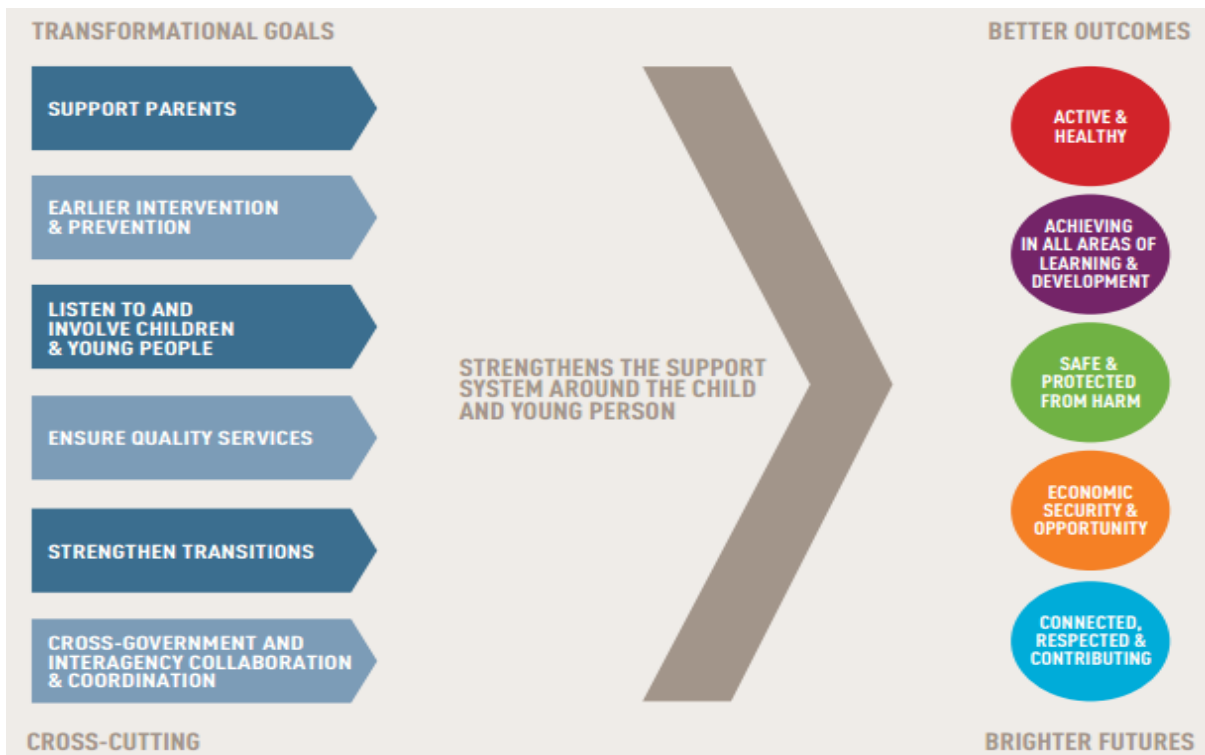


## Co. Wicklow Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Background

The purpose of the Children and Young People's Services Committees [CYPSCs] is to secure better developmental outcomes for children through more effective integration of existing services and interventions at local level. The work of all CYPSCs is now underpinned by the national policy framework for children and young people 2014-2020, *'Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures'* which sets out a vision for ***'Ireland to be one of the best small countries 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'***.

'Better Outcomes, Brighter Future' extends the age remit for CYPSCs from 18 to 24 years and details six transformational goals in addition to the five national outcomes under which all CYPSCs operate.



The CYPSC in Co. Wicklow is a high level committee drawn from a range of statutory, community and voluntary agencies involved in working with children, young people and their families across Co. Wicklow. There are 18 agencies represented on the CYPSC in Co. Wicklow. The membership brings together a vast range of expertise particularly in the areas of child welfare and protection, local government, health, education training and employment, youth work and justice.

## Membership of Co. Wicklow CYPSC (January 2020)

Joanne Cullen, Chair	ISA Manager, Tusla
Michael Nicholson, Deputy Chair	Director of Services, Social, Cultural & Community, Wicklow County Council
Emer Breen	Irish Primary Principals Network Representative
Peter Brennan	Bray Area Partnership
Brian Carty	Co. Wicklow Partnership
Stephen Fitzgerald	DEASP
Siobhan Fitzpatrick	Head of Service, HSE
Insp. Fergal Harrington	An Garda Síochána
Dr. Davina Healy	Principal Medical Officer, HSE
Anthony Hill	Youth Representative (18-24 years)
Andrew Jackson	Voluntary Sector Rep., I.S.P.C.C
Sally Stafford Johnson	Psychology, HSE
Dr. Glenda Kavanagh or Dr. Lisa Kelly	Lucena Clinic (CAMHS)
Andrew Kennedy	National Educational Psychological Service [NEPS]
Dorothy Lawlor	Kildare and Wicklow ETB
Yvonne Murray	Public Participation Network - Wicklow
Geraldine O'Hara	Voluntary Sector Rep., Daughters of Charity
Assumpta O'Neill	Coordinator, Wicklow County Childcare Committee
Colm Roche	Youth Representatives (18-24 years)
Maeve Shanley	Drug and Alcohol Task Forces Representative
Caroline Sheehan	Principal Social Worker, Tusla
Emma Skinner	Juvenile Liaison Officer, An Garda Síochána
AnneMarie McGovern	Tusla Education Support Services
Kevin Webster	Principal Social Worker, Tusla
Deirdre Whitfield	Administrative Officer, Wicklow County Council
Rosemary Yeates	Voluntary Sector Rep., Bray & East Wicklow Youth Services
Fionnuala Curry	Coordinator, Co. Wicklow CYPSC

The Co. Wicklow CYPSC is in the development phase of its third Children and Young People's Plan [CYPP] 2020-2022. The CYPP is undertaken by eight subgroups as follows:

**Outcome Group 1 – Physical Health Subgroup** – focused on priorities such as recreational infrastructure, healthy eating, physical activity

**Outcome Group 1 – Youth Mental Health and Well-being Subgroup** – focused on priorities highlighted in relation to youth mental health and emotional well-being in the county and issues relating to drugs and alcohol.

**Outcome Group 2 – Learning and Development Subgroup** – focused on concerns in relation to literacy and numeracy, transitions, oral language development, school refusal.

**Outcome Group 3 – Prevention, Partnership and Family Support Steering Committee** – focused on priorities identified such as co-ordination of parenting courses, family support services, domestic violence, hidden harm, Non-Violent Resistance, Online Safety and the implementation of Meitheal and the Child and Family Support Network structure in the area.

**Outcome Group 4 and Change Management Subgroup** – a high level 'decision makers' group to focus on change during the implementation of the Children and Young People's Plan and overseeing the six transformational goals

**Outcome Group 5 – Connected, Respected and Contributing Subgroup** – focused on active participation of young people, equality, youth work services and healthy relationships.

**West Wicklow Interagency Subgroup** – focuses specifically on the West Wicklow area across all outcome areas and transformational goals.

**Refugee Integration Subgroup** – formed to address the recommendations of the Refugee Resettlement Report 2018 which highlighted the needs of Somali families impacted by reunification across a range of areas including education, health, housing, employment, and integration.

Whilst each Subgroup is chaired by a CYPSC member external membership from relevant agencies in the statutory, voluntary and community sectors is actively encouraged. The membership of subgroups significantly extends the reach of the CYPSC and greatly enhances the level of expertise involved.

### **Achievements to date**

- Successful implementation of our second three year plan 2016-2019 and continued commitment of agencies to the CYPSC initiative in Co. Wicklow. Increased level of collaborative and interagency working across all outcome areas. Ongoing consultation with children and young people and promoting participatory practice.
- Recognition of the CYPSC as a committee with expertise in relation to the needs/priorities of children and young people in Co. Wicklow e.g. submission to the Local Economic and Community Plan (February 2015) and invitation to present to the Housing SPC in relation to the impact of homelessness on children in Co. Wicklow.
- Increased play infrastructure in the county and an increase in the number of healthy eating programmes being delivered in the county. Securing funding in 2017 and 2018 through Healthy Ireland to provide a range of targeted initiatives in the county.
- Establishment of a Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) Steering Committee to oversee the implementation of Meitheal in the area and the establishment of the Child and Family Support Networks.
- Delivery of co-ordinated and interagency training in relation to Children First, Domestic Violence, Intercultural Competency and Transgender Awareness.
- Collation and dissemination of information in relation to the planning and delivery of parenting courses in the county on an annual basis. Successfully secured Facilitator training in Parents Plus Adolescent Programme and successful implementation of the programme in targeted area.
- Supporting the work of the ABC project, Supporting Parents and Early Childhood Settings [SPECS] Initiative in Bray, Co. Wicklow which commenced in 2015 and is engaging successfully in the community and now receives mainstream funding through Tusla.
- Hosting 'The Right Direction' conference in October 2017 to highlight the rights of children and young people with ASD.
- Securing Quality Capacity Building Initiative (now 'What Works') funding to roll out supports to parents of children and young people with ASD in collaboration with relevant partners in West Wicklow led by the West Wicklow Youth Project.
- Securing Healthy Ireland funding for the county since 2017 to implement a range of programme to a wide variety of target groups in collaboration with the Implementing Partners.
- Delivery of a range of Cybersafeireland Workshops to primary schools in Wicklow in 2017/18/19 and the hosting of a workshop for parents, professionals and young people on Internet Safety in 2018 and 2019 supported by Comhairle na n'Og.

Fionnuala Curry,

Co-ordinator

Co. Wicklow Children and Young People's Services Committee [CYPSC]

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For more information: <http://www.cypsc.ie/your-county-cypsc/wicklow.254.html>