

Appendices

NORTH TIPPERARY COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE

Management Structure

North Tipperary County Childcare Committee has entered into an agreement with North Tipperary County Council to facilitate it in the preparation and implementation of the county childcare strategy.

This will involve the County Council in:

- *Becoming a channel for funding from the department of Justice Equality and Law Reform / ADM*
- *Recruiting, entering into employment contracts and supervising staff required to co-ordinate and support the work of the committee.*
- *Providing back-up administrative support including office accommodation*

The County Childcare staff facilitate and support the work of North Tipperary County Childcare Committee. On a day to day basis, the County Childcare Co-ordinator liases with the chairperson of the committee and works through and reports to the Director of Community and Enterprise

NORTH TIPPERARY COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE
LINKS WITH THE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

North Tipperary County Childcare Committee has had strong links with the County Development Board from the very beginning.

- 1. The draft County Childcare Strategy was considered and endorsed by the County Development Board at its meeting on December 7th 2001 and is now included as an element of the CDB Strategy.*
- 2. The preparation of an Economic, Social & Cultural Strategy for North Tipperary County Development Board has been facilitated by the Executive of the Community & Enterprise Department of North Tipperary County Council. The direct link to the County Childcare Committee is provided through Mr. Donál Purcell, Community & Enterprise Development Officer, who is a member of the Committee and the current Chairperson.*
- 3. North Tipperary County Council plays a key role by facilitating the County Childcare Committee administration and employing the Childcare Co-ordinator and other support staff similar to its role with the County Development Board.*
- 4. The Childcare Strategy developed by the Childcare Committee was facilitated by Tipperary Institute who also worked with the County Development Board in developing its Economic, Social & Cultural Strategy.*

Membership of the County Childcare Committee

Name		Organisation
Austin	Broderick ¹	Business & Employers
Antoinette	Coffey	VEC
Miriam	Corbett	ADM Ltd.
Cordelia	Cormack	Private Providers
Josie	Doyle	Department of Social, and Family Affairs
Breda	Fogarty ²	Trade Union Representative
Noreen	Fogarty ³	Local Development Partnerships
Mary	Hackett	Parents (0-3 years)
Aileen	Healy	National Voluntary Childcare Organisations
Helen	Heenan	Farming
Mary	Keeshan ⁴	Community and Voluntary Pillar
Ann	McLoughlin ⁵	Community Providers
Annette	McCarthy	FAS
Bill	Meagher	Mid Western Health Board
Gerry	Mitchell	Parent Representative
Marguerite	Moloney ⁶	Parents (4-12 years)
Mary	O'Donoghue ⁷	Traveller Representative
Donál	Purcell	Local Authority
Miriam	Uhlmann ⁸	National Voluntary Childcare Organisations
Noel	Cleary	County Enterprise Board

¹ Replaced by Noreen Heffernan on 13 March 02

² Replaced by Ann Delahunty on 12 June 02

³ Replaced by Pat Power on 10 April 02

⁴ Replaced by Kara Murphy on 13 March 02

⁵ Replaced by Geraldine Cronin on 12 June 02

⁶ Resigned from the committee on 12 June 02, to be replaced

⁷ Resigned from the committee on , to be replaced

⁸ Replaced by Olive Carter on 13 March 02

CHILDCARE STRATEGY

ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ADM Ltd.

Area Development Management Ltd. is an independent company designated by the Government and the EU to support integrated local economic and social development. ADM manages a range of social and economic programmes on behalf of the EU and Irish Government.

APL

Accredited Prior Learning offers an opportunity to adults to obtain credit for what they have learned in life without demanding that they return to school or college to do so. It gives credit for skills and knowledge regardless of where or how acquired and these are measured against the common standard.

Childcare

Definition agreed by member of the Expert Working Group as opposed to use of term “child care” which applies to services which comes under the remit of the Department of Health and Children for children considered to be in need of protection.

The term childcare is used by the Expert Working Group to describe daycare facilities and services for pre-school children and school-going children out of school hours. It includes services offering care, education and socialisation opportunities for children to the benefit of children, parents, employers and the wider community. Thus services such as pre-schools, naíonraí, daycare services, crèches, playgroups, childminding and after-school groups are included, but schools (primary, secondary and special) and residential centres for children are excluded. The Expert Working Group also agreed that the age-group to be considered would be children aged 0 to 12 years inclusive.

Child Care Act, 1991

Legislation which updated the law in relation to the care of children, particularly children who have been assaulted, ill-treated, neglected or sexually abused or who are at risk. Part VII of the Act refers to pre-school services.

Child Care (Pre-school Services)

Regulations developed under Part VII of the Child Care Act, 1991 which require minimum standards for pre-school 1996 services and provide for providers covered by

the Act to notify the Department of Health and Children of their service and to be available for inspection.

Childminder

Individuals who provide a childcare service to parents in their own home or in the parent's home.

Community Employment Programme

Employment programme operated by FÁS which funds sponsors to provide a work and training programme for persons who qualify for participation in the scheme. It mainly applies to persons who are over 21 years, unemployed and in receipt of a qualifying social welfare payment for a period of at least one year.

DIT/NOW

Early Childhood Project supported by the EU EMPLOYMENT/NOW fund which was set up at the end of 1995 to establish a mutually recognised system of accreditation for early childcare care and education and to develop APL as a means of doing this. The project is backed by a consultative group representing the major accrediting, training and practitioner bodies in the relevant areas throughout Ireland.

Early Start Programme

This programme is operated by the Department of Education and Science for children aged 3 years and over in disadvantaged communities covering 40 primary schools. It provides a one year pre-primary school programme to participants.

Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme

The Department of Justice Equality and Law Reform provides funding for the development of childcare under the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme which is administered by ADM Ltd. The Programme is designed to fund the development of Childcare in Ireland while seeking to ensure that existing childcare services are not displaced by the introduction of new initiatives in the childcare area.

The objectives of the programme are to

- Increase the number of childcare facilities and childcare places
- Enhance the quality of childcare provision in the locality
- Allow parents to avail of educational, training or employment opportunities
- Enhance a co-ordinated approach to the development of childcare where appropriate.

EU

European Union

Family Daycare

Refers to childminding services.

FÁS

National Training and Employment Authority whose functions include the operation of training and employment programmes and support for co-operative and community-based enterprise. FÁS operates under the aegis of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

Health Boards

The Health Act, 1970 provided for the establishment of eight health boards, which have been responsible for the administration of health services in Ireland since April 1971. They are responsible for a number of programmes including community care services.

IPPA

Irish Pre-schools and Playgroups Association

Naíonraí

Irish language medium playgroups offering sessional services for children age 3 to 5 years.

National Anti-Poverty Strategy

The National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) was launched in April 1997 with the overall objective of reducing the proportion of the population living in poverty from 9-15% to less than 5-10% by the year 2007. The NAPS was designed on the basis of 5 key themes – unemployment, educational disadvantage, income adequacy, disadvantaged urban areas and rural poverty – each with its own set of targets and timeframes. A NAPS strategic management initiative unit has been established in the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs to help co-ordinate and develop cross-departmental action to support social inclusion and anti-poverty measures.

NOW

New Opportunities for Women Programme funded by the EU Employment Initiative. It aims to reduce female unemployment and increase opportunities in the labour market for women.

Partnership 2000

National Agreement for Inclusion, Employment and Competitiveness 1997-2000 agreed by the Government and social partners. An important new development in the negotiations leading to the agreement was the involvement of the community and voluntary sector as the fourth pillar.

Pilot Childcare Initiative

This was an initiative by the Department of Equality and Law Reform which operated for the period 1994 to 1997 providing funding for the development of childcare services in disadvantaged areas to enable women (and men where they have responsibility for rearing their young children) to avail of education, training and employment opportunities which they would otherwise be unable to do in the absence of childcare facilities. The programme was administered through ADM Ltd.

Pre-school Services

Childcare services for children aged up to 6 years, who are not attending a national school or school providing an educational programme similar to national school.

PRSI

Pay Related Social Insurance.

Sessional Services

A service offering a planned programme to pre-school children for up to 3½ hours per session.

VEC

Vocational Education Committees provide and manage vocational schools, employ managerial and teaching staff and provide vocational and continuation education. Activities are financed partly from local rates and partly from State grants.