



**Children & Young People's Plan**  
Autumn 2020 – 2023

# Contact

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

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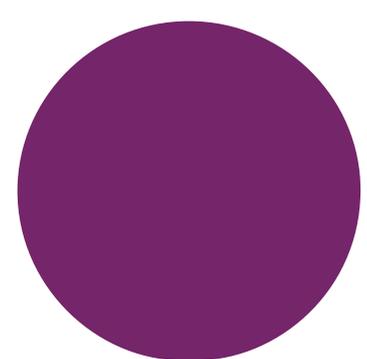
[www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie)

[www.wexfordcypsc.ie](http://www.wexfordcypsc.ie)



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## Foreword

As Chairperson of Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee, it is with great pleasure that I introduce the second Wexford Children and Young People's Plan. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the considerable achievements of the previous Plan and express my gratitude to all who were involved in its implementation.

This is an ambitious Plan that identifies key priorities across a range of outcomes in line with "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People". The Plan was shaped and informed by a wide-ranging consultation process and needs analysis to ensure that it is responsive to local needs.

Since its inception, a large number of statutory, community and voluntary organisations have engaged in the CYPSC process in Co. Wexford. The development of this Plan was only possible as a result of their ongoing commitment to interagency work and collaboration and their shared objective of improving outcomes for children and young people in our community.

Thank you to the members of the CYPSC and its Sub Groups for their ongoing commitment to this process. I would like to express gratitude to all stakeholders for their involvement in the development of this Plan and in particular I would like to thank the children and young people who participated in the consultation process.

As a country we are still adapting to the challenges posed by COVID-19. I would like to pay tribute to all the agencies that have risen to these challenges and found inventive ways of continuing to provide support to children, young people and families throughout the county.

I look forward to the implementation phase of the Children and Young People's Plan. I feel confident that the solid inter-agency relationships established since the establishment of Wexford CYPSC can be further developed and embedded as we move into the next phase. The implementation of this Plan will further strengthen inter-agency collaboration and ensure that we continue to work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families in Co. Wexford.

*Vincent Daly*

**Vincent Daly,  
Wexford CYPSC Chairperson**



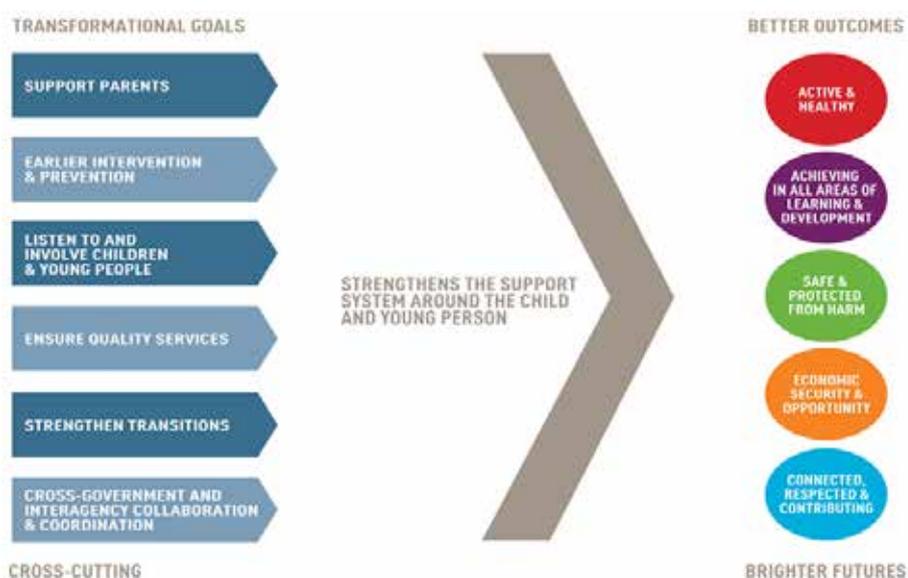
## Section 1. Introduction

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

CYPSC's work towards achieving the five national outcomes for children and young people in Ireland as outlined in "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures", which is the first overarching national policy framework for children and young people (aged 0-24 years) in Ireland. The purpose of the framework is to coordinate policy across Government to achieve better outcomes. The framework also identifies six areas that have the potential to improve outcomes and transform the effectiveness of existing policies, services and resources in achieving these national outcomes (see figure 1 below). The five national outcomes 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

**Figure 1: Better Outcomes Brighter Futures Cross Departmental Policy Framework.**



**Source:** Better Outcomes Brighter Futures, DCYA (2014)

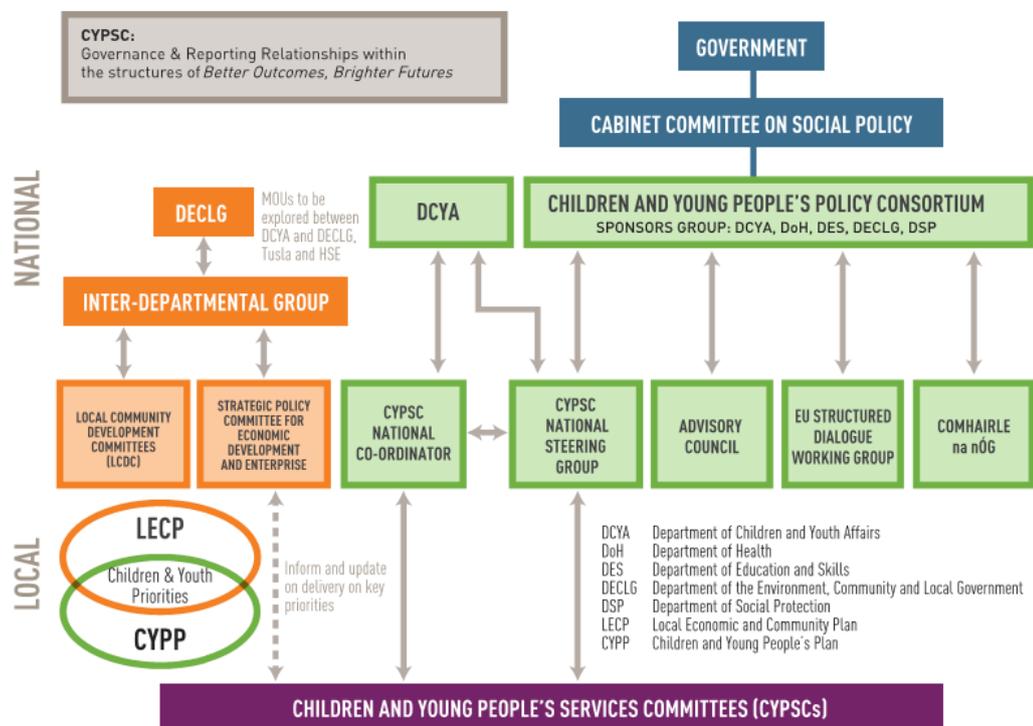
# Background to Children and Young People's Services Committees

## Children and Young People's Services Committees in Ireland

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

CYPSC's bring a diverse group of agencies across the statutory, community and voluntary sectors in local county areas together to engage in joint planning of services for children and young people. All major organisations and agencies working locally on behalf of children and young people are represented. These committees work to improve the lives of children, young people and families at local and community level through collaborative planning and improved service delivery. Each committee is responsible for the development of a three year Children and Young People's Plan.

**Figure 2: Governance and Reporting Relationships within the structures of "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures"**



The development of Children and Young People's Services Committees has been shaped and informed by a number of major government policies over the last number of years.

## **The Agenda for Children's Services: A Policy Handbook (2007)**

"The Agenda for Children's Services: A Policy Handbook" (2007), set out the strategic direction and key goals of public policy re: children's health and social services at that time. It applied the principles of the first National Children's Strategy (2000) to the implementation of policy through service delivery. At the core of The Agenda, was the promotion of good outcomes for children. It advocated a "whole child - whole system" approach to meeting children's needs, with a clear focus on achieving better outcomes for children and families through the promotion of inter-agency work. The Agenda was also responsible for identifying the seven outcomes that have been adapted to become the five National Outcomes that inform the work of CYPSC's today.

## **Report of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse, Implementation Plan (2009)**

The Implementation Plan which was developed following the publication of the "Report of the Commission to Inquire into Child Abuse" (also known as the Ryan Report), specifically refers to Children's Services Committees. The Report identifies that interagency, multidisciplinary work is vital to the promotion of good child protection practice and to the provision of good and safe service delivery to service users. It also states that "the purpose of CSC's is to ensure that agencies work together strategically to achieve intended outcomes for children and families and value for money". Furthermore it explains that "they have been set up specifically to enhance interagency communication and are working in partnership to meet the needs of vulnerable children and families" (p.45).

## **Report of the Task Force on the Child and Family Support Agency (2012)**

This report examined a number of key themes such as leadership, multi-disciplinary engagement, interagency working and change management that would lead to better outcomes for children and young people. It emphasised that universal and targeted services provided by the Child & Family Agency, together with services for children and families provided by other government departments or agencies and those provided by NGO's, must be co-ordinated and joined up on the ground where children and families live. The Task Force identified that "CSC's should be the mechanism for doing this at local level. It is crucial that the committees work to an overall national strategy and plan". (P.V).

## **Better Outcomes Brighter Futures:**

### **The National Policy Framework for Children & Young People (2014 - 2020)**

"Better Outcomes Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People", is a whole of government policy that emphasises the importance of everyone working together for the development, to their maximum potential, of children and young people in Ireland. This policy identifies five national outcomes for children and young people and recognises CYPSC's as the key vehicle for inter-agency work and development of local Children and Young People's Plans. Although "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures", is the most recent policy document in relation to CYPSC's, its contents were influenced by the previous policy documents. Since the publication of "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures", a number of other important policy documents have been published such as the "National Youth Strategy", the "LGBTI+ Youth Strategy" and "First 5" and they all inform and influence the work of CYPSC's.

## **National Youth Strategy (2015-2020)**

The aim of the "National Youth Strategy" is to enable all young people to realise their maximum potential, by respecting their rights and hearing their voices, while protecting and supporting them as they transition from childhood to adulthood. It is a strategy which sets out the government's aims and objectives for young people aged 10 to 24 years. While it is a universal strategy for all young people, it provides for the needs of young people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing the poorest outcomes.

The “National Youth Strategy” has its basis in “Better Outcomes Brighter Futures” and complements the “National Strategy on Children and Young People’s Participation in Decision Making”. The “National Youth Strategy” takes a cross-sectoral, whole-of-society approach to supporting young people in their everyday lives. It recognises that the key support factors in young people’s lives are parents, family, friends, other adults such as youth workers and teachers, and the community.

### **LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy (2018 – 2020)**

This is a three year action-oriented strategy which recognises that young Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTI+) people can flourish when they have consistently positive interactions with those around them and supportive experiences in the services with which they engage. The Strategy sets out the goals and objectives for serving the needs of LGBTI+ young people aged 10-24 years. The Department of Justice and Equality is in the process of developing a “National LGBTI+ Strategy” which will seek to address the needs of the wider LGBTI+ community. Together both strategies should lay the foundations for a more inclusive Ireland for LGBTI+ people in the future.

### **First 5: A Whole of Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and their Families (2019–2028).**

This is Ireland’s first ever strategy for early childhood. It is a ten year plan to help ensure that all children have positive early experiences. The “First 5 Strategy” uses evidence to identify goals, objectives and the specific actions required from across Government to support children and their families in the early years of life.

This whole-of government strategy aims to deliver;

- A broader range of options to parents to balance working and caring.
- A new model of parenting support.
- New developments in child health, including a dedicated child health workforce.
- Reform of the Early Learning and Care System, including a new funding model.
- A package of measures to tackle childhood poverty.

The strategy aims to significantly enhance early childhood and make a contribution to the lives of children, society and the economy in the short, medium and long term.

### **Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities:**

#### **A Five-Year Strategy to Support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Ireland (2019–2024).**

“The Strategy to Support the Community & Voluntary Sector in Ireland” sets out a long-term vision for communities in Ireland. It outlines a set of actions under 11 objectives that are to be implemented over a five year period. The Strategy draws a roadmap for Government policy in relation to community development, local development and the community and voluntary sector for the coming years. It aims to support partnership and collaborative effort at all levels and between all stakeholders, comprising high level objectives and associated actions to support communities, their representative organisations, and the community and voluntary sector. It has been co-produced by Government and people from the community development, local development, community and voluntary and local government sectors.

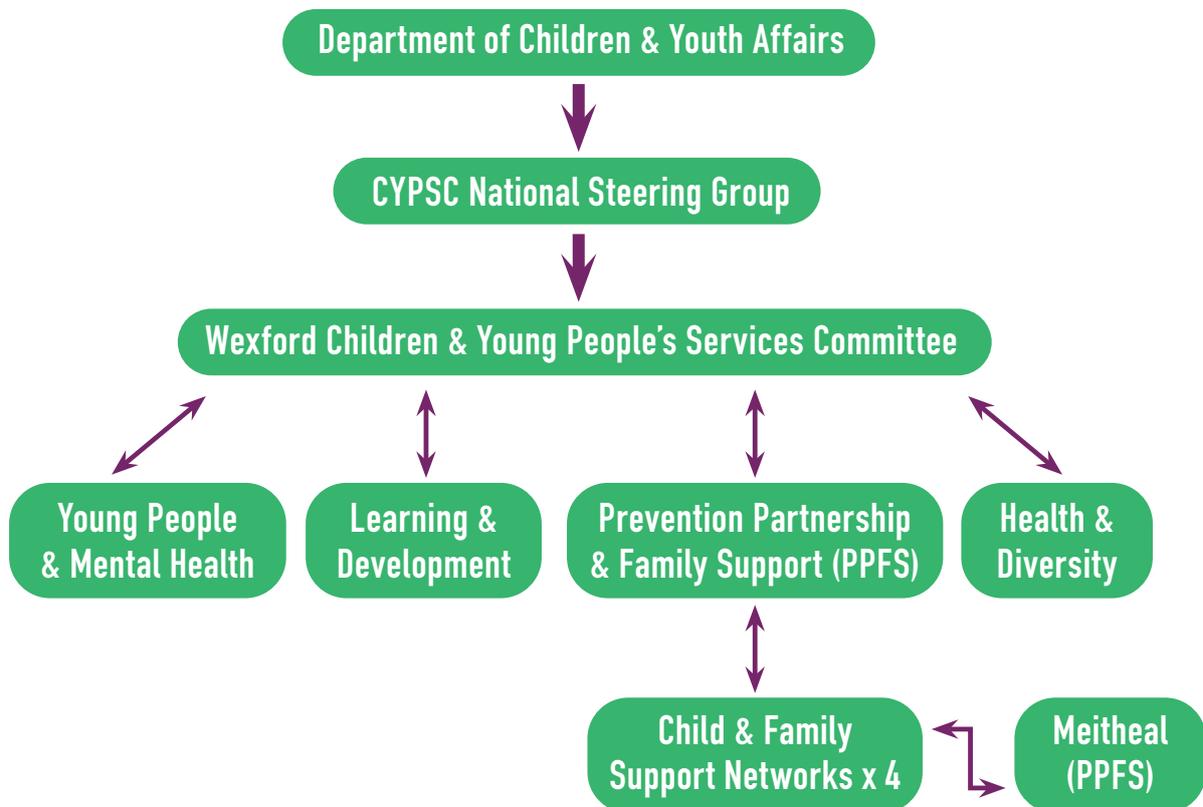
# Children and Young People's Services Committee in County Wexford

Wexford CYPSC had its initial meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup> 2014. Its first Children and Young People's Plan ran from 2017-2019.

The CYPSC committee is comprised of senior managers from the statutory, community and voluntary sectors which have a remit to work with children, young people and families.

The CYPSC is supported by a Co-ordinator who is employed by Tusla Child & Family Agency. It is chaired by the Tusla Area Manager for Waterford / Wexford and the Vice Chair role is held by the Chief Officer of the LCDC, Wexford County Council. Nationally, the CYPSC reports to the national CYPSC office at Tusla Child and Family Agency which in turn reports to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

Figure 3: CYPSC Organisational Chart



## Who We Are

### Membership of Wexford CYPSC (June 2020)

Agency	Agency Representative
<b>Chair:</b> Tusla Child & Family Agency	Vincent Daly, Waterford/Wexford Area Manager
<b>Deputy Chair:</b> Wexford County Council	Paul L'Estrange, Chief Officer Wexford LCDC
An Garda Síochána	Graham Rowley, Inspector
Barnardos	Catherine Joyce, Assistant Director of Children's Services South East Region
Family Resource Centres	Mary O'Loughlin, Manager Taghmon FRC
FDYS (Ferns Diocesan Youth Service)	Kieran Donohoe, CEO
Gorey Youth Needs Group	Mandi Tighe, Manager
Health Service Executive	Mary B. Finn Gilbride, Director of Public Health Nursing Catriona Whitty, Social Work Manager Disability Services for SECH
Irish Primary Principles Network	Vicky Barron, Principal CBS Primary School
Probation & Welfare Service	Michéle Weir, Senior Probation Officer
Roma Community Representative	Olivia Jucan
Traveller Community Representatives	Polly Connors & Bridget Wall, Traveller Health Project Workers
Tusla Child & Family Agency	Sheila Clarke, Senior Education Welfare Officer Tony Kennedy, Senior Manager for Prevention, Partnership and Family Support
Waterford and Wexford Education & Training Board	To Be Confirmed
Wexford Campus Carlow I.T.	Susan Barnes, Lecturer
Wexford County Childcare Committee	Deirdre Power, CEO
Wexford Local Development	Clare Ryan, Programmes Manager
Wexford Rape Crisis Centre	Clare Williams, Manager
Wexford Womens Refuge	Angela Murphy, Senior Project Worker
Youth New Ross	Dave Grey, Manager

## CYPSC Sub-Groups

Wexford CYPSC has four Sub Groups as follows;

- Health & Diversity
- Learning & Development
- Prevention, Partnership & Family Support
- Young People & Mental Health

The Sub Groups have an essential role in identifying key local needs and designing responses to those needs.

## Synergy with other County-Level Structures

The CYPSC is continuing to enhance its relationship with the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). The Chief Officer of the LCDC is also the Vice Chair of the CYPSC committee. The CYPSC Co-ordinator represents CYPSC and Tusla on the SICAP Sub-Committee of the LCDC. The CYPSC Co-ordinator also sits on the Healthy Wexford committee and on its “Mental Health and Wellbeing” Working Group.

The CYPSC has built strong links with the local Comhairle na nÓg (CNN) over the course of the previous plan. The CYPSC Co-ordinator continues to represent CYPSC on the Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committee and attends the AGM. A representative from CNN attends one CYPSC meeting per year to update members on CNN priorities and issues of concern.

Comhairle was very involved in the development and roll-out of a youth participation project under CYPSC (TEEN Talks) in 2018 and 2019. The Comhairle Co-ordinator is now a member of the Young People & Mental Health Sub-Group of CYPSC and was actively involved in the formulation of actions for the current plan. Both structures are committed to ongoing consultation and participation during the life-span of the CYPP to ensure that the plan remains relevant to the young people of Co. Wexford.



## Achievements to Date

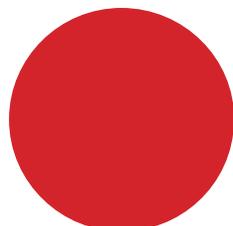
Outlined below are some of the achievements to date for Wexford CYPSC;

- **Delivery of Initial CYPP:** Development and implementation of the initial 3 year Children & Young People's Plan. The CYPSC was in receipt of two main funding streams during this time, BOBF Programme funding from the DCYA and Healthy Ireland Programme funding from the Department of Health. These funds acted as a catalyst for successful delivery of many actions contained in the initial CYPP. Locally, agencies supported these initiatives through funding and in-kind contributions.
- **Inter-Agency Collaboration:** The active engagement of community and statutory organisations in Wexford CYPSC and its Sub Groups. Increased connectivity and networking opportunities among CYPSC member organisations have increased the flow of information and opened up new opportunities for collaborative working.
- **Parenting Support:** Substantial progress was made on supporting parents and care-givers through the creation of Wexford Parents Hub and the appointment of a Parent Support Mentor. This collaborative project was initiated and supported through Wexford CYPSC. The Parents Hub ensures that evidence based parenting programmes are accessible to parents / care-givers around the county.

In 2019, a dedicated section for Wexford Parents Hub (<http://www.wexfordcypsc.ie/wexford-parents-hub>) was added to the Wexford CYPSC site. Here parents can access up to date information on parenting programmes and supports and contact the Parent Support Mentor directly. There is also a Facebook page that can be accessed at: <https://www.facebook.com/wexfordparentshub/>.

Collaboration with key community and voluntary organisations in Co. Wexford to develop the "Parenting Today" series of talks for parents and care-givers. The series has run annually and been rolled out through Library branches since 2017. In 2020 it expanded to include a number of community venues. The series features a range of speakers on a wide range of topics that address parenting at different developmental stages.

- **Early Intervention:** CYPSC acknowledges the importance of intervening early to support children and families. By intervening at an earlier stage, problems can be resolved and this prevents issues escalating to the extent that more extreme interventions are required at a later stage. Wexford CYPSC was involved in the delivery and support of key early intervention projects such as a multi-media project promoting the importance of early literacy for under 5's and support and promotion of "Books 4 Babies" (universal book gifting) project.



- **Information Dissemination:** CYPSC plays a key role in information provision. There has been ongoing development of Wexford CYPSC's website [www.wexfordcypsc.ie](http://www.wexfordcypsc.ie) which is a single point of contact for information on services and supports for children, young people and families in Co. Wexford. The site also contains links to resources developed under Wexford CYPSC such as "Just Be You" – a resource developed with the aim of raising awareness of LGBTI issues within schools.

The Wexford CYPSC E-Newsletter is circulated bi-annually. It contains updates on the roll-out of actions and information relevant to service providers.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, as services rapidly adapted the way they supported children and families, CYPSC became a central point for the collation and circulation of information on service delivery and supports for children, young people and families in the county. As a result, there was a greater flow of information between agencies and a greater understanding of what supports were available and how to access them.

- **Restorative Practice:** Wexford CYPSC initiated the development of Wexford Restorative Practices Partnership in 2016. This multi-agency body was established with the objective of developing restorative practice throughout Co. Wexford. It has developed a dedicated website ([www.wrpp.ie](http://www.wrpp.ie)), provided training on Restorative Practice, held annual conferences and has also developed an innovative online training programme: "Introduction to Restorative Practices" which will be launched in late 2020.
- **Capacity Building:** Supporting practitioners to build their own capacity through the roll out of various training programmes such as "The Decider" (training for professionals to help people to deal with impulsive behaviours such as self-harm, avoidance, withdrawal and isolation etc.) and workshops facilitated by the Disability Equality Specialist Support Agency (DESSA) to build capacity and knowledge around disability related issues. This has resulted in increased knowledge and skills development among practitioners.
- **Resource Development:** Developed a number of resources in response to identified needs. Examples include the "Just Be You" Programme Resource Pack (LGBTI) and the poster on "Guidelines for Referrals to Child & Youth Mental Health Services in Co. Wexford".
- **Evaluation & Review:** Wexford CYPSC supported the external review of the "Books 4 Babies" book gifting initiative which is a key early intervention initiative in the county.
- **Community Support:** Intensive inter-agency work was initiated by CYPSC to support the development of Community Hubs facilitating the outreach of family support services and supports in the Bridgetown and Riverchapel areas of Co. Wexford.
- **Support Programmes:** CYPSC responded to community needs identified by agencies through the implementation of various support programmes, mental health talks, TEEN Talks youth participation project, physical activities in early years services, TLC Kidz (programme to support children affected by domestic violence) etc.

## Learning, Challenges, Impacts and Strengths;

Wexford CYPSC engaged an external facilitator to host a Review of Wexford CYPSC and a planning session for the new Children & Young People's Plan on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2019. The information below is derived from that session.

### Learning:

Interagency working within Wexford CYPSC has become embedded since its inception in 2014. CYPSC has developed a crucial role in strengthening communications and collaborations between key agencies with a support and development remit to children, young people and families in County Wexford. The structure of the committee and sub-groups ensures that there is greater connectivity. As a result, available resources are maximised and duplication is prevented. This also facilitates opportunities for collaboration amongst member organisation.

The importance of agencies aligning their own plans with the Children and Young People's Plan was identified. It was noted that CYPSC has influenced the way that agencies work and has encouraged them to look at their own work through the CYPSC lens.

The CYPSC is working to meet the needs and gaps identified through the strategic planning process. Work is being done in areas where significant need has been identified. CYPSC members also felt it was important to recognise that there are issues that do not fall under the scope of CYPSC.

### Challenges:

Members noted that consistent funding and resourcing of CYPSC is a major challenge. The external landscape is constantly changing and it is important to maintain awareness of what is happening in relation to national policy and how this impacts on the ability of services to respond to local needs. Recent changes to youth work funding were noted, in particular the development of "UBU – Your Space Your Place" funding. This funding stream was created As a result of the "Value for Money and Policy Review of Youth Programmes" (2014), four existing schemes were replaced by one over-arching scheme (UBU). Members are eager that existing or planned youth services in Co. Wexford would not be adversely impacted by this realignment of funding.

Ensuring that there is current data available for the duration of the Plan was identified as a significant challenge. It was noted that due to the planning cycle, the current CYPP will utilise data from the 2016 census. Steps must be put in place to ensure that the most recent data is available to the CYPSC committee during the term of the new CYPP.

Another challenge identified was ensuring that the CYPP actions align to relevant objectives within national strategies such as "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures" and "First 5" and also to the existing work plans of relevant agencies and organisations working to support children, young people and families in Wexford.

## Impacts and Strengths;

Having a CYPSC Co-ordinator in position was identified as key to driving forward the work of CYPSC. Members have competing demands on their time and it is useful to have one dedicated worker who can refocus efforts and ensure that the primary focus of the committee remains the improvement of outcomes for children and young people.

The Children and Young People's Plan is viewed as the shared vision of CYPSC members. Through the Plan, organisations are working together strategically to meet the needs of children and young people in the knowledge that the work is making a positive difference.

The good will of member organisations was noted. This has led to agencies becoming more flexible and willing to work together to improve outcomes for children and young people. The ability of CYPSC to focus on seldom heard young people was also identified as a strength.

The CYPSC initiative has become more embedded nationally and the fact that CYPSC is named as a key structure in relation to children and young people in policy documents such as "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures" and "First 5" was viewed as a significant strength as it further validates the work of CYPSC.



## How the Children and Young People's Plan was developed

The Children and Young People's Plan was developed by Wexford CYPSC and its Sub Groups between June 2019 – June 2020.

The following were the key steps taken to develop the plan:

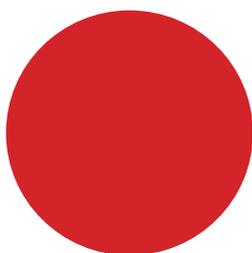
- Review of Wexford CYPP 2017-2019
- Agreement on Schedule for Development of new CYPP (see overleaf)
- Socio-Demographic Profile
- Consultation
- Review of Data
- Needs Analysis developed based on socio demographic profile and results of consultation
- Development of Draft Actions and review by CYPSC and Sub Groups
- Draft Plan
- Submission for Screening

### Review of Wexford CYPP 2017-2019

As outlined in the previous section, a Review and Planning Session for Wexford CYPSC was implemented by an external facilitator in June 2019.

The purpose of the facilitated session was;

- To review progress to date under current Children and Young People's Plan 2017-19
- To become alert to challenges
- To prepare for the development of the Children and Young People's Plan 2020-23
- To strengthen the shared vision within Wexford CYPSC
- To agree the schedule for the development of the Children and Young People's Plan 2020-23 (CYPP).



## Agreement on Schedule for Development of Wexford CYPP 2020–2023

Schedule for Development of Wexford CYPP Autumn 2020–2023	
Time-frame	Activities
June 2019	Review of current CYPP (2017-2019). CYPSC members agree schedule for development of next CYPP.
July/August 2019	Terms of Reference for updating of Socio Demographic Profile agreed. Secure consultant and work to be completed by September/ October 2019.
September – December 2019	Consultations carried out and findings collated. Sub Groups to conduct reviews of own Terms of Reference, membership, initial identification of key themes.
January- March 2020	Socio Demographic Profile and outcomes of consultations used to inform Needs Analysis. Sub Groups begin to identify headline issues and develop actions. Lead agencies for actions agreed.
April - May 2020	Draft Plan reviewed by CYPSC and any amendments identified (externally facilitated session)
May-June 2020	Amendments made and Plan finalised
July 2020	CYPP finalised and submitted for screening process.

## Impact of Coronavirus COVID-19 on Schedule for Development of CYPP

In March 2020, due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, the Irish government imposed social distancing and other restrictions to curb the spread of the virus. All agencies adapted their methodology to ensure delivery of services and supports to the children, young people and families throughout the county.

The CYPSC adhered to Public Health Guidelines which meant that the agreed schedule effective from March 2020 had to be adapted. The external evaluation session that was planned for May 2020 had to be cancelled and all Sub Group meetings from March took place online. CYPSC members were consulted via survey regarding the challenges faced in the light of COVID - 19 and how the CYPP should respond to same. This is further explored in the section on consultation and in the needs analysis.

## Socio-Demographic Profile

A Terms of Reference for the Socio Demographic Profile was developed and expressions of interest were invited from interested consultants. As a result of this process, a consultant was secured and he completed the Socio Demographic Profile for the CYPP.

## Consultation

### CYPSC Members: Specific Consultation in Relation to COVID-19;

A short questionnaire was administered to CYPSC committee members in May 2020 to capture their views on the challenges facing children, young people and families in light of COVID-19. See Appendix 7 for questionnaire. They were also asked to identify appropriate responses. A total of 11 responses were received. A summary of the responses is outlined below.

### The following were identified as the main challenges for children, young people and families as a result of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Mental Health:** Mental health issues have escalated resulting in increased stress, anxiety and worry. COVID-19 has contributed to childhood anxiety. Some young people are presenting with suicidal ideation.
- **Domestic Violence:** Escalation of domestic abuse and coercive control and more exposure of children and young people to this behaviour. Increase in anti-social behaviour evident in some areas.
- **Employment:** Loss of employment has had an impact in terms of food poverty, inability to pay household bills etc.
- **Social Isolation:** Loss of social interaction, isolation, children excluded from public life, emotional challenge of being separated from supportive family / friends.
- **Educational Disadvantage:** Educational disadvantage for children whose families find it difficult to support them. Challenge for parents of balancing home schooling and working from home.

### In response, the following were identified as the key areas that the CYPSC should concentrate on in the new Children & Young People's Plan.

- Mental Health
- Domestic Violence
- Social/Emotional
- Parenting Supports
- Remote Learning
- Resilience

This feedback was used to further inform the needs analysis and ensure that it was reflective of the new reality in respect of COVID-19 and its implications for society.

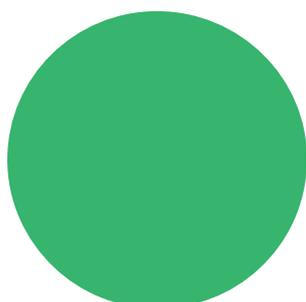
## Children, Young People and Parents

To decipher local needs for the CYPP, members of Wexford CYPSC and its Sub Groups conducted a consultation process with children, young people and parents in Q.4 2019 and Q. 1 2020. The aim of this process was to identify the main issues affecting young people in their area. Questionnaires were drafted and administered and 1137 individuals participated in the consultation process. A sample questionnaire and summary of the findings is outlined below and further details can be found in appendix 5 and 6.

Age Group / Sector	Methodology	No. Responses	Key Findings
<b>Early Years (2-5 years)</b>  Facilitated by Wexford County Childcare Committee	Each Early Years' Service in Co. Wexford was sent a consultation pack containing information on Wexford CYPSC. It outlined the purpose of the consultation. It also included three questions to be considered by the children. Services were advised to use their expertise to carry out the consultation using methodologies that they considered appropriate for the age group*.	150 from rural and urban settings.	<b>Positive:</b> Being active, being in nature and reading.  <b>Areas for Improvement:</b> included environmental issues such as litter and dog fouling.
<b>Primary School Age (5-12 years)</b>  Facilitated by Primary Schools	A standard questionnaire was disseminated to Primary Schools (urban and rural) and youth projects throughout the county. A deliberate effort was made to include seldom heard young people. This included Traveller and Roma communities and Children In Care.	538	<b>Positives:</b> Having friends and family close by, a sense of community, having a space to play, community facilities – shop, schools etc.  <b>Areas for Improvement:</b> the environment (littering, traffic & roadworks) and the lack of amenities (playgrounds, pitches and green areas for play).
<b>Young Adult Age (13-24 years)</b>  Facilitated by youth organisations (Gorey Youth Needs Group, Youth New Ross and FDYS), LGBT+ Groups, Youth Drop-In Groups, Traveller Community, Focus Ireland Aftercare, Barnardos, Tusla Children In Care, Wexford Rape Crisis Centre and Wexford Local Development.	The CYPSC was conscious that a general consultation may not accurately capture and reflect the needs / views of seldom heard young people. Therefore, the CYPSC member organisations and those affiliated with CYPSC targeted young people in a diverse range of settings including those in the non-formal education sector, those from the LGBTI+ community, Travellers, young people in Aftercare and young people experiencing homelessness using the standard questionnaire as a focus for discussion.	262	<b>Positives:</b> Family and community support.  <b>Areas for Improvement:</b> The lack of services and supports (or lack of access to same) in local areas is identified as a negative. Transport issues featured in the responses from rural young people. Many young people highlighted drugs/ alcohol and mental health issues as being key concerns. They also highlighted more global issues such as homelessness, crime and anti-social behaviour as issues that need to be improved to make life better.

Age Group / Sector	Methodology	No. Responses	Key Findings
Comhairle na nÓg	Questionnaires administered at the AGM	74	<p><b>Positive:</b> A sense of community, being near to amenities and social outlets featured as positive aspects.</p> <p><b>Areas for Improvement:</b> Drug problems, transport issues and a lack of social activities. A clear majority of attendees at the AGM identified mental health issues for young people as a priority issue. This was followed by bullying (in person and cyber-bullying) and drug misuse issues..</p>
Parents	CFSN's (Child and Family Support Networks) and parents attending the "Parenting Today" talks.	113	<p><b>Positives:</b> Good community spirit, public amenities, quality of the environment, Parent &amp; Toddler Groups.</p> <p><b>Areas for Improvement:</b> Family Supports e.g. more free family activities, more green spaces, discounted admission for families to make admission to services more affordable and better parental supports.</p>

\* **Early Years Methodology** included circle time, dress-up exercises, drawing pictures, using building blocks to improve their local area and going on a bus tour of the local area, taking photos and discussing same.



## **Seldom Heard Young People**

Positives identified by young Travellers included their love of family and friends. Common themes identified by young Travellers included experiencing negativity and feeling that they have nowhere to go that they can call their own. They expressed that they would like to have a place to hang out and enjoy being who they are. Other common features that were noted were the experience of poverty and discrimination.

The LBGT+ young people consulted identified mental health as their top issue.

Young People in Aftercare (Tusla and Focus Ireland): Identified the importance of having more safe places for children and young people to socialise. They also prioritised the need for more housing and adequate funding and preparation for young people leaving the care system.

## **Data Collection and Literature Review**

The Socio Demographic Profile was completed in Q.3 2019. This gave a broad overview of Co. Wexford. Since the publication of the previous CYPP, many new national policies and guidance documents in relation to children, young people and families have been published. There have also been significant pieces of local research conducted. The CYPSC was anxious to utilise these documents to inform the contents of the new CYPP.

## **Mapping / Needs Analysis**

The existing mapping of services was updated to include new services and remove those that are no longer operational. The overview combined with the consultation and results of the Socio Demographic Profile helped to identify gaps and contributed towards the needs analysis.

## **Development of Draft Actions and review by CYPSC and Sub Groups**

During Q.1 2020, Sub-Groups began to draft actions. The COVID-19 restrictions were imposed during this process. This necessitated the ceasing of physical meetings and in April 2020, Sub-Groups began to meet by teleconference and continued to develop and refine draft actions.

## **Draft Plan / Submission for Screening**

The draft plan was completed by end of June 2020 and circulated to the CYPSC committee and Sub Group members. Amendments were made based on comments received and the plan was submitted for Screening in August 2020.

## Section 2: Socio-Demographic Profile of Co. Wexford

### Wexford: Key Facts & Figures for Children and Young People

Indicator & Source	Description	Wexford	State
<b>Total Population</b> CSO Census 2016	Total population of Wexford	<b>149,722</b> 3.0% increase on 2011 Census	4,761,865 3.8% increase on 2011 Census
<b>Child Population</b> CSO Census 2016	Total number of children under 18 living in Co. Wexford  Total number of young people under 24 living in Co. Wexford	<b>39,166</b> 26.2% of total pop  <b>49,898</b> 33.2% of total pop	1,190,502 25.0% 33.3%
<b>Young Adult Population</b> CSO Census 2016	Total number of young people aged 18-24 living in Co. Wexford  % of total population	<b>10,732</b>  <b>7.2%</b>	392,502 8.2%
<b>Young Adult Population</b> CSO Census 2016	Number of young people aged 20-24 in Co. Wexford  % of total population	<b>7,167</b>  <b>4.8%</b>	273,636 5.7%
<b>Infant Mortality</b> CSO Vital Statistics 2018	Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births classified by the area of residence in 2018  Rate	<b>8</b>  <b>4.5</b>	187 3.1
<b>Neonatal Mortality</b> CSO Vital Statistics 2018	Number of deaths of infants under 28 days old per 1,000 live births classified by area of residence of the mother  Rate	<b>6</b>  <b>3.3</b>	139 2.3
<b>Child Mortality</b> CSO 2019	Number of deaths among children under 19 in 2018 (1)	<b>8</b>	305
<b>Sexual Health and Behaviour</b> Children born to Teenage Mothers CSO Vital Statistics 2018	Number of births to mothers under 20 years of age in 2018  Births to mothers under 20 years as a percentage of all births in 2018	<b>49</b>  <b>2.7%</b>	980 1.6%

(1) The CSO provides data on deaths occurring in 2018 by age category (Under 1 year, 1-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years and 15-19 years); the data is provisional and subject to revision.

Indicator & Source	Description	Wexford	State
<b>Traveller Children</b> CSO Census 2016	Number of Traveller children in 2016 Rate per 1,000 children	<b>596</b> <b>15.2</b>	14,223 11.9
<b>Foreign National Children</b> State of the Nation's Children (SONC) 2016	Number of foreign national children Rate per 1,000 children	<b>2,199</b> <b>56.1</b>	79,536 66.8
<b>Children with Disabilities</b> CSO Census 2016	Number of children with a disability Rate per 1,000 children	<b>2,199</b> <b>72.7</b>	79,536 63.8
<b>New Births</b> CSO Vital Statistics 2018	Number of new births in Wexford, 2018	<b>1,796</b>	61,016
<b>Teenage Referrals to the Self-Harm Intervention Programme (SHIP)</b> SHIP, Wexford	Number of referrals for 16-18 year olds to SHIP for 2018	<b>24 (total referrals = 136)</b>	
<b>Suicides</b> CSO Vital Statistics, 2018	Suicide Rates for all persons, males and females, per 1,000 population	<b>13.7% (all persons)</b>	7.2%
<b>Education</b> State of the Nation's Children 2019	Leaving Certificate retention rates for the 2010 entry cohort Average percentage of Post Primary pupils absent for 20 days or more (2016/2017)	<b>90.6%</b> <b>20.4%</b>	91.2% 15.8%
<b>Children by Educational Attainment of Mother</b> CSO Census 2016	Percentage of children in Wexford classified by the educational attainment of mother	<b>10%: Primary</b> <b>16%: Lower secondary</b> <b>42%: Upper secondary</b> <b>30%: Third level or higher</b> <b>2%: Other/not stated</b>	8%: Primary 13%: Lower secondary 37%: Upper secondary 38%: Third level or higher 3%: Other/not stated

Indicator & Source	Description	Wexford	State
<b>Child Protection Referrals to Social Work</b>  Tusla, Wexford  Outcomes for Children Data and Information Hub	Number of child protection referrals to the Social Work Department in Wexford in 2018	<b>Total: 1,123</b>  Emotional Abuse: <b>442</b>  Neglect: <b>180</b>  Physical Abuse: <b>331</b>  Sexual Abuse: <b>170</b>	55,136
<b>Children in Care</b>  Tusla, Wexford  Outcomes for Children Data and Information Hub	Number of children in Wexford in the care of Tusla Child and Family Agency in December 2018	<b>Total: 198</b>  Residential: <b>14</b>  General Foster Care: <b>133</b>  Relative Foster Care: <b>50</b>  Other: <b>1</b>	6,041
<b>Garda Youth Diversion Programme</b>  SONC 2016	Number of children aged 10-17 years referred to Garda Youth Diversion Programme	<b>241</b>	9,451
<b>Probation</b>  Probation Service	Number of young people aged under 25 referred to the Probation Service in Wexford in 2018	<b>64 (2)</b>	
<b>Children in Lone Parent Households</b>  Department of Children and Youth Affairs 2016	Number of children living in a lone-parent household in Wexford  % of total child population	<b>17,215</b>  <b>18.4%</b>	196,008  16.5%
<b>Childhood Immunisations</b>  HSE Health Protection Surveillance Centre 2017	The % uptake of immunisations among children at 24 months of age	<b>95%</b> (% who received 3rd "6 in 1" vaccination)  <b>94%</b> (MMR <sup>1</sup> )	95%  92%
<b>Breast Feeding</b>  SONC 2016	% of infants who are breastfed (exclusive or combined) on discharge from hospital in Wexford	<b>50.8%</b>	59.9%

(2) The Probation Service was unable to provide data on the number of first time or repeat referrals.

Indicator & Source	Description	Wexford	State
<b>Housing Waiting List</b>  Wexford County Council  2019  Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness, Summary of Social Housing Assessments Key Findings 2019	Number of households on Social Housing Waiting Lists per District as in August 2019   No. of Social Housing Applicants on housing list as single adults with one or more children (child may not reside with adult)	<b>Total August 2019: 3,296:</b>  <b>Rosslare: 315</b>  <b>Wexford: 919</b>  <b>Enniscorthy: 698</b>  <b>New Ross: 479</b>  <b>Gorey: 885</b>  <b>650</b>	68,693 qualified for housing support nationally as at 24/6/19
<b>Clients Receiving Treatment for Substance Abuse</b>  Health Research Board  2017	Number of people receiving substance misuse treatment in 2017 who gave a Wexford address.  Males: 69%  Females: 31%	<b>Total all ages, 2017: 655</b>  <b>&lt;18 years = 35</b>  <b>18-24 years = 120 (18% of total cohort)</b>	8,922
<b>Children and young people referred for Counselling</b>  Various data sources, 2018-2019	Number of children and young people in the 0-24 age group referred for counselling*  * The number of children and young people actually receiving counselling is much lower: <b>197</b>	<b>Total: 326</b>  <b>FDYS: 120</b>  <b>Wexford Rape Crisis: 134</b>  <b>Family Resource Centres: 72</b>	
<b>Youth Unemployment</b>  CSO, 2019	Number of young people (under 25) signing on the Live Register in Co. Wexford August 2019	<b>Total both sexes: 1,155</b>  <b>Male: 618</b>  <b>Female: 537</b>	22,471

## Introduction

A key component in the development of the Wexford Children and Young People’s Plan was the compilation of a comprehensive socio-demographic profile for Co. Wexford. This was crucial in terms of ensuring that the decision-making of the CYPSC members was evidence informed by the most current information.

In line with the remit of CYPSC, this section presents an overview of the social and demographic profile for the target population (0-24 years) in Co. Wexford. Local and national comparisons are provided where appropriate.

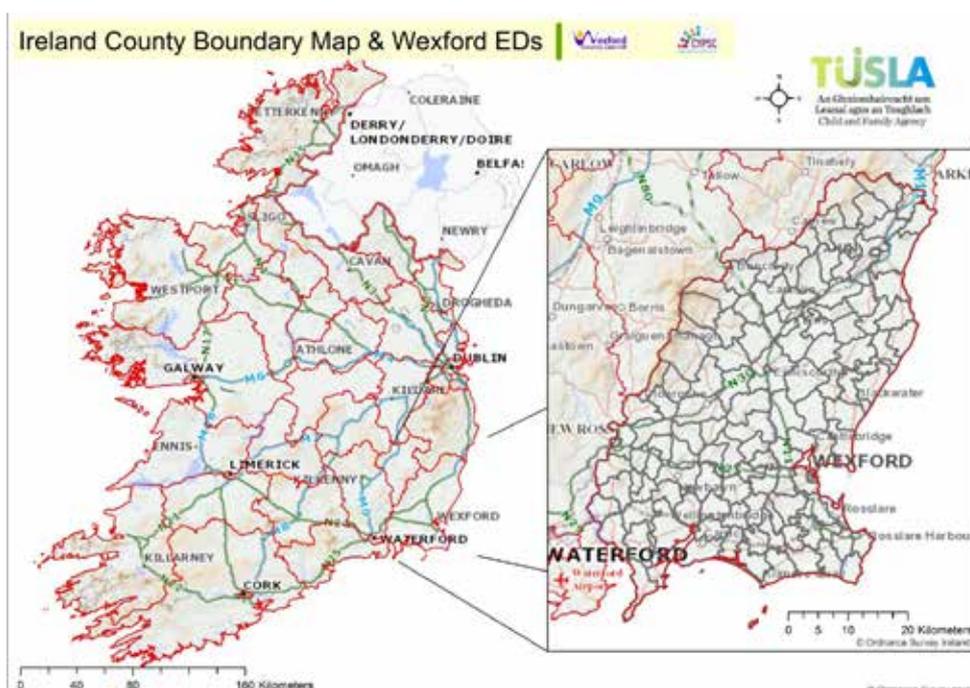
The key facts and figures for children and young people in the county were presented in the preceding table. Key socio-demographic indicators are further explored later in this section.

Please note that this section was completed prior to the onset of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. Some potential social and economic implications of COVID-19 are explored on p.65.

## Location and Geography

Positioned in the South-East corner of Ireland – ‘the Sunny South-East’ – County Wexford, is bounded on two sides by the sea – on the South by the Atlantic Ocean and the East by St. Georges Channel and the Irish Sea. The four adjoining counties are Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow and Wicklow. The county comprises the four Municipal Districts (MDs): New Ross, Gorey, Wexford Town and Enniscorthy.

**Figure 4: Map of Wexford**



**Source:** Wexford County Council. (3)

(3) This chapter was drawn primarily from the work of Tom Martin & Associates/TMA Marketing and Management Consultants who were commissioned to collate the Socio-Demographic Profile on behalf of the CYPSC.

Wexford is the twelfth most populated county in the State with a population recorded at 149,722 in the 2016 Census. It is the largest county in the South-East and has experienced a moderate expansion (+3% or 4,402) of its population since 2011 (17th highest growth rate in the State). This expansion is primarily the result of natural increase within the county. According to the Central Statistics Office (CSO), Wexford has recorded an estimated decline of -1,194 through net migration, so any population increase is exclusively driven by a high birth rate (14.4 births per 1,000 population) and overall natural increase between 2001 and 2016.

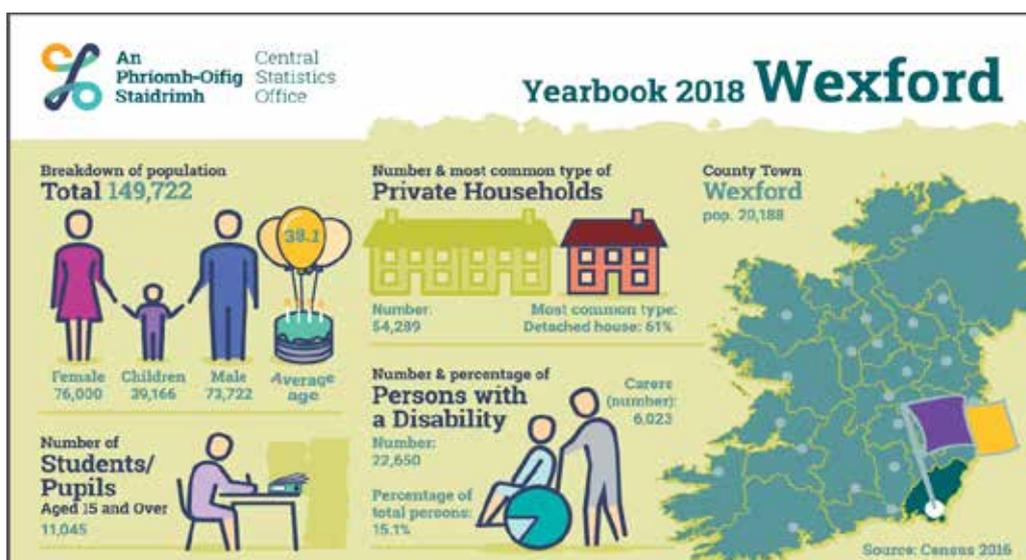
In the five years since Census 2011, population growth has occurred in 91 of the 124 Electoral Divisions (EDs) in Wexford. The majority of this population growth has occurred in the north of the county, with over 54% of all population growth occurring in the Gorey Municipal District. Wexford has a slightly higher proportion of children under 18 years, 26.2%, compared to the national average of 25%.

Wexford has excellent road, rail and sea connections and it is home to Rosslare Euro Port. The county is linked to Dublin by the M11/N11 National Primary Route (the Enniscorthy by-pass was completed in 2019) and to Cork and Waterford by the N25. The county has rail links with Dublin and major towns on the East Coast.

Wexford benefits from telecommunications infrastructure improvements under Ireland's National Broadband Plan. "Fibre-to-the-building" broadband infrastructure is currently being rolled out by commercial infrastructure provider SIRO in the main urban centres around Wexford and, for the first time in Ireland, will deliver up to 1,000Mbps upload and download speeds.

Wexford Town and environs are currently serviced by a Metropolitan Area Network which provides Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL) to support broadband infrastructure to business, industry and education facilities.

The CSO produces a Statistical Yearbook that provides a snapshot of life in each county. See below for Wexford infographic. The themes in the infographic will be further expanded in the following section.



Source: CSO Statistical Yearbook 2018

## Summary of Key Facts: County Wexford

**1,796:** The number of births in Wexford in 2018.

**1,108:** The number of deaths in Wexford in 2018.

**723:** The number of marriages registered in Wexford in 2018.

**149,722:** The number of people living in Wexford in 2016.

**39,166:** The number of young people under 18 living in Wexford in 2016.

**10,732:** The number of young people aged 18-24 living in Wexford in 2016. This equates to 7.2% of the total Wexford population, compared with 8.2% or the State.

**1,508:** The number of Travellers living in Wexford in 2016.

**449:** The number of Roma living in Wexford in 2019.

**1,115:** The number of young people in Wexford on the Live Register in 2019.

**3.0%:** The percentage growth in Wexford's population between 2011-2016.

**12th highest:** Relative to other local authorities, Wexford has the 12th highest number of children aged 5-12 in the State and the 15th highest rate.

**34.8%:** Wexford's Youth Dependency Ratio<sup>(4)</sup> is one of the highest in the State (32.3%).

**72.7%:** Rate per 1,000 children with a disability in Wexford, compared to 63.8% for the State.

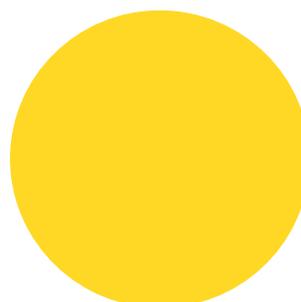
**2.7%:** The percentage of all babies born in Wexford to mothers aged under 20 Wexford has one of the highest teenage pregnancy rates in the country.

**13.7%:** Suicide rate for all persons in Wexford, 2018 (the national rate is 7.2%).

**15.2%:** Wexford's rate per 1,000 Traveller children is much higher than the rate for the State (11.9%).

**24.5%** of the population (aged 15+) in Wexford has a third-level degree or higher — the 4th lowest rate in the country (national average: 33.4%)

**4th most disadvantaged:** Wexford was the fourth most disadvantaged local authority in the country in 2016 as measured by the Pobal HP Deprivation Index.



<sup>(4)</sup> The Youth Dependency Ratio is calculated by taking the population aged 0 to 14 and calculating it as a proportion of the population aged 15 to 64.

## Population

According to the last Census carried out in April 2016, Wexford has a population of 149,722. This represents an increase in the population of 4,402 or 3% between the 2011 and 2016 census which is slightly less than the overall increase for the State of 3.8%.

The population of Wexford equals to 3.1% of the national total of 4.76 million. There were 76,000 females in Wexford in 2016 compared with 73,722 males.

The breakdown of Wexford's population in terms of the target age groups is shown in the table 1 below.

**Table No. 1: General Population of Wexford by age category, 2016**

Total	All ages	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years
Wexford	149,722	10,327	11,677	10,948	9,779
Gender breakdown					
Male	73,722	5,369	5,944	5,660	4,980
Female	76,000	4,958	5,733	5,288	4,799

**Source:** Census 2016

At Municipal District (MD) level, there was considerable variation in population growth/decline. Gorey MD accounted for more than half (55.7%) of the total population growth in the county with an increase of 2,454 (7.2%) followed by Enniscorthy MD (3.5% or 1,210) and Wexford MD (835 or 1.9%). The New Ross Municipal District recorded a decline in its population of -97 or -0.3%.



## Dependency Ratio

A research publication published in 2018 by the All-Island Research Observatory (AIRO) and Wexford County Council indicates that Wexford has moderate levels of child and youth dependency. It points out that over 27% of Wexford's population is in the 0-18 year age bracket. The county has the 16th youngest population of all local authorities in Ireland.

The county has a child and youth dependent cohort (Young Dependency rate) of 34.8% which is considerably higher than the State average of 32.3% and is the 16th highest in the State. It notes that the larger the rate of child dependency, the greater the burden those of working age have in supporting the young population.

Within the county, there are high youth dependency rates in the larger towns and the northern areas within Gorey Municipal District.

The AIRO/Wexford County Council document states that the 65+ age cohort has rapidly increased in Wexford. It notes that this age cohort now represents 14.7% of the total population living in the county. Since 2011 this age grouping has increased by 19.7% and was the tenth highest rate of increase in the State. The document says that this is a major increase in the older population across the county and will result in an increased demand on older person's services. The CSO has prepared regional population projections for the South-East region, which estimate the population aged 65+ will increase by approximately 56% between 2016 and 2031.

## Children in Wexford: Age Structure

This section provides an analysis of four broad age cohorts within and across Wexford that relate to the age group addressed by the CYPSC:

### • Population Aged 0-4 (Preschool)

The Census 2016 indicates that there were 10,327 children aged 0-4 in Wexford; this represents 6.9% of the total population. This is very similar to the percentage of children in this age category for the State as a whole, 7.0% (see table 2).

Relative to other local authorities, Wexford has the 12th highest number of children aged 0-4 in the State and the 17th highest rate.

At the Municipal District level, there are small differences with the highest rates recorded in Gorey (7.5%) and Enniscorthy (7.1%). In contrast to this, New Ross (6.7%) and Wexford Municipal District (6.4%) have lower rates.

Across settlements, the highest rates of population aged 0-4 are found in Bridgetown (11.5%), Bunclody (8.9%), Gorey (8.6%), Rosslare Strand (8.3%) and Taghmon (8.2%). Clonroche, on the other hand, had a rate of 5.2%.

### • Population Aged 5-12 Years (Primary School)

According to the 2016 Census, there were 18,305 children in Wexford aged between 5-12. This age group represented 12.2% of the total population of the county, and this percentage is slightly higher than that of 11.5% for the State as a whole.

Relative to other local authorities, Wexford has the 12th highest number of children aged 5-12 in the State.

At the Municipal District (MD) level, there are small differences with the highest rate recorded in Gorey (13.4%). In contrast to this, New Ross (12.2%), Enniscorthy (12.1%) and Wexford MD (11.4%) have lower rates.

Across settlements, the highest rates are found in Kilmuckridge (17.5%), Bridgetown (15.6%), Castlebridge (14.1%), Courtown and Riverchapel (13.8%) and Gorey (13.8%). Lower rates are found in Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane (9.8%) and Wellingtonbridge (8.4%).

### • Population Aged 13-17 Years (Secondary School)

The Census 2016 indicates that there were 10,534 children aged between 13-17 in Wexford, and this group accounted for 7.0% of the total population in the county. This percentage is marginally higher than the equivalent figure for the State of 6.5%.

Relative to other local authorities, Wexford has the 12th highest number of children aged 13- 17 in the State and the 12th highest rate.

At the Municipal District level, there are minimal variations in the percentage of children aged 13 to 17 with the highest rates recorded in Gorey (7.3%) and New Ross (7.2%). By way of contrast, Enniscorthy (6.9%) and Wexford MD (6.8%) have lower rates.

Across settlements, the highest rates are found in Campile (8.5%), Taghmon (7.9%), Castlebridge (7.7%), Kilmuckridge (7.6%) and Clonroche (7.1%).

### • Population Aged 18-24 Years (Early Adult)

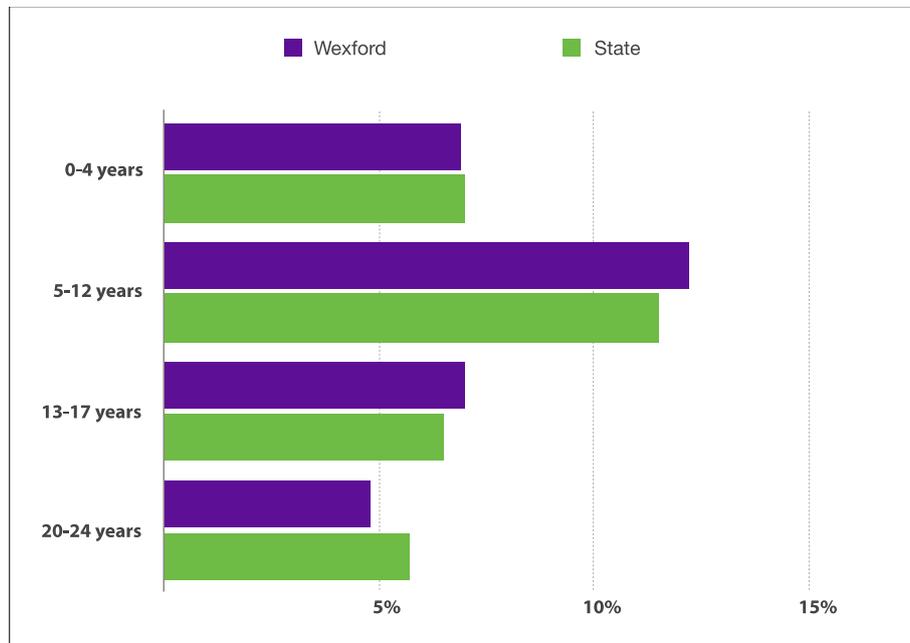
According to the Census 2016, there were 7,167 adults aged between 18-24 living in Wexford. This age category accounted for 4.8% of the total population of Wexford and is lower than the percentage of 18-24 in the State, 5.7%.

**Table No. 2: Population of Wexford and the State by selected age category, 2016**

Age categories	Wexford, 2016		State, 2016	
	Number	% of total population	Number	% of total population
0-4 years	10,327	6.9	331,515	7.0
5-12 years	18,305	12.2	548,693	11.5
13-17 years	10,534	7.0	310,294	6.5
20-24 years	7,167	4.8	273,636	5.7

**Source:** Census 2016

Figure 5: Percentage population of Wexford and the State by selected age category, 2016



Source: Census 2016



## Deprivation

### Affluence and Disadvantage

The main measurement of affluence and deprivation in Ireland is based on the Pobal HP Deprivation Index (Haase & Pratschke, 2012). This index is based on three dimensions of Affluence/Disadvantage: Demographic Profile, Social Class Composition and Labour Market Situation. The Absolute HP Index Score can be used to demonstrate comparisons over time. It can show the level of overall affluence and deprivation in 2006, 2011 and 2016, using identical measurement scales.

**Table No. 3: Pobal HP Deprivation Index scores for Wexford, 2016**

	Absolute HP Index Score 2016	Absolute HP Index Score 2011	Absolute HP Index Score 2016	Relative HP Index Score 2006	Relative HP Index Score 2011	Relative HP Index Score 2016	Relative HP Index Score 2006-2016
State	-0.4	-6.4	-3.6	-0.4	0.2	0.6	0.9
Wexford	-4.0	-11.4	-8.9	-4.0	-5.1	-4.8	-0.8
Municipal Districts:							
New Ross						-6.5	
Enniscorthy						-6.1	
Gorey						-3.7	
Wexford						-3.5	

**Source:** 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index for Small Areas, Trutz Haase and Jonathan Pratschke, 2017

Based on the Relative Index Scores for 2016, Wexford is the 4th most disadvantaged local authority (based on 34 local authorities) in the country with a score of -4.8 (marginally below average). This relative score (4th deprived) is an improvement on 2011 (when it was the 3rd most disadvantaged) but lower than the 7th most disadvantaged score from Census 2006. The data shows that the Relative Index Score for the State as a whole in 2016 was +0.6 while the South East region had a score of -3.2.

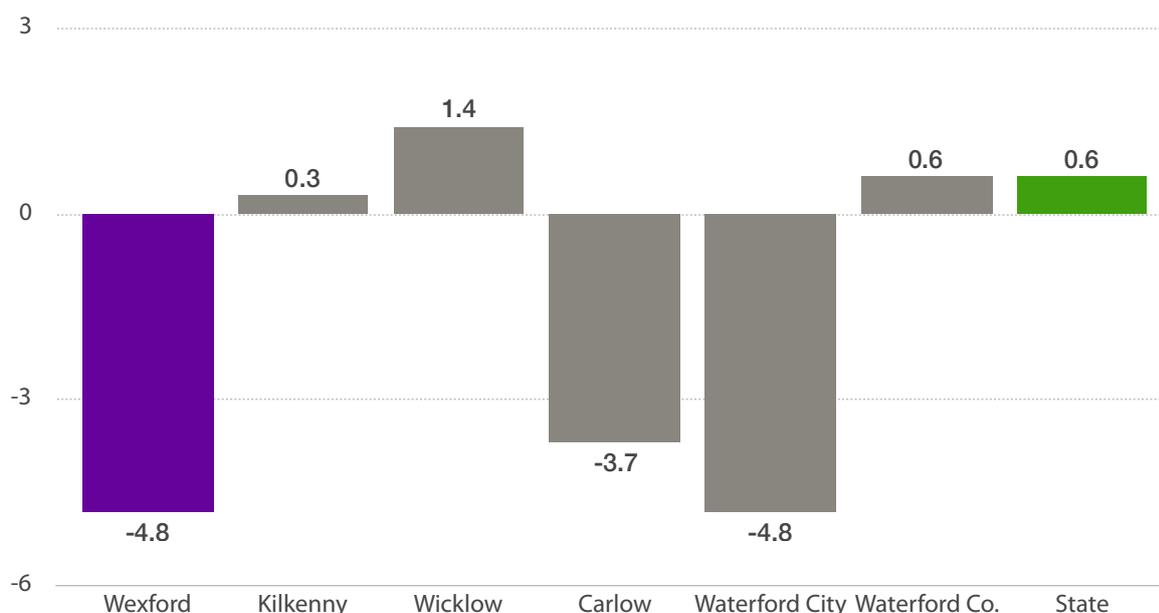
Wexford's adjoining neighbours had higher Relative Index Scores in 2016: Wicklow was +1.4, Carlow had -3.7, Kilkenny was -0.3 and Waterford was +0.6 (although Waterford City had a score of -4.8). The Relative Index Score for the South East region in 2016 was -3.2; the Dublin region had a score of +4.1.

**Table No. 4: Pobal HP Deprivation Index Scores for the State and various Local Authority areas, 2006, 2011 and 2016**

Area	2006 Absolute	2011 Absolute	2016 Absolute	2006 Relative	2011 Relative	2016 Relative
Ireland	-0.4	-6.4	-3.6	-0.4	0.2	0.6
Dublin City	-1.2	-4.5	-1.5	-1.2	2.2	3.1
Wicklow	1.1	-5.6	-2.7	1.1	1.0	1.4
Carlow	-2.9	-9.8	-7.9	-2.9	-3.4	-3.7
Kilkenny	-0.6	-7.5	-4.4	-0.6	-1.0	0.3
Wexford	-4.0	-11.4	-8.9	-4.0	-5.1	-4.8
Tipperary South Riding	-3.8	-9.9	-8.5	-3.8	-3.4	-4.4
Waterford City	-5.8	-10.7	-9.2	-5.8	-4.4	-4.8
Waterford County	-1.3	-7.6	-4.6	-1.3	-1.1	0.6
South East	-3.0	-9.6	-7.3	-3.0	-3.2	-3.2
Dublin Region	1.6	-3.0	-0.2	1.6	3.7	4.1

**Source:** 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index for Small Areas, Trutz Haase and Jonathan Pratschke, 2017

**Figure 6: Pobal HP Deprivation Index Scores for the State and various Local Authority areas, 2006, 2011 and 2016**



**Source:** 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index for Small Areas, Trutz Haase and Jonathan Pratschke, 2017

Rates of disadvantage vary across Wexford, but in general, the county does not have many areas in the extremes of either disadvantage or affluence. The vast majority of Small Areas are in the categories just above or below the average with 55.9% classed as 'Marginally Below Average', 20% classed as 'Marginally Above Average', 17.9% classed as 'Disadvantaged', 4.4% classed as 'Very Disadvantaged' and no Small Areas classed as Extremely Disadvantaged. A total of 1.8% of Small Areas are classed as Affluent, and no Small Areas are classed as Very Affluent.

There is a clear spatial pattern with two affluent areas in close proximity to Wexford Town and Gorey. Areas recording Marginally Above Average scores tend to be located in and around major urban settlements, extending into rural parts. Areas recording scores classed as Very Disadvantaged are limited to a small number of settlements and distributed throughout rural Wexford. Table 5 shows the ten most affluent and deprived areas in Wexford based on their 2016 Relative Index Scores.

**Table No. 5: Ten most affluent and deprived areas in Wexford as measured by the Pobal HP Deprivation Index, 2016**

Most affluent Electoral Districts	2016 Relative Index Scores
Carrick	7.2
Ballynestragh	5.1
Oldcourt	4.5
Kilpatrick	3.4
Glynn	3.3
Huntingtown	2.9
Aughwilliam	2.4
Templeludigan	2.4
Courtown	2.3
Killurin	1.5
Most deprived Electoral Districts	
Taghmon	-16.0
Enniscorthy Urban	-15.7
New Ross Urban	-14.4
Newtownbarry	-13.2
Clonroche	-11.7
Wexford Urban No. 2	-11.3
Kilmokea	-10.4
Ferns	-9.6
Killincooly	-9.1
Enniscorthy Rural	-8.7

**Source:** 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index for Small Areas, Trutz Haase and Jonathan Pratschke, 2017

The most affluent Electoral District (ED) in Wexford in 2016 based on its Relative Index Score was Carrick (+7.2, marginally above average), followed by Ballynestrath (+5.1) and Oldcourt (+4.5).

The most disadvantaged ED in Wexford as measured by its Relative Index Score in 2016 was Taghmon at (-16.0), closely followed by Enniscorthy Urban at -15.7 and New Ross Urban at -14.4. Newtownbarry had a Relative Index Score of -13.2 while Clonroche had a score of -11.7.

Taghmon was in 56<sup>th</sup> place behind the most disadvantaged ED in the country: “St John’s A” electoral division encompassing the St Mary’s Park area of Limerick with a Relative Index Score in 2016 of -31.9. The most affluent ED in Wexford, Carrick, was some 321 places below the most affluent ED in the State, “Mansion House B”, which had a Relative Index Score of +22.5 in 2016.

The following table outlines key Sub-Index scores for the five most disadvantaged EDs and compares them to the Index scores for the county as a whole. In relation to changes in population between 2011-2016, the population in Taghmon declined by 5 per cent while the decrease was slightly lower in New Ross Urban. Clonroche and Wexford Urban No. 2 recorded smaller declines. The population of Wexford as a county increased by just under 4% during the period 2011-2016.

There were no major differences between the five EDs and the county as a whole in relation to age dependency ratios. The lone parent ratios for Taghmon (36.75%), Wexford Urban No. 2 (44.25%) and New Ross Urban (35.44%) were considerably higher than for Wexford (22.95%) as a whole. Newtownbarry (19.78%) and Clonroche (17.6%) had lower lone parent ratios than the county.

The five EDs profiled had lower educational attainments than the county as a whole. All had higher rates of the population only having completed Primary education and lower rates of third level attainment.

All five EDs had higher rates of both male and female unemployment compared to Wexford county as a whole.

**Table No. 6: Analysis of the five most deprived areas in Wexford as measured by the Pobal HP Deprivation Index, 2016**

Factor	Electoral Districts					County
	Taghmon	Wexford Urban No.2	New Ross Urban	Newtownbarry	Clonroche	Wexford
Pobal HP Index 2016	-16.05	-11.29	-14.43	-13.17	-11.7	-4.81
Population 2016	1,026	4,087	3,768	2,284	1,252	149,722
Population change % (2011-16)	-0.05	-0.01	-0.03	0	-0.02	0.04
Age Dependency Ratio (%)	37.2	33.41	35.32	38.35	36.93	36.63
Lone parent ratio (%)t	36.75	44.25	35.44	19.78	17.6	22.95
Prop. primary education only (%)	29.75	22	22.89	24.56	27.2	16.43
Prop. third level education (%)	13.36	18.15	16.59	18.6	15.57	25.58
Prop. local authority rented (%)	17.86	16.65	24.6	15.85	14.86	n.a.
Unemployment rate - male (%)	27.75	26.75	29.5	26.52	23.91	18.4
Unemployment rate - female (%)	27.38	19.1	25.44	28.32	23.54	15.57

**Source:** 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index for Small Areas, Trutz Haase and Jonathan Pratschke, 2017

## Ethnic Population

The Census 2016 provides a breakdown of the usually resident population by place of birth and nationality. The Census data reveals that there were 14,741 non-Irish nationals living in Wexford, and they accounted for 9.9% of the county's population. This percentage is lower than that recorded for the State as a whole in 2016 of 13%. An analysis of the spatial distribution of non-Irish nationals living in the county indicates that the majority are concentrated in the larger towns.

There were 2,255 non-Irish national children aged 0-14 in Wexford in 2016, and they accounted for 6.9% of all of the children in the county in this age cohort. Polish nationals were the largest group (707 children), followed by UK nationals (307 children). This rate is lower than that for the State (8.6%).

The rate of non-Irish nationals per 1,000 children in Wexford in the 0-14 age group is 68.7 which is lower than the rate of 85.5 for the State as a whole.

Wexford had 1,527 non-Irish nationals in the 14-24 age group, and they represented 8.8% of this age cohort in the county. In this age group, UK nationals formed the largest group (440 persons), followed very closely by Polish nationals (423 persons). The Wexford rate of 8.8% of non-Irish nationals in the 14-24 age group is lower than the equivalent rate for the country as a whole of 12.5%.

Figures published by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs indicate that there were 2,199 non-national children in Wexford in 2016, giving a rate per 1,000 children of 56.1% (the equivalent rate for the State as a whole was 66.8).

There two main ethnic minorities in Wexford are the Traveller and Roma Communities.

## Traveller Population

Wexford has a total population of 1,508 Travellers and they account for 1% of the population. This percentage rate is higher than that found in the State as a whole of 0.7%.

Of the 1,508 Travellers living in Wexford in 2016, 757 were in the 0-24 age group. This figure can be further examined to reveal that 596 were in the 0-17 age group and 161 were in the 18-24 age group.

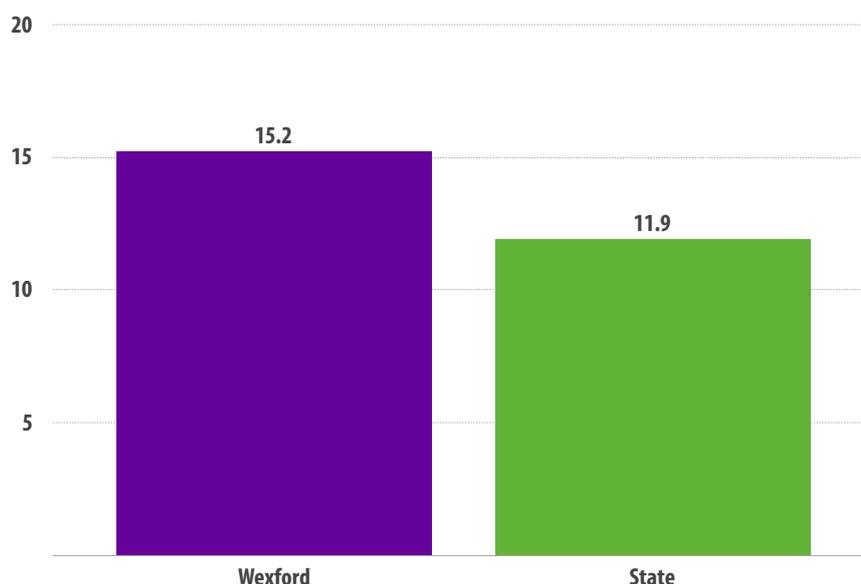
It is interesting to note that Wexford's rate per 1,000 Traveller children in the 0-17 age group was 15.2 compared with 11.9 for the State as a whole.

**Table No. 7: Traveller Population (Both sexes) in Wexford and the State, 2016**

Age group	No. of both persons (both sexes), Wexford	No. of both persons (both sexes), State
0-4 years	138	4,317
5-9 years	184	4,318
10-14 years	189	3,678
15-19 years	149	3,074
20-24 years	97	2,631
All ages	1,508	30,987

**Source:** Census 2016

**Figure 7: Number of Traveller Children per 1,000 children, Wexford and the State, 2016**



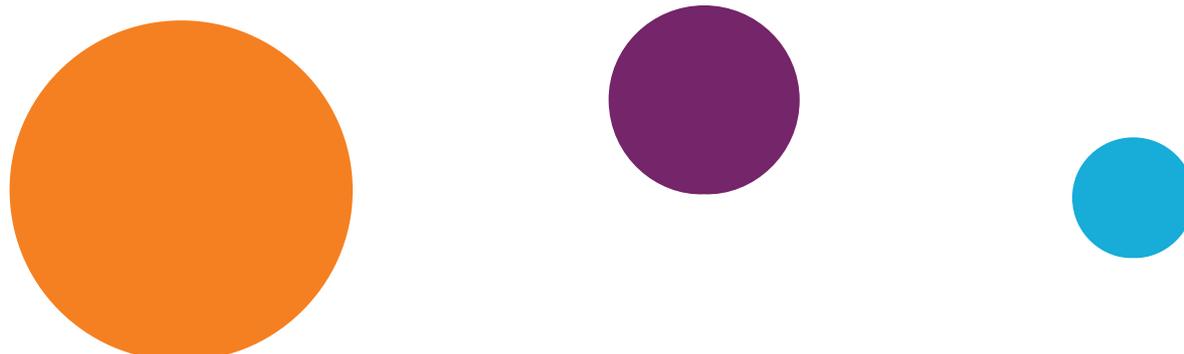
**Source:** Census 2016

In its Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024, Wexford County Council indicated that in December 2018 as part of the annual National Traveller Estimate, a total of 744 families were identified in County Wexford. Six hundred and thirty-eight are currently accommodated, and 106 families are without accommodation.

The distribution of Traveller families with and without accommodation living in Wexford categorised by Municipal District is shown in the table below.

Enniscorthy Municipal District has 245 Traveller families of which 216 are with accommodation and 29 are without accommodation. New Ross Municipal District has 208 Traveller families with accommodation and 28 families without accommodation giving a total of 236 families in the District.

Wexford Municipal District has 140 Traveller families of which 119 are with accommodation, and 23 are without accommodation. There are 121 Travellers families living in the Gorey Municipal District of which 93 are with accommodation, and 28 are without accommodation.



**Table No. 8: Traveller families with and without accommodation in County Wexford, 2018**

Category	Enniscorthy	New Ross	Wexford	Gorey	Total
Families with accommodation	216	208	119	93	638
Families without accommodation	29	28	21	28	106
Total	245	236	140	121	744

**Source:** Wexford County Council

### Roma Population

In early 2019, a census of the Roma Community in Wexford was undertaken by the FDYS Roma Equality Project and other organisations. It found that there were 449 Roma living in the county of which 281 were adults and 168 were under 18 years of age. The Roma Equality Project indicates that the total number of Roma in the county is in flux and may have increased since the census was carried out.

### People Seeking International Protection

Information provided by the Reception and Integration Agency in April 2020 indicates that there are three emergency accommodation centres open in Co. Wexford. Two are located in Courtown, North Wexford and one in Rosslare. A total of 133 residents live in the three centres. 28 of the residents are children.

## Family Structure

### Marital Status

The Census 2016 results indicated that of the total population of 149,722 people living in Wexford, 77,364 or 52% were single. A total of 54,683 or 37% were classified as being married (first marriage) while 2,506 or 2% had re-married. The number of people who had registered a same-sex civil partnership was 90. The Census 2016 shows that there were 4,504 people who had separated and 3,834 were divorced. A total of 6,741 people were classified as widowed.

**Table No. 9: Marital Status, Wexford and the State, 2016**

Marital status	Wexford		State	
	Number	%	Number	%
Single	77,364	52	2,551,414	54
Married (first marriage)	54,683	37	1,726,196	36
Re-married	2,506	2	61,729	1
Registered same-sex civil partnership	90	0	4,226	0
Separated	4,504	3	118,178	2
Divorced	3,834	3	103,895	2
Widowed	6,741	5	196,227	4
Total	149,722	100	4,761,865	100

**Source:** Census 2016

Of the 563 marriages registered in 2018 where the groom was from Wexford, 4 of the marriages involved a groom under 20 years of age while 15 involved a groom in the 20-24 age group. Of the 569 marriages registered in 2018 where the bride was from Wexford, 12 involved a bride under 20 years of age while 16 involved a bride in the 20-24 age group.

Wexford had a slightly higher rate of divorced and separated people compared to neighbouring counties and the State in 2016. These higher divorce and separation rates in the county have implications for families in terms of emotional and financial stress, and for those families with children, there are additional issues to be considered, such as access arrangements.

**Table No. 10: Number of Divorces and Separations in 2016**

	All marital status	Separated	Rate per 1,000 population	Divorced	Rate per 1,000 population
Carlow	56,932	1,585	28	1,360	24
Kilkenny	99,232	2,444	25	2,020	20
<b>Wexford</b>	<b>149,722</b>	<b>4,504</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3,834</b>	<b>26</b>
Wicklow	142,425	3,875	27	3,574	25
Waterford	116,176	3,274	28	2,813	24
State	4,761,865	118,178	25	103,895	22

## Family Cycle

There were 40,406 families living in Wexford in 2016, and this total represents a small increase on the figure recorded for the county of 39,193 in 2011. These families had 128,317 members in 2016, an increase of 3,518 over the total for 2011.

There were 18,737 families with children in the Pre-School to Adolescent stages in 2016, and the total amount of family members in these four family cycle categories came to 70,652 (or 55% of the total).

The number of families in the Pre-Family category decreased from 3,431 in 2011 to 2,783, and the number of family members in this cohort fell from 6,826 in 2011 to 5,166 in 2016.

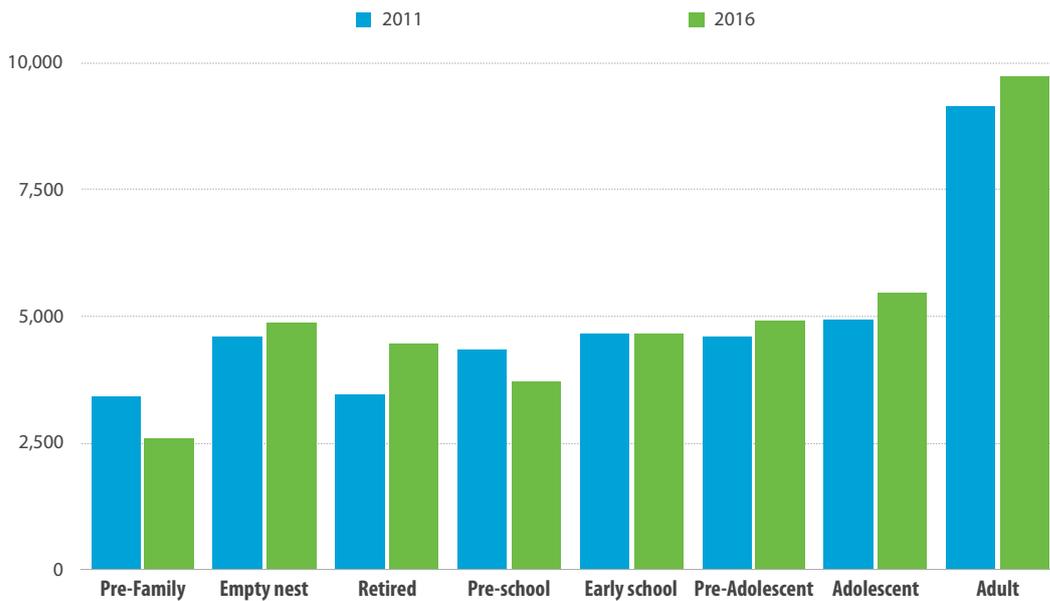
Families in the Adult category of the family cycle rose from 9,145 in 2011 to 9,731 in 2016, and the number of family members in this category likewise increased from 19,969 in 2011 to 21,547 in 2016.

**Table No. 11: Families in Wexford by Family Cycle, 2011 and 2016**

Family cycle	2011		2016	
	Number of Families	Number of Family Members	Number of Families	Number of Family Members
Pre-Family	3,431	6,826	2,583	5,166
Empty Nest	4,611	9,222	4,890	9,780
Retired	3,457	6,914	4,465	8,930
Pre-School	4,359	13,632	3,706	11,619
Early School	4,646	17,602	4,665	17,742
Pre-Adolescent	4,606	18,511	4,911	19,744
Adolescent	4,938	19,969	5,455	21,547
Adult	9,145	32,123	9,731	33,789
Total	39,193	124,799	40,406	128,317

Source: Census 2011 and 2016

**Figure 8: Number of families in Wexford by Family Cycle, 2011 and 2016**



Source: Census 2011 and 2016

## Lone Parents

In 2016, there were 7,215 children between the ages of 0-17 years in Wexford that were living in one-parent households, of which 3,692 were male and 3,523 were female. They accounted for 18.4% of all children in Wexford. There were 196,008 children in the 0-17 age category living in one-parent households in the State and they accounted for 16.5% of all children in the country.

There were 1,631 children in the 0-4 age bracket living in one-parent households in Wexford while there were 1,966 children in the 5-9 age category in one-parent households. The number of children in the 10-14 age group living in one-parent households amounted to 2,255 while there were 1,363 children in the 15-17 age category.

An analysis of the percentage of children in Wexford living in one-parent households stratified by age category indicates that it is very similar to that of the State as a whole.

**Table No. 12: Children under 18 within one-parent family households by Gender and Age Group, 2016**

Both sexes					
	All ages	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-17 years
State	196,008	43,635	55,075	59,517	37,781
Wexford	7,215	1,631	1,966	2,255	1,363
Male					
State	100,172	22,273	28,113	30,402	19,384
Wexford	3,692	834	998	1,154	706
Female					
State	95,836	21,362	26,962	29,115	18,397
Wexford	3,523	797	968	1,101	657

Source: Census 2016

## Children in Care/Aftercare

Figures published by Tusla indicate that there were 198 children in care in Wexford in December 2018. Fourteen children were in Residential care, 133 were in General Foster Care, and 50 were in Relative Foster Care.

## Social Work Referrals

In 2018, there were 1,123 child protection referrals to Tusla Child & Family Agency. Figure 9 outlines the breakdown of referral type in terms of emotional abuse (442), neglect (180), physical (331) and sexual abuse (170).

Tusla has produced data on the number of children referred to Social Work in 2018 by geographic area. Referrals of children from Enniscorthy topped the list with 479 referrals, followed by Courtown/Riverchapel and Gorey with 396 and 394 referrals respectively.

Figure 9: Child Protection Referrals to Tusla Child and Family Agency Wexford, 2018.



Source: Tusla Child & Family Agency, Wexford 2019.

### Children as Carers

The 2016 Census found that there were 173 children in Wexford who provided regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family; this equates to a rate of 4.4%. There were 6,108 children acting as carers in the State in 2016, a rate of 5.1%.



## Education

### Overall situation

The joint AIRO/Wexford County Council report, using CSO 2016 Census returns, indicates that Wexford has low levels of third level attainment. A total of 24.5% of the population (aged 15+) have a third-level degree or higher – the 4th lowest rate in the country (national average: 33.4%). The county has the 6th highest rate of low education achievement (no formal/primary only – 15.8%) and the 2nd highest rate of medium education achievement (lower secondary – 18.6%). A total of 20.2% of the Wexford population have an educational attainment level classed as higher secondary education.

The ratio of people in Wexford with No Formal/Primary education has declined from 18.5% in 2011 to 15.8% in 2016.

Wexford has a high rate of the population completing Lower Secondary (Junior Certificate) in 2016, 18.6%, compared with the State, 14.5%. The equivalent rate for Wexford in 2011 was 20.7%. A similar picture emerges for Upper Secondary (Leaving Certificate) with the percentage of the Wexford population having attained this level of qualification being higher than that for the State as a whole.

The percentage of the Wexford population having a technical qualification or apprenticeship was 16.3% in 2016 and was higher than that for the State of 14.7%.

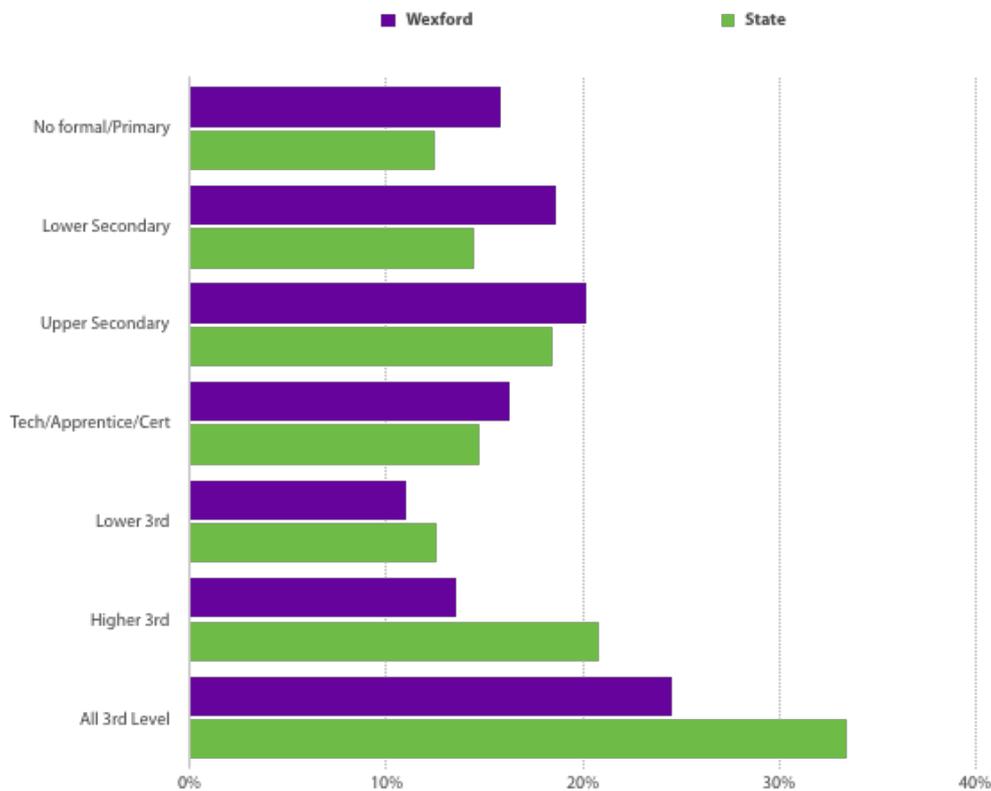
Table 13 below draws upon the analysis carried out by AIRO on the highest level of educational attainment for the State and Wexford.

**Table No. 13: Highest level of educational attainment, Wexford and the State, 2016**

Highest educational attainment	State	Wexford
No formal/Primary	12.5%	15.8%
Lower Secondary	14.5%	18.6%
Upper Secondary	18.5%	20.2%
Tech/Apprentice/Cert	14.7%	16.3%
Lower 3rd	12.6%	11.0%
Higher 3rd	20.8%	13.6%
All 3rd Level	33.4%	24.5%

**Source:** AIRO/Wexford County Council

**Figure 10: Highest level of educational attainment, Wexford and the State, 2016**



**Source:** AIRO/Wexford County Council

Data is also available on the number and percentage of children in Wexford by the educational attainment of their mother. Table 15 indicates that in 2016 a higher percentage of children in Wexford had mothers who had a lower level of educational attainment compared to the State as a whole. Eight per cent of children in Wexford had a mother who only attained Primary level education compared with ten per cent of children in the State as a whole. On the other end of the spectrum, 30% of Wexford children had a mother who held a third level degree compared with 38% for the State.

This is significant as research has shown that a mother’s education is the factor most consistently and strongly associated with children’s achievement. It has a larger effect than the father’s education on children’s educational outcomes.<sup>(5)</sup>

Impacts of a mother’s education level include;

- The socio-emotional wellbeing of a child. A child is over 4 times more likely to have emotional and behavioural difficulties if their mother has primary level education than if the mother has a degree.
- The ease at which a child transitions into primary school.
- A child’s reading, mathematics and science test results in primary school.
- Whether or not the child will complete their Leaving Certificate and if they do, what their level of achievement is.
- The child’s expectations of accessing third level education.

<sup>(5)</sup> A mother’s education is the single most important factor in children’s life outcomes. Primary Times, March 2018.

**Table No. 14: Number and percentage of children by educational attainment of mother, Wexford and the State, 2016**

Level of education attainment of mother	Wexford		State	
	No. of children	%	No. of children	%
Primary	3,221	10	97,607	8
Lower secondary	5,374	16	130,900	13
Upper secondary	13,793	42	366,505	37
Third level degree or higher	10,040	30	375,575	38
Other/Not stated	681	2	28,922	3
All education ceased and not ceased	33,109	100	981,509	100

**Source:** CSO Census, 2016

### Early Years Services

The “Early Years Sector Profile Report 2017/2018” prepared by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Pobal indicate that 4,543 services throughout the country were contracted to provide at least one of three early years programmes, namely Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), Community Childcare Subvention (including CCS, CCSU, CCSPlus and CCSR(T) and/or Training and Employment Childcare (TEC).

The DCYA/Pobal report noted that in Wexford there were 5,724 children enrolled in early years programmes while there were 296 children on a waiting list.

The ECCE Programme is a universal free pre-school programme available to all eligible children for two years before starting Primary school. In line with Primary schools, the programme runs from September to June for three hours per day five days per week. The Early Years Sector Profile Report 2017/2018 indicates that just under a third of the providers registered in Wexford to provide ECCE were community-based while the balance were privately owned.

Data provided separately by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs indicate that there were 135 providers in Wexford under contract to deliver pre-school services under the ECCE Programme in 2018. There were 4,004 children participating in the ECCE Programme in Wexford.

The Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) programme supports parents on a low income to avail of reduced childcare supports. In the 2017/18 programme year, the CCS programme included a number of strands:

- CCS – Community Childcare Subvention
- CCSPlus – Community Childcare Subvention Plus
- CCSU – Community Childcare Subvention Universal
- CCSR(T) – Community Childcare Subvention Resettlement (Transitional)

The DCYA/Pobal publication indicates that 643 children in Wexford were registered on the CCS programme in 2017/2018 while 1,028 children were registered on the CCSPlus. There were 1,087 children in Wexford registered on the CCSU strand.

The Training and Employment Childcare (TEC) is an overarching childcare programme, specifically designed to support parents on eligible training and education courses as well as certain categories of parents returning to work, by providing subsidised childcare places. The TEC programme comprises three strands:

1. Childcare Education and Training Support Programme (CETS)
2. After-School Child Care Programme (ASCC)
3. Community Employment Childcare Programme (CEC) – there are two strands within this programme: CEC(PS) (pre-school) and CEC(AS) (after-school).

The “Early Years Sector Profile Report 2017/2018” states that 220 children in Wexford were registered on the TEC programme, of which 19 were on ASCC, 116 were on CEC and 85 were on CETS.

**Table No. 15: Number of unique children availing of the Community Childcare Subvention and Childcare Education and Training Support programmes, 2018 and 2019**

County Division	CCS 2018	CCSRT 2018	CCSU 2018	CCSRT 2019	CCSU 2019	CETS 2018	CETS 2019
Carlow	192	10	248	6	239	25	13
Kilkenny	565	17	638	9	484	29	28
Waterford	503	29	514	16	232	119	83
Wexford	430	20	797	2	543	55	25
Wicklow	57	-	938	-	584	29	27

**Source:** Pobal, 2019

**Notes:** The figures above represent a unique count of children using PPSN per county and programme call.

If a child was approved for multiple registrations in the same programme call they are counted only once. However if a child was approved for multiple registrations under different programme calls they are counted in each call.

**Table No. 16: Number of services in contract under the Community Childcare Subvention and Childcare Education and Training Support programmes, 2018 and 2019**

County Division	CCS 2018	CCSP 2018	CCSP 2019	CETS 2018	CETS 2019
Carlow	16	41	37	29	24
Kilkenny	20	69	64	46	38
Waterford	20	65	59	37	37
Wexford	34	108	106	69	67
Wicklow	14	104	101	34	31

**Source:** Pobal, 2019

**Notes:** The table above outlines the number of services in each county division who activated their contracts for the following programmes CCS, CCSP and CETS on the PIP portal.

Not all services that activated contracts under a programme call went on to register children under that programme call.

The CCSP contract allows a service to register children under CCSP, CCSU and CCSRT programme so any service with an active CCSP contract could offer all three programmes. There was no CCS programme call in 2019.

## Primary Education

There are 102 mainstream Primary schools and 2 special schools in Wexford. Fifteen of the mainstream primary schools have pupils with special needs.

There were 18,763 primary school pupils in Wexford during the 2018-2019 academic year, of which 246 attended special schools. The balance includes pupils with special needs in mainstream schools (234) and pupils without special needs in mainstream schools (18,283).

## Post Primary Education

There are 22 post-primary education institutions in Wexford, of which there are 12 secondary schools, 8 vocational schools and 2 community schools.

A total of 12,638 pupils attended post-primary schools during the 2018-2019 academic year. The number of pupils attending secondary schools was 7,653 while the number of pupils at vocational/ETB schools amounted to 3,010. The numbers attending community schools amounted to 1,975 pupils.

A total of 6,444 of the pupils attending post-primary schools were male and 6,194 were female.

**Table No. 17: Post-primary education institutions in Wexford, 2018-2019**

Post-primary educational institution	No. of institutions, 2018-2019	No. of pupils, 2018-2019
Secondary schools	12	7,653
Vocational/ETB schools	8	3,010
Community schools	2	1,975
Total	22	12,638

**Source:** Department of Education and Skills

Figures compiled on Leaving Certificate retention rates for the 2010 school entry cohort reveal that the number of pupils in Wexford in this cohort was 2,068 of which 90.6 per cent sat the examination. This is lower than the national average of 91.2 per cent. The equivalent figures for neighbouring counties were: Wicklow (91.5%), Kilkenny (92.8%), Carlow (86.2%) and Waterford (91.1%).

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs has published data on the average percentage of post-primary children per school who were absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year (see Table No. 18 below). The level of absenteeism in Wexford for the four years profiled is higher than that for the State: in the 2016-2017 school year, the percentage of children who were absent from school for 20 days or more was 20.4% in Wexford. The equivalent statistic for the State was 15.8%.

**Table No. 18: Average percentage of post-primary children per school who were absent from school for 20 days or more in the school year, Wexford and the State**

Geographic area	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
State	16.7%	17.3%	16.1%	15.8%
Wexford	22.4%	23.9%	19.6%	20.4%

**Source:** Department of Children and Youth Affairs

## Housing

A research report compiled by AIRO/Wexford County Council that analysed the Census 2016 returns, points out that Wexford has the twelfth largest housing stock in the State with total stock (occupied and unoccupied) recorded at 68,206 in the 2016 Census. Of this total, 79.5% of the stock was occupied, 9.7% holiday homes, 8.7% vacant, and 2.1% temporally absent.

The report notes that patterns of growth have been uneven throughout the county with northern parts of the county experiencing higher rates of growth than other areas – driven by its proximity to the Greater Dublin Area commuter belt. An analysis of the age of housing stock in the county reveals that almost 43% of all housing in the Gorey Municipal District has been built since 2001. In contrast, rates are much lower in other Municipal Districts: Enniscorthy (35%), New Ross (33%) and Wexford (29%).

The AIRO/Wexford County Council report states that since 2011, there has been a considerable slowdown in the growth of new housing development both in Wexford and across the State. Levels of construction and new builds have been extremely low with only 2% of occupied houses in the State built since 2011. This figure is marginally higher in Wexford where only 2.2% of houses were built since the previous Census (2011 onwards).

The report says that according to the 2016 Census, the number of households classed as 'Social Rented' (Local Authority/Voluntary Body) in Wexford was 5,325 and represented 9.9% of the total households. This rate is higher than the State (9.4%).

Relative to other local authorities, Wexford has the 11th highest number of 'Social Rented' households in the State and the 12th highest rate. The highest rates in the State are in Cork City (17.7%) and Longford (14.6%) with the lowest in Galway County (4.9%) and Meath (5.6%). Since 2011, the total number of 'Social Rented' households in Wexford has increased by 626 (13.3%).

At the Municipal District level, there is a considerable variation with the highest rates recorded in New Ross MD (11.6%) and Enniscorthy MD (11.3%). In contrast to this, Gorey MD (7.2%) and Wexford MD (9.5%) have lower rates. Across the settlement hierarchy highest rates are found in Campile (37.4%), Taghmon (31.3%), Bridgetown (27.3%), New Ross (22.9%) and Ferns (22.6%).

## Women and Children's Refuge Accommodation

Data provided by the Wexford Women's Refuge indicate that 254 women requested accommodation in 2018 of which 41 were accommodated. The number of children for whom accommodation was sought in 2018 was 257 of which 53 were accommodated.

Funding was granted in 2018 to Wexford Women's Refuge for the building of 12 new apartments. The new facility will replace its existing four bedroom building.

## Homeless in Co. Wexford

Figures published by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government indicate that as of the end of August 2019 there were 266 homeless adults in the South East region of which 38 were in Wexford. Approximately thirty of the thirty-eight homeless adults in Wexford were men who are living in hostel accommodation.

The number of homeless families at the end of August 2019 in the South East was 30 (of which 17 were single parent families). This figure comprises 43 adults and 57 dependents. Information from Wexford County Council indicates that there are 3 homeless families in the county, comprising four adults and seven children.

It is important to note that the figures above relate to persons who have presented to the Local Authority as homeless. It is widely believed that these figures underestimate the true scale of the issue in Co. Wexford as they do not take into account the people who are “sofa surfing”, or living in emergency accommodation such as B&B's.

This was highlighted in figures that were released by An Post relating to homelessness in 2019. An Post established an “Address Point Initiative” in April 2019. This is a free personal address and mail collection service for people who are homeless or living in temporary accommodation. Under the initiative, a personal address is generated based on the individuals personal choice of Post Office which then becomes their mail collection point.

Figures from An Post show that nationally 2,803 homeless adults have registered the Post Office as their mailing address. According to An Post, 104 people are availing of the service in Co. Wexford (Jan 2020) with only Dublin (1436), Cork (231), Galway (194) and Kildare (119) having higher figures. In all instances, these figures are at odds with the official statistics as they include people who are not officially recorded as homeless but are the “hidden homeless”.

## Economy

According to Census 2016, the total labour force residing in Wexford was 67,237 which is equivalent to 59.3% (Labour Force Participation Rate) of the total population aged 15+ in the county — this is the 12th lowest rate in the State. Between 2011 and 2016, the labour force in Wexford also increased by an additional 2.6% (+1,760). This rate of increase was marginally below the State average of 3.2%.

The Live Register is not specifically designed to measure unemployment as it includes part-time, seasonal and casual workers. However, an examination of the Live Register can give an insight into unemployment trends in the county. In August 2019, there were 1,155 people aged under 25 in Wexford on the Live Register. Of this total, 618 were male, and 537 were female.

The total of 1,155 young people on the Live Register can be classified according to the four main Social Welfare offices in the county: Enniscorthy (333), Gorey (265), New Ross (223) and Wexford Town (334).



## Health & Wellbeing

### Overview:

One of the new questions asked in the 2011 Census was on general health. Respondents were asked to select one of the five categories ranging from very good to very bad. The health status of children and young people in Wexford as measured in the 2016 Census reflects the phenomenon of failing health with age. A very high percentage of children and young people were reported to have very good health which contrasts with the lower response rates of the adult population reporting this assessment, particularly adults in the older age categories.

As can be observed in Table 19, four out of every five young people in the 15-19 years age category were rated as having very good general health with none indicating that they had bad or very bad health. The average rating for very good health among the population as a whole in Wexford was 59%.

**Table No. 19: Percentage rating of general health of children and young people in Wexford, 2016**

Health assessment	0-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	All ages
General health - Very good	83	84	85	80	72	59
General health - Good	11	12	11	15	22	28
General health - Fair	1	1	1	2	3	9
General health - Bad	0	0	0	0	0	1
General health - Very Bad	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not stated	5	3	2	2	2	2
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

**Source:** Census 2016

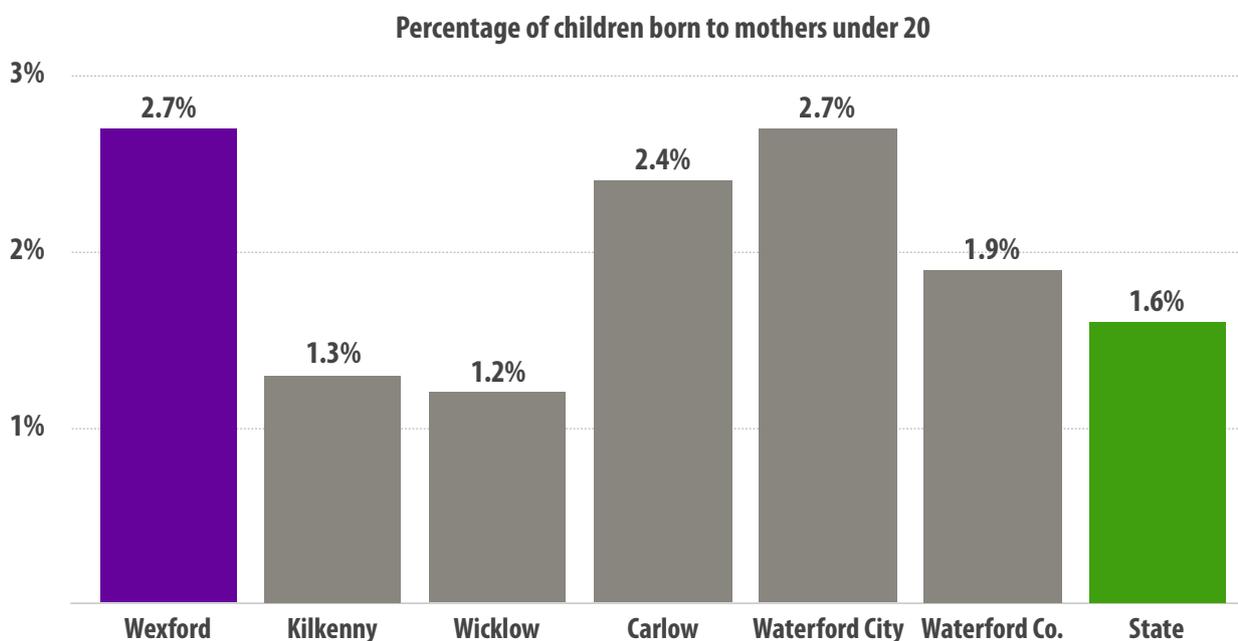
### Teenage Pregnancy

In 2018, 49 babies were born to mothers in Wexford aged under 20, while 226 babies were born to mothers in the 20-24 age group. The percentage of babies born in 2018 to mothers aged under 20 years of age in Wexford amounts to 2.7% of all babies born to mothers in the county. Wexford's teenage pregnancy rate is joint second highest along with Waterford City in the state (Longford was the highest with 3.0%), and is considerably higher than the national average of 1.6 per cent.

**Table No. 20: Percentage of births registered to mothers aged under 20, 2018**

Location	2018
Wexford	2.7%
Kilkenny	1.3%
Wicklow	1.2%
Carlow	2.4%
Waterford City	2.7%
Waterford County	1.9%
State	1.6%

**Figure 11: Percentage of births registered to mothers aged under 20, 2018**



**Source:** Census 2019

### Disability

The 2016 Census indicates that there were 2,847 children in Wexford with a disability which equates to a rate of 73 per 1,000 children. This is higher than the national rate of 64 per 1,000 children.

The “Tusla Data and Information Hub” indicates that in 2015 there were 285 children in Wexford with an intellectual disability and there were 218 children in Wexford with a physical and sensory disability.



## Mental Health/Suicide and Self Harm

Suicide rates in Wexford are considerably above the national average. The average suicide rate in Wexford in 2018 was 13.7% compared with 7.2% for the State for the same period. The suicide rate for men in Wexford is nearly three times the rate for women. The male suicide rate in Wexford is, unfortunately, moving in the opposite direction to the national rate which declined between 2013-2018.

**Table No. 21: Percentage suicide rates by gender for Wexford and the State, 2013, 2017, 2018**

	All persons			Males			Females		
	2018	2017	2013	2018	2017	2013	2018	2017	2013
State	7.2	8.2	10.6	11.7	13.2	17.1	2.9	3.3	4.1
Wexford	13.7	10.6	10.9	21.2	20.1	17.8	6.5	1.3	4.0

**Source:** Central Statistics Office

**Figure 12: Percentage suicide rates for Wexford and the State, 2013, 2017, 2018**



**Source:** Central Statistics Office

Admission to psychiatric hospitals/units: The number of children in Wexford admitted to psychiatric hospitals/units in 2016 amounted to 15. This equates to a rate of admissions per 100,000 children of 38.3 per cent, which is lower than the national rate of 42.5 per cent.

## Drug/Alcohol Treatment

Information on the numbers of children and young people in Wexford being treated for substance abuse in 2017 was extracted from the Health Research Board's National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDRTS). The NDRTS is a health information system that collects anonymous data about people in drug and alcohol treatment from general practitioners, low threshold services (that provide low dose Methadone or drop in facilities only), outpatient and inpatient services. The information presented in Table No. 23 which relates to

the 2017 calendar year is valid as of October 2019. It should be noted that data in cells with less than 5 entries have been removed from the reporting system.

The main problem substance in Wexford for both the Under 18 and 18-24 age groups was cannabis, although cocaine was also a problem drug in the 18-24 age category. Drugs in the “Other” category were also an issue in the 18-24 age cohort. A smaller number of drug users in the 18-24 age group were using Benzodiazepines.

The majority of people in the Under 18 and 18-24 age groups using problem substances were male.

**Table No. 22: Wexford Drugs 2017: Main problem substance by gender and age group (Under 18, 18-24, All ages) for cases living in Wexford in 2017**

	Under 18			18-24			All		
	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Other opiates	0	0	0	~	~	~	12	8	20
Heroin	0	0	0	~	~	7	23	51	74
Cocaine	0	~	~	~	13	14	6	33	39
Amphetamines	0	0	0	~	~	~	~	~	~
Benzodiazepines	0	~	~	0	6	6	~	20	22
Cannabis	~	20	23	14	26	40	31	74	105
Others	0	0	0	~	10	13	~	14	19
Total	~	24	28	23	62	85	79	201	281

**Source:** Health Research Boards National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDRTS), 2019

The number of males and females in the under 18 age group presenting with alcohol problems is small (7 in 2017). However, there were 35 cases of alcohol addiction in the 18-24 age group, of which 28 were male.

**Table No. 23: Wexford Alcohol 2017: Alcohol cases by gender and age group (Under 18, 18-24, All ages) for cases living in Wexford in 2017**

	Under 18			18-24			All		
	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All	Female	Male	All
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Alcohol	~	~	7	7	28	35	122	252	374

**(Source: Health Research Boards National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDRTS), 2019)**

The following table gives the national overview of the number of cases treated for alcohol misuse by HSE Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) area of residence. The CHO 5 region which includes Wexford had the highest number of alcohol misuse cases, 1,316, of all the CHOs in 2017.

**Table No. 24: Number of cases treated for alcohol misuse by CHO area of residence, 2017**

Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO)	No.	%
CHO 1 Donegal LHO, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan LHO, Cavan/Monaghan LHO	952	13
CHO 2 Galway LHO, Roscommon LHO, Mayo LHO	395	5.4
CHO 3 Clare LHO, Limerick LHO, North Tipperary/East Limerick LHO	487	6.6
CHO 4 Kerry LHO, North Cork LHO, North Lee LHO, South Lee LHO, West Cork LHO	1,242	16.9
CHO 5 South Tipperary LHO, Carlow/Kilkenny LHO, Waterford LHO, Wexford LHO	1,316	17.9
CHO 6 Wicklow LHO, Dun Laoghaire LHO, Dublin South East LHO	298	4.1
CHO 7 Kildare/West Wicklow LHO, Dublin West LHO, Dublin South City LHO, Dublin South West LHO	842	11.5
CHO 8 Laois/Offaly LHO, Longford Westmeath LHO, Louth LHO, Meath LHO	727	9.9
CHO 9 Dublin North LHO, Dublin North Central LHO, Dublin North West LHO	882	12
Unknown	162	2.2
Outside Ireland	42	0.6
Ireland Unknown	~	0.1
Total	7,350	100

**Source:** Health Research Boards National Drug Treatment Reporting System (NDRTS), 2019

## Youth Justice

The number of children in Wexford aged 10-17 who were referred to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme in 2017 was 250. This total represented a 4 per cent increase on 2016. The total number of incidents in Wexford referred to the programme in 2017 was 559, a 32 per cent increase on the previous year (the number of incidents does not correspond to the number of children referred, as some children may be referred more than twice). Young people who commit criminal offences are dealt with by means of a caution instead of the formal process of charge and prosecution. A caution is a warning by the Garda Síochána against committing certain types of behaviour, and can be informal or formal. The column headed "unsuitable" denotes the number of children and incidents involving these children that were deemed unsuitable for inclusion in the programme.

There are three Garda Youth Diversion Projects in Wexford: SAFE (FAB Community Development Project), Slaney (Ferns Diocesan Youth Services) and Treoin (Youth New Ross) projects.

**Table No. 25: Referrals to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme, 2017**

Region	Total	% change vs 2016	Informal caution	Unsuitable	Formal caution	No further action	Others
<b>Children referrals</b>							
South Eastern Region	1,167	8%	668	157	221	50	71
Kilkenny/Carlow	281	5%	165	50	42	7	17
Tipperary	293	18%	148	37	76	12	20
Waterford	343	7%	211	43	55	15	19
Wexford	250	4%	144	27	48	16	15
<b>Incident referrals</b>							
South Eastern Region	2,245	+9%	857	653	471	79	26
Kilkenny/Carlow	622	+17%	223	167	161	8	4
Tipperary	528	-3%	202	150	98	24	14
Waterford	536	-4%	257	141	86	17	1
Wexford	559	+32%	175	195	126	30	7

**Source:** Annual Report of the Committee Appointed to Monitor the Effectiveness of the Diversion Programme, 2017

## Counselling

There are several organisations in Wexford that provide counselling services to children and young people. As indicated in the table at the start of the chapter, 326 were referred for counselling in 2018-2019. However, the actual number of children and young people receiving counselling services was much lower at 197. There are several reasons for the discrepancy in the figures. Not all children or young people chose to attend counselling sessions. Additionally, some providers were unable to address the shortfall as they lacked either trained staff or the funding to provide counselling. One service provider said that whilst it does not offer counselling services to children under 18 it provides counselling to over 18 year olds.

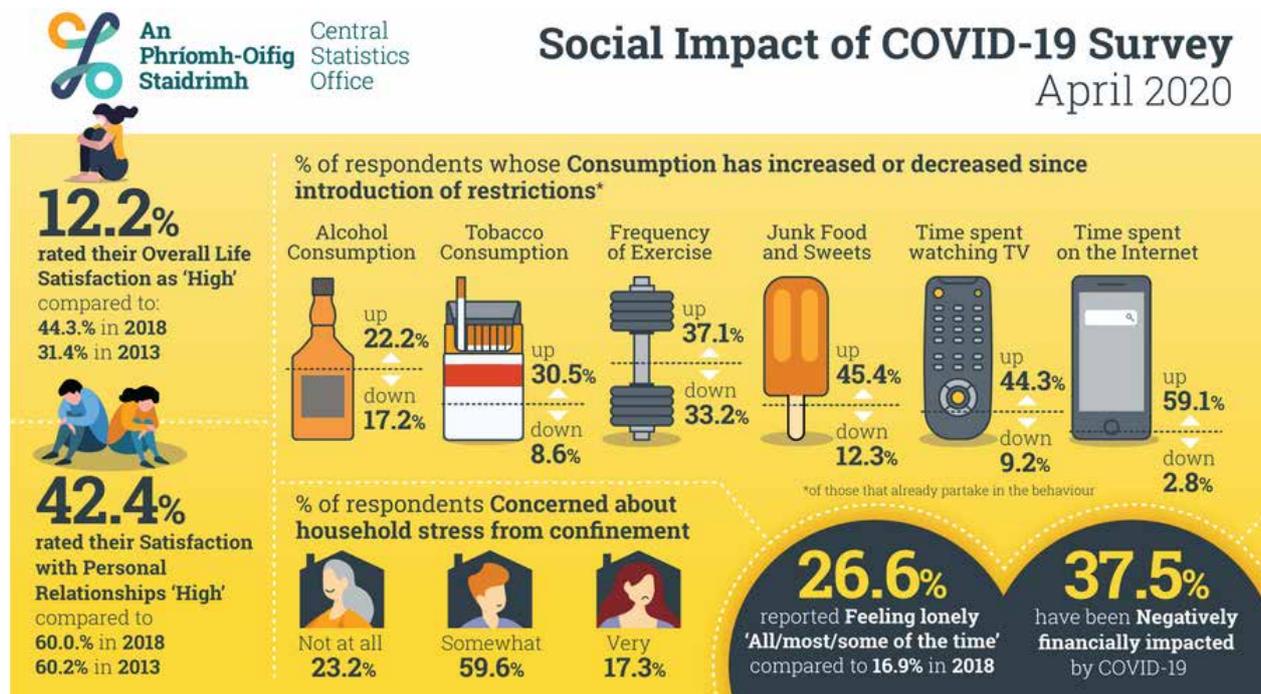
Two organisations provided counselling services to children under 13.

## Note: Predicted Implications of Coronavirus COVID-19 on Socio-Economic Profile.

During the course of preparing this Plan, Ireland was severely affected by the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. This unprecedented worldwide event has had a wide range of consequences for almost every area of life in the countries it has affected. Similar to other countries, significant restrictions on day to day life were imposed in Ireland in an effort to tackle the pandemic and “flatten the curve”.

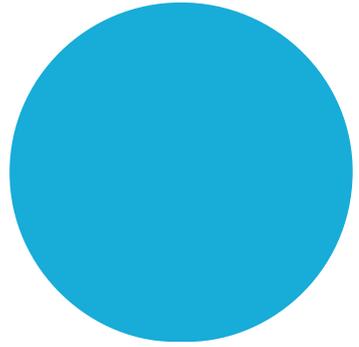
On March 12<sup>th</sup>, the first phase closure of schools, childcare facilities and universities was announced. Mass gatherings were also cancelled. Further waves of restrictions saw the closure of non-essential businesses and construction sites and citizens were advised to stay at home. On 1<sup>st</sup> May, the Taoiseach announced Ireland’s roadmap for lifting the restrictions and reopening society and business.

In addition to the direct health effects of the virus, the public health measures have had serious consequences on the social and economic fabric of the country. It is difficult to estimate the long-term impact of the COVID-19 epidemic. However, the OECD estimates that 3 months of shut-down could reduce annual GDP growth by between 4-6 percentage points in affected countries. In Ireland, recent ESRI estimates indicate that a 12 week shutdown could reduce consumption over the period by 25% and shrink the economy by 7.1% in 2020 (ESRI, 20). Job losses are predicted and they are not anticipated to be evenly distributed across industry or occupation. Heavier job losses are projected to be experienced in retail, accommodation and food service activities.



CSO statistical publication, 08 May 2020, 11am

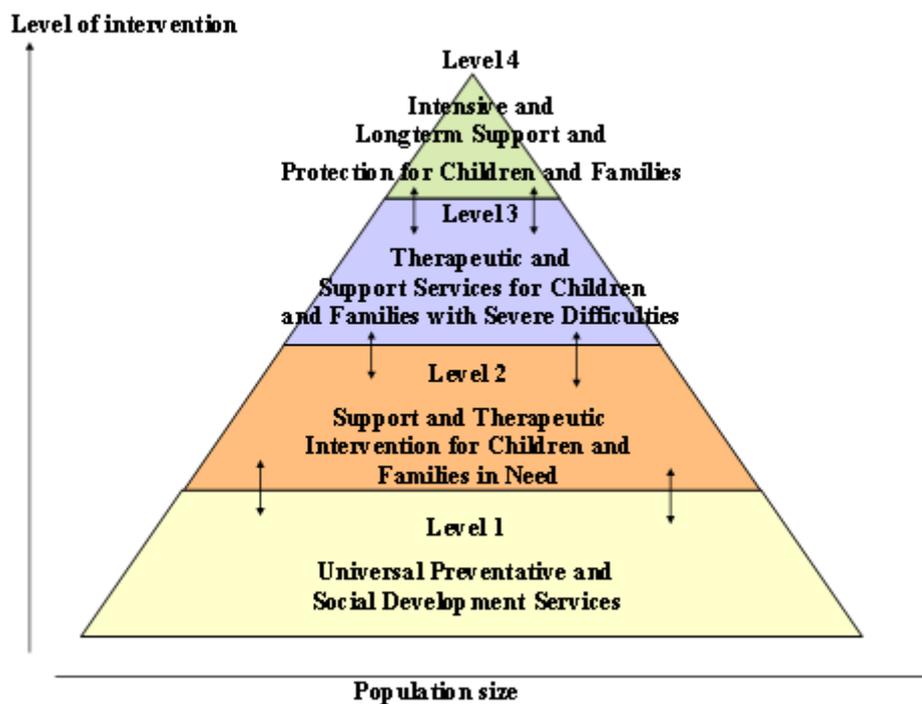
The social implications will also be considerable. Already there is evidence of increased levels of domestic abuse and coercion. The CSO conducted a COVID-19 Survey in April 2020 which highlighted increased levels of alcohol, smoking and junk food consumption. Respondents also reported considerable increases in screen time (+ 59.1% increase in internet and +44.3% for television viewing). Negative impacts are expected post-COVID-19 in terms of increased anxiety and mental health issues and expected increases in school refusal and food poverty. There are fears that there will be a disproportionate impact on Co. Wexford as there are already concerns about mental health/suicide rates and the level of engagement in education compared to other counties. This issue is further explored in the needs analysis.



## Section 3: Overview of Services to Children and Families in County Wexford

The Hardiker model was developed in the 1990's to help understand different levels of need within a population (Hardiker et al, 1991). It is now widely used as a planning tool by the U.K and Irish governments. The overview of services is presented using the Hardiker Model to reflect the level of intervention that services are providing. This ranges from Level 1 being universal preventative and social development services to Level 4 being intensive and long-term support and protection. The four levels of intervention are illustrated in the diagram below.

Figure 13: Hardiker Model

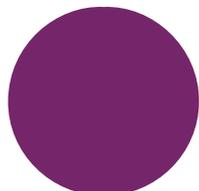
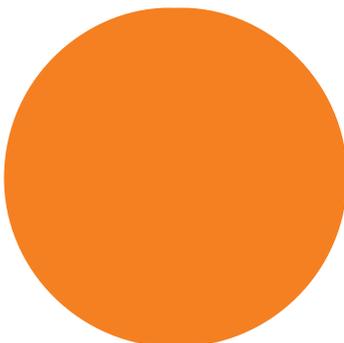


The following section provides an overview of service provision for children, young people and families in Co. Wexford. Services provided by statutory, community and voluntary organisations are listed. The overview indicates at which level of the Hardiker Model services are being delivered and whether they are universal, targeted or both.

For more information on services and supports available in Co. Wexford see [www.wexfordcypsc.ie](http://www.wexfordcypsc.ie).



Agency/Organisation	Service	Statutory or Community/Voluntary	Universal or Targeted or Both Hardiker Level
HSE Social Inclusion	Traveller Health Project x 2 (North and South Teams) (WLD) Homeless Service LGBTIQ+ (FDYS) County Wexford Roma Health Advocacy Project (FDYS) Intercultural Health / New Communities Substance Misuse (as above)	Statutory (also provides funding to partner organisations to assist in delivery of services)	Targeted and Universal 1-3
Tusla Child & Family Agency	<b>Family Support;</b> PPFS -Child & Family Support Networks x 4 -Meitheal	Statutory	Targeted and Universal 1-3
	<b>Early Years;</b> Early Years Inspection	Statutory	Universal
	<b>Social Work;</b> Adult Assessment Team Adoption Aftercare Child Protection & Social Work Team Fostering & Alternative Care	Statutory	Targeted 3-4



Agency/Organisation	Service	Statutory or Community/Voluntary	Universal or Targeted or Both Hardiker Level
Education	Primary Schools x 106 (20 DEIS)	Statutory	Universal 1
	Post Primary Schools x 22 (8 DEIS)		Targeted 1-2
	Special Schools x 2		
	School Completion Programmes x 5 (Bunclody & Enniscorthy, Bridgetown, Gorey, South West Wexford, Wexford Town)	Community / Voluntary	Targeted & Universal 2-3
	National Education Psychology Service (NEPS)	Statutory	Targeted 2-3
	Wexford Campus Carlow I.T.	Statutory	
	<b>Tusla Education Support Service;</b> -Education Welfare Officer x 3 FTE Posts.	Statutory	Universal 1-2
	-STAR (Supporting Travellers & Roma): 2 year pilot project (1 x EWO, 1 x HSCL + 2 x Community Education Workers)		Targeted 2-3
	<b>Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board (WWETB);</b> -Adult & Community Education -Adult Education Guidance Service -Adult Literacy -BTEI (Back to Education Initiative) -Community Training Centres -Community Education Programme -Further Education & Training -Music Generation Wexford -VTOS - Youthreach	Statutory	Targeted & Universal 2-3

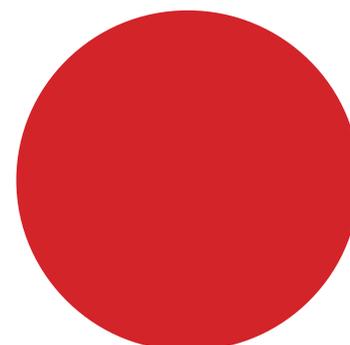
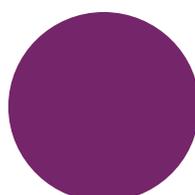


Agency/Organisation	Service	Statutory or Community/Voluntary	Universal or Targeted or Both Hardiker Level
<b>Family Support Services</b>	<p><b>FRC's x 5</b> (Gorey, Raheen, Southend, South West Wexford , Taghmon)</p> <p><b>Barnardos</b> -Family Support -Teen Parent Support Programme -Wexford Parents Hub</p> <p><b>Youth New Ross Family Support Programme</b></p>	<p>Community</p> <p>Voluntary</p>	<p>Universal &amp; Targeted</p> <p>1-3</p> <p>Universal &amp; Targeted</p> <p>2-3</p>
<b>Policing &amp; Justice</b>	<p>Gardaí</p> <p>Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers x 3</p> <p>Garda Youth Diversion Projects x 3;</p> <p>-Safe (Wexford Town)</p> <p>-Slaney Project (Enniscorthy)</p> <p>-Treoin Project (New Ross)</p> <p>Probation Service</p> <p>Wexford Restorative Practice Partnership</p>	<p>Statutory</p> <p>Statutory</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Statutory</p> <p>Voluntary</p>	<p>Universal &amp; Targeted</p> <p>2-3</p>
<b>Domestic, Sexual &amp; Gender Based Violence</b>	<p>Wexford Rape Crisis</p> <p>Wexford Women's Refuge</p>	<p>Voluntary</p>	<p>Targeted 2-3</p>
<b>Travellers</b>	<p>Traveller Health Project x 2 (HSE)</p> <p>Traveller Inclusion Programme (FDYS)</p>	<p>Community</p>	<p>Targeted 2-3</p>

Agency/Organisation	Service	Statutory or Community / Voluntary	Universal or Targeted or Both Hardiker Level
<b>Youth Services</b>	FDYS; -Bunclody Traveller Project - Afterschool -Childcare -Drop In / Café x 2 (Wexford Town, New Ross) -Community Youth Projects x 3 (Coolcots, Enniscorthy, Gorey) -Local Voluntary Youth club Network x 17 clubs -Risk & Resilience -Young Women's Project -Youth Information Foroige x 9 Clubs	Community	Targeted & Universal 2-3
	Gorey Youth Needs Group; -Community Childcare Service -Local Training Initiative (Courtown) - Youth and Community Services	Community/Vol Community	Universal 1 Targeted & Universal 2-3
	Youth New Ross; -Family Support Project -Youth Diversion Project -Youth Project	Community	

Agency/Organisation	Service	Statutory or Community / Voluntary	Universal or Targeted or Both Hardiker Level
<b>Early Childcare Services</b>	Wexford County Childcare Committee  No. Childcare Providers - 147 No. Community Providers - 41 No. Private Providers - 91 No. School Age Only Service-14 No. offering ECCE - 134 No. Special Needs Preschools -4 No. Parent & Toddler Groups - 21	Community & Private	Universal Level 1
<b>Local Authority Wexford County Council</b>	-Arts Department -Community Development -Economic Development -Environment -Amenities; Public Parks x 4/ Playgrounds x 35 Public Leisure Centres & Pools x 3 Outdoor Gyms x 9 -Healthy Wexford -Housing -Library Service x 5 branches & mobile service -Comhairle na nÓg (FDYS) -Social Workers x 4 -Local Sports Partnership -LCDC	Statutory	Universal & Targeted Level 1-2
Social Housing	Clúid Focus Ireland Respond	Voluntary	Targeted & Universal 1-2

Agency/Organisation	Service	Statutory or Community / Voluntary	Universal or Targeted or Both Hardiker Level
<b>Services to Support Youth Mental Health</b>	CAMHS	Statutory	Targeted 2-4
	NEPS		
	Psychology		
	SHIP (16yrs+)		
	HSE Resource Office for Suicide Prevention	Voluntary	Targeted 2-3
	School Guidance Teachers Youth Services		
<b>Others</b>	Money Advice Budgeting Service (MABS)	Statutory	
	Wexford Local Development (SICAP and LEADER)	Community	
	<b>Counselling;</b>		Universal 1-2
	It's Good To Talk		
	FDYS Youth Counselling Service	Community	
	Pieta House		
	Talk to Tom		
	The Ford Counselling and Psychotherapy Centre		
	Taghmon, Gorey, Raheen and Southwest Wexford FRC's		
School Completion Progs			



## Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in County Wexford

This section is informed by the data presented in sections 1-3. In developing the needs analysis, the CYPSC adopted the following approach: a wide consultation process was undertaken. The results of this combined with the outcomes of the Socio-Demographic Profile helped to inform the needs analysis and subsequently assisted in identifying actions for the Plan.

**Consultation:** As outlined on p. 21, an extensive consultation process was undertaken with children, young people and families in Q.4. 2019 and Q.1 2020. In total, 1137 individuals were consulted including 150 children from Early Years Services, 538 Primary School age children (5-12 years), 262 young adults (13 – 24years), 74 Comhairle na nÓg members and 113 parents. The CYPSC was especially mindful to consult with seldom heard young people and they were especially targeted during the consultation process.

The CYPSC members engaged in a review session in June 2019 which highlighted priority areas for the 2020 Plan. In addition, a survey was conducted with CYPSC members during the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that the Plan was still responsive to the changing social and economic environment and to ensure that actions were still relevant in the context of COVID-19.

### Outcome 1: Active and Healthy, Physical and Mental Health.

#### Local Priorities: Mental Health, Creative Play, Nutrition/Obesity Prevention, Physical Literacy

##### Mental Health

Mental health and wellbeing was identified as a priority area for the Wexford CYPP 2017-2019. Once again, during consultations for the current Plan, it emerged as a priority. Concerns about service levels for children and young people requiring more specialist mental health services, such as that provided by the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) have been prominent in Co. Wexford over recent years. There are currently two CAMHS teams for the county, one based in Enniscorthy covering North Wexford and the other based in Wexford Town and covering the South of the county. The Child Psychiatric Consultant for the Wexford South CAMHS team resigned in 2018. This prompted concerns in relation to staffing levels and conditions. Fears were raised in relation to waiting times for appointments, staffing levels and inappropriate premises. Under the “Vision for Change” Policy, it is stipulated that there should be 11 staff members per population of 50,000. In 2019, Wexford CAMHS had a staffing level of 5.5 per 80,000 population. It is important to note that in May 2020, the South CAMHS team have relocated to a new premises in Wexford Town. Arrangements are in place for emergency Psychiatry cover for services in Wexford and a process is in place to recruit a permanent Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist for the South Wexford Team.

However, amongst the general population, concerns still remain about the availability of mental health services in the county and this emerged quite strongly during the consultation process for the CYPP. Young people in the 13-24 years age group highlighted their anxieties about the topic with mental health identified as one of the primary issues facing young people. They identified that increased mental health services / access to same would improve their life outcomes. This idea was mirrored in the consultation with Comhairle na nÓg members when a clear majority at the AGM identified mental health as a priority issue.

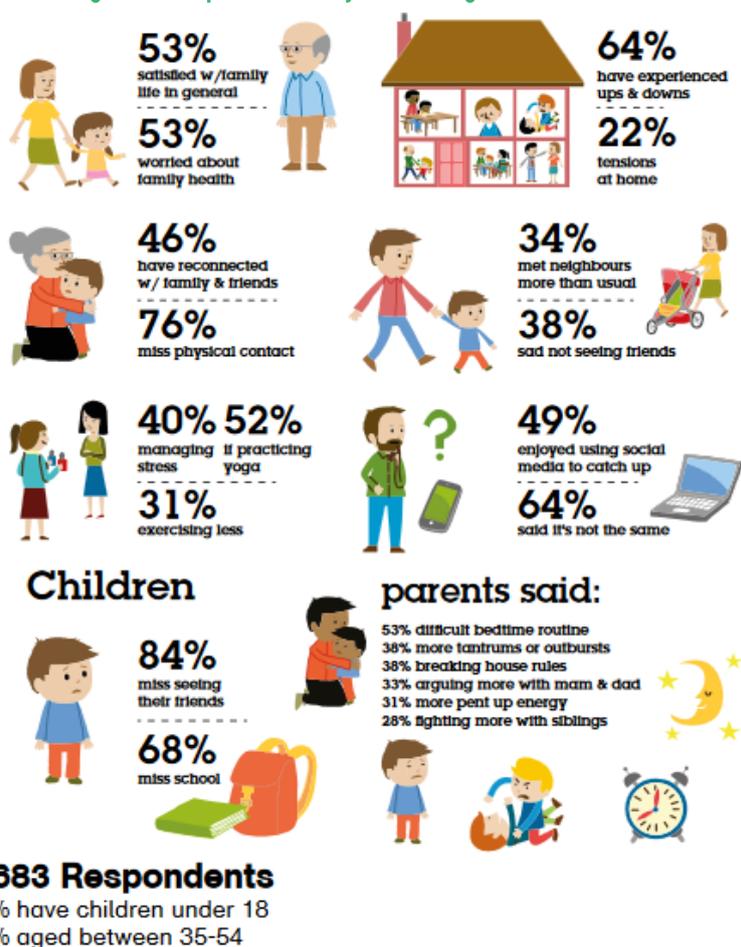
There is evidence to support some of the concerns expressed by young people in Co. Wexford. Recent statistics illustrate that suicide rates in Wexford are considerably above the national average. The average suicide rate in Wexford in 2018 was 13.7% compared with 7.2% for the State for the same period. The suicide rate for men in Wexford is nearly three times the rate for women. The male suicide rate in Wexford is, unfortunately, moving in the opposite direction to the national rate which declined between the years 2013-2018.

The impact of COVID-19 has added an extra dimension to any worries that were already in place regarding mental health. There are fears that the impact of government restrictions such as social distancing and cocooning that were enforced as part of the public health response to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, will have a detrimental effect on mental health and wellbeing. In some instances, the financial and emotional stress placed on some families as a result of COVID restrictions, has led to negative impacts in terms of increased levels of poverty, increased incidence of domestic abuse / substance misuse and other negative impacts. The global impact of COVID-19 is unprecedented. Experts advise that it is difficult to quantify its social and economic impact but all agree that its effect will be felt for years to come. In Ireland, the CSO is beginning the process of trying to quantify the impact on Irish citizens. It conducted a survey on the “Employment and Life Effects of COVID-19” in April 2020. Some of the key findings were;

- 26.6% of respondents reported feeling lonely all or most of the time compared to 16.9% in 2018.
- 42.4% rated their satisfaction with personal relationships as “high” compared with 60% in 2018.
- 37.5% have been negatively financially impacted by COVID-19.
- 59.6% reported being somewhat concerned and 17.3% reported being very concerned about household stress from confinement

These findings were echoed in a recent report by Barnardos which looked at the impact of the pandemic but focused on family life in particular. The survey took place over one week in May 2020 and provides a snapshot of the impacts on everyday family life. See figure 14.

**Figure 14: Impact on Family Life During Covid-19 Pandemic**



Source: Impact on Family Life of COVID-19, Barnardos, May 2020.

As the Coronavirus pandemic occurred during the final stages of writing this plan, there was an opportunity to consult with CYPSC members to ascertain their views on the challenges that the pandemic would create and the way that children, young people and families could be supported through the CYPP. From their professional work with families, they noted that mental health issues have escalated resulting in increased stress, anxiety and worry. COVID-19 has contributed to childhood anxiety. In addition, some young people have presented with suicidal ideation.

Members of the CYPSC suggested the following as appropriate responses;

- **Domestic Violence:** Continue to engage children and young people who experience household domestic violence into relevant Tusla therapy courses.  
Develop a trauma informed response using evidenced based programmes such as TLC and NVR for children and families that have experienced domestic violence.
- **Social/Emotional Interventions/Resilience:** Children and young people have missed out on school activities like art, music, gymnastics, sports, swimming. Develop initiative to kick-start new academic year with increased funding for creative and physical activities.  
Offer a programme of group work to support children and young people whose social and emotional development has been impaired as a result of this prolonged period of isolation from peers e.g. friendship skills etc.
- **Parenting Supports:** Provide a range of practical and therapeutic parenting supports to assist parents to regain their confidence. Develop new and existing networks of support especially for those parents who have been particularly vulnerable and isolated at this time.

The actions in the CYPP focus on the following key priority areas in relation to mental health;

- Supporting Infant Mental Health
- Building resilience among children and young people
- Building the capacity of professionals to become more trauma informed
- Raising awareness of referral pathways for youth mental health supports
- Supporting parents in relation to youth mental health and anxiety
- Supporting young people in relation to mental health and anxiety

## Creative Play & Physical Literacy

Increasing opportunities for creative play and improving physical literacy have been identified as priorities by Wexford CYPSC. In line with the “National Play Strategy”, the CYPP incorporates several actions aimed at building the capacity of Early Years Educators and school age childcare providers to offer a broader range of play opportunities for young children.

As outlined in the “National Play Strategy”, most adults perceive the way children play today as being significantly different to the way they played when they themselves were young. In general, children today have more access to money, toys and accessories. Changes in culture mean that children have less freedom than before and less opportunities for play involving discovery and exploration. Parents are in general more aware of “stranger danger” and are less likely to let children play unless under close supervision. Busy working parents have to build in structured opportunities for play such as “play dates”. There has been a movement towards more screen-time on mobile phones and other devices which has led to an increasingly more sedentary lifestyle. All of these factors have led to less spontaneity for children in terms of play opportunities.

**Figure No 15: The Whole Child Perspective.**



**Source:** Ready, Steady, Play!: A National Play Policy.

Undoubtedly, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a huge impact on children’s freedom to play. The closure of playgrounds and green spaces has been detrimental to children, particularly those living in urban settings with limited access to space. Social distancing measures severely restrict children’s ability to interact with others and there are concerns that this will have a negative impact on children’s physical and emotional well-being. When restrictions are lifted, children will need to be supported to re-socialise and to feel safe again to explore their new environment.

It is important to note that the CYPP consultation highlighted that children and young people still identified being active and being in nature as key positives and as things that they enjoy. The availability of more amenities, playgrounds and playing pitches featured prominently in responses from children and young people. Wexford CYPP has incorporated a number of actions that promote creative play and connects children with the natural environment.

The benefits of creative play have been documented as follows;

- Stimulation of senses
- Social Interactions
- Experiencing emotions
- Experiencing the natural environment
- Playing with natural elements
- Encouraging movement

An added benefit is that active play and movement contribute towards the prevention of obesity.

The CYPP focuses on the following key priority areas in relation to creative play and physical literacy;

- Facilitating outdoor play in Early Years services.
- Engaging children in nature as their learning environment.
- Building capacity of School Age Childcare services in relation to the importance of play
- Increasing physical activity for identified disability groups
- Providing opportunities to develop fundamental skills

### Obesity Prevention & Nutrition

As outlined in “A Healthy Weight for Ireland”, overweight and obesity are largely preventable. However, in the last two decades, levels of overweight and obesity have doubled. Only 40% of the population now has a healthy weight. Levels of overweight and obesity are much higher in disadvantaged groups. In public health terms, this is one of the biggest challenges facing Ireland today.

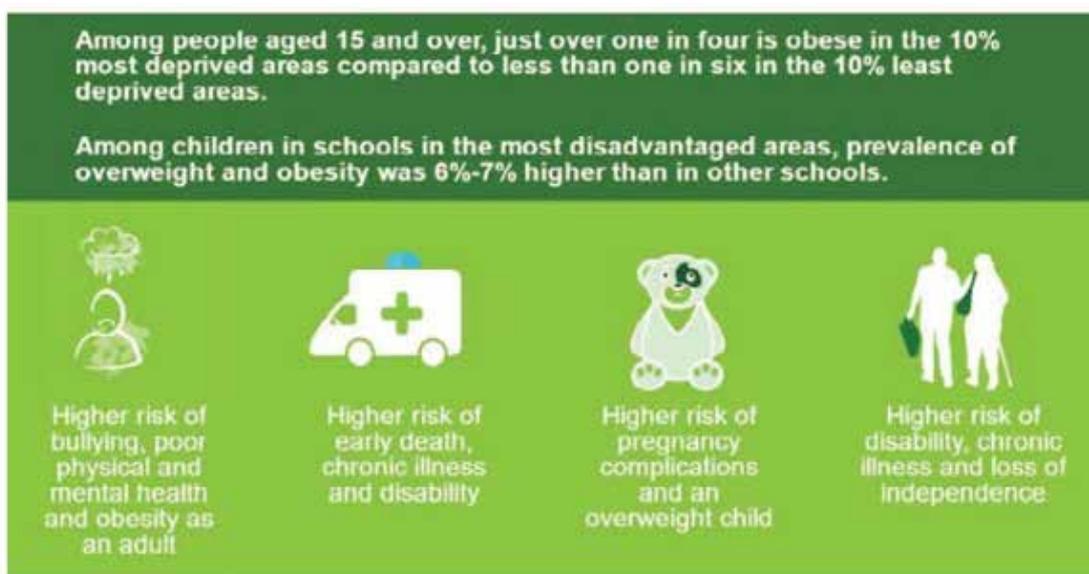
**Figure No 16.: Key Facts on Physical Activity in Ireland.**



**Source:** A Healthy Weight for Ireland Obesity and Action Plan (2016-2025)

Statistics show that currently one in four children is over-weight or obese. However, overweight and obesity is not equally distributed across the population. Research shows that those living in disadvantaged communities and certain ethnic/cultural minority groups are more at risk. This places children at a higher risk of bullying, poor physical and mental health and obesity as adults.

**Figure 17: Key facts on overweight and obesity in Ireland**



**Source:** A Healthy Weight for Ireland Obesity and Action Plan (2016-2025)

The CYPSC concentrates on the following key priority area in relation to nutrition and obesity prevention;

- Promotion of Early Years Nutrition

### Disability Inclusion

The CYPSC engaged DESSA (Disability Equality Support Agency) to deliver a series of workshops to explore attitudes, develop skills and improve practice during 2020. Members are anxious to improve their knowledge in relation to disability, equality and human rights and to ensure that they are meeting their obligations in terms of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The work which began in 2020 will be further embedded during the course of this Plan.

## Outcome 2: Achieving Full Potential in Learning and Development.

### Local Priorities: Early Literacy, Supporting Transitions

The National Adult Literacy Association (NALA) defines literacy as “listening, speaking, reading, writing, numeracy and using everyday technology like smartphones and google to communicate and handle information”. NALA goes on to highlight the impact of low literacy on individuals, families and communities. It has been proven that people with low literacy skills have low educational attainment, earn less income and are more likely to be unemployed. They are also at increased risk of being trapped in a situation in which they rarely benefit from adult learning and their skills remain weak or further deteriorate over time.

The most recent analysis of the education sector in Co. Wexford was conducted through a joint AIRO/ Wexford County Council “Socio Economic Profile” (2018) using CSO 2016 Census returns. This report indicated that Wexford has low levels of third level attainment. Almost a quarter of the population (24.5% of the population aged 15+) have a third-level degree or higher — the 4th lowest rate in the country (national average: 33.4%). The county has the 6th highest rate of low education achievement (no formal/ primary only — 15.8%) and the 2nd highest rate of medium education achievement (lower secondary — 18.6%). Just over one fifth (20.2%) of the Wexford population have an educational attainment level classed as higher secondary education.

The CYPSC is mindful of the negative implications of school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to the obvious educational impacts, there are also concerns about children’s emotional wellbeing. For some children, school is much more than a place of education. For vulnerable children, it can provide structure and security when home life can be chaotic. For children attending a DEIS school, it is an important source of food and nourishment. In the absence of school, there are very real concerns for the welfare of some children and there are worries that children will struggle with the return to regular education prompting a hike in school refusals.

The needs analysis highlights the need to continue to promote early literacy and to continue to support learners at key transitional stages. The CYPP identifies the following key priority areas in relation to early literacy and supporting transitions;

- Promotion of pre-literacy and early literacy
- Supporting transition from Early Years to Primary School
- Supporting increased participation at 3<sup>rd</sup> Level
- Supporting the Traveller, Roma and Migrant communities

## Outcome 3: Safe and Protected from Harm

### Local Priorities: Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Parenting Support.

#### Domestic & Sexual Violence.

Tusla defines domestic and/or sexual violence as “the threat or use of physical, emotional, psychological and sexual abuse in close adult relationships”. This can include destruction of property, isolation from family and friends or other potential sources of support and threats to others including children. Stalking and control over access to money, personal items, food, transport and the telephone are also common examples of domestic violence.

Coercive control (a pattern of intimidation, degradation, isolation and control with the use or threat of physical or sexual violence) is recognised as a criminal offence in Ireland under Section 39 of the Domestic Violence Act 2018. Women’s Aid has noted an increase in the incidents of online or digital abuse in recent years.

Domestic violence is very common and although the modus operandi of the abuser may be changing to incorporate online abuse, at its core it is all about power and control.

The impact on the victim has been well documented by organisations such as Women’s Aid and effects can include loss of self-esteem, financial dependence, stress and anxiety, social isolation and sexual abuse or physical injury. At the most extreme end of the spectrum it can even result in death.

There are also negative impacts for children who grow up in abusive environments. In the publication “What’s The Harm: A Child Centred Response to Domestic Abuse”, Barnardos outlines that there can be multiple effects on children that can be long lasting and varied. A child’s natural developmental progress can be hindered and this can lead to a range of social, emotional, physical and behavioural problems. Possible outcomes for children include reduced empathy, low self-esteem, poor social skills and difficulty forming healthy relationships, as well as physical manifestations such as bed wetting or self-harm (Barnardos, Pg.15).

It is widely believed that the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence is underestimated due to the reluctance of victims to report incidents. This has been accentuated during the COVID-19 lockdown period as victims were “trapped” with perpetrators in the family home during this time. Figures published by An Garda Síochána show that they have recorded almost 5,600 incidents of domestic violence in the period from April 1<sup>st</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 when Operation Faoiseamh, a dedicated domestic abuse operation during lockdown was in force. This figure represents a 25% increase in the number of domestic violence incidents compared to the same time period in 2019. The police authority also noted that there had been a rapid and sustained increase in the number of children reporting domestic abuse to child protection services during the COVID-19 restrictions.

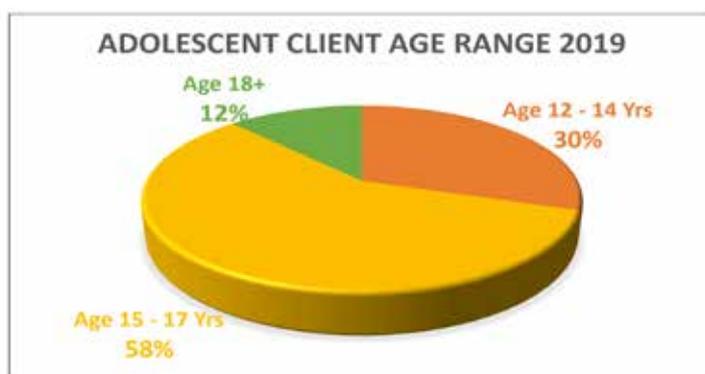
Domestic violence services are preparing for an increased demand on their services as the period of confinement comes to an end and victims have increased opportunities to seek help. The two specialist organisations dealing with these issues in County Wexford are Wexford Rape Crisis and Wexford Women’s Refuge.

Figures 18 and 19 overleaf give an overview of the service provided in 2019. In that year, Wexford Rape Crisis Centre provided a service to 27 clients in the 18-24 years age group. Seventeen young people accessed the Adolescent Counselling Service.

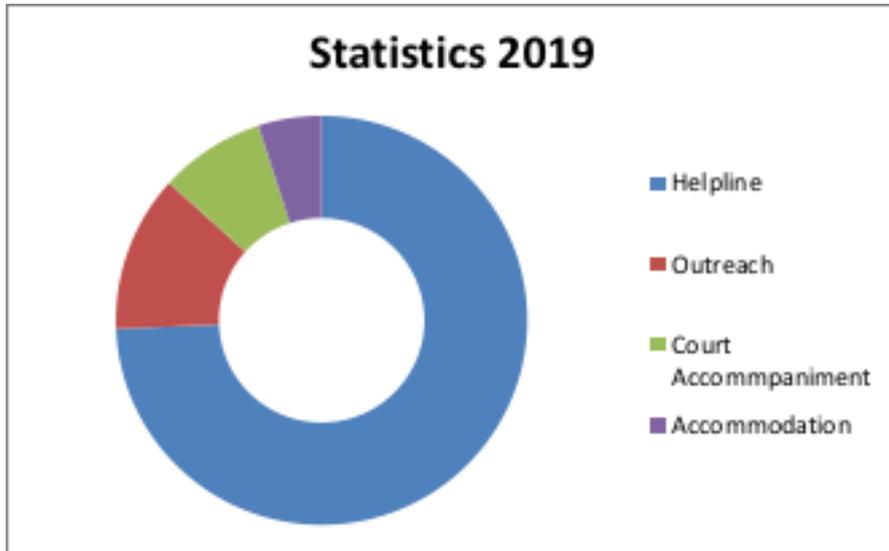
Wexford Women’s Refuge provided accommodation to 27 women and 22 children in 2019. During that year, they also provided support on the helpline to 733 women and conducted 122 outreach visits. A court accompaniment service was provided to 82 women.

Both the Wexford Rape Crisis and Wexford Women’s Refuge are currently operating in unsuitable premises. Plans are underway in both instances to develop purpose built facilities that will facilitate service delivery.

**Figure 18: Adolescent Client Age Range, Wexford Rape Crisis Centre 2019**



**Figure 19: Statistics on Services Provided, Wexford Women's Refuge 2019**



Note: Accommodation refers to 27 women and 22 children in 2019.

### Parenting Support

The importance of early intervention and parenting support is highlighted in “Better Outcomes Brighter Futures”, which identifies it as one of its key transformational goals. This is based on the understanding that supporting children and families at an early stage, can prevent issues escalating to the point that they require more radical forms of intervention.

**Figure 20: “Better Outcome Brighter Futures” Transformational Goals.**



CYPSC member organisations recognise that early intervention can help to keep children safe. Wexford CYPSC has identified parenting support as one of its priorities. It recognises that the family unit is the main support structure for children. It is the primary source of learning and it is where children build their sense of security and personal identity.

Much important work has already been undertaken in the parenting sphere during the course of the previous CYPP. The “Parenting Today” series of talks has been rolled out through the Library branches since 2018 and in early 2020, it was extended to some community venues. Through the PPFS programme, Tusla rolled out the Parenting Support Drop-In Clinics throughout the county in association with community partner organisations. The establishment of the Wexford Parents Hub was a milestone development that responded to a clear deficit in the availability of a range of parenting supports that was identified in the previous Plan. CYPSC played a key role in bringing all relevant agencies together to devise a co-ordinated and strategic approach to parenting supports in Co. Wexford. This was achieved through the creation of the Hub which is a “one stop shop” for parenting supports in the county.

This Plan builds on the important work in the realm of parenting that has already been undertaken throughout the county. The creativity and flexibility demonstrated during COVID-19 is providing new ideas for the future delivery of parenting supports.

In addition to universal parenting support, the CYPP concentrates on supporting parents from the following groups in the Action Plan;

- Disabled children and young people.
- Traveller community
- LGBTIQ
- Those experiencing mental health issues

### **Children and Families Experiencing Homelessness and Families Living in International Protection Accommodation Centres.**

There are currently three Accommodation Centres in Co. Wexford. Two are located in Courtown in the North of the county and one in Rosslare, South Wexford. All centres are presently accommodating children and young people. Services have already engaged with the centres in an attempt to address some of the family support issues that have arisen. There is a common understanding that the complexity of needs being presented by some families (mental health issues, trauma, parenting, access to education, language barriers, to name a few) will best be addressed by a co-ordinated effort that will maximise the available resources.

Similarly, the diverse needs of children, young people and families experiencing homelessness require a multi-agency response. The PPFS Sub Group has identified these two cohorts as areas they want to concentrate on in the context of parenting and family support over the duration of this plan.

## **Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity**

According to Census 2016, the total labour force residing in Wexford was 67,237, which is equivalent to 59.3% (Labour Force Participation Rate) of the total population aged 15+ in the county — this is the 12th lowest rate in the State. The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to have a negative impact on employment in the short to medium term, with young people expected to be disproportionately affected. The associated reduction in income will have a negative effect in terms of increasing poverty and homelessness, two issues that were highlighted by the older age groups during the CYPP consultation process. Wexford CYPSC is particularly interested in supporting young people who are not engaged in education, employment or training. It will link with its partners and support the work of the Local Community Development Committee in developing actions in the Local Economic and Community Plan.

## Outcome 5: Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World

### Participation and Consultation

Wexford CYPSC recognises the importance of providing opportunities for ongoing consultation with children and young people. Providing continuous opportunities for active participation is crucial to ensuring that the Plan remains relevant to the needs of children, young people and families.

CYPSC will continue to engage with Comhairle na nÓg as the mandated structure and will also explore innovative methods of engaging with young people from seldom heard communities. It will also continue its role of encouraging agencies to develop and implement policies that promote listening to the voice of children and young people in service planning and delivery.

### Change Management

In 2019 Wexford CYPSC engaged the Disability Equality Specialist Support Agency (DESSA) to facilitate a set of workshops in 2019/2020 with the aim of developing and embedding inclusive policy and practice in Wexford CYPSC. Participants were drawn from the main CYPSC committee and its sub-groups. This was an initial step to building capacity and awareness of disability within CYPSC. The process will be continued in 2021.

Strategic linkages have also been made with the Healthy Wexford Committee. The CYPSC co-ordinator sits on the main Committee and also on its Mental Health and Well-Being Sub-Committee. This facilitates the exchange of information between agencies and helps to prevent duplication.

A Healthy Wexford County Plan 2020-2022 has been developed. This outlines a vision for a Healthy Wexford where “everyone can enjoy physical and mental health and wellbeing to their full potential, where wellbeing is valued and supported at every level of society and is everyone’s responsibility” (Pg. 5). The local Plan will support the implementation of Healthy Ireland: the National Health and Wellbeing Framework, at a local level, to improve the health and wellbeing of all in County Wexford.

In line with the Healthy Ireland Framework, the Plan for County Wexford has four overarching goals:

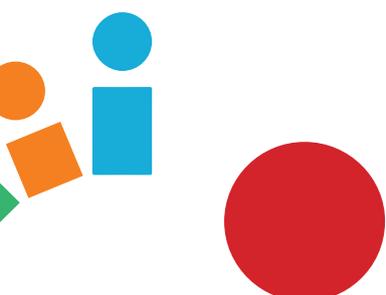
1. Increase the proportion of people who are healthy at all stages of life
2. Reduce health inequalities
3. Protect the public from threats to health and well-being
4. Create an environment where every individual and sector of society can play their part in achieving a healthy Ireland.



## Section 5: Summary of Children and Young People’s Plan for Wexford

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental Health</li> <li>Creative Play</li> <li>Nutrition / Obesity Prevention</li> <li>Physical Literacy</li> <li>Disability Inclusion</li> </ul>
2. Achieving full potential in learning and development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early Literacy</li> <li>Supporting Transitions</li> </ul>
3. Safe and protected from harm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic and Sexual Violence</li> <li>Parenting Support</li> <li>Homeless families</li> <li>Families in International Protection Accommodation Centres</li> </ul>
4. Economic security and opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Young People not in Education, Training or Employment</li> </ul>
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation and Consultation</li> </ul>

Change Management	Local Priority Areas*
<p>Change management – CYPSC will identify priority areas relating to change management and supports needed to enable interagency collaboration at local level, e.g. development of interagency protocols, development of information sharing protocols, interagency training.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with Healthy Wexford</li> <li>Improve awareness and response to Disability issues</li> <li>Further embed Inter-Agency Collaboration</li> </ul>



## Section 6: Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People’s Services Committee

Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People’s Services Committee								
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing								
Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Infant Mental Health	To increase knowledge of Infant Mental Health among professionals	The number of participants on the Master Class.	15-20 participants on the Master Class	<p>Delivery of Infant Mental Health Master Class.</p> <p>Formation of committee which will function as a Learning Support Group.</p> <p>Formation of Infant Mental Health Network.</p>	2020	<p><b>Lead:</b> Tusla</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Irish Association of Infant Mental Health HSE (Public Health Nurses Mental Health Midwife Early Intervention Team) FRC’s</p> <p>Youth organisations</p>	<p>The Nurture Programme – Infant Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>First 5: A Whole of Government Strategy for Babies, young Children and their Families 2019-2028</p>	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To support parents to create secure attachment with young people and to promote positive growth and development	The number of staff trained and programmes delivered.	<p>4 staff members trained and</p> <p>2 programmes delivered</p>	<p>Delivery of “Circle of Security” Training.</p> <p>Collaboration with HSE and agencies providing support to parents.</p> <p>To provide direct support to parents.</p>	2023	<p><b>Lead:</b> Tusla PPFS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Barnardos</p>	<p>First 5 Better Outcomes Brighter Futures</p> <p>Vision for Change</p> <p>The Nurture Programme HSE 2016</p>	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Youth Mental Health</b>	To increase the capacity of school staff to address issues pertaining to youth mental health and suicide.	The number of schools who participate in the consultation and follow-up initiatives.	17 Post Primary Schools in New Ross, Gorey and Enniscorthy areas of Co. Wexford.	<p>Consultation with Post Primary schools in New Ross, Enniscorthy and Gorey areas to identify support needs of school staff.</p> <p>Based on needs identified, offer appropriate initiatives or programmes to staff in the 3 cluster areas.</p>	June 2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> YPMH Sub Group</p> <p>HSE Suicide Resource Office</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 - 2025</p> <p>Connecting for Life Wexford</p>	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.</p> <p><b>Transformational Goal:</b> Earlier Intervention and Prevention</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Information Provision and Youth Mental Health</b>	To increase awareness among all statutory and community services of mental health referral pathways for young people.	The number of posters distributed and updated.	22 Post Primary Schools.  G.P's in Co. Wexford  5 FRC's  3 x Youth Organisations  Professionals working with young people	Distribution of Youth Mental Health Referral pathways poster.    Update existing Poster and website based information.	2020    2022	<b>Lead:</b> HSE Suicide Resource Office    <b>Partners;</b> Young People & Mental Health Sub Group	Connecting for Life Wexford	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To provide an opportunity for peer support and development of positive inter-agency relationships.  To ensure that all practitioners are aware of mental health services that are available so that more appropriate referrals will be made.	The number of agencies that participate.	Representation from all CYPSC organisations working with children and young people.	Hosting an annual networking event for all services providers working with children and young people in Co. Wexford.	Annually 2021 - 2023	<b>Lead:</b> YPMH Sub Group    <b>Partners:</b> Service providers  CYPSC member organisations	Connecting for Life Wexford	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.  <b>Transformational Goal:</b> Cross-Government and Interagency Collaboration & Coordination

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Trauma Informed Practice</b>	To increase the capacity of frontline workers to understand and respond to service users who may have experienced trauma.	The number of participants who complete the workshops.	6 workshops delivered.  30 professionals to participate in each workshop.	Delivery of 6 workshops on Trauma Informed Practice to professionals.	June 2021	<b>Lead:</b> FDYS  <b>Partners;</b> YPMH Sub Group	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025  Connecting for Life Wexford	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Mental Health/ Anxiety</b>	To increase awareness of best practice and current research on the topic of mental health / anxiety particularly in relation to additional effects experienced as a result of COVID-19.	Information circulated to CYPSC organisations.	Information is circulated to all CYPSC organisations.	<p>Collaborate with HSE Psychology service to collate information on models of good practice in relation to addressing mental health/anxiety.</p> <p>Circulate information on best practice to CYPSC member organisations.</p>	2020-2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> YPMH Sub Group/HSE Psychology</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> CYPSC member Organisations</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025</p> <p>Connecting for Life Wexford</p>	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health
	To increase knowledge among agencies in relation to young people and anxiety particularly in the context of COVID-19.	Local research on anxiety is available.	To have increased awareness among professionals of the issues facing young people in relation to anxiety in Co. Wexford.	<p>Collaborate with HSE Psychology to draw up Terms of Reference for Wexford based research into topic of young people and anxiety with the aim of gathering knowledge on demographics affected, referral pathways, access to services and recommendations.</p> <p>Investigate possibility of linking with HSE Psychology or Third Level Institution to conduct research dependent on funding available.</p>	2022-2023	<p><b>Lead:</b> YPMH/ HSE Psychology</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> CYPSC member organisations</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025</p> <p>Connecting for Life Wexford</p>	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Youth Mental Health & Anxiety	To ensure that parents are aware of the services and supports available to them in relation to youth mental health and anxiety.	The number of parents.	100 parents	Develop and distribute a resource for parents using schools, websites, texts and leaflets.	2023	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford Parents Hub  <b>Partners:</b> HSE Mental Health  Tusla PPFS  Child Therapists  CYPSC member organisations  Comhairle na nÓg	Connecting for Life Wexford	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To ensure that young people are aware of the services and supports available to them in relation to mental health and anxiety and how to access them.	The number of schools who participate in the project.	One set of journal inserts developed.  22 Post Primary schools targeted.	Develop a "sign-posting to mental health services" resource that will be included in school journals of post-primary school students.	2021	<b>Lead:</b> Comhairle na nÓg  <b>Partners;</b> YPMH Sub group  Schools  NEPS	Connecting for Life Wexford	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Bereavement Support</b>	To improve access to support services for families and communities bereaved through suicide.	All schools and organisations supporting young people in Co. Wexford to receive information and packs on Suicide Bereavement.	Schools  Primary Care/ GPs  CYPSC subgroup members	Dissemination of information on bereavement to young people, families and relevant organisations including the "Suicide Bereavement Resource pack" and the "Irish Childhood Bereavement Network Framework and resources to include specific local and regional supports and services.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> HSE Regional Suicide Resource Office  <b>Partners;</b> YPMH Subgroup members	Connecting for Life Wexford	
		Number of workshops delivered	4 per annum delivered to frontline staff from organisations and agencies working with young people and their families	Delivery of the one day "Workshop for professionals and key contacts that are providing support to people who are bereaved by suicide"	Ongoing			
		Number of information sessions delivered	Community groups, on demand, in the aftermath of a death by suicide	Delivery of the two hour information sessions "Supporting people who are bereaved through suicide in the community"	Ongoing			

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Disability Equality</b>	To increase understanding of disability conditions among frontline workers.	The number of participants who complete the training.	Frontline workers who engage with children and young people during the course of their work.	<p>Survey workers regarding their training requirements in relation to -knowledge of how disability conditions present -what diagnosis means -how best to support young people following diagnosis.</p> <p>Based on expressed needs, identify existing on-line training or source suitable training.</p>	2021-2022	<p><b>Lead:</b>Raheen and Taghmon FRC's</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Youth organisations FRC's CYPSC Member Organisations Collective Sensory Group</p>	National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021.	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To ensure that professionals and families are aware of services and supports available to young disabled people.	<p>Referral Pathways identified.</p> <p>Distribution methods identified.</p>	Information on referral pathways is widely available for professionals and parents.	Development of linkages with HSE Disability and Citizens Information Board to explore methods of making information on disability services and referral pathways more accessible for professionals and families.	2023	<p><b>Lead:</b> YPMH Sub Group</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> HSE Disability Service Citizens Information Board DESSA CYPSC organisations</p>	National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021.	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Disability Equality</b>	To support family members of young people with disabilities in Co. Wexford.	The number of Family Support Groups established	4 Family Support Groups established.	<p>Identify which family supports already exist and identify gaps.</p> <p>Promote awareness of existing support groups.</p> <p>Establish new groups based on needs of families.</p>	2022	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford Parents Hub	National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To increase physical activity levels and social engagement of young people involved with CAMHS.	The delivery of swimming and gymnastics classes.	2 programmes delivered in North and South Wexford	Delivery of a physical activity programme including swimming and gymnastics to children and young people who are engaged with CAMHS and identified groups working with Autism.	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> Wexford Sports Active</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> CAMHS</p> <p>HSE Occupational Therapy</p> <p>Autism Groups</p> <p>Swim Ireland</p> <p>Leisure Facilities</p>	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
LGBT+ Young People.	To support family members of LGBT+ young people in Co. Wexford.	The number of Family Support Groups established.	3 Family Support Groups established.	<p>Identify what family support is currently available and identify gaps.</p> <p>Identify parents who are interested in forming a Family Support Group and identify organisations who are interested in hosting meetings.</p>	2022	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Agencies working with LGBTI</p> <p>Gorey Youth Needs Group</p> <p>Youth New Ross</p>	<p>National LGBTI+ inclusion Strategy 2019-2021</p> <p>FDYS LGBT+ Youth Strategy 2020-2024</p>	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To increase the capacity of the school community to support young LGBT+ people.	<p>The number of schools participating on the refresher training course.</p> <p>The number of schools participation in the awareness raising sessions.</p>	<p>3 schools</p> <p>3 schools</p>	<p>Delivery of a refresher course on the "Just Be You" LGBT+ resource to teachers in 3 Post Primary Schools in Co. Wexford.</p> <p>Raising awareness of the "Coming Out" Guide through workshops and information sessions.</p>	2022	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Post Primary Schools</p>	<p>National LGBTI+ inclusion Strategy 2019-2021</p> <p>FDYS LGBT+ Youth Strategy 2020-2024</p>	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Drugs and Alcohol</b>	To increase awareness among parents of substance misuse and services that are available.	The number of school staff and parents who participate.	20 parents annually  100 school staff per seminar	Offering annual drug education seminars for Post Primary School staff and parents.	Annually 2020-2023	<b>Lead:</b> HSE Substance Misuse Team  <b>Partners:</b> Post Primary Schools  FDYS	Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery: A health-led approach to drug and alcohol use in Ireland 2017-2025.	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To increase awareness among service providers of issues related to drugs and alcohol	The number of participants on the training course.	60 team leaders, managers, front line workers	Roll out of on-line Drugs and Alcohol Awareness course to frontline practitioners.	Annually 2020-2022	<b>Lead:</b> The Cornmarket Project  <b>Partners;</b> CYPSC member organisations	Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery: A health led approach to drug and alcohol use in Ireland 2017-2025	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and Healthy with Physical and Mental Health

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Physical Activity / Obesity Prevention</b>	To increase the capacity of Childcare Services in relation to facilitating outdoor play in their services.	<p>The number of Childcare services who participate in mentoring and cluster sessions.</p> <p>The number of parents who attend information sessions.</p>	<p>Delivery of 3 sets of 2 mentoring sessions (6 in total) to 6/7 childcare services.</p> <p>Participation of 20-50 parents at information sessions.</p>	Engagement of Early Childhood Ireland to deliver an Outdoor Play Mentoring Programme consisting of mentoring sessions with childcare services, cluster meetings and information sessions for parents.	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Childcare Committee.</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Childcare Services</p> <p>Early Childhood Ireland</p>	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To increase capacity of childcare providers to engage children in nature as their learning environment.	The number of participants	60 participants (30 participants at each workshop x 2)	<p>Delivery of 2 x 4hr workshops to Early Years and School Age Childcare practitioners</p> <p>in an outdoor environment.</p>	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Childcare Committee.</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Forest School</p>	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Creative Play /Obesity Prevention</b>	To increase the understanding of the importance of play among School Age Childcare professionals.	The number of services who engage in the workshops.	2 Play Workshops delivered to max of 30 participants per workshop.	<p>Delivery of 2 Play Workshops by Playboard N.I to School Age Childcare Services addressing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Planning play opportunities and creative play for children</li> <li>-The importance of play to children's physical and mental development</li> <li>-The range of play types available to support development and growth</li> <li>-Approaches to enhancing and embedding play within childcare settings.</li> </ul>	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Childcare Committee.</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Playboard N.I.</p>	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Early Childhood Nutrition	To increase knowledge in relation to childhood nutrition among Early Years practitioners.	The number of Early Years practitioners who participate.	Attendance by 100 Early Years Practitioners.	<p>Hosting a nutrition conference for Early Years practitioners.</p> <p>-To encourage all Early Years services to provide hot food and healthy snacks on site to the children in their care.</p> <p>-To build capacity around health and safety requirements in relation to food preparation.</p> <p>-To highlight the link between nutrition and physical and mental wellbeing.</p>	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Childcare Committee</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> HSE Health Promotion  HSE Environmental Health  HSE Community Dietetics  Early Years Services  Tusla Early Years Inspectorate</p>	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.</p> <p><b>Transformational Goal:</b> Cross-Government and Interagency Collaboration &amp; Coordination</p>
	To promote Breastfeeding in the community	The number of agencies and organisations who participate	5 FRC's Community and voluntary organisations in Co. Wexford.	<p>Promoting "Breastfeeding Week" and exploring other initiatives that will particularly target women who are less likely to breastfeed, including Traveller women, younger women and women from lower socio-economic groups.</p>	2021-2023	<p><b>Lead:</b> HSE</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Community and Voluntary Organisations</p>	Breastfeeding in a Healthy Ireland Action Plan 2016-2021	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Physical Literacy</b>	To increase fundamental skills and cognitive function in school age children.	Stencils procured and being used.	2 Playground Stencils purchased	Purchase of 2 sets of playground stencils.	2021	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford Sports Active  <b>Partners;</b> Primary Schools	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.
	To promote the development of fundamental skills in the early years and to increase cognitive function	Balance bikes procured and distributed for use in Early Years services.	40 Balance Bikes purchased	Purchase of 40 balance bikes for use by children in Early Years services.	2020	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford Sports Active  <b>Partners;</b> Early Years Services  Wexford County Childcare Committee	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013 -2025	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Early Literacy	To increase awareness of the benefits of reading and early exposure to books among parents and guardians.	The number of packs distributed	Every baby in Co. Wexford at their 7-9 month developmental check	Continued support and promotion of the "Books 4 Babies" (B4B) initiative.  Compilation of one booklet containing information on relevant supports and services that can be included in the B4B pack.	Ongoing  2021	<b>Lead:</b> Books 4 Babies  <b>Partners:</b> Learning & Development Sub Group	National Strategy for Numeracy and Literacy	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.
	To promote the development of children's early literacy skills.	The number of website hits and Facebook "likes".	To increase the number of website hits and Facebook likes by 20%	Re-running the Early Literacy campaign that was developed by the Learning and Development Sub-Group in 2019 and is hosted on the Wexford CYPSC website.  -Targeting the following age groups;  0-12 months  2-3 years  3-5 years	2021	<b>Lead:</b> Books 4 Babies  <b>Partners:</b> Learning & Development Sub Group  Wexford County Council Public Library Service	National Strategy for Numeracy and Literacy	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Early Literacy</b> (continued)	To promote the development of oral language skills.	The development of a literacy programme.  The number of programmes delivered.	One programme developed.  One pilot programme rolled out in 2 areas of Co. Wexford	Collaboration with HSE Speech & Language and the WWETB to explore development of an early literacy programme that can be delivered using B4B Packs and incorporated into Parenting Programmes.	2022	<b>Lead:</b> Books 4 Babies  <b>Partners:</b> B4B  HSE Speech & Language Therapy  WWETB  Learning & Development Sub Group.	National Strategy for Numeracy and Literacy  Right To Read	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.
<b>Pre-Literacy</b>	To promote the development of oral language skills.	Numbers attending and library membership statistics.	All Early Learning & Childcare settings in Co. Wexford	Identification of a contact person in each library and Early Learning & Childcare setting for each library catchment area.  Provision of information on library services and resources and build initiatives to support literacy where possible.	2020-2023	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Council Public Library Service  <b>Partners:</b> Learning & Development Sub Group	National Strategy for Numeracy and Literacy  Right To Read	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Supporting Transitions</b>	To provide additional supports to young people who are participating on Meitheal (a school based leadership and mentoring programme).	The number of students who participate.	270 students	<p>Providing additional training for "Meitheal Leaders" on the issues of friendships, anxiety, bereavement and self-care.</p> <p>Hosting a training / information event for In-School Co-ordinators and Principals.</p>	2020	<p><b>Lead:</b> WLD</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> Post Primary Schools in Co. Wexford</p> <p>SCP's</p>	<p>Connecting for Life Wexford Action Plan 2015-2020</p> <p>Wexford Local Economic Community Plan 2016-2021</p>	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.
		The number of Co-ordinators and Principals who participate.	44 Co-ordinators and Principals from 22 Post Primary Schools	Creating and supporting an additional "Meitheal" training group.	2021			
		The number of young people who participate in the additional training group.	54 additional students		2020			

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Trauma Informed Practice</b>	To increase capacity among Primary School teachers to identify and address behaviours in children which may be a precursor to mental health issues and may prevent full engagement in learning.	The number of Teachers and SNA's who engage in the training.	300 teachers and SNA's	Delivery of a series of two webinar talks to Primary School Teachers and SNA's.	2020	<b>Lead:</b> IPPN  <b>Partners:</b> Primary Schools  Wexford Education Centre  Learning & Development Sub Group	National Strategy for Numeracy and Literacy	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Participation at 3rd Level	To support young people to participate in 3rd level education.	Number of students from DEIS schools availing of Access routes to 3rd Level	Senior cycle students in all DEIS schools	Provision of information sessions on Access programmes, and other students services and supports targeting young people who would traditionally be under-represented at 3rd Level.	2020-2023	<b>Lead:</b> IT Carlow  <b>Partners:</b> WWETB		<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.
	To support young people to transition into 3rd Level education	Number of students from DEIS schools availing of engagement activities on and off college campuses	Senior cycle students in all DEIS schools;  PLC students;  Participants on adult education programmes	Hosting Open Days;  Shadowing Days;  Taster programmes;  Bespoke activities that are designed and delivered collaboratively	2020-2023	<b>Lead:</b> IT Carlow  <b>Partners:</b> WWETB		<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.
	To support children at Primary Level to consider participating in 3rd Level Education.	Number of students from DEIS primary schools availing of engagement activities	5 primary schools in disadvantaged areas	Delivery of 'Going to College' workshops to 6th class primary school pupils	2020-2023	<b>Lead:</b> IT Carlow  <b>Partners:</b> WLD  WWETB		<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	To support Traveller children to access Early Childhood Education.	Number of parents from Traveller Community who receive information and engage in supports	50 parents of Traveller children will receive information and support	Provision of information session to parents from the Traveller community on value of Early Childhood Education to young children's learning and development. Design of appropriate information resource on topic.	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Childcare Committee</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> Traveller Interagency Group (TIG)</p>	<p>TIG Action Plan</p> <p>Needs Analysis of Traveller Community in Co. Wexford 2018</p>	<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Literacy	To enable Traveller children to access Early Childhood Education	Number of Traveller children availing of activities in the community and at their local library	30 Traveller Children	Hosting "Parent and Child" story-time events at local library branches.	2020-2022	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Council Library Service  <b>Partners:</b> Wexford County Childcare Committee  WLD  FDYS	Right To Read	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development.
	To facilitate Traveller and Roma children and young people to access library services.	Numbers attending and library membership statistics	30 children and young people	Engaging Traveller and Roma children and young people in their communities or school and supporting them to join their local library for technology and reading.  Providing STEM afterschool programmes; TTRS (touch, type, read and spell) and creative writing to assist them to build multiple literacies.	2020-2022	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford County Council Library Service  <b>Partners:</b> FDYS  WLD	National Strategy for Numeracy and Literacy  Right To Read  Traveller Integration Strategy  Needs Analysis of Traveller Community in Co. Wexford 2018	<b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Literacy</b>	To support migrant children and young people to access library services and receive assistance with literacy development.	Numbers attending and library membership statistics	30 children and young people	<p>Engagement with Reception Integration Centres to enable children and young people in all centres to access all reading materials;</p> <p>-To visit the library for study and materials, discussion groups, IT and electronic resources,</p> <p>Small group book discussion group with creative &amp; culturally appropriate agreed activities.</p> <p>-Books and other materials to be made available.</p>	2020-2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> WLD</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> Wexford County Council Public Library Service</p> <p>Learning &amp; Development Sub Group</p>	<p>National Strategy for Numeracy and Literacy</p> <p>Right To Read</p>	<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Parenting Support</b>	To ensure that parents and guardians are aware of the supports available through Wexford Parents Hub.	The number of parents receiving support through the Hub.  The number of Facebook likes.	170 parents and professionals.  Increase the percentage of likes on Facebook by 20%	Promotion of the Parents Hub  Extension of the programmes and supports provided through the Hub in response to needs identified by parents/ guardians.	Annually for duration of plan	<b>Lead:</b> Barnardos  <b>Partners;</b> Tusla  Parent Hub Steering Group  CYPSC member organisations	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures  National Service Delivery Model, Tusla child and Family Agency	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents  Earlier Intervention and Prevention
	To ensure that parents and guardians receive information on parenting topics.	The number of talks / workshops delivered.  The number of parents who attend.	12 events per annum	Provision of a range of talks and workshops to parents and guardians on a variety of topics related to parenting.  Liaising with partner organisations/ speakers to draw up an agreed schedule of parenting talks.  Publicising the series using hard copies, Books 4 Babies Packs, Wexford Parents Hub, Wexford Public Library, Facebook and social media outlets. partner organisations, Parent Drop-In's etc.	Series produced each year of the plan.	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford CYPSC and Wexford County Council Public Library Service.  <b>Partners;</b> CYPSC member organisations  Parenting Champions  Community & Voluntary Partners  Wexford Parents Hub	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures  National Service Delivery Model, Tusla child and Family Agency	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents  Earlier Intervention and Prevention

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Parenting Support</b>	To support a member of the Traveller Community to roll out parenting programmes to the Traveller community.	<p>The number of trainers.</p> <p>The number of Parenting programmes delivered.</p>	<p>One or more members of the Traveller community trained to deliver Parenting Programmes.</p> <p>Average of 2 programmes delivered per year</p>	Setting up Parent and Toddler Groups with the Traveller community where the focus is to engage parents to take part in the groups through volunteering and training workshops	Annually for duration of Plan	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Tusla</p> <p>Wexford County Childcare Committee</p>	Needs Analysis of Traveller Community in Co. Wexford, 2018.	<p><b>Transformational Goals:</b></p> <p>Support Parents</p> <p>Earlier Intervention and Prevention</p>
	To increase literacy levels among members of the Traveller community	The number of literacy programmes delivered.	7 programmes delivered	<p>Rolling out a literacy programme for parents from the Traveller community including Hair &amp; Beauty, Cookery STEM, First Aid/CPR.</p> <p>Healthy eating</p> <p>Exercise and Fitness and Advocacy</p>	Annually for duration of Plan	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> WWETB</p> <p>Wexford County Council Public Library</p>	Needs Analysis of Traveller Community in Co. Wexford 2018	

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Parenting Support	To support the Traveller Inclusion Programme.	Leaders identified and supported from within the community to create positive social change	8-10 members of the Traveller community.	<p>Providing Leadership Training programmes for members of the Traveller community.</p> <p>Health and wellbeing programmes to promote better mental health and develop coping skills</p>	Annually for duration of the Plan	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> WLD</p> <p>WWETB</p>	Needs Analysis of Traveller Community in Co. Wexford 2018	<p><b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents</p> <p>Earlier Intervention and Prevention</p>
	To support parents of Traveller and Roma children who are engaging with the "STAR Programme".	The number of parents who participate.	14 parents	<p>Establishing linkages between "STAR Programme" workers and Wexford Parents Hub.</p> <p>-Consulting with parents and identifying gaps to be addressed in terms of parenting supports.</p> <p>-Designing and delivering appropriate responses.</p>	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> STAR Project</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> Wexford Parents Hub</p> <p>Barnardos Family Support Programme</p> <p>FDYS</p> <p>PPFS Sub Group</p>	National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy	<p><b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents</p> <p>Earlier Intervention and Prevention</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Parental Consultation</b>	To increase the level of parental consultation being carried out.	The number of parents who engage.	3 consultations per year with seldom heard parents.	Continued roll-out of parental consultation utilising social media.	Annually for duration of Plan	<b>Lead:</b> Tusla PPFS <b>Partners;</b> Wexford Parents Hub	Needs Analysis of Traveller Community in Co. Wexford 2018	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents  Earlier Intervention and Prevention
	To increase the level of consultation with new parents and those who have not previously engaged	The number of parents who engage.	50 parents	Rolling out of parent support groups, courses and provision of one-to-one supports.	Annually for duration of plan	<b>Lead:</b> FRC's x 5 <b>Partners;</b> Parent Support Drop-In's	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents  Earlier Intervention and Prevention

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence</b>	To raise awareness of the issue of domestic violence and the services and supports available for women and children affected by domestic violence.	The number of website hits	% increase in website hits during 2021	Updating website and development of podcasts.	2020	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford Womens Refuge  <b>Partners;</b> PPFS Sub Group  Post Primary Schools  FRC's  CYPSC members	National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2010-2014	<b>Outcome 3:</b> Safe and Protected from Harm
	To reduce levels of sexual violence among young people.	The number of training programmes delivered.  The number of workshops facilitated.	4 week training programme delivered to 7 schools.  4 workshops delivered	Rolling out of 4 workshops and 4 week programme to Post Primary students, Youth Clubs, Youthreach etc. in Co. Wexford.  Facilitation of workshops on consent and sexual violence.	2020/2021	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford Rape Crisis Centre  <b>Partners:</b> Post Primary Schools	National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence 2010-2014	<b>Outcome 3:</b> Safe and Protected from Harm

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Prevention, Partnership &amp; Family Support</b>	Child and Family Support Networks are inclusive of all services working with children and families in Co. Wexford	The number of agencies and organisations attending CFSN meetings.	Each CFSN to hold 4 meetings annually.	Supporting 4 Child and Family Support Networks throughout the county.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> CFSN Co-ordinator  <b>Partners:</b> CFSN members	Better outcomes Brighter Futures.  National Service Delivery model, Tusla Child and Family Agency	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental wellbeing.  <b>Transformational Goals:</b> Earlier Intervention and Prevention.
	All service providers are fully aware of PPFS and local referral pathways.	The number of agencies / organisations attending Meitheal training.	All agencies and organisations will use the Meitheal practice model when trained.	Delivery of the 2 Day Meitheal training to Tusla staff and partner agencies.  Continued delivery of PPFS briefings to service providers.  Implementation of Meitheal / Social Work interface protocol.				
	All families receive a high quality co-ordinated service.	The number of referrals to PPFS.	100% of presenting families will be offered a service appropriate to their needs.					

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Restorative Practice</b>	To ensure that information about Restorative Practice is available to a wider range of individuals who are interested in improving the physical and mental wellbeing of young people in Co. Wexford.	The number of individuals who participate in on-line training and complete the course.	200 participants	Development and roll out an e-Learning course on "Introduction to Restorative Practices"	2020	<b>Lead:</b> The Cornmarket Project  <b>Partners;</b> Wexford Restorative Practice Partnership	Connecting for Life: Wexford Suicide and Self Harm Prevention Plan 2016-2020	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental wellbeing.  <b>Outcome 3:</b> Safe and Protected from Harm
<b>Family Support</b>	To improve service provision to children, young people and families in two target areas.	The number of hubs that are supported.	Two hubs supported.	Continuing to support the development of the Bridgetown and Riverchapel Hubs.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Riverchapel Steering Group Gorey CFSN  <b>Partners:</b> LCDC  Child and Family Support Networks	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures  SICAP	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents  Earlier Intervention and Prevention

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Family Support (Continued)	To provide a co-ordinated inter-agency response to the family support needs of children and families in IPAS Centres	The number of inter-agency family support initiatives delivered.	One inter-agency family support initiative is delivered in each IPAS Centre each year.	<p>Establishing an inter-agency Task Group.</p> <p>Mapping work undertaken or planned by individual agencies.</p> <p>Consulting with families and identify gaps in services to children and families.</p> <p>-Designing appropriate responses.</p>	2021 - 2023	<p><b>Lead:</b> Tusla</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> CFSN's WLD Youth New Ross Gorey Youth Needs FDYS</p>	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures	<p><b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents</p> <p>Earlier Intervention and Prevention</p>
	To link children and families who are experiencing homelessness to Family Support services.	Task group established and referral guidelines developed.	Task Group established and clear referral guidelines developed and disseminated to all agencies supporting homeless families.	<p>Establishing a specific Task Group to look at the issue of Homelessness.</p> <p>Identifying families experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Establishing clear referral pathways to family support services.</p>	2021-2023	<p><b>Lead:</b> Tusla PPFS</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> Wexford County Council Focus Ireland Barnardos Youth New Ross Gorey Youth Needs FDYS WLD</p>	<p>Better Outcomes Brighter Futures</p> <p>Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness</p>	<p><b>Transformational Goals:</b> Support Parents</p> <p>Earlier Intervention and Prevention</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Young People Not in Education, Training or Employment.</b>	To provide support to young people leaving secondary school who are likely to become "NEET".	<p>Young people engaging in training and one to one supports.</p> <p>Young People progressing to further education and training</p> <p>Young People progressing to employment</p>	12 young people from DEIS schools in Co. Wexford	<p>Delivery of a one year pilot programme providing Individual one-to- one support and group training.</p> <p>Offering driver theory and driving lessons for young people who commit to programme group activities.</p>	2020	<p><b>Lead:</b> Wexford Local Development</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> DEIS Schools</p> <p>WWETB Education Welfare Officers Home School Community Liaison Officers</p>	Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan	<p><b>Outcome 4:</b> Have economic security and opportunity</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving in all areas of learning and development.</p> <p><b>Transformational Goals:</b> Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination.</p>
<b>Young People Not in Education, Training or Employment.</b>	To provide an overview of NEETS's data in relation to Co. Wexford.	<p>A published resource available to all stakeholders.</p> <p>Evidence based approach to secure and allocate available resources.</p>	Stakeholders that have a remit and work to support NEET's young people.	<p>Development of research brief.</p> <p>Secure funding.</p> <p>Tender process.</p> <p>Oversee implementation of research.</p> <p>Dissemination of research to stakeholders across Co. Wexford.</p>	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> WWETB</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> CYPSC Learning and Development Sub Group FDYS Youth New Ross</p>	<p>WWETB Statement of Strategy</p> <p>Wexford Local Economic &amp; Community Plan 2016-2021</p>	<p><b>Outcome 4:</b> Have economic security and opportunity</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving in all areas of learning and development.</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Young People Not in Education, Training or Employment.</b>	To provide out-of-school supports to young people in their local communities to enable them to overcome adverse circumstances and achieve their full potential by improving their personal and social development outcomes.	<p>Young people have enhanced;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Communication skills</li> <li>-Confidence</li> <li>-Planning and problem solving</li> <li>-Positive relationships</li> <li>-Creativity and imagination</li> <li>-Resilience and determination</li> <li>-Emotional intelligence</li> </ul>	Young people between 10-24 years of age who are experiencing marginalisation, are disadvantaged or vulnerable.	<p>Youth work in small groups.</p> <p>Youth café/drop-in</p> <p>Youth forums</p> <p>Youth work coaching, one to one and mentoring.</p> <p>Detached youth work/ outreach</p> <p>Digital youth work</p>	2021 –2024	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> WWETB</p>	<p>Better Outcomes Brighter Futures</p> <p>National Youth Strategy</p> <p>WWETB Youth Work Committee Youth Work Plan 2017-2020</p> <p>UBU Policy and Operating Rules (DCYA)</p> <p>FDYS Strategic Plan 2020-2024</p>	<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving in all areas of learning and development.</p> <p><b>Outcome 4:</b> Have economic security and opportunity</p>

Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Young People Not in Education, Training or Employment.</b>	<p>To support young people to acquire life skills according to their own identified needs.</p> <p>To support young people to acquire job seeking skills according to their own identified needs.</p>	<p>Enhanced Life Skills;</p> <p>-Understanding of anxiety</p> <p>-Positive mental health</p> <p>-Preparing for college/training</p> <p>-Budgeting</p> <p>-Basic employment seeking information.</p> <p>Enhanced job seeking skills;</p> <p>-CV building</p> <p>-Preparing for interview</p> <p>-Identifying employers</p> <p>-Registering for your first job.</p>	<p>Young people aged between 10 and 24 years old who are preparing for independent living and/or employment.</p>	<p>Real Skills Programme</p> <p>"Info for Life" workshops</p> <p>Real Skills Programme "Info for Work" workshops.</p>	<p>2021 - 2024</p>	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> WWETB</p>	<p>Better Outcomes Brighter Futures</p> <p>National Youth Strategy</p> <p>FDYS Strategic Plan 2020-2024</p>	<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Achieving in all areas of learning and development.</p> <p><b>Outcome 4:</b> Have economic security and opportunity</p>

**Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee**

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

<b>Priority Area</b>	<b>Objective(s)</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Timeframe for completion</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility and partners</b>	<b>Link to other plans</b>	<b>Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)</b>
<b>Participation and Consultation with Children and Young People</b>	To create and make available a Guide to Health and Wellbeing in Co. Wexford from the perspective of the children	The number of young people engaged in the project.  Creation and distribution of Guide.	850 young people.  1000 Guides developed	Young people throughout Wexford to be facilitated to create a "Participation Guide to Wexford Locations for Well-Being".	2020	<b>Lead:</b> Wexford Mental Health Association  <b>Partners:</b> Wexford Co. Council Arts Office  Wexford Sports Active  HSE Health and Wellbeing  PPFS Sub Group	National Strategy for the Participation of Children and Young People in Decision-Making  Healthy Ireland  Better Outcome Brighter Futures	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy  <b>Outcome 5:</b> Connected and Respected  <b>Transformational Goals:</b> Listen to and involve children and young people  Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
<b>Continued Engagement with Comhairle na nÓg</b>	To further embed strategic linkages with Comhairle na nÓg.	Comhairle na nÓg contributes to CYPSC Plans and meetings	CNN rep will attend CYPSC meeting once per year.	Comhairle na nÓg representatives will attend CYPSC meetings at least once per year and participate in CYPSC sub-groups as appropriate.	Ongoing	CYPSC  Comhairle na nÓg	National Strategy for the Participation of Children and Young People in Decision-Making 2015  Better Outcome Brighter Futures	<b>Outcome 5:</b> Connected and Respected  <b>Transformational Goals:</b> Listen to and involve children and young people  Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

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

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Peer support for young LGBT+ people.</b>	To ensure that young LGBT+ people are supported by their peers.	The number of young peer support mentors trained.	12 peer support mentors trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Identification of young people who are interested in becoming peer mentors.</li> <li>- Identification of support organisation for each trainee.</li> <li>- Research what training programmes are available.</li> <li>-Offer training.</li> </ul>	2021	<p><b>Lead:</b> FDYS</p> <p><b>Partners;</b> Youth New Ross</p> <p>Gorey Youth Needs Schools LGBT organisations Foroige "Big Brother Big Sister"</p>	National LGBTI+ inclusion Strategy 2019-2021	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Active and healthy with physical and mental health.</p> <p><b>Transformational Goals:</b> Listen to and involve children and young people</p>

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

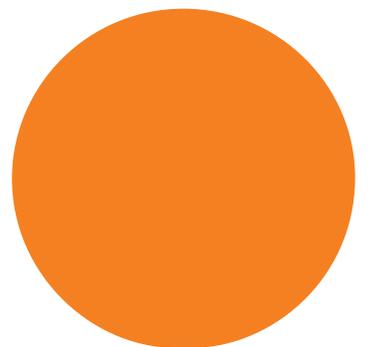
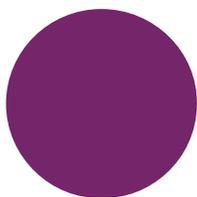
### Change Management

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
<b>Disability Awareness</b>	To increase awareness and knowledge base among CYPSC and sub-group members of issues relating to disability.	Number of CYPSC members participating in training	4 workshops	Offering DESSA capacity building workshops to CYPSC member organisations.	2021-2022	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC  <b>Partners:</b> CYPSC member organisations  DESSA	UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities  National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021.	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination
<b>Healthy Wexford</b>	To increased collaboration between CYPSC and Healthy Wexford.  To promote the voice of children and young people.	Number of Healthy Wexford meetings attended.  Number of initiatives involving participation of children and young people.	4 meetings per annum	CYPSC co-ordinator will represent Wexford CYPSC on "Healthy Wexford Steering Group" and participate in task groups as appropriate.	2020-2023	CYPSC	Healthy Wexford Strategic Plan	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Listen to and Involve Children and Young People  <b>Transformational Goals:</b> Cross government and inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination

## Action Plan for Wexford Children and Young People's Services Committee

### Change Management

Priority Area	Objective(s)	Indicators	Target	Activities	Timeframe for completion	Lead Responsibility and partners	Link to other plans	Linked to other national outcome(s) and or Transformational Goal(s)
Inter-Agency Communication	To ensure that information on the services and supports available to children, young people and families is readily available online.	The number of website hits.	500 users per week	Maintenance and updating of wexfordcypsc.ie	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> CYPSC	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Earlier Intervention & Prevention and - Support Parents - Cross Government and Interagency Collaboration and Coordination
	All services are aware of Wexford CYPSC supports and initiatives.	The number of E-Newsletters distributed	2 E-Newsletters annually	Compile and distribute Wexford CYPSC E-Newsletter	Ongoing	CYPSC Co-ordinator	Better Outcomes Brighter Futures	<b>Transformational Goals:</b> Cross Government and Interagency Collaboration and Coordination



## Section 7: Monitoring and Review

### Reporting Procedures within Wexford CYPSC

Wexford CYPSC is committed to the implementation of this 3 year plan and will work with partner agencies to ensure this takes place through implementation of the “CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework”. Successful implementation is based on on-going monitoring and review to ensure that the CYPP remains a living and relevant document. A member of the main CYPSC committee chairs each Sub-Group. Each will present a progress report at every CYPSC meeting.

### Annual Programme of Work

Wexford CYPSC will produce an Annual Programme of Work, which will be a statement of intent / action outlining the work to be undertaken and achieved by the CYPSC in each calendar year. It will be derived from the CYPSC’s three-year Children and Young People’s Plan. It will provide a high level overview of what and how the CYPSC will deliver against each of the agreed local objectives and strategic actions for that calendar year.

### CYPSC Mid-Year Progress Update

Wexford CYPSC will produce a Mid-Year Progress Update to Tusla Child and Family Agency, as the nominated agent of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. The Mid-Year Progress Update will be utilised by CYPSC as a tool for mutual accountability and learning. It will be utilised as a monitoring tool to determine whether the CYPSC annual programme of work is on schedule. This Mid-Year Progress Update will also provide the CYPSC with a mid-year opportunity to highlight to national level structures any issues or challenges being experienced locally.

### CYPSC Annual Progress Report

Wexford CYPSC will produce an Annual Progress Report on its activity and impact to TUSLA - Child and Family Agency, as the nominated agent of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. The Annual Progress Report will be utilised as a tool for mutual accountability and learning. The report will enable the CYPSC to be responsive to emerging local need as well as national policy imperatives.



# Section 8: Appendices

## Appendix 1

### Terms of Reference for Wexford CYPSC

#### 1. Mandate

The mandate for CYPSC's has derived from Government policy over time and is renewed in the context of "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People" (2014 - 2020). This charges CYPSC's with providing strategic direction and leadership to ensure effective interagency co-ordination and collaboration in order to achieve the best outcomes for all children and young people in a county/counties.

#### 2. Purpose

The overall purpose of Wexford CYPSC is to improve outcomes for children aged 0-24 years across five aspects of their lives otherwise known as the five National Outcomes outlined in "Better Outcomes Brighter Futures".

The Five National Outcomes being that children and young people;

1. Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental well-being
2. Are achieving their 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.

#### 3. Objectives of CYPSC's

CYPSC's bring together relevant statutory, community and voluntary organisations providing services to children and young people to maximise the reach, coverage and impact of such services through;

- Ensuring the needs of children and young people are identified and addressed.
- Planning and co-ordination of services.
- Ensuring effective collaboration and interagency working.
- Promoting quality, evidence-informed planning and practice.
- Optimising the use of resources.
- Promoting best participation practice.

#### 4. Term

These Terms of Reference are effective from March 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 and continue until March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021 when they will be reviewed by Wexford CYPSC members. The Terms of Reference can be amended after consultation and agreement by CYPSC members.

#### 5. Membership

Wexford CYPSC will comprise;

- Chairperson: Area Manager Waterford / Wexford Child & Family Services,
- Tusla Child & Family Agency
- Vice Chairperson: Senior Staff Member, Wexford County Council.
- CYPSC Co-ordinator: Tusla Child and Family Agency
- An Garda Síochána 1 Representative
- Barnardos 1 Representative
- Family Resource Centres 1 Representative
- FDYS 1 Representative
- Gorey Youth Needs Group 1 Representative
- Health Service Executive (Primary Care, Nursing, Disability) 3 Representatives
- Irish Primary Principals Network 1 Representative
- Probation & Welfare Service 1 Representative
- Roma Community 1 Representative
- Traveller Community 2 Representatives
- Tusla Child & Family Agency (Education Welfare Service and Social Work Service) 2 Representatives
- Waterford & Wexford Education Training Board 1 Representative
- Wexford County Childcare Committee 1 Representative
- Wexford Local Development 1 Representative
- Wexford Rape Crisis Centre 1 Representative
- Wexford Womens Refuge 1 Representative
- Youth New Ross 1 Representative

Wexford CYPSC may extend membership to other agencies as appropriate, following discussion and agreement at a CYPSC meeting.

## 6. Principles and Values

Wexford CYPSC has developed the following principles for working with;

### (a) Children and Young People

Wexford CYPSC.....

- Embraces diversity
- Actively listens and provides meaningful participation and engagement in the work of the WCYPSC for young people and children.
- Focuses on early intervention and easily accessible services for children/families.
- Supports Restorative Justice Principles – affording everyone the opportunity to restore their mistakes and move on from them.
- Will advocate nationally for our children and young people re: their unmet needs – working within the national framework of Children & Young Peoples Services Committees.
- Will advocate locally – raising issues with agencies and at the CYPSC table.
- Recognises and respects the pivotal role of parents and families and support them in that role.
- Will be active and make decisions
- Will adopt a “Strengths and Assets” based approach.

### (b) Inter-Agency Working

Wexford CYPSC.....

- Advocates real interagency working: keeping the lines of communication open between all our agencies.
- Uses genuine multi-disciplinary practice.
- Members will be flexible within their roles and keep the focus on achieving best outcomes for children and young people.
- Will encourage joint or shared planning and working between the CYPSC agencies
- Account will be taken of existing agency principles and practice and continue to develop these for the benefit of children and young people
- CYPSC members will lead and champion interagency working within their individual agencies.
- Will aim for inclusive and consensus decision-making: in the spirit of partnership.
- Will be practical in setting objectives and work plans.
- Will share the information necessary to support our young people and children – where possible, within the data protection constraints.

### (C) Equality & Human Rights Statement;

Wexford CYPSC has also developed an Equality & Human Rights Statement which will underpin our work going forward. 1.

## 7. Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities regarding local governance of the CYPSC are outlined in the “Shared Vision, Next Steps 2019-2024” document from DCYA.

### Role of Chairperson;

- Provide leadership and direction for the local committee;
- Ensure the effectiveness of the committee in all aspects of its role, including delivery of its Children and Young Peoples Plan;
- Ensure active participation and contributions from all members across all sectors;
- Ensure appropriate interaction between the committee and external stakeholders.

### Role of Vice-Chair;

- Support the CYPSC Chairperson in the performance of his or her duties;
- In the case of unavailability of the Chairperson at any committee meeting, to take the role of Chairperson for that meeting;
- Ensure an appropriate balance between the voice of the Chairpersons organisation and that of other member organisations.

### Role of Co-ordinator;

- Support the establishment and development of the CYPSC and its sub-groups;
- Communicate a clear sense of purpose and direction on behalf of the CYPSC;
- Co-ordinate the development and implementation of the CYPSC’s 3-Year Children and Young Peoples Plan;
- Assist the overall committee and sub-groups to implement the 3-year work plan and monitor progress in line with the five national outcomes for children and young people as set out in “Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures”.



## 8. Meetings

All meetings will be chaired by the Area Manager Waterford/Wexford Child & Family Services, Tusla Child & Family Agency or in his/her absence by the Vice-Chairperson, Wexford County Council.

- A meeting quorum will be one third (33.3%) of the total members of the CYPSC.
- Decisions will be made by consensus. If that is not possible, the CYPSC Chairperson makes the final decision.
- Meeting agendas and minutes will be provided by the CYPSC Co-ordinator, Tusla Child & Family Agency in advance of committee meetings. This includes:
  - ⇒ Preparing agendas and supporting papers;
  - ⇒ Preparing minutes / meeting notes and relevant information.
- Five meetings will take place each year. Meeting dates will be set and circulated at the start of the year.
- Members are required to commit to attendance at a minimum of 3 meetings per year. If members miss more than 3 consecutive meetings, the organisation will be asked to consider if the named individual can give the necessary commitment to CYPSC or whether we need to request another nominee.
- Delegation is not accepted at CYPSC meetings. There is a named representative for each organisation. In the case that this individual is not available to attend, apologies should be forwarded to the CYPSC Co-ordinator in advance of the meeting.
- There is no limitation on the length of term that can be served by agency representatives. However, in the case of sectoral representatives (Family Resource Centres, Traveller and Roma), these can be changed on an annual basis.
- Working Group meetings will be arranged outside these times at a time convenient to Working Group members.

## 9. Amendment, Modification or Variation

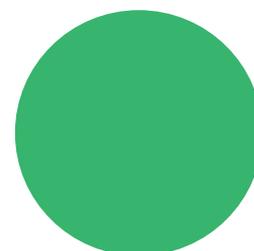
The Terms of Reference may be amended, modified or varied in writing after consultation and agreement by Wexford CYPSC members.

## 10. Reporting Mechanisms

**National Level:** The CYPSC will report to the National CYPSC Co-ordinator, the CYPSC National Steering Group and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs as required.

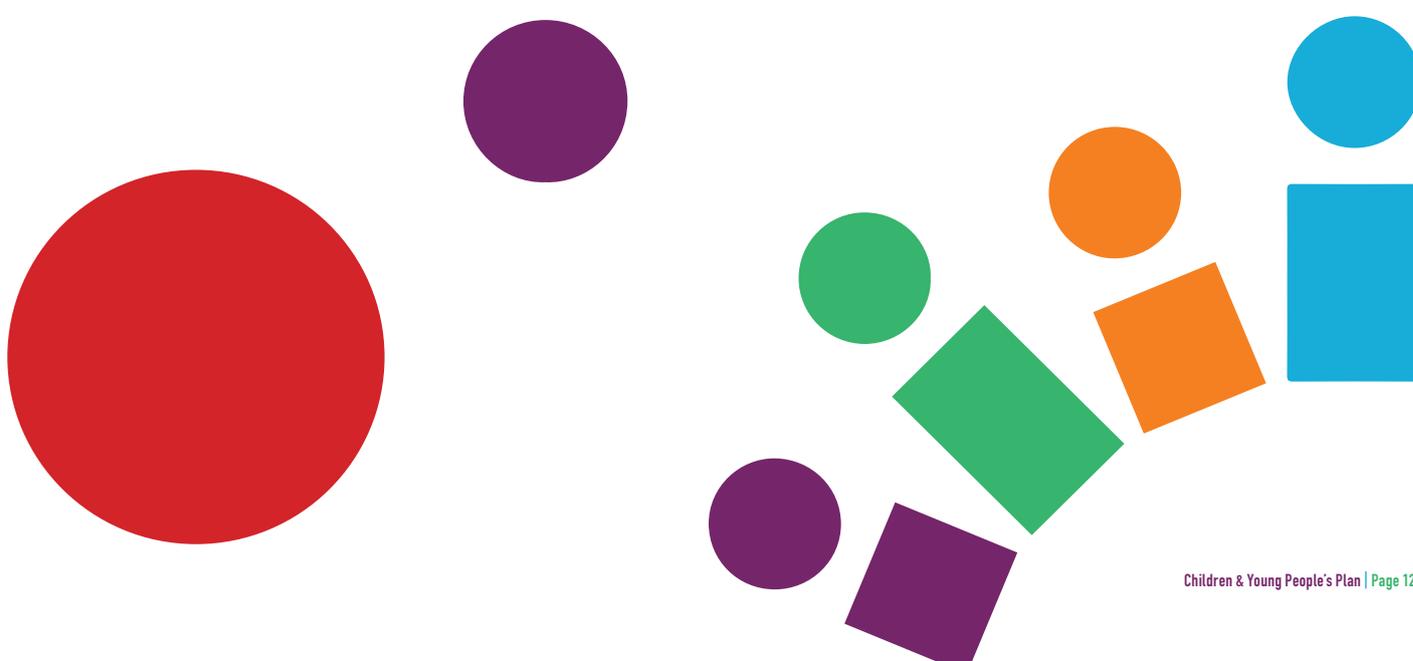
**Local Level:** The CYPSC will provide update reports to the LCDC as required.

**Updated February 2020**



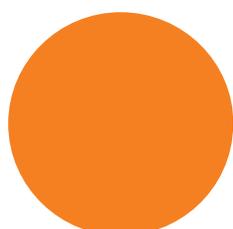
## Appendix 2: Membership of CYPSC Sub Groups

Health & Diversity Sub Group	
Organisation	Member
Bridgetown School Completion Programme	Sharon Grace
FDYS	Emma Whitty (LGBTI Project Worker) Alex Petrovics (Roma Inclusion Programme)
Gorey Youth Needs Group	Mandi Tighe (Chairperson)
Health Service Executive	Mary B. Finn-Gilbride (Director of Public Health Nursing Nuala Harpur (Health & Wellbeing) Siobhán Sinnott (Child Health Programme Development Officer)
Local Sports Partnership (Wexford County Council)	Fran Ronan
South End Family Resource Centre	Siobhán Hayden
Traveller Community Health Project	Valerie O'Flaherty
Tusla, Early Years Inspector	Collette Ryan
Wexford County Childcare Committee	Deirdre Power
Wexford Local Development	Tina Kelly



PPFS (Partnership, Prevention & Family Support) Sub Group	
Organisation	Member
Barnardos	Catherine Joyce / Catherine McCurdy
Bunclody/Enniscorthy School Completion Programme	Paula Busher-Gatell
FDYS	John Paul O'Neill (Community Based Drugs Initiative) Robbie Sludds (Traveller Inclusion Project)
Gorey Youth Needs Group	Mandi Tighe
HSE, Public Health Nursing	Eilish Whelan
Raheen FRC	Jeanette O'Neill
South West Wexford Family Resource Centre	Sharon Kennedy
Tusla Child & Family Agency	Tony Kennedy (PPFS) (Chairperson) Sinead Cronindaly (CFSN's) Maire Morrissey (Professional Support to Area Manager)
Wexford County Childcare Committee	Jillian Murray
Wexford Womens Refuge	Pauline Ennis
Youth New Ross	Joanne O'Gorman

Young People & Mental Health Sub Group	
Organisation	Member
Barnardos	Catherine Mc Curdy
Comhairle na nÓg	Paula Kelly
FDYS	Mairead Duffy
Focus	Sandra Fitzpatrick
Gardai	Emma Dwan
Gorey Youth Needs Group	Karen McCann
HSE	Anne Marie Murphy (CAMHS) Anne Marie Walsh (Substance Misuse) Tracy Nugent (Suicide Resource Office)
Probation	Veronica Brooks
Raheen Family Resource Centre	Jeanette O'Neill
Taghmon Family Resource Centre	Mary O'Loughlin (Chairperson)
Tusla Child & Family Agency	Linda McCann/Sinéad Joyce/Sinéad Cronindaly (CFSN's)
Wexford Parents Hub	Karen Mooney
Wexford Rape Crisis Centre	Clare Williams
Wexford School Completion Programme	Bernie Lambert
Youth New Ross	Saoirse Murphy



## Learning & Development Sub Group

Organisation	Member
Books 4 Babies	Nicholas Sweetman
Gorey Youth Needs Group	Chris Furlong
HSE Public Health Nursing	Edel Doyle
IPPN (Irish Primary Principals Network)	Vicky Barron
Waterford & Wexford Educational Training Board	Sinéad O'Hara
Wexford Campus Carlow I.T.	Susan Barnes/Sandra Walsh
Wexford County Childcare Committee	Deirdre Power (Chairperson)
Wexford County Council Public Library Service	Hazel Percival
Wexford Local Development	Maeve O'Byrne



## Appendix 3

### Wexford Children & Young Peoples Services Committee Schedule for Development of CYPP Autumn 2020-2023

**June 2019:** Review of current CYPP (2017-2019). CYPSC members agree schedule for development of next CYPP.

**July/August 2019:** Terms of Reference for updating of Socio Demographic profile agreed. Consultant secured and work complete by September/October 2019

**September 2019:** Framework for consultations agreed by CYPSC.

#### September 2019 – December 2019;

- Consultations carried out and findings collated.
- Working Groups to carry out reviews on own Terms of Reference, membership, initial identification of key themes.

**January – March 2020 – 2022:** Socio Demographic Profile and outcomes of consultations used to inform Needs Analysis.

- Working Groups begin to identify headline issues and develop actions.
- Lead agencies for actions agreed.

**April-May 2020:** Draft Plan reviewed by the CYPSC and any amendments identified.

**May-June 2020:** Amendments made and plan finalised.

**July 2020:** CYPP finalised and submitted for Screening Process to take place on 28th August 2020.



## Appendix 4

### Wexford Children and Young People Services Committee Equality and Human Rights Statement

#### Introduction

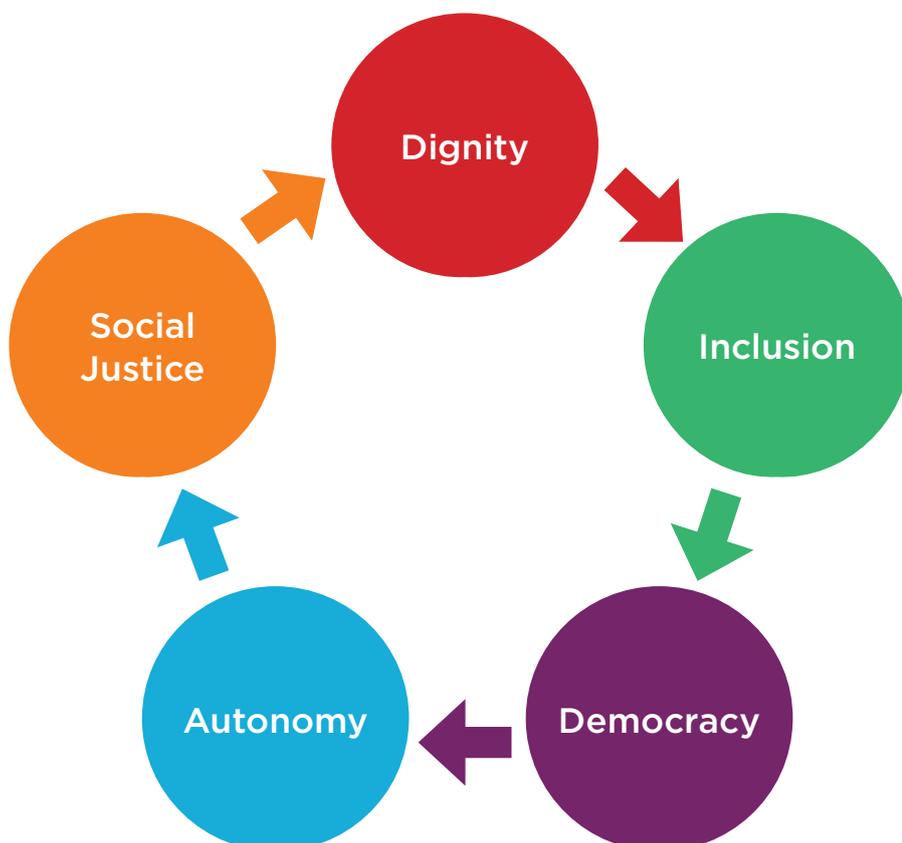
This statement demonstrates our commitment to equality and human rights for all children and young people especially those who are vulnerable. It informs the implementation, ongoing review and evaluation of the WCYPSC plan in a manner that reflects available resources and alignment with “Better Outcomes Brighter Futures - The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People” (2014-2020).

We work to bring the concepts of equality and human rights to life in all aspects of our work for children and young people in County Wexford. This can be in relation to gender and gender identity, civil status, family status (carers and lone parents), age, disability, sexual orientation, race (migrants and Black and minority ethnic groups, including Travellers and Roma), religion, and socio-economic status.

By honoring this statement we fulfill our obligations under the “Irish Human Rights Equality and Commission Act 2014” (S.42) to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and protect human rights.

#### Our Values

Five values underpin our commitment to equality and human rights. We bring these values to our work with children and young people so as to advance the promotion and achievement of equality, and the fulfillment of human rights.



**1. Dignity** is about how we value human worth. It is about the esteem in which we hold children and young people and their value in society. Dignity involves understanding and appreciating difference and diversity among children and young people.

**WCYPSC** seeks to ensure that all children and young people are valued and respected.

Through our work we aim to ensure that:

- All children and young people in institutional and community settings are nurtured and cared for.
- All children and young people in the education system are valued.
- Organisations develop their capacity, understanding, resources and knowledge to respond appropriately to the needs and aspirations of children and young people.
- There are places of safety and protection for children and young people in emergencies, including for children and young people in situations where domestic violence occurs.
- We have appropriate facilities for the detention of young people.

**2. Inclusion** is about children and young people feeling a sense of belonging and connection within their community. Inclusion involves actively involving and consulting with children and young people and listening to their views. Inclusion requires creating systems and processes to encourage and facilitate participation.

**WCYPSC** seeks to ensure that children and young people feel included and valued.

Through our work we aim to ensure that:

- The attitudinal, organisational and cultural barriers to inclusion of children and young people are identified, challenged and changed for good.
- Opportunities for active participation by children and young people are promoted and supported, and that children and young people have access to and connection with their peers, communities, and society.
- Proactive measures are taken to reach children and young people who live in rural or isolated areas.
- Proactive steps are taken to enable participation in society and independent living for children and young people with disabilities.
- All children and young people have access to necessary supports and services to meet their needs, e.g. health, educational, recreational, etc.

**3. Democracy** is about children and young people having a voice, being involved in decision-making and having an opportunity to participate in civil society. It involves accountability to children and young people from those in positions of leadership and power.

**WCYPSC** seeks to ensure that the voice of the full diversity of children and young people is sought, listened to and responded to in its own work and in the work of all other organisations and agencies in County Wexford.

Through our work we aim to ensure that:

- The necessary inclusive, educational and community approaches are developed and implemented to ensure the voice of children is sought and heard.
- There are ample meaningful opportunities created for children and young people to input effectively into decision-making.

- There is accountability to children and young people within the range of relevant organisations and services that serve the needs of children and young people.
- Opportunities and pathways are created for children and young people to engage with political structures.
- A culture and environment is created and nurtured where children, young people and their families feel able and encouraged to speak up and raise issues about policies and procedures.

**4. Autonomy** is about children and young people being and feeling involved in making decisions for themselves. It involves freedom, independence and empowerment of children and young people. Autonomy is about children and young people having choices and control in their interactions with their community and wider society.

**WCYPSC** seeks to ensure that children and young people are supported and encouraged to feel a sense of autonomy and involvement in decision making about matters relating to their lives.

Through our work we aim to ensure that:

- Children and young people, in County Wexford, have the capacity and support, including family supports, needed to be involved in decision-making for themselves
- The necessary structures are put in place to enable and encourage children and young people to formulate their views and communicate them and that real choices are available to them in their lives
- The challenges and barriers that limit choice making for children and young people are clearly named and addressed, e.g. poverty, stereotyping, literacy, mental health and discrimination.
- Supports are in place for children and young people and their families to help them in making choices that affect their lives and wellbeing.

**5. Social Justice** is about fairness and balance in relation to access to resources for all children and young people. It requires placing attention on who benefits in relation to employment and social goods such as education, health, and accommodation and ensuring that this is fair and transparent. It is about children and young people being encouraged and enabled to contribute to the society in which they live.

**WCYPSC** seeks to ensure that children and young people are empowered to actively participate and effect change, that outcomes are enhanced for all children and young people, and, in particular, that the physical health, mental health and wellbeing of children and young people is enhanced.

Through our work we aim to ensure that:

- There are preventative initiatives and improved access to and outcomes from mental health services to support the well-being of children and young people.
- Supports and services to meet the physical health needs of children and young people, particularly in relation to preventing obesity.
- Provision of and access to services for children and young people, in particular education supports and youth and community services.
- Access to accommodation and a safe home for children and young people.
- Opportunities available to children and young people to access training and employment.

**How We Bring this Statement to Life in Our Work:**

This statement serves as a set of guiding principles to bring an equality and human rights focus to the work of WCYPSC. The values underpin and shape the implementation and ongoing review of our WCYPSC plan. We return to them regularly as a reminder of the spirit and intentions that drive our work to serve and support children and young people in County Wexford.

**2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018**



## Appendix 5: Consultation Documents



### Wexford Children & Young People's Plan Autumn 2020-2023 Consultation with young people aged 13-24 years

1. What clubs/group/services are you involved in ? Please tick the relevant boxes

Club/Group/Supports	Please tick here
Counselling Service	
Drug & Alcohol Services	
Homework Club	
Sports Club	
Scouts/Guides	
Youth Arts (Dance, theatre, art etc.)	
Youth Club	
Youth Project	
Other (please specify)	

In your view, what are the 3 main issues affecting young people in Wexford.  
Please number in order of priority from 1-3.

Issue	Rating
Accessible Public Transport	
Alcohol Issues	
Bullying / Cyberbullying	
Crime	
Drug Issues	
Gender Based Violence	
Housing Issues	
Mental Health Issues	
Peer Pressure	
Poverty / Not having enough money	
Relationship Issues	
Unhealthy Lifestyles (Nutrition/Inactivity)	
Youth Unemployment	
Other (please specify)	

**What are the good things about the place where you live? (Your town, village, community)**

**What are the bad things about the place where you live?**

**What would make life better?**

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. 😊**

## Appendix 6: Consultation Results

### Early Years Consultation Results

**No. of children consulted:** 150.

**Age Group:** 2- 8 years

**Methodologies Used:**

- Bus tour of town, looked at photos and discussed same.
- Circle time discussion within extra care service after ECCE hours
- Dress up exercise....who would you like to be in our community
- Draw pictures of my favourite thing in my town
- Children were given building blocks to build an improved area. When they were ready, they were asked to describe their finished work.

**Areas: Children from the following areas were consulted;**

Bunclody , Enniscorthy, Gorey, New Ross, Ballymitt, Bridgetown, Monamolin, Boolavogue, Ballyedmond, Kilmysall, Bunclody Town, Ferns, Clohamon, Ballycarney, Ballindaggin, Rosslare Harbour, Davidstown, Bree, Ballyhoge, Duncannon, Ramsgrange, Ballyhack, Fethard & Compile.

#### 1. What is your favourite thing about the place you live?

- **Being active:** Toys, playing and playground, Going for walks and swimming
- **Being in nature:** Kennedy Park, Playing with the seals, The woods – pick leaves, see animals and walk, Birds singing, Seeing the ducks, Feeling the wind.
- **Reading:** “Take a book, Leave a book”

**In the children’s words...**

*“Tigers behind the castle”*

*“I like hearing the church bells cos it’s nearly going home time”*

*“Red blackberries on the bush”*

*“I can see the corn being cut in the cornfields and I can stay up late until the farmer is finished”.*

#### 2. Is there anything you don’t like about where you live?

- **Environmental:** Rubbish, Muck on the road, Dog poo on the ground
- **Frightening things:** Being scared / bad guys, “Dogs frighten me”, It’s dark at night-time, Dogs barking

**In the children’s words...**

*“There’s a lot of dog poo on the ground and I have to jump over it”*

*“I don’t have swings near my house”*

*“It’s no fun, I don’t live near Activate or the Playbarn or Smyths Toy Shop”*

### 3. If you had a magic wand what would you do to make life better?

<p><b>Nature</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-More apple trees</li> <li>-Big farm to see the animals</li> </ul>	<p><b>Activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Big Playzones</li> <li>-More places to play</li> <li>-A Dinosaur Park</li> <li>-Giant trampoline</li> <li>-Community garden so I can play</li> <li>-A playground with diggers and big blocks to build with</li> <li>-Petting zoo / mini farm</li> </ul>
<p><b>Toys</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-More teddy bears</li> </ul>	<p><b>Environmental</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Footpaths for walking on</li> <li>-More lights on the road at night-time</li> <li>-Make the roads better - it's very bumpy</li> <li>-An airport in Gorey</li> </ul>

#### In their own words...

*"Magic a lorry for myself"*

*"I'd magic Callum at my house"*

*"Make sure dogs are in their garden where they can't scare me"*

*"Get a footpath so I could walk to Nanny's house"*

*"I would turn my house into a bouncy castle the biggest one ever made"*

*"I'd like LEGOLAND near my house and get Pizza Hut delivery"*

*"See Santa and have Smyths Toy store near me"*



## Consultation Findings: Primary School Age

**Responses from:** Mercy School Wexford Town, Adamstown National School, Glynn National School, Gorey Youth Needs Group, CBS Primary School, Traveller Community Taghmon & Enniscorthy, Children In Care.

**Total Responses:** 538

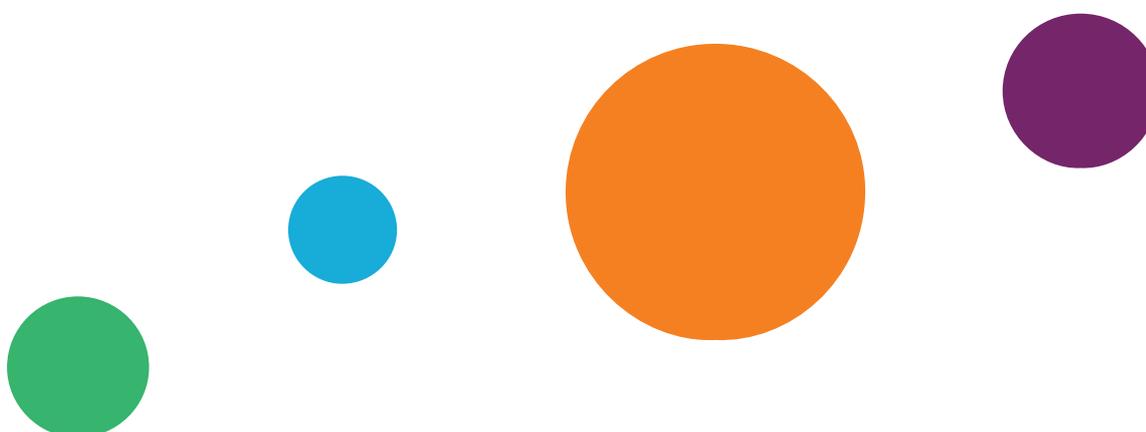
**Age Cohort:** 6-12 years

### Q.1. What is your favourite thing about the place you live?

<p><b>Community, Family &amp; Friends</b></p> <p>Friends and family close by and good friendly community. Having friends close by to play with. Knowing everyone around Lots of friends I like my school</p>	<p><b>Environment &amp; Nature</b></p> <p>No rubbish Peaceful Quiet and clean Animals, friends and greenery Sea, beach, places to go, fields, park, scenery Lovely village Green space and views</p>
<p><b>Sport</b></p> <p>Football GAA pitches Parks and fields to play</p>	<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>Big back garden, space to play Greenway and pitches close by Freedom to play Close to shops and restaurants Playground Green area to play Near amenities, shops Playground</p>
<p><b>Top themes in responses;</b></p> <p>Having friends and family close by. A sense of community Having a space to play Community facilities – shop, schools etc. The environment</p>	

**Q.2: Is there anything you don't like about where you live?**

<b>Community, Family &amp; Friends</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Nature</b>	<b>Activities &amp; Facilities</b>
<p>Not enough children around to play with</p> <p>Not living near family and friends</p> <p>Bullies</p> <p>Feeling sad</p> <p>Not nice neighbours</p>	<p>Rubbish everywhere</p> <p>Traffic and Roundabouts</p> <p>Dog poo and litter on footpaths</p> <p>Roadworks</p> <p>Noise</p> <p>Not enough footpaths</p> <p>Speeding Cars</p> <p>Smell from farms</p>	<p>No playground</p> <p>No green area/space to play</p> <p>It's too quiet</p> <p>Only one hospital</p> <p>No pool</p> <p>Community hall/centre</p> <p>No fire station</p>
<p><b>Top Themes;</b></p> <p>The environment: littering - traffic &amp; roadworks</p> <p>More amenities, playgrounds, pitches and green areas for play were the most popular response.</p>		



**Q.3: If you had a magic wand, what would you like to change or wish for?**

<p><b>Community, Family &amp; Friends</b></p> <p>Move friends and family closer Neighbours to socialise more</p>	<p><b>Environment &amp; Nature</b></p> <p>Less roadworks Safer roads No rubbish / pollution More trees Better weather: stop climate change Electric cars Lots of penguins and unicorns Puppies and cats</p>
<p><b>Society</b></p> <p>Places for homeless people Homeless shelter Bigger houses Give people more money Make mean people move</p>	<p><b>Activities &amp; Facilities</b></p> <p>More amenities; -Playgrounds and parks -Pitches -Swimming pool -Rollercoaster -Shopping Centre -Airport -Castle Cycle paths Live closer to town Pitch, handball alley, theme park Community Café Mac Donalds and Penneys</p>
<p><b>Top Themes:</b></p> <p>More amenities, playgrounds, swimming pools and pitches were the most popular response. Having family and friends close by Halting climate change was also mentioned</p>	

**In their own words....**

*"I would wish for people to realise how bad drugs are for them"*

*"I would wish for global warming to stop"*

## Consultation Results 13-24 years

**Contributors:** Gorey Youth Needs Group Youth New Ross, Rape Crisis Centre via Manuela Reido Classes, FDYS (from targeted areas, LGBT+ Senior Youth Drop-In & Traveller Community), Barnardos, WLD (Travellers), Focus Ireland Aftercare Team, Tusla Children in Care.

**Areas Covered:** Gorey, New Ross, Wexford Town, Enniscorthy, Bunclody, Ramsgrange & Taghmon.

**Age Group:** 13-24

**No. Responses:** (176)

<p><b>Clubs/Services</b></p> <p>Youth Clubs Sports Clubs Homework Clubs Youth Arts Counselling Drugs/Alcohol Services</p>	<p><b>Top Issues Facing Young People</b></p> <p>Drug Issues Bullying / Cyberbullying Mental Health Alcohol Issues Sexual Violence Nothing To Do</p>
<p><b>What's Good Where You Live</b></p> <p>Youth Service Friendly people/Friends Community support Library Shops WLD</p>	<p><b>What are the bad things where you live</b></p> <p>Drug use/needles No good amenities Not enough shops/ cinema/restaurants No mental health services/supports Anti-social behaviour Homelessness High rents No transport Crime</p>
<p><b>What would make life better</b></p> <p>Less drugs &amp; alcohol (underage drinking) More amenities (pool / skateboard park) More youth projects/ youth workers More services and counselling More mental health services More socialising opportunities Shorter waiting times in hospitals Less anti-social behaviour Public transport Nurture Room in Schools CAMHS to offer alternative to medication Accessible sexual health services for young people Better broadband Somewhere to go and feel relaxed and comfortable being a Traveller</p>	

### Common Themes;

Young people value family and community support and identify these as key positives in their lives. The lack of services and supports (or lack of access to same) in local areas is identified as a negative. Transport issues featured in the responses from rural young people. Many young people highlighted drugs/alcohol and mental health issues as being key concerns. They also highlighted more high level issues such as homelessness, crime and anti-social behaviour as issues that need to be improved to make life better.

**Seldom Heard Young People:** Positives identified by young Travellers included their love of family and friends. Common themes identified by young Travellers were experiencing negativity and feeling that they have nowhere to go that they can call their own. They would like to have a place to hang out and enjoy being who they are. Poverty and discrimination were common features.

The LGBT+ young people consulted identified mental health as a top issue.

Young People in Aftercare (Tusla and Focus Ireland): Identified the importance of having more child friendly safe places for children, more adequate funding and preparation for young people leaving care and more housing.



## Consultation Results: Comhairle na nÓg

**Method:** Questionnaires completed at AGM 24.10.19

**Age Group:** 13 +

**No. Responses:** 74

<p><b>Clubs/Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sports Clubs</li> <li>Youth Arts</li> <li>Youth Project</li> <li>Homework Club</li> <li>Counselling Service</li> </ul>	<p><b>Top Issues Facing Young People</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental Health Issues</li> <li>Bullying/Cyberbullying</li> <li>Peer Pressure</li> <li>Alcohol Issues</li> <li>Relationship Issues</li> </ul>
<p><b>What's Good Where You Live</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sense of Community</li> <li>Near to Amenities</li> <li>Quiet/Peaceful Area</li> <li>Clubs</li> <li>Good Facilities</li> </ul>	<p><b>What are the bad things where you live</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drug Problems</li> <li>Transport</li> <li>Nothing to do</li> <li>Alcohol and cigarettes</li> <li>Dumping</li> </ul>
<p><b>What would make life better</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More activities</li> <li>Public transport</li> <li>More shops</li> <li>Less drugs</li> <li>Friends</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Common Themes;</b></p> <p>Young people who attended the AGM identified a sense of community as being a clear positive in their lives. Being near to amenities and social outlets also featured. Drug problems, transport issues and a lack of social activities were identified as negatives. A clear majority of attendees at the AGM identified mental health for young people as a priority issue. This was followed by bullying (in person and cyber-bullying) and drug issues.</p>	

## Appendix 7: COVID-19 Survey of CYPSC Committee

### CYPP Planning Questionnaire for CYPSC Committee Members

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, to assist in developing the new Wexford Children & Young People's Plan, please complete the brief questionnaire below and return to [sheila.barrett@tusla.ie](mailto:sheila.barrett@tusla.ie) by **May 21<sup>st</sup>**.

**Q.1: What do you view as the main challenges for children, young people and families as a result of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic?**

**Q.2: What key areas do you think CYPSC should concentrate on in the new Children & Young People's Plan?**

**Q.3: Any other comments;**

## Appendix 8: Glossary of Terms

### Glossary of Terms

AIM	Access and Inclusion Model
AIRO	All Island Research Observatory
CBDI	Community Based Drugs Initiative
CFSN	Child and Family Support Network (see PPFS below)
CYPP	Children and Young People's Plan
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committee
CNN	Comhairle Na nÓg
DCYA	Department of Children and Youth Affairs
DEIS	Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools Experiencing Educational Disadvantage
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education Programme
FET	Further Education and Training
FRC	Family Resource Centre
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex
Meitheal	National model for the development of an area-based approach to PPFS
NEET	Not in education, employment or training
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
PEIL	Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning 2014-2020 (European Social Fund)
PPFS	Prevention, Partnership and Family Support - Tusla initiative that includes Child and Family Support Networks, Meitheal, Parenting and Participation
SCP	School Completion Programme
SERDATF	South East Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force
SICAP	Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme
SONC	State of the Nation's Children - Report by Dept. Children and Youth Affairs 2014
TPSP	Teen Parent Support Programme
Tusla Child & Family Agency	Established by Department of Children and Youth Affairs in 2014.
WCC	Wexford County Council
WLD	Wexford Local Development

## Appendix 9: References

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Tusla Child & Family Agency, Ely Hospital, Ferrybank, Wexford, Y35 HP78