

**YPAR** | Young People at Risk  
Dublin North Inner City

*Creating a place of hope, where young people's dreams are realised*

**2012**  
**Annual Report**  
**Of**  
**Activities**



## **Introduction**

YPAR (Young People at Risk) is an interagency initiative in the North Inner City that works to support, facilitate and implement an integrated approach to meeting the needs of young people at risk. YPAR defines a young person at risk as a child/young person aged 0 to 18 years experiencing significant personal, family, educational or social problems. Numerous government reports and policy documents over the last few years have identified interagency working as a crucial element in improving the quality of services delivered to young people at risk. YPAR provides a model of how this policy commitment can be delivered at a local level in Dublin North Inner City. YPAR network and staff have been working with the staff of the HSE and other agencies over the past year to develop a local integrated structure drawing on the experience of YPAR to support the implementation of a Local Area Pathway (LAP) which will be the statutory delivery mechanism for welfare support to children and families under the Children and Family Services Delivery Framework (CFSDF) to be delivered by the new Children and Family Support Agency in 2013.

## **Social and Economic background**

### Social and Economic background

Statistics from the 2012 Pobal Deprivation Index for Small Areas which was developed by Trutz Haase and Jonathan Pratschke from the 2011 Census of Population show that overall there has been a huge increase in disadvantage in wake of the recession since the 2006 Census, affecting literally every part of the country. This is no less the case in Dublin North Inner City where the ‘rising tide’ of the ‘Celtic Tiger’ failed to lift all boats. Persistent poverty remained for many families in the North Inner City throughout this period and is now compounded by recession. The general statistics to emerge from the analysis of Hasse and Pratschke (2012) are outlined below and cover the following North Inner City Electoral Districts;

Arran Quay A; Arran Quay B; Arran Quay C; Arran Quay D; Arran Quay E; Ballybough A; Ballybough B; Cabra East B; Cabra East C; Drumcondra South B; Inns Quay A; Inns Quay D; Inns Quay C; Mountjoy A; Mountjoy B; North City; North Dock A; North Dock B; North Dock C; Rotunda A; Rotunda B

## **Dublin North Inner City General Social and Economic Statistics**

1. The population of the North Inner City area has increased by nearly 11% from 66,950 in 2006 to 74,452 in 2011.
2. There is an average of 20% age dependency across the area.

3. On average 42% of the households are headed by lone parents and in some districts this is as high as 63%.
4. The percentage of people with primary education only remains high at 18% on average across the electoral districts.
5. There has been a huge increase in male unemployment to a massive 27% in 2011 from 15% in 2006. This has again marginally increased in 2012
6. Likewise female unemployment has increased from 12% on average across the districts of the North Inner City to 17% in 2011.
7. The numbers of families living in local authority housing averages 15% across the area.

Coupled with these statistics showing the high disadvantage of the North Inner City, like many other disadvantaged communities they are also experiencing increasing cuts and reductions to social and community services including;

- Youth Services cut by up to 14%
- Health Services, on-going reduction in health services through retrenchment of workers and reduction in budgets.
- Closing of some HSE community residential services
- RAPID programme, 50% cut in cost of employing RAPID Coordinator.
- Local and Community Development Programme between 9-12% cut in overall budgets
- Community Drug Services between 2-5% cut in services.
- Changes in CE including reduction in training budget and changes to payments affecting lone parents making it difficult to recruit eligible participants resulting in the reduction in some children and youth services such as Childcare, After School and Training programmes.
- Social Protection Payments reduced including Child Benefit, Children Back to School Allowance, changes in Medical Cards and prescription payments.
- Increase in household municipal property taxes and waste charges.

The deepening crisis of the recession accompanied with large scale cuts to public and community services affecting welfare dependent families highlights the challenges for families, communities and services providers in endeavouring to deliver on YPAR's vision of creating a place of Hope, where young people's dreams are realised. Indeed this makes it difficult for the Government to achieve its own vision for a Quality Irish Childhood as set out in the 2012 Report of the Task Force on the Child and Family Support Agency to ensure that Irish Children are:

- Healthy, physically, mentally and emotionally

- Supported in active learning
- Safe from accidental and intentional harm/ secure in the immediate and wider physical environment
- Economically secure
- Part of positive networks of family, friends, neighbours, and the community; are included and participating in society.

It is generally accepted that poverty and high deprivation are social determinants and contributing factors to poor health, family breakdown and risk factors that threatened welfare, wellbeing and mental health of children. However, Dublin's North Inner City is a community with a long history of rising to the challenge of tackling social and economic disadvantage and also with a strong history of community led collaborative and integrated responses to disadvantage. The community response has been based on strong local leadership and visionary leadership within its statutory and voluntary partners. The resulting mix and blend of community, voluntary and statutory provision has provided an extraordinary level of knowledge, expertise, creativity and experience, enabling YPAR to grow and strengthen to produce better outcomes for children at risk and their families.

YPAR, which advocates for multiagency planning is managed by an interagency Steering Committee made up of representatives from the following statutory, voluntary and community sectors:

HSE, Dublin City Council, an Garda Síochána, Probation Service, CDYSB, National Education Welfare Board, Irish Youth Foundation, Neighbourhood Youth Project 1, Neighbourhood Youth Project 2, Community After Schools Project (CASPr), Wexford Centre, Inner City Renewal Group, Inner City Organisations Network, North West Inner City Network, Ozanam House Resource Centre (SVP), Lourdes Youth and Community Services, Hill St. Family Resources Centre and Youth Representatives.

YPAR will endeavour to provide support and leadership in the drive towards improving the lives of young people at risk in Dublin North Inner City.

**YPAR Vision**

*For the North Inner City to be a place of Hope, where young people's dreams are realised*

**YPAR Mission**

*To promote and develop a principled and integrated approach to working with young people that serves their needs and realises their dreams*

**YPAR Strategic Goals:**

1. *To implement the YPAR Protocol in the North Inner City.*

2. *To support and develop young people's participation in YPAR.*
3. *To inform service delivery and shape policy development.*
4. *To ensure that structures and organisation operate in an efficient manner.*

### **YPAR Funding**

The HSE, Probation Services, City of Dublin Youth Services Board, the North West Inner City Area Network and the Employment Network provided funding to YPAR in 2013 to support its work through a full time Administrator, a part time YPAR Coordinator and part time YPAR Protocol Coordinator.

### **YPAR Protocol**

The YPAR Protocol is the key interagency mechanism in which YPAR supports specific problems for children's welfare within families. At present YPAR operates 40 Protocol cases involving over 60 children and young people. The YPAR Protocol is pivotal to the success of the YPAR initiative. The issues addressed for the young people and their families through the protocol include school attendance, lack of supervision, recreational needs, antisocial behaviour, criminal behaviour, mental health concerns (both for parents and children), physical health, accommodation, parental addiction and domestic violence. The benefits of the YPAR protocol include:

- The young person and their families are at the centre of service responses; it provides a confidential, safe and trusting environment for the young people and their families to address their needs
- The Protocol provides a useful and important mechanism to support the many service needs and supports to children and young people at risk
- It empowers the young people and their families by allowing them to take responsibility together, as part of the Protocol group, to improve their situations.
- It benefits front-line workers and their agencies by facilitating greater collaboration and knowledge between agencies and increases their understanding of the total needs of the young person thereby enabling a more coordinated and focused response to those needs.

YPAR operates through an age specific structure in which a number of interagency working groups meet to plan joint actions, share knowledge & experiences and provide mutual support as peers working in difficult and rewarding situations. The working groups include;

- The YPAR Steering committee
- The YPAR Protocol Steering Committee
- The Foreign National Young People at Risk Working Group

- The 5-12 Working Group
- The 0-5 Working Group

The tables below highlight the goals, objective, activities and outcomes form the work of the YPAR Working Groups in 2012.



YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2012			
Goal: Implementation of the YPAR Protocol			
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outcomes	Indicators
<p>Improve the lives of young people at risk and their families through enhanced services and support interventions.</p> <p>Enhance interagency co-operation, communication and information flow.</p> <p>Provide back-up and supports to key front-line workers to reduce worker isolation and burn-out</p> <p>Support the participation in the YPAR Protocol by the targeted young people and their families.</p>	<p>Coordinated a formal interagency mechanism to respond to YPAR.</p> <p>Providing mentoring to local workers on protocol cases</p> <p>Supporting links between agencies and groups through walking tours of services for new workers and face to face meetings.</p> <p>Advice and information on services</p> <p>Peer Support/Community of Learning for key workers.</p> <p>Support and admin back-up</p> <p>The agreed involvement of frontline workers and their agencies.</p> <p>Played a proactive part in partnership with HSE personnel in the development of the Local Area Pathway of the NCFSD</p> <p>Training and support on how to use the protocol.</p>	<p>The delivery of a formal interagency mechanism providing effective responses to young people at risk and their families.</p> <p>Over 40 families and 50 young people participating in the initiative.</p> <p>Critical involvement in the process by the young person and their parents/guardian</p> <p>Have an agreed position on the delivery of the LAP in Dublin North Inner City</p> <p>Increased skills and abilities of agency and project workers in working with children in the area of behavioural difficulties</p> <p>Improved understanding between agencies of the issues involved.</p> <p>Collaboration between agencies and the family to come up with workable solutions for the young person.</p> <p>Improvements in family relationships.</p>	<p>40 families and 50 young people participating in the protocol.</p> <p>Each family actively participated in the development of a family care plan.</p> <p>Feedback from children and parents.</p> <p>Number of case meetings</p> <p>Number of agencies participating</p> <p>The visibly improved family relationship.</p> <p>Over 60 staff and 30 agencies participated in YPAR training</p> <p>Interaction and confidence of the young person.</p> <p>Self-esteem and attitude</p> <p>School attendance and achievements</p> <p>Involvement with community/voluntary and statutory services.</p>



	<p>Interagency training on Challenging Encounters and working with young people's aggression.</p> <p>Interagency training on Sensory Development and Energy Balancing Techniques with primary and preschool children.</p> <p>Identified the relevant skilled and children-centred professionals to participate on each protocol case.</p> <p>Provided information flow to families, local community and community organisations.</p> <p>Gained the consenting involvement of young person and parents/guardians</p> <p>Developed a review and monitoring mechanism to capture progress and outcomes including feedback from young person and parents/guardian</p>	<p>Improvement in the welfare of the children.</p> <p>Decrease in anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Decrease in the stress of the family.</p> <p>Supporting the culture of Interagency work in Dublin 1, 3 and 7.</p>	
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<b>YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2012</b>			
<b>Goal: Support to Foreign National Young People at Risk through the FNYPAR Working Group</b>			
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Activities/Inputs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
Support equality and access to health, education and justice services for FNYPAR	Held a conference in January 2012 to consult with FNYP to highlight issues and identify their needs with respect to	The qualitative participation of over 60 FN young people involved in identifying and beginning to address their issues.	Over 60 young people attended the January conference

<p>To support, facilitate and develop FN Young People’s participation in YPAR so that their voice is heard in identifying and addressing their needs.</p> <p>Production of the FNYPAR Action Plan</p>	<p>Health, Education and Justice.</p> <p>Main statutory agencies presented with services deficiencies in health, education and justice.</p> <p>Met with the Principle Officer for social inclusion at the Education Department to develop supportive response to the education needs of the FNYPAR.</p> <p>Met with the Office of the Promotion of Migrant Integration to highlight the issues of equality and justice.</p> <p>Building awareness and highlighting the acute problems of the ROMA and Non-EU YPAR</p> <p>Delivery of anti-racist bullying programmes in local schools</p> <p>Provide aftercare services to unaccompanied foreign nationals.</p> <p>Delivered a residential consultation programme for FNYPAR</p> <p>Planning a programme that will enable greater cross-cultural communication and understanding between international young people and their Irish counterparts.</p> <p>Developing an awareness of mental</p>	<p>Highlighting the key issues for FNYPAR to the relevant statutory agencies</p> <p>Produced a conference report which was sent to all the relevant community, voluntary and statutory agencies.</p> <p>Gaining the support of the local politicians, the Minister for Children and statutory agencies on the need for equality of treatment for FNYP</p> <p>Improving access to health, education and justices services for local FNYP through he involvement of Health Workers, Garda and local Schools.</p> <p>Increase involvement of FNYP in local youth and community projects.</p> <p>Interagency response to the specific issues of ROMA and Non-EU YPAR</p> <p>Greater access to extra curricula and afterschool leisure programmes for FNYP.</p> <p>Increase in the ability of some FNYP to feel comfortable in their local surroundings and environment.</p> <p>Increasing understanding in inter and cross-cultural communication among</p>	<p>Number of FNYP participating in local programmes and activities</p> <p>Number of FNYP participating in consultation programmes.</p> <p>The type of involvement by FNYP in decision making.</p> <p>Production of a Conference report</p> <p>Improved confidence of FNYP including school/education achievements</p> <p>Number of recorded racist attacks against FNYP</p> <p>Numbers of FNYP’s ability to feel safe in their local community.</p> <p>Reduction in racially motivated incidents in schools.</p> <p>Number of FNYP accessing aftercare.</p> <p>Numbers of FNYP particularly ROMA and Non-EU young people accessing education, health and social services.</p>
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	<p>Health issues for FNYPAR</p> <p>Completion of the FNYPAR 2012 – 2014 Action Plan</p>	<p>young people</p> <p>Irish born young people have developed a greater understanding of the lives of young people from other cultures and barriers have been reduced.</p> <p>Planning a programme to raise awareness and address mental health issues for FNYPAR</p> <p>The allocation of actions from the FNYPAR Action Plan to relevant agencies</p>	
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YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2012			
Goal: Support to 5-12 Year Olds through the YPAR 5-12 Working Group			
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outcomes	Indicators
<p>Develop interagency and inter-community responses to children at risk to ensure access to service supports, respite care, out-of-hours- social activities and responses to specialised service needs.</p> <p>Support the qualitative involvement of young people and children in decisions and solutions that affect them.</p>	<p>Interagency planning and information sharing mechanism through the 5-12 WG</p> <p>Coordinating and running of interagency activities – including One Community One Book, Disco, Sport Events</p> <p>Protocol promotion through 5-12 WG</p> <p>Develop anti-bullying information and programmes</p>	<p>Increase in the integration of services to 5-12 young people at risk.</p> <p>Increased communication and information sharing between agencies and projects</p> <p>More effective use of resources through the sharing and pooling of existing services and resources.</p> <p>Increase number of 5-12s has access to</p>	<p>Numbers and types of projects and activities</p> <p>Numbers of young people participating in projects and activities.</p> <p>Numbers of children being bullied</p> <p>Number of interagency actions or initiatives.</p> <p>Number of referrals to Protocol</p>

	<p>Identified gaps in services available to 5-12 YO's</p> <p>Coordination of Summer Projects</p> <p>Delivery of the Interagency Swimming Gala</p> <p>On-going support and coordination of the community based after school activities</p> <p>Continued support for out-of-hours services; youth clubs, Discos and sports activities.</p> <p>Identifying capacity to meet demand for children counselling services</p> <p>Developing a proposal to support child counsellors.</p> <p>Supporting family supports services.</p>	<p>after school and summer projects.</p> <p>Increase in the number of activities available after school.</p> <p>Reduction in the numbers of children experiencing bullying</p> <p>Agency staff skills upgraded in the use of interagency protocols</p> <p>Increased school completion</p> <p>Reduction in anti-social activities</p> <p>Less disruption in class room</p> <p>Identification of counsellors and available premises suitable for children counselling.</p> <p>Working relationships between agencies and staff continue to develop, enhancing the sense of trust and supporting stronger communication.</p>	<p>School completion numbers</p> <p>Types and numbers of achievements by young people (academic, sports, music, art, drama, etc.)</p> <p>Increased wellbeing of children supported through the 5-12 Working Group</p> <p>Analysis of activities and outcomes</p>
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YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2012			
Goal: Support to 0-5 Year Olds through the YPAR 0-5 Working Group			
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outcomes	Indicators
<p>Develop an interagency response to enable those at risk in this age group prevention and early intervention services such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childcare</li> <li>• Preschool</li> <li>• Family Support</li> <li>• Public Health</li> <li>• Welfare support</li> </ul>	<p>Develop a coordinating mechanism through which agencies working with 0-5 YPAR can come together to collaborate and share information</p> <p>Addressing the issue of under 4s who are not linked into services and may be missed by services, where needs are present.</p> <p>Developed a pilot programme to support the transition for preschool children to primary school</p> <p>Developing a networking programme and coordination of information sharing between agencies/workers</p> <p>Working with the HSE in response to children with special needs</p> <p>Submitted YPAR policy response to Department of Children’s Consultation Process on Improving the Lives of Children</p> <p>Promoting the YPAR Protocol for 0-5 YOs as a prevention and early</p>	<p>Increases collaboration between agencies working with young children</p> <p>Successful pilot programme to support the transition from preschool to primary school which will be scaled up to take in a greater number of preschools.</p> <p>Greater networking and sharing of information between agencies and services.</p> <p>Increased ability to identify and refer at risk family to appropriate service.</p> <p>Families connected into relevant support services.</p> <p>Increase in the numbers of families accessing early intervention and children at risk prevention programmes.</p> <p>Families accessing the YPAR Protocol</p>	<p>Number of childcare agencies and services working in an integrative manner.</p> <p>Number of people, children/parents contacted.</p> <p>Number of children/parents being referred to further support.</p> <p>Number of agencies collaborating and sharing information.</p>

	intervention mechanism.		
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YPAR Monitoring Outcomes 2012			
Goal: Maintaining YPAR Organisational Structure and Interagency work			
Objectives	Activities/Inputs	Outcomes	Indicators
<p>Ensure that all structures and sub-groups (working groups) set up are supported to work effectively.</p> <p>Ensure the effective staffing and management of the running of the organization</p> <p>Ensure that YPAR is adequately funded to carry out its work</p> <p>Learning from YPAR activities is disseminated and used to inform future policy, practice and services delivery</p>	<p>Supporting and facilitating the meetings and activities of the YPAR Working Groups</p> <p>Maintaining effective administration of YPAR files</p> <p>Developing and implementing YPAR financial policies and procedures</p> <p>Developing and implementing a YPAR Data Protection Policy</p> <p>Disseminating and sharing relevant information to YPAR network and external agencies on YPAR protocol and working group's activities.</p> <p>Annual and financial reports delivered to funders and funding has been secured to December 2012</p> <p>Make applications to relevant bodies and agencies for funding to support YPAR</p>	<p>Working groups operating effectively.</p> <p>All YPAR files are effectively kept up-to-date</p> <p>Financial policies and procedures developed and currently being implemented.</p> <p>Data protection policies approved and will be implemented in 2013</p> <p>HSE/CFSA approached YPAR re partnership in the development of the NSDF for children, particularly in the area of Child Welfare. YPAR is central to the Dublin North City strategy.</p> <p>Key stakeholders and external publics are informed of YPAR activities and services supports.</p> <p>Agencies making effective decisions through relevant shared information.</p>	<p>Number of Working Group meeting.</p> <p>Number of participants attending working Groups</p> <p>Number of agencies participating in Working Groups and Working Group activities</p> <p>Outcomes from review and evaluation meetings</p> <p>Number of young people participating in YPAR activities</p> <p>Amount of funding secured to sustain YPAR activities.</p> <p>The number of external enquires about the work of YPAR</p> <p>Number of families successfully completing the SFP</p> <p>Feedback from agencies and agency</p>

	<p>programmes.</p> <p>Coordinating the monitoring and evaluation of the YPAR activities and outcomes through the various YPAR structures and working groups</p> <p>Produced Annual Report, FNYPAR Conference Report, Protocol Leaflet, Strengthening Families Programme evaluation report and producing policy papers.</p> <p>Coordinate the delivery of the Strengthening Families Programme</p> <p>Support the administration and coordination of the NIC Youth Bank</p> <p>Development and maintenance of the YPAR web-site</p>	<p>Increased awareness of the work and impact of YPAR activities and approach.</p> <p>YPAR funding secured to December 2013</p> <p>Improved family (parent/child) relationships from the participation on the YPAR Strengthening Families Programme.</p> <p>Innovative youth lead initiatives benefiting the community</p> <p>Web site live and up-to-date.</p>	<p>staff on the benefits of YPAR.</p> <p>Feedback from parents and young people who have directly worked on YPAR initiatives or support services.</p> <p>Number of Youth Bank applications</p> <p>Number of successful Youth Bank applications delivered</p> <p>Feedback on the achievements of Youth Bank funding.</p>
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## **Other YPAR Activities**

### **Informing Policy and Practice**

Throughout 2012 YPAR has met with key policymakers and agencies to discuss how interagency working can be facilitated and supported both at a practical and a policy level. The YPAR protocol is now used by over 90% of statutory, voluntary and community children and family services providers in the North Inner City. Also in 2012 and in response to a request from local children service organisations in the North West Inner City, YPAR agreed to expand the geographic remit of the Protocol to include the Dublin 7 area of the North inner city.

As part of YPAR's advocacy and lobbying activities YPAR participated in the following:

- Meeting with the Minister for Children at the FNYPAR Conference in January 2012
- Submission to the Department of Children's public consultation on Improving the lives of children and young people
- Meeting with the Officials at the Office for the Promotion of Migrant Integration
- Meeting with the Principal Officer for Social Inclusion at the Department of Education
- Participating in the development of the local Children and Family Services Delivery Framework
- Organising an interagency meeting in response to the crisis of families living in O Devaney gardens
- On-going meetings and collaboration with statutory services providers.
- Producing information, policy and monitoring reports to YPAR partners and funders.

### **Youth Involvement in YPAR**

YPAR is currently working with local young people on a number of initiatives including;

- L-O.C.A.L (Looking-On. Community. Aspiration. Leadership) YPAR is providing on-going support and helped in their one day community event in September (Inner City's Got Talent)
- Two young people have been identified and agreed to sit on the YPAR Steering Committee.
- Two young people represented YPAR at a social entrepreneur transnational event in Berlin in October.
- On-going support and development to the North Inner City Youth Bank
- YPAR organised a Conference for policy makers to identify and highlight issues for Foreign National Young People. The Conference was attended by over 60 FN young



people who proactively help identify strengths, weaknesses and deficiencies in current services and policy.

- Supported through the FNYPAR working group a Consultation Residential for FN young people in the Cavan Centre
- Encouraging young people's participation in the various YPAR Working Groups

### **YPAR Strengthening Families**

Following on from the successful delivery of the YPAR Strengthening Families Programme in the North Inner City in 2010 YPAR delivered the programme again in early 2012 with funding from the Community Foundation of Ireland and Croke Park Community Fund. The second YPAR SFP worked very effectively as an interagency initiative which benefited the 6 families who completed the programme. There were 9 different agencies providing facilitators and 7 referral agencies. An evaluation of the programme was carried out with the facilitators and families and a number of weaknesses were identified in the delivery of the programme. However, it was agreed by both the families and agencies involved with a number of changes the programmes should be delivered again in 2013.

### **North Wall Education and Welfare Group**

YPAR continues to support and participate in the NWESG in enhancing interagency work in the North Wall Area. In 2012 Deirdre McCarthy, Community Technical Aid, undertook a research programme, consulting young people, community members and workers as part of the Needs Analysis, the report from which will be launched in February/March 2013. As well as the research the NWESG has met monthly shared information and ideas and developed common responses to some of the issues in the community. It has involvement from schools, youth workers, family support workers, community police forum and early learning support services.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of YPAR Activities**

As part of YPAR's person centred and learner centred approach to capturing the positive or negative outcomes of its approach, YPAR is developing ways to involve young people and their families who are engaging in the YPAR Protocol to feedback their views and critical analysis of the strengths and weakness of the Protocol and the YPAR interagency model.

The aim of YPAR is to improve the outcomes for young people at risk. Therefore it is essential to collect the evidence that shows whether or not our work is actually bringing about improved outcomes for the young people. YPAR set up a monitoring sub-group during the past year to help support it's monitoring and evaluation process and help draw on local knowledge and skills for capturing the outcomes of children services. While most workers

recognise the merits of recording the outcomes from their work there have been difficulties in moving to a culture where workers will systematically and consistently record these as a normative part of their work. The YPAR Co-ordinator and Protocol Co-ordinator will continue to implement this monitoring and evaluation framework which it is hope will allow YPAR to capture both the learning and outcomes from the YPAR interagency process and activities and enable it to share this learning to inform policy and practice.

### **Challenges for YPAR**

YPAR will continue to develop and support effective services to young people at risk in the North Inner City working in collaboration and cooperation with its community, voluntary and statutory partners as well as the young people and their families. YPAR will continue to engage with the National Children and Family Services Delivery Framework in the hope that this will produce better outcomes for young people and their families. However in doing so it is necessary to highlight some of the challenges and barriers that may affect the work of YPAR including;

- Uncertainty and confusion in relation to the effective rollout of the delivery of children welfare services under the National Children and Family Services Deliver Framework.
- The limited capacity of the YPAR staff to respond to the demands of the local Children and Family Services Deliver Framework with present quota of staff hours.....
- The recession and continued retrenchment of public services and funding cuts to complementary community services.
- Reluctance of some agency staff to take the lead on Protocol cases due to lack of support by managers.
- Persuading local workers of the merits of monitoring and recording the outcomes from their engagement in interagency work and in particular getting the views of young people and their families as a means to measure and assess the impact of this work.
- Lack of awareness or understanding of the operations of the Protocol by some agencies and workers.
- Uncertainty of future funding for YPAR.

### **Conclusion**

YPAR continues to consolidate its core work and even develop new initiatives by drawing on the generous and collaborative interagency support of statutory key workers and local community project staff. In 2012 the interagency protocol continues to bring together service providers, services users and community support organisations to develop a safe and confidential way of interagency working that enables multi-agency supports to address the

service needs of vulnerable children and young people. YPAR staff and partner workers have been proactively involved in supporting the development of a local mechanism for the delivery of the new Children and Family Services Delivery Framework and will continue this work in 2013.

Other interagency initiatives such as the Strengthening Families Programmes have also enabled YPAR to bring together agencies to develop tailored supports to families experiencing particular difficulties. This work will also continue in 2013 and new initiatives will be explored to support families and parenting.

YPAR has also worked at a number of levels to support and develop youth and family participation through local neighbourhood and community youth projects, engaging with the schools and pre-schools and seeking the active involvement of youth people in YPAR structures and activities. YPAR continues to recognise the additional problems facing local Foreign National People at Risk and will continue to provide supports and responses to their particular needs. The north inner city Youth Bank continues to be a valuable resource to support local youth initiatives and enable youth creative expression. Through its monitoring processes YPAR will continue to make links and share its learning with local, regional, national and international partners.

While the YPAR network and its partners are operating in very difficult economic times of increasing poverty and reductions in community services and supports, through its leadership and its local statutory, voluntary and community partners YPAR's vision, belief, commitment and collective talents will continue to advocate and demonstrate the value of cooperation, collaboration and the pooling and sharing of resources at local level and will continue to improve services and improved quality of life outcomes to young people at risk in the North Inner City of Dublin.

**YPAR Coordinator**

**January 2013**

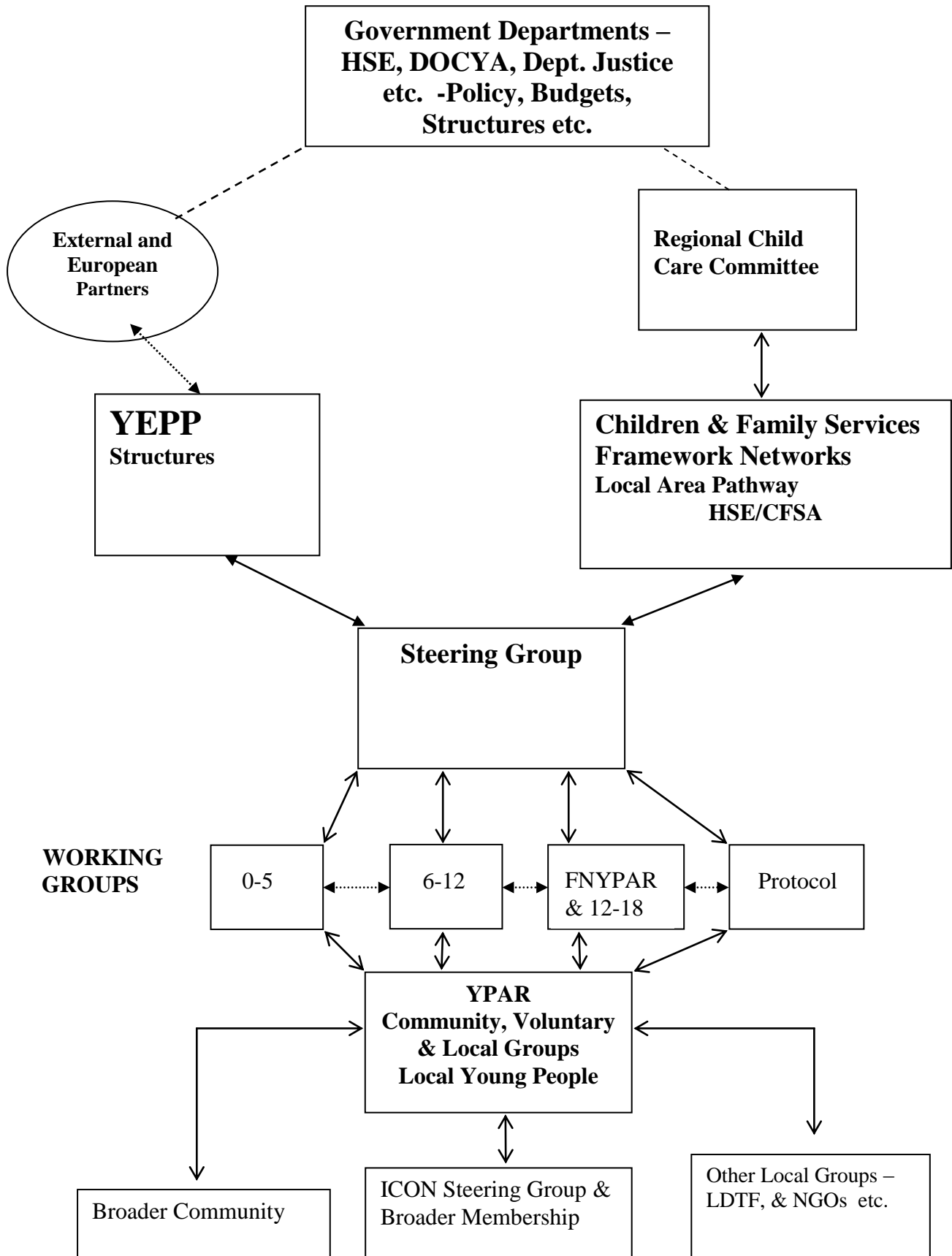
## **Appendix 1**

### **YPAR Steering Committee Members 2012**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Ann Carroll	Community After School Project (CASPr)
Gerry Donnelly	Garda
Derek Farrell	DCC
Fergus McCabe	NYP2
Glen Perry	National Education and Welfare Board
Grainne Foy	North West Inner City Network
Liam O 'Dwyer	Irish Youth Foundation
<b>Brid Clarke</b>	<b>Independent Chairperson</b>
Margaret Hayes	CDYSB
Mary McGagh	Probation Services
Gary Gannon	L-OCAL
Sarah Kelleher	Lourdes Youth Community Service (LYCS)
Seanie Lambe	Inner City renewal Group
Jenny Heath	Hill Street FRC
Mark Yalloway	HSE (Children's Services Manager)
Tony Rock	Ozanam House Resources Centre (SVP)
<b>Staff</b>	
Patrick Gates	Coordinator
Frank Mulville	Protocol Coordinator
Mary Meehan	Administrator

**Appendix 2**

**YPAR STRUCTURES**





**Contact Details:**

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