



Welcome Pack for New Members

Contents

Introduction and Welcome	p 3
What is a Children and Young People’s Services Committee?	P 4
CYPSC Website	p 5
Role of CYPSC Members	p 6
A Children and Young People’s Plan for Roscommon	
National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People’s Services Committees	p 7
CYPSC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson	
CYPSC Co-ordinator	
CYPSC Membership	p 8
Five National Outcomes for Children and Young People	p 9
Children and Young People’s Services Committees National Steering Group	
Interagency Working	
Policy Origins	p10
Key Documents	
Appendix 1 –Roscommon CYPSC Membership	p11
Appendix 2 – Glossary of Initialisms and Acronyms	p12

Introduction and Welcome

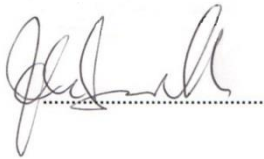
I am very pleased to welcome you to the Roscommon Children and Young People's Services Committee.

The role of the Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) is key to the advancement of the national outcomes for children and young people as set out in *Better Outcomes Brighter Futures: The national policy framework for children & young people 2014 - 2020*.

This Welcome Pack has been developed to provide new committee members with an introduction to their roles and responsibilities and to provide an overview of the functions of the Roscommon Children and Young People's Services Committee.

Accompanying the Welcome Pack is an information leaflet about CYPSC and a brief report entitled *Effective Interagency Working by Children and Young People's Services Committees* [summary document].

I look forward to working with you to deliver better results for children and young people.



John Donnellan,
Chairperson,
Roscommon Children and Young People's Services Committee



What is a Children and Young People's Services Committee?

Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) are a structure for bringing together a diverse group of agencies in local county areas to engage in joint planning and co-ordination of services for children and young people.

The overall purpose of CYPSC is to secure better outcomes for children and young people.

Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people in every county in Ireland. Children and Young People's Services Committees promote, support and deliver national and local interagency working across services that work with and for children and young people in Ireland.

Children and Young People's Services Committees secure better outcomes for children and young people by:

- *Co-ordinating the implementation of national and regional policies and strategies that relate to children, young people and families*
- *Planning and co-ordinating 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*

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) provides funding, and strategic and policy direction for CYPSC. Four original sites were chosen to pilot this interagency work in 2007 (Dublin City, South Dublin, Donegal and Limerick City). Since then, a national roll-out has seen CYPSCs established in all counties.

CYPSC have led and supported inspiring and positive programmes and activities in the fields of Literacy Development, Parenting Support, Early Childhood Development, Transitions to school, Youth Mental Health and much more.

CYPSC Website

The national CYPSC website www.cypsc.ie provides a focal point for national and local information relating to CYPSC. Information on CYPSC news and events are listed and key CYPSC documents are available for download.

www.cypsc.ie > Roscommon

Each individual CYPSC has its own space within the national CYPSC website.

The image shows a screenshot of the Roscommon CYPSC website. On the left, a light blue box contains six text labels with orange lines pointing to specific sections of the website:

- Priority area's identified during the planning process for the Roscommon Children and Young People's Plan
- Current Membership
- Active Working Groups
- Download materials and resources developed
- Links to local CYPSC related websites
- Local contact details

The website screenshot includes the following elements:

- Header:** CYPSC CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES logo and navigation menu (HOME, ABOUT US, YOUR COUNTY CYPSC, RESOURCES, NEWS & EVENTS, CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE, CONTACT US).
- Left Sidebar:** A purple box titled "ROSCOMMON" containing links for Priorities, Membership, Sub-Groups, Local Resources, and Local Links. Below it is a blue box titled "CONTACT US" with contact information for Caroline Duignan.
- Main Content:** A large image of a castle ruin, followed by the heading "ROSCOMMON CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE" and a paragraph of text describing the committee's role and mission.
- Right Side:** A "Join our mailing list" button and a search bar.

Role of CYPSC Members

Representatives from a wide range of organisations within the statutory, community and voluntary sectors contribute to local CYPSCs. Principally, the role of a CYPSC representative is to:

- Represent their department / organisation / programme / sector
- Input to the education agenda of the CYPSC
- Share professional observations, knowledge and experience
- Advocate on behalf of their service users
- Advise on how the CYPSC can engage with children, young people and families
- Understand and appreciate ways that the CYPSC and its structures work.

A Children and Young People's Plan for Roscommon

Each CYPSC is required to develop and then deliver on a three-year Children and Young People's Plan for the county. Each plan:

- Details how children and young people in the county are doing (**a socio demographic profile**)
- Describes what services, supports and groups are currently available in the county for children and young people (**an audit of services**)
- Identifies gaps and provides direction as to what the county can do better to improve services and improve outcomes for children and young people (**a needs analysis**)
- Sets out what the CYPSC will do over a three year period to improve outcomes under the five national outcomes for children and young people (**an action plan**).

With a comprehensive picture of the needs of children, young people and families in the county, CYPSCs then identify appropriate evidence informed and /or evidence based responses. CYPSC projects and initiatives have contributed to improving outcomes for children and young people under a range of themes including Literacy, Parenting Support, Consultation with children and young people and Identification and assessment of the needs of children and young people.

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

National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People's Services Committees

A National Co-ordinator for Children and Young People's Services Committees provides leadership for CYPSC at national level and supports local CYPSC through their CYPSC Chairperson and CYPSC Co-ordinator.

National CYPSC Contact Details

National Co-ordinator for CYPSC
Colma Nic Lughadha
Email: colma.niclughadha@tusla.ie
Tel: 01 77 18500

Roscommon CYPSC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Each CYPSC is chaired by the relevant Tusla Area Manager for Children and Families. Roscommon CYPSC is chaired by:

John Donnellan
John.donnellan@tusla.ie
091 546228

CYPSC Vice chairpersons are drawn from a relevant local authority.

Roscommon CYPSC Co-ordinator

Each CYPSC has a co-ordinator. The CYPSC Co-ordinator is responsible for communication, developing relationships, reporting, information provision and organisation and administration of meetings on behalf of their CYPSC.

Contact details for the Roscommon CYPSC Coordinator are:

Caroline Duignan
Roscommon Children and Young People's Services Committee, Coordinator
Tusla, Government Buildings, Convent Road, Roscommon.
caroline.duignan@tusla.ie
087-2941488

CYPSC Membership

Each CYPSC comprises senior managers at county level representing a range of agencies and services including:

Tusla - Child and Family Agency	Local Authority (City/County Council)	Health Service Executive (HSE)
An Garda Síochána	Education and Training Board	National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals
Irish Primary Principals Network	City / County Childcare Committee	Social Inclusion Partners e.g. Local Development Companies
Community and voluntary organisations	Probation Services	Department of Social Protection
Third Level Institution	Young person 18 - 24	

A list of the current membership of Roscommon CYPSC is available in Appendix 1.

Roscommon CYPSC has established a number of Working Groups to progress implementation of the Roscommon Children and Young People's Plan 2017 - 2019. Working Groups which have continued their work in 2020 include:

Healthy and Active 0 - 3 year olds
Convenor: Anne Marie Murphy, Health Promotion Officer HSE
National Outcome: That children and young people are active and healthy.
Development and publication of Roscommon Early Years Health and Wellbeing Plan
Social Inclusion Working Group
Convenor: Martina Earley, CEO Roscommon Leader Partnership/Caroline Duignan - Rotating
National Outcome:
Subgroup set up to address issues of social inclusion in County Roscommon
Prevention Partnership and Family Support Working Group
Convenor: Georgina Kilcoyne, Family Support Manager Tusla
National Outcome: That children and young people are safe and protected from harm.
This group is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Meitheal practice model as well as the Establishment of two geographically based Child and Family Services Networks.

Five National Outcomes for Children and Young People

The Government launched *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020* on 16th April 2014. It is the first overarching national policy framework for children and young people aged 0 - 24 years. It recognises that almost all policy has a direct or indirect effect on children and young people's lives, underscores the necessity of interagency working and tasks Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) with a key role in this regard.

The work of Children and Young People's Services Committees is informed by the 5 national outcomes for children and young people as set out in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*. The five national outcomes we want for all children and young people are that they are:

1. **Active and Healthy with physical and mental well being**
2. **Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development**
3. **Safe and protected from harm**
4. **Have economic security and opportunity**
5. **Connected, respected and contributing to their world**

Children and Young People's Services Committees National Steering Group

The Children and Young People's Services Committees National Steering Group (CYPSC SG) was established in 2012 to support the effective operation and practical implementation of Children and Young People's Services Committees at local level. It has reconfigured to align with the implementation structures in *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*. It has an independent chairperson.

The CYPSC SG chairperson is a member of the Children and Young People's Policy Consortium; representing and reporting on behalf of CYPSC.

Interagency Working

The need for interagency work is well recognised. International literature tells us that where evidence of the impact of interagency working does exist, it is mostly positive; although it takes time to become embedded in practice. When implemented well, interagency working achieves changes in the way we and our organisations work. Effective interagency working acts to create the 'permitting circumstances' for better functioning of front-line services and front-line staff. It is a vitally important part of improving outcomes for children, young people and their families, by means of its potential to improve all the front-line services that support them.

The 3 key interagency messages of the CYPSC Initiative are:

When we work together we can make a positive difference in 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.

Policy Origins

Children and Young People's Services Committees are underpinned by a number of major Government policies including:

- Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People, 2014-2020
- National Strategy for Research and Data on Children's Lives 2011-2016
- The Agenda for Children's Services – A Policy Handbook
- Towards 2016
- National Children's Strategy

Key Documents

There are several key resources that have been developed to support Children and Young People's Services Committees. These are available for download from the Resources section of the CYPSC website at www.cypsc.ie.

CYPSC Information Leaflet

This is a short information leaflet which gives an overview of CYPSC.

Shared Vision, Next Steps (2019)

Provides a succinct road map for the further development of the Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) initiative.

Effective Interagency Working by Children and Young People's Services Committees

This document provides information on interagency working and the work of CYPSC.

Toolkit for the Development of a Children's Services Committee (2012)

This is the 2nd edition of the CYPSC Toolkit. The document is a resource to assist those in the early stages of CYPSC development and those who are considering setting up a CYPSC. It will be updated in 2015.

An introductory guide to the key terms and interagency initiatives in use in the Children's Services Committees in Ireland (2010)

Contains explanations and definitions of the differing terms relating to interagency initiatives that have been in use in the CYPSC.

A review of International Evidence on Interagency Working, to Inform the Development of

Children's Services Committees in Ireland (2011)

This report focuses on specific aspects of interagency working that have already been adopted by existing CYPSC or are being considered, and within that on models of particular interest. The primary aim of this review is to contribute to the evidence base for developing CYPSC in Ireland.

Learning from Experience to Inform the Future - Findings Emerging from the Initial Phase of the Children's Services Committees in Ireland (2010)

The report presents the findings from the early implementation of CYPSC in four pilot areas, with a view to informing the future development CYPSC, both existing and new

Appendix 1 – Membership of Roscommon Children and Young People’s Services Committee

Chair: Tusla the Child and Family Agency

John Donnellan

Deputy Chair: Roscommon County Council

Social Work, Tusla

Helen Buckley

Partnership, Prevention and Family Support, Tusla

Georgina Kilcoyne

Education and Welfare Services, Tusla

Bridget McGreal

CYPSC Co-ordinator Galway

Morgan Mee

Researcher

Marie Gibbons

An Garda Síochána

Fergal O’Donnell

Public Health Nursing, HSE

Jan Flanagan

Health and Wellbeing Division, HSE

Eamon Hannan

Disability Services, HSE

Mary Owens

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Dr. Philip Tyndall

Roscommon County Childcare Committee

Irene Cafferkey

The Probation Service

Alma Gavin

Roscommon Leader Partnership

Martina Earley

Jigsaw

Sarah Simkin

Irish Primary Principals’ Network

Arthur Griffiths

National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals

Fiona Gallagher

Family Resource Centres, Roscommon

Louise Moran

Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board

Sinead Morgan

Foróige

Dick O’Donovan

AIT Athlone Students’ Union

Appendix 2 – Glossary of Initialism’s and Acronyms

- **ABC** Area Based Childhood Programme
- **ARM** Alternative Response Model
- **BOBF** Better Outcome Brighter Futures National Policy Framework for Children and Young People
- **C&V** Community and Voluntary
- **CAF** Common Assessment Framework
- **CAMHS** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- **CAWT** Co-operation and Working Together
- **CCC** City and County Childcare Committees
- **CES** Centre for Effective Services
- **CFSN** Child and Family Support Network
- **CVS** Community and Voluntary sector
- **CYPP** Children and Young People’s Plan
- **CYPSC** Children and Young People’s Services Committees
- **CYPSC SG** National Children and Young People’s Services Committees Steering Group
- **DCYA** Department of Children and Youth Affairs
- **DECLG** Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government
- **DEIS** Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
- **DES** Department of Education and Skills
- **DOH** Department of Health
- **DRM** Differential Response Model
- **DSP** Department of Social Protection
- **DTF** Drugs Task Force
- **ECCE** Early Childhood Care and Education
- **ESL** Early School Leaving
- **ETB** Education and Training Board
- **EWS** Educational Welfare Services
- **FRC** Family Resource Centre
- **HEA** Higher Education Authority
- **HIF** Healthy Ireland Fund
- **HIQA** Health Information and Quality Authority
- **HSE** Health Service Executive
- **ILDN** Irish Local Development Network
- **IPPN** Irish Primary Principals’ Network
- **IYJS** Irish Youth Justice Service
- **LA** Local Authority
- **LAP** Local Area Pathway
- **LCDC** Local Community Development Committee
- **LDC** Local Development Company
- **LDTF** Local Drugs Task Force

- **LECP** Local Economic and Community Plan (compiled by LCDC)
- **NAPD** National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals
- **NEPS** National Educational Psychological Service
- **NGO** Non-Governmental Organisation
- **PAW** Public Awareness Week
- **PEI** Prevention and Early Intervention
- **PPFS** Prevention Partnership and Family Support
- **PPN** Public Participation Network
- **RLP** Roscommon Leader Partnership
- **SCO** Sustainable Community Objective
- **SCP** School Completion Programme
- **SEDO** Sustainable Economic Development Objective
- **SICAP** Social Inclusion Activation Programme
- **SPC** Strategic Policy Committee
- **Tusla CFA** Tusla the Child and Family Agency
- **WRDATF** Western Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force

Please read *An Introductory guide to the key terms and interagency initiatives in use in the Children's Services Committees in Ireland* available in the Resources section of www.cypsc.ie for a plain English description of many of the terms, concepts and approaches widely referred to by Children and Young People's Services Committees.