



# South Dublin County Children and Young People's Services Committee

## 2022 Annual Report



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## Foreword

As the Chairperson of the South Dublin County Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) and on behalf of CYPSC member organisations, I am delighted to introduce our third annual report. This report provides an overview of work achieved and progress with the implementation of our three-year Children and Young People's plan. The report represents the final report on the implementation of our current three-year strategic plan. This plan was launched in February 2020 and this report provides a final overview of progress with the implementation of the various actions.

I would like to thank all CYPSC members for their active involvement in various sub-groups, in particular, our CYPSC Co-ordinator Joe Rynn, the Vice Chair Colm Ward, the chairs of each sub-group for their work over the past 12 months, and the National CYPSC Office for its support. This report set out progress made over the last year with the implementation of the plan. Work has progressed on a range of actions identified within the plan and a summary of work achieved by each of our sub-groups is outlined in this report. This includes work by each of our sub-groups and achievements during 2022. This has included updates on the work of the youth mental health sub-group, in particular a new initiative being developed by partners to address school avoidance and wellbeing, a new initiative on disability support training, supports provided for autism-related projects through our Healthy Ireland funding, and a seminar on child poverty which took place earlier this year.

South Dublin CYPSC activated its Critical incident protocol in 2022. I would like to acknowledge the work of all the agencies who assisted in co-ordinating the response. The protocol demonstrated the effectiveness of interagency working and the importance of all agencies being able to work together in an effective and co-ordinated manner to support the community impacted.

These are just a small example of the range of initiatives which have been progressed by CYPSC members, the report provides an overview of these and more actions. I would particularly like to acknowledge the work of the South Dublin CYPSC homeless sub-group and all the partner agencies involved in this group. This sub-group was recognised for its work winning a bronze award, at the inaugural Tusla excellence awards, for innovation in service delivery. This award was well deserved, and my congratulations to all members of the sub-group.

2022 has been a challenging year for all CYPSC members, as we emerged from the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges this presented, we also faced the direct impacts arising from the war in Ukraine and increasing numbers of people arriving on our shores seeking international protection, along with a cost-of-living crisis which has impacted families. All CYPSC members have responded to calls for support, however, managing the increased demands for support will be a challenge for all services.

In conclusion, I look forward to working with my colleagues within South Dublin CYPSC during 2023 as we continue our important work. I strongly believe that by working together and in partnership, we can achieve better outcomes for our children and young people in South Dublin County. As outlined this report marks the final report of our current three-year plan, this is a milestone for the committee, as South Dublin CYPSC has successfully delivered on the implementation of the plan. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all CYPSC members, Chairs of the sub-groups, members of the sub-group for their commitment to the work of South Dublin CYPSC which has enabled us to progress with the implementation of this plan. This commitment has enabled us to progress many of the actions. We will shortly commence work on our new three-year plan, and we will be seeking input from all stakeholders to support us with the development of this plan. This new plan will consolidate and build upon the positive work to date and cultivate leadership through 'joined up working' and 'joined up thinking' with all its members.

Audrey Warren  
Chairperson South Dublin County CYPSC  
Area Manager  
Dublin South West, Kildare/West Wicklow.

## 1. Introduction

The purpose of the Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) is to secure better outcomes for children and young people through more effective co-operation and collaboration by existing services and through interventions at a local level.

This is achieved through enhanced planning, co-ordination, oversight of policy implementation and service provision locally. CYPSC acts as the structure whereby services can work together in a systematic manner to achieve shared goals which bridge national policy with local provision.

A well-functioning CYPSC will harness the collective strengths of its member agencies to ensure a planned, co-ordinated and concerted response to the needs of children and young people at a local level. It is not the purpose of a CYPSC to displace existing structures of accountability which apply to member agencies. However, at local level, members will have the opportunity to test local implementation and to complement national planning by identifying opportunities for collaboration, reducing duplication of effort and ensuring that services are both flexible to locally identified needs and informed by identified national priorities.

CYPSC works 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.

**VISION**

Our vision is to make Ireland the best small country in the world in which to grow up and raise a family, and where the rights of all children and young people are respected, protected and fulfilled; where their voices are heard and where they are supported to realise their maximum potential now and in the future.

**NATIONAL OUTCOMES**

- Active & healthy, physical & mental wellbeing
- Achieving full potential in all areas of learning & development
- Safe & protected from harm
- Economic security & opportunity
- Connected, respected & contributing to their world

### 1.1 South Dublin County Children and Young People's Service Committee

The South Dublin CYPSC was established in 2007 by the then Minister of Children and Youth Affairs under the auspices of the County Development Board. Its membership was drawn from a number of key agencies.

Over the past number of years, the South Dublin CYPSC has worked to develop a space where agencies, engaged in service delivery to children and their families, are facilitated in their work to deliver integrated services and interventions for children in the South Dublin County Council administrative area.

South Dublin CYPSC has been actively engaged in the delivery of its current three-year plan which was officially launched in January 2020. New areas of priority were identified and included in the plan which members are now progressing. The South Dublin CYPSC has worked to ensure that all statutory, community and voluntary organisations involved in the delivery of services to children, young people and families across the region are aware of the existence of the local committee. Recognising the importance of their support, input and guidance, the senior managers of those organisations responsible for the delivery of services for children and families work to ensure this information and knowledge is shared with both CYPSC members and internally in their own organisations.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Audrey Warren	Area Manager (Chairperson)	Tusla
Colm Ward	Directory of Community and Housing (Vice Chairperson)	South Dublin County Council
Joe Rynn	CYPSC Co-ordinator	Tusla
Raymond Blake	Inspector	An Garda Síochána
Liam Casey	Inspector	An Garda Síochána
Caroline Sheehan	PPFS Senior Manager	Tusla
Tara Deasy	Prevention and Intervention Officer	Clondalkin Drugs Task Force
Daniel Russell	Health Promotion Officer	HSE
Maria Hayes	Principal Social Worker PPFS	Tusla
Karin Jonsson	Manager	Quarryvale Family Resource Centre
Fidelma Martin	Manager	South Dublin County Childcare Committee
Vacant		Tallaght Hospital
Muara O Shea	Principal	Irish Primary Principals' Network
Donna Doyle	Manager	Jigsaw
Martin MacEntee	Youth Officer	ETB
Vacant	Young People's Representative	Comhairle na nÓg
Andy Leeson	Area Manager	Foróige
Adrienne Mooney	Dept of Social Protection	Department of Social Protection
Hugh Doogan	CEO	Archways
Niamh Quinlivan	Speech and Language Therapy Manager	CAMHS
Carolyn Brennan	Public Health Nursing	HSE
Geraldine O'Hara	Senior Manager	Daughters of Charity
Joy O'Shaughnessy	Co-ordinator	South County Dublin Partnership
Justin Parkes	Primary Care Manager	HSE
Marian Quinn	CEO	Childhood Development Initiative
Emer Hyland	Regional Manager	Tusla Educational and Welfare Service
Emily Smart	Manager	Clondalkin Travellers Development Group
Patrick Nevin	Manager	Tallaght Travellers Development Group
Kerri Smith	Assistant Director of Services	Barnardo's
Greg Tierney	Senior Manager	Crosscare

Table 1 Current Membership of South Dublin CYPSC

**Local Governance**

Tusla Child and Family Agency (Chair) Local Authority (Vice Chair)		
Health Service Executive Education and Training Board An Garda Síochána Child Adolescent Mental Health Services Local Authority	Community and Voluntary Organisations Social Inclusion Partners County Childcare Committee Young Person	Third Level Institution (Tallaght IT) Irish Primary Principals' Network National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals

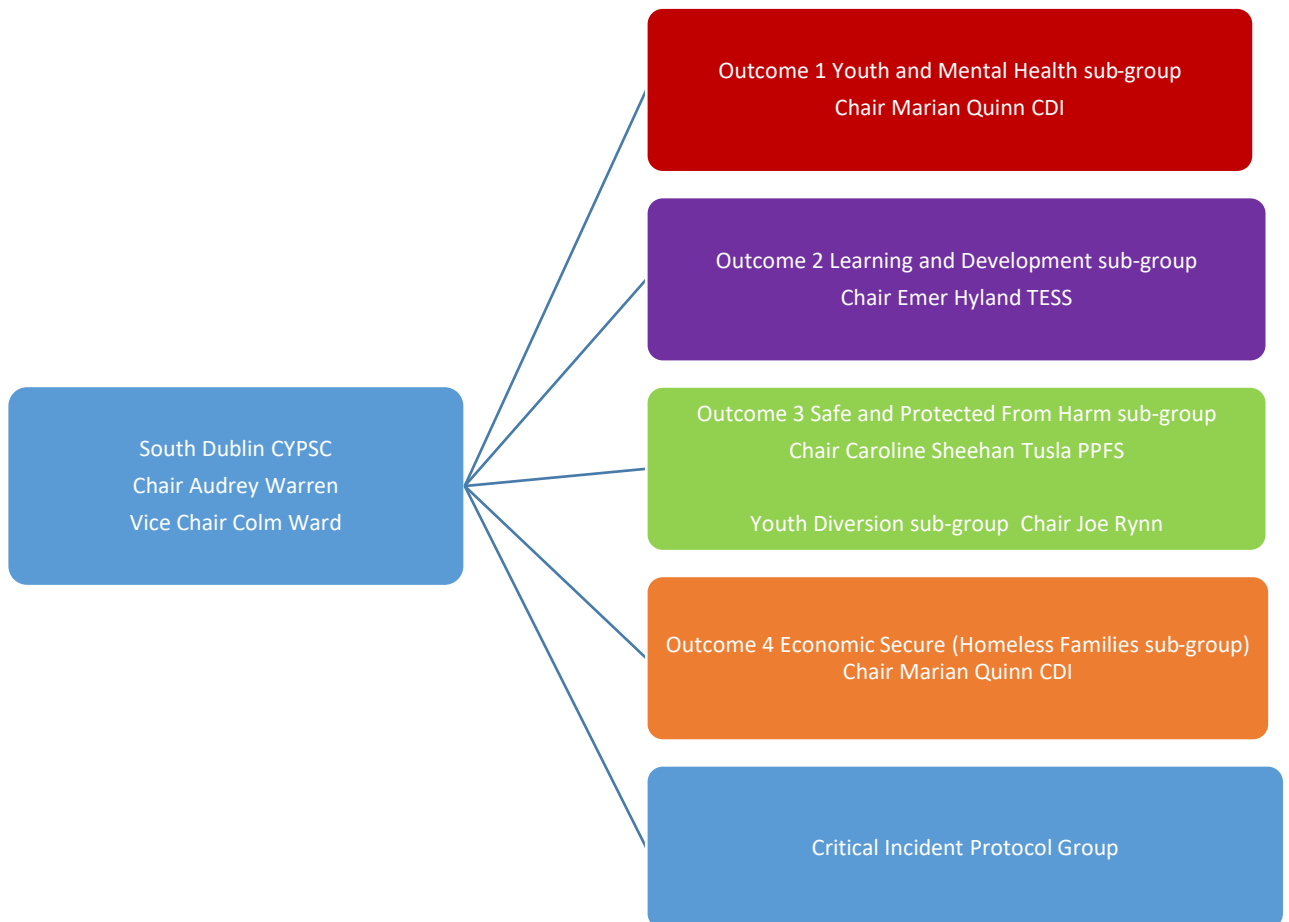


Figure 1 Current South Dublin CYPSC Structure

## 2. Achievements during 2022

South Dublin CYPSC has worked closely with stakeholders to understand the needs and gaps in service provision for children and young people. This has been supported through the establishment of the CYPSC structure and various working groups. This has ensured:

- Commitment of member organisations to progress the work of the CYPSC in the context of increasing demands, reduced resources and changing environment
- Strengthening of interagency relationships among member organisations
- Enhanced understanding among member organisations of the role and value of the CYPSC
- Development of the CYPSC as a forum for highlighting needs, issues, gaps and successes

### Key Achievements

During 2022 South Dublin CYPSC worked as a key structure in the county to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people aged 0 – 24 years.

Strategic Input	Children Young People's Plan Implementation	Additional Priority Areas to emerge during 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• South Dublin CYPSC prepared a submission to the Department Children Integration, Equality, Disability &amp; Youth on a review of the Childcare Act, 1991</li><li>• Representatives from Comhairle na nÓg sitting on two strategic committees South Dublin Youth Mental Health sub-group and Homeless sub-group</li><li>• South Dublin CYPSC members held on strategic review meeting</li><li>• Child Poverty Seminar organised jointly with South Dublin LCDC; this consultation meeting will feed into the new Local Community &amp; Economic Plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One annual work programme agreed and implemented</li><li>• Five sub-groups operating with new sub-group established for Youth Diversion Projects</li><li>• Progressing actions under 5 national outcomes</li><li>• BOBF Programme funding approved to support 10 projects</li><li>• Healthy Ireland €48,000 approved for 2022, supporting 14 projects on the theme of autism</li><li>• Funding approved to support Ukrainian response</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• South Dublin CYPSC Information Hub provided central information point for members</li><li>• South Dublin CYPSC provided members with a forum to plan and respond to emerging needs and funding for specific initiatives</li><li>• New initiative on School Avoidance developed by Childhood Development Initiative with CYPSC members</li><li>• Ukrainian &amp; IPAS sub-group established to support the local response</li></ul>

Figure 2: Summary of key achievements

## 2.1 Summary of Outputs for 2022

During 2022 South Dublin CYPSC met on **seven occasions** with sub-groups meeting collectively **23 times**.



Figure 3: South Dublin CYPSC Meetings during 2022.



2022 South Dublin CYPSC BOBF Programme Funding Commitments.

Description	Funding Level	Output
Annual Report	€258	1 annual report
Review Meeting	€738	1 annual review meeting and 1 work plan developed
Child Poverty Seminar	€700	1 child poverty seminar
Quality Matters	€225	Clondalkin under 18 service
CDI Tallaght	€3000	Predevelopment funding to support the development of School avoidance and wellbeing project
Tallaght Travellers	€800	Funding to support event connected to world mental health day
Early School Resource Project	900	Completion of mapping exercise on supports and resources available in the county and development of one-stop shop information resource for services, families and young people
Women's Aid Training	€1,200	Women's Aid Training
3rd Round of Women's Aid Awareness Training	€600	3rd Round of Women's Aid Awareness Training
DESSA 8 Week training	€2,500	Training programme to support Family Support Workers in developing the capacity, and confidence to effectively engage with the parents of young children with additional needs
CDI Tallaght -	€4,963	Roll out Talk Boost and Early Talkboost to Early Years and Primary Schools in Tallaght
Respond	€2,000	Summer Activities & Programmes for children in family hubs
Focus Ireland	€2,000	Summer Activities & Programmes for children within family hubs
St Kevin's FRC	€2,555	Delivery of supports including access to local services, for Ukrainian families
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>€30,597</b>	

Table 2: 2022 BOBF Programme funding commitments.

South Dublin CYPSC Healthy Ireland Funding. South Dublin CYPSC members agreed that a programme plan would be developed under the theme of autism. The overall project would seek to support children, young people with autism and their families.

Summary	Total Budget	Output
Rathcoole Parent & Toddler Group	€2,800	1 parent & toddler group
Quarryvale FRC Afterschool Programme.	€2,650	Afterschool catering for 18 children
SparkAbility	€8,000	Additional resources will enable support for 50 families
Crosscare Lucan Autism Support Group Youth group working with young people with autism	€3,000	Funding to support youth workers to bring young people on more trips out to enhance their social skills
Daughters of Charity	€3,020	Delivery of The Leadership for Life programme. Jobstown Family Centre
Daughters of Charity	€3,000	Jobstown Family Centre Neurodiversity Programme. One day a week activity camp over six weeks of the Summer
Daughters of Charity	€1,460	Jobstown Child and Family Service psycho-educational support to parents of both newly diagnosed children with autism
Enable Ireland	€6,200	Pilot 8 week after school "Forest School" for children with autism aged 6-10  Pilot Inclusive Café for Teenagers with Autism  Water confidence lessons for children with autism 4-6 years
Twiggs Halloween Camp	€5,800	Camp for 5 children, along with the allocation of 10 afterschool places to support children with additional access
Killinarden Family Resource Centre-	€5,760	Provision of art therapy programme for children with additional needs to access, supporting 32 children
Tallaght Leisure Centre	€684	Swimming lessons for children with qualified swim teacher to work with children with autism
YMCA	€4,000	YMCA- Training Programme for staff working with young people
<b>Total</b>	<b>€46,374</b>	

Table 3: South Dublin CYPSC Healthy Ireland Funding

### 3. South Dublin CYPSC Children and Young People's 2020 - Three Year Plan



*Katherine Zappone T.D., Minister for Children and Youth Affairs launching the three-year plan.*

The official launch of the South Dublin CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan took place on the 17 January 2020. South Dublin CYPSC has been focused on delivering the actions and recommendations identified within the three-year plan. This has been achieved through the development of a yearly implementation plan. This report is the South Dublin CYPSC's second annual report and outlines progress with the implementation of the plan. 2022 represents the third and final year of the Children and Young People's Plan implementation and work will commence in 2023 to develop a new three-year plan. This report outlines work and achievements through year three of the current plans' implementation.



Figure 4: South Dublin CYPSC sub-groups

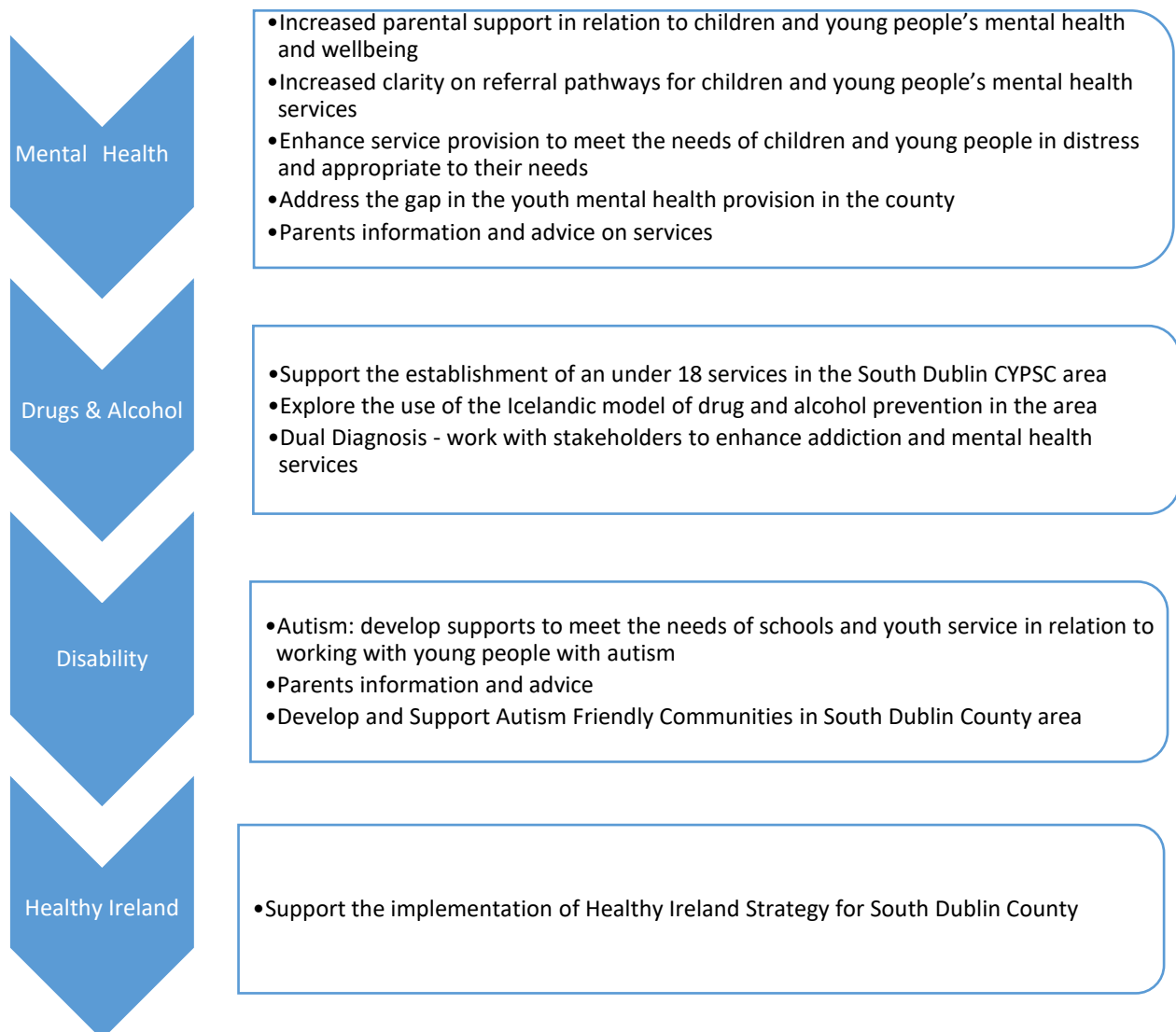
Through the implementation of this plan, South Dublin CYPSC has worked to address and respond to the identified needs. South Dublin CYPSC is committed to proactively working and engaging with children and young people and working collaboratively with parents and carers in all of its actions. South Dublin CYPSC through implementing its programme of work has sought to demonstrate a measurable impact on the lives of children and young people. This has been further supported through South Dublin CYPSC's key strength, the collaborative nature of its work and the openness of agencies and individual staff to adopt this approach. This has assisted South Dublin CYPSC to further develop and support the co-ordination and planning of efficient and effective services for children and young people.

Following the launch of the plan, South Dublin CYPSC, through its various sub-groups, commenced work on the implementation of the three-year plan. This included the establishment of various sub-groups to progress actions under the five national outcomes. The next section of the report provides a short overview of the work of each sub-group, this includes priorities within the three-year plan and progress achieved to date.

#### 4.1 Outcome 1: Active and Healthy sub-group

**Youth Mental Health sub-group membership:** Joe Rynn (CYPSC Co-ordinator), Marian Quinn (CDI) Chairperson, Andy Leeson (Foróige), Sorcha O'Toole (NEPS), Ciara O'Keeffe (CAMHS), Marsha Williams (HSE Suicide Resource Officer), Tara Deacy (Clondalkin DATF), John Owens (Jigsaw), Lisa Betts (Crosscare), Alix Brady ( Comhairle Na Nóg)

#### Summary of priorities within South Dublin CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan

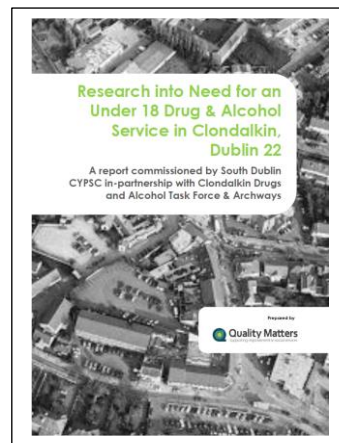


This sub-group is currently chaired by Marian Quinn CDI. During 2021 Marsha Williams (HSE Suicide Resource Officer), joined the group in 2022. This sub-group met remotely **six times** during 2022.

## Progress Achieved During 2022

**Under 18 Addiction Service Clondalkin Area** - Funding was approved by South Dublin CYPSC to complete a study into the need for an under-18 addiction service in the Clondalkin area. This project has now progressed with the support of the Clondalkin Drugs Task Force

The Youth Drug and Alcohol Programme (YDAP) is a new service for under 18s in the CDATF catchment area. It was established as a pilot in 2019. It is a response to a long-established need for an under-18 service for young people using drugs and alcohol in the area. A co-ordinator has been hired and is working well with the team, he is mentoring the staff and is working on the overall direction and branding of the service. This has included overseeing current practices and how they are working. A more streamlined process has now been established which includes screening, assessment, care planning and treatment planning. In addition, more statistical information is now being gathered, which are included in the National Drug Treatment Report System (NDTRS) along with a quarterly reporting system.



An increased focus has been placed on treatment pathways along with working directly with families. Some emerging areas identified to date include:

- School avoidance and attendance
- Dual diagnosis
- Waiting times for services from CAMHS
- Suitable premises including permanent workable and accessible space are crucial in order for this service to be sustained
- Work is also underway with a view to developing satellite clinics and building relationships with other projects to support this

### **School wellbeing and engagement project**

The Childhood Development Initiative has established an interagency group to support schools and young people experiencing school avoidance. Funding totalling €300,000 was secured for a three year period to support this initiative from the Toy Show Fund and Google Ireland.

A new co-ordinator has been recruited to support the delivery of this project. Four secondary schools and nine primary schools from the Tallaght area have agreed to participate in the project. This project will include a number of levels:

- Adaptation of toolkit developed in other CYPSC areas on school avoidance. Nine schools to receive training on tool kit
- Additional training supports to be offered to schools e.g. Friends for Life Training
- Development of a Merithal type support plan for young people identified by Educational Welfare Officers who are demonstrating emotion-based school avoidance. This will include supports for young people and their parents
- Frontline staff working will be provided with a peer-to-peer group to reflect on learnings etc.

## Wellbeing Resources

The Youth Mental Health sub-group has also examined resources for young people whose parents experience mental health distress, with a view to developing a support plan connected to them. This included the following.

Wellbeing in the Home Programme (WITH), established in Mayo, provides an online information resource for young people whose parents experience mental health distress.

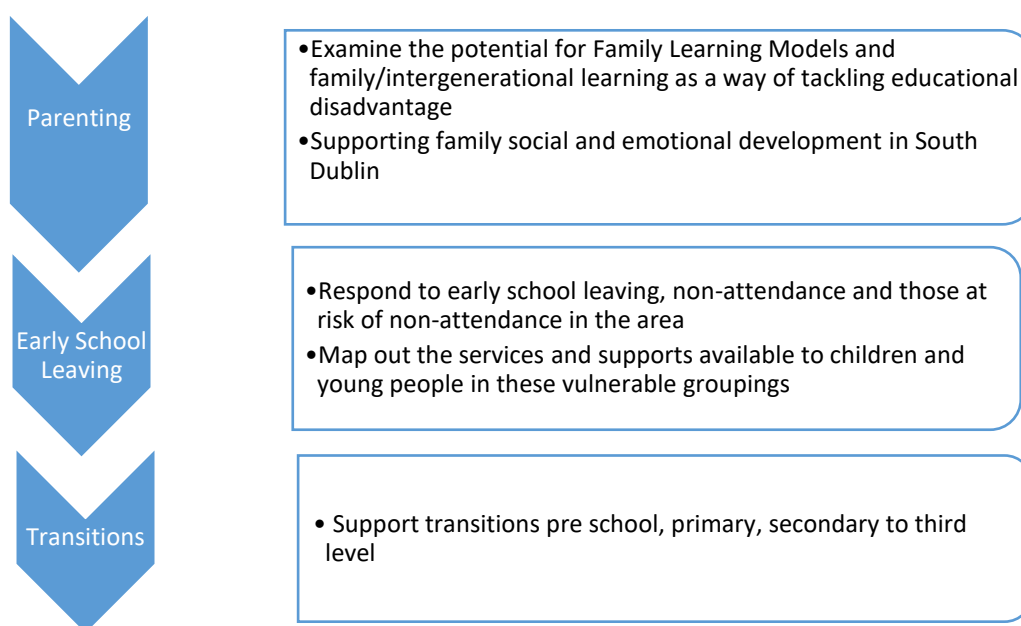
The PRIMERA project takes a 'whole of family' approach within mental health services, including automatic consideration of children when a parent has a mental health illness. Recommendations were identified by the PRIMERA research team as a result of their collaborative work with clinicians and HSE management to identify, implement and evaluate a family mental health intervention called Family Talk across a wide range of adult, child, and primary care mental health sites. Family Talk is the first family-focused mental health programme of its kind to be delivered in Ireland and involves a comprehensive whole-family approach designed to improve family communication/ relationships and resilience when there is parental mental illness. The programme has been initially piloted in the Mayo area and involved six sessions being delivered by a trained practitioner.



#### 4.2 Outcome 2: Achieving in all areas of learning and development

**Membership Learning & Development sub-group:** Joe Rynn (South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator), Jonathan Doyle (Citywise), Marianne Casey (South Dublin Childcare Committee), Anne Genockey (An Cosán), Grainne Boucher (South Dublin County Partnership), Roisin McLindon (ETB), Noleen O'Brien (Foróige), Tom Crean (School Completion), Jackie James (School Completion), Susan Scott (Crosscare).

#### Summary of priorities within South Dublin CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan



This sub-group has specific responsibility for supporting the implementation of actions identified under Outcome 2 of the three-year strategy. During 2022 members of the sub-group met five times and the actions progressed during 2022 included:

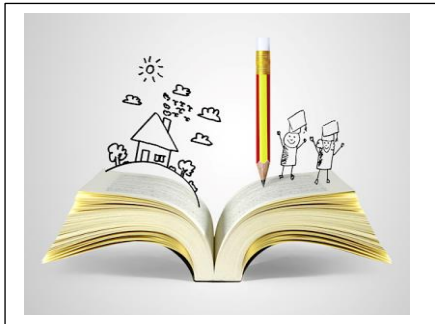
**School Avoidance:** The development of a school avoidance pack for schools in South Dublin County. This project is being addressed through the School Wellbeing project referenced earlier in this report.

**Construction Jobs fair:** This was organised by the Department of Social Protection. This fair was promoted by sub-group members, targeting schools and young people in the area. The fair took place in Tallaght Stadium on 18 May 2022. There was strong engagement from local schools, local youth organisations and very good engagement between young people and employers. The event targeted over 10,000 people who are currently on the live register.



**Apprenticeship Resources:** An overview of the information supports provided by Crosscare through its Youth Information Team and various resources available from Crosscare was provided to all CYPSC sub-group members.

**Early School Leaving:** The development of greater information which is accessible to schools and young people, outlining the type of supports which are available, should a young person decide to leave school early and how to access them has been examined. Work has commenced on the development of an information resource. The resource will be developed in consultation with some young people. This project will seek to develop a similar resource to one developed by Dún Laoghaire CYPSC area, through its website [www.letslearnldr.ie](http://www.letslearnldr.ie). This project will take place over the following three phases.



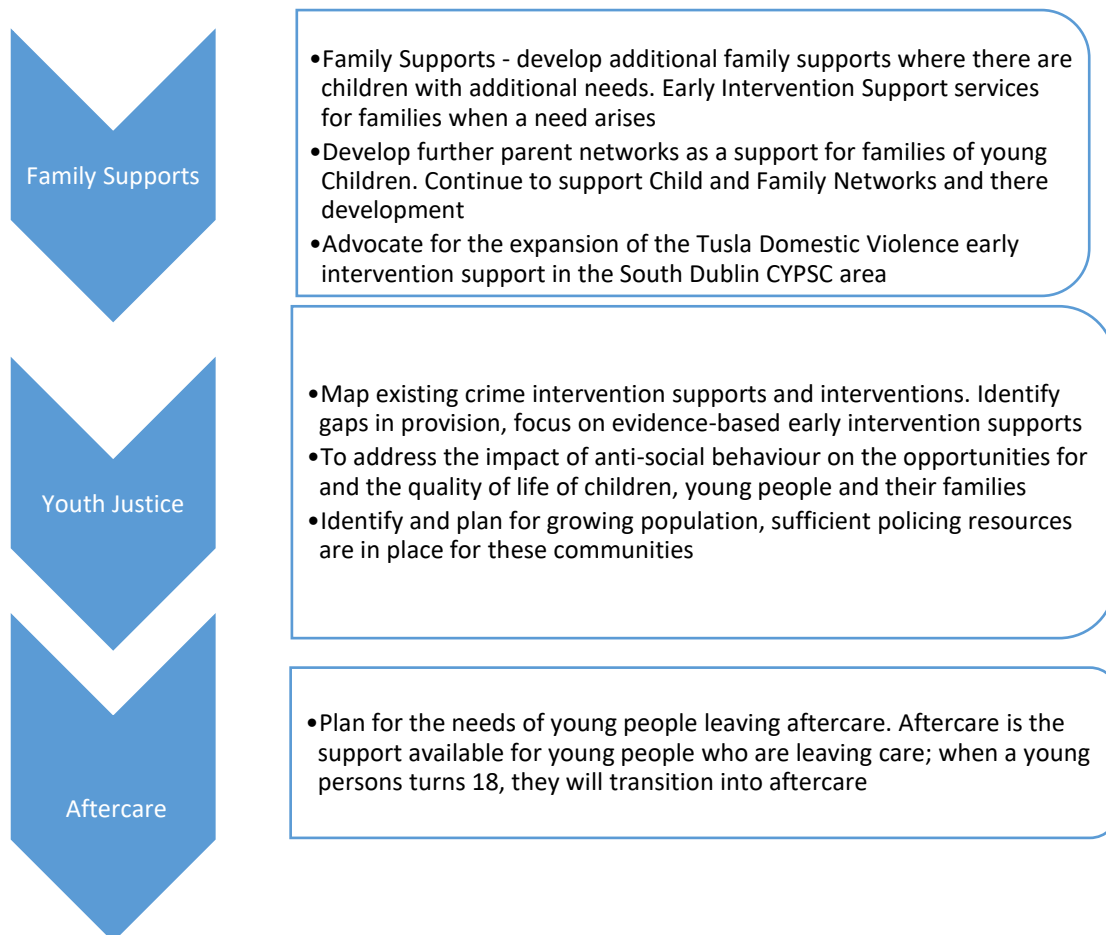
- Review existing data against headings set out in the let's learn website and present this against the template
- Complete an updated mapping exercise on various training and educational supports which are available in the county and map them against the various headings
- Complete an updated directory of services with a view to establishing a dedicated information resource for young people



### 4.3 Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm

**Membership:** Joe Rynn (South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator), Caroline Sheehan (Tusla Senior Manager PPFS Manager and Chair), Geraldine O'Hara (Daughters of Charity), Joy O'Shaughnessy (South Dublin County Partnership), Kirsten Byrne (Tusla DVS), Sarah Cummins (Barnardo's), Grainne Finnegan (Senior CFSN Co-ordinator), Sonya Logan (Sonas), Karen Costello (Archways Clondalkin), Celine Moran (Childhood Development Initiative), Deborah Hallissey (Quarryvale FRC), Peter O'Neil (CFSN Co-ordinator), Sadhbh O'Donoghue (Saoirse Refuge), Caroyln Brennan (PHN) Carla Jones (Clondalkin Travellers Development Group), Geraldine Farren (Cheverstown House), Mary O'Brien (Tusla Senior CFSN Co-ordinator), Mary O'Brien (Tusla Senior CFSN Co-ordinator) Sadhbh O'Donoghue (Saoirse Refuge), Danielle Perry (Barnardo's), Peter O'Neil (CFSN Co-ordinator) Anne Genockey (An Cosán).

#### Summary of priorities within South Dublin CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan



The group is currently chaired by Caroline Sheehan, Tusla Senior Manager PPFS Manager. The sub-group has been active during 2022 and met remotely four times.

## Family Supports Progress achieved during 2022

### Domestic Violence Supports



**TLC Kidz Programme:** Funding was approved by the Tusla national office which will support the employment of two part-time TLC Kidz co-ordinators. The co-ordinators will support the delivery of this programme across the two CYPSC areas.

**Women's Aid Domestic Violence Awareness Training:** In response to an increased number of referrals being made to domestic violence services, South Dublin CYPSC funded two online awareness programmes which were targeted at frontline staff. This training provides participants with foundation knowledge to appropriately respond and link women to support services both locally and nationally. Two online programmes were delivered with South Dublin County to 24 participants.

### Tallaght Parents Support Network Calendar:

South Dublin County Partnership developed a yearly calendar to promote all its activities and parenting supports. The calendar was distributed through all CYPSC sub-group members.



**Help @ Home:** In 2022 South Dublin County Partnership recruited a co-ordinator who will support the development of this initiative. The project will seek to provide support to families with various household duties, local volunteers will support the programme. The referral process will take place through a CFSN Co-ordinator as families engaged in Meitheal will be an effective manner to identify families who may need support.

**DESSA Disability Support Training:** South Dublin CYPSC has worked with DESSA to support the design and delivery of a tailored training programme in disability equality, advocacy and inclusion to South County Dublin CYPSC members. This programme will support Family Support workers in developing the capacity, confidence and know-how to effectively engage with the parents of young children with additional needs. Sixteen Family Support workers will participate in an eight-session training programme to develop the competence and skills in supporting parents of children with additional needs.

**Whatworks Share Knowledge Funding:** DESSA in partnership with South Dublin CYPSC, Dublin City South CYPSC and Wexford CYPSC secured funding to support the development of an eLearning project. The project will seek to develop an online eLearning course. Funding of €20,000 was approved from Whatworks to support this initiative.

The programme has the following aims.



- Increase confidence and understanding to promoting the inclusion of disabled people in Ireland
- Provide practical guidance and information to help participants to know more about disability as an equality/human rights issue
- How to support and promote the inclusion of disabled people in your work/service/organisation
- The role of the community and voluntary sector in promoting inclusion

**Killinarden Drop-in Service:** Work has continued to support the development of a drop-in service in the Killinarden area. This service began in September 2022 and is supported by an interagency group that supports the drop-in through a weekly rota. The initiative places a particular focus on parents, acting as signposts and helping them navigate and access services.

Members of this sub-group include:

- Child and Family Support Network
- Tallaght Drugs Task Force
- YoDA
- Foróige KEY Project Killinarden
- Killinarden Community Centre
- Killinarden Community Council Youth Project
- CARP
- South Dublin CYP



In addition to providing a weekly drop-in support for parents, an information morning was organised by the inter-agency group. This event was attended by all agencies, providing an opportunity for services to meet and shared information along with supporting parents to access these supports. This event was supported by South Dublin CYPSC.



## South Dublin Childcare Committee Mental Health Workshops

South Dublin CYPSC provided funding to support the South Dublin Childcare Committee to provide mental health workshops for managers and practitioners in Early Years and School Age Childcare Services in South Dublin.

2021 and 2022 have been challenging years for Early Years and School Age Childcare Providers due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns and changes to funding arrangements for services. To support these services in dealing with stress for both managers and Early Years educators, South Dublin County Childcare Committee organised two training sessions, the first for managers of Early Years and School Age Childcare Services and the second for childcare practitioners.



The aims of the interactive workshop were to support participants to:

- Understand and explore the knowledge necessary to nurture and enhance mental health and well-being in the workplace.
  - Explore how to adopt and enhance practical supports to maintain mental health and well-being in the workplace.
  - Reflect on and challenge perceptions of mental health.
  - Provide practical tips to improve and sustain wellbeing.
  - Examine what impacts both negatively and positively on mental health.
  - Provide guidance on how to generate, facilitate and engage in conversations about mental health in the workplace.
  - Provide guidance on how to support an employee who discloses that they are experiencing a mental health challenge.

The workshop for managers took place on Saturday 17 September 2022.

Ten managers of Early Years and School Age Childcare Services (SAC) in South Dublin attended the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel for the Mental Health session which was facilitated by Mental Health Ireland.

The workshop for staff in Early Years and School Age services took place in the Louis Fitzgerald Hotel on 24 September and 14 participants attended from services in the South Dublin area.

### **Mac Ulliam Interagency Group**

A small interagency group was established to consider the emerging issues for families, children and young people living within this area. This group is being chaired by the South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator and includes a variety of local agencies working in the area. This includes South Dublin CYPSC, School Completion, Tusla CFNS, Creative Places, ETB, YMCA, Barnardo's, and South Dublin Council. A number of achievements delivered by this group included a fun day for families and a trip to Dublin Zoo.

The family fun day took place on Saturday 18 June and over 300 people attended the estate's family fun day.

Attendees were treated to a variety of exciting activities, including giant Jenga and giant Connect Four, while the 'Our Moment in Time' exhibition, a celebration of family, friends and community through photography, offered a moment of reflection. The fun day was organised by the South Dublin County Partnership, South Dublin County Council and Barnardo's.

The event is part of the efforts of the Mac Ulliam interagency group to increase participation of residents through a series of collective action activities to improve the status of the estate.



### **Dublin Zoo**

Another initiative supported by the Interagency group, focused on providing a day out for families living in the estate. Working with the Mac Ulliam Community Development Group, who encouraged families to participate on the day; the event saw 63 participants made up of 19 families. Two staff from South Dublin County Partnership supported the event. Funding was provided by South Dublin CYPSC to support the work of the interagency group.



## **Youth Justice Progress achieved during 2022**

A new sub-group was established in 2022 and met on three occasions during 2022. Membership of this new sub-group is listed below.

**Membership:** Joe Rynn (South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator), Stephen Coughlan (Archways), Olive Monaghan (Tallaght Probation Project), Sophie Doyle APT Project (Tymon North/Ballycragh/Springfield), Tom Riordan and Sandra Monaghan JAY Project (Jobstown), Roisin Walsh KEY Project (Killinarden), Robert Byrne YEW Project (Whitechurch), Paul O'Brien (KEY Garda Youth Diversion Project Foróige), Kevin Dickson Boost Project (Brookfield), Miriam Keegan (Tusla), Peter Duff (An Garda Síochána).

### **The sub-group has set out the following objectives:**

- Enhance supports and interventions in South Dublin CYPSC Area.
- To strengthen the prevention supports and interventions operating in the South Dublin CYPSC area.
- To identify gaps in provision, focusing on early intervention.
- To enhance current programmes to meet emerging gaps.
- To address and reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour on the opportunities and quality of life of children, and young people's families.

During 2022 members of the sub-group examined specific gaps which could be addressed through enhanced interagency working. Members are developing a number of case studies to highlight gaps and barriers which young people are experiencing. These will be presented to South Dublin CYPSC in 2023.

Following the launch of the new Youth Justice Strategy, additional funding was allocated to support the expansion of a number of youth diversion projects across South Dublin County. €6.7 million in funding is being allocated to over 50 projects around the country. Funding will go towards assisting projects with boundary extensions, appointing family support workers, working with harder-to-engage children and early intervention. Funding was approved in South Dublin County to support the expansion of the areas covered, provision of additional family support workers, and supports for young people aged 8 -11 who are identified by gardai, schools and youth workers.

## **Aftercare Dublin South West progress achieved during 2022**

Aftercare steering committees were established in the 17 areas within Tusla. The aftercare steering committees provide a forum for planning, implementing and monitoring a comprehensive, integrative aftercare plan for young people/young adults in receipt of aftercare. The approach taken is a multidisciplinary, multiagency approach. Within South Dublin CYPSC three year plan, the work of the aftercare team and local steering committee is highlighted. The action under outcome three of the plan seeks to enhance linkages and provide a better understanding of the work of the aftercare team across all agency organisations involved in South Dublin CYPSC.

The CYPSC Co-ordinator currently sits on the aftercare committee providing a direct link between it and the CYPSC Committee.

- Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow has the third highest number of young people in the country in aftercare.
- There were 34 referrals discussed in the Steering Committees in 2022. 23 of these were in the Dublin South West Committee and 11 were in the Kildare West Wicklow Committee.
- The Dublin South West committee referral rate remained relatively unchanged as did the number of cases closed to both committees.

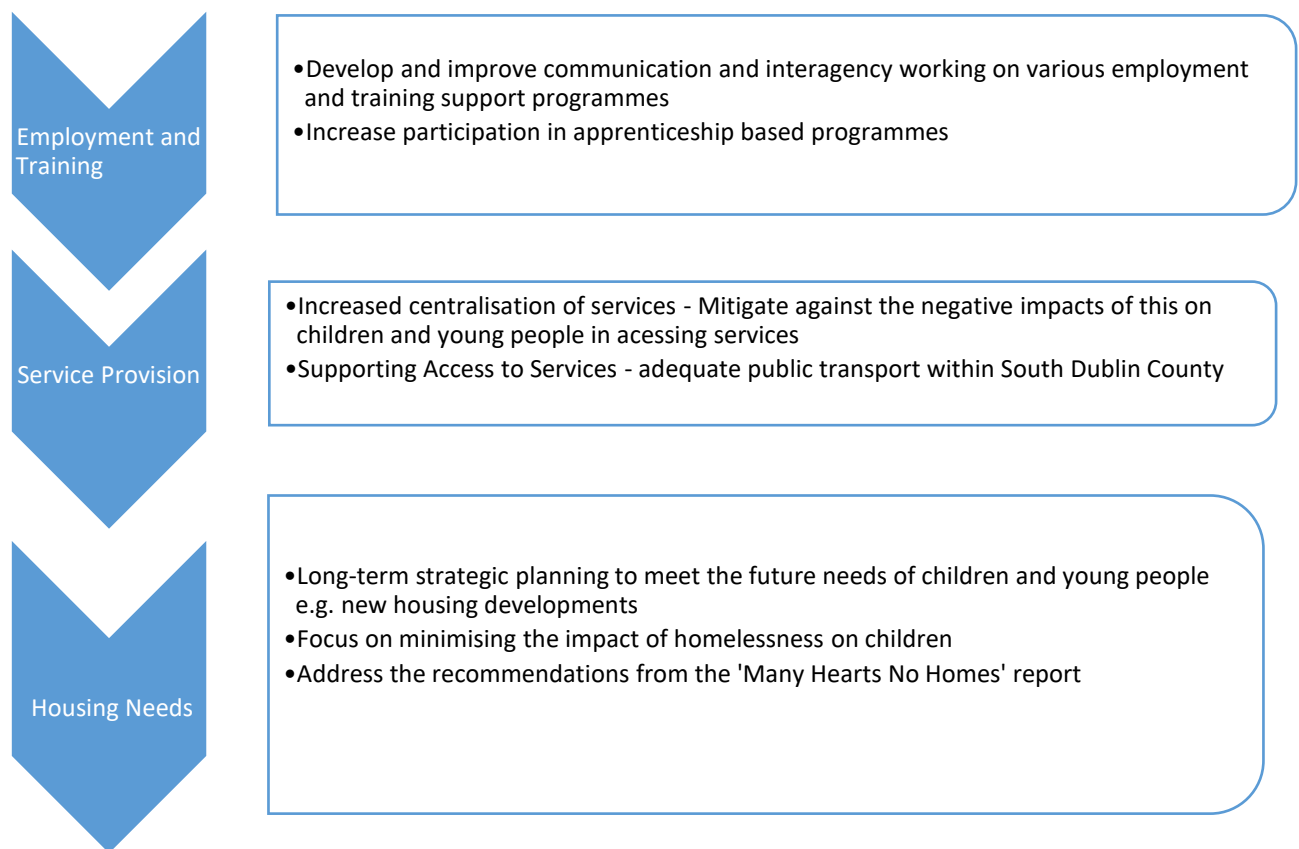
The aftercare team seek to co-ordinate supports for young people, this includes education training and employment, finance and budgeting matters, health and wellbeing, personal and social development,

and accommodation and family support. This work is supported by the aftercare steering committees which provide a forum for planning on a multi-agency approach.

#### 4.4 Outcome 4: Economic Secure

**Membership South Dublin CYPSC Homeless Sub-group:** Marian Quinn Chair (CDI), Peter O'Neill (Tusla), Deborah Chemhere (Tusla), Joe Rynn (South Dublin CYPSC), Caroline Lysaght (HSE), Tom Dermody (TESS), Sarah Thornberry (Blueskies), Justin Parkes (HSE), Ciara Heaslip (Focus), Niamh Milliken (South Dublin County Council), Caroline Sheehan (Tusla), Hilary Francis (Respond), Rachel Morgan (Focus), Lorraine Keegan (Respond), Keri Smith (Barnardo's), Neil Hanly (South Dublin County Council).

#### Summary of priorities within South Dublin CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan



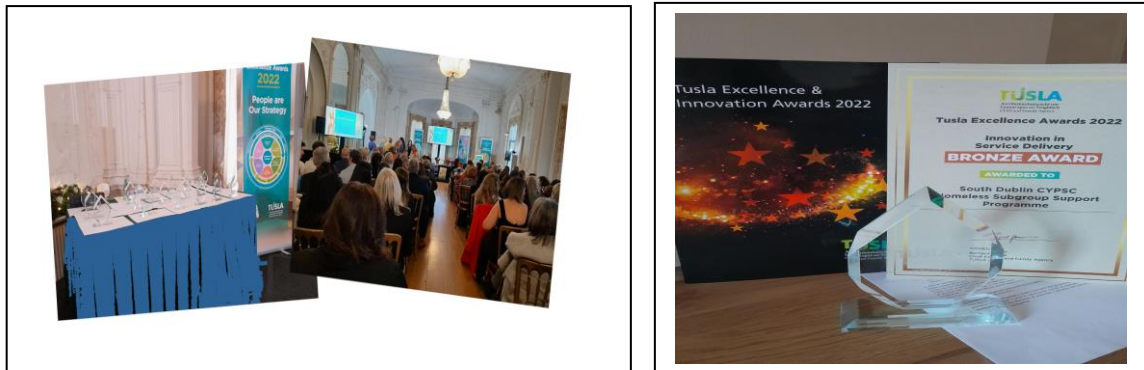
**Apprenticeships:** Members of the Learning and Development sub-group have identified the need for information supports targeting young people and career guidance staff on apprenticeships. This work area is currently being progressed by them.

**Service Provision:** South Dublin County Council has provided yearly updates to all CYPSC members on current and future housing developments planned for the county. This information will support CYPSC members to consider where service provision may be needed in the future and to plan for these needs.

## Housing Needs

The South Dublin CYPSC Homeless sub-group has worked to address and meet the ongoing needs of families and their children and young people who are experiencing homelessness.

## Tusla Excellence Awards



The work of the South Dublin CYPSC Homeless sub-group was recognised in the inaugural year of this new awards scheme, with a bronze award for innovation in service delivery. The Tusla Excellence Awards are an opportunity to showcase and celebrate examples of the great work that happens every day across Tusla. The awards promote shared learning for other teams through sharing experiences, overcoming challenges and sharing success stories.

## Progress Achieved During 2022



### South Dublin County Sports Partnership

Follow-up meetings took place between each of the family hubs and Thomas McDermott. Discussions had taken place on possible supports which could be developed. In addition, it was hoped to develop a specific project with Foróige and Red Rua with a view to developing a drama and arts project for the young people within the hubs. Some supports may be available through the local authority for these elements.

## Funding Supports

Additional funding allocation was made available to support the family hubs through HSE Social Inclusion. Total funding of €20,000 allocated to support the following:

- A portion of the funding was allocated to Fir House Family Hubs; this supported the hubs to meet specific needs within the hubs for parents and children.
- High Street and Tallaght Cross: The remaining funds used to support the purchase of tablets for young people living with the hubs.

South Dublin CYPSC under its BOBF programme funds allocated funds to support each of the hubs with activities and summer programmes.



### **Christmas Event**

The Childhood Development Initiative with Citywise Education provided a Christmas lunch for families, which over 80 people attended.

### **Review of work of the Homeless sub-group**

Towards the end of 2022, the sub-group completed a review of its works. This enabled the group to review some of its achievements and identify priorities for 2023. The following are the achievements of the sub-group.

- Publication of 'Many Hearts No Homes' research report and follow-up photo exhibition took place in a number of libraries in South Dublin County. This included a formal launch of the report and a follow-up meeting with the Minister for Children and Youth affairs.
- Follow-up work by committee members to address some of the recommendations within the report including local and national advocacy, and provision of laundry facilities in one FRC.
- Development of links and supports from other organisations including MABs and links with South Dublin Childcare Committee to support access to early years services.
- Small funding grants allocated by South Dublin CYPSC to the hubs to support summer activities along with family support vouchers.
- Leveraging funding from the HSE to meet additional resourcing needs, including laptops for young people.
- Provision of LEAP cards for families in 2018, this is now being provided through the DRHE, noted current scheme restrictions.
- Strong interagency linkages developed with members working together.
- Christmas family lunch provided for families.
- Funding secured from what works to support the development of a searchable directory in an app format.
- Place to Play Matts Initiative rolled out.
- Needs analysis undertaken across the hubs to identify the needs of children.

### **Current Issues & Priority areas for focus in 2023**

- Advocate with the DRHE to address current restrictions on LEAP Card Programme.
- Lack of accommodation due to increased demand resulting in families sleeping in cars or presenting at Garda stations.
- Lack of accommodation impacting on those who are 18 or over. These young people are being asked to seek single accommodation away from their family unit and separated from the family.
- Impacts to arise from Covid-19.
- Importance of outreach.
- Service staffing pressures and increasing challenges they are facing due to complex needs.
- Overcrowding in facilities.
- Sense of hopelessness amongst families, lack of confidence and impact this is having on them.
- Inadequacy of supports from the Dublin Place Find process.
- Impact on children who are experiencing prolonged stays in hotel accommodation e.g., development delays.
- Children with additional needs and current place on waiting lists. Children who move from one area to another area, have lost their place on a waiting list, and must start again on a wait list when they move to a new area.
- Additional supports for children with autism, lack of adequate space to meet their needs.

The South Dublin CYPSC sub-group as part of its 2023 work plan will seek to develop local responses to address the emerging issues identified by members

### Child Poverty Seminar

Following the launch of the report 'Over the Fence: Perspectives on and experiences of child poverty in Tallaght' by Childhood Development Initiative, discussions have taken place within South Dublin CYPSC regarding the development of a county child poverty strategy at both CYPSC and LCDC level. It was agreed that South Dublin CYPSC would establish a Child Poverty Strategy sub-group with the aim of progressing this objective. As a first step, it was decided to hold a consultation meeting on poverty in South Dublin County. This seminar was organised between South Dublin CYPSC and South Dublin County LCDC with the support of the Childhood Development Initiative, Archways and the Institute for Population Health. The consultation meeting will feed into the new six-year economic and community development plan for the county.



Child Poverty Seminar 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022

As part of this seminar attendees participated in break-out group discussions. Each group focused on a theme related to poverty:

- Housing
- Education and training
- Community safety and belonging
- Healthcare
- Children and families
- Food and energy poverty

### Quarryvale Family Resource Centre

The increased cost of living has impacted many families within the county and CYPSC members have continued to respond to these emerging needs. In recognition of its work Quarryvale FRC were nominated for a Tusla Excellence Award. The organisation has been instrumental in supporting the development of the Clondalkin Cares Food Bank initiative. The initiative was developed in response to needs which came to light during the pandemic, and the current cost of living crisis has further demonstrated the need for these supports within the community. Working to address food poverty for families living within the Clondalkin area, volunteers from the Clondalkin Cares Foodbank based in the Quarryvale Family Resource Centre in Clondalkin gather donated food, hygiene items, toys, and other necessities to help families.



## International Protection Ukrainian Arrivals

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth published figures showing that Ireland has accommodated more than 83,000 people who have fled here, between International Protection (IP) applicants and those fleeing the war in Ukraine. The response to the ongoing migration crisis has now entered an extremely difficult phase, with insufficient accommodation available nationwide for IP applicants, and the outlook for accommodation for people fleeing the war in Ukraine is also challenging. This presents significant challenges for local organisations, as it is difficult for them to forward plan for future needs or the amount of people who will be accommodated in the county. Figures published by the CSO demonstrate the growing numbers who arrived in South Dublin County; these figures do not take into account those seeking international protection. The figures are based on an analysis of Ukrainian arrivals who are availing of support and services from the Department of Social Protection.

South Dublin County	CSO Series 3 June 2022	CSO Series 4 July 2022	CSO Series 5 August 2022	CSO Series 6 25th Sept 2022	CSO Series 7th November 2022	CSO Series 8 19th December 2022
Clondalkin South Dublin	898	1286	858	1234	1394	1292
Lucan	76	79	86	107	117	140
Palmerstown	106	110	110	121	139	147
Tallaght Central	256	303	343	710	728	759
Tallaght South	103	191	1286	875	874	879
Rathfarnham	27	35	43	81	94	106
Firhouse	138	151	163	175	175	188
	<b>1604</b>	<b>2155</b>	<b>2889</b>	<b>3303</b>	<b>3521</b>	<b>3511</b>

Table 4: Number of arrivals from Ukraine in Ireland based on PPSN allocations

As part of its response to support arrivals, South Dublin CYPSC members engaged with both the national and local response. This included:

- Tusla National Ukraine Response Team was established to oversee the Tusla response and to ensure a consistent response across areas. The South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator participated in this co-ordination group to identify local needs and emerging issues.
- Community Response Forums were established in every local authority area to co-ordinate local responses to the Ukraine crisis. Local community and voluntary groups around the country have been mobilising in recent months to welcome into their communities. South Dublin CYPSC members have been engaged in this forum with a number of key agencies leading local responses.
- South Dublin CYPSC established a sub-group of CYPSC members who were offering support to new arrivals. This sub-group meets every six weeks and includes the following organisations:
  - South Dublin Volunteer Centre
  - South Dublin County Childcare Committee
  - South Dublin County Partnership
  - Daughters of Charity
  - Tusla PPS and CFSN
  - St Kevin's FRC
  - Quarryvale FRC
  - Archways
  - Childhood Development Initiative

The various organisations worked with the South Dublin County Partnership Integration Team to offer support for families who are placed in accommodation within the county. This has included offering sign posting supports and access to services that local organisations are offering.

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth allocated €69,000 of additional funding in 2022 to help CYPSC provide an initial response to help support Ukrainian families and children arriving in the country. This funding was provided to support:

- Signposting to State services
- Translation/language supports
- Responding to emerging needs

South Dublin CYPSC allocated the additional funding to St Kevin's FRCC, which enabled them to develop links with parents whose children were attending the Early Years Service and sign posting them to services. The Centre has also sought to provide cooking classes to enable parents to cook a meal for their children and other activities.

**Stay & Play Sessions:** South Dublin Childcare Committee has offered stay and play sessions to families who are staying in local hotels within the county.

Quarryvale FRC secured 420 tickets for Hansel and Gretel at the Helix on the 4 January, places were offered to children aged 4-12 and their parents/carers. This event was open to all families who arrived in the county including those seeking international protection and from Ukraine.

**Drop-in Supports City West:** A drop-in support for families was established in Citywest; this drop-in facility is supported by a number of agencies. The drop-in provides families within Citywest access to various family support services and sign posting to other services in the county.

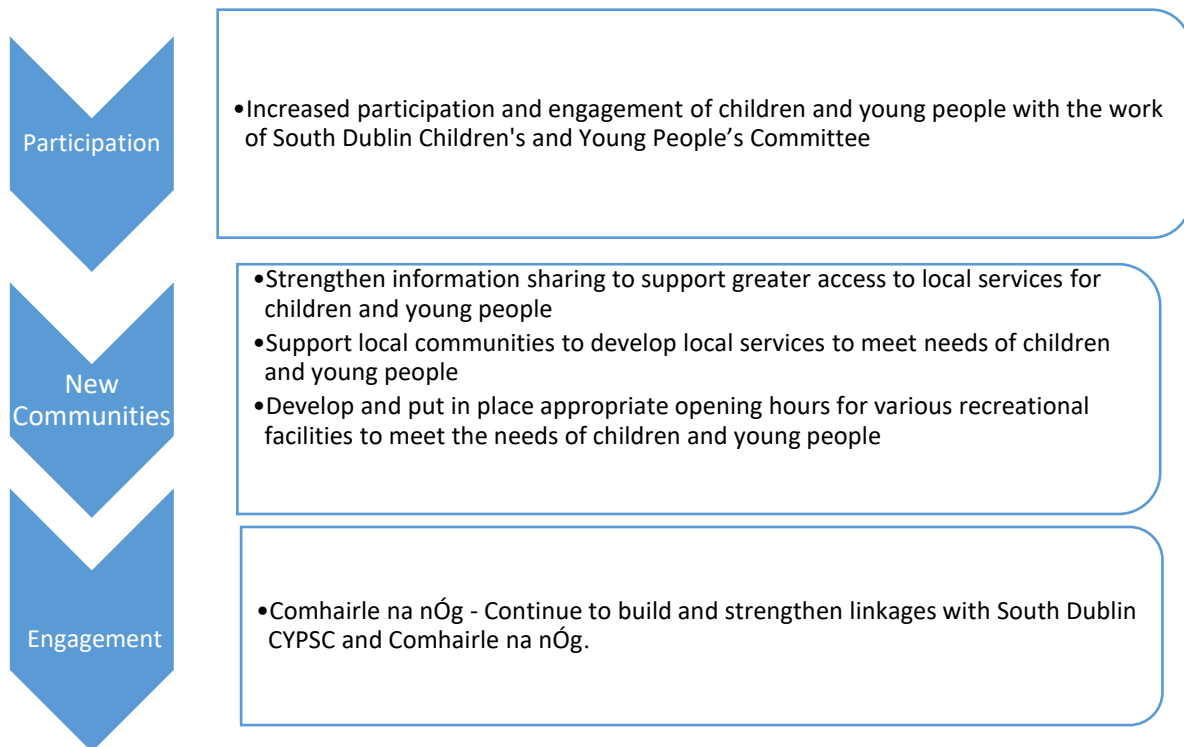
### **Identified Challenges**

Particular challenges were noted for those who are arriving and seeking international protection. This includes:

- A lack of access to resources, a need for further community supports, a lack of activities to engage with and an income to avail of these activities.
- Higher number of arrivals in the various parts of the country, over 2,000 IP arrivals currently based in South Dublin County.
- The need for dedicated resourcing to respond to these needs.

#### 4.5 Outcome 5: Connected and Respected

##### Summary of priorities within South Dublin CYPSC Children and Young People's Plan



South Dublin CYPSC has worked with Comhairle na nÓg to strengthen its relationship with them. Comhairle na nÓg members had an active involvement in the launch of the South Dublin CYPSC three-year plan. Following this, more formal links were developed with Comhairle na nÓg. This has included formal invites for members of Comhairle to participate in a number of South Dublin CYPSC sub-groups. Two members are now active participants in the following sub-groups:

- Youth Mental Health sub-group – Alix Brady
- Homeless sub-group – Kate Lynch

The South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator is a member of the Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committee. This committee is designed to advise and assist Comhairle na nÓg throughout the year. The role of the Steering Committee includes ensuring that:

- Comhairle na nÓg is formally connected to local decision-makers and key stakeholders in the area, particularly in relation to the topic(s) being worked on by Comhairle na nÓg in any given year.
- Comhairle na nÓg has an opportunity to influence decision-making and service development that will affect young people in the city/county.
- Organisations representing seldom-heard young people are engaged in the process and can contribute to all aspects of the Comhairle na nÓg.
- Comhairle na nÓg is promoted and championed in every key local agency in the area.

## 4.6 Change Management

### South Dublin CYPSC Critical Incident Protocol

The South Dublin CYPSC Interagency Critical Incident Protocol is required when an incident overwhelms a local community's capacity to support children or young people and their carers who are affected by events, and where more than one organisation is required to support a response. This is activated when a community is overwhelmed, where existing services are unable to effectively respond in isolation to the outcome of the incident and a coordinated response amongst a number of agencies is required. The protocol was formally activated in September 2022.

Supports initiated as part of this response include the following:

- NEPS as part of its Critical Incident Plan supported three schools directly impacted by the tragedy to initiate their local plans and support them on site in each school. Identified needs were responded to including additional language supports for Ukrainian families attending the schools. Interpreters provided by REALT, and resources were made available by the HSE to address this need.
- South Dublin CYPSC established an Information Hub on its web page to provide local contact information and various resources that local services required. This included key contacts and advice and support materials for parents.
- All South Dublin CYPSC members were updated that a Critical Incident Management Team was established, and all South Dublin CYPSC members were asked to report back on emerging needs in the community or supports which could be provided or used by the CYPSC CMIT in its response.
- Drop-in Supports were established within Brookfield Community Centre, this was an interagency response supported by three organisations HSE, Tusla ACTs and NEPs. A drop-in session was available in the Community Centre on 6, 8, 13 and 15 September from 11am to 1pm. Staff were available to provide resources and support to help members of the community.
- A number of local community organisations, who directly supported family members affected, received advice and support through on-site supports and resources from the HSE and Tusla ACTs. Barnardo's Bereavement Service also provided direct support to these organisations.
- Identified gaps and needs. As part of its work, the South Dublin CYPSC CMIT identified supports that the community may need. This included the development and provision of additional supports and resources for the local Traveller Support Organisations to support their response. The services identified specific needs now and into the future. This includes financial assistance for those affected, access to mental health supports and family supports.
- Tusla, through its local PPS team, fostering and children in care teams were also centrally involved in providing supports to those directly affected.
- Supports for young people - Local agencies considered what additional supports could be provided to those young people directly impacted by the tragedy. Foróige provided supports through its Youth Café based in the Brookfield Youth and Community Centre, while staff and management within Brookfield Community Centre engaged in the response and identifying local needs.
- The HSE as part of its response initiated its Critical Response Team and put in place additional supports including access to primary care teams and the national counselling service for the community who were directly affected by the tragedy. An internal awareness and priority system was set up for out-of-hours and ED, to increase awareness around any presentations made.
- Adult Drop-in Counselling services. The HSE Counselling in Primary Care (CIPC) provides time-limited counselling to adults. CIPC established a drop-in clinic for adults which operated from West Dublin YMCA, Brookfield Enterprise Centre.

#### **Review process**

Following the wind-down of the Critical Incident Management Team, a review was completed to gauge the type, effectiveness and timing of the response. A SurveyMonkey questionnaire was circulated by the South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator to all members of the Triage Group, Critical Incident Management Team (CIMT) and Front-Line Operational Team (FLOT). A final review report will be presented to South Dublin CYPSC to consider any recommendations or changes to be incorporated into the protocol.

 <b>South Dublin Children &amp; Young People's Services Committee</b> <b>Community Supports</b> 	
 <p><b>Adult Drop in Counselling Supports, Brookfield Enterprise Centre</b></p> <p>The HSE Counselling in Primary Care (CIPC) provides time limited counselling to adults. CIPC will operate a drop in clinic for adults. This will be provided from West Dublin YMCA, 16A, Brookfield Enterprise Centre, Rossfield Ave, Jobstown.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>9-30am to 11-30am</b>  <b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>  <b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>  <b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>  <b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b></p>	 <p><b>“Drop in Clinic” for Parents and Carers</b></p> <p>The HSE Primary Care Psychology service provides private and confidential service for Parents and Carers who have concerns about their <b>Child's Emotional/ Behavioural needs</b>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phone 01- 9214904 to make an appointment  <b>Every Wednesday 10-1pm</b>  <b>Brookfield Youth &amp; Community Centre</b></p>
 <p>Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte Health Service Executive</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Other Counselling Support Services for Adults</b></p> <p><b>HSE National Counselling Service (NCS)</b> employs qualified, accredited and experienced Counsellor/Therapists. Face to face, counselling by phone and online video counselling are available  <b>Phone:</b> 1800 234 112 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:NCSDSKWW@hse.ie">NCSDSKWW@hse.ie</a></p> <p><b>Traveller Counselling Service</b> The service works from a culturally inclusive framework of culture centred counselling and psychotherapy.  <b>Phone:</b> 01 865761 <b>Mobile:</b> 0863081476  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@travellercounselling.ie">info@travellercounselling.ie</a></p>	 <p><b>Contact Numbers</b>          Anyone who is concerned about a child or young person in the area can contact:</p> <p><b>Child Line</b> 1800 66 66 66 or text Talk to 50101</p> <p><b>Samaritans</b> 24hr Freephone helpline 116 123 or the crisis text line on 50808.</p> <p><b>Pieta house</b> 1800 247 247 or Text Help 51444</p> <p>If you have immediate serious concern regarding the welfare of a person, please contact a GP, nearest Emergency Department or contact 999</p>
<p><b>Children &amp; Young People Supports</b></p>	
 <p>support Children and young people up to the age of 18, with a special support line service for free, 24 hours a day, to talk about how they are feeling or anything which may be on their mind. <b>1800 400 100 (FREE) Support Line 01 676 7960 (9am – 1pm daily)</b></p>	 <p><b>Barnardo's Children's Bereavement Service</b> work with families to help them support their child through the grieving process with specialist bereavement project workers. <b>(01)4732110</b> 10am-12pm Monday to Thursday <a href="http://www.barnardos.ie">www.barnardos.ie</a></p>
 <p><b>Jigsaw</b> provides advice and support to young people aged 12–25 years-old. They give families, educators, and those who support young people's mental health ways to cope and the skills to be there for young people. <b>01 538 0087</b> or email <a href="mailto:dublinsouthwest@jigsaw.ie">dublinsouthwest@jigsaw.ie</a></p>	 <p>The Irish Childhood Bereavement Network provides a hub for those working with bereaved children, young people and their families. Resources can be accessed <a href="http://www.childhoodbereavement.ie">www.childhoodbereavement.ie</a> or <b>1800 807077</b></p>
 <p>An Ghriumbairisacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach Child and Family Agency</p> <p>Tusla child and family support services work collaboratively – with local, community, voluntary and statutory agencies - to strengthen families and communities, help families achieve their potential, and keep children safe from harm <a href="http://www.tusla.ie">www.tusla.ie</a></p>	

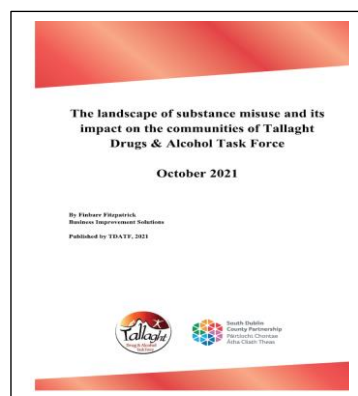
In order to support the work of the five-Dublin based CYPSC - Dublin City South, Dublin City North, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin - an online directory was developed to centralise information on supports and services for children and families and support services in the greater Dublin area. The directory aims to provide up-to-date information on services operating in Dublin that can be identified through accessible search tools by category, area or on the map of services. The site received **over 160,00 visitors in 2022**.

#### 4.7 Additional Initiatives 2022

South Dublin CYPSC has supported Tallaght Drugs Force (TDATF) to progress a number of interagency initiatives in both the Killinarden and Jobstown communities.

Killinarden is an area in West Tallaght that is made up of 27 small areas with an approximate population of 7,433. Eighteen small areas in Killinarden are classed between disadvantaged and very disadvantaged.

Jobstown is an area in West Tallaght with a growing population of 17,824 (2016). It is the largest community and has the highest percentage of young people within the TDATF area.



Both Killinarden and Jobstown have identified emerging drug trends among those most marginalised that have seen many young people become involved in drug use, drug dealing and activities that may cause significant risk to them. As a result, some young people have become more socially excluded within their communities.

In response to growing concerns within both communities, two new interagency groups were developed. These groups are currently chaired by a South Dublin CYPSC Co-ordinator. Both groups have progressed in a range of initiatives during 2022.

**Parenting Supports:** A separate working group has been established to develop drop-in support for parents in Killinarden. This drop-in support is still available and the group held an information morning in 2022 to further promote this support and consultation with parents.

**Detached Youth Work:** Members of the interagency group identified the need for dedicated de-detached youth workers. Detached youth work is a distinct form of youth work that engages the most at risk, marginalised young people, aged between 10-24 years, on the streets rather than in a conventional youth work setting. South Dublin County Partnership has committed funding to support the recruitment of one Team Leader and three Drugs and Alcohol Youth workers.



## 5 Conclusion

South Dublin Children and Young People's Services Committee develop and oversee the implementation of the three-year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for the county/CYPSC area that is designed to improve outcomes for children and young people. Essentially a strategic plan, the CYPP will respond to national priorities and outline local priorities that the CYPSC has agreed to address and includes a detailed action plan of activities which will be undertaken by the CYPSC and its sub-groups to make an impact on those priorities. This approach has been central to the work of the Committee during 2022, given the national crisis which emerged through the pandemic.

### 5.1 Annual Programme of Work

South Dublin CYPSC produce an annual statement of intent/action outlining the work to be undertaken and achieved by the CYPSC in each calendar year. The Annual Programme of Work has progressed during 2021, but additional work has been built into the plan during the course of the year.

#### Monitoring and Reporting

This annual report will form the basis of the committee's annual update on its activity and impact to TUSLA as the nominated agent of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. The Annual Progress Report will be utilised locally by each CYPSC as a tool for mutual accountability and learning. The report will inform local CYPSC decisions to enact developments or changes within its three-year strategic plan i.e., the Children and Young People's Plan. A summary is provided on the progress of each action since work commenced on the implementation plan. Using the traffic light approach, each action is colour coded to indicate progress on the actions.

Green - Actions are on 'on track'

Amber - Action has progressed

Red - Action has not progressed

Summary Action Plan and Progress to Date

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<b>Outcome 1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing</b>			
<p><i>1.1 Alcohol &amp; Drug Supports</i></p> <p><i>-Explore use of Icelandic model of drug and alcohol prevention</i></p> <p><i>-Raise awareness with hidden harm alcohol dependence</i></p> <p><i>-Presentation CDTF to South Dublin CYPSC on proposal to develop an Under 18 Service in Clondalkin. Examine how agencies can work together to support this objective</i></p>	<p>1 working group and 1 proposal</p> <p>Number of awareness programmes</p> <p>1 Proposal Developed</p> <p>1 Service Established</p>	<p>Healthy South Dublin</p> <p>Clondalkin Drugs Task Force</p>	<p>South Dublin CYPSC Youth Mental Health sub-group held discussions on the Icelandic model with Galway Mayo ETB</p> <p>Discussions to take place with two Drug and Alcohol Task Forces regarding awareness programme during alcohol awareness week</p> <p>1 report completed and endorsed by South Dublin CYPSC. Clondalkin Drugs Task Force has now established a service in line with recommendations. 16 young people currently accessing supports from the service</p>
<p><i>1.2 Autism Supports</i></p> <p><i>-Examine level of waiting lists for assessment of needs in the county</i></p> <p><i>- Healthy Ireland Funding of €46,374 allocated to autism-specific projects</i></p>	<p>% Change in waiting list times for AON</p> <p>13 projects allocated funding</p>	HSE Primary Care	<p>South Dublin CYPSC established a disability sub-group. A discussion document prepared, developed and submitted to HSE on areas of collaboration which includes updates on assessments of needs</p> <p>South Dublin CYPSC with funding from Healthy Ireland agreed to fund a number of autism-related projects in 2023</p>
<p><i>Organise Information Seminar for local community leaders, sporting clubs on developing autism friendly communities</i></p>	<p>4 Workshops</p> <p>60 Attendees/clubs to avail of training</p>	ETB, ASiAM, Schools, Youth Clubs	1 workshop completed 30 participants online

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<p><i>1.3 Youth Mental Health sub-group to begin implementing key actions within the CYPP</i></p> <p><i>-Information campaign to improve understanding of referral pathway to CAMHS Services, local seminars and dissemination of information leaflets developed by services</i></p> <p><i>-Address gaps in Service Provision. Establish joint co-ordinating group to include Kildare CYPSC and Dublin City South CYPSC to consider multiagency response</i></p>	<p>2 Information seminars. Number of attendees % of CAMHS referrals referred back to Community settings</p> <p>Quantify number children and young people in need of supports. Joint Planning Group to be established</p>	<p>Youth Mental Health Sub-group</p> <p>CYPSC Chairpersons</p>	<p>Information Seminar organised by CAMHS Linn Dara for GPS</p> <p>HSE Tusla Joint working group in place between HSE and Tusla. This joint protocol seeks to support good collaboration and working between agencies</p> <p>Referral Pathways – a new information resource on services across the CHO Area 7 covering, Kildare, South Dublin and Wicklow will be published in Q1 2022</p> <p>New project established to develop a bespoke model of supports, young people demonstrating school avoidance/inability to engage with associated mental health issues. Funding secured for a three-year programme which commenced in late 2022</p>
<p><b>1.4 A Strategy for a Healthy South Dublin County Implementation Supporting Implementation of key actions funded through Healthy Ireland</b></p>			
<p><i>Physical Health</i></p> <p><i>Kick Boxing – South Dublin Partnership</i></p> <p><i>Kayaking- Foróige</i></p>	<p>Delivery of Kick Box Programme 120 participants</p> <p>300 participants to avail of Kayaking Programme</p>	<p>South Dublin Partnership Company</p> <p>Foróige</p>	<p>178 participants to date</p> <p>503 participants to date</p>

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<i>Access to Leisure Centres for homeless Families - CYPSC Co-ordinator/homeless sub-group</i>	Supporting 60 Families and their children to access leisure facilities	CYPSC Homeless Family Sub-group	112 families identified
<i>Mental Health Mental Health Training Travellers- CYPSC Co-ordinator/sub-group to be established</i>	40 Community leaders to participate in training - 2 Training Sessions	Sub-group to be established	Action agreed but delivery delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions  Traveller representative groups joined South Dublin CYPSC in 2022, along with being members of South Dublin CYPSC Youth Mental Health project. One project funded by South Dublin CYPSC in 2022
<i>Sexual Health Real U Programme- CYPSC Co-ordinator/Foróige  YMCA Sexual Healthy Programme-</i>	20 staff who work directly with young people to avail of Train the Trainer's programme  30 staff and volunteers to avail of training programme – 2 programmes one per year	All CYPSC Members  YMCA	28 participants availed of training Q1 2021  12 youth workers completed training on the theme of relationships and sexuality training  4 day training programme on neuro-diversity, identity and related issues for young people
<i><u>Tobacco</u> Smoking prevention social media campaign - Clondalkin Drugs Task Force with key agencies</i>	Social media information campaign targeting young people:	Clondalkin Drugs Task Force	1 online video developed

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<u>Community Mental Health Funds</u> Homelessness	Parents Plus Programme- Funding be used to support parents' access to this programme; the budget will support 30 parents to access the programme  Health and Wellbeing packs to family hubs  Mental Health First Aid Training	St Kevin's FRC and Quarryvale FRC  CDI Tallaght  South Dublin CYPSC	St Kevin's FRC and Quarryvale FRC. 6 facilitators trained in the delivery of the parents plus separated programme. 40 parents to avail of supports from the programme  Project delivered in 2020-123 wellbeing packs distributed to families within the hub  Programme delivered to frontline staff working in homeless services. 14 staff participated in the programme
Connecting Caregivers Project (new initiative)	One new online support group	Archways Blue skies Initiative	7 online workshops for caregivers and two workshops for educators
Anxiety workshops	4 Programmes to delivered at 4 different locations in the county targeting a total of 40 families 6 workshops to take place 240 young people, 60 teachers and 90 parents to participate	Blueskies (Archways)	Work has commenced on programme development and delivery. To date 70 young people, 24 teachers and 115 parents have availed of the programme
<b>Outcome 2 Achieving full potential in learning and development</b>			
2.1 Transition Supports	% reduction in absenteeism levels at primary school	Education and Learning Sub-group	New sub-group established - work plan and priorities agreed for 2022

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<p>Increase community supports for children and young people with a diagnosis on the autism spectrum</p>	<p>Number of Traveller children attending primary school</p> <p>Number of children in minority groups transitioning from junior to senior cycle</p> <p>% change in non-attendance levels in both primary and senior schools</p> <p>Increase the number of young people 15-25 participating in Autism Specific Programmes</p>	<p>CDI with partner agencies including 9 schools, TEES, school completion</p>	<p>1 online presentation developed by South Dublin Childcare Committee to support access to the ECCE (free pre-school year) and distributed to local services</p> <p>School Avoidance - Review meeting held in 2021 with Wicklow School Completion to examine and discuss school refusal pack developed by Wicklow CYPSC. New project being led by CDI has commenced, this inter-agency project will seek to address school avoidance and wellbeing</p> <p>ASIAM online workshop delivered to range of sporting and community organisations in 2021</p>
<p><i>2.2 Early School Leaving.</i>  <i>- Disseminate and raise awareness on the reasons for Early School Leaving and non-attendance</i></p> <p><i>-EWS to progress the development of iScoil sites in both Clondalkin and Tallaght</i></p>	<p>% reduction in the number of early school leaving to meet Europe 2020 target of less than 10%</p> <p>Develop two new iScoil sites in South Dublin County i.e. Clondalkin and Tallaght areas</p>	<p>Education and Learning Sub-group</p>	<p>New sub-group established and specific actions identified. Work has commenced on the development of information resources for young people in the county following similar model developed by Dún Laoghaire CYPSC</p> <p>TESS and Foróige have developed iScoil sites working to meet the needs of young people in the county</p>
<p>2.3 Supporting Young People to return to Education          Improve access and uptake on alternative education options and reengagement i.e. ALP Programme</p>	<p>Map out services and supports available to children and young people in</p>	<p>1 Jobs Fair</p>	<p>DSP hosted a construction jobs fair in Tallaght stadium. Local schools and youth organisations attended this event</p>

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
	<p>vulnerable groupings and identify gaps</p> <p>Number of students participating in applied Leaving Cert and apprenticeships</p>		Data published by the Dept. of Education nationally, indicate that 22.2% of students took the Leaving Certificate vocational course and 4.7% took the applied programme
<p>2.4 Family Learning Supports</p> <p>Identify and develop programmes for potential replication with family learning aspect</p> <p>Increase number of agencies to participate within the Parenting and Network Calendar</p>	<p>Number of programmes identified and new number of new pilot programmes</p> <p>1 shared calendar to be developed. Number of parenting programmes provided in calendar year</p>	Tusla, Child and Family Networks, South Dublin Co. Partnership	1 shared parenting calendar developed by South Dublin County Partnership for the Dublin South West area
Outcome 3 Safe and protected from harm	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<p>3.1 Domestic Violence Services</p> <p>Enhance the capacity of domestic violence services responding to the needs of children and families</p> <p>Deliver TLC Kidz Programme – Expansion of programme in South Dublin County</p>	<p>% Change in number of people seeking to access DVS services</p> <p>Number of children and mothers to participate in the programme</p>	<p>Tusla, DM Voluntary Services, An Garda Síochána</p> <p>Tusla, DM Voluntary Services, Community Family Support Services</p>	<p>Joint working group established between South Dublin CYPSC and Dublin City South CYPSC</p> <p>Funding approved to support recruitment of two part-time co-ordinators to deliver the TLC Kidz programme</p>
<p>3.2 Youth Offending and Youth Diversion Projects</p> <p>Strengthen linkages between CYPSC and various Youth Diversion Projects</p>	<p>Percentage change Youth Justice Statistics for South</p>	<p>An Garda Síochána, Probation Services,</p>	<p>One Youth Diversion sub-group established in 2021. This group brings together all youth diversion projects in the county. Case studies developed by sub-group to highlight some of</p>



Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
	Dublin 12-17 during the lifetime of the plan	Tusla, Foróige, Crosscare	the challenges young people experience in accessing supports. Funding has been approved in South Dublin County to support the expansion of the areas covered, provision of additional family support workers, and supports for young people aged 8 -11 who are identified by gardai, schools and youth workers.
Antisocial behaviour – reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour on the opportunities and the quality of life of children, young people and families	1 Dissemination programme/event on the models and approaches. No models/education programmes identified	An Garda Síochána, Probation Services, Tusla, Foróige, Crosscare, ETB, Local Authority, SDCP	A new initiative Connect 4 established by South Dublin County Partnership  Funding approved to support expansion of Youth Diversion projects in the County
<i>3.3 Aftercare Supports for those leaving care. Young people leaving care are appropriately supported, increased number of people accessing supports and services</i>	Number of young people leaving care  % reduction in homelessness amongst this cohort  Monitor number of young people engaged with services	Tusla Aftercare Group	South Dublin CYPSC is a member of Tusla SW Aftercare Committee.  Demand for accommodation for care leavers considerably outweighs the resources available within the private rented market, social housing supply and supported accommodation available
<i>3.4 Early Help Pilot Programme -Working Group in place and currently scoping out a model to support a pilot programme</i>	1 Programme developed-pilot in two areas in South Dublin	Early Help Pilot Steering Group	South Dublin County Partnership are leading on this project. A new co-ordinator recruited in late 2022 to support the development of this initiative, a volunteer-based programme.

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
	20 families to participate and avail of supports		
<p><i>3.5 Enhance Interagency working within Child and Family Support Networks</i></p> <p><i>-An overview to be provided by Senior Managers on work during 2019 to CYPSC members</i></p>	% change in number of referrals/Meitheals across all CFN Areas in South Dublin County	Tusla Prevention Partnership and Family Support and Partner Organisations	<p>Safe and Protected From Harm Sub-group include CFSN membership. CYPSC Co-ordinator also attends CFSN network meetings</p> <p>An overview of work to be provided to CYPSC members in 2022</p>
Outcome 4 Economic security and opportunity	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<p>4.1 Employment Opportunities-Early School Leavers, Young People leaving Care</p> <p>Improve and provide information on education, employment and training supports to target specific early school leavers, young people leaving care</p> <p>Increase apprenticeship uptake for the above target groups through an awareness programme</p>	<p>Meet Euro 2020 target-rate of early school leavers not in further education and training should be reduced to 8%</p> <p>Information seminar for working professionals on supports 40 attendees</p> <p>% change/numbers of under 25 engaged in apprenticeships</p>	LCDC and CYPSC, DSP, South Dublin County Partnership	South Dublin CYPSC Learning and Development Group commenced work on the development of information resources for early school leavers and awareness programme targeting schools on apprenticeships
<p>4.2 Jobless Lone Parents Households</p> <p>Increase skills and further employment options for employment/training development for lone parents through improved access to training and employment support</p>	% change of lone parents in employment. 1 mentoring programme to be developed	One Family, South Dublin County Partnership, ETB, ABC and DSP	A child poverty seminar took place on 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2022, emerging issues identified will be fed into the new Community and

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
	20 parents to avail of the programme		<p>Economic Plan currently being developed by South Dublin County Council</p> <p>Further discussions to take place with key partners with a view to progressing this action</p>
<p>4.3 Homelessness</p> <p><i>-Sub-group to be re-established to address recommendations from Many Hearts No Homes Report</i></p>	<p>% change in numbers of people in emergency accommodation and on social housing waiting lists</p> <p>Number of family hubs with access to additional facilities</p>	<p>South Dublin CYPSC Homeless Sub-group</p>	<p>Homelessness numbers in Ireland fell considerably during the early part of the Covid-19 pandemic, down from a peak of more than 10,500 in late 2019. 2021 figures 8,830 people were without a home last month, including 2,513 children, according to data from the Department of Housing. Some 1,903 of these children are currently staying in emergency accommodation in Dublin</p> <p>3 Family Hubs - Additional facilities including access to laundry facilities supported. Homeless sub-group provided with regular updates on current housing numbers</p>
<p>4.4 Future Housing Needs – Increase long-term strategic planning and role of CYPSC to meet the future needs of children, young people and families in future housing developments in the County</p>	<p>Establish Co-ordinating Group forum between South Dublin County Council Planning Unit and South Dublin CYPSC</p>	<p>LDC, South Dublin CYPSC and South Dublin County Council</p>	<p>South Dublin County Council present on a yearly basis to all CYPSC members on housing developments and plans in the county</p>

Local Priority Areas*	Indicator	Project Lead	Status
<b>Outcome 5 Connected, respected and contributing to their world</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Project Lead</b>	
5.1 Access to services and facilities. Increased access to existing spaces and facilities. Ensure new builds have adequate green space provision, playgrounds etc. and opening hours	Number of new facilities developed within each CFSN area per population number of existing facilities with extended opening hours	South County Council Parks	South Dublin CYPSC to consider how this action can be progressed. South Dublin County Council updated CYPSC members on a new initiative developed with funding from Sláintecare. This will cover two programme areas of high-deprivation, one in Tallaght and one in Clondalkin. Funding of €500k has been approved for outdoor recreational infrastructure and community health projects in the programme areas
5.2 Barriers to participation in Health and Wellbeing activities Address barriers preventing children and young people from participating in activities	Increase participation of children and young people in activities  Level of participation of young people - physical activity	South Dublin County Sports Partnership, Youth Organisations, ETB, Comhairle na nÓg	These actions are being addressed via Healthy Ireland and Healthy County initiatives
5.3 New Housing Development - Community Days	Number of community events/2 days to support community links. % increase in participation and volunteering	South Dublin County Council, FRCs and Voluntary Groups	South Dublin CYPSC to consider how this action can progress  One Community Day organised and supported by South Dublin CYPSC. This fun day took place in Mac Uilliam Estate in Tallaght

<b>Local Priority Areas*</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Project Lead</b>	<b>Status</b>
5.4 Children and Young People's Participation – Increase participation of Children and Young People with South Dublin CYPSC	Nomination process to be developed for young person representative to South Dublin CYPSC  Level of participation of young people - community involvement, decision making	Foróige and Crosscare, local colleges, schools, An Gaisce, Barnardo's, YMCA West Dublin	South Dublin CYPSC agreed on a nomination process with Comhairle na nÓg. Two nominees from Comhairle na nÓg joined the Youth Mental Health Sub-group and Homelessness Sub-group. In addition, South Dublin CYPSC sit on the Comhairle na nÓg steering committee
<b>Change Management</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Project Lead</b>	
6.1 Dublin CYPSC Directory of Services - Online searchable directory of services	No of services identified on the directory  No of users/traffic through website target of 10% change annually	5 Dublin CYPSC	<a href="http://www.dublincypscdirectory.ie">www.dublincypscdirectory.ie</a>  Directory in place – yearly report to monitor traffic levels. 167,821 visitors to the site during 2021  2022 Visitor numbers 160,000
6.2 Strategic Data - Support Services to use resources and plan their service - 3 Information Workshops taking place in October	Number of attendees and seminars	CYPSC Research Group	Completed
6.3 Critical Incident Protocol - Meeting of Steering Committee	- Annual review of protocol  - No of critical incidents responded to through interagency working	Critical Incident Group	1 critical incident agency response activated in January 2020  1 critical incident reviewed - formal response not activated in May 2020. Local agency response was sufficient

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			<p>1 critical incident reviewed - formal response not activated in August 2020 - Local CFSN Co-ordinated a response</p> <p>1 critical incident reviewed - a formal response was not activated in October 2020. Local liaison took place, so as to put in place any additional supports required</p> <p>1 Critical incident agency response activated in September 2022</p>