

YOUTH

WORK

PLAN

2018
— 2021



Bord Oideachais & Oiliúna
LIMERICK & AN CHLÁIR
LIMERICK & CLARE
Education & Training Board

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Foreword

It is with great pleasure that we write the foreword to Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board's Youth Work Plan 2018–2021. Education and Training Boards (ETBs) and formally Vocational Education Committees (VECs) have had a long association of working in partnership with youth work organisations and the support of voluntary youth work provision in our communities. The location of the coordination of youth work services within Education and Training Boards provides us with an opportunity to consider the overall provision of formal and non-formal learning experiences for young people and also enables both sectors to share effective practice in supporting young people to grow and develop. The publication of the Youth Work Act 2001 was a significant step forward in the defining of youth work as "A planned programme of education designed for the purpose of aiding and enhancing the personal and social development of young persons through their voluntary participation, and which is:

- a) Complementary to their formal, academic or vocational education and training; and
- b) Provided primarily by voluntary youth work organisations".

This definition was later incorporated into the Education and Training Boards Act 2013 which described the functions of the newly-established ETBs in relation to youth work. Section 10 (1) sets out these responsibilities as being to:

- (j) support the provision, coordination, administration and assessment of youth work services in its functional area and provide such information as may be requested by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in relation to such support,
- (k) assess whether the manner in which it performs its functions is economical, efficient and effective.

In 2015, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board set about the task of establishing a Youth Work

Committee with support from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs which has responsibility for provision of services to support young people. The first meeting of the new Youth Work Committee was held in February 2016. The Youth Work Committee supports the coordination, administration and quality provision of youth work in the ETB's operational area. The Committee is representative of all key stakeholders –the voluntary youth work organisations, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board members, young people and other statutory bodies.

The consultation process in developing the plan involved meetings and focus groups with young people directly involved in youth clubs and projects, volunteer youth leaders active in their communities, youth work staff and management from various organisations and members of the Youth Work Committee. The plan identifies priority actions for the period 2018–2021 and is also a key element

of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board's Strategy Statement 2017–2021. It will be implemented by the Youth Work Committee as a sub-structure of the Board.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the members of our Youth Work Committee who continue to guide the work of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board in relation to youth work services and provision, our Education Officer Bernadette Cullen who has responsibility for youth work, and our Youth Officers, Seamus Bane, Jackie Dwane and Cora Foley for the development of a comprehensive youth work plan. We look forward to the implementation of the key actions and the continued coordination and collaboration with other Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board services.

George O'Callaghan

Chief Executive
Limerick and Clare Education
and Training Board

Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon

Cathaoirleach, Youth Work Committee
Limerick and Clare Education and
Training Board

Background and Context

► Policy Context

► Youth Work and the Role of Education and Training Boards

In 2001 the Irish government passed landmark legislation, unique in Europe at the time, which set out the responsibilities of the state in relation to the support and development of youth work. Youth work in Ireland in its various forms has a history that goes back over 100 years, the delivery of which has predominantly been the remit of community and voluntary organisations. Following a long period of discussion and debate between the statutory and voluntary sectors the Youth Work Act 2001 set out, in legislation, a definition of youth work as being:

"A planned programme of education designed for the purpose of aiding and enhancing the personal and social development of young persons through their voluntary participation, and which is:

a) Complementary to their formal, academic or vocational education and training; and

b) Provided primarily by voluntary youth work organisations".

Responsibility for the implementation of the 2001 Act at local level was assigned to the then Vocational Education Committees (VECs) and Youth Officers were taken on to support the VECs to meet this remit. The definition of youth work set out in the 2001 Act was later subsumed into the Education and Training Boards Act 2013 which described the functions

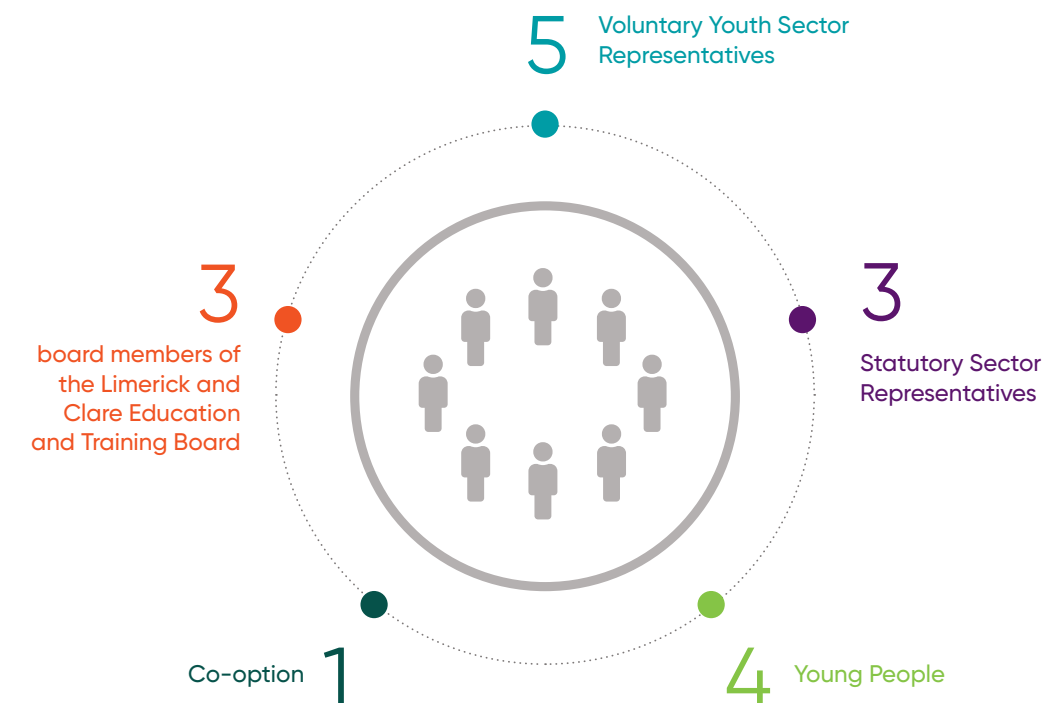
of the newly-established Education and Training Boards (ETBs) in relation to youth work. Section 10 (1) sets out these responsibilities as being to:

(j) support the provision, coordination, administration and assessment of youth work services in its functional area and provide such information as may be requested by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in relation to such support,
(k) assess whether the manner in which it performs its functions is economical, efficient and effective.

In line with guidance from Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI) a Youth Work Committee was established by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board to guide and support the Board in carrying out these responsibilities. On behalf of the Board, the Youth Work Committee has provided the impetus and will oversee the delivery of the Youth Work Plan over its lifespan.

For Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board the role of supporting the development of youth work as an educational endeavour, is one that sits well with a history of delivering education dating back to the establishment of Vocational Education Committees (VECs) in 1930. As a structure long-embedded in its local communities, it is the vision of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board to play its part in transforming (2017: 5) *"the lives of our students, our learners, our communities and the social and economic prosperity of the region"*. This vision will be achieved through the provision of *"high quality education and training... (that responds) to student/*

► COMPOSITION OF YOUTH WORK COMMITTEE



learner, community and enterprise needs". Support for the provision of youth work is a relatively new addition to the work of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board. However the contribution to the holistic development of our young citizens that youth work can deliver marks a strong addition to a historical commitment to education as a way of supporting people to flourish. Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board values the role and contribution of youth work and through the framework of this Youth Work Plan, will seek to animate in a positive way the vision of youth work as set out in the Act of 2001.

► The Department of Children and Youth Affairs

The passing of the Act in 2001 has underpinned a number of significant developments in the intervening years. In June 2011 the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) was established as a full department of government. A range of functions previously discharged by various

Government Ministers were consolidated in the new Department which brought together a number of key areas of policy and provision for children, young people and families. Some key documents and policies developed by the DCYA include:

- *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures – The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People, 2014–2020*. Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures (BOBF) is the first overarching national policy framework for children and young people (aged 0–24 years),
- *National Youth Strategy, 2015–2020*. This sets out Government's aims and objectives in relation to each of the five BOBF national outcome areas and in particular, its youth-specific commitments for the 10–24 year age cohort (See Appendix 3 –National Outcomes and Youth Strategy Objectives).
- *National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making, 2015–2020*. The

goal of this strategy is to ensure that children and young people have a voice in their individual and collective lives in their communities, in education, on their health and well-being and in legal settings.

- *Value for Money and Policy Review of Youth Programmes (VfMPR)*. This involved an in-depth analysis of three major funding programmes that target disadvantaged young people and made recommendations for the future operation of those schemes.
- *National Quality Standards Framework for Youth Work (NQS)*. Introduced in January 2011 the NQS is a support tool for staff-led youth work organisations to assess the standard of youth work and to evaluate development and improvement. The DCYA directly provides the support services for the NQS with National Youth Organisations, while at the local level support and guidance for local youth work services is provided by the local Education and Training Board (Youth/Liaison) Officer.
- *National Quality Standards for Volunteer Led Youth Groups (NQSFLYG)*. Introduced in 2013 the NQSFLYG is a tool to support the more than 1,600 volunteer-led clubs and groups across the country that deliver youth work. The aim is to support groups by enabling them to provide the best possible opportunities that allow young people to develop through a commitment to best practice, the ongoing development of quality programmes and the provision of activities for young people.
- *LGBTI+ Strategy*—in development—to be launched in 2018.

*See also the *National Youth Strategy (2015, p.17)* for a comprehensive list of the National Policy Context relevant to children and young people's lives.

► **European Policy Context**

All of these national initiatives have been influenced by policy development in the youth sector at European level.

1) Council of Europe Youth Policy Agenda 2020 (2008) – which emphasises human rights, protection and advocacy, social inclusion and cohesion, inter-culturalism in Europe as well as citizenship and participation.

2) The EU Youth Strategy 2010–2018 (2009) – which addresses two overall objectives:

- More and equal opportunities for young people in education and in the labour market
- Active citizenship, social inclusion and solidarity of young people.

3) Europe 2020 (2010) – the EU's agenda for growth and jobs promotes an inclusive society that allows all its members to participate in social, political and economic life and guarantees human rights, dignity and full citizenship for all.

► **Other Relevant Strategies and Guidelines**

In addition to national policy and legislation, a number of local area initiatives, plans and services influence the lives of young people and the work of youth service providers and are, therefore, also relevant to this plan. These include but are not limited to the following:

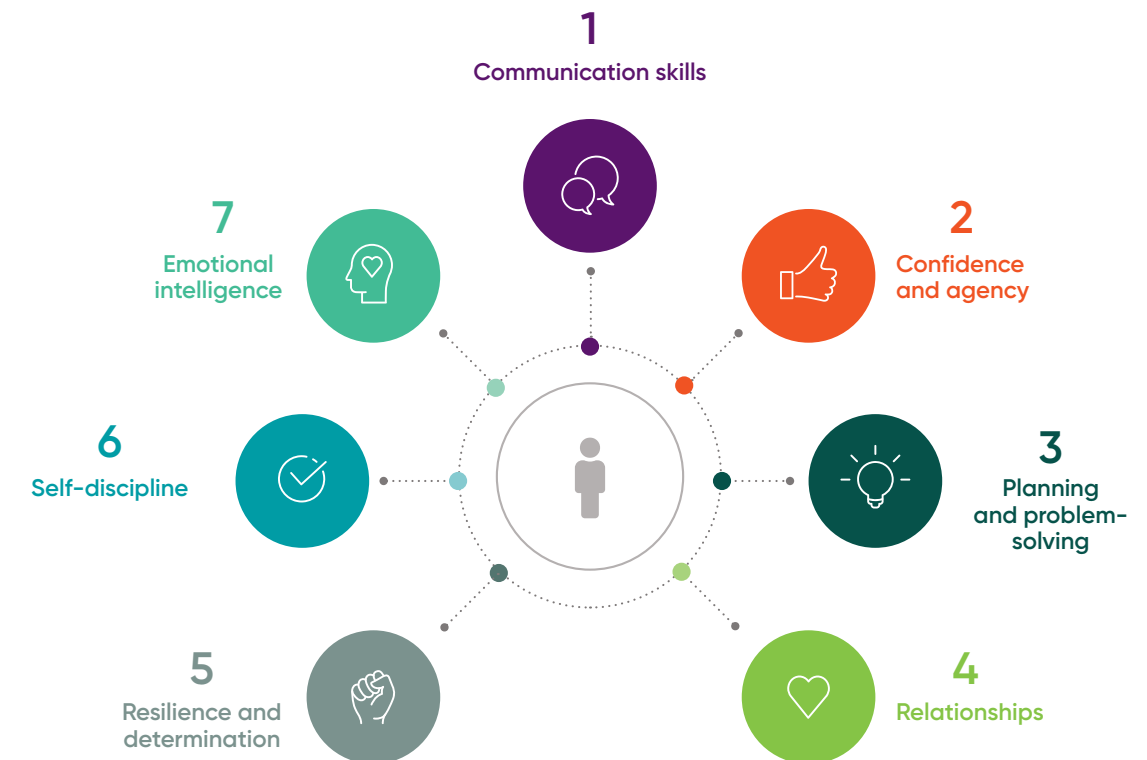
- *Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Strategy Statement 2017–2021*. The Strategy expands on four strategic goals including: High Quality Student and Learner Experiences; Staff Support and Organisational Development; Good Governance and Partnership. The Youth Work Plan is named within and feeds into this overall strategy.
- *Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Further Education and Training (FET) Service Strategic Framework 2015–2020*
- Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP) – Limerick and Clare
- Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) Plans – Limerick and Clare.
- Local youth services' strategies and plans
- Healthy Ireland Local Strategic Plans
- Local Sports Partnership Strategic Plans – Limerick and Clare.
- Mid-West Drug and Alcohol Forum Strategy – in development with *Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery. A health-led response to drug and alcohol use in Ireland 2017–2025*.
- *Connecting for Life Mid-West 2017–2020*
- Local Development Company Actions Plans – Ballyhoura Development CLG, Clare Local Development Company, PAUL Partnership, West Limerick Resources

Central to all of these strategies and initiatives is the desire to ensure that those individuals and communities who are socially excluded are not left behind. Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board supports the provision of youth work interventions for all young people but recognises that the opportunity to set solid foundations is not equally available to all. The National Youth Strategy 2015–2020 recognises that particular effort should be focused on marginalised/disadvantaged young people, defined in the Strategy as including but not limited to (DCYA, 2015; 41):

"...young people who are marginalised by location or geography or socioeconomic reasons. It includes young people such as Travellers; Roma; young people from ethnic or religious minorities; migrants; refugees and asylum-seekers; young people with disabilities or with mental health issues; lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) young people; young carers; young people in conflict with the law; young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET); young parents; those in care; those in direct provision; and lone parents under the age of 25 years".

Youth work has for many years engaged with young people in these groups. The Value for Money and Policy Review of Youth Programmes (VfMPR) argues that for many of the young people that engaged with these programmes "the route for them achieving improvements in their lives invariably related to the acquisition of soft skills and attributes imparted and learned through their relationships with youth professionals" (DCYA, 2014; 106). These soft skills and attributes now referred to as the "seven social and personal development outcomes" that should underpin any new targeted programme, are familiar to youth work practitioners. They are described as (DCYA, 2014; 106):

► **SOCIAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES**



Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board recognises the value and the contribution that youth work can and does make to the lives of all young people at the personal and the community

level. Through this plan the authority will seek to ensure that the potential of youth work is made available in all our communities to the betterment of the lives of all young people.

► Limerick and Clare Socio-demographic Profile

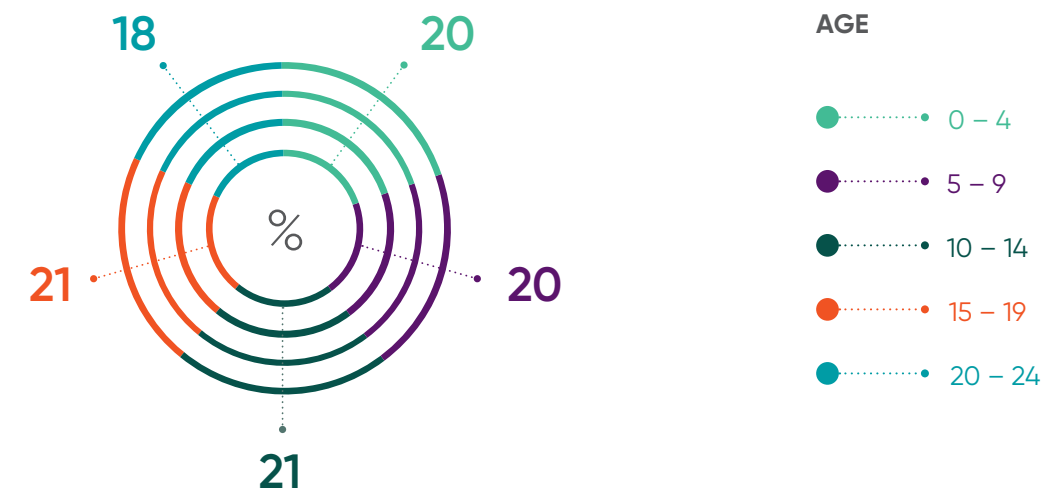
Statistics from Census 2016 compiled by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) show that a total population of 313,802 (6.6% of the population of the state) lives in Limerick and Clare¹. County Clare has a population of 118,627 while County Limerick's total population is 195,175, of which 94,192 people live in the city and suburban areas. This makes Limerick the third most populous urban area in the state, and the fourth most populous city on the island of Ireland².

According to Census 2016 more than 1 in 3 (33%) of the population, a total of 104,663 people, in Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board's area is aged under-25 years. Of this total some 60,616 (19% of the total area population) are in the 10–24 year age range –the key age demographic for this Youth Work Strategy. Extrapolating from the

Census figures it is reasonable to assume, given the numbers currently in the 5–9 year age-group, that the numbers in this key demographic are set to increase over the coming period provided there is no unexpected and major net emigration, immigration or deaths. This stance is strengthened by a December 2013 Statistical Release from the CSO which suggests that "between 2011 and 2031 the number of young persons (i.e. those aged 0–14 years) is projected to increase steadily up to 2021". This projected population increase over the coming years makes the development and implementation of this plan ever more necessary to ensure that as many as possible of our young people can have access to the educational opportunities that youth work provides. Table 1 below provides a summary of the census information for the Limerick and Clare area.

1. <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpr/censusofpopulation2016-preliminaryresults/geochan/>
 2. http://cso.ie/en/media/csoie/releasespublications/documents/population/2017/Chapter_2_Geographical_distribution.pdf

► % OF YOUTH POP BY AGE-GROUP IN ETB OPERATIONAL AREA



► TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF POPULATION STATISTICS FOR LIMERICK AND CLARE³

Age Groups	Co Clare	Limerick City/ Metropolitan District	Co Limerick	Pop of ETB Area	% of Pop by Age – Group
Age 0 – 4	7,901	7,081	6,054	21,036	7%
Age 5 – 9	8,993	7,185	6,833	23,011	7%
Age 10 – 14	8,678	6,106	6,335	21,119	7%
Age 15 – 19	7,910	7,333	5,891	21,134	7%
Age 20 – 24	5,753	8,534	4,076	18,363	6%
Total Aged Over 25	79,582	68,713	60,758	209,053	67%
TOTAL	118,817	104,952	89,947	313,716	
ETB Pop 10 – 24 years				60,616	
ETB % Pop 10 – 24 years				19%	

3. <http://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cpr/censusofpopulation2016-preliminaryresults/geochan/>





“

It gave me opportunities I didn't think I would have...

“

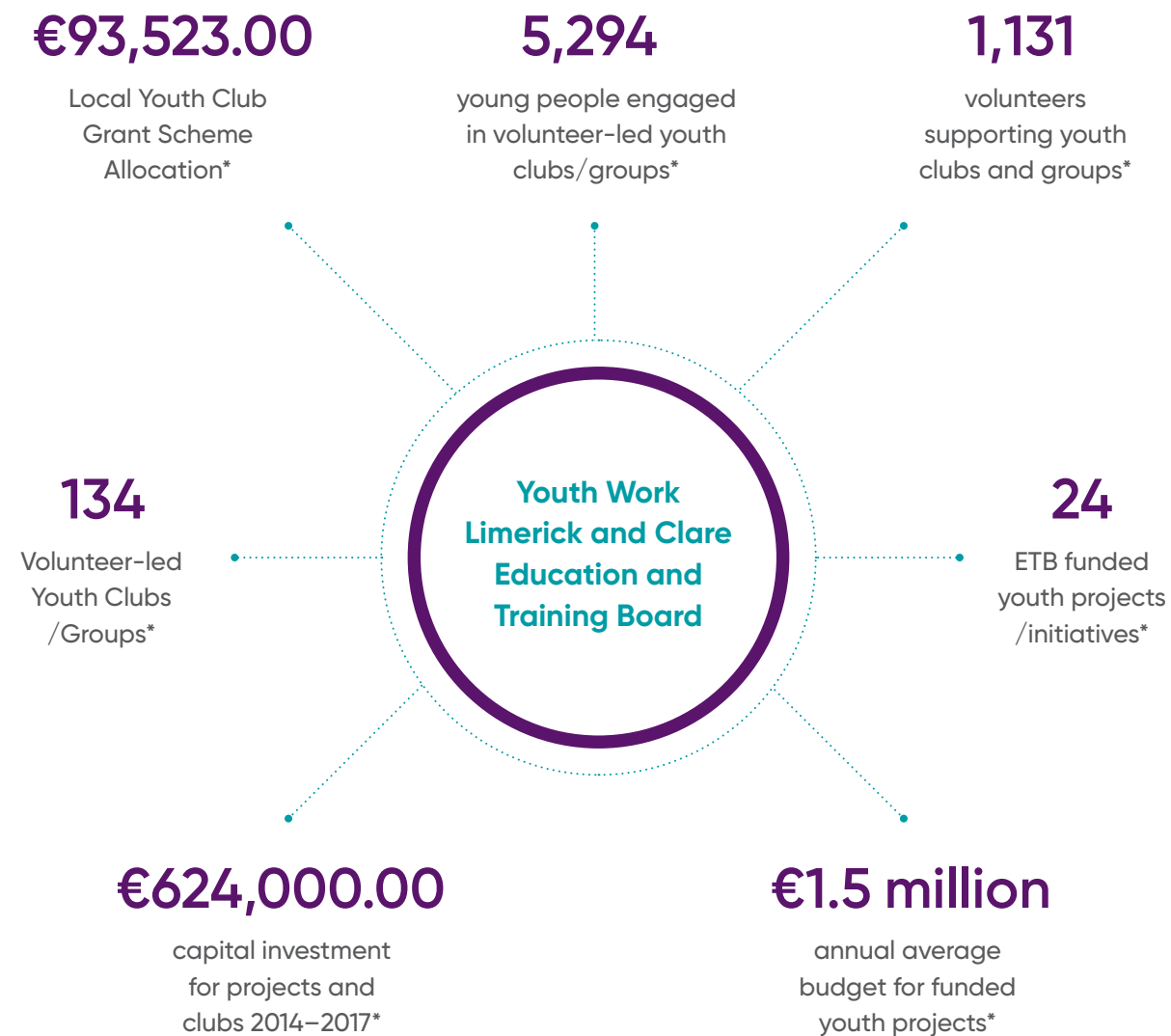
It doesn't feel like education... but it is!

“

It's the stuff you can't see —that it's a space for all young people.

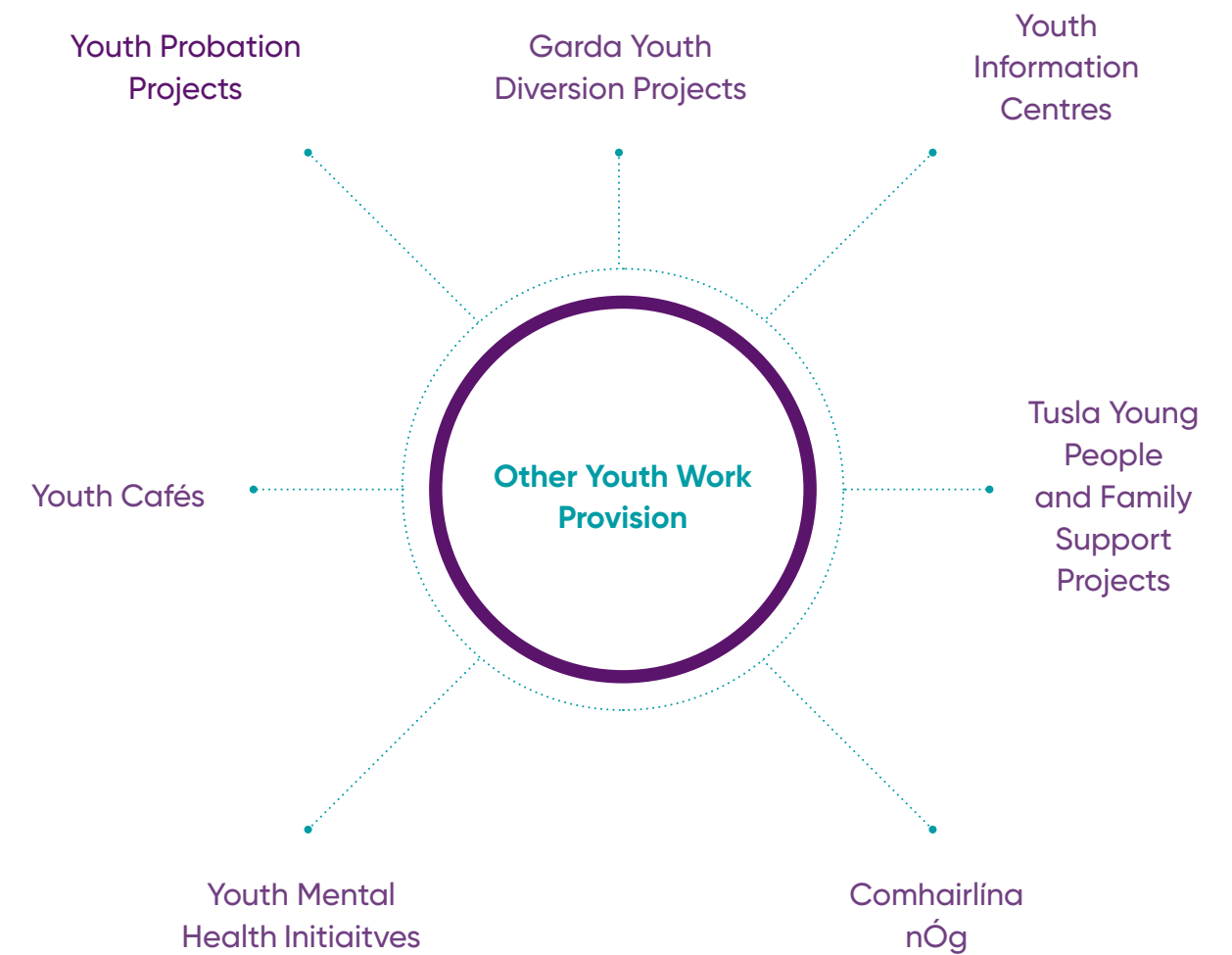
▶ Youth Work Provision in the region

▶ LIMERICK AND CLARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD FUNDED YOUTH WORK AT A GLANCE



* Figures based on 2017 returns. See Appendix 4 – Staff-led Youth Work Provision in Limerick and Clare and Appendix 5 – Volunteer-led Youth Clubs and Groups in Limerick and Clare for a current list of all Education and Training Board funded projects and groups in the area.

▶ OTHER YOUTH WORK PROVISION IN THE REGION



Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board works in partnership with a wide variety of organisations/groups and projects that deliver services and supports to young people in the region. As part of this plan an Area Profile will be

developed in partnership with the local Children and Young Peoples Services Committees (CYPSCs) focused on gathering data to inform future services and to provide an information resource to all who work with young people in the region.



“
Feel more respected
—just because you
come from here
doesn't mean you are
any different than
anyone else.”

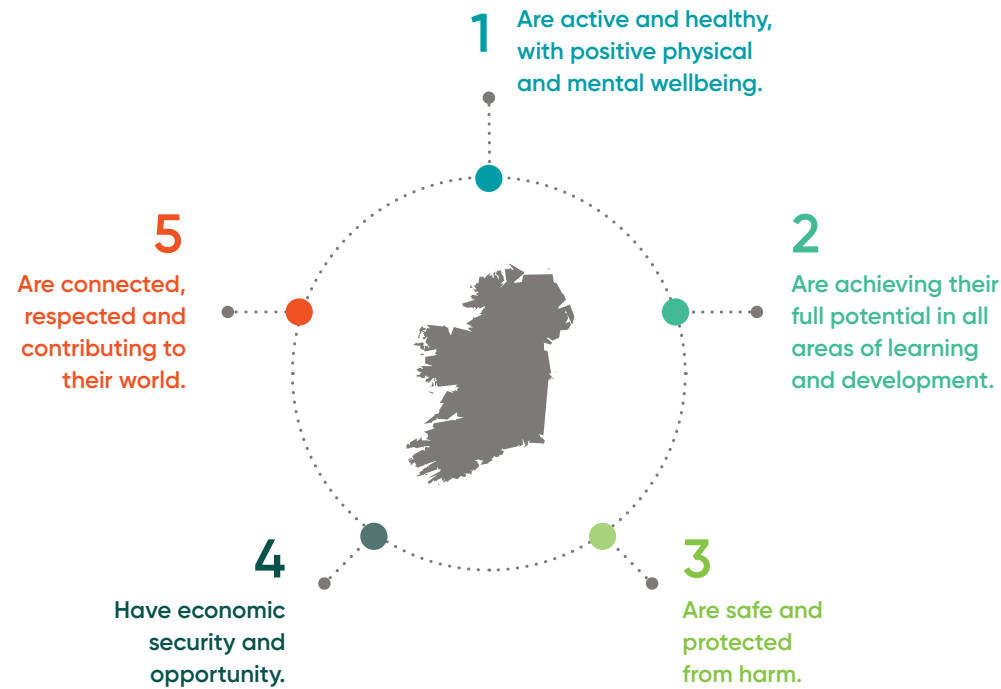
“
Get it out there
more, advertising the
message that it is
there —people would
come if they knew.”

► Vision and Principles

The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People – *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures*, identifies five key outcomes that should guide

policy across all of government. *Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures* aims to see that all our children and young people – up to the age of 25 years:

► FIVE NATIONAL OUTCOMES



The National Youth Strategy 2015–2020 focuses on the cohort in the 10–24 age group – also the focus of this youth work plan. The population in this age-cohort comprises almost 1 in 5 (19%) of all those living in both the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board region and in the State. As the statutory regional education authority, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board recognises the vitally important time that is adolescence for all people. As an organisation that is committed to providing the best opportunities for all those we work with, Limerick and Clare Education and

Training Board fully subscribes to the aim of the National Youth Strategy (DCYA, 2015; 2) “to enable all young people to realise their maximum potential, by respecting their rights and hearing their voices, while protecting and supporting them as they transition from childhood to adulthood”. The National Strategy sets out a number of principles that are fully endorsed by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board as fundamental to achieving the aims of this Youth Work Strategy 2018–2021. The nine principles, grouped under four broad thematic areas, are set out as:

► PRINCIPLES

• Young people and those who support them:

- 1 Young people are valued in their own right, and recognised as integral to society.
- 2 Young people are acknowledged as key drivers in achieving their cognitive, emotional, social, economic and cultural development.
- 3 Parents, families, other significant adults and communities are recognised as playing a critical role in the development and progression of young people.

• Professionals and volunteers working with young people:

- 4 Professionals and volunteers who work with young people are respected, valued and appropriately supported in their work.
- 5 Those providing services for young people act in the best interests of young people, and respect and uphold young people's rights.

• Policies and practices:

- 6 An equality perspective is integrated into all policy and practice.

• Service development and delivery:

- 7 Government and other stakeholders work collaboratively, with vertical and horizontal communication and cooperation, to achieve more effective services and supports for young people.
- 8 Services for young people are open, accessible, resourced and provide additional support in response to particular needs.
- 9 Services for young people are quality assured, outcomes focused and informed by evidence.

Youth work programmes and services have been provided over many years in the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board region. Volunteer-led universal youth clubs and uniformed groups have operated in both counties, and Education and Training Boards (former VEC's) have supported this work at various times and in various ways. In the new environment created by recent developments, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board recognises and acknowledges this history and the experience and knowledge that have been built up in the region. The authority is committed to engaging with respect and as equals with all groups and organisations that deliver youth work services to the young people of our communities.

This Youth Work Strategy will be an integral part of the work of Limerick and Clare Education

and Training Board and over the coming years will be an important element in the strategic aim of the authority to play “a leading role in the provision of high quality education and training in Limerick and Clare”. In developing this Youth Work Strategy, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board is playing its part in realising the vision of Better Outcomes Brighter Futures – the National Youth Strategy 2014–2020 – of making Ireland (DCYA, 2014: 2):

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

Methodology

The broad parameters for the youth work plans of Education and Training Boards were agreed through the structures of Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI), with each plan then being localised according to context. A sub-group of the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Committee was established in March 2017 to support and guide the development of this plan.

Consultation for the development of this plan was facilitated by the Youth Officers with assistance from an external facilitator. The consultation process consisted of meetings and focus groups involving young people directly involved in youth clubs and projects, volunteer youth leaders active in their communities, youth work staff and management from various organisations and members of the Youth Work Committee – itself a statutory sub-committee of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board.

A number of common themes emerged across all groups – young people, adult volunteers, youth service staff and managers – that highlighted the value and importance of youth work in the lives of those involved and by extension, for the communities those young people are part of. From

the consultation process, strategic goals and priorities emerged which were reviewed by the Youth Work Plan Working Group. It is worth noting that the strengths and benefits as reported by both young people and adults, while expressed in differing terms, were substantially the same and echoed the common understanding of the distinctiveness of the youth work process as identified and recorded in academic literature – Irish and international.



▶ TABLE 2: YOUTH WORK PLAN TIMELINE

Task	Timescale
▶ Establishment of Youth Work Plan Working Group	March 2017
▶ Engagement of and planning meetings with an external facilitator and development of the consultation questions in conjunction with the Working Group	March – April 2017
▶ Consultations carried out with thirteen groups including youth workers, volunteers, young people and other stakeholders (<i>See Appendix 6 – List of Consultations</i>)	April – June 2017
▶ Drafting of consultation report and identification of key themes emerging from consultations	July – September 2017
▶ Review of key themes and priority areas by the Youth Work Plan Working Group and finalisation of document	October – December 2017
▶ Approval by the full Youth Work Committee	February 2018
▶ Adoption of the plan by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board	February 2018
▶ Launch	May 2018

Priority Goals 2018–2021

► PRIORITY GOALS SUMMARY

Strategic Goal 1
High Quality Youth Work
Provision and Practice

To work with and support youth work providers to deliver a quality service that responds to young people and assists in empowering them as citizens.

Strategic Goal 3
Good Governance and
Sustainability

To ensure that the requirements of good governance are sustainable and a support to, rather than a burden upon, the delivery of quality youth work

Strategic Goal 2
Value and Visibility
of Youth Work

To record and promote the value and importance of youth work and create a greater awareness of its impact and potential in the region.

Strategic Goal 4
Networking, Connecting
and Collaborating

To build positive relationships with our partners and stakeholders and identify opportunities for collaboration to enhance youth work.

► Strategic Goal 1 High Quality Youth Work Practice and Provision

To work with and support youth work providers to deliver a quality service that responds to young people and assists in empowering them as citizens.

Strategic Objectives	We will do this by...		
Promote and support the delivery of high quality inclusive youth work.	► 1 Facilitating and supporting all funded youth projects and youth clubs/groups to engage with the National Quality Standards Framework and the National Quality Standards for Volunteer-led Youth groups.	► 2 Developing an area profile of Limerick and Clare to support the identification of areas where youth work responses could enhance better outcomes for young people.	
	► 3 Advocating and applying for additional resources and sustained funding to respond to youth needs in identified areas.	► 4 Supporting improved access to youth work opportunities in local communities, by working with our partners to explore access to facilities, transport etc.	
	► 5 Supporting the development of innovative culturally inclusive youth work responses to meet the demands of new and existing groups, e.g. Young Migrants, Travellers, and Young Women, etc. in line with national policy.		
	Support Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for youth work volunteers and staff through workshops and training that focus on best outcomes for young people.	► 1 Facilitating skills based training to enhance youth work practice.	► 2 Organising equality/diversity workshops for youth work staff and volunteers to develop awareness and skills appropriate for a diverse cultural environment.
		► 3 Arranging support and supervision training/workshops for funded organisations and projects based on identified needs.	► 4 Providing updates and briefings for youth projects, clubs and groups on developments in the youth work sector.

► Strategic Goal 2

Value and Visibility of Youth Work

To record and promote the value and importance of youth work and create a greater awareness of its impact and potential in the region.

Strategic Objectives	We will do this by...	
Champion the value and impact of youth work.	► 1 Promoting the impact of youth work on the social and personal development and overall well-being of young people.	► 2 Promoting the contribution of youth work to social inclusion and society.
	► 3 Advocating and supporting the concept of a "youth work for all – universal model".	
Capture, celebrate and share examples of best practice youth work in our region.	► 1 Organising networking and symposia to provide opportunities for youth projects, youth clubs and groups to meet, exhibit their work and share ideas.	► 2 Using all platforms including social media to share innovative projects and best practice in youth work in Limerick and Clare.

► Strategic Goal 3

Good Governance and Sustainability

To ensure that the requirements of good governance are sustainable and a support to, rather than a burden upon, the delivery of quality youth work.

Strategic Objectives	We will do this by...	
To support organisations to operate to the highest standards of good governance.	► 1 Implementing and reviewing Service Level Agreements with services and projects.	► 2 Supporting funded youth projects to develop and review planning and reporting mechanisms to meet all relevant requirements.
	► 3 Promoting the participation of young people in the design, delivery and evaluation of services to give them a voice to influence decisions in their projects/services.	► 4 Promoting a culture of self-evaluation and reflective practice to inform a process of continuous improvement.
	► 5 Advocating for the availability of sufficient, sustainable resources to enable organisations to deliver the standards of governance that guarantee the best service for young people and their communities.	

► Strategic Goal 4 Networking, Connecting and Collaborating

To build positive relationships with our partners and stakeholders and identify opportunities for collaboration to enhance youth work.

Strategic Objectives

We will do this by...

Build and strengthen partnerships to ensure better outcomes for young people.

► 1 Facilitating relevant organisations to participate on the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Committee.

► 2 Working with partners and stakeholders to develop initiatives in response to local and national policy requirements.

► 3 Promoting awareness of youth work provision and related services across our schools and centres and among relevant stakeholders and partners.

► 4 Creating links and sharing methodologies between formal and non-formal educational sectors.

► 5 Working with the Further Education and Training and Third Level sectors to share knowledge and explore opportunities for collaboration.



Implementation and Monitoring

In line with its terms of reference, the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Committee will make recommendations to the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board on the performance of its statutory youth work functions, including in relation to the implementation of the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Plan.

Certain actions in the plan are executive functions of the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and will therefore be monitored in the normal course of the authority's business. Other actions have been identified as ones which are collaborative in nature, requiring input and work with identified organisations and agencies. While the organisation is fully committed to this Youth Work Plan, it must be recognised

► Expected Outcomes

This Youth Work Plan is a significant milestone for Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board as it is the first time that the statutory responsibilities of the authority to "support the provision, coordination, administration and assessment of youth work services" in the Limerick and Clare region have been set out in a strategic manner. Being a first, there will undoubtedly be much learning for Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board over the lifespan of this plan. The preparation of the plan has been a learning process and that experience

that the full implementation of all actions is subject to the availability of resources.

To complement the executive role that Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board has in relation to its youth work functions, the following measures will be put in place to monitor the implementation of the authority's Youth Work Plan:

- The implementation of the plan will be considered regularly by the Youth Work Committee and by the Board of the authority.
- An annual review report will be prepared to outline progress and to indicate Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board's contribution to national policy objectives.

has demonstrated a commitment on the part of all involved to ensuring that the young people of this region benefit to the maximum from the opportunities that youth work can provide.

In identifying the outcomes that will follow from the implementation of this plan, there are a number that are of particular importance.

1. Young People's Voice:

Through the implementation of this plan we

expect that the voice of young people will be more prominent and more influential. Young People will be more involved in deciding how their clubs and groups are planned and organised. The diversity of voices that are part of the youth population of the region will be able to find expression in spaces where they gather. The right of young people to be recognised and to have their contribution respected will be enhanced.

2. Innovative Programmes:

For youth work to be relevant it needs to evolve and have meaning for the young people engaged in that process. Thus youth work needs to innovate, not simply for the sake of appearing to be different but to be able to speak to the lived experience of young people. A practice that embraces innovation and reflection can also acknowledge that there are some elements that are core to youth work and that these elements must be respected also. (The consultation process for this plan highlighted common themes from both young



people and adults that are valued and shared by all – respect, safe spaces, being yourself, trying new things). The plan will seek to ensure that innovation and reflection become central elements of practice across the region.

3. Recognition of the Value of Youth Work

All those involved in youth work, adults and young people, recognise and acknowledge the value of youth work to individuals and communities. However that value is sometimes not recognised in the wider society. The Limerick & Clare Education & Training Board Youth Work Plan will seek to compile examples from practice of the positive impact that youth work delivers and in turn disseminate this evidence as widely as possible. This will have the effects of valuing the work and energy of youth workers, promoting the concept of youth work as learning and championing the role of young people in shaping their own lives and communities.

Appendices

► Appendix 1

Terms of Reference For Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Committee

A Youth Work Committee will be established by the Education and Training Board in accordance with Section 44 of the Education and Training Boards Act 2013 to carry out its legislative functions therein.

► Remit:

- A.** Make recommendations to the Education and Training Board on the performance of its functions under the Education and Training Boards Act (2013), Section 10:
- (i) Support the provision, coordination, administration and assessment of youth work services in its functional area and provide such information as may be requested by the Minister in relation to such support; **and**
- (j) Assess the manner in which it performs its functions is economical, efficient and effective.
- B.** Advise the Education and Training Board on any matter on which the Education and Training Board requests advice in relation to youth work.
- C.** Advise the Youth Officer on matters regarding youth work in the Education and Training Board area.
- D.** Provide a forum for youth work organisations operating in the Education and Training Board area together with key stakeholders to discuss the provision of youth work programmes and services in the area.
- E.** Receive updates on the Youth Work Audit on an annual basis.
- F.** Provide direction on the preparation of a Youth Work Plan.
- G.** Ensure that the Local Youth Club Grant Scheme

or any other such schemes are administered according to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs guidelines and time frame.

H. Receive an annual update on the implementation of the National Quality Standards Framework (NQS).

I. Report as required to the Education and Training Board on the delivery of the annual work plan.

J. A Youth Work Committee shall, from among the representatives of the Education and Training Board

i. appoint to act as chairperson a person appointed to the Committee **and**

ii. appoint any other member of the Committee to act as vice-chairperson to perform the functions of the chairperson in the absence of the chairperson.

K. A Youth Work Committee shall, by the Standing Orders of the Education and Training Board, regulate its procedure or business at its meetings.

L. A Youth Work Committee shall hold at least one meeting in each financial year but shall not hold more than 4 meetings in any financial year.

M. The members of a Youth Work Committee shall hold office for such period, not exceeding 5 years, as is determined by the Education and Training Board but are eligible for re-appointment.

► Membership of Youth Work Committees

Membership of a Youth Work Committee must be a minimum of 8, but no more than 12 (Section 44 (2)).

Membership may consist partly of members of the Education and Training Board and partly of



members who are not members of that board but appointed by the Education and Training Board.

The Education and Training Boards of Ireland Youth Work Committee recommends the appointment of at least 1 and not more than 3 members of the Education and Training Board.

And

The remaining membership would include representation from the following 4 pillars:

- Voluntary Youth Sector Representation (a minimum of 1 and not more than 3)
- Statutory Sector (Children Services Committee / HSE / Garda / Local Authority Officials) (a minimum of 1 and not more than 3)⁴
- Young persons from Comhairle na nÓg or similar youth structure (2).
- Co-options (1) (persons representing

organisations with an interest in youth work, e.g. third level colleges providing youth work courses in the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board area etc.)

In making appointments, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board will ensure gender and geographic balance among the membership.

► Removal of members

An Education and Training Board may remove a member of the Youth Work Committee from membership of the Youth Work Committee if, in the opinion of the Education and Training Board, the member has become incapable through ill-health of performing his or her functions or has committed stated misbehaviour, or such removal appears to the Education and Training Board to be necessary for the effective performance by the Youth Work Committee of its functions.

⁴ Statutory nominees will be nominated once the rest of the members have been selected.

► Appendix 2

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board
Youth Work Committee Membership

► LIMERICK AND CLARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD YOUTH WORK COMMITTEE

Sector	Organisation	Name
1 Education and Training Board	Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board	Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Chairperson
	Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board	Ms. Mary Flanagan
	Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board	Mr. Sean McMahon
4 Voluntary Youth Sector Representatives	Limerick Youth Service	Mr. Maurice Walsh
	Clare Youth Service	Ms. Margaret Slattery
	Irish Girl Guides	Ms. Evelyn Hayes
	Foróige	Mr. Eric O'Brien
	Scouting Ireland	Ms. Anne Marie Meehan
9 Statutory Sector	Tusla – Child & Family Agency	Ms. Aine Mellett
	Limerick City & County Council	Mr. Seamus O'Connor
	Garda JLO Clare Division	Ms. Therese Flannery
12 Young People	Comhairle na nÓg Clare	Ms. Hannah Alcock
	Comhairle na nÓg Clare	Mr. Jordan Cassells
	Comhairle na nÓg Limerick	Mr. Cillian Hickey
	Comhairle na nÓg Limerick	Ms. Lauryn Fitzgerald
16 Co-option	Limerick City-Wide Youth Forum	Mr. Glen Guilfoyle

*Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board includes membership for four non-voting members in order to ensure full representation of the main voluntary youth work organisations

in the area and equal representation from both Comhairlí na nÓg. The voting rights rotate between members every two years.

► Appendix 3

National Policy – Summary Outcomes and Objectives

► THE NATIONAL YOUTH STRATEGY OBJECTIVES

BOBF Outcome	National Youth Strategy Objective	
Outcome 1: Active and healthy, physical and mental well-being	► Objective 1 Young people enjoy a healthy lifestyle, in particular with regard to their physical, mental and sexual health and well-being.	► Objective 2 Young people benefit from involvement in recreational and cultural opportunities including youth work, arts, and sports.
Outcome 2: Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development	► Objective 3 Young people's core skills, competencies and attributes are enhanced and promoted through accessible, responsive, formal and non-formal education and learning opportunities.	► Objective 4 Young people benefit from strengthened transition supports at all levels as they move through the education system.
Outcome 3: Safe and protected from harm	► Objective 5 Young people, and in particular vulnerable and marginalised young people, are supported to feel safe at home, in school, in their communities and online, and are empowered to speak out when feeling unsafe or vulnerable.	► Objective 6 Young people have safe places and spaces where they can socialise and develop.
Outcome 4: Economic security and opportunity	► Objective 7 Young people are better able to participate in the labour market through enhanced employability skills that complement formal learning and training qualifications and entrepreneurship opportunities.	► Objective 8 Young people are a particular focus in policies that address social inclusion and poverty.
Outcome 5: Connected, respected and contributing to their world	► Objective 9 Young people are included in society, are environmentally aware, their equality and rights are upheld, their diversity celebrated, and they are empowered to be active global citizens.	► Objective 10 Young people's autonomy is supported, their active citizenship fostered, and their voice strengthened through political, social and civic engagement.

► Appendix 4

Education and Training Board funded Youth Projects in Limerick and Clare

Name of Service/Project	Type of Service/Project	Managing Organisation	Project Base
1 ► East Limerick Youth Project	SPECIAL PROJECT FOR YOUTH	Limerick Youth Service	Castleconnell & Caherconlish
2 ► Rathkveale Youth Project		Limerick Youth Service	Rathkeale
3 ► Croom Youth Project		Foróige	Croom
4 ► Loobagh Area (Kilmallock) Youth Project		Foróige	Kilmallock
5 ► City Disadvantaged Project		Limerick Youth Service	City
6 ► The Blue Box Creative Arts Therapy		Blue Box Creative Learning Centre	LEDP
7 ► Follow Your Dream Project		Northside F.R.C.	Northside
8 ► Limerick Youth Encounter Project		Limerick Youth Encounter Project	City
9 ► Limerick Youth Theatre		Limerick Youth Theatre	City Centre
10 ► OLOL Disadvantaged Youth Project		Our Lady of Lourdes Local Education Committee	Our Lady of Lourdes
11 ► Garryglass Children's Play Scheme and Holiday Home		Garryglass Play scheme	City
12 ► 3 O'Clock Project		St. Lelia's Age Friendly Community Education Campus	Kileely
13 ► Moyross Disadvantaged Youth Project		Moyross Community Enterprise Centre	Moyross
14 ► Limerick Scout County		Scouting Ireland	City

15 ► Educare	YOUNG PEOPLE'S FACILITIES AND SERVICES FUND (YPPFSF)	Educare	CBS Sexton St
16 ► St. John's Partnership		St. John's Partnership	St John's
17 ► Young Travellers Programme		Limerick Youth Service	City
18 ► Community Youth Development Officers		Limerick Sports Partnership	City
19 ► West End Youth Centre		Our Lady of Lourdes Youth Centre	Our Lady of Lourdes
20 ► Southill Club2gether		Southill Area Centre	Southill
21 ► Limerick Drug Education and Prevention Strategy (LDEPS)		Limerick City CDP	City

All funding for the above projects is made available by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs for administration by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board. Please note that Limerick FAI, GAA and Munster Rugby DCYA funding has transferred to Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board for allocation from 2018 increasing the number of funded projects to twenty four. Additional financial supports are made available to youth work services

and projects in the form of co-operation hours from Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board to support the delivery of non-formal educational programmes and activities with young people.

City of Dublin Youth Service (CDYSB) under City of Dublin Education and Training Board currently administer funding to the following projects in Limerick and Clare:

1 ► Clare Youth Engagement and Participation Project (CYEPP)	Special Project for Youth	Clare Youth Service	Ennis (County remit)
2 ► Outreach	Special Project for Youth	Limerick Youth Service	Rural Youth Work-County
3 ► Youth Resource	Special Project for Youth	Limerick Youth Service	Countywide
4 ► Special Social Education Initiative	Special Project for Youth	Limerick Youth Service	Countywide
5 ► Youth Information	Youth Information Centre	Clare Youth Service	Countywide
6 ► Youth Information	Youth Information Centre	Limerick Youth Service	Countywide

► Appendix 5

Volunteer-led youth work provision in the Limerick and Clare area

LIMERICK COUNTY			
1	► Foróige	Maigueside Foróige Club	Croom
2	► Independent	Fedamore Activity Club	Fedamore
3	► Irish Girl Guides	Ballybrown Girl Guides	Ballybrown/Clarina
4	► Irish Girl Guides	Ballycummin District Girl Guides	Ballycummin/Raheen
5	► Irish Girl Guides	Bruff District Guides	Bruff
6	► Irish Girl Guides	Crescent District Girl Guides	Mungret/Dooradoyle
7	► Irish Girl Guides	Hawthorn Girl Guides	Dooradoyle/Raheen
8	► Limerick Children's Services (LCS)	Swagmasters Youth Club	Lava Javas (Countywide)
9	► Limerick Youth Service	Abbey Angels	Abbeyfeale
10	► Limerick Youth Service	Abbey Teens Unite	Abbeyfeale
11	► Limerick Youth Service	Abbeyfeale 1st year (teens together) club	Abbeyfeale
12	► Limerick Youth Service	Askeaton Ballysteen Youth Club	Askeaton
13	► Limerick Youth Service	Ballingarry Youth Club	Ballingarry
14	► Limerick Youth Service	Broadford Youth Club	Broadford
15	► Limerick Youth Service	Caherconlish Youth Club	Caherconlish
16	► Limerick Youth Service	Cappagh Youth Club	Cappagh
17	► Limerick Youth Service	Castleconnell Youth Club	Castleconnell
18	► Limerick Youth Service	Castletroy Youth Club	Castletroy
19	► Limerick Youth Service	COOLS Club Cappamore	Cappamore
20	► Limerick Youth Service	Diversity And Youth (DAY) Youth Club	Lava Javas (Countywide)
21	► Limerick Youth Service	Domain Youth Club	Newcastle West
22	► Limerick Youth Service	Effin/Garrenderick Youth Club	Effin
23	► Limerick Youth Service	Fedamore Youth Club	Fedamore
24	► Limerick Youth Service	Granagh Youth Club	Granagh
25	► Limerick Youth Service	Kildimo Youth Club	Kildimo
26	► Limerick Youth Service	Killeedy Youth Club	Killeedy
27	► Limerick Youth Service	Newcastle West Youth Club	Newcastle West
28	► Limerick Youth Service	Pallaskenry Youth Club	Pallaskenry
29	► Limerick Youth Service	Parteen / Corbally Youth Club	Parteen/Corbally
30	► Limerick Youth Service	Rathkeale Youth Café	Rathkeale
31	► Limerick Youth Service	St. Senan's (Foynes) Youth Club	Foynes
32	► Scouting Ireland	Ahane Scouts	Ahane/Lisnagry

33	► Scouting Ireland	Ballybricken Scouts	Ballybricken
34	► Scouting Ireland	Bruff Scouts	Bruff
35	► Scouting Ireland	Castleconnell Scout Group	Castleconnell
36	► Scouting Ireland	Clarina Scouts	Clarina
37	► Scouting Ireland	Croom 37th Scouts	Croom
38	► Scouting Ireland	Hospital Scouts	Hospital
39	► Scouting Ireland	Monaleen Milford Scouts	Monaleen/Milford
40	► Scouting Ireland	Murroe-Boher Scout Group	Murroe/Boher
41	► Scouting Ireland	Newcastle West Scouts	Newcastle West
42	► Scouting Ireland	Pallaskenry Scouts	Pallaskenry
43	► Scouting Ireland	Rathkeale Scouts	Rathkeale
44	► Scouting Ireland	St. Paul's Scouts	Dooradoyle/Raheen
45	► Spina Bifida Association	Wheels in Motion	Delta Retail Park (Countywide)
46	► Tipperary Youth Service	Cappamore Youth Club	Cappamore
47	► Tipperary Youth Service	Knocklong Youth Club	Knocklong
48	► Tipperary Youth Service	Oola Youth Club	Oola
49	► Tipperary Youth Service	Pallasgreen Youth Club	Pallasgreen
50	► Youth Theatre NAYD	County Limerick Youth Theatre	Kilmallock Friars Gate and Countywide

LIMERICK CITY			
51	► Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann	Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann Garrai Eoin	Garryowen
52	► Independent	Adapt House	Rosbrien
53	► Independent	Bedford Row	City Centre
54	► Independent	Dochas Fun Club	City Centre
55	► Independent	Limerick City Rhythm Marching Band	Citywide
56	► Independent	Limerick Learning Hub	Kileely
57	► Independent	Southill Youth Club	Southill
58	► Independent	St. John's Brass and Reed Band	Garryowen
59	► Independent/Belong to	GOSHH LGBT	City Centre
60	► Irish Girl Guides	Blackberry Guides	Caherdavin
61	► Irish Girl Guides	Caherdavin Senior Branch	Caherdavin
62	► Irish Girl Guides	Corbally Girl Guides	Corbally
63	► Irish Girl Guides	St Bridget's Guide Unit	St Patrick's Road
64	► Limerick City CDP & Partners	Northside Summer Camp	Northside of City
65	► Limerick Youth Service	Ballynanty Youth Club	Ballynanty
66	► Limerick Youth Service	Caherdavin Youth Club	Caherdavin
67	► Limerick Youth Service	Christ Church Youth Group	City Centre
68	► Limerick Youth Service	Garryowen Youth Committee	Garryowen
69	► Limerick Youth Service	Lava Javas	City Centre

70	▶ Limerick Youth Service	Nicholas Street (Kings Island)	Kings Island
71	▶ Limerick Youth Service	Our Lady Queen of Peace Youth Club	Our Lady Queen of Peace
72	▶ Limerick Youth Service	SOS Congolese Youth	City Centre
73	▶ Limerick Youth Service	St John's Youth Group	Garryowen
74	▶ Limerick Youth Service	St Patrick's Youth Club	St Patrick's Road
75	▶ Limerick Youth Service	STEPS – Northside Youth Space	Ballynanty
76	▶ Limerick Youth Service	The LAFF Youth Café	Southill
77	▶ Order of Malta	Order of Malta	City Centre
78	▶ Scouting Ireland	23rd Limerick Christ The King Scout Group	Caherdavin
79	▶ Scouting Ireland	St Johns 3rd/14th Scout group	Garryowen
80	▶ Scouting Ireland	St Joseph's Scout Group	City Centre
81	▶ Scouting Ireland	St Mary's Scout Group 2nd/16th	St Mary's
82	▶ Scouting Ireland	25th Limerick Scout Group	Corbally
CLARE COUNTY			
83	▶ Clare Youth Service	BOT Youth Club	Bodyke / Ogonnelloe / Tuamgraney
84	▶ Clare Youth Service	Coder Dojo	Ennis
85	▶ Clare Youth Service	Corofin Youth Club	Ennis
86	▶ Clare Youth Service	Crusheen Youth Club	Crusheen
87	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS Ennis Music Project	Ennis
88	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS Ennis Youth Club	Ennis
89	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS Shannon Music Project	Shannon
90	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS The Hub	Ennis
91	▶ Clare Youth Service	Doonbeg Youth Club	Doonbeg
92	▶ Clare Youth Service	Fishbowl Youth	Scariff
93	▶ Clare Youth Service	Kildysart Youth Club	Kildysart
94	▶ Clare Youth Service	Kilmurry Youth Club	Kilmurry McMahon
95	▶ Clare Youth Service	Kilnaboy Youth Club	Kilnaboy
96	▶ Clare Youth Service	Kilrush Youth Club	Kilrush
97	▶ Clare Youth Service	Lisdoonvarna Youth Club	Lisdoonvarna
98	▶ Clare Youth Service	Lissycasey Youth Club	Lissycasey
99	▶ Clare Youth Service	Loughgraney Youth Club	Flagmount / Killanena
100	▶ Clare Youth Service	S Club	Shannon
101	▶ Clare Youth Service	Skyview Youth Club	Shannon
102	▶ Clare Youth Service	Youth Shack Youth Club	Ennistymon
103	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS Riverside Café	Ennis
104	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS Life Skills	Ennis
105	▶ Clare Youth Service	Sixmilebridge Youth Club	Sixmilebridge
106	▶ Clare Youth Service	Moy Youth Club	Moy
107	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS Youth Space	Ennis

108	▶ Clare Youth Service	Kilmaley Youth Club	Kilmaley
109	▶ Clare Youth Service	Mullagh Youth Club & Over 18s Space	Mullagh
110	▶ Clare Youth Service	CYS Younger Voices	Co Clare
111	▶ Clare Youth Service	The Buzz Stop Youth Café	Newmarket-on-Fergus
112	▶ Clare Youth Service	Tulla Youth Club	Tulla
113	▶ Foroige	Scariff Foróige Legends	Scariff
114	▶ Foroige	Scarriff Foróige Club (EMC Youth Club)	Scariff
115	▶ Independent	HYPE Youth Club	Shannon
116	▶ Independent	St Annes Youth Club	Ennis
117	▶ Irish Girl Guides	Ennis Girl Guides	Ennis
118	▶ Limerick Youth Service	Clonlara Youth Club	Clonlara
119	▶ Ógras	Club Ógras Bhaile an Droichid	Bridgetown
120	▶ Order of Malta	Order of Malta Shannon	Shannon
121	▶ Scouting Ireland	Ballyvaughan Scouts	Ballyvaughan
122	▶ Scouting Ireland	Clarecastle Scouts	Clarecastle
123	▶ Scouting Ireland	Clonlara Scouts	Clonlara
124	▶ Scouting Ireland	Cratloe Scouts	Cratloe
125	▶ Scouting Ireland	Ennis Scouts	Ennis
126	▶ Scouting Ireland	Ennistymon Scouts	Ennistymon
127	▶ Scouting Ireland	Killaloe Scouts	Killaloe
128	▶ Scouting Ireland	Mountshannon Scouts	Mountshannon
129	▶ Scouting Ireland	Newmarket Scouts	Newmarket-on-Fergus
130	▶ Scouting Ireland	Ruan Scouts	Ruan
131	▶ Scouting Ireland	Shannon Scouts	Shannon
132	▶ Scouting Ireland	Sixmilebridge Scouts	Sixmilebridge
133	▶ Scouting Ireland	Tulla Scouts	Tulla
134	▶ Scouting Ireland	Miltown Malbay Scouts	Miltown Malbay

► Appendix 6

List of consultations undertaken

Consultations 2017	Timescale
Youth Workers/Managers (funded projects)	► 27th & 28th April
Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Committee	► 10th May
Limerick City and County Volunteer Leaders youth clubs and groups	► 16th May
Co. Clare Volunteer Leaders youth clubs and groups	► 18th May
Limerick Comhairle na nÓg	► 19th May
CBS 6th class students	► 22nd May
Southill Young Women's Group	► 23rd May
DEPS Workers Limerick City	► 12th June
Rathkeale Youth Café Group	► 14th June
Castleconnel Youth Project	► 15th June
Croom Youth Project	► 20th June
Younger Voices Group Co. Clare	► 20th June



Special thanks to those who contributed photos for this plan and those who were involved in consultations.

Photos: courtesy of Clare Youth Service, Limerick Youth Service and community youth groups

YOUTH WORK PLAN

2018
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2021



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**National
Lottery**