Tipperary Children and Young People's Services Committee

CYPSC
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEES
Tipperary

Children and Young People's Plan 2022 – 2025

September 2022

Contact

Tipperary Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) welcomes comments, views and opinions about our Children and Young People's Plan.

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Copies of this plan are available on: www.tipperarychildrenandyoungpeoplesservices.ie

Acknowledgements

Tipperary CYPSC would like to express its deep appreciation to all the children, young people and young adults who participated in the consultation process to feed into this Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). We hope that it reflects the views that were expressed. The CYPSC also very much appreciates the contribution by Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg and its members to the CYPP.

Many thanks to the following who contributed in different ways to the development of this CYPP:

- The members of the Advisory Group who advised Ruairí Ó Caisleáin, Tipperary CYPSC Coordinator, on commencing and planning the stages in the development of the CYPP: Agnes Feeley, General Manager, Knowledge Management, Túsla MW; Caroline Roe, Research & Information Officer, Túsla MW; Joan Dunne and Fionnuala Kenny, Prevention Partnership & Family Support (PPFS), Túsla.
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Finally, a big thank you to the members of Tipperary CYPSC, for their support and guidance in the development of the CYPP.

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Foreword

I am pleased to present Tipperary Children and Young People's Services Committee's (*CYPSC*) second Children and Young People's Plan for the county. This document provides a profile on the children and young people in Co. Tipperary, drawing on key statistics relating to health, education and economic circumstances, and on responses to consultations carried out with them, with parents and with front-line staff. It also identifies the key issues affecting the 0 – 24 years age cohort and includes a range of actions to address these.

The Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan derives particular relevance for its reflection of the views of children and young people. The members of Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg contributed to the plan's development both by organising a discussion of the issues as a body and by reviewing and feeding back on a draft of the plan. More widely, children and young people of all ages engaged on-line or in person to take part in the various strands of consultation, providing information which reflected a range of perspectives on their experience of the world.

As well as issues which are commonly prevalent among this age cohort, the Children and Young People's Plan also highlights issues which have more recently become part of our experience, and their impact on the welfare of children, young people, and their families. Among these, the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact over the past two years, features large, and more recently, the influx of Ukrainian families fleeing from war in their homeland and the necessity to respond as they struggle to adapt to their new situation.

The main purpose of Tipperary CYPSC is to improve inter-agency cooperation and collaboration for better outcomes for children and young people. Tipperary CYPSC will seek to realise this in the actions of its Children and Young People's Plan. It also has an advocate role, drawing attention both at county level and at national level to unmet needs and related service deficits for which the resources are lacking on the ground.

We welcome feedback in relation to this plan and we are committed to reviewing it at regular intervals.

On behalf of Tipperary CYPSC, I look forward to better developmental outcomes and a better future for our children and young people.

Pat Slattery,
Director of Services,
Community & Economic Development,
Tipperary County Council.
Chairperson of Tipperary Children & Young People's Services Committee

Section 1: Introduction

The purpose of the 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 work towards the five national outcomes for children and young people in Ireland. These are that children and young people

1. **Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental wellbeing**
2. **Are achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development**
3. **Are safe and protected from harm**
4. **Have economic security and opportunity**
5. **Are connected, respected and contributing to their world**

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 and Youth Affairs, 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 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.

Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014 – 2020 underscores the necessity of interagency working and tasks Children and Young People's Services Committees with a key role in this regard.

Children and Young People's Services Committee in Co. Tipperary

Tipperary CYPSC held its inaugural meeting on 6th July 2015. As an all-county representative body in a recently amalgamated Local Authority area at a transitional stage, the CYPSC sought to balance interests of stakeholders across the county through its unique membership configuration. In the subsequent years, it has adopted an all-county approach in its consideration of the priority issues for the 0 –24 years age cohort in the county, while acknowledging the structural factors *(i)* that sustain a North-South county dichotomy.

The *Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan, 2018 – 2020*, was officially launched on 31st January 2019. It has governed the actions of the CYPSC over its 3-year cycle, 2018 – 2020.

Tipperary CYPSC: Who we are

Tipperary CYPSC membership is currently as follows:

- Pat Slattery, Director of Services, Economic and Community Development, Tipperary County Council - *CYPSC Chairperson*.
- Anne Marie Stafford, Area Manager, Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary, Túsla - *CYPSC Vice-Chair*

(i). The North and South of Co. Tipperary are under different regional structures for both HSE and Túsla. The South of the county is part of CHO 5 and is in the Túsla South East region, while the North of the county is part of CHO 3 and is in the Túsla Mid West region.

- Aisling O'Neill, Interim Area Manager, Clare/Limerick/North Tipperary, Túsla - *CYPSC Vice-Chair*
- Heather Doyle, Comhairle na nÓg
- Pauline Strappe, Comhairle na nÓg, Youth Work Ireland Tipperary
- Garda Chief Superintendent Derek Smart, An Garda Síochána
- Sarah O'Dwyer, Foróige, Youth services sector representative.
- Lorraine Duane, Youth Officer, Tipperary Education and Training Board
- Catherine Joyce, Asst. Director, S.E. region, Barnardos
- HSE representative (North Tipperary) – *to be appointed*
- Dr. Kathleen O'Sullivan, Principal Medical Officer, South East Community Healthcare, HSE representative (South Tipperary)
- Michael Murray, C.E.O., North Tipperary Local Development Company
- Isabel Cambie, C.E.O., South Tipperary Local Development Company
- Aileen Healy, C.E.O., Tipperary County Childcare Committee
- Emer Leahy, Knockanrawley Resource Centre, Community & Voluntary sectors representative.
- Andrea Bourke, Senior Probation Officer, Probation service
- Caroline Lydon, Manager, Silver Arch Family Resource Centre, Social Inclusion/ Family Support sector representative (North Tipperary)
- Social Inclusion/Family Support sector representative (South Tipperary) - *to be appointed*
- James Williams, National Association of Principals & Deputy Principals (secondary level) representative
- Irish Primary Principals Network representative - *to be appointed*
- Joan Dunne, Manager, Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS), Túsla, Carlow/Kilkenny/ South Tipperary.
- Fionnuala Kenny, Manager, Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS), Túsla, North Tipperary

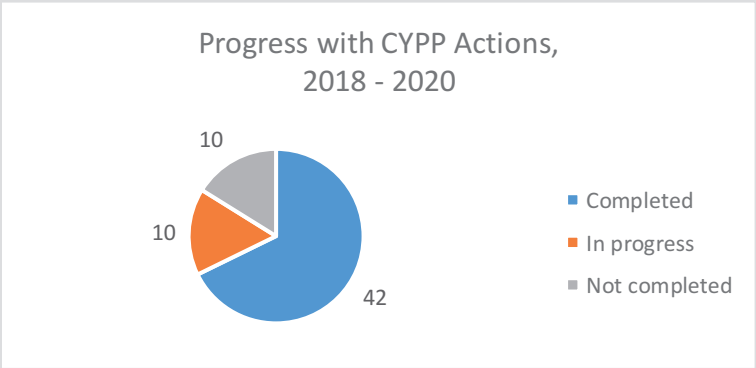
Others in attendance currently are:

- Fiona Crotty, Community and Economic Development, Tipperary County Council
- Ruairí Ó Caisleáin, Tipperary CYPSC Coordinator, Túsla

Review of previous plan

Achievements to date

Since the establishment of the Tipperary CYPSC in 2015, a range of actions to improve outcomes for children and young people in the county, as identified in the *Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP), 2018 – 2020*, have been achieved. Progress on the 62 actions in the CYPP was as follows:



Below are some of the initiatives referenced in the CYPP that have been supported by the CYPSC.

Outcome 1: Active & Healthy	
Children and Young People's Mental Health & Wellbeing	• **Infant Mental Health**: Infant Mental Health relates to the first three years of life as a crucial stage of development in which the relationship between the child and the main carer is the determining influence on the child's future development. The Tipperary Mental Health project provides training and peer mentoring for staff from all over the county in the Infant Mental Health approach. The initiative has contributed significantly to re-focussing staff practice in a range of settings on the key developmental stages of children's Early Years to the benefit of the children and the families they work with. • **Jigsaw Youth Mental Health project**: Jigsaw Tipperary opened its doors to the public in July 2021, meeting a major county-wide need for an Early Intervention primary care mental health service for young people, aged 12 – 25 years. • **Mental Health supports**: In recent years, agencies working with families have been responding to a need for Mental Health supports for young people and young adults in the county. The demand for such services has escalated since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Tipperary CYPSC has provided funding to help sustain the response of the agencies to meet the need through counselling and other therapeutic interventions around the county. • **Mental Health Pathways referral chart**: A poster outlining the child and youth mental health services and supports available in Co. Tipperary from community based counselling services to

	specialist mental health services. The poster described the supports provided by the services; how to access each service; and the service contact details. The information was compiled by the HSE Regional Offices of Suicide Prevention in the Mid West and the South East regions. Copies of the poster were circulated to a range of services in early 2021, including schools, Health Centres and Primary Care clinics, making information on service provision in area of Mental Health readily available.
Healthy Eating Active Living	• **Breast feeding and Healthy Weaning**: Breast feeding and Healthy Weaning are important for healthy nutrition for babies and toddlers. The two Community Mothers services in the county have played a key role alongside the Public Health Nursing service in raising awareness about this and providing information and support to mothers on these nutritional matters. Tipperary CYPSC has provided funding through Healthy Ireland to enable the Community Mothers services to run Healthy Weaning workshops • **Promotion of Physical Activity**: The encouragement of children from an early age to engage in physical activity enhances motor development and health, as well as promoting the development of a healthy lifestyle as the child grows. The Balance Bike programme for children and the Buntús Start training for Early Years staff have been rolled out in the Early Years childcare sector across the county. Some 1,341 children participated between 2018 – 2020 in the Balance Bike programme. • **Healthy Tipperary Strategy**: The Healthy Tipperary Strategy, 2018 – 2020, identified key priorities to be addressed and set out a blueprint for a range of inter-agency actions to be delivered in order to implement the strategy. Through the provision of Healthy Ireland funding over three rounds to Tipperary CYPSC and to the Local Community Development Committee, many actions addressing such themes as Positive Mental Health and Sexual Health were achieved.
Sexual Health & Behaviour	• **Sexual Health training**: For agencies working with young people with different sexual identities, their staff need to be equipped with the skills to engage competently with these young people around sexual issues that present for them. The resourcing of appropriate training for staff has therefore been a key issue for Tipperary CYPSC. The CYPSC has provided funding under Health Ireland to run training for staff in youth services, Tipperary

	Education and Training Board, and other services engaging with young people. It is also involved in planning for provision of training for working with LGBT* youth. • **Healthy Relationships Programme**: Ascend Domestic Abuse service delivers the Healthy Relationships programme to Transition Year students in Post Primary Schools in the North of the county. The programme promotes self-esteem in the context of relationships, and facilitates young people to recognise the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships. Tipperary CYPSC has supported the delivery of this programme in Post Primary Schools and training centres in the North of the county through Healthy Ireland funding.
Outcome 2: Achieving Full Potential in Learning & Development	
Early School Leaving	• **Incredible Years Teacher Class Management programme**: This programme provides training for teachers to develop strategies to positively counter difficult behaviour presenting in class. It represents an Early Intervention measure to positively engage with children at risk of Early School Leaving. Funded by the Tony Ryan Fund, the programme was rolled out initially to Primary Schools in the South of the County, and later to those in the North of the county. Tipperary CYPSC was actively involved in these initiatives in both parts of the county, as a member of the Steering Group in the South, and taking on the role of facilitating its roll out in the North. In both parts of the county, the relevant Local Development Companies organised the training. The majority of Primary Schools in the South of the county received training, with a smaller number of schools participating in the training in the North. • **iScoil Programme:** The lack of a sustainable alternative to mainstream education for young people, under 16 years of age, who have dropped out of school has been acknowledged as a deficit in the county. The iScoil programme, run by the Youth Diversion project in Roscrea has been the only such service in operation but does not have a regular funding stream. Tipperary CYPSC has been very much an advocate for such a 'blended' model, in which students undertake tailored learning plans with individual support from youth workers. The CYPSC has been able to provide funding on occasions to enable its continuing operation over the 3 year span of the CYPP.

Literacy Development	• **Bed-time Storytime scheme**: The Bed-time Storytime scheme is an action to encourage children under 5 years to enjoy books and to start them on the path of recreational reading. Tipperary Library service in partnership with Tipperary Childcare Committee have been rolling out this programme to children attending Early Years services around the county. The children receive bags of story books for their families to read together at bedtime. Tipperary CYPSC has been supporting this scheme with Healthy Ireland funding. 20 pre-schools have been participating in the scheme over the span of the Children and Young People's Plan.
Traveller Education	• **Traveller Family Learning Project**: The Family Learning project developed and run by Tipperary Rural Traveller Project provides peer educational support to Traveller children in Cashel to boost their engagement with mainstream Primary School education. The CYPSC has provided funding and support to sustain the project over this period. The project, having secured substantial funding, is now poised to extend to other towns in the South county.
Outcome 3: Safe & Secure	
Parent Support	**Parenting Supports calendar:** As parents have the primary caring role for their children, it is imperative to promote and support the enhancement of the quality of parental care. The calendar is issued on a quarterly basis by Tipperary CYPSC with information on parenting programmes, parent support services and parenting talks and workshops that are available to parents around the county for that period. It is available for the public on-line on several media platforms, including the Tipperary CYPSC website • **On-line services directory:** The need for a comprehensive directory of all service provision for children, young people and their families in the county has long been an issue brought to the attention of Tipperary CYPSC. Such a directory has been launched on-line in 2021 on the Tipperary CYPSC website – see: www.tipperarychildrenandyoungpeoplesservices.ie • **Family Support initiatives:** Tipperary CYPSC has supported a number of initiatives which in different ways have the purpose of supporting families. These include:

	○ Family Support needs analysis report in Roscrea ○ Research on the need for a child access centre to facilitate access, in situations of parental separation, between children and the parents who are not ordinarily residing with them. ○ Non-Violent Resistance training for staff working with families. The staff are then equipped to support families where parents experience intimidation, aggressive behaviour, including what is termed Child-to-Parent Violence (*CPV*) from their children. ○ The provision of funding to alleviate food poverty of families and other family needs during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Some 614 children were beneficiaries of this assistance in 2020, and 190 were beneficiaries in 2021. Tipperary CYPSC also coordinated with two Special Schools, Scoil Chormaic, Cashel, and St. Anne's in Roscrea, to organise a delivery of sensory gift bags to some 85 children with additional needs across the county when they were unable to attend school because of school closure. The provision of funding to sustain a newly established Parent & Toddler Group in Carrick-on-Siúir.
Domestic Abuse	• **TLC Kidz programme:** Children exposed to Domestic Abuse and Violence (DVA) are themselves victims of emotional abuse and can go on to develop health problems, troubled behavioural patterns and educational difficulties. The TLC Kidz programme is a peer programme which aims to help children heal from the impact of DVA and to help mothers in understanding their child's experiences and support their recovery. Tipperary CYPSC has supported the establishment of a programme in the South of the county.
Alcohol Misuse	• **Be Sober Be Safe campaign:** The Be Sober Be Safe campaign has been run for three years to date by a combination of Alcohol and Substance Misuse services (HSE and non-statutory), youth services, young people, An Garda Síochána, Probation, and County Council to raise awareness among parents and young people of the risks of alcohol consumption. The onset of Covid-19 led to the campaign having to transfer for the most part to on-line social media platforms which affected its impact negatively.,

Safety & Social Media	• **Safer Internet Day:** Safer Internet Day is an annual EU-wide initiative with the purpose of raising awareness, particularly among children and young people, about keeping safe when going on-line. Schools, agencies working with children and young people, parents and children themselves are invited to organise actions on this theme on the specific day, usually on the second Tuesday of February. Tipperary CYPSC has advertised the day with all schools each year. In 2020, the CYPSC organised a conference on this theme on Safer Internet Day.
Outcome 5: Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World	
LGBT* Youth	• **Supports and services:** Tipperary CYPSC's commissioned report on the needs and issues of LGBT* youth in the county (*Needs analysis of young people identifying as LGBT* in Co. Tipperary, Ireland)* highlighted the need for awareness about the difficulties they face in the community and their need for increased supports. The Tipperary LGBT Youth Coordination Group came together under the Education and Training Board to follow up on the recommendations of the report. Tipperary CYPSC has funded the extension of existing support services provided by different youth services in all three rounds to date of Healthy Ireland funding.
Children and Young People with Additional Needs	• **Report on service provision and needs of children and young people with additional needs:** The purpose of this report, (*Services and Gaps in Service Provision for Young People with Disabilities and Additional Needs, aged under 25, and their Families in Tipperary*) commissioned by Tipperary CYPSC, was to establish a baseline of service provision and deficits as well as identifying key issues to inform planning by the CYPSC going forward.
Child & Youth Participation	• **A Guide to Child and Youth Participation Supports**: Some progress has been made in certain sectors to allow children and young people to have a say in matters that affect them. The establishment of the Comhairlí na n-Óg in each county and the child and youth participation strategies published by Túsla Child and Family Agency are prominent examples of this. Tipperary CYPSC also has a role in promoting child and youth participation and fosters close links with Tipperary Comhairle na n-Óg, including a Comhairle representative on the committee. The CYPSC has also produced a guide to promote participative practice (*A Guide to Child and Youth Participation Supports*)

Change Management	• **Strategic Data Gathering and Needs Analysis:** Tipperary CYPSC commissioned the 'Tipperary CYPSC's Evidence Baseline Report' (*AIRO, 2017*) to provide up-to-date statistics and data to inform the first all-county *Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan, 2018 – 2020*. Drawing on fresh data from the 2016 Census returns, as well as from other sources, the report presents a socio-demographic profile of the county population which has been a useful resource, not only for the purposes of CYPSC but for other reports that have been drafted over this period.

Conclusions:

- The availability of significant funding under Healthy Ireland and under Better Outcomes Brighter Futures allowed Tipperary CYPSC to make progress on many of the actions in *Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan, 2018 – 2020*.
- There were a number of examples of inter-agency collaboration under the auspices of the CYPSC which demonstrated the effectiveness of this approach in implementing CYPP actions.
- The separate organisational configurations of HSE and Túsla in the North and South of the county continued to constitute a challenge to the functioning and development of CYPSC as an all-county body.
- The advent of Covid-19 in March 2020 and the regime of social restrictions which came into effect subsequently led to a drastic curtailment of implementation of CYPP actions. The CYPSC met this challenge by responding to an escalation of child and family support needs arising from Covid-19 conditions, namely, material household needs, and a surge in children and young people presenting with anxiety and other Mental Health concerns. It drew down funding and, through the CYPSC stakeholders, set up the logistic arrangements for funding to be distributed to agencies applying on behalf of children and families in April 2020. The CYPSC also provided funding through its funding streams to enable additional counselling and other therapeutic interventions to be provided around the county.

How the Children and Young People's Plan was developed

Planning how to proceed with developing the Children and Young People's Plan (*CYPP*) commenced in December 2020. Initially, a small advisory group *(ii)* met three times with the CYPSC Coordinator to identify the component elements for planning the development of the new CYPP, and to suggest a pathway forward. Subsequently, the CYPSC Coordinator met four times between January – April

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(ii). Membership of the advisory group: Agnes Feeley, General Manager, Knowledge Management, Túsla MW; Caroline Roe, Research & Information Officer, Túsla MW; Joan Dunne, Prevention Partnership & Family Support (PPFS), Túsla; Fionnuala Kenny, PPFS, Túsla

2021 with a CYPSC Consultative Sub-Group *(iii)* to report on progress with the CYPP and to consult re. different aspects of the process. Its development involved a number of elements: research of data for a socio-demographic profile of the population of the county; an audit of service provision to the 0 – 24 years age group; consultation with CYPSC Sub-Groups; and consultation of all relevant key stakeholders, including frontline staff, children, young people and parents.

- Data was provided from Census returns and other sources as well as by agencies working with children and families, including Túsla Child and Family Agency and Tipperary County Council.
- The audit of service provision was based on information in the CYPSC on-line service directory.
- Consultation with CYPSC Sub-Groups was undertaken at the Sub-Group meetings from the end of 2020 to identify priority issues to include in the new CYPP under the different National Outcome.
- Due to Covid-19, much of the consultation with key stakeholders had to be undertaken on-line. The CYPSC Consultative Sub-Group advised on design of the questionnaires and on maximising coverage. The CYPSC Coordinator and national Túsla IT staff worked closely to set up the on-line surveys. Surveys were prepared for frontline staff, children, young people, young adults and parents

A different approach to consultation was taken in relation to children, young people and young adults who were vulnerable to social exclusion. Staff from youth services, a Traveller organisation, the Refugee Resettlement programme, and School Completion Programmes engaged directly with children and young people in their projects to elicit their views for the CYPP.

Policy context

The Tipperary CYPP seeks to align with relevant policies and plans at national and county level.
At national level:

- Under National Outcome 1:
  - First 5: a Whole-of-Government Strategy for Babies, Young Children and
  - Sláintecare
  - Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health & Wellbeing, 2013 – 2025
  - Connecting for Life: Ireland's National Strategy to reduce Suicide

- Under Outcome 3:
  - White Paper to end Direct Provision and to Establish a new International Protection Accommodation Service

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(iii).Membership of the CYPSC Consultative Sub-Group: Joan Dunne, PPFS, Túsla; Fionnuala Kenny, PPFS, Túsla; Caroline Lydon, Silver Arch FRC, Nenagh; Michael Murray, North Tipperary Development Committee; Michelle Kelly, Waterford & South Tipperary Community Youth Service; Aileen Healy, Tipperary Childcare Committee

- Tusla Implementation Plan in response to recommendations in OCO (*Ombudsman for Children's Office*) own volition investigation into IPAS and Túsla.

- Under National Outcome 5:
  - Participation Framework: National Framework for Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making

At county level:

- Healthy Tipperary Strategy
- Tipperary Migrant Strategy

Section 2: Socio-demographic profile of County Tipperary

The data presented relies heavily on the Census returns from 2016, particularly in relation to population figures for the different age groups and ethnic categories. Where possible, more recent statistics were collated from different sources, as acknowledged below. The presentation of the information below is organised on the basis of four of the Five National Outcomes.

	Tipperary	**State**
Child and Youth populations (*0 – 24 years*) (*CSO, 2016; AIRO, 2017*)	52,341 (*32.8% of population*)	33.2% of population
Child population (*0 – 17 years*) (*CSO, 2016; AIRO, 2017*)	40,764 (*25.5% of population*)	25% of population
Young Adult population (*18 – 24 years*) (*CSO, 2016; AIRO, 2017*)	11,517 (*7.3% of population*)	8.2% of population
Infant Mortality (*CSO, 2021*)	2.2 per 1,000 births (*2019*)	2.8 per 1,000 births (*2019*)
Child and Youth mortality (*0 – 24 years*) (*CSO, 2021*)	4 per 10,000 (*2019*)	2.5 per 10,000 (*2019*)
Ethnicity (*% of 0 – 24 age cohort from ethnic groups other than 'White Irish' and 'White Irish Traveller'*) (*CSO, 2016; AIRO, 2017*)	9.9%	-

Travellers (*% and number of 0 – 24 age cohort who are 'White Traveller'*) (*CSO, 2016; AIRO, 2017*)	1.5% - 649 , aged 0 – 17 years - 143, aged 18 – 24 years	1.15%
Roma children (*rate per 1,000 of 0 – 24 year age cohort*) *(Roma Health Project, Youth Work Ireland Tipp.)*	0.95	
Non-Irish national children *(number and % of age cohort, 0 – 17 years)* (*CSO, 2016*)	2,391 (*5.9 % of all children in Co. Tipperary*)	6.7%
Children living in households with only one Primary Carer *(no. and %)* (*CSO, 2016*)	6,708 *(16.5% of all children in Co. Tipperary)*	16.5%
Parental Education level No Formal Education/Primary Lower Secondary level Upper Secondary level 3rd-level education (*CSO, 2016*)	 6.5% (*aged ≤ 17 years*) 12.3% 33.7% 28.4%	 6.7% 11.0% 30.8% 31.5%
Children and Young People with a Disability (*rate per 1,000 children, 2017*) (*SONC, 2020; National Intellectual Disability Database; National Physical & Sensory Disability Database).*	6.3: Intellectual Disability 10.7: Physical Disability (*3rd highest in the State*)	7.4: Intellectual Disability 4.2: Physical Disability

Tipperary, located in a natural environment well-suited for pastoral farming and tillage, is the 6th largest county in Ireland with a land mass of 4,303 km sq. The settlement pattern is based on a strong network of vibrant and robust towns and villages with service centres provided at strategic locations throughout the county. The towns of Thurles and Cashel in the centre of the County provide a strong urban link between the major centres of Nenagh and the largest town in the county, Clonmel. The towns of Roscrea, Tipperary, Carrick-on-Siúir, Templemore, and Cahir function as District Towns for their local hinterlands and combined, provide a good basis for ensuring strong social, economic and community linkages within the county. In addition to the District Towns, there are a number of medium sized towns and villages geographically spread throughout the County. These settlements number 119 and provide essential services for the local communities and the rural hinterlands. The different settlement tiers perform differing roles but ultimately ensure that no area in the county is significantly peripheral or isolated. (*LECP, 2016*).

Population:

- The total population of Co. Tipperary is 167,661, registering an increase of 5% on the 2016 Census figure (*159,553*) for the county population (*CSO, 2022*). The rate of population growth in the county over the preceding period, 2011 – 2016, had been 0.5% (*CSO, 2016; AIRO, 2017*).
- Relative to other Local Authorities, the county had one of the lowest population growth rates in the State between 2016 and 2022, as well as being lower than the State's rate of 7.6% (*CSO, 2022*).

Health Indicators

- Birth weights (*percentage of infant births in which infants weighed less than 2,500 grams*) :

	2015	**2017**
Tipperary	5.9% (13th *highest rate by county*)	5.5% (*14th highest rate by county*)
State	5.9%	5.9%

(*SONC, 2020*)

- Breast feeding rates at time of hospital discharge:

	2015	**2018**
Tipperary	41.2% (10th *lowest by county*)	40.3% (*8th lowest by county*)
State	47.7%	47.1%

(*Perinatal Statistics Report, 2018*)

- Immunisation vaccination up-take: The up-take of the recommended doses of vaccine for children at 12 months in 2018 consisted of an average of 90% in the North of the county and

93% in the South of the county. For comparison the respective average up-takes in 2020 were 91.4% and 91.7%. For both periods, only the Meningococcal B vaccine up-take was close to the target HSE threshold of ≥ 95%. Nonetheless, up-take of the vaccines has been consistently above the national rates.

With the exceptions of the vaccines, Hib4 and MenC2, up-take of vaccines in 2018 for children at 24 months was generally above 90%, above the national up-take rate, and in the case of some vaccines, reaching or exceeding the target HSE threshold. The lower up-take of the two afore-mentioned vaccines reflects a national pattern. The uptake of vaccines for this age cohort in 2020 was also generally above 90%, with the exception of the Hib4, MenC2 and PCV3 vaccines, again reflective of a national pattern of lower up-take (*Health Protection Surveillance Centre Ireland*).

- Mental Health

CAMHS accepted referrals

	2019 (*rate per 10,000 children, aged ≤ 17 years*)	**2020** (*rate per 10,000 children, aged ≤ 17 years*)
CAMHS (*North Tipperary – Local Authority area*)	165.5	148
CAMHS (*South Tipperary - LHO*)	141	117
Combined CAMHS rate	151.7	130.6
State	**110.8**	**105.3**

(*CAMHS, S. Tipp & N. Tipp, 2021; National Office, Mental Health service, HSE, 2022*)

Rates of admission of children, aged 10 – 17 years, into psychiatric hospital

	Rate of admission per 100,000 children		
	2015	**2018**	**2020**
Co. Tipperary	63.8 (*3rd highest rate*)	66.2 (*3rd highest rate*)	36.8
State	43.8	34.3	40.8

Suicide rates:

2-year average rates per 100,000

	2015 – 2017	2016 – 2018	2017 – 2019	2018 - 2020
North Tipperary	14.3	15.9	-	-
South Tipperary	11.2	9.6	-	-
Co. Tipperary	-	-	14.5	13.2
State	8.8	8.7	8.3	7.9

(*NOSP, CSO, 2021*)

Self-harm:

	Rate of presentations per 100,000		Age-group & Gender	
	Male	**Female**	**Male**	**Female**
South Tipperary	249	258	Highest presentations for males, aged < 20 years, and aged 25-34 years (*both 26%)*	Highest presentations for females, aged 20-24 years (*29%*)
North Tipperary/ East Limerick	156	183	• 43% of presentations were made by persons, aged < 25 years • Of this proportion: - 58% were made by people, aged 0 – 19 years - 66% were made by females	

(*National Self-Harm Ireland Registry Annual Report, 2019*)

- The most common method of self-harm was drug overdose, comprising 67% of presentations in South Tipperary, and 46% in North Tipperary/E. Limerick.
- The second most common method was self-cutting, comprising 24% of presentations in South Tipperary, and one-third of these in North Tipperary/E. Limerick. (*ibid.*)

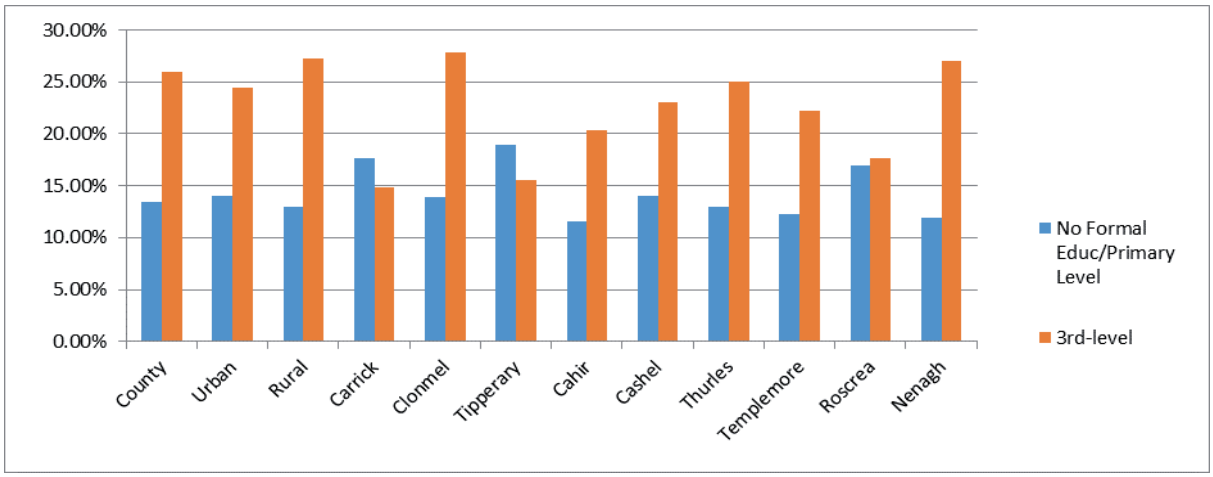
Jigsaw referrals:

Jigsaw Tipperary has received 164 referrals over Aug. – Nov. 2021 period since service commenced. The top presenting issues are anxiety, sleep changes and stress. Age group attending, mainly 12 – 17 years, 67% female, 30% male.

Education indicators

- Educational attainment levels: At the time of the 2016 Census, in comparison with other Local Authority areas, Tipperary had the sixth lowest rate (26%) of high education attainment (Lower and Upper Third Level) and the second highest rate (21%) of middle education attainment (Higher Secondary). However, the proportion of the population of the county, aged 15 – 64, with the lowest education levels had dropped from 15.9% in 2011 to 13.4% in 2016, while the proportion of the population with third-level education had risen from 22% to 26% (*AIRO, 2016, 2017*).

  Significant differences were evident across the main towns and between rural and urban settings:



(CSO, 2016: AIRO, 2017)

- Childcare places:
  - There are 42 Community and 128 Private services
  - 3,834 children participated in the ECCE programme in 160 Early Years childcare facilities in 2018/19

- No. attending Primary school: Approximately 18,067 children attended mainstream classes in the 153 Primary Schools in the county in the academic year 2020 - 21. (*gov.ie – Department of Education* website)

- Attendance at Special Schools, 2020-2021

St. Anne's Special School, Roscrea	Scoil Aonghusa, Cashel	Scoil Chormaic Special School, Cashel	Coláiste Shliabh na mBan, Clonmel
48	120	218	17

(*ibid.)*

- No. attending Post Primary School: Approximately, 13,081 students attend Post Primary Schools in the county in the academic year, 2020 - 2021. (*ibid.)*

- No. of students sitting the Leaving Cert. and progressing to 3rd-level:
  In 2020, 2,089 students sat the Leaving Certificate exams in Co. Tipperary. 79.3% of these progressed to third-level education.

- School absenteeism:

	Proportion of students absent for > 20 days (2016/17)				
	Primary	Rate / 26 LAs		Post Primary	Rate / 26 LAs
Co. Tipperary	9.1%	7th lowest		15.9%	14th lowest
State	10.9%	-		15.8%	-

At Primary School level, the rate of absenteeism is higher than the rate recorded in the last CYPP for 2014/15 (*8.1%)*. At Post Primary School level, the rate of absenteeism has declined since 2014/15 (*16.8%)* (*SONC, 2020).*

- School retention

	School retention rates (2014 cohort)				
	Junior Cert.	Rate / 31 LAs		Leaving Cert.	Rate / 31 LAs
Co. Tipperary	97.9%	12th highest		92.3%	12th highest
State	97.6%	-		91.5%	-

(*Dept. of Education, Nov. 2021*)

Safety & Security indicators

- Túsla Social Work referrals

	Referral rate per 1,000 children	**Cases per 1,000 children (*inclusive of children in care cases*)**	**Rate of children per 1,000 in care**
North Tipperary	42.2 (*2020*)	16.0 (*Dec. 2021*) - Thurles: *34.5%* - Nenagh: *30%* - Roscrea: *19.2%*	6.36 (*Dec. 2021*)

South Tipperary	70.4 (*2020*) - Clonmel: *31.5%* - Cashel: *12.6%* - Fethard: *10.2%* - Tipperary: *10.1%* - Carrick: *9.3%*	18.35 (*Jan. 2022*) - Clonmel: *34.25%* - Cashel: *14.9%* - Tipperary: *11.5%* - Carrick: *8.3%*	6.7 (*Jan. 2022*) - Clonmel: *52.8%* - Tipperary: *19%*
State	59 (*2020*) 61 (*2021*)	18 (*2020*) 18 (*2021*)	5 (*2020*) 5 (*2021*)

(*C/Kk/ST Data Analysis of 2020 Referrals; NCCIS, Túsla, Mid West & C/Kk/ST, 2022; Quality & Regulation Directorate, Túsla, 2022*)

- Referrals to Prevention Partnership and Family Support Programme, Túsla (*Sept./Oct 2020 – Sept./Oct. 2021*)

	Referral rate per 1,000 children	**Highest % of referrals**	**Primary reason for referral** (*% of total no. of referrals*)
North Tipperary (2021)	3.5	Thurles: *63.1%*	Education issues: *37%* Emotional behaviour: *26.1%* Family issues: *4.6%* Parenting support: *4.6%* Behavioural issues: *4.6%* Housing/Finance: *10.8%*
South Tipperary	4.85	Cashel-Tipperary CFSN: *29.5%* Carrick-Slieve Ardagh CFSN: *16.5%* Clonmel-Cahir CFSN: *54%*	36 referrals went to Meitheal *(iv)*: Behavioural issues: *27.8%* Parent Support: *19.4%* Emotional: *19.4%* Education issues: *16.67%*

(*Túsla PPFS, North Tipperary & Carlow/Kk/South Tipperary, 2021*)

(iv). Meitheal is a case co-ordination process for families with additional needs who require multi-agency intervention but who do not meet the threshold for referral to the Social Work Department under Children First. Practitioners in different agencies can come together in the Meitheal process to communicate and work together more effectively with families to meet their needs

- Alcohol & Substance Misuse:

Rate per 10,000 of cases under 25s being assessed/treated for Alcohol and Substance Misuse

	2019	2020
Alcohol	**8.89** (*27.9%: 15 – 19 years; 72%: 20 – 24 years)* - Female/Male ratio: **1/2.5** - National rate: **4.64**	**6.26** (*30.2%: 15 – 19 years; 69.8%: 20 – 24 years*) - Female/Male ratio: **c. 1/2.5** - National rate: **3.53**
Drugs	**38.2** (*3%: ≤ 14 years; 39.3%: 15 – 19 years; 57.6%: 20 – 24 years*) - Female/Male ratio: **1:4.3** - National rate: **21.4**	**32.5** (*41.7%: 15 – 19 years; 57.4%: 20 – 24 years*) - Female/Male ratio: **c. 1:4.7** - National rate: **18.1**
All cases (*Drugs, Alcohol, process addictions, and concerned persons*)	North LHO / South LHO ratio: *c. 1:2*	North LHO / South LHO ratio: *c. 1:1.8*

National Drug Treatment Reporting System (HRB)

- Garda Youth Diversion Programme:

	2014 (*No. of children, aged 10 – 17 years, referred per 1,000*)	**2019** (*No. of children, aged 10 – 17 years, referred per 1,000*)	**2021** (*No. of children, aged 10 – 17 years, referred per 1,000*)
Tipperary Garda Division	17.3	16.9	24.9
Garda Southern Region	19.1 (*in Garda SE Region*)	19.2	-
State	21.2	19.6	-

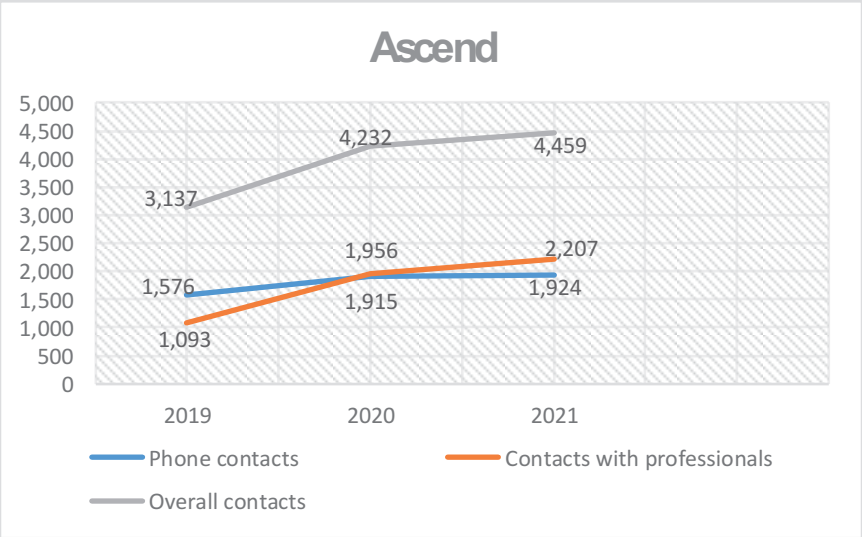
(*SONC, 2016 & 2020; Tipperary Garda Síochána, 2022*)

In 2021, the Garda Districts of Clonmel, Cahir, and Tipperary, in descending order, had the highest rates of numbers of children and young people referred to the Garda Juvenile Liaison Programme, with an average rate between them of 30.8. The comparative rates for the Nenagh and Thurles Garda Districts were 15.8 and 22.7, respectively (*Tipperary Garda Síochána, 2022*).

- Domestic Abuse:

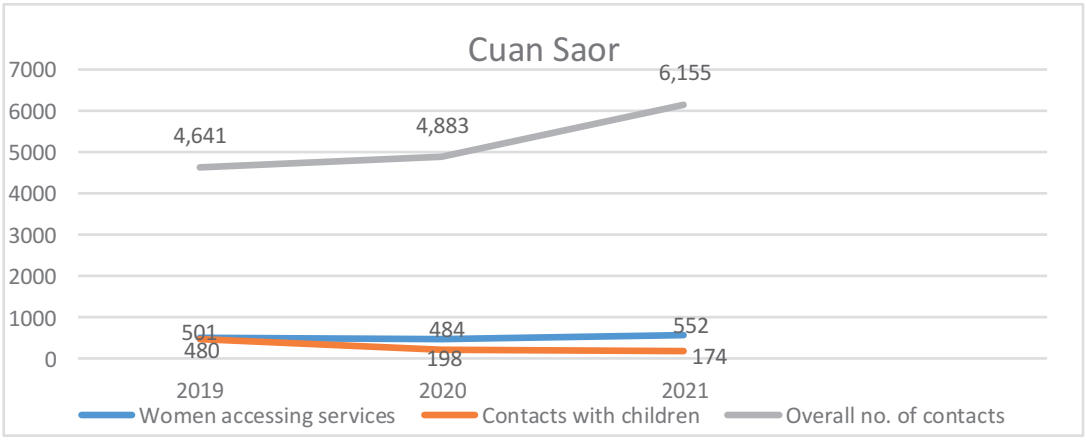
In 2020, Ascend Domestic Abuse services, in the North of the county, experienced a steep rise in demand for its services. Overall contacts, which include phone contacts, helpline calls, contacts with professionals, Outreach appointments, court accompaniments and general

accompaniments, rose by 35% in 2020 from the previous year. There were also 175 new referrals, up 40% from 125 in 2019. This level of demand has been sustained and risen slightly in 2021.



(*Ascend Annual Reports 2019, 2020 & 2021*)

Cuan Saor Women's Refuge & Support Services reported an increase of 32.6% of overall contacts from 2019 to 2021.



The surge in the number of contacts with both Ascend and Cuan Saor between 2019 and 2020 has been attributed to the impact of the initial lockdown and subsequent social restrictions that have been introduced to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. The decline in the numbers of children seen by Cuan Saor over this period has been due to service restrictions in line with Covid-19 protocols.

- Young Carers: In 2016, 5.2 per 1,000 children in Co. Tipperary provided regular unpaid personal help for a friend or a relative, a rate slightly above the national rate (*5.1).* This is the 17th highest by administrative area in the state. (*CSO, 2016; SONC 2020*)

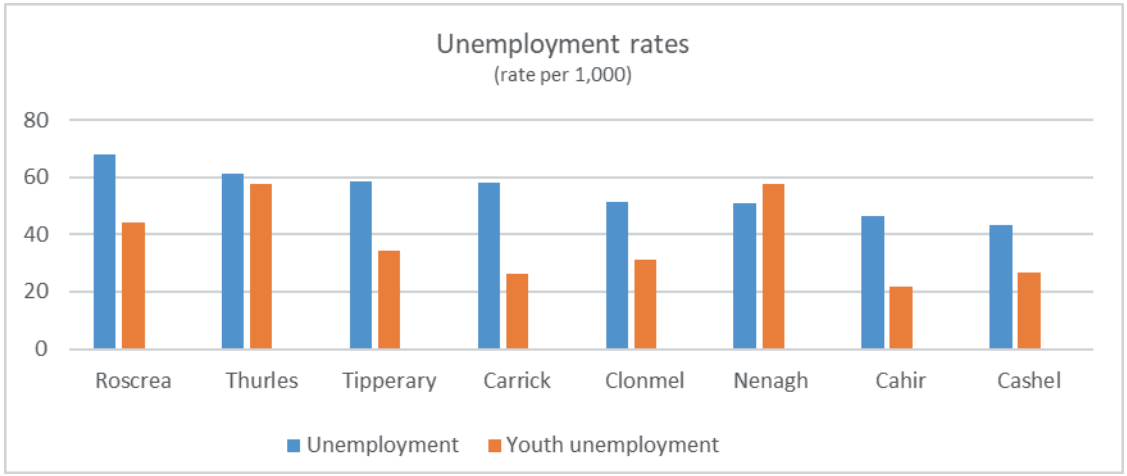
- Young mothers, under 18 years: The rate of births per 1,000 to mothers under 18 years of age by county in 2017 was 2.9 in Co. Tipperary, the 14th highest rate by county. This was below the State rate of 3.4. (*SONC, 2020; CSO*)

Economic Security & Opportunity indicators

- Unemployment

  The national unemployment rate was 5.2% in November 2021. The national youth unemployment rate was 12.1% in Quarter 3, 2021 (*20.9% in Q. 3, 2020*)

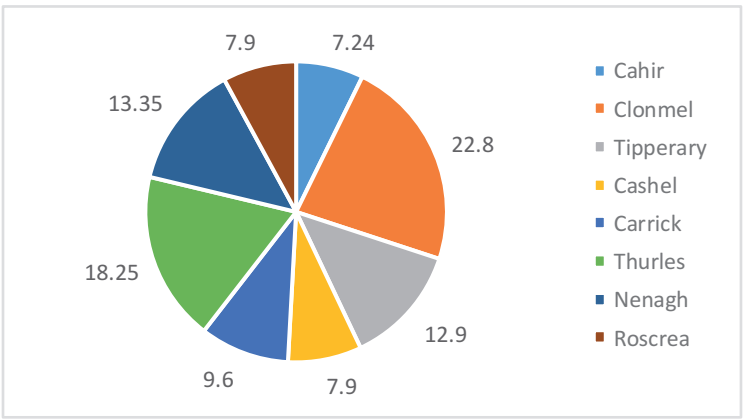
  The diagram below illustrates approximate rates of overall unemployment and of youth unemployment around the county by Social Welfare Office (*SWO*) area and is based on statistics for Job Seeker Allowance and Benefit recipients.



(*DSP, 2022*)

- Welfare payment recipients (Job Seeker Allowance, One Parent Family payments, and Disability Allowance:

  There are some 9,336 child dependants in households in receipt of Social Welfare payments (*Job Seeker Allowance & Benefit, One Parent Family payment and Disability Allowance*). These constitute 22.9% of the population, aged 0 – 17 years (*DSP, 2021*). The geographical distribution, by SWO area, of child dependants of recipients of either Job Seeker Allowance payments or One Parent Family payments as proportions (*%*) of the total number (*7,131*) is as follows:



(*DSP 2021*)

- Accommodation

Social Housing:

Social Housing (*no. of households 2021*)			
Local Authority Housing	**Rental Accommodation Scheme (*RAS*)**	**Long Term Leasing (*LTL*)**	**Housing Assistance Payment (*HAP*)**
5049	774	309	1,843

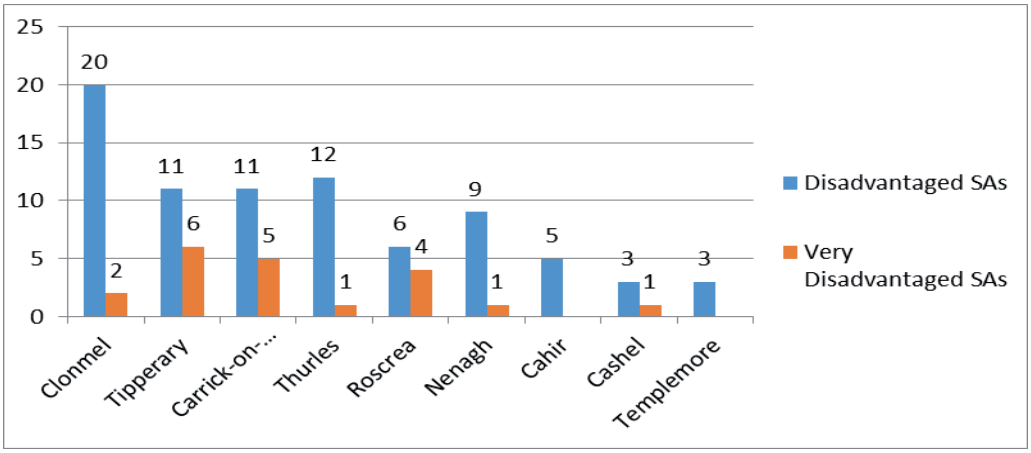
Total number of households in social housing in 2021 was 7,975. The figure in 2016 was 6,442. (*Tipperary Co. Co., 2021*)

Social Housing waiting list: There are 1,638 households on the waiting list. The number of children on the waiting list is 3,034 (*Tipperary Co. Co., 2021*).

Over the period since the publication of the last Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan, there has been a surge in the number of households with children on the Tipperary County Council Social Housing waiting lists. In 2017, there were 569 such households on the waiting list (*SONC, 2020*). This has risen to 1,638 households in 2021. Two-thirds of these households are One Parent Family households. The number of children currently on the waiting list is 3,034 (*Tipperary Co. Co., 2021*).

Areas of Social Disadvantage

- Based on the Relative Index Scores for 2016, Co. Tipperary had a score of -3.39 (*Marginally Below Average*), below the 2011 score of -2.79. This was below the State score of 0.6 (*Marginally Above Average*) (*ibid.)*
- There are 135 Small Areas designated respectively as 'Disadvantaged' and 'Very Disadvantaged', in other words, having a Relative Index score of ≤-10 and ≤-20, respectively.
- The towns with the largest clusters of both 'Disadvantaged' and 'Very Disadvantaged' SAs are, in descending order:



- There are smaller numbers of 'Disadvantaged' SAs in Fethard (2), and in Killenaule (3), and the remainder are distributed over a range of smaller towns and villages around the county: in Borrisoleigh, Templetuohy and Toomevara in the North centre (1 SA in each), in Littleton (1 'Very Disadvantaged' SA), in the Slieve Ardagh/South-East area (10), in West Tipperary (6), in the North-West (6), and in the South-West (4).

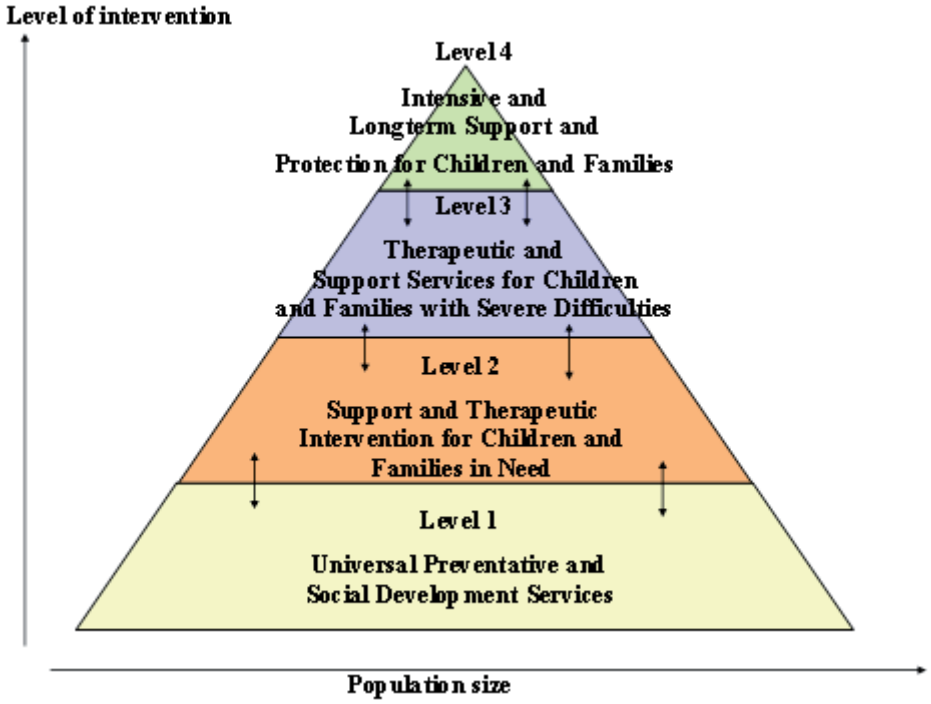
- The 21 'V. Disadvantaged' SAs and a further 9 SAs measuring between ≥-19.4 and <-20 on the index have a combined population of 6,769, accounting for 4.2% of the total population in Tipperary. Of the total population residing in these areas, 34.6% (or c. 2,340) were aged ≤ 24 years (*CSO, 2016: AIRO, 2017*). The remaining 105 SAs had a combined population of 4,932 in the 0 – 17 years age group, and a further aggregate of 1,783 in the 18 – 24 years age group (*Pobal; CSO, 2016*).

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

Introduction

In the following section, the range of service provision available to the 0 – 24 years age cohort in Co. Tipperary is examined, employing the Hardiker model to present the levels of intervention, from universal services to progressively more targeted and specialised services under each service category. (*See Appendix 3 for more information on the Hardiker model*).

Hardiker Model



OVERVIEW OF SERVICES

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES			
Level 1			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
HSE Primary Care	30 Health Centres and 7 Primary Care Centres. 18 Primary Care Teams with GP, PHN,	Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1

	Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Speech & Language Therapy, Home Help and Social Work services. Primary Care Network services which include Dietetic, Audiology, Ophthalmology, and Dental Services		
HSE Substance Misuse services	HSE Educations Officers – working in schools, e.g., Teacher Awareness sessions, Awareness raising & Preventative programmes of pupils/students.	Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Túsla	Parent Support Strategy under Prevention Partnership & Family Support Programme.	Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Túsla	Early Year Services: Information, advice & inspection of early years services e.g. pre-school, day care.	Statutory	Universal, Hardiker Level 1
Universal and Targeted			
HSE, Local Development Companies, Tipperary Rural Traveller Project	4 Primary Health Care Projects, targeting the Traveller community, located in Roscrea, Thurles, Clonmel and Tipperary town.	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
Youth Work Ireland Tipperary	Roma Health Project	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
HSE	Healthy Community Initiative, Clonmel - a suite of programmes & services, including parenting programmes, social prescribing service, tobacco cessation programme, Healthy Food Made Easy programme	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
Silver Arch FRC, Nenagh Clonmel Community Mothers Tipperary Childcare Committee	Mother and Baby Groups; Parent & Toddler Groups	Non-Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
Family Support services	Parenting programmes	Non-Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2

Targeted, Levels 2+			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-statutory**	**Hardiker level**
HSE Primary Care	Counselling in Primary Care (CIPC) service for those aged ≥16 years with Medical Card.	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
HSE	Self Harm Intervention Programme (SHIP): a professional counselling service to individuals aged ≥ 16 years who have self-harmed and/or who are experiencing suicidal thoughts. Available in South of the county	Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
HSE	3 Hospitals: - Tipperary University Hospital, Clonmel: acute medical and maternity services - University Hospital, Nenagh: acute hospital services - Our Lady's Campus, Cashel: minor injuries and X-ray services	Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2, 3 & 4
HSE Primary Care Psychology service	Assessment and therapeutic intervention for 0 – 17 years age group experiencing emotional and/or behavioural difficulties or mental health difficulties of a mild/moderate nature. 2 teams in the North and south of the county, respectively Referrals from HSE Primary Care, and other health professionals	Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Pieta House	Suicide Bereavement Liaison service: provides practical support, information and signposting to other services for anyone who has recently been bereaved by suicide.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2

Mental Health support services	Services that facilitate peer-led support and awareness-rising among people affected by Mental Health issues, e.g. GROW, Aware, Shine, Mental Health Ireland, and Involvement Centre	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Irish Wheelchair Association, Tipperary Centre for Independent Living; North Tipperary Disability Support service	Provision of support to adults with disabilities to live independently	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Irish Wheelchair Association	Provision of locally based recreational and educational programmes for adults with disabilities. Set up sports club for children and young people with disabilities in Thurles	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Organisations & Peer Support Groups catering for specific disabilities: Chime, NCBI, Epilepsy Ireland, Autism Awareness Roscrea, etc.	Provision of support, advice, information, and advocacy services to target groups with specific disabilities, such as loss of hearing, loss of sight, Cystic Fibrosis, and Spina Bifida.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Waterford & South Tipperary Community Youth service	LGBT Health & support project for the South of the county.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Ana Liffey Drugs Project Mid-West	Low threshold, harm reduction outreach service for adults in the North of the county.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Novas	Family Respite House, Newport Novas Community Detox: providing safer detox from benzos and methadone on an out-patient basis	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Community Substance Misuse Team	Outreach and support to young people aged $\leq$ 24 years with Substance Misuse issues and their families in the North of the county. The service also runs the Strengthening Families Programme in the North of the county	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3

Coolmine Therapeutic Community Mid West	A drug and alcohol treatment centre providing community, day and residential services to women and men with problematic substance use and their families in the Mid-West.	Non-statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
South Tipperary Drug & Alcohol Outreach Service, WSTCYS	The project offers 1-to-1 support, motivational work and harm reduction to those aged ≤13 years who are engaged in risky substance abusing behaviour in the South of the county.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Youth service providers	3 Community Based Drugs Initiatives in the South of the county – in Carrick-on-Siúir and Clonmel, run by Waterford & Sth. Tipperary Community Youth Service, and in Tipperary/Cashel, run by Youth Work Ireland Tipperary	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Túsla	Under Prevention Partnership and Family Support (*PPFS*) Programme, Túsla coordinates appropriate interventions in Child Welfare cases in collaboration with family support services.	Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Family Support services; youth services; Traveller Community Development Project; and one Local Development Company	13 agencies with different and varying remits offer support services to families in the county. They also collaborate with the PPFS programme: - 2 Barnardos projects in Clonmel and Thurles - 4 FRCs in Cashel, Nenagh, Slieve Ardagh, and Tipperary town - Knockanrawley Resource Centre, Tipperary town - North Tipperary Development Company (*Roscrea Youth Service Family Support Project & NTDC Traveller Family Support programme*) - Tipperary Rural Traveller project - Clonmel Community Mothers Programme	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3

	- Foróige Youth and Family project, Carrick-on-Siúir - More Family Support project, YWIT, Templemore - Templemore Community services Other services offering support services are: Teen Parents Support service inthe South of the county - Barnardos Student Mothers project covering Co. Waterford and Carrick-on-Siúir - Extern provides services in the North of the county to children and young people who are at risk of entering care, secure care or custody.		
Silver Arch FRC, Nenagh	Advocacy and support service for parents of children in Túsla alternative care. Remit is North of the county	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Ascend women's services, NTDC 'Cuan Saor' women's services	Ascend, in the North of the county, and 'Cuan Saor', in the South, provide support and advice to women and their families in Domestic abuse circumstances. Both services also provides short-term crisis accommodation.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Tipperary Rape Crisis & Counselling Centre Rape Crisis Mid-West	Counselling services for adult survivors of rape, child sexual abuse, sexual violence and sexual harassment. Remits of the two agencies are respectively for South & North of the county	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
Novas, Focus Ireland, Simon	Support services to individuals and families who are homeless. Participate on Homeless Action Teams	Non-statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3

Level 3			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-statutory**	**Hardiker level**
HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	Treatment of children and young people with acute mental illness diagnosis 3 CAMHS teams	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
HSE Adult Mental Health	Provision of mental health assessment. Interventions, treatment and outreach support services to adults. 5 Community Mental Health Teams	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
HSE Regional Office of Suicide Prevention (South-East)	A bereavement counselling service for persons aged $\geq$ 16 years who have been bereaved through sudden traumatic deaths. Available in the South of the county	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
HSE Substance Misuse services	Assessment; 1-to-1 counselling; harm reduction needle exchange; detoxification support; and supported referral to other services as required.	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Youth Work Ireland Tipperary and HSE Substance Misuse services	Family functioning Therapy service for families linked with the HSE Substance Misuse service in the South of the county.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
HSE Disabilities service	HSE Disabilities services are responsible for coordinating the range of Health and Social Service provision for children and adults with disabilities, also including respite and home support services, Day or Rehabilitative training services and residential services. These services may be delivered directly or in partnership with a wide range of non-statutory service providers.	Statutory	Hardiker Levels 3 & 4
Enable Ireland	Enable Ireland operates in partnership with HSE Disabilities Mid West in the delivery of services for children, and	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 3

	young people with disabilities and their families.		
Brothers of Charity	- Collaborates with HSE Disabilities services in the South of the South county - Provides Psychology and Social Work services	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
HSE Primary Care Psychology service, South Tipperary	- Provision of a Disability Psychology service offering assessment, diagnosis and support and intervention to children and young people with developmental delay	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Acquired Brain Injury Ireland	- Provider of community based neuro-rehabilitation services for people who have acquired a brain injury.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Aspect, SOS Kilkenny CLG	The service supports people with autism and who have an intellectual disability to achieve an enhanced quality of life by providing individual Life Skills and Social Skills supports in a person led therapeutic environment	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Túsla Child & Family services	Child Protection services under Children First Act 2015 Social Work services Family Support Workers	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Túsla Child & Family services	After-care service – support to young adults leaving alternative care	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Moorehaven Centre, Brothers of Charity, Rehab Care, Camphill Community; Daughters of Charity	Day services to maintain and enhance the quality of life for young adults with disabilities and to focus on their capabilities,	Non-statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3

Level 4			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-statutory**	**Hardiker level**
In-patient units in 6 hospitals in Dublin, Cork, and Galway	Residential provision for children and young people with acute mental health conditions	Non-statutory	Hardiker Level 4
HSE Mental Health service	Residential provision for adults with acute mental health conditions in St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny, and in Ennis Psychiatric Hospital	Statutory	Hardiker Level 4
Aiséirí Residential Centre, Cahir	Residential treatment centre for adults with acute addiction issues.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 4
Aisling Adolescent Addiction Centre, Ballyragget. Co. Kilkenny	Residential treatment centre for young people with acute addiction issues	Non-statutory	Hardiker Level 4
Coolmine Therapeutic Community Mid West	Provides a mother and child residential treatment programme for problematic substance misuse	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 4
Túsla Child and Family services	Provision of alternative care for children in cases where necessary to ensure their health and safety.	Statutory	Hardiker Level 4
St. Bernard's Group Homes, Fethard	High Support Unit for children aged ≤12 years with acute attachment issues – available only for Southern region Therapeutic foster-care unit to provide high-level support to foster families – available on to the South of the county.	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 4
Brothers of Charity, Enable Ireland, RK Respite agency	Respite and residential care for children with disabilities	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 4
HSE, Camphill Community, Brothers of Charity, Rehab Care, Daughters of Charity	Residential care for adults with disabilities	Statutory and Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 4

EDUCATION			
Level 1			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Tipperary County Childcare Committee	Supporting the development of high quality childcare service in the county	Non-Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Childcare sector	Early Years Care & Education: 111 private childcare providers and 48 community-based childcare services. After-School Care: 83 childcare services provide After-School Care	Non-Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Primary education sector	167 Primary Schools	Non-Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Post Primary education sector	30 Post Primary Schools	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Tipperary Education & Training Board	Apprenticeship training, Archerstown Centre, Thurles	Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
3rd-level Education sector	- TUS (Technological University of the Shannon): campuses in Thurles and Clonmel - Mary Immaculate College, Thurles campus - Garda Síochána College, Templemore	Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Universal and Targeted			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Primary sector	DEIS programme in 45 Primary Schools	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2

Post Primary sector	DEIS programme in 10 Post Primary schools.	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
Post Primary sector	Guidance & Pastoral resources in Post Primary schools	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Universal & Targeted Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
Tipperary Education and Training Board	Further Education & Training programmes: Adult Guidance & Information Service; Community Education programme; Back to Education Initiative; VTOS; PLC.	Statutory	Universal & Targeted Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
Tipperary Education and Training Board Community-based projects	Local Training Initiatives (LTIs)	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Universal & Targeted Hardiker Levels 1 & 2
Tipperary Rural Traveller Project	Family Learning project: An educational support model for Traveller children to enhance learning skills, delivered with support from Peer Education Workers from local Traveller community	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Level 1
Levels 2+			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Tipperary Education and Training Board	- Adult Learning Scheme - English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) service	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Tipperary Education and Training Board Community-based projects	- 3 Youthreach and 3 Community Training Centres catering to NEETs	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
North Tipperary Development Company, Roscrea Area Youth (*RAY*) GYDP	iScoil project: A blended learning centre, located in Roscrea, providing individual support by youth workers and tailored learning plans for early school leavers.	Statutory & Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Youth service providers	Youth Work Ireland Tipperary: running projects, including Youth Employability	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2

	project in Tipperary town, that engage with socially excluded young people and adults to facilitate them to transition into work/training. Waterford & South Tipperary Comm. Youth service: Making Connections, LTI project for adults with issues of substance misuse, homelessness		
Dept. of Education & Science	National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS): NEPS works in partnership with teachers, parents and children to identify educational needs and supports the school to address these. NEPS is also the lead responder in schools in the event of a critical incident	Statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3
National Council for Special Education	- Special Education Needs Organisers (SENOs) - Special Needs Assistants and other support resources to facilitate engagement by pupils and students in mainstream Primary & Post Primary education	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Dept. of Education & Science	Special units attached to various Primary & Post Primary Schools for children and young people with additional needs, namely, ASD, Speech & Language Disorders, Emotional & Behavioural Disturbance, and Mild & Moderate General Learning Disability	Non-Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
	Visiting Teacher for children who are Visually Impaired	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
	Visiting Teacher for children who are Hard of Hearing.	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Túsla	Túsla Education Support Service (*TESS*) provides 3 strands of services which support school attendance in different ways: - Home School Community Liaison scheme	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2

	- School Completion Programme - Educational Welfare Officer		
HSE Occupational Guidance service	Guidance and advice to young people, aged ≥ 18 years with disabilities re. training & education prospects.	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Youth Work Ireland Tipperary; St. Cronan's Centre, Roscrea; and Knockanrawley Resource Centre, Tipperary town.	These agencies each deliver an Ability programmes whose aim is to give young people an opportunity to develop practical skills which enable them to enter the workplace and/or to assume a meaningful and sustainable social role within their own community.	Non-statutory	Hardiker Level 2
National Learning Network, Cluain Training Centre, Moorehaven Centre, St. Cronan's Centre; Rehab Care.	Training centres providing courses for young people with additional needs to enhance and develop life skills, social skills and basic work skills, e.g., National Learning Network, Clonmel; St. Cronan's Centres in Roscrea and Nenagh.	Non-statutory	Hardiker Levels 2 & 3

Level 3

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory/Non-Statutory	Hardiker level
Tipperary Education and Training Board	Coláiste Shliabh na mBan, Clonmel – Special School	Statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Brothers of Charity	Pre-schools for children with disabilities: 'Tús Maith' in Tipperary town; 'Lus na Gréine' in Clonmel.	Non-statutory	Hardiker Level 3
Special Schools for children and young people with disabilities	Scoil Chormaic, Cashel Scoil Aonghusa, Cashel St. Anne's, Roscrea	Non-statutory	Hardiker Level 3

LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

Level 1

Organisation/Agency	Service	Statutory/Non-Statutory	Hardiker level

Tipperary County Council	Social & Leisure amenities: Parks, c. 40 playgrounds, 3 public swimming pools, library services – 12 branches and 1 school mobile library service. Arts programme Heritage programme County Museum	Statutory	Universal, Hardiker Level 1
Universal and Targeted			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Tipperary County Council	Social housing: - Direct provision of tenant accommodation - Rental Accommodation Scheme - Housing Assistance Payment scheme - Long-term leasing Tenant Liaison service	Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker level 1
Tipperary County Council and voluntary housing associations	Voluntary housing associations provide social housing. County Council regulates application process and determines eligibility of applicants	Statutory & non-statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker level 1
Tipperary County Council	Provision and management of accommodation services for Travellers	Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker level 1
Tipperary County Council	Lead agency in managing 3 RAPID programmes in Tipperary town, Carrick-on-Siúr, and Clonmel, as well as 2 Community Action Partnership programmes in Roscrea and Littleton	Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker level 1
Tipperary Sports Partnership	Promotion and support of development of recreational sport	Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker Levels 1 & 2.

	Social Inclusion programme, targeting Youth at Risk, People with Disabilities, Traveller community and Mental Health & Wellbeing.		
Level 2			
Tipperary County Council	Lead agency in addressing homelessness 2 inter-agency Homeless Action Teams Homeless Unit in North of county	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2

SOCIAL WELFARE			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Level 1			
Department of Social Protection	8 Social Welfare offices in the county. ***Intreo*** service, located in Clonmel and Thurles branches, offers practical, tailored employment services and supports for jobseekers and employers alike.	Statutory	Universal & targeted, Hardiker level 1
Level 2			
Department of Social Protection	EmployAbility service: an employment and recruitment service to assist people with a disability to secure and maintain a job in the open labour market. Offices in Clonmel and Nenagh	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2

POLICING & YOUTH JUSTICE			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Level 1			
An Garda Síochána	37 Garda Stations	Statutory	Universal, Hardiker Level 1

	Community Policing: 'Text Alert'; 'Know your Patch'; Neighbourhood Watch. Community Policing Unit in Clonmel	Statutory	Universal, Hardiker Level 1
Level 2			
An Garda Síochána	Garda Victim Service	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
An Garda Síochána	3 Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers, Garda Youth Diversion Programme, in Clonmel and Cahir Garda Districts; Thurles and Tipperary town Garda Districts; and Nenagh Garda District.	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Youth Service providers and An Garda Síochána	5 Youth Diversion Projects – Carrick-on-Siúir, Clonmel, Tipperary, Roscrea and Nenagh	Statutory & non-statutory	Hardiker Level 2
An Garda Síochána	Tipperary Garda Divisional Protective Services Unit - charged with investigation of sexual crime, child abuse, Domestic Abuse and on-line child exploitation.	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2
Probation service	6 Probation staff and 1 Community Service Supervisor 'Le Chéile' mentoring service Irish Association for the Social Integration of Offenders – work linkage programme Restorative Justice project, Nenagh	Statutory	Hardiker Level 2

YOUTH SERVICES			
Level 1			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Youth service providers	A varying number of main-stream voluntary youth clubs, variously organized by Waterford and South Tipperary Community Youth Service (WSTCYS),	Non-statutory	Universal, Hardiker Level 1

	Youth Work Ireland Tipperary (YWIT), Foróige, Scouting Ireland, Irish Girl Guides and others.		
Youth service providers	Youth Information Services: - Clonmel Youth Information Service (WSTCYS) Thurles and Tipperary town Youth Information Service (YWIT)	Non-statutory	Universal, Hardiker Level 1
Universal and Targeted			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Youth Service Providers: YWIT, Foróige, WSTCYS, Roscrea Youth Services (NTDC)	Youth services for LGBTI* youth around the county	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1
Youth Work Ireland Tipperary	• Youth Club for Young People with Autism and Dyspraxia, Templemore • Youth Club for young people with Down Syndrome, Thurles	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1
Youth service providers: Waterford & South Tipp. Community Youth Service; Youth Work Ireland Tipperary; Foróige; North Tipperary Development Company.	9 'UBU, Your Place Your Space' Projects: Cahir, Clonmel, Fethard & Killenaule, Tipperary, Roscrea, Nenagh, Rural Outreach, Thurles & Templemore, Littleton *(North Tipperary Traveller Youth Project)* 2 Neighbourhood Youth Projects: Carrick-on-Siúir and Cashel	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Levels 1 & 2

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES			
Level 2			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**

Local Development Companies (LDCs): South Tipperary Devt Company (STDC); North Tipperary Development Company (NTDC)	Both LDCs deliver the following programmes: • Tús programme • Rural Social Scheme • Rural Development Programme • Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)	Non-statutory	Hardiker Level 2
	NTDC – some projects under SICAP: - Learning for Life courses - Car maintenance programme - Advocacy for Dyspraxia/ Dyslexia Support Groups NTDC also provides a youth service, women's service, a family support service and Traveller support programme in North of county STDC – some projects under SICAP: - COMPASS service to support l/t unemployed to return to work - Support to communities in RAPID areas - Implementation of Safefood programme STDC implements the National Countryside Recreation Strategy across the county. It manages the Traveller Primary Health Care Project in Clonmel		

SPORTS, RECREATION, ARTS & CULTURE			
Level 1			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Tipperary County Council	Social & Leisure amenities: Public parks, c. 40 playgrounds, 4 public swimming pools, library services – 12 branches and 1 school mobile library service. Arts programme Heritage programme County Museum	Statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
GAA	72 local clubs	Non-statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
FAI	c. 55 local clubs	Non-statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Tipperary Volunteer Centre	Promotion of volunteering and supporting the voluntary sector	Non-statutory	Universal Hardiker Level 1
Universal and Targeted			
Organisation/Agency	**Service**	**Statutory/Non-Statutory**	**Hardiker level**
Tipperary Sports Partnership	Promotion and support of development of recreational sport. Social Inclusion programme targeting groups at risk of social exclusion, such as Older People, people with additional needs, and disadvantaged communities.	Statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1
GAA	GAA Healthy Clubs	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1
FAI	FAI Football for All programme	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1

Special Olympics	A sports organisation for people with an intellectual disability	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1
Dolphin Swimming Club	Swimming club for children and adults with disabilities	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1
Tipperary Warriors Multi-Sport Club Irish Wheelchair Association	A parent and volunteer-led sports club for children with physical disabilities and their families	Non-statutory	Universal & targeted Hardiker Level 1

Conclusion:

The division of the county between two administrative regions under HSE and Túsla continues to impact on service provision in the county. HSE and Túsla services in one section of the county operate without reference for the most part to the respective equivalent services in the other. This also has implications for the non-statutory services that receive funding from either agency. Their priorities are set, not in an all-county policy context, but in relation to policy objectives for one or other of two different regions, according to location. Examples abound of the structural and policy implications, e.g., the development of two sets of Prevention Partnership and Family Support structures, two sets of Suicide Prevention Strategies, etc.

Certain key service provision deficits have been addressed since 2017/2018. North Tipperary Community Services was resourced and re-established as Silver Arch Family Resource Centre, the first such agency of this category in the North of the county. Jigsaw Tipperary was established in Thurles as an all-county primary care service for young people's mental health and started operations in Summer 2021. As well as the resourcing of youth projects in Cahir, Fethard-Killenaule, and Templemore as noted in *Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan, 2018 – 2022*, there has also been subsequent resourcing of established youth projects which were acknowledged to be under-staffed.

Nonetheless, there continue to be gaps in service provision in a number of geographical areas in the county, compounded by an imbalance of service provision between the North and South of the county.

- A recent report identified the lack of a properly resourced service in Roscrea to meet family support needs in the area. (*Curley, 2020*)
- There continues to be a lack of sustainable youth service provision in the North-West, an area with the highest Youth Dependency rate in the county (*AIRO, 2017*). There continues to be a need for youth service provision for young Travellers.
- Service provision deficits for children and young people with additional needs.
- The disparity in Alcohol and Substance Misuse service provision between the North and South of the county.

The development of the Túsla Prevention Partnership and Family Support structures in the county has led to improved coordination of services to respond to family support needs.

Section 4: Local Needs Analysis in County Tipperary

Introduction

In this section, the information drawn from consultation and research under each of the 5 National Outcomes is presented and analysed to indicate where the areas of need for the age cohort, 0 – 24 years, lie. The correlation of these needs with levels of relevant service provision is also examined to highlight any service deficits and gaps. In this way, the priority issues for the CYPSC to address through appropriate actions are identified.

Outcome 1

How are the children of Co. Tipperary doing?

- The proportion of babies with a birth weight below 2.5 kilos in Co. Tipperary remains lower than the State average rate. The immunisation vaccination up-take at 12 months and at 24 months in 2018 and 2020 has been generally above 90% and the State average rate. However, breast feeding rates continue to remain below the State average rate.
- While the population of the county has a lower proportion of children with Intellectual Disability in comparison with the State average rate, it has one of the highest proportions of children with Physical or Sensory Disability.
- Regarding mental health, the top 3 stressors for young people in Co. Tipperary are schools, exams and homework, and levels of depression, anxiety and stress are not dissimilar to national rates. Up to about three out of four young people and young adults have a special adult in their lives to whom they can go for support. However, there is a higher level of alcohol consumption among young people and young adults in the county which has a negative correlation with mental health. A national trend has been identified over the last decade of a significant increase in levels of depression, anxiety, self-harm, and suicide ideation among young people and young adults. This is also reflected at county level in the data below:

	2012	**2019**
Proportion of young people experiencing severe levels of anxiety	10.5%	24%
Proportion of young people experiencing severe levels of depression	7.3%	18%

(*My World Survey 1, 2012; My World Survey 2, 2019*)

What did the consultations tell us?

The consultations identified three key priorities for the Tipperary CYPP to focus on under Outcome 1:

- Children and Young People's Mental Health
- Promotion of Healthy Eating and Active Living
- Service provision for children and young people with Disabilities and Additional Needs

They have also highlighted the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Children and Young People's Mental Health

The issue of Mental Health & Wellbeing features, whether consciously or unconsciously, in all the responses received from those consulted. At the levels of pre-school and Primary School age groups, such protective factors as family and friends feature prominently in the feedback. In other consultations with older age groups, concerns are expressed about anxiety and stress generated by conditions in school, at home, among the peer group, in the local environment and by future prospects. This can be further exacerbated for those whose circumstances place them at a social disadvantage and at risk of social exclusion, whether on the basis of social background, Traveller identity, disability, sexual orientation or educational status.

Young people highlighted the need for accessible Mental Health supports for young people and more supports in school, including to address bullying, and also to alleviate exam stress.

For young people at risk of social exclusion, anxiety, depression, eating disorders, and self-harm were identified as features in some of their lives and school was almost unanimously one of their main stressors in their lives. Concerns in relation to acceptance by peers were also a source of stress. Other concerns included body image, bullying and financial worries. Friends were very much identified as a support for many young people.

Young people with LGBT* identity spoke about experiencing varying levels of homophobia in schools, in the community and sometimes from family, manifesting as taunting behaviour, hostile attitudes, and, in the case of families, a lack of understanding and support. Friends are a major source of support and for some young people, the youth service, counselling and support from the family. There was also acknowledgement that the celebration of Stand Up week in the school setting was a positive development, and that there was often good support from school staff. There was room for improvement however in addressing homophobia and providing education about the LGBT* identity as part of the curriculum.

The need for appropriate service provision to address the mental health issues is highlighted in the consultations, including perceived gaps in such therapeutic interventions as Play Therapy, Art Therapy, and psychotherapy, as well as Early Intervention & Preventative programmes. There is also a need for specific supports focusing on the mental health of such particular groups as LGBT* youth and children and young people with additional needs, as well as services targeting eating disorders.

The relatively high level of suicide among the Traveller community and the negative impact of this on the Mental Health of children and young people was also noted.

Promotion of Healthy Eating and Active Living

The acknowledgement of the low rate of breastfeeding in the county population; the high rating by parents of 'Food & Diet' and 'Lack of Physical Activity' as issues of concern; and the significant reduction traced by parents in levels of physical activity as their children grow up are just some of the indications from the consultations of the need to promote healthy eating and active living in this Children and Young People's Plan.

Service provision for children and young people with Disabilities and Additional Needs

The need for more resources to address a range of deficits in service provision to children, young people and young adults with additional needs was highlighted. It was noted that there are waiting lists for Assessment of Needs, as well as for a range of services, Speech & Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, and Psychology. There is also a lack of the following services:

- Day services for people with disabilities
- 'Out of hours' services
- Respite services
- Appropriate medical support for people with intellectual disabilities

For young adults with additional needs, there is a need for improved access to Adult Health Care (*Primary & Secondary Health Care*), and in particular, information about referral pathways to appropriate services.

There is a need for adequate Mental Health supports for children with additional needs. There are currently no staff with the necessary training to treat children and young people with this dual diagnosis.

There is also the need to implement the neuro-rehabilitation strategy. Currently, there is no neuro-rehabilitation for people with various progressive neurological conditions. Access to therapeutic intervention and neuro-rehabilitation is essential for people with progressive, degenerative, neurological conditions.

Impact of Covid-19 and of the related measures to combat it

The impact of Covid-19 and of the social restriction measures on the Mental Health of young people is a major theme in feedback from the consultations. Social isolation, social withdrawal and the negative impact on young people's social skills, as well as low motivation and a sense of hopelessness are cited as emerging issues by frontline staff and parents. The extent to which prevailing conditions have exacerbated Mental Health issues is reflected in the rise in referrals for services.

The responses of children and young people at risk of social exclusion indicate that being able to contact friends on-line, attending school, being with their families, and playing outside or doing enjoyable activities were protective factors. Other responses highlight the difficulties experienced by children and young people during the pandemic because they could not meet their friends, because of worries about Covid-19 for themselves or family members, because the schools were shut down, and because there was no social contact outside the immediate family.

Concerns are also raised in the consultations about the impact on the delivery of key health services, such as the Child Health Screening and Developmental Surveillance programme delivered by the Public Health Nursing service and dental services for children in school.

Are there Sufficient Services in this Outcome Area?

Re. Mental Health: At Prevention and Early Intervention levels, the Nurture Programme, under the National Healthy Childhood Programme, is beginning to provide the training and resources to enhance the Primary Care Health services provided to children in Early Years and their families to the benefit of the mental and physical wellbeing of the child. For young people and young adults, there is provision of the Counselling in Primary Care service and the relatively recent establishment of a Jigsaw Youth Mental Health project. This latter project meets a critical Primary Care service gap for the age group, 10 – 24 years, in the county. There are also counselling services (and, in one case, offering psychotherapy) for young people and for adults delivered or hosted by a number of agencies with more local remits around the county. More recently, there has been some expansion in the provision of Art Therapy and Play Therapy by the non-statutory sector to meet needs exacerbated by the conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic. Towards the acute end of the mental health service provision in the county, there are three CAMHS teams and two Psychology teams catering for children and young people, and five Community Adult Mental Health Teams catering for adults, aged 18 years and upwards. What has been highlighted through the Covid-19 period is the level of sustained demand for Primary Care Mental Health services to which Tipperary CYPSC has contributed through the BOBF-CYPSC budget and the Healthy Ireland Community Mental Resilience Fund.

Re. Disability services:
The Disabilities services nationally are currently undergoing a re-structuring process as part of the *'Progressing Disabilities Services for Children and Young People'* programme *(v).* A difficulty appears to lie with resources to meet demand for a range of services, including Speech & Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Assessment of Needs as noted above. Other deficits, identified in the consultation, include a dedicated service to treat children and young people with dual diagnosis of additional needs and Mental Health needs; and a neuro-rehabilitation service.

Re. Healthy Eating and Active Living:
A range of agencies have a role in promoting a healthy lifestyle among children, including the HSE Public Health Nursing Service in Early Years, pre-schools, schools, Tipperary Sports Partnership, sports organizations, the Local Authority, HSE Health Promotion and youth services. In recent years, the HSE has appointed a number of lactation consultants in the county to promote breastfeeding. At

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(v). The programme proposes a standard framework for services from Primary Care level, integrating with the currently operating Primary Care Teams, and secondary intervention by Children's Disability Network Teams where needs are more complex, to levels of care where specialist expertise is required.

a national strategic level, the National Healthy Childhood Programme is looking at measures to improve rates of breast-feeding, and to tackle over-weight and obesity. Clonmel has been designated a Healthy Community under the Sláintecare's Healthy Communities initiative of which Healthy Food Made Easy is one of a suite of programmes. Under the Healthy Ireland initiative in recent years, funding has been made available at county level through the CYPSCs and the Local Community Development Committees to provide a range of HEAL projects. Informed by the *Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan, 2018 – 2020*, and the *Healthy Tipperary Strategy, 2018 – 2020*, Tipperary CYPSC has been providing Healthy Ireland funding for actions promoting Physical Activity and Healthy Weaning.

Physical & Mental Health priorities for Tipperary CYPSC

Mental Health	• To support the roll-out of Infant Mental Health programmes and the provision of the relevant training for staff. • To promote Mental Health & Wellbeing in Primary and Post Primary schools • To support a coordinated approach to raising awareness about Mental Health & Wellbeing, to highlighting current service provision and to addressing needs of children and young people in the county • Promotion of services addressing bereavement & loss issues of children and young people around the county • To support the implementation of child & youth actions in the Connecting for Life Strategies. • To advocate for service provision for unmet Mental Health needs of children and young people around th ecounty
Healthy Eating and Active Living	• To support breastfeeding and healthy weaning • To promote and support the development of habits of regular physical exercise • To promote adoption by families of healthy diets
Children and Young People with Additional Needs	• To promote Physical activity opportunities for children and young people with additional needs • To support development of 'one stop shop' for information for families of children and young people with additional disabilities

	• To organise annual networking event for C&V sector and disabilities services • To promote initiatives which inform and advise young people in relation to personal development, relationships and internet safety.

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Outcome 2

How are the children of Co. Tipperary doing?

- Children in Co. Tipperary have a relatively good record for attendance at Primary School with the 2nd lowest mean percentage (*5.2%)* of student days lost in the academic year, 2017-18. The corresponding State rate was 5.8%. (*School Attendance Data Primary and Post Primary Schools and Student Absence Reports, Primary and Post Primary Schools, 2017-18: TESS*).
- Co. Tipperary also has a good retention rate at Post Primary level with attendance rates by the 2014 school cohort of 97.9% up to Junior Certificate level and 92.3% up to Leaving Certificate level, respectively 12th highest for both levels in the state and higher than the State averages.
- School can be a place of varying degrees of stress and challenge for young people. It can also be the most common setting for experience of bullying by young people (*My World 2 survey Tipperary)*.
- In 2020, 2,089 students sat the Leaving Certificate exams in Co. Tipperary. 79.3% of these progressed to third-level education. The most popular option was University of Limerick (*20.3%*), followed by Waterford Institute of Technology (*15.6%*). There were significant differences in choice of options between North and South of the county, with the students from the North of the county comprising two-thirds of the cohort going to University of Limerick, while the students from the South of the county attending Waterford Institute of Technology numbered over three times the number of their counterparts from the North. University College Cork was a more popular destination for students from the South of the county, accounting for the 2nd largest contingent after IT Waterford.

What did the consultations tell us?

The consultations identified the following issues for the CYPSC's attention in this CYPP under Outcome 2:

- The challenges for the cohort of children and young people who struggle in the educational system
- The challenges faced by Traveller children and young people in the mainstream school system
- Educational supports for children and young people with additional needs

- Higher level education issues
- Issue of bullying in school setting

The consultations also have highlighted the impact of Covid-19 on educational outcomes.

The challenges for the cohort of children and young people who struggle in the educational system:
The feedback from the consultations traces the various experiences of children and young people in the education system as they grow:

- At pre-school level, play is a key tool in enhancing the development of the child and is identified by the children as what they like to do in that setting.
- At Primary School level, children whose circumstances may make them more liable to disengage, identified such positive features of school as a place to meet with friends, to learn new things and to engage with supportive teachers. Challenging features of school for some included difficulties with the curriculum and with homework, and having less free time because of school.
- At Post Primary School level, school stress and exam stress were identified as major issues in the feedback. Suggestions of dealing with this included supervised study groups, more support from teachers, especially around exams, switch from exams to assignments and to switch to predicted grades system instead of exams.
  Young people who had disengaged from the mainstream education system identified challenges of academic curriculum, getting on with peers, poor engagement with teachers, bullying and bias on the basis of background. Suggestions on how to make school a better experience included adapting the curriculum and the pedagogical approach to suit the abilities of the students, improvement of teachers' relationships with students and a more pro-active addressing of bullying.

  For young people with a LGBT* identity, the school setting can be a challenging environment where they encounter harassment from peers which often goes unchecked by school authorities, and lack of adequate instruction about LGBT* in the school curriculum. There can also a lack of awareness and support for the needs of such students requesting a choice of uniform, provision of bathrooms (*for children of non-binary gender*), and use of desired names and pronouns. Nevertheless, LGBT* young people do feel supported by school celebrations of Stand Up Week and also cite the importance of supportive members of school staff.

  Feedback from frontline staff identifies a lack of alternative service provision to meet the educational and training needs of these young people who have disengaged from the mainstream education system, particularly those under 15 years. The feedback from school staff highlights poor literacy skills and oral language levels at commencement of Primary schooling, as well as the detrimental influence of low levels of family educational attainment and history of Early School Leaving. The gaps in service provision are both at the levels of Prevention and Early Intervention, such as lack of DEIS status at both Primary & Secondary School levels in some towns, and in terms of alternative provision for young School Leavers.

Traveller education:
Traveller parents highlight the challenges faced by their children in the education system, such as lack of progress in developing literacy and writing skills at Primary School level, and the practice of attendance for reduced school hours at Post Primary level. Other feedback highlights difficulties of engagement with school from as early as Junior Infants stage.

Educational supports for children and young people with additional needs:

- There is a significant gap in the curriculum to prepare young people with additional needs for moving on from school.
- Need for more ASD units at Primary and Post Primary levels
- Supports for neuro-divergent students in school settings
- Adequacy of special education resources in Primary and Post Primary schools

Higher Level Education issues:
The major challenges young adults face in undertaking further education or training are:

- Financial costs
- Accommodation
- Coping with the demands of the course.

Uncertainty about whether the chosen training is the right option and transport are two other challenges identified.

Issue of bullying in school setting:
Bullying in school is referenced in the feedback from parents, frontline staff, children and young people. The issue features most prominently in the feedback from young people and young adults at risk of social exclusion, and LGBT* youth.

Impact of Covid-19:
Covid-19 and the requirement to switch to on-line learning in 2020 was perceived as exacerbating problems for children and young people who were struggling in the academic system. There was significant loss of in-person class time and on-line learning was viewed as a reductive method, lacking the vital engagement between teacher and student. The absence of structure and routine, low levels of motivation and patterns of disrupted sleep cycles also negatively affected the capacity to engage and learn.

Are there Sufficient Services in this Outcome Area?
There appears to be adequate universal provision at Early Years, Primary, Post Primary and Higher Education levels. At Early Years, the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) programme supports children with additional needs to attend mainstream pre-school services. At Primary & Post Primary levels, the National Council for Special Education provides supports for children and young people with additional needs in the school setting, and the Túsla Education Support Service (TESS) delivers services and programmes to support school attendance. Tipperary Education and Training Board, under the Dept. of Education's Further Education and Training programme, provides all of the alternative education and training programmes for young people not in education, employment or

training, aged 15/16 years upwards under different programmes, such as Youthreach and similar centres, Local Training Initiatives, Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme, and the Back to Education Initiative.

In relation to children and young people who struggle in the education system, there are gaps in service provision at Preventative and Early Intervention levels and at the level of alternative provision:

- There have been evident gaps in the distribution of DEIS status to schools, Primary and Post Primary, around the county: In a number of towns, schools either at Primary level or Post Primary level had been designated with DEIS status, indicating the level of educational disadvantage but not leading to commitment of the necessary resources at both levels. However, with the announcement of expansion of the DEIS programme from September 2022, the more glaring examples of this in Tipperary town and Roscrea will be addressed.
- Educational Welfare Officers continue to identify the lack of sustainable Alternative Learning service provision in the county as an issue for young people who are unable to accommodate to the conventional academic curriculum and structured format in Post Primary schools.

In relation to education for children and young people on the Autism spectrum, there are 9 ASD classes at pre-school level, 35 ASD classes at Primary School level, and ASD classes in 13 Post Primary schools, mainly TETB, around the county. Their development and distribution at Pre-School level, Primary level and Post Primary level is led by the National Council for Special Education (*NCSE*). The NCSE is also responsible for the allocation of Special Education resources to schools from which schools meet the educational needs of students with additional needs. There is a query as to its adequacy.

There is an acknowledgement at national level that the issue of Traveller education needs to be addressed with the establishment of the four pilot NTRIS a.k.a. STAR (*Supporting Traveller and Roma*) projects around the country. In Co. Tipperary, the Tipperary Rural Traveller Project Family Learning Programme, set up in 2013 to provide educational support for Traveller children has been recognised as an effective model and is set to expand operations to other towns in the South of the county. The key principle of the model is its peer-led character through which the children are engaged and encouraged to participate in the educational activities.

Educational Priorities for Tipperary CYPSC

Traveller Education	• To support expansion of Tipperary Rural Traveller Project Family Learning Project • To advocate for location of a STAR project in the county

	• To promote greater engagement by Traveller families with Early Years service provision
Roma Education	• To promote greater engagement by Roma families with education
Special Education	• To examine adequacy of special education resources for schools
Literacy Development	• To support the expansion of the Bed-time Story Bag initiative with a particular focus on families at risk of Social Exclusion
Early School Leaving	• To advocate for an Alternative Learning Project in the county • To support establishment of a Training Centre in Carrick-on-Siúir
Play	• To support programmes to raise awareness among parents of the importance of play as an educational tool

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Outcome 3

How are the children of Co. Tipperary doing?

- Measured against a set of indicators, including levels of social disadvantage, and other indicators of need, as well as levels of service provision, the urban areas identified as having a high incidence of vulnerable families continue to be: Clonmel, Carrick-on-Siúir, Tipperary town, Thurles, Nenagh and Roscrea. While a caveat can be entered that some of the data deriving from the 2016 Census returns that is being used here may not faithfully reflect the current situation, it is unlikely that there has been any major change in trends over the relatively short intervening period. On similar grounds, the rural areas with a relatively high incidence of vulnerable families continue to be Littleton, the Slieve Ardagh area (*including Killenaule and Fethard*), the North West of the county and the socially disadvantaged Small Areas in the West and South West of the county.

  There have been some significant improvements in relation to service provision which somewhat qualify the judgement above. In Nenagh and in the North West of the county, the establishment of the Silver Arch Family Resource Centre in 2018 has led to much better resourced service provision in that area. The development of Prevention Partnership and Family Support structures by Túsla has also led to coordination of family support services to meet family needs for Hardiker Levels 2 and 3 service provision almost anywhere in the county, either in a rural or urban setting.

- Alcohol and Substance Misuse: Young people and young adults in Co. Tipperary displayed

higher levels of alcohol consumption in comparison with the rates for the national peer sample. The proportion of adolescents from the county who smoked cannabis was also higher than the national rate (*MW2*).

What did the consultations tell us?

The consultations identified the following issues for the CYPSC's attention in this CYPP under Outcome 3:

- Need for Parent and Family supports
- Need for Supports for families of children and young people with additional needs
- Alcohol and Substance Misuse
- Social Media and Safety

The consultations also have highlighted the impact of Covid-19 on family wellbeing.

Parent and Family Supports:

The consultations demonstrate the key importance of family for children, young people and their parents. The children under 5 years highlighted the role of parents in keeping them safe and their sense of the family home as a place of security. Children, aged 5 – 12 years, ranked having a great family as one of the best things in their lives. Young people either reported that good relations with their family was important to them or in some cases that they would like them to be better. Young adults in their responses identified a range of positive features about family life, such as close relationships, and emotional and financial security, and many identified a parent as someone they would go to for help.

Parents identified the stresses and strains on family life in their responses. These included in descending order of prominence, financial worries, access to services, work demands on parents' time, anxiety and stress, lack of quality time between parents and children, social media and parenting issues. Parents also identified the kind of parent supports and family supports services that would be most useful to them. These included help with managing children and teenagers around behavioural and emotional issues, with providing them with adequate diet and nutrition, parent peer support groups and more parent-friendly work conditions. The need for affordable childcare and access to information about services was also noted. In another consultation of parents, conducted by Túsla, responses also indicated the need for support around school issues and daily routines, with easy access to the level of support required.

A lack of family support and family difficulties emerge most clearly in some of the responses from children, young people and young adults. A number of children at risk of social exclusion highlighted the financial insecurity experienced by their families and agreed with the statement that there was not enough help for families. For some young people, family circumstances were a major source of anxiety and impacted on their progress in school. For a large proportion of young adults surveyed, a combination of the issues of family problems and family conflict constituted the main source of anxiety and stress. Frontline staff identified the need for family supports for a range of categories of families, as follows:

- Families with children with disabilities
- Families in Direct Provision/International Protection Accommodation
- Families impacted by marital breakdown, parental separation, and bereavement
- Families where children are in care
- Families where Alcohol / Substance Misuse or Mental Health is an issue for one or both parents
- Families with attachment issues.

There was also specific recommendations for more family support services in the North of the county, particularly for Roscrea, because of the perceived deficit in that area.

Túsla Child Protection & Welfare services: There was criticism from some front-line staff of different aspects of Túsla service provision: the threshold for Child Protection referrals is too high; Social Work vacancies and turnover of staff; logistical difficulties and obstacles for some parents around their access to see their children, who are in care with Túsla, and the impact on quality of access for these children; concerns about lack of frequency of sibling contact for children in care; and inadequacies in After-Care*(v)* service provision.

The dimension of safety in the local community environment also featured as an issue in the feedback. A number of responses from children, young people and young adults, particularly those at risk of social exclusion, referred to such concerns as not feeling safe, violence, the visibility of substance misuse, bullying, as well as intimidation.

Supports for families of children and young people with additional needs:
Feedback from frontline staff identified a number of needs relating to supports in this area:

- The need for parent support around the care of children and young people with additional needs
- The need for an information hub with details on all relevant service provision available and the referral pathways
- The need for respite breaks
- The need for more personal assistance service provision and home support to enable young adults with additional needs to live independently
- The inadequacy of the CAS (*Capital Assistance Scheme*)
- The need for availability of more suitable accommodation with adequate security of tenure.

Parents of children with additional needs highlighted the need for such supports as OT service, information and guidance re. services, more frequent respite, ASD services for adolescents and parent support groups, as well as the need to address waiting lists for services**.**

(v). After-Care service provision consists of the support arrangements provided through Túsla to young people, formerly in the care of the Túsla, once they have reached majority and have left care.

Alcohol and Substance Misuse:
Alcohol & Substance Misuse was a major issue in feedback from frontline staff. They reported on lack of awareness and supports for some young people; habitual addictive consumption of alcohol and drugs by parents and other family members in some families; the easy access to drugs in some areas where substance misuse was prevalent; the pattern of drug indebtedness; the correlation of Substance Misuse with criminality; and exacerbation of Mental Health issues.

Parents also identified Alcohol and Substance Misuse as health issues for young people and young adults in their feedback.

Young Adults perceived Alcohol and Substance misuse as an issue prevalent among their peers. It was also identified as a major concern by young people and young adults at risk of social exclusion, both in relation to the person's health and in relation to its threat to their individual security.

Internet and digital media safety:
The use of social media is almost universal among young people aged 10 years and upwards, as can be judged by the majority of responses about using the mobile phone as a leisure activity, and about keeping in contact on-line with friends during Covid-19 restrictions. Short of one out of ten responses from parents deemed excessive use of social media (further stimulated by Covid-19 social restrictions) to be disruptive to domestic harmony, while some of feedback from frontline staff highlights concerns about children and young people's access and exposure to inappropriate online activity and online bullying.

Impact of Covid-19:
Parents reported that Covid-19 and the associated lockdown had a negative impact on families with parents. They highlighted such consequences of this as stress, children being at home away from the structure and routine of school, restricted access to services and to extended family, increased social isolation and the detrimental effect on children's mental wellbeing.

It was noted in staff feedback that the restrictions introduced to combat the Covid-19 pandemic had a negative impact on the delivery of Túsla services by reducing in-person contact between parents and children in care; by reducing in-person contact between agencies and vulnerable families, particularly the children. This was of particular concern at a time when the isolation of vulnerable families and the escalation of economic and family stresses due to Covid-19 restrictions heightened the risks to Child Welfare.

The Covid-19 pandemic and related social restrictions were also perceived as having contributed to an increase in Substance Misuse.

Are there Sufficient Services in this Outcome Area?
Core statutory and non-statutory service provision in the area of Child Protection, Child Welfare, and Family Support has remained at the same levels over the past three years, with the exception of the establishment of the Silver Arch Family Resource Centre in the North of the county in 2018. This

development has addressed somewhat the imbalance of non-statutory service provision in this area between the North and South of the county. In the county as a whole, the embedding of the Túsla Prevention Partnership and Family Support programme is leading to better coordination of existing service provision to meet child welfare and family support needs. Nonetheless, there has been no additional resources to meet other service deficits around the county that were identified in the last Tipperary CYPP. Service provision for the towns of Clonmel, Cahir, Carrick-on-Siúir, Thurles and Roscrea continues to be under-resourced, although a strong case is currently being made for an adequately resourced and sustainable family support service for Roscrea.

The HSE is both a direct service provider and a main funder of non-statutory service provision in the area of Alcohol and Substance Misuse. As a direct provider, it delivers assessment and treatment services, as well as an education and training service through its HSE Education Officers. Non-statutory provision in the North of the county provides the following services: Early Intervention for young people under 18 years, a detox programme, outreach support, information and counselling, and respite for families affected. New developments in service provision for the North of the county include the setting up of a Coolmine Therapeutic Community service and a Mental Health/Addiction dual diagnosis service in the Mid West region. In the South of the county, there are three Community Based Drugs Initiatives (*CBDIs*) with remits for particular towns and their environs, offering one-to-one intervention, family support and information. There is also a Drug & Alcohol Outreach service. The different constellations/models of service delivery in the North and the South highlight a disparity of provision between the two parts of the county. The CBDIs are closely integrated with the areas under their remits, with close links with the HSE Alcohol & Substance Misuse service and youth services in their respective areas.

Safety & Security priorities for Tipperary CYPSC

Parent and Family Supports	Supporting responses to the needs of a range of categories of vulnerable families in different circumstances, including: - Families with children and young people with additional needs - Families in Direct Provision (IPAS) - Families impacted by marital breakdown, parental separation, and bereavement - Families where children are in care - Families where Alcohol / Substance Misuse or Mental Health is an issue for one or both parents

	Supporting training needs of staff to respond appropriately to needs To support the case for increased family support service provision in Roscrea.
Ukrainian Refugee Families	• To support the responses to the needs of the Ukrainian Refugee Families
Domestic Violence & Abuse	• Support for families and especially children affected by Domestic Violence and Abuse
Children and young people with additional needs	• To support the need for an information hub with details on all relevant service provision available and on the referral pathways. • To advocate for the need for parent support around the care of children and young people with additional needs, including access to respite breaks. • To advocate for the need for more personal assistance service provision and home support to enable young adults with additional needs to live independently.
Alcohol & Substance Misuse	• To develop the Be Sober Be Safe initiative
Social Media safety	• To promote awareness through support of Safer Internet Day, webwise site etc.

Outcome 4

How are the children of Co. Tipperary doing?

- Slightly less than one in four children, aged 0 – 17 years, in the county live in families dependent on Social Welfare. (*DSP, 2021*)
- The conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic led to the exacerbation and greater visibility of financial penury among families of low income. Shortly after the arrival of the pandemic and the introduction of lockdown and social restriction measures to combat it, agencies were highlighting the need for funding to support families with food and other household necessities. The families of some 804 children around the county received such funding in 2020 and 2021 from Tipperary CYPSC, a reflection of the level of need in the community.
- Over the period since the publication of the last Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan,

there has been a surge in the number of households with children on the Tipperary County Council Social Housing waiting lists. In 2017, there were 569 such households on the waiting list (*SONC, 2020*). This has risen almost three-fold to 1,638 households in 2021. Two-thirds of these households are One Parent Family households. The number of children currently on the waiting list is 3,034, comprising 7.4% of the 0 – 17 years age cohort in the county. (*Tipperary Co. Co., 2021*).

- There has been a significant net decline in unemployment figures over the last four years, 2017 – 2021. The unemployment rate in 2016 in the county was 14.6%, and the unemployment figure in 2017 stood at 11,084.

What did the consultations tell us?

The consultations identified the following issues for the CYPSC's attention in this CYPP under Outcome 4:

- Financial hardship and job prospects
- Training & employment for young adults with additional needs
- Traveller youth
- Accommodation

The consultations also have highlighted the impact of Covid-19 on economic security & opportunity.

Financial insecurity and job prospects:

Financial insecurity constituted one of the themes in feedback from the consultations. The largest proportion of responses from parents ranked financial worries as a major concern. For young adults, financial concerns related to the costs of undertaking 3rd-level education or further training and prospects of employment. Not surprisingly, financial insecurity was also an issue for children, young people and young adults at risk of social exclusion. A significant number of responses from the children agreed with the statement that there wasn't enough money to do things. For the young people, money worries that they identified suggested the struggle that their families had to provide accommodation, clothes and food. Young adults attributed financial insecurity to low wages and lack of job security where they were employed, lack of job opportunities and family circumstances. Some specified their financial worries as debts, accommodation costs and costs of living.

Young adults agreed that there were obstacles to employment in Co. Tipperary, chief of which were: not having the requisite experience; not enough jobs; not knowing how to access available jobs. For young adults at risk of social exclusion, additional reasons included employer prejudice and lack of connections. For young people at risk of social exclusion, one of the main concerns was lack of opportunity to get work experience, let alone the prospect of employment. Lack of transport further reduced the possibilities of getting employment.

Feedback from frontline staff identified the need for supports for young people who have struggled in education system to access suitable training and employment opportunities.

Training and employment for young adults with additional needs:

- To broaden the range of employment opportunities with appropriate supports for young adults with additional needs
- To provide training to prepare them for the work environment
- To raise disability awareness in the employment sector
- Re. the Wage Subsidy Scheme: the condition of 20 hours of work as a minimum per week is excessive for young adults with disabilities. This needs to be revised.

Young adults attending the Ability programmes identified having a disability, being perceived as different and a lack of sufficient monetary incentives as being obstacles for them to get employment. They suggested the need for more job opportunities, awareness raising and incentives for employers, and Equal Opportunity legislation.

Traveller youth:

- The need to break the cycle of exclusion of Travellers from the labour market

Accommodation deficit issues:

The lack of housing to purchase or to rent in the private sector and in social housing was identified as an issue in feedback from frontline staff, manifesting in a variety of ways: families and their constituent members forced to remain in accommodation inadequate to changing needs and circumstances; 2nd generation families unable to move out of the family home; young adult family members unable to leave the family home.

Traveller parents highlighted the inadequacy of their housing conditions and their living environment.

Parents of young adults with additional needs highlighted the insufficiency of the CAS (*Capital Assistance Scheme*); and the need for availability of more suitable accommodation with adequate security of tenure.

Impact of Covid:

Covid-19 and the associated social restrictions increased difficulties of young adults to access employment and contributed to further disengagement of those already at a disadvantage in the labour market.

Are there Sufficient Services in this Outcome Area?

Services to support young people who are not in Education, Employment or Training (*NEETs*) including those of Traveller background towards gainful employment:

- Department of Social Protection Employment Support schemes for eligible applicants aged 18 years and upwards, including Community Employment Scheme, Tús scheme, Work Placement Experience Programme, and other programmes

- The Local Development Companies provide work readiness and career supports for unemployed and those in insecure employment.
- The Local Employment Service in Carrick-on-Siúir provides advice, information and support to assist people towards employment opportunities
- Youth Employability Programmes in Tipperary town and Clonmel

The experience of the Youth Employability programme is that there is a need for engagement with and close support of young people who have struggled in the education system and have disengaged from it to enable them to transition to further training and employment. Support entails outreach, individual one-to-one engagement to build trust and to identify personal development & training needs, advocacy in relation to other issues such as housing and Medical card registration, and then linking with relevant training and work experience. The one programme of this kind to date, running in Tipperary town, has received only short-term statutory funding and the second such programme has only just been started in Clonmel.

Services to support young adults with additional needs towards gainful employment can vary widely because of different levels of need. Services specifically targeting this category of young adults include:

- Employability services in the North and South of the county
- Department of Social Protection programmes targeting people with disabilities in the workplace, including Wage Subsidy Scheme, Disability Awareness Support Scheme, Employment Retention Grant.

The need for a programme to support and facilitate young adults with additional needs to transition to appropriate work settings has been met by the Ability programmes. There are three such programmes in the county currently, in Roscrea, Thurles and Tipperary town, although their remits extend beyond their respective bases. The funding for the Ability programmes, however, is only secured up to September 2022. There continues to be a need for more inclusive practice in the employment sector.

Accommodation need is met through the private housing sector, whether for house purchase or renting, and through social housing, where there is demonstrable lack of means to get accommodation through one's own resources. There is currently an acknowledged housing supply problem nationally. In relation to social housing, the stock for direct letting by the County Council has fallen to very low levels and there is an acknowledged shortage of accommodation available from private landlords for the Rental Accommodation Scheme (*RAS*), the Housing Assistance Payment (*HAP*) or the Long Term Lease (*LTL*) schemes.

Economic Security & Opportunity priorities of Tipperary CYPSC

Young Adults with Additional Needs	• To support the development and delivery of transition programmes specifically relating to young people with disabilities leaving 2nd leve

	• To explore piloting an initiative with a small number of businesses using best practices, such as Disability Awareness training, and attaching a mentor from the staff in the work setting to each young person there. • To organise an Annual Progressive Pathways Fair, showcasing training and employment opportunities • To support continuation of Ability programmes in the county
NEETs	• To support the expansion of Youth Employability programmes around the county
Traveller young people	• To advocate and promote relevant proposals relating to employment from the National Traveller & Roma Integration Strategy (*NTRIS*).

Outcome 5

How are the children of Co. Tipperary doing?

- A majority of children under 18 years live in a rural setting. The ratio of urban/rural distribution of this age cohort is c. 2:3. A majority of the age group, 18 – 24 years, also live in a rural environment. The ratio of urban/rural distribution of this age cohort is c. 3:4. The need for access to transport is therefore key for children and young people to access the facilities and services necessary for their social development. (*AIRO, 2017*)
- Co. Tipperary has been the home of a growing multi-national, multi-ethnic population for some years as families and individuals have moved here whether as economic migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers, or for other reasons. The process of settling in and achieving a measure of integration, if any, has been happening largely organically in the case of most of these migrants over time. For some, such as the Syrian Refugee families, there have been pro-active measures to orient them and help them to settle in their new environment by providing accommodation, guidance and support. At the time of writing, there has been an influx of Ukrainian families, refugees from the Russian invasion of their homeland.
- The Educational Attainment level of the Primary Care Giver of the child, usually the mother, is acknowledged as a reliable indicator of the child's educational trajectory and future occupational prospects. The proportion of children in the county who are living in a household where the mother went on to 3rd-level education in the county is 28.4%, below the State rate of 31.5% (*CSO, 2016*)

What did the consultations tell us?

The consultations identified the following issues for the CYPSC's attention in this CYPP under Outcome 5:

- Rurality impacting on ability to participate
- Play: need for outdoor play facilities
- Friends: importance of friends
- Involvement in organised activities, not just sports
- Need for somewhere for young people to go and for something to do.
- Young people and young adults feel that they are not being listened to, that their views not being taken into account.
- LGBT* youth: need for safe social opportunities
- Discrimination against Traveller young people and their lack of access to Traveller-friendly services

At a basic level, the consultations showed the importance of play for children as a positive recreational activity in itself and also as an opportunity to socially engage with peers, and in this way to develop friendships. Accessibility to a playground seemed to feature for only a minority of the Primary School children consulted and more safer places to cycle and play ranked relatively high in their recommendations. For older children, young people and parents, the need for recreational spaces, formal social groups, including LGBT* youth groups, and activities, was specified, with an emphasis on non-sport categories. Better public transport for better connectivity, particularly because of so many children and young people living in a rural setting, was highlighted.

The barriers to participation in social and recreational activities in the community for children and young people with additional needs and Traveller children and young people were noted. For the former, there was need for more awareness around how to support them, and more inclusive practices and activities. Discrimination against Traveller children and young people and their lack of access to Traveller-friendly services was highlighted as an issue to be addressed.

The wider issue of participation by children, young people and young adults in society and to what extent they were facilitated to have their say was also commented on. Frontline staff feedback highlighted the structural barriers that already existed to such participation. Young adults said that they felt that their views were most taken into account in sports organisations and youth groups and were least considered in the workplace and education settings, and in relation to community planning. They were also aware of differential treatment on the grounds of social background, Traveller identity, disability, sexual orientation, occupational and educational status. Some of the children, and most of the young people and young adults at risk of social exclusion expressed the view that they were not listened to.

Impact of Covid-19: Children at risk of social exclusion identified worrying about Covid-19 and not being able to meet friends as being the most difficult features of Covid-19 for them. Young people at

risk of social exclusion also missed being able to meet friends and were worried about Covid-19 but not in the same proportion. The sample groups of the two age groups found contacting their friends on social media helpful and the younger age group sample also found playing outside helpful. Frontline staff commented on the detrimental impact on young people's social skills to engage with others. Young people also missed their involvement with youth services and other social activities.

Are there Sufficient Services in this Outcome Area?

- There are some 36 public playgrounds around the county which children can avail of, not including the additional small number attached to specific residential estates. As noted above, there is a perception among children of a shortage of playground facilities.
- For older children, young people and adults, the county would appear to be well-serviced by sports clubs. There is nonetheless a lack of sport options suitable for children and young people with additional needs. The Irish Wheelchair Association offers recreational programmes for young adults which include swimming, basketball and boccia. Tipperary Warriors Multi-Sports Club targets children with physical disabilities and their families and is a rare example of the kind of service model that would meet this need.
- Youth service provision is notionally available county-wide, with increased targeting of young people at risk of social exclusion in the case of the funded agencies. As well as the latter, there are also a number of voluntary agencies providing a recreational service for young people, the largest of which is Scouting Ireland. There are also opportunities for young people and young adults to get involved in voluntary organisations with a community service remit, such as the Order of Malta, Red Cross, and Civil Defence. In light of the major demand in the consultations for more non-sport recreational opportunities and for youth spaces, there is scope for more service development in this area.

  The funded youth service agencies all run group activities specifically for LGBTQ* youth and these have been able to avail of increased resourcing under Healthy Ireland in recent years to increase service capacity.

  Those at risk of social exclusion, including children and young people with additional needs, Traveller youth, and children from the new communities have access to the services of the funded youth agencies and there are also examples of special provision for specific categories. Nonetheless, there is scope for improvement in terms of inclusive practice and of consideration of special provision for children and young people with additional needs and Traveller youth.
- Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg is the county structure for participation by young people in decision-making at county and at national levels. It is a vibrant forum with some 40 elected members from across the county and takes seriously its remit to include representation by young people at risk of social exclusion. The Comhairle represents its youth constituency on

the TETB forum and on CYPSC, and in making representations to the Local Authority. There is much work to do as yet in advancing the case for children and young people having a say in the practices and decision-making processes of the agencies affecting their lives.

Participation and Social Integration Priorities of Tipperary CYPSC

Child & Youth Participation	• To develop and strengthen CYPSC links with Comhairle na nÓg • To develop a representative structure for young adults so as to feed into CYPSC. • To support the implementation of a Participation Strategy among all agencies represented on CYPSC
Children and young people with additional needs	• To support expansion of number of youth clubs catering specifically for children and young people with additional needs, and to encourage autonomy in running these. • To run Disability Awareness training for C&V staff and community groups • To support the SibShop programme for siblings of children & young people with additional needs. • To support the organisation of social activities exclusively targeting children and young people with additional needs and their families
Transport	• To undertake an audit of existing transport services, needs analysis, and submit proposals to Local Link.
LGBT* Youth	• To support continued development of support services for LGBT* youth in the county
Youth Spaces	• To support the identification by young people of youth-friendly spaces in towns across the county
New communities	• To support implementation of the Tipperary County Council Migrant Strategy

Section 5: Summary of Children and Young People's Plan for Co. Tipperary

Outcome Areas	Local Priority Areas*
1. Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing	• Mental Health & Wellbeing • Healthy Eating & Active Living • Children and Young People with Additional Needs
2. Achieving full potential in learning and development	• Traveller Education • Roma Education • Children & Young People with Additional Needs • Literacy Development • Early School Leaving • Play
3. Safe and protected from harm	• Parenting Support • Domestic Violence & Abuse • Children and Young People with Additional Needs • Alcohol & Substance Misuse • Bullying • Social Media Safety • Families seeking International Protection • Ukrainian Refugee Families
4. Economic security and opportunity	• Young Adults with Additional Needs • NEETs • Young Travellers
5. Connected, respected and contributing to their world	• Active Participation by Children and Young People • Children and Young People With Additional Needs • Transport • LGBT* Youth • Youth Spaces

Change Management
Inter-agency communication: To ensure information-sharing and communication protocols are in place with key stakeholders so as to maximise inter-agency collaboration. These key stakeholders include: Local Community Development Company; Comhairle na nÓg; Education & Health services

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Mental Health and Wellbeing	To support increased awareness and staff training in the area of parent-infant attachment in Early Years.	Number of training events for staff and number of staff trained Number of training sessions for parents and of parents attending	3 attachment-based training programmes p.a. 30 staff trained p.a. 2 parental training sessions p.a. 15 parents trained	To organise training in attachment-based programmes for staff working with children and families To organise Infant Mental Health/ Circle of Security Parenting for parents	Ongoing	Tipperary Infant Mental Health Steering Group Silver Arch Family Resource Centre Outcome 1 Sub-Group	*First Five Strategy*	Transformational Goal: Earlier Intervention and Prevention
	To increase the number of social and emotional development/emotional resilience programmes in schools	Audit completed	Audit undertaken of relevant programmes that are run in Primary and Post Primary Schools	To promote the delivery of emotional literacy programmes in schools	Ongoing	Outcomes 1 and 2 Sub-Groups IPPN rep. NAPD rep.	*Connecting for Life, SECH, 2022-2024 (CfL SECH), Local Action 3.3.6*	
	To support increase of mental health supports for children and young people	Establishment of a committee. Review completed	Formation of committee and review undertaken	To convene stakeholders to review Mental Health needs of children and young people	Q. 1, 2023	HSE Health and Wellbeing Jigsaw Schools Other stakeholders	- *Healthy Tipperary Strategy, 2018-20* - *CfL SECH 3.3.6* *-Sharing the Vision, Implement. Plan*, Recommend. 16	Transformational Goal: Cross-Government and Inter-Agency Collaboration and Coordination

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Mental Health & Wellbeing	To increase mental health supports and to facilitate access to appropriate services for children and young people	Regular review of Mental Health needs at Outcome 1 Sub-Group meetings	Review of Mental Health needs by agencies working with children and young people	To advocate for resources for service provision to meet unmet Mental Health needs	Ongoing	CYPSC CYPSC Outcome 1 Sub-Group		
		CYPSC representation on Regional Offices for Suicide Prevention (*ROSP*)-led Steering Groups	Involvement of CYPSC representative in ROSP-led Steering Groups, as appropriate	To work with Regional Offices for Suicide Prevention and other stakeholders to implement Suicide Prevention Strategy	Ongoing	Regional Offices for Suicide Prevention in Mid West and South East	*Connecting for Life Strategies*, Mid West and South East	
	To ensure greater access to mental health supports for children and young people	Mental Health Education and Information campaign undertaken	A Mental Health education and information campaign over a specific time period – promotion and advertisement of Mental Health programmes and supports	To develop a county-wide Mental Health education and information campaign with the following strands: clubs, schools, priority groups such as Travellers	End of 2023	Committee of stakeholders formed to review Mental Health needs (*see above*)	*Connecting for Life, SECH, 2022-2024,* Action 3.1.6 *Healthy Tipperary Strategy, 2018 – 2020*, Strategic Priority 2, Objective 2.1	Transformational Goal: Cross-Government and Inter-Agency Collaboration and Coordination

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Mental Health & Wellbeing	To increase provision for children and young people affected by loss and bereavement	Number of services for children and young people experiencing loss in the county	To research relevant services and to support their outreach to the county	To identify services addressing loss and bereavement which children and young people could access	End of 2023	CYPSC Outcome 1 Sub-Group		
	To ensure an effective and coordinated response to a critical incident in the community	Completion of Community Response Plan for the South East region	Development of a regional Community Response Plan	Participation by the CYPSC in the South East Community Response Plan Project Group	End of 2022	Regional Offices for Suicide Prevention HSE Mental Health services	*Developing a Community Response to Suicide, 2021*	Transformational Goal: Cross-Government and Inter-Agency Collaboration and Coordination
Healthy Eating & Active Living	To promote breastfeeding and healthy weaning in the county	Number of workshops promoting healthy weaning; number of attendees	24 workshops, 200 families, per annum	To support the organisation of healthy weaning workshops for parents and children, aged ≥ 6 months	2022 - 2025	Clonmel Community Mothers Programme Silver Arch Family Resource Centre	*Healthy Ireland: a Framework for Improved Health & Wellbeing, 2013-25*	
	Increase awareness of the importance of healthy eating and nutrition for children and families	Number of family-focussed programs promoting Healthy Eating and regular physical activity	1 Healthy Street programme p.a.	To organise 'Healthy Streets' programmes for families in a no. of communities	2022 - 2025	Tipperary Rural Traveller Project	*Healthy Ireland: a Framework for Improved Health & Wellbeing, 2013-25*	Transformational Goal: Support Parents

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Healthy Eating & Active Living	To address the issue of excess weight among children and young people	Dissemination of message to networks	Participation in campaigns that support the objectives of the Healthy Weight of children Project Groups, e.g. START	To promote the implementation of the *Healthy Weight for Children Framework*, by publicising key messages, etc.	Ongoing	Regional Healthy Weight for Children Project Groups (*CHOs 3 & 5*)	*Healthy Weight for children (0 – 6) Framework*	Transformational Goal: Earlier Intervention and Prevention
	To increase engagement in physical activity by children and young people	No. of Early Years educators in receipt of Buntús Start training No.of Early Years services being trained in the use of Balance Bikes and delivering the programme to children.	Staff from 8 Early Years services trained in Buntús Start p.a. 18 pre-schools p.a.	To deliver training to Early Years educators in Buntús Start and to deliver the Balance Bikes Programme.	2022 - 2025	Tipperary Sports Partnership Tipperary Childcare Committee Early Years services	*National Physical Activity Plan* *Healthy Ireland: a Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing, 2013 – 2025* *Aistear*	Transformational Goal: Earlier Intervention and Prevention
Sexual Health & Behaviour	To increase young people's awareness in relation to Sexual Health and Behaviour	No. of staff trained who are working with children and young people	10 staff trained p.a.	To provide training in relation to Sexual Health and Education to staff working with young people	Ongoing	Tipperary LGBT* Youth Coordinating Group	*National Sexual Health Strategy, 2015-2020*	

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Sexual Health & Behaviour	To increase young people's awareness re. Sexual Health & Behaviour	No. of schools and training centres engaged with programmes	8 schools / training centres p.a.	To deliver programmes on healthy relationships to young people	Ongoing	Ascend, North Tipperary Development Company	*National Sexual Health Strategy, 2015 - 2020*	
Children and Young People with Additional Needs	To promote physical activity opportunities for children and young people with additional needs	One meeting with stakeholders	To convene a meeting with stakeholders and to make a plan to organise activities	To consult with relevant stakeholders about increasing opportunities in existing clubs for children and young people	Q. 1, 2023	Irish Wheelchair Association FAI Football for All GAA Healthy Clubs Dolphin Swimming Club Tipperary Sports Partnership Tipperary Special Olympics		
	To support and advocate for families with children and young people with additional needs	Role of Independent Chairperson assumed	To act as Independent Chairperson on both the North Tipperary & South Tipperary Family Fora	To assist in the development of the Disabilities Family Fora in the county. To highlight service provision deficit issues in the county.	Ongoing	HSE Disabilities services	*CHO Governance of Children's Disability Network Services*	Transformational Goal: Support Parents

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Traveller Education	To support and facilitate increased engagement by the Traveller community and their children and young people with the education system	Active committee formed	To form a committee of relevant stakeholders to explore how to promote greater engagement with Early Years service provision	To promote greater engagement by Traveller families with Early Years service provision	Q. 2, 2023	Tipperary Childcare Committee Tipperary Rural Traveller Project	*National Traveller & Roma Integration Strategy (NTRIS), 2017 - 2021*	
		Establishment of Family Learning Projects in four towns in the South of the county	To establish Family Learning Projects in a number of towns in the South of the county	To engage with Traveller families, Primary Schools and other relevant stakeholders in order to set up an educational support project for Travellers	2025	Tipperary Rural Traveller Project		
		Establishment of a STAR project in the county	To establish a STAR project	To advocate for location of a STAR project in the county once the pilot phase has been evaluated.	2024	Outcome 2 Sub-Group		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Roma education	To support engagement by the Roma community and their children and young people with education	Number of meetings	Up to 4 regular meetings with Roma Health Worker and other stakeholders p.a.	To support Roma Health project in addressing the challenges that the Roma community faces in engaging with education	Ongoing	Outcome 2 Sub-Group Youth Work Ireland Tipperary	*National Traveller & Roma Integration Strategy (NTRIS), 2017 - 2021*	
Literacy development	To increase parental involvement in measures to improve literacy development	No. of pre-schools implementing the initiative No. of family support agencies doing likewise	10 pre-school services p.a. I family support agency	To support Library service initiative to encourage parents to read bed-time stories to their children from infancy	Ongoing	Tipperary Childcare Committee Library service Tipperary Rural Traveller Project Pre-schools Parents	- *National Literacy Strategy* - *Healthy Ireland Framework*, Theme 3, Action 3.3	Transformational Goal: Support Parents

Action Plan for Tipperary 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 School Leaving	Increased retention of children and young people at risk of social exclusion in an educational setting .	One Alternative Learning Project providing a service in the county	Continuation of iScoil project in Roscrea and support for any further projects in this category	To support the establishment of the iScoil blended project in Roscrea and other similar projects on a more sustained basis	Ongoing	North Tipperary Development Company Tipperary Education and Training Board		
		Meetings between committee of stakeholders and Tipperary Education and Training Board (*TETB*)	Committee of stakeholders formed to lobby TETB and meeting regularly with TETB	To advocate for the establishment of a Community Training Centre in Carrick-on-Siúir	2023	South Tipperary Development Company CYPSC		
Play	To raise awareness among parents of the importance of play as an educational tool	No. of programmes	2 programmes p.a.	To support programmes for parents and children around the importance of play.	Ongoing	Outcome 2 Sub-Group Tipperary Childcare Committee	*Aistear* programme	

Action Plan for Tipperary 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 co-ordinate, and where possible increase supports for parents so that they have information, skills and support to rear their children to reach their potential.	Production of a quarterly Parenting Support calendar	Develop and distribute a quarterly calendar of parenting supports and programmes around the county	Mapping all available parenting support services and programmes for each quarter and disseminating this information	Ongoing	CYPSC	*Supporting Parents: a National Model of Parenting Support Services (Dept. of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, 2022)*	Transformational Goal: Support Parents
		Drop-In Parent Hub in operation.	Develop a Drop-In Parent Hub with fixed venues and times in the South of the county. Advice, information and sign-posting to services provided	Assignment of staff by family support agencies to provide the Drop-In service and a schedule of dates, times and venues to be established and advertised.	Ongoing	Prevention Partnership & Family Support		
	To enhance service response to vulnerable families	Regular meetings of PPFS Steering Groups and North Tipperary Parenting Strategy Working Group	PPFS Steering Groups mtgs to include parent support needs on agenda and to consider how to address these	To seek out resources to support vulnerable categories of families affected by Alcohol/Substance Misuse; DVA, etc.	Ongoing	PPFS Steering Groups in the North & South of the county		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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 build capacity of staff to respond appropriately to children and young people facing adversity	Formation of committee to promote trauma-informed training & awareness No. of workshops for staff organised	To form a committee to promote trauma-informed training To organise 3 workshops p.a.	To provide appropriate training to staff working with vulnerable families.	Ongoing	CYPSC Túsla Barnardos Cuan Saor Tipperary Rural Traveller Project		
	To support the case for increased family support provision in Roscrea	Inclusion of this issue as a key priority in Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan	To highlight this issue in Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan	To support the establishment of an adequately funded family support service in Roscrea	Ongoing	North Tipperary Development Company PPFS, Túsla	*Roscrea Family Support Needs Analysis, 2020*	Transformational Goal: Support Parents
	To support children to continue to engage positively with both parents in context of parental separation	Committee of relevant stakeholders formed and meeting regularly	Formation of a committee to pursue this issue	To support the case for an independent access centre for non-resident parents and their children	Ongoing	North Tipperary Development Company	*Child Handover Access Needs and Feasibility Study for North Co. Tipperary, 2021*	
Families seeking International Protection	To ensure the welfare of children and young people of these families in International Protection Accommodation Services (*IPAS*)	Membership of relevant inter-agency structure(s)	To represent Tipperary CYPSC on inter-agency committees with a remit to respond to needs of the families	To take an active role in inter-agency structures formed to respond to the needs of the families in IPAS	Ongoing	Túsla	*White Paper to end Direct Provision and to establish a new IPAS*	

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Childhood Domestic Violence and Abuse	1). All agencies working with children/YP have an increased awareness of the impact of domestic violence and abuse (*DVA*) on children's health, wellbeing and development. 2).There is an improved access to services across prevention, crisis and recovery through a community coordinated response. 3). Improved outcomes for children and families living with DVA.	No. of TLC Kidz programmes p.a Each steering group has a coordinated approach to childhood domestic violence and abuse.	3 TLC Kidz programmes p.a.	To seek resources to support roll out of programmes for children affected by domestic abuse.	Ongoing	Barnardos Family Support projects in Thurles and Clonmel	*Barnardos Evaluation of the TLC Kidz programme (2018)*	

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Children and young people with additional needs	Increase awareness of services for children and young people with additional needs and their families among professionals, parents & young people Improve information about referral pathways to services	Annual information campaign organised	To organise an information campaign re. service provision annually	To publicise existing service provision for children and young people with additional needs on CYPSC website. To explore need for poster with information on relevant service provision and referral pathways for circulation	2022 - 2025	CYPSC		
	To promote supports for parents of children and young people to enable them to provide optimal care.	Correspondence with relevant authorities, as required	Identification of issues and highlighting of same with relevant authorities at national level.	To support and advocate for improvement of service provision that increases parental support, e.g., respite breaks.	Ongoing	CYPSC		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Children and young people with additional needs	To highlight the need for increased parent support around the care of children and young people with additional needs	Two parent support programmes targeting parents of children & young people with additional needs in the North & South of the county.	To run two parent support programmes p.a. To run two 'Life Skills' programmes for parents	To support provision of appropriate training for parents around the care of their children, including parenting programmes at milestone stages	Ongoing	HSE Disabilities services Túsla		
Ukrainian Refugee Families	To support provision of adequate levels of assistance to Ukrainian refugee families	Implementation of actions Membership on Community Response Forum and number of meetings attended	To carry out actions as proposed by Community Mobilisation Sub-Group To participate on Community Response Forum and attend its meetings	To cooperate in implementing at county level the decisions of Túsla Community Mobilisation Sub-Group. To support the Community Response Forum and other agencies in the provision of assistance to families	Ongoing	CYPSC Túsla		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Alcohol & Substance Misuse	To raise awareness among parents and young people in order to develop a more robust response to under-age alcohol consumption in the community	Be Sober Be Safe campaign to be run annually	To organise stakeholders in a 'Be Sober Be Safe' campaign The campaign to run once p.a.	To coordinate a response to under-age alcohol consumption by organising stakeholders to inhibit access to and excessive consumption of alcohol.	Ongoing	Be Sober Be Safe Steering Group		
Social Media safety	To promote healthy on-line activity by young people To provide information to parents on internet use.	Circulation of information to a mailing list.	Annual promotion of Safer Internet Day Regular circulation of information to schools and other agencies working with children and young people	To promote Safer Internet Day To promote the Webwise site and other relevant sources of information	Ongoing	PPFS Túsla		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Young Adults with Additional Needs	To facilitate young adults with additional needs to transition to further education, training and employment.	One Progressive Pathways Fair per annum	To run one Progressive Pathways Fair in the county and to review	To run a Progressive Pathways Fair to show-case training and employment opportunities available to young adults with additional needs in the county.	End of 2022	CYPSC Outcome 4 Sub-Group		
		Number of students completing pilot programme and making successful transition to further training or employment	To run a pilot transition programme with students from Scoil Chormaic	To support the development and delivery of transition programmes for young people leaving Post Primary	Summer 2022	Knockanrawley Resource Centre Tipperary Education & Training Board Scoil Chormaic, Cashel		
		Correspondence with relevant national authorities and other influential parties	To write to relevant authorities at national level re. continuation of the Ability programs as required	To support the continuation of the Ability programs by advocacy with relevant authorities at national level.	Ongoing	CYPSC		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
NEETs	To support the development of initiatives that facilitate NEETs to transition into paid employment.	Correspondence with relevant national authorities and other influential parties	To write to relevant authorities at national level re. continuation of the programs as required	To support sustainability of Youth Employability programs by advocacy with relevant authorities at national level.	Ongoing	CYPSC		
		One document with information on current initiatives No. of contacts with the relevant agencies	To draft list of current initiatives and to meet with the relevant agencies	To build a profile of the current initiatives for NEETs in the county and to promote ways of addressing unmet needs	Q. 4, 2023	Outcome 4 Sub-Group		
Young Travellers	To support the development of initiatives that target getting young Travellers into employment	List of relevant NTRIS actions drafted No. of follow-up actions with relevant stakeholders	Identification of relevant actions in NTRIS document and subsequent follow through with relevant stakeholders	To advocate for relevant proposals from NTRIS with relevant stakeholders	Ongoing	Outcome 4 Sub-Group	*National Traveller & Roma Integration Strategy (NTRIS), 2017 - 2021*	

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Active participation of children and young people	Increase of staff in different agencies represented on CYPSC with Child & Youth Participation	No. of sessions providing Children and Youth Participation training for staff from different agencies	Inclusion of staff from different agency in Tusla-organised training Sessions. 3 sessions p.a.	To promote Children and Youth Participation training among the different agencies participating in CYPSC	2022 - 2025	Tusla	*Participation Framework: National Framework for Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making*	Transformational Goal: Listen to and involve children and young people
	To develop and strengthen CYPSC links with Comhairle na nÓg	No. of : CYPSC meetings attended by CnanÓg rep. CnanÓg g mtgs attended by CYPSC Coordinator CYPSC mtgs attended by CnanÓg delegation	4 CYPSC mtgs p.a., at minimum 2 mtgs p.a. 1 mtg p.a.	To continue to formalise and strengthen the role of Comhairle na nOg in CYPSC by facilitating the Comhairle to send: i). a representative to CYPSC meetings ii). a delegation to meet with CYPSC	Ongoing	CYPSC Coordinator		
	To facilitate representation of the young adult cohort, aged 18 – 24 years on CYPSC structures	Completion of a proposal	To draft a proposal for a suitable representative structure	To consider options for representing young adult cohort on CYPSC and its Sub-Groups	2023	Outcome 5 Sub-Group		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Children and young people with additional needs	To support expansion of number of youth clubs catering specifically for children and young people with additional needs and to encourage autonomy in running these.	Advisory Group formed Proposal re. youth club provision completed	Formation of an advisory group to draft a youth club provision proposal	To consult with children and young people with additional needs about forming a number of pilot youth clubs	2023	Outcome Sub-Group 5		
	To enhance staff awareness who engage with children and young people with additional needs	Number of training programmes p.a.	To run Gold Star Disability Awareness Training programme 3-4 times p.a.	To run Disability Awareness training for non-statutory staff and community groups	Ongoing	Outcome Sub-Group 5		
	To provide support to families with children and young people with additional needs	Number of programmes p.a.	2 programmes p.a	To support the roll out of the Sib Shop programme for siblings of children and young people with additional needs	Ongoing	Outcome Sub-Group 5		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Children and young people with additional needs	To support families of children and young people with additional needs to interact socially with each other and with the wider community	Number of social events	Two social events p.a.	To support the organisation of social activities targeting children and young people with additional needs and their families	2023 - 2025	Outcome Sub-Group 5		
Transport	To facilitate children and young people to access the services and amenities contributing to their development	Viable proposal for audit	To meet with stakeholders (*e.g., young people, Local Link*) re. specification for audit	To undertake an audit of existing transport services, a needs analysis and to submit proposals to Local Link	2023	Outcome Sub-Group 5		
LGBT*	To support LGBT* youth to meet together in safe environments	No. of events p.a.	1 - 2 events p.a.	To continue to support the adequate resourcing of support services for LGBT* youth in the county	Ongoing	LGBT* Youth Coordination Group		
	To enhance and develop support services for LGBT*Youth	Viable proposal for future developments	Agenda item at LGBT* Youth Coordination Group meetings	To contribute to planning and development of services	Ongoing	LGBT* Youth Coordination Group		

Action Plan for Tipperary 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)**
Youth Spaces	To provide youth-friendly spaces where young people can safely meet and socialise.	Number of Agenda Days undertaken	1 pilot Agenda Day	To support youth participation in dialogue with Tipperary County Council and other stakeholders re. provision of youth-friendly spaces.	2023	Comhairle na nÓg	*Participation Framework: National Framework for Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making*	Transformational Goal: Listen To and Involve Children and Young People

Action Plan for Tipperary 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 & collaboration	To ensure information-sharing and communication protocols are in place with key stakeholders to maximise inter-agency collaboration	No. of meetings	To maintain regular contacts with Local Community Development Company; Comhairle na nÓg; and others	To ensure that there is scheduled communication, preferably meetings, with key stakeholders to share information and to explore options for joint action	Ongoing	CYPSC Coordinator		

Section 7: Monitoring and Review

Tipperary Children and Young People's Services Committee is committed to a continuous process of monitoring and review of the Children and Young People's Work Plan (CYPP) and will meet with the requirements of the CYPSC Planning and Reporting Framework, as follows:

- Tipperary CYPSC will produce an Annual Programme of Work which will outline the work to be undertaken and achieved by the CYPSC in each calendar year over the span of the CYPP, September 2022 – September 2025.
- Tipperary CYPSC will carry out a Mid-year Progress Review to determine locally the level of progress with the Annual Programme of Work, and to identify issues and challenges in the implementation of the programme.
- Tipperary CYPSC will also produce an Annual Progress Report which will include details on progress of actions in the Annual Programme of Work, on CYPSC inter-agency activity during the year, on participation of children and young people in CYPSC and its structures, on challenges and achievements, and other required details.

Each CYPSC Sub-Group will submit a progress report to each CYPSC meeting on progress on actions under the respective remits and on any issues and challenges arising.

The Tipperary CYPSC will continue to engage with children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years, and with families and stakeholders to ensure that the CYPP remains focussed on the needs of this age cohort.

Tipperary CYPSC will continue to liaise on an ongoing basis and to share information with the Tipperary Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and will work with all strategic partners locally to improve outcomes for children, young people and young adults throughout the county.

Section 8: Appendices

Appendix 1

TIPPERARY CYPSC TERMS OF REFERENCE

We, in the Tipperary Children and Young People's Services Committee, here express our commitment to work and plan together with all relevant stakeholders to improve outcomes for children and young people in Tipperary.

The Tipperary Children and Young People's Service Committee is an all-county structure which reflects the needs of the county as a whole.

Children and Young People's Services Committees (*CYPSC*) are a key structure identified by Government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people in every county in Ireland. The Department of Children Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (*DCEDIY*) provides the policy lead for CYPSC.

The CYPSC is responsible for improving the lives of children, young people and families at local and community level through coordinating, planning and service delivery. The overall purpose of CYPSC is to secure better outcomes for children and young people, with a particular focus on those most at risk. The basis for measuring the achievement of this purpose is derived from the 5 National Outcomes, as per the *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020. This* is the first overarching national policy framework for children and young people aged 0-24 years.

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

Vision

Children and young people in Co. Tipperary are valued and supported by their families, communities and agencies, can access best quality services and are involved with decisions that affect them in achieving their potential.

Mission

Tipperary Children and Young People's Services Committee provides strategic leadership in facilitating interagency collaboration and the participation of children and young people to achieve better outcomes for them.

Objectives

1. To identify the needs and strengths of children, young people and communities

2. To support agencies to work collaboratively through evidence-based planning and coordination of services, to meet the needs of children and young people.

3. To promote good quality, evidence informed planning and practice to enhance service provision for children and young people

4. To optimise the use of resources by:
    - Informing the planning and provision of resources across the area covered by the CYPSC with a view to enabling the optimum use of resources at local level and ensure complementarity between CYPSC's and agencies' service plans in respect of their priorities.
    - Informing the allocation of resources and work towards becoming a vehicle for facilitating joint commissioning of services for children, young people and families.
    - Informing national policy and decision-making with regard to resource allocation for services for children and young people.

5. To prioritise the participation of children and young people in decision-making that affects their lives, in accordance with Article 12, UN Convention on the Rights of Children.

6. To develop and to oversee the implementation of an interagency Children and Young People's Plan to improve outcomes for children and young people

Membership of the Tipperary CYPSC

Informed by the *Blueprint for the Development of Children and Young People's Services Committees* (*DCYA)*, the following will comprise the membership of Tipperary CYPSC:

- **Tusla:** Two seats (one representative from the North and one from the South)
- **HSE:** Two seats, one for representative from North of the county, and one for representative from the South of the county
- **Tipperary County Council**
- **Tipperary Education Training Board**
- **Irish Primary Principals Network**
- **National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals Association.**
- **National Educational Psychological Services**
- **Probation Service**
- **An Garda Síochána**
- **County Childcare Committee**
- **Local Development Companies:** Two seats (one representative from the North and one

from the South)

- **Comhairle na nÓg:** One seat for a young person representing the Comhairle. The Coordinator of the Comhairle also attends to support the Comhairle representative
- **Community & Voluntary:** One seat filled by the Tipperary Public Participation Network (*PPN*).
- **Youth services Sector**
- **Family Support:** Three seats, one for Barnardos, and two seats to be filled by PPN, one from North Tipperary Social Inclusion College, and one from South Tipperary Social Inclusion College.

Roles & Responsibilities

The key responsibilities of the Chair are to:

- Provide leadership and direction for the Committee
- Ensure the effectiveness of the Committee in all aspects of its role, including delivery of its work programme
- Ensures appropriate interaction between the Committee and external
- In the case of unavailability of the person in the role of Chair at any meeting, these responsibilities will be exercised by the Vice-Chair

The responsibilities of the Vice-Chair are to:

- Support the Chair in the performance of her/his duties
- In the case of unavailability of the person in the role of Chair at any meeting, to take the role of Chair for that meeting.

The key responsibilities of the CSC Coordinator are to:

- Organise and administer meetings of the Committee
- Ensure the collection, provision and reporting of relevant data and information
- Foster and develop relationships with key personnel including committee members and other stakeholders involved in provision of child & family services

CYPSC members will be of sufficient seniority to represent their agency and to exercise decision-making powers, and should be expressly supported by their parent organisation to communicate CYPSC work across their organisation in order to ensure meaningful representation and Engagement. Key responsibilities include:

- To commit to attend meetings
- To communicate and give feedback to the wider sector/organisation which they represent at CYPSC
- To bring knowledge and understanding of their sector
- To agree to the mission, vision, operating principles and way of working together
- To be committed to agreed priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan (*CYPP*).

Ground Rules

- In order to facilitate consistency of representation, member organisations will nominate a core member to the committee
- Members will commit to regular attendance of meetings. Where a member's attendance is poor, he/she will vacate their position to facilitate consistent representation from their nominating body
- Members will participate fully in meetings, will listen actively and will facilitate one voice at a time
- Members will commit to follow up on actions that are agreed at meetings
- Members will feed back to their nominating body (e.g. PPN) using an agreed feedback mechanism (such as a Statement of Outcomes)
- Meetings will start on time
- Meeting times and venues will be accessible to members (e.g. Comhairle na nÓg representatives are usually only available outside school hours)
- A round of introductions will be carried out at the start of every meeting
- Members will confirm their attendance in advance to the CYPSC Coordinator
- An annual schedule of meetings will be issued in advance

Operating Principles

Positive change:	We, in Tipperary CYPSC, are here to contribute, create positive change and be solution-focused.
Agreed Priorities:	We will ensure our list of agreed priorities can make a real and positive strategic impact.
Focus:	We continually check our priorities and actions against our principles and way of working together.
Equality & Inclusion:	We actively support the principle of equality and inclusion.
Participation:	We involve the views of children, young people their parents/carers and other stakeholders
Interagency Governance:	We are accountable and provide good interagency governance for the work we undertake.
Sustainability:	We come together to do sustainable work.
Commitment:	Overall we agree with the principles and remit of CYPSCs in the national guidance document, *Blueprint for the Development of CYPSCs*, and the Tipperary CYPSC Operating Principles should be read in conjunction with it.
Added value	We need to consider whether it is adding value to work that would happen anyway under different auspices
Building Relationships	We seek to facilitate relationship building, prevent duplication, encourage cooperation and enable shared learning.
All-county approach	We commit to work on an all-county basis.

Meeting format

- Frequency of Meetings: Meetings will take place bi-monthly as a general rule.
- Quorum: At meetings of the CYPSC, 25% of the total number of members shall constitute a quorum. If after the expiration of thirty minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the CYPSC shall rise and the meeting shall stand adjourned to a date to be then named by the Chair of the meeting
- Decision making: Decision making by consensus will be encouraged where possible. In circumstances where it is necessary to make a decision and where there is no consensus, a decision by the committee can be carried by a simple majority.
- Notice of Meetings: A notice to attend the meeting, and a draft agenda of business items for the meeting, shall be sent to each member of the Committee at least five working days before any meeting. Such notice will include any documentation relevant to the agenda for the meeting in so far as possible.
- Minutes of Meetings: The minutes of every CYPSC meeting when adopted shall be signed by the Chair at such meeting at which the minutes are considered, and shall be kept and certified by the CYPSC Co-ordinator. No minutes shall be considered for confirmation unless a copy thereof has been previously forwarded to every member of the CYPSC. The minutes of all meetings shall contain the names of the members and officials present together with particulars of all decisions and recommendations made. Minutes from any CYPSC meeting will be sent to members 10 working days before the following meeting.
- Attendance at Meetings: If a CYPSC member is absent from three consecutive meetings without any apology, the CYPSC may ask the agency or organisation which is represented by this member, to nominate another person to take his/her place on the Committee.
- Substitution of Members: Substitute delegates may only be nominated by permission of the Chair.
- Purpose & Function: Each Sub-Group is aligned with one of the National Outcomes in '*Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures'* and is responsible for progressing implementation of the CYPSC Work Plan actions that correlate to the specific National Outcome.

CYPSC Sub-Groups

The role of the Sub-Group is:

- To consult and agree the programme of work, namely the actions under its specific remit (National Outcome) in the Action Plan.
- To oversee the programme of work: in this task, the Sub-Group will seek to ensure that the designated lead agencies and associated designated partners for the respective actions implement these.
- To monitor implementation of the actions by receiving progress reports from the lead agencies at regular intervals.
- To regularly communicate with the CYPSC on progress with the programme of work.

The Sub-Groups also have a role in identifying issues and related actions under the specific National Outcomes to which they are aligned for inclusion in the CYPSC Work Plan.

- Membership: Membership of the Sub-Groups is drawn from organizations, groups and individuals who have particular knowledge and expertise in the areas relating to the specific priorities of each of the Sub-Groups.

- Sub-Group Chairperson: Each of the Sub-Groups will be chaired by a member of CYPSC, or by an appropriate nominee, who has particular responsibilities and expertise in the area relating to the Sub-Group's priorities. At the initial meeting of each Sub-Group, the Chairperson will present the Sub-Group Terms of Reference for discussion and agreement.

- The CYPSC Sub-Groups will meet at least 3 times a year, and will be convened by the Chairperson in consultation with the CYPSC Coordinator

Reporting mechanism

- At a national level: The CYPSC will furnish progress reports as required to the National CYPSC Steering Group

Review & Evaluation

- The CYPSC will undertake an annual review and evaluation of its performance. This will be based on the goals and targets as outlined in the CYPSC Work Plan.

Appendix 2

Children and Young People's Services Committees Sub-Groups and their membership

Outcome 1 Sub-Group: '*Active and Healthy*'

Name	Agency / Service / Organisation
Caroline Lydon (*Chairperson*)	Silver Arch Family Resource Centre, Nenagh
Lisa Kavanagh	Tipperary Education and Training Board
Lorraine Duane	Tipperary Education and Training Board
Ger Fahy	Sláintecare Healthy Communities
Stephanie O'Callaghan	Sláintecare Healthy Communities
Catherine O'Loughlin	Health and Wellbeing, HSE
Dr. Kathleen O'Sullivan	HSE
Barbara Gunn	Tipperary Childcare Committee
Natalie McKnight	Foróige
Áine Roche	Healthy Tipperary programme, County Council
Tracy Nugent / Sarah Hearne	Regional Office for Suicide Prevention (SE)
Michael Collins	Regional Office for Suicide Prevention (MW)
Pauline Strappe	Youth Work Ireland Tipperary (*YWIT*)
Mary Geoghegan	More Family Support project, YWIT
Kathleen Maher	Ascend Women's services, North Tipperary Development Company
Dara Arrigan	Clonmel Community Resource Centre
Maria O'Sullivan	Tipperary Sports Partnership
Brigid Murphy	Community Mothers, Silver Arch FRC
Jill Sandvoss	Clonmel Community Mothers Programme
Olive Carter	Barnardos
Mary Barry O'Gorman / Geraldine Mullane	Cuan Saor Women's services
Yvonne Fitzsimons	Túsla
Katy Croke	Jigsaw Tipperary
Bernadette May	Barnardos

Outcome 2 Sub-Group: '*Achieving full potential in Learning and Development*'

Name	Agency / Service / Organisation
Aileen Healy (*Chairperson*)	Tipperary Childcare Committee
Miriam Gleeson	Túsla Education Support Service (*TESS*)
Lisa Kavanagh	Tipperary Education and Training Board
Lorraine Duane	Tipperary Education and Training Board

Nuala Martin	Tipperary Rural Traveller Project
Representative	North Tipperary Development Project
Moira Merrigan	Youth Work Ireland Tipperary
Hayley Fitzsimons	Foróige
Edel Leahy	Thurles Community Training Centre / Céim Eile Youthreach, Templemore
James Williams	National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (*NAPD*)
Representative	Irish Primary Principals Network

Outcome 3 Sub-Group: '*Safety and Security'*
(*composed of the membership of the Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) Steering Groups in the North and the South of Co. Tipperary*)

PPFS Steering Group (NT)	
Name	**Agency / Service / Organisation**
Fionnuala Kenny PPFS Manager (*Chairperson*)	Túsla
Yvonne Fitzsimons	Túsla
Caroline Lydon	Silver Arch Family Resource Centre, Nenagh
Kathleen Maher	Ascend Women's services
Lorraine Duane	Tipperary Education and Training Board
Olive Carter	Barnardos
Mary Geoghegan	More Family Project, YWIT
Sharon Dunne	Templemore Community Social Services
Helen Taffinder	Nenagh Childcare Centre
Siobhán Brennan	Túsla
Representative	Education Welfare services, Túsla
Pauline Costello	Túsla
Ruth Swanton	Túsla
Aileen Healy	Tipperary Childcare Committee
Representative	HSE Public Health Nursing service
Tracey Thompson	Tipperary County Council
Katy Croke / Michelle Putti	Jigsaw
Donal Kelly	Youth Work Ireland Tipperary
Justine O'Brien	Foróige Garda Youth Diversion Project
Elaine Ryan	Focus Ireland
Maedhbh Gordon	North Tipperary Development Company
Mags Gavin	Focus Ireland

PPFS Steering Group (ST)	
PPFS Manager (Chairperson)	Túsla
Julie Ryan, Senior CFSN Coordinator	Túsla
Esther Butler	HSE Public Health Nursing service
Geraldine Mullane	'Cuan Saor' Women's services
Tess Collins	Tipperary County Council
Michelle Kelly	Waterford and South Tipperary Community Youth Service
Sarah O'Dwyer	Foróige
Joanne O'Gorman	Barnardos
Aileen Healy	Tipperary Childcare Committee
Naomi Burke	Clonmel Community Resource Centre
Carmel O'Neill	HSE Substance Misuse services
Miriam Gleeson	Education Welfare Service, Túsla
Catherine Barrett	Túsla
Fiona Hayes	Spafield Family Resource Centre, Cashel
Gloria Walsh	Túsla After-care
Andrea Bourke	Probation service
Emer Leahy	Knockanrawley Resource Centre, Tipperary
Garda Sergeant Margaret Kelly	An Garda Síochána
Marie Bergin	Túsla
Catherine Doyle	Youth Work Ireland Tipperary
Triona Morrison	Holy Trinity NS, Fethard
Natasha Allen	HSE

Outcome 4 Sub-Group: '*Economic Security and Opportunity*'

Name	Agency / Service / Organisation
Michael Murray (*Chairperson*)	North Tipperary Development Company
Terry Buckley	Department of Social Protection
Jimmy Cass	EmployAbility Service South Tipperary
Moira Merrigan	Youth Work Ireland Tipperary
James Galvin	Occupational Guidance, HSE Mid West Community
Emer Leahy	Knockanrawley Resource Centre
Deirdre O'Dwyer	South Tipperary Development Company
Lisa Kavanagh	Tipperary Training and Education Board
Lorraine Duane	Tipperary Training and Education Board
Helena Sweeney	Scoil Chormaic Special School, Cashel
Representative	Tipperary Rural Traveller Project
Anne Strapp	St. Cronan's Centre, Roscrea

Outcome 5: '*Connected, Respected and Contributing to their World'*

Name	Agency / Service / Organisation
Sarah O'Dwyer (*Chairperson*)	Foróige
Michelle Kelly	Waterford & South Tipperary Community Youth
Sheridan Brady	Foróige
Lorraine Duane	Tipperary Education and Training Board
Aileen Healy	Tipperary Childcare Committee
Anna Henebery	Barnardos
Anne Bradshaw	HSE Disability services
Sara McDonnell	Tipperary Volunteer Centre
Fiona Crotty	Tipperary County Council
Padraig Ryan	Tipperary County Council
Representative	Millennium Family Resource Centre
Maedhbh Gordon	North Tipperary Development Company

Hardiker model

In the 1990's in the UK, building on an ecological perspective, Pauline Hardiker and her colleagues developed a model to help understand different levels of need within a population of children*. This model is now widely used and has been found to be a useful planning framework by both the UK and Irish governments. The model outlines four levels of intervention as follows:

Level 1: refers to those mainstream services that are available to all children – health care, education, leisure and a range of other services provided in communities. It also offers the potential for targeting resources through community development initiatives such as parent and toddler groups, community houses and women's groups which may be available to the whole community but particularly targeted at disadvantaged communities.

Level 2: represents services to children who have some additional needs. Services at Level 2 are characterised by referral, and full parental consent and negotiation. Examples would be Behaviour Support, Parenting Support, additional Educational services, and support for children who are deemed vulnerable through an assessment of what their need is, and via targeted specific services provided by education, health, social services, law enforcement and the voluntary sector.

Level 3: represents support to families or individual children and young people where there are chronic or serious problems. Support is often provided through a complex mix of services which usually need to work together well in order to provide the best support. State intervention can have a high profile at this level. Examples would be children on the Child Protection Register, or who have come before the courts.

Level 4: represents support for families and individual children or young people where the family has broken down temporarily or permanently, where the child or young person may be looked after by social services. It can also include young people in youth custody or prison or as an in-patient due to disability or mental health problems

(from*: Owens, S.: An Introductory Guide to the key terms and inter-agency initiatives in use in the Children's Services Committees in Ireland, p. 17*
(Centre for Effective Services, 2010)

*Hardiker, P, Exton, K., & Barker, M. : Policies and Practices in Preventative Childcare (Aldershot: Avesbury, 1991)

Appendix 4

Consultations undertaken

Groups consulted	Form of Consultation	Date
Approximately 324 children, aged 3 – 6, attending 17 Early Years services around the county, were involved in this consultation.	Consultation with the children was undertaken in person by Early Years staff with guidance from Barbara Gunn, Tipperary Childcare Committee.	April – May 2021
86 children, aged 10 – 12 years old for the most part. Most of these, participating in one project or another, were in categories at risk of social exclusion, e.g., Traveller background, Syrian Refugee families, socially disadvantaged circumstances, or in need of School Completion Programme supports	Consultation was undertaken in person by staff with the children who engaged with their particular services. One-third of the children who participated in the consultation did so on-line	September – December 2021
Some 225 young people, aged 12 – 17 years. At least one-third (*78*) of these were in categories at risk of social exclusion, e.g., Traveller background, Syrian Refugee families, socially disadvantaged circumstances, or in need of School Completion Programme supports. Members of Comhairle na nÓg also participated in the consultation.	Consultation was undertaken in person by staff who were attached to a range of projects and on-line. Feedback was also received from a workshop with the members of Comhairle na nÓg that focussed on priority issues and needs of young people, framed by the 5 National Outcomes	Q. 4, 2021 – Q. 1, 2022
At least 100 young adults. 42 of these were engaged with the following services: two Ability programmes, Youth Employability programme, and Probation.	Consultation was undertaken by staff in person with the young adults who engaged in their services. Consultation was also undertaken on-line.	April - December 2021
38 LGBT* young people	A questionnaire was designed by Lisa McGrath, YWIT, and circulated on behalf of the Tipperary LGBT* Youth Coordination Group.	September – December 2021
Although some 532 parents commenced the on-line survey that was circulated, the majority did not complete it. Nonetheless, 169 registered as completing the questionnaire	The consultation was undertaken on-line	March – December 2021
Some 49 front-line staff	Consultation was on-line and also by questionnaire circulated by post.	March – November 2021

Appendix 6

References

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An Garda Síochána: *Data re. referrals to Garda Juvenile Liaison Programme in Co. Tipperary*

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Curley Consulting Independent Research Services: A Strategy for Healthy Tipperary 2018 – 2020 (2018)

Roscrea Family Support Needs Analysis (September 2020)

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Supporting Parents: a National Model of Parenting Support Services (2022)

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Participation Framework: National Framework for Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making (2021)

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Department of Education *gov.ie – Department of Education* website

Department of Health: Connecting for Life: Ireland's National Strategy to reduce Suicide, 2015 - 2024

	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing, 2013 – 2025
	National Sexual Health Strategy, 2015 – 2020 (2015)
	Sláintecare programme
Departments of Health and of Transport, Tourism & Sport	Get Ireland Active! National Physical Activity Plan for Ireland 2016
Department of Justice and Equality:	National Traveller and Roma Integration Strategy, 2017 – 2020
Department of Social Protection:	*Data re. different categories of welfare payment recipients in Co. Tipperary*
Dooley, B. & Fitzgerald, A.:	My World Survey: National Study of Youth Mental Health in Ireland (Headstrong & UCD School of Psychology, 2012)
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	National Physical & Sensory Disability Database
HRB National Drug Treatment Reporting System:	*Data re. referrals for treatment for Alcohol and Substance Misuse in Co. Tipperary in 2019 and 2020*
HSE:	Healthy Ireland: A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing, 2013 – 2025
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National Suicide Research Foundation:	National Self-Harm Registry Ireland Annual Report (2019)
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	Data re. social housing in Co. Tipperary
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Copies of this plan are available on
www.tipperarychildrenandyoungpeoplesservices.ie