



An Roinn Leanaí  
agus Gnóthaí Óige  
Department of  
Children and Youth Affairs



# Children and Young People's Services Committees

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## Children and Young People's Services Committees

**Local *interagency* structures to improve outcomes for children & young people**

- Committees are responsible for **improving the lives of children, young people and families** at local and community level
- **Age remit** – 0 – 24 years
- Bring together a diverse group of public and not-for-profit organisations in **local county areas**
- Engage in **joint planning and co-ordination of services for children and young people**
- First four Committees established in **2007**; currently 22 committees in 23 counties or 26 local authority areas – at 88% coverage.
- **National roll out ongoing - all counties in Ireland will have a CYPSC**

In alignment with *Better Outcomes Brighter Futures National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014 – 2020*

# Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures

## TRANSFORMATIONAL GOALS

SUPPORT PARENTS

EARLIER INTERVENTION & PREVENTION

LISTEN TO AND INVOLVE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

ENSURE QUALITY SERVICES

STRENGTHEN TRANSITIONS

CROSS-GOVERNMENT AND INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION & COORDINATION

CROSS-CUTTING

STRENGTHENS THE SUPPORT SYSTEM AROUND THE CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON

## BETTER OUTCOMES

ACTIVE & HEALTHY

ACHIEVING IN ALL AREAS OF LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

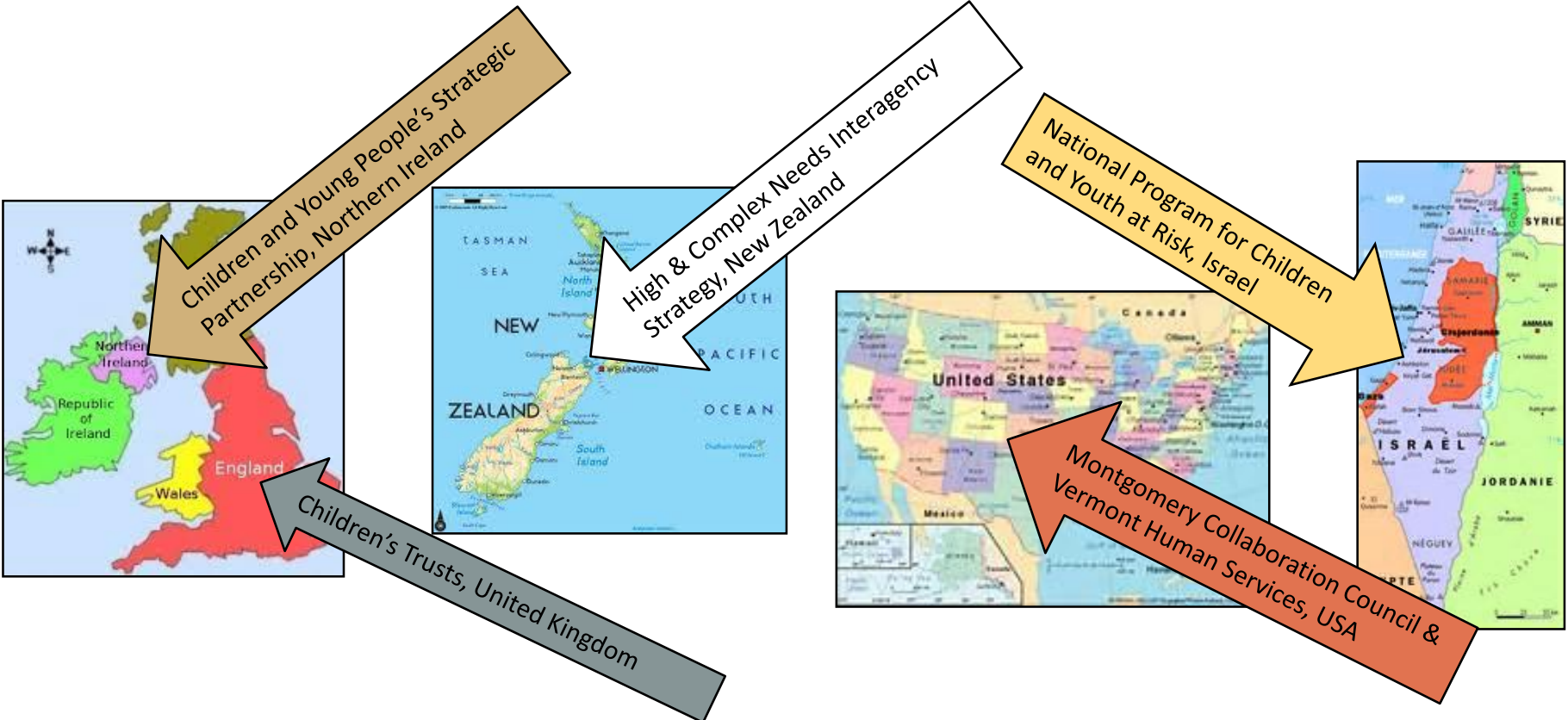
SAFE & PROTECTED FROM HARM

ECONOMIC SECURITY & OPPORTUNITY

CONNECTED, RESPECTED & CONTRIBUTING

BRIGHTER FUTURES

# Similar International Initiatives



**Children and Young People's Services Committees –  
the vehicle for interagency work in Ireland**



## **Children and Young People's Services Committees**

**Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) are the key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people in every county in Ireland.**

**The overall purpose is to improve outcomes for children and young people through local and national interagency working.**

## **Children and Young People's Services Committees – Purpose**

**Coordinating the implementation of national and regional policies and strategies that relate to children, young people and families**

**Planning and coordinating services for children and young people in the area covered by the CYPSC**

**Eliminating fragmentation and duplication of services by ensuring more effective collaboration between children, young people and family services within the area**

**Influencing the allocation of resources**

**Strengthening the decision-making capacity at local level**

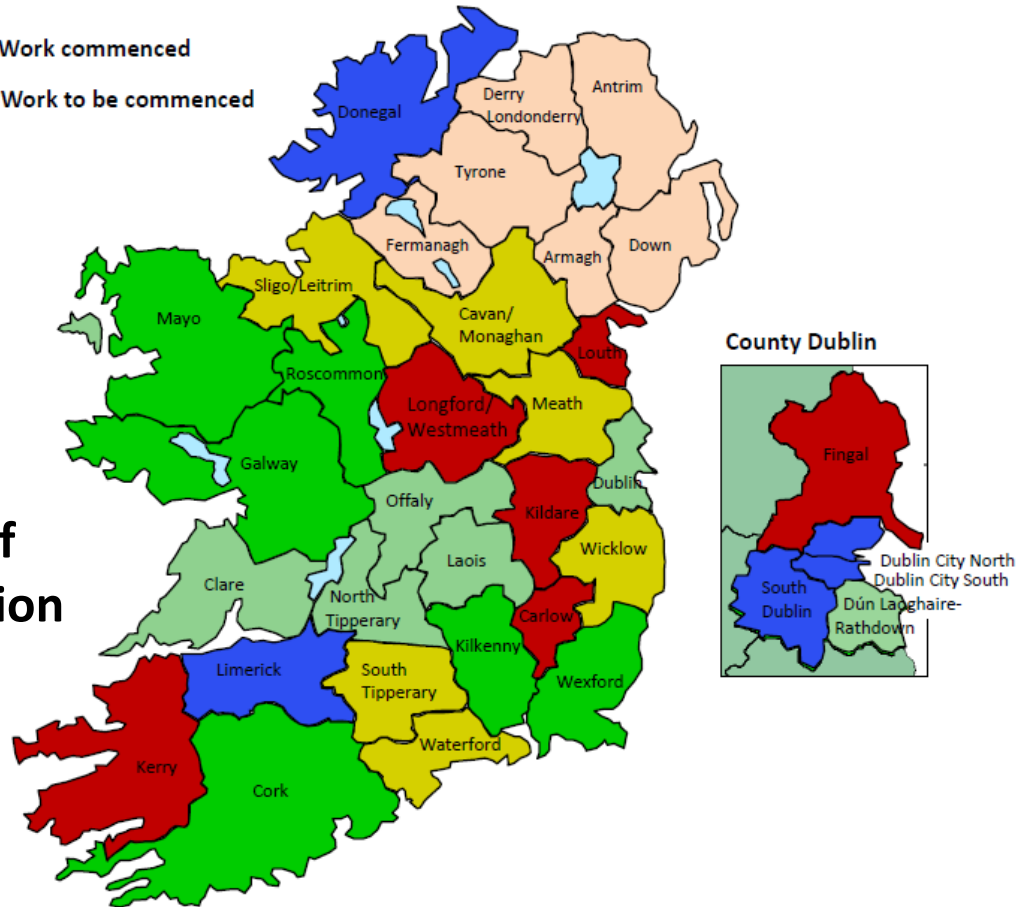
# Membership of CYPSCs

**Senior managers, representing a range of statutory, community and voluntary organisations.**

<p><b>CHILD &amp; FAMILY</b> Tusla</p>	<p><b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b> City or County Council - executive</p>	<p><b>JUSTICE</b> Police - An Garda Síochána</p>	<p><b>HEALTH</b> Health Services Executive</p>
<p><b>JUSTICE</b> Probation Services</p>	<p><b>EDUCATIONAL WELFARE</b> Tusla</p>	<p><b>EDUCATION</b> Primary Schools (4-12 years)</p>	<p><b>EDUCATION</b> Education &amp; Training Board</p>
<p><b>EARLY YEARS</b> City &amp; County Childcare Committees</p>	<p><b>EDUCATION</b> Post primary schools (13 – 18 years)</p>	<p><b>NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS</b></p>	<p><b>DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL PROTECTION</b></p>

# National picture of CYPSCs

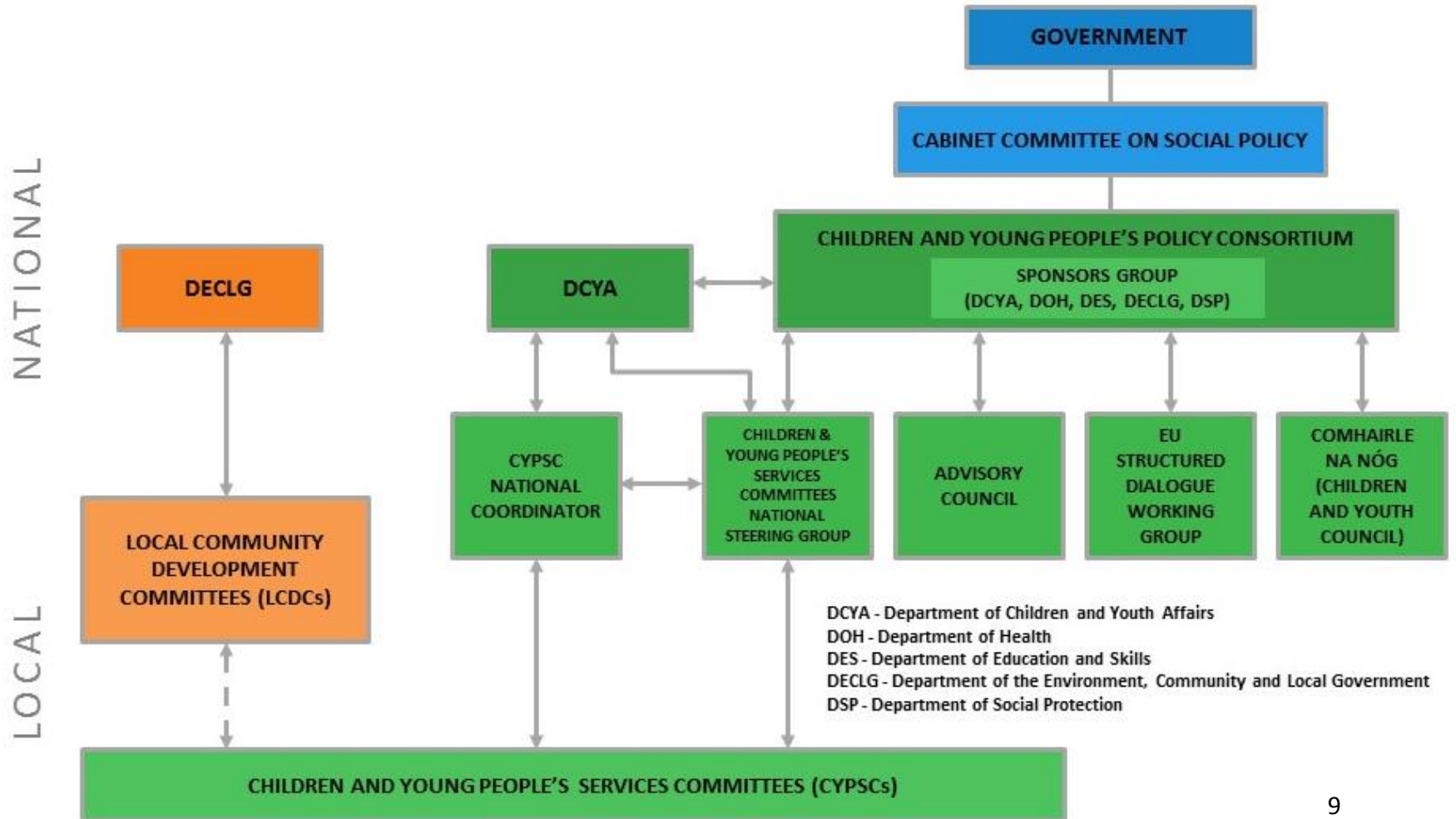
- 2007-2010 Phase 1** ■
- 2010-2011 Phase 2** ■
- 2011-2013 Phase 3** ■
- 2014 Phase 4** ■ Work commenced
- Work to be commenced



All at differing stages of development and operation



# Structures for Children and Young People's Services Committees



## Children and Young People's Services Committees and National Outcomes

Each Committee develops and implements an *interagency* 3 year **Children and Young People's Plan for the County (CYPP)**, which is:

- Designed to improve outcomes for children and young people in their area
- Based on the **5 National Outcomes** for children and young people in Ireland
- The CYPP includes:

1.

- **Socio-demographic profile**

2.

- **Audit of services**

3.

- **Needs analysis**

4.

- **Action plan**

5.

- **Review & monitoring**

## Children and Young People

Consultation with children and young people is an integral part of the development of Children and Young People Plans.

This is manifested through cooperative work with Child and Youth Councils (called *Comhairle na nÓg*) and additional activities undertaken by a CYPSC and its members.

## Benefits of CYPSCs

CYPSC as a catalyst for reform within services

Mobilisation of CYPSC member organisations – efficiently and effectively: *“Making links fast”*

Improved understanding of each others’ organisations and roles

Accountability to each other

A sense of camaraderie and development of trust between members

County level evidence and information used to inform service development

Leveraging funding

Vehicle for all member organisations’ interagency work

## Challenges

- Leadership
- Sustaining momentum
- Data

## In practice

- Start Right – Limerick CYPSC
- Fingal Parenting Initiative – Fingal CYPSC, Dublin
- Junior Transition Programme – Kildare CYPSC
- Literacy & Early Years – Wicklow CYPSC

## Evidence informed approach

- Using emerging evidence in a structured way
- Interagency approach –  
***Effective interagency working acts to create the 'permitting circumstances' for better functioning of front-line services and front-line staff. (Statham, 2011)***
- Learning from other structures nationally and in other jurisdictions
- Consultation with children and young people

## Working Together

*When we work together we can make a positive difference to the lives of our children and young people.*

*Working together in a sustained way is challenging, takes time and requires continuous learning; but it's worth it.*

*We are doing this through Children and Young People's Services Committees....*

**(Source: Internal Communications Plan 2010-2012)**



## Contact

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