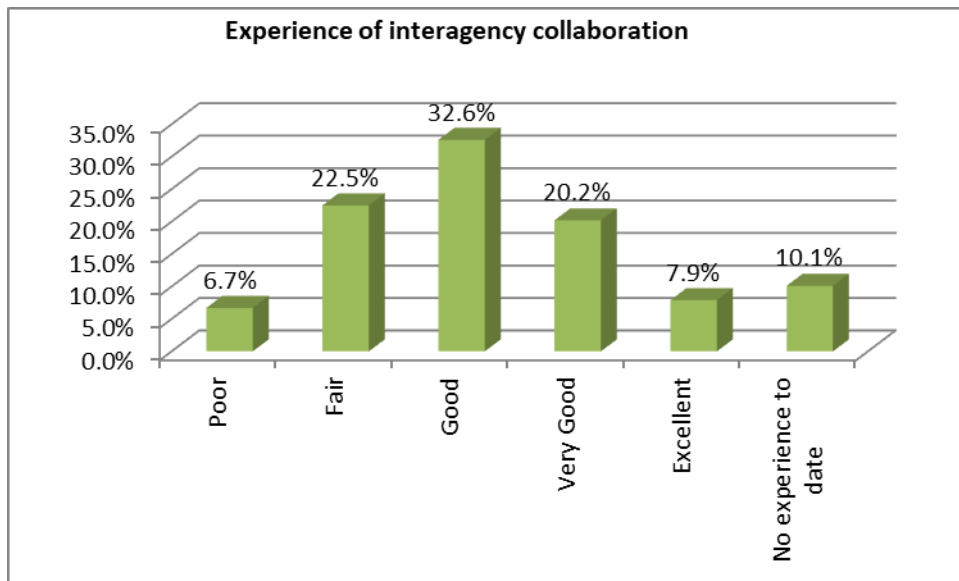
#### **Information, Research and Communications**

#### **Advocacy and Influencing Policy**

#### **4.1.23 Interagency Working and collaboration**

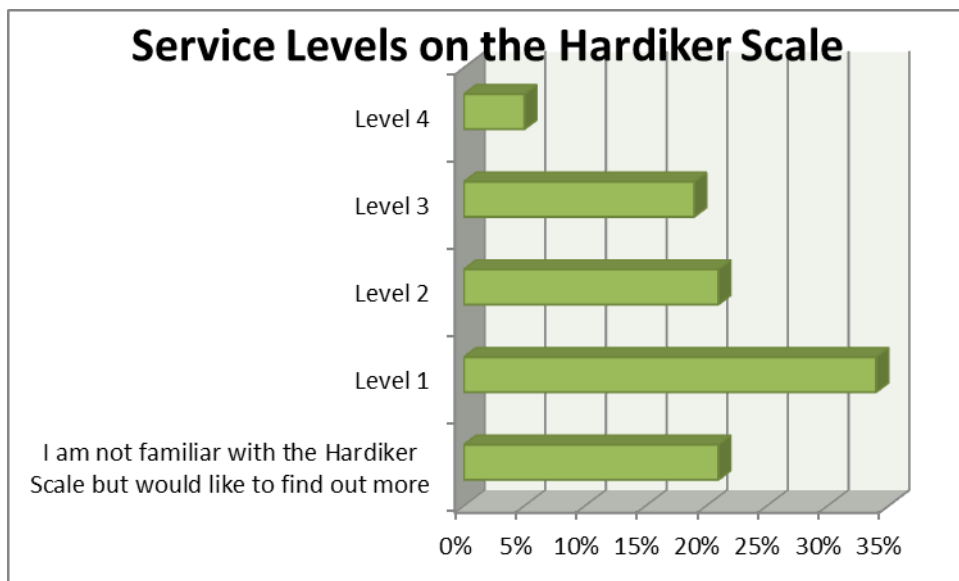
The objective is to enhance coordination and collaboration in the planning and delivery of services by gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges and benefits of collaborative working. The service provider survey results show that 29.2% of the service providers rated their experience of interagency collaboration as Poor (6.7%) and Fair (22.5%) with 10.1% having no previous experience. The remaining responses indicated that their experiences were good (32.6%), very good (20.2%) and excellent (7.9%) which is positive in relation to working together in the future to ensure better outcomes for children and young people. In addition, just over one-fifth (21%) of the service providers that participated in the survey responded that they were not familiar with the Hardiker Scale and would like to find out more. This identifies the need to provide additional information and training on the Hardiker Scale. This should lead to the development of a common language and interpretation of the Hardiker Levels. This should result in data being more accurately captured in relation to services targeted at different levels of the scale. See Chart 21 and Chart 22.

**Chart 21: Experience of Interagency Collaboration**



Source: Mayo CYP (Service provider’s survey respondents)

**Chart 22: Service Levels on Hardiker Scale**



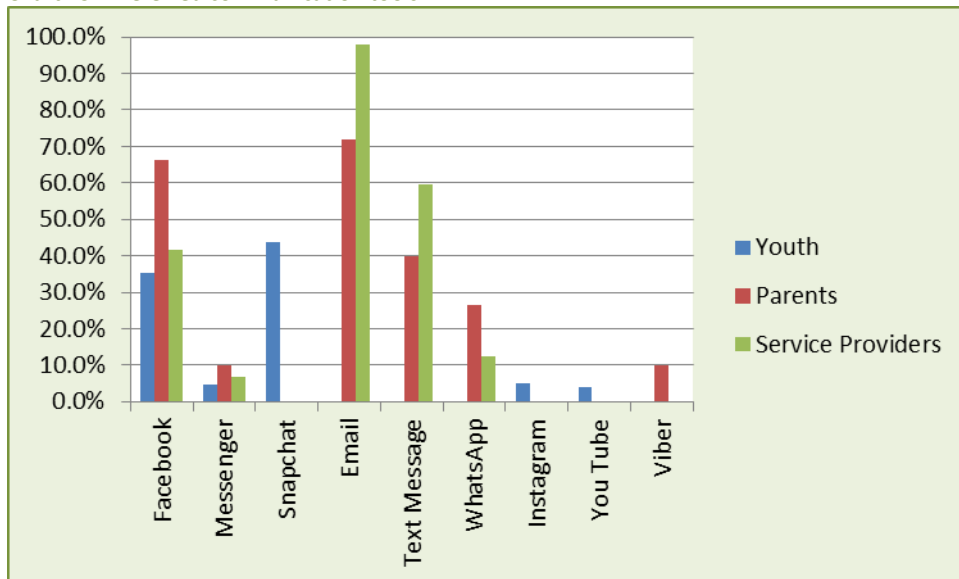
Source: Mayo CYP (Service provider’s survey respondents)

#### **4.1.24 Information, Research and Communications**

The main objective under this priority is to implement changes that will improve internal and external communications in relation to CYPSC. The surveys for young people, parents and service providers showed that numerous tools are necessary to establish an appropriate external Communications Strategy. Service Providers prefer to be communicated with using email or Text Message. The preferred options for Parents were Facebook, Text Message or WhatsApp. Young People opted for Social Media platforms with Snapchat scoring highest, followed by Facebook and Messenger. See Chart 23.

Mayo CYPSC has identified the need to develop templates for feedback/reports at meetings that will improve internal communications between the Subgroups and the CYPSC.

**Chart 23: Preferred communication tools**



Source: Mayo CYPSC (Youth, Parents and Service Providers Survey Respondents)

#### 4.1.25 Advocacy and Influencing Policy

A number of gaps identified by Mayo CYPSC were omitted from the final plan as they were deemed to be systemic issues and more appropriately addressed at national rather than local level such as waiting lists (across a number of sectors), supports provided for DEIS v Non DEIS schools and the need in some cases for similar supports in Non DEIS schools.

The lack of childcare services in rural areas with low population densities (Clare Island was given as an example where the population is too small for a crèche to be established) as well as the Erris region. The challenge around engaging with non-registered childminders was also named during the consultation process by Mayo County Childcare Committee and this reflects the national situation in this sector.

Mayo CYPSC will advocate by liaising with relevant national structures on identified gaps in local service provision.

## 5 Summary of Children and Young People’s Plan for Mayo

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	1.1 Health and Wellbeing 1.2 Outdoor play 0-6 years 1.3 Child and Youth Mental Health 1.4 Parental Mental Health
2. Achieving full potential in learning and development	2.1 Attendance, participation and retention of children and young people at school 2.2 Life skills for young people
3. Safe and protected from harm	3.1 Prevention, Partnership and Family Support 3.2 Parenting support and engagement 3.3 Safeguarding Children and Young People 3.4 Impact of Domestic/Sexual Violence on children and young people
4. Economic security and opportunity	4.1 Young People (aged 16-24) not in Employment, Education or Training (NEETs)
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world	5.1 Voice of children and young people (0-24 years) 5.2 Connecting and Respecting ‘seldom heard’ children and young people 5.3 Rural Transport

	Local Priority Areas
Change Management	Interagency working and collaboration; Information, Research and Communications; Advocacy and influencing policy



Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and Healthy								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals (TG)
Health & Wellbeing	To improve Health and Wellbeing Outcomes for 0-3 years in Mayo	Establish Interagency Working Group	Working Group established Terms of Reference agreed	Agree research framework and develop brief for Health and Wellbeing Plan 0-3 years  Liaise with other CYPSC in CHO2 <sup>53</sup> to ensure a coordinated approach to early years	Jan-Jun 2018	<b>Lead:</b> Active and Healthy Subgroup <b>Partners:</b> LCDC Health and Wellbeing Working Group	Get Ireland Active Healthy Ireland Health Service Breastfeeding Action Plan 2016 -2021 National Maternity Strategy 2016-2026 Tobacco Free Ireland Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan CHO2	Transformational Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
		Publish Health & Wellbeing Plan for 0-3 years	Plan Published	Recruit Consultant and support research and consultation process  Develop, launch and publicise the plan	Sept 2018			
	To support the implementation of national priority Health programmes at a local level	No of actions prioritised  No of actions implemented	No of actions prioritised  No of actions implemented	Implement the actions identified in the Health & Wellbeing Plan 0-3 years  Coordinate the delivery of actions on the Healthy Ireland Framework on behalf of Mayo CYPSC  Work in partnership with Health &	Sept 2018 to Dec 2020			

<sup>53</sup> HSE CHO Area 2 = Galway, Roscommon and Mayo

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and Healthy								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals (TG)
Outdoor Play 0-6 years				Well Being CHO2 to deliver their Healthy Ireland Implementation plan				
	Promote and support the development of natural environments for outdoor play (Urban and Rural) for 0-6 years	Establish Working Group  No of Events organised    Submission prepared	Working Group established  5 Events delivered per annum    Submission made	Terms of Reference and work plan agreed  Organise activities and events in line with work plan  Pilot and test activity trails and adventure/outdoor play days (rural and urban) to suit children of all abilities  Communicate with parents on the importance of outdoor/free play  Advocate for outdoor play in preschool and community settings  Inform the Local Authority Play Strategy	Jan 2018 – Dec 2020  Mar 2018  Jan – Mar 2018  Ongoing  Ongoing  Dec 2018	<b>Lead:</b> GMIT <b>Partners:</b> Active and Healthy Subgroup	Get Ireland Active: National Physical Activity Plan for Ireland	Transformational Goals: 1, 3 and 4

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and Healthy								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals (TG)
Child and Youth Mental Health	To strengthen knowledge and understanding of mental health issues through information, resources, programmes and campaigns	CYPSC Representation on structures	Representation on Mayo Suicide Prevention Alliance and Mindspace Mayo Advisory Group	Share CYPSC Research findings Support the HSE Suicide Prevention Services in the delivery of their Action Plan: (Action 2.1.1b) Support the local implementation of Connecting for Life and the National Mental Health Promotion Strategy Develop template to map the work of all mental health service providers (statutory and voluntary) and identify opportunities for greater collaboration	Jan 2018- Dec 20	Lead: Child and Youth Mental Health Subgroup	A vision for Change Connecting for Life National Mental Health Promotion Strategy Healthy Ireland FRC National Mental Health Programme	Transformational Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4
		No of workshops	Workshops/Information nights in each CFSNs over 3 years	Work with WRDATF to develop local initiatives which prevent, reduce and respond to drug and alcohol issues				
		No of events	1 event held annually	Series of workshops/information nights for parents on Youth mental				

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and Healthy								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals (TG)
				<p>health and wellbeing</p> <p>Training provided to service providers in CSFNs as appropriate</p> <p>Organise annual networking event on Youth Mental Health</p>			<p>Plan 0-3 years (See Action 1.1)</p> <p>WRDATF Family Support Strategy 2017-2020</p> <p>WRDATF Strategic Plan 2017-2020</p>	
	To explore the expansion of the Youth Mental Health Service to include 12-14 year olds	Evidence provided	Rationale provided	<p>Evidence informed rationale provided (including geographical spread and age profile).</p> <p>Identify opportunities for funding</p> <p>Convene meetings with relevant stakeholders</p>	Jan 2018 – Dec 2020	<p><b>Lead: Mindspace Mayo</b></p> <p><b>Partners: CAMHS; HSE; FRCs; MSPA, WRDATF</b></p>		Transformational Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and Healthy								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals (TG)
<b>Parental Mental Health</b>	To reduce the negative impact of poor parental mental health on Children and young people	Resources developed  Programme developed	1 online resource developed Hard copy resources developed  1 programme developed  Engagement of COPMI	Develop and test resources (online and hard copy) and programmes to support children and young people living with COPMI. (Children of Parents with Mental Illness)  Resources adapted for various target groups.  Young people involved in design, testing and implementation	2018 – 2020			

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
<b>Attendance, Participation and Retention of Children and Young people in school</b>	To address absenteeism and Early School Leaving using interagency approaches and solutions	Working Group established  Actions/priorities identified	Working Group established by Mar 2018  Priorities agreed Action plan implemented	Agree priorities to improve attendance, participation and retention of young people at post-primary level	Jan 2018- Dec 2020	<b>Lead:</b> Education and Learning Subgroup  <b>Partners:</b> NEPS, HSCLs, LDC, Mindspace, Mayo Youth Network	National Plan for Education 2016-2019  National Youth Strategy 2015-2020  National Behavioural Support Service  Education and Welfare Service Strategic Plan  DEIS Plan 2017  School Completion Programme Retention Plans	
	To ensure supports are available for children and young people experiencing difficulties in school	Baseline established  % Reduction in school absenteeism at post primary level  Research study completed	Baseline established  Target for % reduction in absenteeism agreed  Research completed and disseminated	Develop common baseline to measure improvements for school attendance based on current 2015/16 data from Tusla re School absenteeism  Develop peer led research on young Travellers experiences of education in the county				

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in learning and development								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
	To ensure that all schools in Mayo have access to information on services available locally	School engagement with CSFNs.  No of schools  No of workshops	Participation of schools on CFSN  200 schools avail of information  1 Information workshop annually	Support schools to access information and on referral pathways  Develop information packs  Information distributed to all 200 schools in Mayo  Organise workshops where appropriate	2018 - 2020	<b>Lead:</b> Education and Learning Subgroup  <b>Partners:</b> CFSN, PPFS; Mayo Education Centre	Tusla – National Service Delivery Model'  NEPS Tusla –Social Work Dept and CFSN Co-ordinators	
<b>Life skills for young people</b>	To support the development of practical skills for all young people including 'seldom heard' Young People	No of young people attending workshops    Review resources	140 Young People avail of Workshops    Review completed	Workshops delivered on e.g. Budgeting, Cooking, life skills, benefits of exercise, appropriate use of technology, etc  Carry out review of existing tools and resources (online and hard copy) available to support the transition from post primary to 3 <sup>rd</sup> level  Publish and disseminate findings	Jan 2018- Dec 2020	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC Education and Learning Subgroup <b>Partners</b> Mayo Youth Network	ETB Youth Work Plan  Community Food Initiative  Healthy Ireland	

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
<b>Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS)</b>	To ensure that all children and families have access to high quality coordinated family support services.	<p>Monitor number of referrals bi-annually to PPFS, Common Sense Parenting and Meitheal Programme.</p> <p>Establishment of 4 child and Family Support Networks.</p> <p>Effective CYPSC Family Support Subgroup</p>	<p>To provide a Family Support service to families in need.</p> <p>100% of presenting children and families will be offered support appropriate to their needs</p> <p>Broad representation of relevant stakeholders</p>	<p>Provision of In-Home Mol an Óige Programme to families in need.</p> <p>Provision of CSP Programme.</p> <p>Provision of Meitheal model/process to families referred.</p> <p>Provision of Play Therapy service to targeted families.</p> <p>Support parents via commission of services e.g. ISPCC; Foróige/YAP</p> <p>Develop a Family Support Strategy for Mayo</p>	<p>2018 Ongoing</p> <p>2020</p>	Tusla PPFS Steering Group	<p>Tusla National Service Delivery Framework</p> <p>Tusla Child Protection and Welfare Strategy 2017-2022</p>	<p>Better outcome Brighter futures</p> <p>Fifty key messages</p> <p>Parenting 24/Seven</p>
	To ensure that the Child and Family	No of agencies and	County event to promote CFSN`s	Information Sharing	Ongoing	Tusla PPFS	Tusla National Service	



Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
	Networks are inclusive of all services working with Children and Families in their areas	services participating on CFSN  Carry out training needs analysis	and local services Needs analysis complete Training workshops organised and delivered  Improved knowledge and skills in relation to Child and Family Support	Joint planning solutions to meeting needs of children and families in each network area  Identify gaps in services and deficits.  Training needs analysis of Network members  Deliver training identified  Roll out actions that are identified by the Network(s)		Steering Group	Delivery Model  Local PPFS Service Plan  National Service Delivery Framework	
	To ensure that all service providers have knowledge of Meitheal and the local referral Pathways	No of staff and agencies who receive Meitheal training  No of children receiving the	Meitheal Training provided in each CFSN area (4)  40 children benefit from	Deliver Meitheal training programme to all Child and Family Services  Development of support forum for those services who have an active role in Meitheal	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Tusla PPFS Steering Group <b>Partner:</b> Tusla Workforc	Tusla National Service Delivery Model	

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
		full Meitheal process	Meitheal			e Learning and Development		
<b>Parenting support and engagement</b>	To promote evidence-informed Parenting Programme to all parents in the county	No of training programmes delivered	15-20 programmes delivered annually	Deliver Common Sense Parenting Training to parents  Training 'trainers' on Common Sense Parenting	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Tusla PPFS Steering Group	Tusla National Service Delivery Model	
	To recruit and train trainers from Traveller and migrant communities to deliver training	Trainers from Traveller and Migrant groups trained  No of parents participating	Required number of trainers trained annually  150 – 200 parents participating annually	Translate and publish Common Sense Parenting in other languages  Develop additional modules for Common Sense Parenting as appropriate Research parenting styles in different cultures  Disseminate findings				

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
	To provide an online resource of Parenting supports available in the county	Parenting hub published online	One Information point developed and promoted	Continue the work of developing the Child, Youth and Family section of Mayo.ie as a key information point for parents and services.  Encourage use of and engagement with the website through promotion including social media etc.	Q.1 2018  Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC Information Research & Communications Subgroup <b>Partners:</b> PPFS		50 Key Messages
	Maintain existing levels of participation via seed funding projects	Establish participation baseline ,	Baseline established	Development of seed funded projects – parent and youth participation projects  Capture and monitor level of participation and input from children and parents Explore opportunities for ongoing sustainability of Children and Young People's Advocacy Group	2018	<b>Lead:</b> PPFS  <b>Partners:</b> Children and Young People's Advocacy Group		

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
				(Cross ref: Outcome 5 – Voice of children and young people (All ages))				
<b>Safeguarding children and young people</b>	All agencies will be meeting their obligations to implement Children First and to keep children safe and protected from harm.	Subgroup established  Information pack developed  Training, briefings & Information workshops provided	Subgroup established  Information pack circulated by CYPSC to all agencies and partners  Mandated persons identified and supported  Child Safeguarding statements in place  Targets to be	Establish subgroup  Child protection and welfare policies supported in line with legislation  Promote Children First and ensure groups are aware of their requirements under Children First 2015  Provide information, training to support implementation of Children First  Identify gaps and any specific issues that impact on children's safety and protection	Jan 2018 to Dec 2020	<b>Lead:</b> <b>Tusla</b>  <b>Partners:</b> Gardaí MWSS; MRCC; MCCC; MSP; PPN <sup>54</sup> s Mayo Youth Network	Children First 2015	

<sup>54</sup> Public Participation Networks

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
			agreed by Subgroup					
<b>Impact of Domestic/Sexual Violence on Children and Young People</b>	To raise increase knowledge, skills and to raise awareness of the impact of Domestic/Sexual Violence on Children, Young people and families	Organise event  No of stakeholder meetings to plan	Event organised  2 stakeholder meetings to take place	Organise event as part of 16 days of Action for Violence against women  Involve young people in the organisation of event  Work with Domestic Violence/sexual violence agencies and Tusla to plan for appropriate actions	2019	<b>Lead:</b> MRCC <sup>55</sup> and MWSS <sup>56</sup> <b>Partners:</b> Safeguarding Children Subgroup, GMIT	BOBF  National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence (2016-2021)	

<sup>55</sup> Mayo Rape Crisis Centre

<sup>56</sup> Mayo Women's Support Services

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
Young People (aged 16-24 years) Not in Employment Education or Training (NEETs)	To improve engagement and learning outcomes for NEETs	Design and deliver Training Programmes	2 x Training programmes designed and delivered annually	Design, develop and implement a <b>Pilot</b> Local Training Initiative for 16-24 year olds in Ballina	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> MSLETB and SWMDC  <b>Partners:</b> Education and Learning Subgroup	Action Plan for Jobs  Education Strategy	Transformational Goal 6: Cross governmental and Interagency collaboration and co-operation
	To ensure that early school leavers in have access to timely support to continue their education.	Number of young people involved	Up to 5 young people involved in design	Engage young people who are early school leavers in informing the design of the programme.  Deliver 'Foundation for Life' training initiative in South Mayo'  Review and evaluate both training initiatives  Learning disseminated in other areas of County  Good practice – evidence based models from other areas explored including those focused on promotion of STEAM <sup>57</sup>				
		No of young people attending training	Average of 10 young people attending				MSLETB Youth Work Plan  LECP SICAP 2018-2022 Kickboxing, Kindness & Going the extra mile: Good Practice for Working with NEETs Under SICAP	

<sup>57</sup> STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
<b>Voice of children and Young People 0 to 24 years</b>	Create spaces where children and young people feel safe and included to enable them to form and express their views.	Voice of 0-6 years included	1 x targeted initiative delivered annually	Inclusion of children (0-6) through the mosaic approach <sup>58</sup> in planning processes e.g. development of Health and well-being plan (Outcome 1)	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Early Years Health and Wellbeing Subgroup  <b>Lead:</b> Child and Youth Participation Subgroup  <b>Partner:</b> Mayo Youth Network: Comhairle na nÓg; CYPAG <sup>61</sup>	National Youth Strategy  National Strategy for the Participation of Children and Young People in Decision-making	<b>Action 1.1</b>  <b>Action 2.3</b>  <b>Action 3.1</b>  <b>Action 4.1</b>
	Explore and agree mechanisms in partnership with stakeholders to ensure that the voices of children and young people are included in	Children and young people express their views	Children and young people of all ages input articulated and heard	Research and test participation model for 7-12 years  Initiate a collaborative process to engage with 18-24 year olds.  Promote the use of the Mayo CYPSC series of 'Me' Booklets <sup>59</sup> ;  Test and implement evidence informed models that contribute to Children and young people's				

<sup>58</sup> Evidence informed model of good practice

<sup>59</sup> 'This is Me', 'Me and my Conference' and 'Me and My Family and Court' Booklets

<sup>61</sup> Children and Young People's Advocacy Group

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
	community planning	Comhairle na nÓg supported	No of meetings attended	<p>involvement in the planning of community infrastructure eg community centres, amenity parks, spaces for creative expression</p> <p>CYPSC continue to engage with Comhairle na nÓg and to participate on its steering group</p> <p>Comhairle priorities integrated into CYPSC's Annual Plan</p>				
		Young people participate on CYPSC and other relevant structures	No and age cohorts of young people participating	Working with Comhairle na nÓg/CYPAG <sup>60</sup> / 18-24 year olds/ contribute to CYPSC, its subgroups and other relevant structures				

<sup>60</sup> CYPAG: Children and Young People's Advocacy Group



Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
<b>Connecting and respecting 'seldom heard' young people</b>	To enhance the capacity within the local youth sector to respond to the needs of vulnerable young people.	Mayo Youth Network established	All youth services represented	Support the development of Mayo Youth Network Prioritise needs and develop programmes to meet needs of vulnerable youth	Q1 2018 and ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Mayo Youth Network <b>Partners:</b> Erris Youth Disability Network; Aftercare Steering Group; MTSG; MIA; Involve; LGBTI+	National Youth Strategy	Action 4.1 Action 5.1
		Mayo Youth Facebook Page established	Increased engagement on Facebook Page	Interagency working Group established to coordinate activity on Social Media.  Posting strategy agreed and implemented			ETB Youth Work Plan	
	To develop an Inclusion Strategy	Strategy Developed	Strategy Developed By 2020	Develop a Mayo CYPSC Inclusion Strategy  Promote and participate in Mayo Social Inclusion Awareness Week			National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017 to 2021	

Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee								
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe	Lead Resp & partners	Link to other plans or work	Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals
Rural Transport	To ensure the voice of young people is heard and communicated in the development of the Mayo Local Transport Strategy	Submission to strategy	1 submission made	Support young people to communicate their needs to local stakeholders	2018-2020	<b>Lead:</b> Comhairle na nÓg <b>Partners</b> Mayo Youth Network/ CYPAG Mayo County Council	ETB Youth Work Plan  LECP Local Transport Strategy	

<b>Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee</b>								
<b>Change Management</b>								
<b>Priority Area</b>	<b>Objective(s)</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Lead Resp &amp; partners</b>	<b>Link to other plans or work</b>	<b>Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals</b>
<b>Interagency Working and collaboration</b>	To enhance coordination and collaboration in the planning and delivery of services	No of workshops organised	2 workshops to promote interagency working	Provide workshops on effective interagency work	Jan 2018- Dec 2020	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC	LECP BOFB  Tusla PPFS documents	Transformational Goal: 6
		No of events organised	1 x event hosted	Networking event with all CYPSC partners				
<b>Information, Research and Communications</b>	Improve internal communications in CYPSC	Develop Communication Strategy	Communication strategy agreed and documented	Develop a communication strategy  Develop templates for feedback/communication between CYPSC structures	2018	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC Information and Research Sub-Group	LECP	
	To ensure information for existing services and supports for Children and Young People is available in one accessible place	Mayo.ie website reconfigured  Social Media platforms linked to	Website operational  Twitter and Facebook pages operational and linked to mayo.ie hub	Work with Mayo Co. Co to include child, youth, family section on mayo.ie website/hub  Link Social Media and online virtual CFSN to mayo.ie	Jan 2018- Dec 2020	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC Information and Research Sub-Group  <b>Partners</b> PPFS Mayo Youth		

<b>Action Plan for Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee</b>								
<b>Change Management</b>								
<b>Priority Area</b>	<b>Objective(s)</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Lead Resp &amp; partners</b>	<b>Link to other plans or work</b>	<b>Link to other outcomes or Transformational Goals</b>
		website		Plan events/campaigns		Network		
	Explore models through research that lead to better outcomes for young people eg Planet Youth			<p>Research evidence informed models from other countries</p> <p>Identify and implement model in Mayo</p> <p>Baseline established over 3 years</p>		<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC Information and Research Sub-Group		
<b>Advocacy and Influencing Policy</b>	<p>Advocate by liaising with relevant national structures on identified gaps in local service provision</p> <p>To promote awareness around Public Sector Duty</p>	<p>Gaps identified</p> <p>Event /Seminar organised</p>	<p>Preparation of submissions</p> <p>1 event annually</p>	<p>Raise awareness of impact of any reductions/gaps in services at a local level</p> <p>Promote evidence informed models of good practice across outcomes</p> <p>Organise seminar on public sector duty in partnership with LCDC.</p>	2018-2020	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC		

## **6 Monitoring and Review**

The Mayo Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) covers the three year period 2018-2020 and is the first CYPP for the county. Subgroups were established aligned with each of the priority action areas and the detail of the actions in terms of setting objectives, agreeing indicators, setting targets and timeframes, as well as identifying the Lead Partner and Key Stakeholders were developed and signed off by each of the Subgroups. The actions were subsequently approved by the CYPSC.

A template will be designed to ensure that progress on all actions is captured in a uniform way and this will include capturing data in relation to the indicators and targets set. The template will reflect the action template used in the Children and Young People's Plan, which is based on the Logic Model of planning. The Subgroups will use this template in order to monitor and report on progress against the actions assigned to them. The Chair of each Subgroup will report on the progress to the CYPSC at each meeting.

The Mayo CYPSC will dedicate one meeting each year of the plan to fully review progress on actions for that year to date and will inform learning outcomes and agree priorities for the following year.

At a local level, the Mayo Children and Young People's Plan has been mapped against the Mayo Local Economic and Community Plan. Mayo CYPSC will continue to work in partnership with the Mayo Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) to ensure that there is no duplication of actions.

At a national level, Mayo CYPSC will report, as required, on its activity and impact to TUSLA – Child and Family Agency, as the nominated agent of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. Mayo CYPSC will submit an annual programme of work as well as an Annual Report as set out in the National Planning and Reporting Framework.

## List of Appendices

I	Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey
II	Mayo CYPSC Parents Survey
III	Mayo CYPSC Service Providers Survey
IV	Mayo CYPSC Youth Focus Group Question Schedule
V	Mayo CYPSC Service Providers Focus Group Question Schedule
VI	8 Key Messages – what young people want adults to know
VII	Membership of Mayo CYPSC Subgroups
VIII	Service Providers who participated in CYPSC Planning Workshop
IX	Service Providers/Members of CSFNs who participated in Mayo CYPSC Focus Groups
X	Mayo CYPSC Discussion Document for CYPP 2018-2020 Attached as a separate document due to size
XI	Hardiker Scale



Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey

Welcome to the Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey

What's it like to be a young person in Mayo?

What is good about being young in Mayo?

We would like to hear what you think. We would like you to help us make Mayo a 'Youth Friendly County'

**We will not collect information (e.g., name, address, email address, etc.) that can identify you and we cannot link individual responses with participants' identities. Questions marked with an asterisk (\*) require an answer. Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in our survey. This survey is available in Irish on request. Tá an suirbhé ar fáil as Gaeilge ach é a iarraidh.**

Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey

Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey Questions

\* 1. To which gender identity do you most identify?

- Female
- Male
- Transgender Female
- Transgender Male
- Gender Variant/Non-Conforming
- Prefer not to answer
- Not listed

\* 2. Your age in years?

\* 3. What is your nearest Town or Village? Select one answer.

\* 4. To the nearest kilometre, what distance do you live from your nearest town or village?

- < 1Km
- 1-3Km
- 4-5Km
- 6-10Km
- 11-15Km
- 15+Km



\* 5. How do you usually travel to activities? Select one answer.

- Walk
- Bus
- Car
- Cycle

\* 6. Where were you born? Select one answer.

- Republic of Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- England
- Scotland
- Wales
- Other European Country
- Outside Europe

\* 7. Are you involved in youth services in Co Mayo eg Youth Clubs/Drop-in Services/After School Projects/Sports/Drama etc

- Yes
- No
- Not now, but I was in the past

\* 8. Are you currently or have you previously been involved in any of these youth services? Tick all that apply

- After school programmes
- Comhairle na nÓg
- Foróige Club
- Local youth club
- Macra na Feirme
- Mayo Youth Orchestra
- Mindspace Mayo
- No Name Club
- North Connaught Youth and Community Services
- Scouts/Guides
- Summer camps/projects
- Sports (eg GAA/Soccer/Basketball etc)
- Youth Choir/Drama/Musical Group
- Youth Diversion Programme
- Youth Disability Services
- Youthreach
- None of the above
- Other (please specify)

\* 9. Do you think there are enough services for young people in Co Mayo?

- Yes
- No

\* 10. What additional services would you like to see provided for young people in Co Mayo? Tick all that apply.

- Adventure activity clubs
- After schools services
- Counselling/ mental health services
- Drama/Music/ Dance/ Art
- Drop-in services
- Information services
- Services for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered young people
- Services for unemployed young people
- Services for young carers
- Services for young parents
- Services for young people from ethnic minorities
- Services for young people with a disability
- Youth cafes
- Youth Clubs/Groups
- None of the above, there are enough services

Other (please specify)

\* 11. What would stop you from taking part in youth services? Tick all that apply.

- Age restriction
- Anxiety
- Bullying
- Dislike Leaders
- Distance from services
- Friends not taking part
- Intimidating atmosphere
- Lack of information
- Lack of interest
- Lack of money
- Lack of services in my area
- Lack of time
- Not knowing anyone
- Too many rules

Other (please specify)

\* 12. What would encourage you to get involved in youth services? Tick all that apply.

- Close by
- Enjoyable
- Free or cheap
- Friends taking part
- Good facilities
- Good Leaders
- Good public transport
- Meeting new people
- Recommendation from friends
- Safe place
- Training and Experiences
- Trips away
- Young people having a say
- Other (please specify)

\* 13. Please rate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly agree
I have access to healthy food for lunch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have easy access to alcohol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have access to safe public places to hang-out	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am treated with respect in public places such as shops/town centres	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Harmful substances are easy to access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 14. How important are the following to you?

	Very important	Important	Not Important
Good physical and mental health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enjoying recreation activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being aware of your rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A sense of accomplishment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safe and protected from bullying and discrimination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Having your voice heard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial stability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feeling safe and secure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Living in a youth friendly community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sense of belonging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 15. Of the following, which one would you recommend that we use to communicate with young people?  
Select one answer.

- Facebook
- Google +
- Instagram
- Messenger
- Snapchat
- Twitter
- Viber
- WhatsApp
- You Tube
- Other (please specify)

16. If you had one wish for young people living in Co Mayo, what would this be?



## Mayo CYPSC Youth Survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey.

**Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) is in the process of preparing a 3-year Children and Young People's Plan that will influence the way in which services are delivered. The members of the Mayo CYPSC include Youth Organisations, Schools, Community Organisations and Statutory Agencies that have responsibility for the delivery of services to Children and Young People.**

**We want to make sure that your voice is heard and invite you to take part in this short survey. We will provide feedback to you on the key findings and recommendations through local media and online as we believe that it is important to let you know that we are taking your comments on board in the planning process. The plan will be finalised by the end of September 2017.**

**If you have any specific comments to make in connection with the survey or if you would like to find out more about Mayo CYPSC please contact Thérèse Ruane (Mayo CYPSC Co-ordinator) on 086 3483414 or [therese.ruane@tusla.ie](mailto:therese.ruane@tusla.ie). You can also keep up to date with what's happening on <http://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/mayo.245.html>**



Mayo CYPSC Parents Survey

Welcome to the Mayo CYPSC Parents Survey

We are in the process of carrying out a needs analysis that will feed into the Children & Young People's 3 year Strategic Plan. As a parent, we would like to hear what you think - it will only take a few minutes to complete. Together, how can we make Mayo a 'Child, Youth and Family Friendly County'?

**The questions marked with an asterisk (\*) require an answer. Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in our survey. This survey is available in Irish on request. Tá an suirbhé ar fáil as Gaeilge ach é a iarraidh.**

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your knowledge of the Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) 1 = no knowledge and 10 = good working knowledge.

0 10

\* 2. What is your nearest town/village? Select one only.

- Achill Sound
- Balla
- Ballina
- Ballindine
- Ballinrobe
- Ballycastle
- Ballyhaunis
- Bangor Erris
- Belcarra
- Belmullet



- Bohola
- Castlebar
- Charlestown-Bellaghy
- Claremorris
- Clare Island
- Inishturk Island
- Innisbiggle Island
- Cong
- Crossmolina
- Foxford
- Kikelly
- Killala
- Kilmaine
- Kiltimagh
- Knock
- Lahardane
- Louisburgh
- Mulranny
- Newport
- Shrule
- Swinford
- Turlough
- Westport
- Other (please specify)

\* 3. How many children and/or young people in the following age brackets live in your household? Please insert numbers in the column from the dropdown list.

Children 0-3 years	<input type="text"/>
Children 4-6 years	<input type="text"/>
Children 7-12 years	<input type="text"/>
Teenagers 13-17 years	<input type="text"/>
Young Adults 18-24 years	<input type="text"/>

\* 4. From the following list, please identify the types of physical activity that your child(ren) are involved in on a regular basis. Tick all that apply.

- Sports (GAA, Soccer, Basketball etc)
- Gym based activity
- Running
- Walking
- Accessible sports eg Bocce
- Cycling
- PE in school
- Swimming
- Martial Arts eg Boxing, Judo
- Active dancing (eg Irish dancing, Samba)
- Playing outside
- Not involved in any physical activity
- Other (please specify)

5. What is the main obstacle that prevents your child(ren) from being physically active (eg distance from activities, the cost of activities, safety concerns etc)?

\* 6. If your child(ren) has(have) health issues, which of the following apply? Tick all that apply.

- Poor Mental Health
- Lack of physical activity
- Disability, including learning and physical disabilities
- Anxiety/Stress
- Poor diet, eating unhealthy foods
- Drugs/Alcohol consumption
- Managing existing health conditions
- Obesity
- No health concerns
- Other (please specify)

\* 7. In relation to Children and Young People, we would like to get a snapshot of your levels of satisfaction with the following services. Please answer each option.

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	N/A
Dental Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Disability Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doctor/Primary Care Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family Support Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hospital Visits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Learning Supports in Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mental Health Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Occupational Therapy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Physiotherapy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Play Therapy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Psychology Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Speech and Language Therapy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Waiting lists	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Any specific comments about your experience:

\* 8. The following statements relate to Education and Learning from Early Years upwards. Please answer each statement by ticking the relevant box.

	Agree	Disagree	N/A
My child(ren) has(have) access to quality childcare	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can afford childcare fees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child(ren) has(have) access to supports to fully participate in education and learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child(ren) has(have) access to schools (including pre-school) for children with special needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child(ren) has(have) made some good friends in their class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child(ren) attends a homework/after school club	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can afford the cost of school trips	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child(ren) has(have) transitioned from primary to post-primary well	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My child(ren) has(have) transitioned from post-primary to 3rd level well	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can afford the cost of 3rd level education for my child(ren)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. In your opinion, what is the main gap in relation to education and learning for Children and Young People in Co Mayo?

\* 10. In your opinion and to what extent do you agree with the following statements in relation to Children and Young People in your area. Please respond to each statement.  
Children and Young People ...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Live in a secure, stable and caring environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are protected from bullying	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are exposed to domestic violence in their homes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are drinking excessively on a regular basis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are taking recreational drugs on a regular basis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Are exposed to unsuitable material on the internet/social media	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 11. To what extent would you agree with the following statements in relation to the economic security of families and young people in the area you live in? Please respond to all statements.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
There are high levels of unemployment among heads of households	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are not enough work opportunities in the local area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There is a lack of supports for young people to progress to employment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Current levels of Social Welfare payments are inadequate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Most young people move away for work/education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 12. Thinking about your local community, how true or false are the following statements in relation to children and young people?

	True	False	No Opinion
There are safe places to play/meet outdoors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There is access to free community playgrounds locally	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports and recreation activities are organised locally	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Children and Young People are involved in the planning of activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There is very little anti-social behaviour in the area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
We live in a family friendly community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Additional comments

\* 13. Do you think there are enough services for young people in Co Mayo?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Please tell us why you choose that answer

\* 14. What additional services would you like to see provided for Children, Young People and Families in Co Mayo? Tick all that apply.

- Adventure activity clubs
- After schools services
- Counselling/ mental health services
- Drama/Music/ Dance/ Art
- Drop-in services
- Information services
- Services for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered young people
- Services for unemployed young people
- Services for young carers
- Services for young parents
- Services for young people from ethnic minorities
- Services for young people with a disability
- Youth cafes
- Youth Clubs/Groups
- Parenting classes
- Family Support Services
- None of the above, there are enough services

Other (please specify)

\* 15. What are the main UNMET needs of Children, Young People and Families in County Mayo?



\* 16. In relation to Children and Young People, how important are the following to you?

	Very important	Important	Not Important
Good physical and mental health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enjoying recreation activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being aware of rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A sense of accomplishment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safe and protected from bullying and discrimination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Having their voice heard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial stability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feeling safe and secure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Living in a youth friendly community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sense of belonging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 17. Of the following, which would you recommend that we use to communicate with you in relation to Mayo CYPSC? Please select a maximum of **three** options.

- Email
- Facebook
- Google +
- Instagram
- Messenger
- Snapchat
- Text Message
- Twitter
- Viber
- WhatsApp
- You Tube



## Mayo CYPSC Parents Survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey.

Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) is in the process of preparing a 3-year Children and Young People's Plan that will influence the way in which services are delivered. The members of the Mayo CYPSC include Youth Organisations, Schools, Community Organisations and Statutory Agencies that have responsibility for the delivery of services to Children and Young People.

We want to make sure that your voice is heard and invite you to take part in this short survey. We will provide feedback to you on the key findings and recommendations through local media and online as we believe that it is important to let you know that we are taking your comments on board in the planning process. The plan will be finalised by the end of September 2017.

If you have any specific comments to make in connection with the survey or if you would like to find out more about Mayo CYPSC please contact Thérèse Ruane (Mayo CYPSC Co-ordinator) on 086 3483414 or [therese.ruane@tusla.ie](mailto:therese.ruane@tusla.ie). You can also keep up to date with what's happening on the following:

Website: <http://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/mayo.245.html>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MayoCYPSC/>  
Twitter: @MayoCYPSC

## Appendix III: Mayo CYPSC Service Providers Survey



### Mayo CYPSC Service Providers Survey

#### Welcome to the Mayo CYPSC Service Providers Survey

We are in the process of carrying out a needs analysis that will feed into the Children & Young People's 3 year Strategic Plan. We would like to hear what you think - the survey will only take a few minutes to complete. We would like you to help us make Mayo a 'Child and Youth Friendly County'

**The questions marked with an asterisk (\*) require an answer. Thank you in advance for taking the time to participate in our survey. This survey is available in Irish on request. Tá an suirbhé ar fáil as Gaeilge ach é a iarraidh.**

1. Mayo CYPSC wants to map the different services available for Children, Young People and Families in the county.

Please provide contact details (including your Eircode so that it can be mapped) for your service.

Name of Service:	<input type="text"/>
Full Postal Address:	<input type="text"/>
EIRCODE:	<input type="text"/>
Main contact person:	<input type="text"/>
Contact email address:	<input type="text"/>
Telephone No.:	<input type="text"/>
Website Address:	<input type="text"/>
Facebook (or other Social Media) links:	<input type="text"/>

\* 2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your knowledge of the Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) 1 = no knowledge and 10 = good working knowledge.

0 10

A horizontal scale from 0 to 10. The number 0 is on the left and 10 is on the right. A circular slider is positioned at the beginning of the scale. To the right of the scale is a small rectangular input box.

\* 3. What is your Service's catchment area? Select all that apply.

- All of county Mayo
- Achill Sound
- Balla
- Ballina
- Ballindine
- Ballinrobe
- Ballycastle
- Ballyhaunis
- Bangor Erris
- Belcarra
- Belmullet
- Bohola
- Castlebar
- Charlestown-Bellaghy
- Claremorris
- Clare Island
- Inishturk Island
- Innisbiggle Island
- Cong
- Crossmolina
- Foxford
- Kikelly
- Killala
- Kilmaine
- Kiltimagh
- Knock

- Lahardane
- Louisburgh
- Mulranny
- Newport
- Shrule
- Swinford
- Turlough
- Westport
- Other (please specify)

\* 4. Please indicate below the age categories that you mainly provide services to? Tick all that apply.

- Children aged 0-3 years
- Children aged 4-6 years
- Children aged 7-12 years
- Children aged 13-17 years
- Young Adults aged 18-24 years
- Parents
- Families

\* 5. Which of the following options best describes your organisation? Tick one only.

- Arts, Drama and culture
- College of Further Education
- Community Development
- Crisis Interventions
- Family Support
- Health
- Local Authority
- Post Primary School
- Pre-school
- Primary School
- Social Work
- Sports Organisation
- Targeted Education Interventions
- Targeted Youth Work Interventions
- Therapeutic Support
- Third Level Institute/College
- Universal Youth Work/Youth Clubs
- Youthreach
- Other (please specify)

\* 6. Which of the following categories best describes the status of your organisation? Tick one only.

- Statutory (eg School, ETB, HSE, Tusla)
- Community & Voluntary (community based run by volunteer members eg Fóroige/Family Resource Centre)
- Private (eg Childminder, crèche)
- Other (please describe)

\* 7. Which of the following services does your organisation provide? Tick all that apply

- After school programmes
- Counselling Services
- Education (Early Years to Adults)
- Family Support Services
- Youth Club
- Youth and Community Services
- Beavers/Scouts/Guides
- Summer camps/projects
- Sports (eg GAA/Soccer/Basketball etc)
- Youth Choir/Drama//Dance/Musical Group
- Youth Diversion Programme
- Youth Disability Services
- Youth Mental Health Services
- None of the above
- Other (please specify)

8. What aspect of your service do the young people get the most out of?

9. In your service, what project or piece of work are you most proud of?

\* 10. Which of the national outcomes identified in Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures (2014-2020) for Children and Young People does your service address? Tick all that apply.

- Outcome 1: Healthy and Active
- Outcome 2: Education and Training
- Outcome 3: Safe and Protected
- Outcome 4: Secure economically
- Outcome 5: Connected, Respected and Participating in Society
- I am not familiar with the national outcomes and would like to find out more.

\* 11. Which level of the Hardiker scale applies to your work? Tick one only.

- Level 1 (Universal - available to all children and families)
- Level 2 (available to children and families with some additional needs)
- Level 3 (support to families where children have serious problems)
- Level 4 (services for children where family has broken down)
- I am not familiar with the Hardiker Scale and would like to find out more

\* 12. What is the approximate number of service users in a typical week? Please insert numbers in column.

Children 0-3 years	<input type="text"/>
Children 4-6 years	<input type="text"/>
Children 7-12 years	<input type="text"/>
Teenagers 13-17 years	<input type="text"/>
Young Adults 18-24 years	<input type="text"/>
Parents	<input type="text"/>
Families	<input type="text"/>



\* 13. Please identify your organisation's MAIN source of funding. Tick one only.

- Government Department
- HSE
- ETB
- Pobal
- Mayo County Council
- Membership Fees
- Fundraising
- Tusla
- Other (please specify)

\* 14. Do you think there are enough services for young people in Co Mayo?

	Yes	No	No Opinion
Early Years (0-6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Primary School	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Post Primary School	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Young Adults (18-24)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please tell us why you choose these answers.

\* 15. What additional services would you like to see provided for Children, Young People and Families in Co Mayo? Tick all that apply.

- Adventure activity clubs
- After schools services
- Counselling/ mental health services
- Drama/Music/ Dance/ Art
- Drop-in services
- Information services
- Parenting Supports (eg Common Sense Parenting)
- Public Playgrounds/Activity Parks
- Safe places to hang out
- Services for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered young people
- Services for unemployed young people
- Services for young carers
- Services for young parents
- Services for young people from ethnic minorities
- Services for young people with a disability
- Youth cafes
- Youth Clubs/Groups
- None of the above, there are enough services

Other (please specify)

\* 16. Which of the following categories of Children, Young People and Families does your service (a) Cater for and (b) have current users belonging to this category? Please tick all that apply.

	(a) Caters for	(b) Service currently has users
Adults with no higher than Junior Certificate education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asylum Seekers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Home Carers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Homeless persons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LGBT People	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lone Parents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low Income Households	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non Irish Nationals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Offenders and/or Ex Offenders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with intellectual and learning disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with mental and emotional health difficulties/conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with physical disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problem drug and/or alcohol users	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refugees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young people who are early school leavers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of the above	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* 17. What are the main UNMET needs of Children and/or Young People and/or families that you are providing services to?

\* 18. In your opinion, what are the main barriers that Children and/or Young People and/or families face when accessing services?

\* 19. Please describe your current premises that your services are delivered from. Tick all that apply.

- Purpose built facility
- Prefab building
- Multi-use Community Facility
- School based
- Shared space

Other (please specify)

\* 20. How many full-time, part-time and voluntary staff does your service have?

Full time staff

Part-time staff

CE/TUS/RSS/JIS  
Participants

Volunteers

21. What are the main challenges (if any) facing your service in terms of funding/financing?

22. Apart from funding and finances, what are the biggest challenges currently facing your service?

\* 23. How would you rate your experience to date of interagency collaboration amongst Children and Young People's Services?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very Good
- Excellent
- No experience to date

\* 24. In relation to Children and Young People, how important are the following to you?

	Very important	Important	Not Important
Good physical and mental health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Enjoying recreation activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being aware of rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A sense of accomplishment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safe and protected from bullying and discrimination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Having their voice heard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial stability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Feeling safe and secure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Living in a youth friendly community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sense of belonging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

\* 25. Of the following, which **three** methods would you prefer us to use to communicate with you in relation to Mayo CYPSC? Please tick **three** only.

- Email
- Facebook
- Google +
- Instagram
- Messenger
- Snapchat
- Text Message
- Twitter
- Viber
- WhatsApp
- You Tube



## Mayo CYPSC Service Providers Survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey.

**Mayo Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) is in the process of preparing a 3-year Children and Young People's Plan that will influence the way in which services are delivered. The members of the Mayo CYPSC include Youth Organisations, Schools, Community Organisations and Statutory Agencies that have responsibility for the delivery of services to Children and Young People.**

**We want to make sure that your voice is heard and invite you to take part in this short survey. We will provide feedback to you on the key findings and recommendations through local media and online as we believe that it is important to let you know that we are taking your comments on board in the planning process. The plan will be finalised by the end of September 2017.**

**If you have any specific comments to make in connection with the survey or if you would like to find out more about Mayo CYPSC please contact Thérèse Ruane (Mayo CYPSC Co-ordinator) on 087 3506830 or [therese.ruane@tusla.ie](mailto:therese.ruane@tusla.ie). You can also keep up to date with what's happening on <http://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/mayo.245.html> or on Facebook and Twitter @MayoCYPSC**

## Youth Focus Groups

### Summary Timeframe:

Introduction to Mayo CYPSC	5 mins
Introduction to Research	5 mins
Purpose and structure of Focus Group	5 mins
Group Discussion & Feedback	30 mins
1 major Challenge & 1 potential Solution (individual)	10 mins
Wrap up and next steps	5 mins
<b>Total Time required</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>

### Introduction to Mayo CYPSC (5 mins)

Mayo CYPSC (What is it and who is involved? Why has it been established? What difference will it make to young people? How can they get involved?) (5 mins)

### Introduction and overview of research (5 mins)

1. Literature Review
2. Socio Demographic Profile
3. Primary Research: Surveys and Focus Groups
4. Identification of needs/priority actions
5. Finalise 3-year Plan

### Purpose and structure of Focus Group (5 mins)

The purpose of the Focus Group is to add 'richness' to the data that is currently being captured through the use of surveys. It is about giving young people a chance to 'have a say' and be listened to – to have their voice heard and incorporated into the research.

### Five Outcomes Handout – allow time to read

There are five national outcomes – these are the areas that Mayo CYPSC needs to work to in relation to prioritising actions and planning activities to be delivered over the 3 year period of the plan. These outcomes are:

1. **Active and Healthy (physical and mental wellbeing)**
2. **Achieving full potential in learning and development**
3. **Safe and protected from harm**
4. **Economic Security and Opportunity**
5. **Connected, Respected and contributing to their world**

## **Instructions:**

Break into smaller groups of 10 (ideally group will be between 8-10 people). One person assigned to each group as a note-taker/rapporteur.

**Facilitator:** In the survey we asked young people to get involved so that they could help us make Co Mayo a “Youth Friendly County”. We now want to explore this term and get a better understanding of what this means to you as a young person. There are no right or wrong answers; we want you to tell us what you think. Your opinion counts.

### **Warm up: 5 minutes**

**Facilitator:** Before we start the group discussions, I would like to find out your thoughts on the following two questions (ask each question separately and get quick fire responses to the following from each person – no discussions, no clarification, just note the responses):

- What is the best thing about living in Co Mayo?
- What is the worst thing about living in Co Mayo?

The facilitator will make a note of the responses. This will also help the young people to focus prior to the group discussion.

### **Group Discussion including feedback: 25 minutes**

**Facilitator:** In each of your groups, and thinking about the five national outcomes, discuss the following:

- What is a Child/Youth Friendly Mayo?
- What does it mean? What does it look like? What does it feel like? What is different?
- How do we get there? What needs to change?
- How will we know when we get there?

*Note for Rapporteur/Note-taker: The discussion can be kept broad and it is not necessary to align comments with the five outcomes. The facilitator will do this as part of the data analysis. Use the above questions to keep the discussion flowing and encourage responses.*

You will have 15 minutes for this discussion.

Feedback and comments from each group (10 minutes – 5 minutes for each group)

The note-takers will feedback from each of the groups and time will be given for additional comments. Facilitator will summarise and get consensus.

### **Brick Wall and Opportunities Tree: 10 minutes**

**Facilitator:** We would like to know what you personally see as being the biggest barrier to young people in Co Mayo (it can be anything but please be specific) and to come up with a solution to address this. Take a few minutes to think about this and then I would like you to write the barrier on a post-it and stick it on the Brick Wall and write the solution on another post-it and stick it on the Opportunities Tree. You have 10 minutes to do this.

### **Wrap Up and next steps: 5 minutes**

Facilitator feeds back main points arising from the discussions and outlines the next steps in the research process. Remind the group members to like the Facebook page and to follow on Twitter.



## Service Providers Focus Groups

**Aim of the Focus Group:** To gather information on the range of services provided to Children, Young People and Parents in relation to the following:

- What is working well?
- What can be improved?
- What can the network members do together to improve outcomes for Children, Young People and Parents?

### Guiding questions:

#### ***Individual Services (Focus: what's working well, what needs to change (gaps))***

Think about the service you provide. What are your thoughts about what's currently in place in relation to access and quality of services?

"Would you say you are satisfied with the current situation, with the way things are going?" (If so) "What are you satisfied about? Why is that?" (Or, "What's going well...?")

"Are there things you are dissatisfied with, that you would like to see changed?" (Or, "What's not going well...?"). "What are they? Why is that? How should they change? What kinds of things would you like to see happen?"

#### ***Network (focus: What can the network members do together that will help improve collaboration and ultimately outcomes for the service users?)***

The network is a new structure. What are some of your thoughts about what's going on now? What would make the network more relevant in your day to day work?

What can the members of the network do together that will encourage collaborative working? How can the network members support each other and in doing so improve outcomes for Children, Young People and Parents? What practices can you engage in?

What supports do you need in order to facilitate this to happen? eg from within your own organisation, from the Network Co-ordinator?

What can the network members challenge themselves to do to improve outcomes for their service users and for themselves?

### **Some probes/follow up questions to use:**

Some people have said that one way to improve X is to do Y. Do you agree with this?' (Or, "How do you feel about that?")

Are there other recommendations that you have, or suggestions you would like to make?

Can you say more about that? Can you give an example?

Jane says X. How about the rest of the group? What do you think? Or ... How about you, John? Do you have some thoughts on this?

Are there other things you would like to say before we wind up?

Appendix VI: 8 Key Messages: What young people want adults to know.

# WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WANT ADULTS TO KNOW

INFORMATION FOR THE KEY MESSAGES GATHERED THROUGH YOUTH LED RESEARCH BY MAYO CHILD AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## 1

**GET TO KNOW THE YOUNG PERSON PRIOR TO MEETING THEM FOR THE FIRST TIME.**

Some young people felt they would be nervous meeting a professional for the first time. A phone call, picture and biography online and some information about what might happen was recommended.

**“AFRAID YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS”**

**“DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN”**

## 2

**A COMFORTABLE MEETING PLACE**

A small room with comfortable seating and colours on the walls with no interruptions. Wifi and charging sockets are a bonus.

**“THE PLACE SHOULD BE COLOURFUL AND COSY”**

**“I WON'T FEEL LIKE THEY ARE LOOKING DOWN ON ME IF THEY ARE ON A COUCH”**

## 3

**REASSURE THE YOUNG PERSON**

Let them know its OK to be nervous or upset. Understand it will take time for them to trust a new adult in their life.

**“IT TAKES TIME TO TRUST SOMEONE, YOU BE NOT GOING TO TELL THEM EVERYTHING THE FIRST TIME YOU MEET”**

**“I WOULD FEEL SAFER IF THEY (ADULT) REALLY ASSURED US ABOUT WHAT INFORMATION THEY WOULD GO TO PARENTS WITH”**

## 4

**DON'T LOOK TOO PROFESSIONAL BUT ACT IN A PROFESSIONAL MANNER**

Young people feel more comfortable if you don't look like an authoritative figure.

**“IF THEY WERE IN A SUIT, JACKET AND THEY LOOK A BIT STUFFY, THEY WOULD SEEM DISINTERESTED LIKE THEY WERE GOING TO A BUSINESS MEETING”**

**“EASIER TO TALK TO SOMEONE NOT DRESSED IN A SUIT”**

**“IT CAN BE INTIMIDATING IF THEY ARE TOO DRESSED UP”**

## 5

**HAVE PATIENCE AND AVOID INTERRUPTIONS**

**“DON'T RUSH INTO THE TOPIC JUST TAKE IT SLOW”**

**“LISTEN, IF THEY COME TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING... THEY ABSOLUTELY TRUST YOU”**

## 6

**WATCH YOUR TONE AND ATTITUDE**

Take into account the young persons maturity level. Try to avoid being condescending.

**“DON'T TREAT THEM LIKE A CHILD IF YOU WANT THEM TO TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY”**

**“DON'T SUGAR COAT ANYTHING”**

## 7

**TAKE YOUNG PEOPLE'S FEELINGS AND OPINIONS INTO ACCOUNT**

Most young people understand they can't always have things the way they want them but it's important they trust their feelings and opinions are being listened to.

**“THEY SHOULDN'T LOOK DOWN ON YOU IF YOU HAD A PROBLEM THEY SHOULD JUST ACKNOWLEDGE IT AND HELP”**

**“ASK THEM WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO TALK ABOUT, DON'T ASK THE PARENT ALL THE INFORMATION, ASK THE KID”**

**“LISTEN... JUST LISTEN”**

## 8

**HAVING SNACKS HELPS**

Having food available is a treat and helps to relax young people. Supply snacks, drinks and fruit.

# “LISTEN.... JUST LISTEN”






**Appendix VII: Membership of Mayo CYPSC Subgroups**  
*(Draft Lists as some are in the process of being finalised)*

<b>Outcome 1:</b>	<b>Active and Healthy Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair: Thelma Birrane – HSE Health Promotion Officer</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
HSE Public Health Nursing	Mary O Malley
Early Intervention Service	Eilish Noone
Curious Minds Preschool	Ann Halligan
Tusla - Child and Family Support Network Coordinator	Elaine English
Mayo County Childcare Committee	Jim Power
Parent Representative/Love Castlebar	Helen O Hara
GMIT - Early Childhood Education and Care Coordinator	Mary Skillington
Mayo University Hospital Nursing & Midwifery	Andrea Mc Grail
Tusla Zero2Six Family Support Project	Anne Marie Tiernan
HSE Psychology	Cynthia Silva
HSE Social Work	Ann Doherty
Mayo Traveller Support Group	Vivienne Fitzmaurice
Mayo Intercultural Action	
Mayo Sports Partnership	
Family Resource Centre	Ann Conway

<b>Outcome 1</b>	<b>Child and Youth Mental Health Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair: Peadar Gardiner – Mindspace Mayo</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
HSE Psychology	Jeananne Garavan
WRDATF	Debbie Mc Donagh
Mayo Youth Network	
Tusla Child and Family Support Network Coordinator	Siobhan Duane
ISPCC	
CAMHS	Sharon Byrne
Public Health Nursing	
Family Resource Centre	Leanne Barrett
Mayo Traveller Support Group	Pippa Daniels
GMIT	Daniel Caldwell
Mindspace Youth Advisory Panel	
NEPS	
Psychiatry	
Parent Representative	
CIPC	
Mayo Mental Health Association	
LGBTI	
Mayo Intercultural Action	

<b>Outcome 2</b>	<b>Education and Learning Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair:</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board	Breda Ruane
Mindspace Mayo	Peadar Gardiner
Western Region Drugs and Alcohol Task Force	Debbie Mc Donagh
Education and Welfare Service	Norma Grego
Irish Primary Principals Network	Nessa Mc Gowan
National Association of Principals and Vice Principals	Liam O Ruain
School Completion Programme	Sheila Feeney
Family Resource Centre	
Mayo Traveller Support Group	Pippa Daniels
GMIT	Joanne Doherty
Mayo Intercultural Action	Patricia Quinn

<b>Outcome 3</b>	<b>Safeguarding Children and Young People Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair: Heather Wilson - Tusla</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Tusla – Children First Information and Advice Officer	Sandra Claxton
Mayo Women’s Support Services	Assumpta
Mayo Rape Crisis Centre	Loretta Mc Donagh
Mayo Sports Partnership	Charlie Lambert
ISPCC	Gillian Baker
Mayo Youth Network	
Family Resource Centre	Nuala Gilligan
Public Partnership Network (PPNs)	
An Garda Síochána	Mandy Gaynor
<b>Outcome 3</b>	<b>Prevention Partnership and Family Support Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair: Liam Whyte PPFS Manager</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Tusla – Family Focus / Parent Support Champion	Mary Everard
Community Based Family Support	Kate Donnelly
School Completion Programme	Sarah Sheridan
Tusla – Network Coordinator	Siobhan Duane
ISPCC	Laura Cawley
Tusla	Teresa Quinn
Family Resource Centre	Siobhan Smith
Mayo Traveller Support Group	
Mayo Intercultural Action	Elzbieta Gizicka
Foróige	Linda Lohan

<b>Outcome 4</b>	<b>Economic Security and Opportunity Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair: Breda Ruane – Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
School Completion Project	Sheila Feeney
Involve Youth Service	Alice Dixon
Involve Youth Service	James Maughan
Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board	Simon
South West Mayo Development Company	Catherine Mc Closkey
North Connaught Youth Service – Youth Justice Project	Micheal Kenny
Foróige	Roisin Moyles
Family Resource Centre	Shirley Moyles

<b>Outcome 5</b>	<b>Child and Youth Participation Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair: Sheila Mc Ardle - GMIT</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Mindspace Youth Panel	
Mayo County Council	Declan Turnbull
Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB Youth Office	Breda Ruane
Mayo Youth Network	
Children & Young People’s Advocacy Group	Stephaine Cook
Comhairle na nÓg	
Young Person 18 – 24 years	
Young Person 12-17 years	
LGBTI+	
Family Resource Centre	Grace Mc Gee
Involve Youth Project	
EPIC After Care Group	Lorraine Gaughan
Mayo Intercultural Action	Patricia Quinn

<b>Change Management</b>	<b>Information, Research and Communications Subgroup</b>
<b>Chair: Síofra Kilcullen – Mayo County Council</b>	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
HSE	Thelma Birrane
MSLETB	
Mayo County Council	Cora Gilligan
Tusla	Siobhan Duane
Mayo County Childcare Committee	Jim Power
GMIT	Sheila McArdle
Family Resource Centre	John Doherty

**Appendix VIII: Service Providers who participated in CYPSC Planning Workshop**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Tusla	Paddy Martin Liam Whyte Heather Wilson Sandra Claxton Norma Grego
Mayo County Council	Síofra Kilcullen Declan Turnbull Cora Gilligan
Western Care	Bernard O Regan Ruth Kneafsey
Probation Service	Miriam Tallon
Foróige	Michele Reynolds
Galway Mayo Institute of Technology	Sheila Mc Ardle Joanne Doherty
Irish Primary Principal's Network	Nessa Mc Gowan
Mayo County Childcare Committee	Jim Power
Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board	Breda Ruane Barbara Ronayne
An Garda Síochána	Mandy Gaynor
School Completion Programme	Sheila Feeney
HSE	Thelma Birrane Martin Greaney Anne O Neill Helen Browne Jeananne Garavan Cynthia Silva
Family Resource Centres	Mary Jackson Ann Conway
National Association Principals and Deputy Principals	Liam Ó Ruáin
South West Mayo Development Company	Catherine Mc Closkey
Mayo Sports Partnership	Charlie Lambert
Mindspace Mayo	Peadar Gardiner
WRDATF	Debbie Mc Donagh
ISPCC	Gillian Baker
Mayo Traveller Support Group	Pippa Daniels
Mayo Intercultural Action	Patricia Quinn Natalia Pestova

Mayo Women's Support Services	Assumpta Lally
Mayo Rape Crisis Centre	Loretta Mc Donagh

**Appendix IX: Service Providers (members of Child and Family Support Networks) who participated in Mayo CYPSC Focus Groups**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Name</b>
Tusla Early Years' Service	Mariea Mortimer
Education Welfare Service	Norma Grego
Child and Family Support Network Coordinators	Elaine English
	Siobhan Duane
ISPCC	Alona Levinge
Foróige	Stephen Bourke
Tusla - Child Protection and Welfare	Breda Quinn
Mayo Community Based Family Support Service	Siobhan O'Brien
Mayo County Council – Social Work	Orla Hughes
Mayo Early Intervention Service	Niamh Lyons
HSE Public Health Nurse	Patricia Dever
Tusla - Social Care Manager	Marian Turner
CAMHS – Clinical Nurse Manager	Edel Cahill
Home School Liaison	Thérèse Connolly
CAMHS - Clinical Psychologist	Sharyn Byrne
Foróige	Louise O'Malley
Mindspace Mayo	Stephen Coyne
Tusla Edge Project	Maureen Reilly
Tusla Family Focus	Teresa Walsh
Mayo Community Based Family Support Project	Claire McNally
Mayo Community Based Family Support Project	Geraldine Glackin
Claremorris Family Resource Centre	Nuala Gilligan
Tusla Social Work	Sharon Campbell
Mount St. Michael Secondary School Principal	Fionnghuala King
Tusla PPFS Manager	Liam White
Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland	John Sheehan
Big Brother Big Sister	Peter Duffy



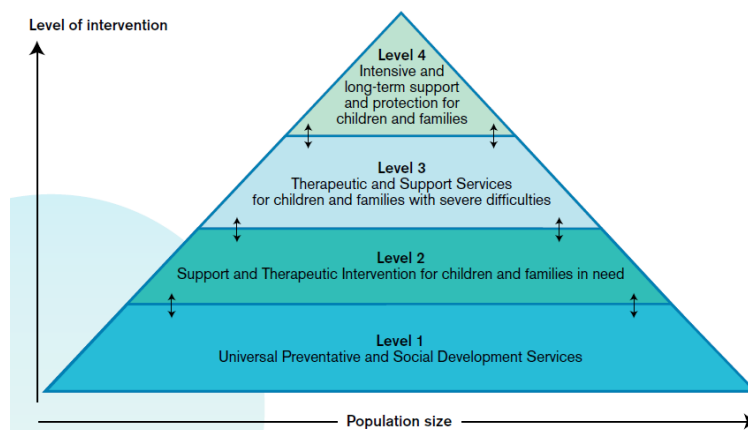
**Appendix X: Mayo CYPSC Discussion Document**

**Mayo CYPSC Discussion Document for Mayo Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2020**

**Attached as separate document.**

The Hardiker Model (1991) is now widely used as a planning framework in both the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

The Hardiker Model (1991)<sup>62</sup>



The Model outlines four levels of intervention as follows:<sup>63</sup>

### Level 1:

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

### Level 2:

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

### Level 3:

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

### Level 4:

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

<sup>62</sup> Department of Children and Youth Affairs (2012). Working Together for Children. Toolkit for the Development of a Children’s Services Committee. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Government Publications, Dublin.

<sup>63</sup> Centre for Effective Services (2010). An introductory guide to key terms and interagency initiatives in use in the Children’s Services Committees in Ireland. CES Reference Paper 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, June, 2010. [http://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/Key\\_Terms\\_Document.pdf](http://www.dcy.gov.ie/documents/Key_Terms_Document.pdf)

## Endnotes

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### <sup>i</sup> **Childcare Programmes**

ECCE is available to all children in the State, who on 1st September each year are in the qualifying age range of between 3 years 2 months and 4 years 7 months. The Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Programme is targeted to help children from low-income household's access quality early education and childcare services. The objective of the TEC Programmes is to support parents on eligible training courses and eligible categories of parents returning to work, by providing subsidised childcare places. There are three separate strands to this funding stream:

(1) Childcare Education and Training Support Programme (CETS) provides childcare for children of eligible parents taking part in ETB/Solas training courses.

(2) After School Childcare Programme (ASCC) provides afterschool care for primary school children for eligible working parents and parents on DSP employment programmes (excluding Community Employment)

(3) Community Employment Childcare Programme (CEC) provides childcare for children of eligible parents taking part in Community Employment schemes. CEC is split into two streams: CEC Pre-school (PS) and CEC After-School (AS).

### <sup>ii</sup> **Live Register**

The Live Register is a monthly count of the number of persons under 65 years registering for Jobseekers Benefit or Allowance or various other statutory entitlements with the Department of Social Protection. Live Register statistics are compiled from administrative returns made to the CSO by each local office of the Department of Social Protection. Although the Live Register is not an official measure of unemployment, it is used as a short term indicator of unemployment. The Live Register is not specifically designed to measure unemployment - it includes persons who are working part-time and signing on part-time. In addition, a number of the unemployed are not on the Live Register because they were previously self-employed, have a spouse earning, or for other reasons. Live Register statistics are available at local social welfare office of registration – providing indicative movements in the number of unemployed persons at local level. [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)

### <sup>iii</sup> **Deprivation**

The 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index (Haase and Pratschke, 2016)

The index provides a method of measuring the relative affluence or disadvantage of a particular geographical area using data compiled from various censuses. A score is given to the area based on a national average of zero and ranging from approximately -40 (being the most disadvantaged) to +40 (being the most affluent). In addition to this, percentage data for the area is given under the following categories:

- Population Change
- Age Dependency Ratio
- Single Parent Ratio
- Primary Education Only
- Third Level Education
- Unemployment Rate (male and female)
- Proportion living in Local Authority Rented Housing

The relative index scoring and the above percentage data focuses particularly on the previous three censuses, enabling easy comparison of data between 2006, 2011 and 2016. This index is of particular significance given the economic changes that have occurred nationally during this period. The change in the index scoring and in each measured category is also calculated, meaning that the increase or decrease on a national, regional and local level can be easily viewed.

**Figure Error! Main Document Only.: Labelling of Relative Index Scores, 2006 to 2016**

Relative Index Score	Standard Deviation	Label	Colour Scheme in Maps	Number of SAs in 2011	Percentage of SAs in 2011
over 30	> 3	extremely affluent	dark blue	30	0.2
20 to 30	2 to 3	very affluent	medium blue	472	2.6
10 to 20	1 to 2	affluent	medium green	2,411	13.0
0 to 10	0 to 1	marginally above average	light green	6,234	33.7
0 to -10	0 to -1	marginally below average	light yellow	6,483	35.1
-10 to -20	-1 to -2	disadvantaged	medium yellow	2408	13.0
-20 to -30	-2 to -3	very disadvantaged	orange	448	2.4
below -30	< -3	extremely disadvantaged	red	2	0.0
Total				18,488	100.0

Source: Pobal 2017

#### Small Area Population Statistics:

The Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) of the 2016 Census of Population has been released at the level of 18,488 Small Areas (SAs). SAs are standardised in size, with a minimum of 50 households and a mean of just under 100, thus effectively providing street-level information on the Irish population.

#### <sup>iv</sup> Child and Family Support Networks (CFSN)

The local CFSNs should consist of all services that play a role in the lives of children and families in a given area. This includes local statutory children and families service providers (e.g. psychology, public health nurses, social work, justice, education and welfare) and local voluntary and community children and families services (Family Support Centres, agencies currently funded through the HSE/Child and Family Support Agency, children and families services & organisations funded through other sources e.g. Pobal, Department of Education).

<http://www.tusla.ie/services/family-community-support/prevention-partnership-and-family-support-programme/meitheal-national-practice-model/what-are-child-and-family-support-networks-cfsns>

#### <sup>v</sup> Meitheal

Meitheal is a National Practice Model to ensure that the needs and strengths of children and their families are effectively identified and understood and responded to in a timely way so that children and families get the help and support needed to improve children's outcomes and realise their rights. It is an early intervention, multi-agency (when necessary) response tailored to the needs of an individual child or young person.

<http://www.tusla.ie/services/family-community-support/prevention-partnership-and-family-support-programme/meitheal-national-practice-model>