

Outcome 4: Economic Security and Opportunity & Change Management Subgroup



Critical Incident Protocol

This is an ongoing piece of work by the Outcome 4/Change Management Subgroup. The Wicklow Critical Incident Protocol [CIP] was first developed in 2018 and is reviewed by the subgroup annually to ensure that the details are up to date and that all information provided is relevant and accurate. The CIP is required when an incident overwhelms a local community's capacity to support children or young people and their carers affected by events and where more than one organisation is required for support.

The protocol is designed to coordinate the response of organisations involved in dealing with critical incidents that impact on children, young people and their families in Co. Wicklow. The protocol does not replace the county emergency plan, or any participating organisations own critical incident response. Fortunately, to date we have not had to invoke the CIP in Wicklow, but the O4/CM Subgroup is anxious that all stakeholders are fully aware of it.

Food Poverty



Throughout COVID a research piece was carried out by Gleeson Rural Development and Mary Carroll Consultants on the issue of food poverty in Wicklow and recommendations on a range of actions to address this. The research project was funded by Wicklow LCDC (Local Community Development Committee) and Wicklow CYPSC (Children and Young People Service Committee). Issues identified included: Lack of Coordination and Information; Limited Capacity for Expansion; Cost of Living Crisis; Stigma of Accessing Food Supports; Addressing Knowledge Poverty; Quality of Food Provision; particular Groups at Risk. Recommendations of the research include County wide coordination of community food provision; Community Food Infrastructure; Information Provision and Database; Addressing Food Knowledge Poverty. A Food Network Coordinator has been appointed, hosted by Bray Area Partnership, who will lead out on the establishment of a Food Network for the county and related actions to support the recommendations of the research.

Child Poverty Application

On the 29th August we were advised that our Child Poverty Pilot Application was successful. The Family: Adult and Child Enhanced Services (FACES) Plan will undertake a systematic approach to analysing and identifying the drivers of child poverty in targeted adjacent neighbourhoods in North Bray and South-East Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown (DLR) that straddle the respective county administrative boundaries. We are proposing an initial focus on the theme of pregnancy-4yrs and their families. Our work will shine a light on existing good practices, highlight gaps, identify service coordination and be a gateway to examining and encouraging change on the interlinked social, family and parent drivers of child poverty. Detailed analysis and system mapping will help us identify, educate, empower and perhaps challenge services, locally and nationally to adapt what and how we do things.

