

YPAR | Young People at Risk
North East Inner City

Young People at Risk (YPAR) Initiative

Strategic Plan 2011-14



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Introduction to YPAR Strategic Plan 2009-2014.

YPAR's Vision is

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

The YPAR Mission Statement is:

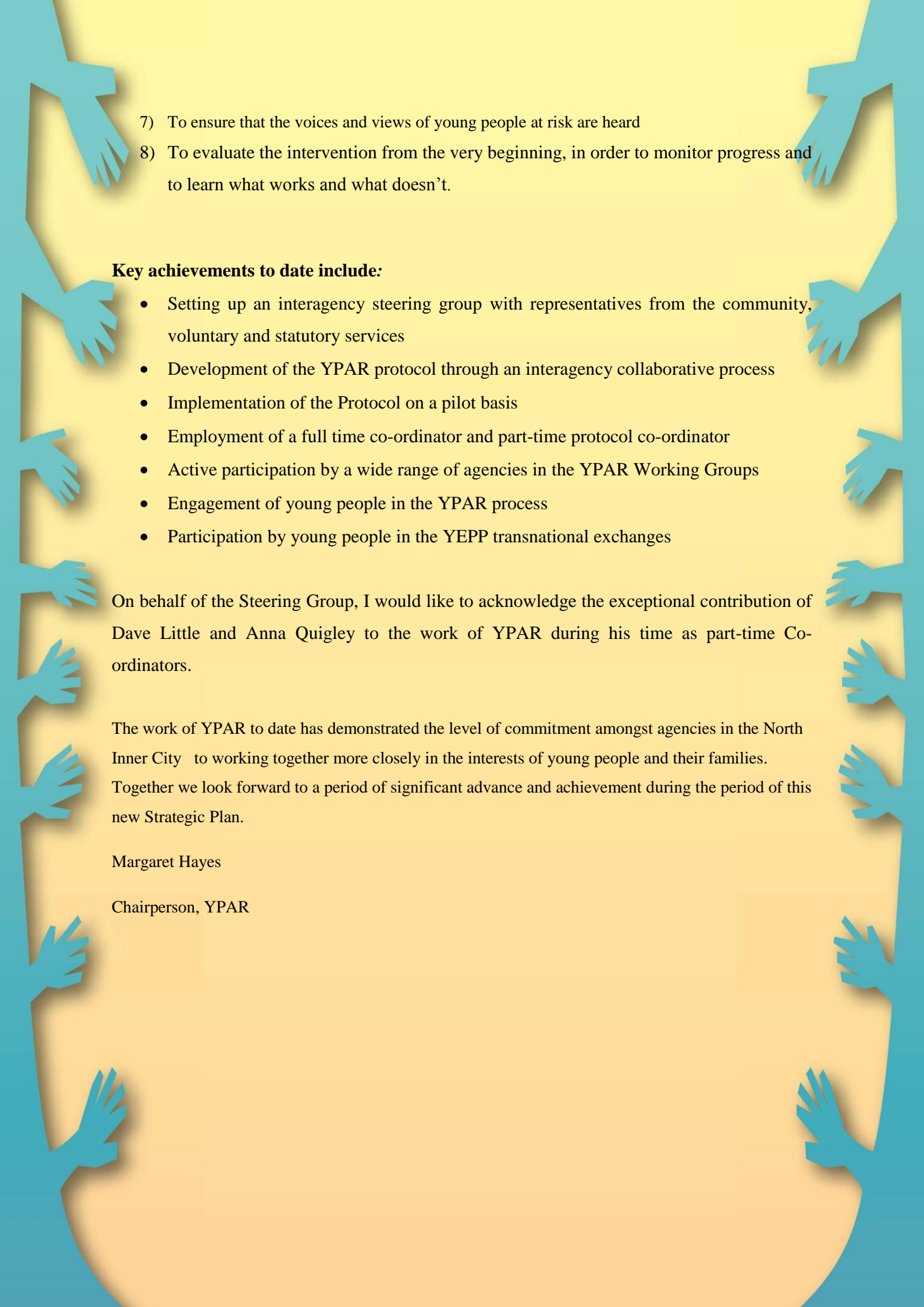
'To promote and develop a principled and integrated approach to working with young people that serves their needs and realises their dreams'

The role of YPAR is to support, facilitate and implement an interagency approach to meeting the needs of young people at risk in the North Inner City, with the aim of providing the best possible outcomes for the young people. 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.

The current work of YPAR is built on many years of development work by Inner City Organisations Network (ICON), the Integrated Services Initiative (ISI) and RIPON. YPAR is run by an interagency Steering Group, which is made up of representatives from the statutory, voluntary and community sectors - HSE, DCC, an Garda Síochána, Probation Service, CDYSB, NEWB, Irish Youth Foundation, NYP1, NYP2, Afterschools Project, Wexford Centre, Inner City Renewal Group, Inner City Organisations Network, Ozanam House Resource Centre, Lourdes Youth and Community Services, Hill St. Family Resource Centre. In order to ensure that the work of YPAR can be carried out, five agencies (HSE, DCC, Probation, CDYSB, and IYF) have committed to contribute to funding the salary of the YPAR Co-ordinator.

The main goals of YPAR are:

- 1) To establish an integrated, interagency structure for children and youth at risk
- 2) To improve the quality and delivery of services for children and youth at risk
- 3) To establish appropriate mechanisms to co-ordinate and integrate services for children and youth at risk
- 4) To support young people at risk in accessing services, education, training and employment
- 5) To ensure anti-discriminatory and accessible policies and practices in services for young people at risk
- 6) To support children and youth at risk to develop the skills and capacities needed to become active members of the community

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- 7) To ensure that the voices and views of young people at risk are heard
 - 8) To evaluate the intervention from the very beginning, in order to monitor progress and to learn what works and what doesn't.

Key achievements to date include:

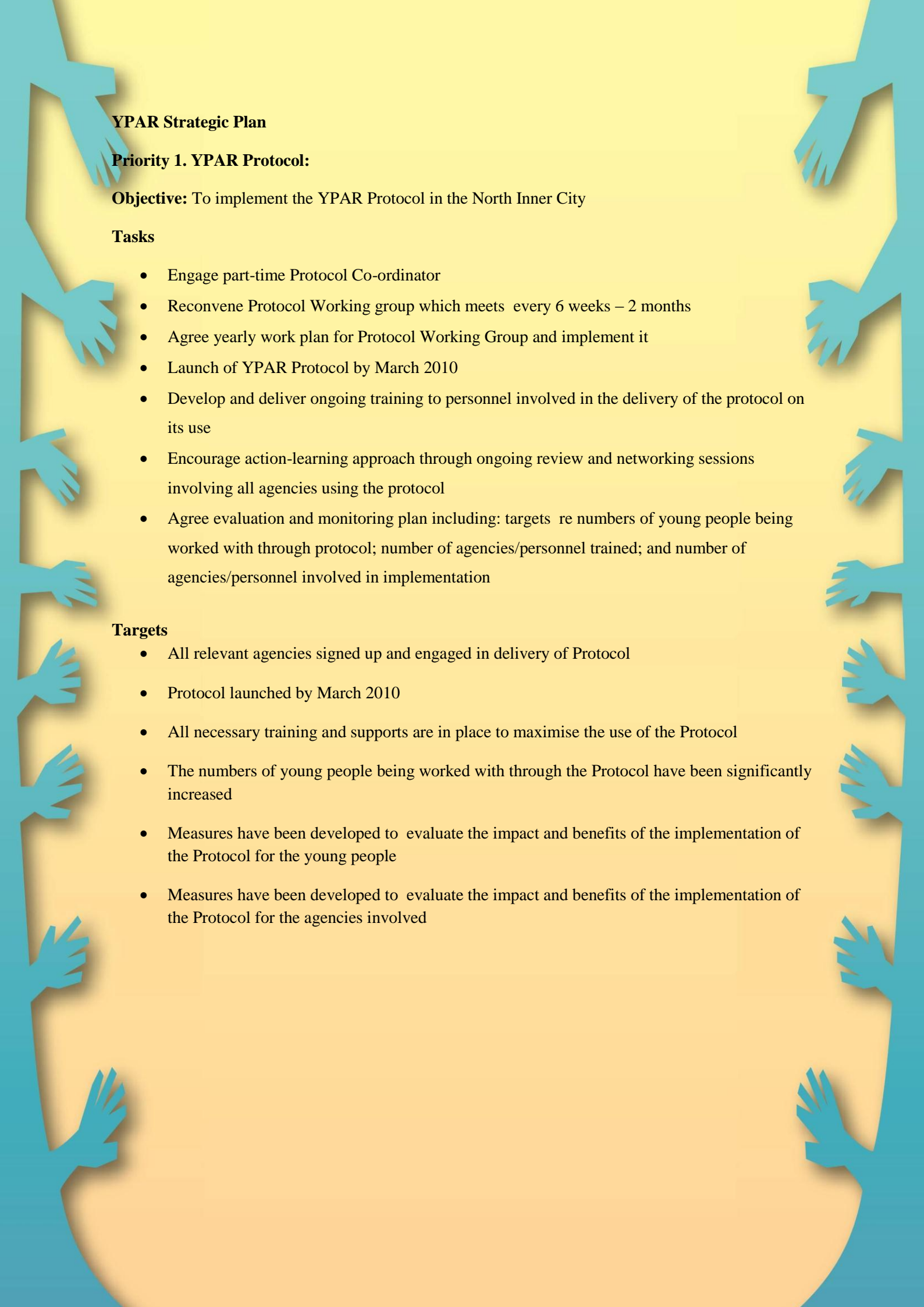
- Setting up an interagency steering group with representatives from the community, voluntary and statutory services
- Development of the YPAR protocol through an interagency collaborative process
- Implementation of the Protocol on a pilot basis
- Employment of a full time co-ordinator and part-time protocol co-ordinator
- Active participation by a wide range of agencies in the YPAR Working Groups
- Engagement of young people in the YPAR process
- Participation by young people in the YEPP transnational exchanges

On behalf of the Steering Group, I would like to acknowledge the exceptional contribution of Dave Little and Anna Quigley to the work of YPAR during his time as part-time Co-ordinators.

The work of YPAR to date has demonstrated the level of commitment amongst agencies in the North Inner City to working together more closely in the interests of young people and their families. Together we look forward to a period of significant advance and achievement during the period of this new Strategic Plan.

Margaret Hayes

Chairperson, YPAR



YPAR Strategic Plan

Priority 1. YPAR Protocol:

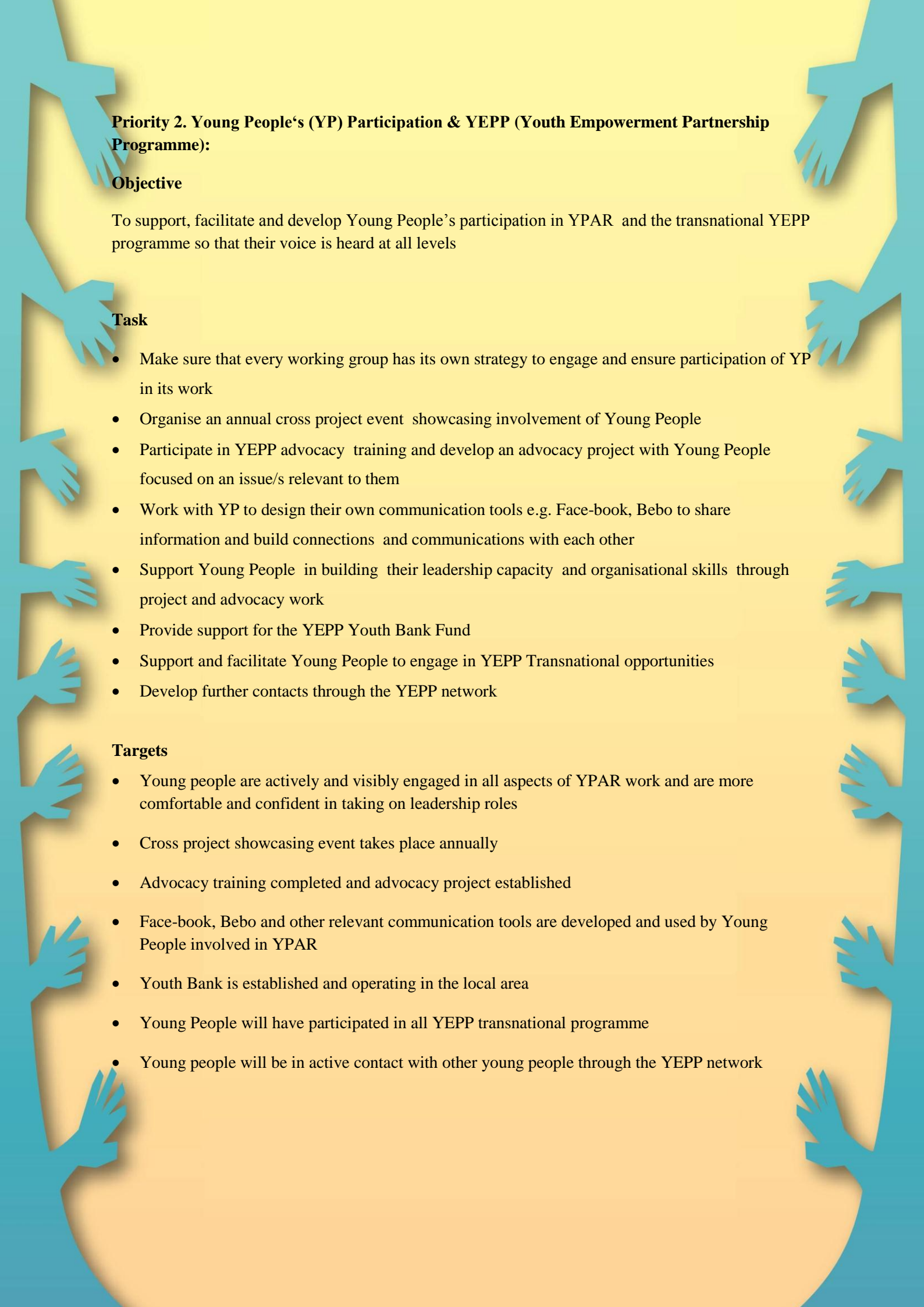
Objective: To implement the YPAR Protocol in the North Inner City

Tasks

- Engage part-time Protocol Co-ordinator
- Reconvene Protocol Working group which meets every 6 weeks – 2 months
- Agree yearly work plan for Protocol Working Group and implement it
- Launch of YPAR Protocol by March 2010
- Develop and deliver ongoing training to personnel involved in the delivery of the protocol on its use
- Encourage action-learning approach through ongoing review and networking sessions involving all agencies using the protocol
- Agree evaluation and monitoring plan including: targets re numbers of young people being worked with through protocol; number of agencies/personnel trained; and number of agencies/personnel involved in implementation

Targets

- All relevant agencies signed up and engaged in delivery of Protocol
- Protocol launched by March 2010
- All necessary training and supports are in place to maximise the use of the Protocol
- The numbers of young people being worked with through the Protocol have been significantly increased
- Measures have been developed to evaluate the impact and benefits of the implementation of the Protocol for the young people
- Measures have been developed to evaluate the impact and benefits of the implementation of the Protocol for the agencies involved



Priority 2. Young People's (YP) Participation & YEPP (Youth Empowerment Partnership Programme):

Objective

To support, facilitate and develop Young People's participation in YPAR and the transnational YEPP programme so that their voice is heard at all levels

Task

- Make sure that every working group has its own strategy to engage and ensure participation of YP in its work
- Organise an annual cross project event showcasing involvement of Young People
- Participate in YEPP advocacy training and develop an advocacy project with Young People focused on an issue/s relevant to them
- Work with YP to design their own communication tools e.g. Face-book, Bebo to share information and build connections and communications with each other
- Support Young People in building their leadership capacity and organisational skills through project and advocacy work
- Provide support for the YEPP Youth Bank Fund
- Support and facilitate Young People to engage in YEPP Transnational opportunities
- Develop further contacts through the YEPP network

Targets

- Young people are actively and visibly engaged in all aspects of YPAR work and are more comfortable and confident in taking on leadership roles
- Cross project showcasing event takes place annually
- Advocacy training completed and advocacy project established
- Face-book, Bebo and other relevant communication tools are developed and used by Young People involved in YPAR
- Youth Bank is established and operating in the local area
- Young People will have participated in all YEPP transnational programme
- Young people will be in active contact with other young people through the YEPP network

Priority 3. Policy and dissemination of Learning:

Objective

To ensure that the work of YPAR is used to inform service delivery and shape policy development for Young

Task

- Continue to promote and develop an interagency approach to working with Young People at risk
- On an ongoing basis continue to identify key policy issues arising from YPAR's work
- Prioritise and target strategic relationships with key policy agencies at local, city, national and transnational levels
- Ensure that the learning from YPAR is feed into relevant key policy structures
- Organise informal on the ground lunchtime meetings with relevant inputs to improve relationships, encourage networking and shared learning.
- Do 1 page briefing document each 2 months with update on progress and future events and ensure circulation to all groups and agencies
- Develop a YPAR web-site
- Disseminate policy learning through YEPP network and place YPAR policy work in a broader European context

Targets

- Strengthening Families Programme has been successfully piloted and evaluated as an interagency approach in the north inner city
- Key strategic relationships are in place with all relevant policy agencies
- Strategic Plan disseminated widely and presented to all relevant agencies
- At least 4 lunchtime networking meetings take place each year
- 6 briefing documents developed and disseminated
- Web-site established and being used

Priority 4. YPAR Organisational structures:

Objective

To ensure that YPAR structures and organisation operate in an effective and efficient manner

Task

- Ensure that all structures and sub-groups set up are supported to work effectively including:
 - Steering Committee
 - Management Group
 - Protocol working group
 - Foreign Nationals working group
 - 5-12 year old working group
 - 0-5 year old working group
 - Youth Participation group
- Ensure effective engagement with YEPP transnational programme and carry out all organisational requirements of being a local YEPP site
- Ensure the effective staffing and management of the running of the organisation
- Ensure that YPAR is adequately funded to carry out its work
- Ensure that there is good financial management and financial accountability to all funders

Targets

- Working groups have carried out clear work-plans effectively and have engaged all relevant stakeholders
- Engagement in YEPPP transnational programme is effective and beneficial to the young people and YPAR organisation
- YPAR is staffed adequately and managed well
- Sufficient funding ensures the sustainability of YPAR work
- All finance and funding is appropriately managed and accounted for

A decorative border of stylized hands in shades of blue and teal, arranged in a circular pattern around the page. The hands are of various sizes and orientations, creating a sense of community and support.

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