

SOUTH KERRY CHILD WELL-BEING COMMITTEE



Summary of Interagency Report and Strategy 2008-2010
Improving the well-being of children and young people in South Kerry

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on behalf of the South Kerry Child Well Being Inter-agency Committee

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Introduction

Background

This initiative is prompted by the recent PLANET policy document on the well being of the child, which has been adopted by South Kerry Development Partnership. A working group has been set to prepare a strategic, inter-agency action plan on the needs of children and young people.

The remit and goals of the inter-agency committee are also in keeping with the spirit of the Children's Strategy, and its commitment to co-operation between agencies for the betterment of children's lives.

Agency Membership of the working group is as follows:

South Kerry Development Partnership	Mary Lyne - Education Coordinator, Aileen Brosnan - Youth Officer, Paul O'Raw - Head of Community Development Department, Claire O'Toole, Childcare Officer
Kerry Education Service	Katherine O' Sullivan
Kerry Diocesan Youth Service	Linda Kearin
Family Resource Centres	Nancy Holmes - South West Kerry Tom Millane - Sneem, Aileen O'Sullivan - Castlemaine, Noreen Murnane - The Caha Centre, Adrigole
Kerry County Childcare Committee	Oonagh Flemming
Health Service Executive	Patricia Maher

The Strategic Objectives of the group are to:

- Improve quality of life for disadvantaged children and young people.
- Achieve greater social inclusion and equality
- Ensure greater cohesion of services and supports in South Kerry
- Maximise use of resources

The Research Brief

Aims of Research

- Give an overview of existing provision of services to children and young people in South Kerry
- Identify gaps in service provision
- Identify models of good practice and positive learning experiences
- Recommend strategic actions for the next programme period
- Production of a persuasive, strategic research document which will guide actions, influence policy and lever funding

Area Profile

Below are some of the significant factors to bear in mind from the area profile.

- Over half of geographical area of County Kerry with 36% of Population
- 12,323 children and young people (0-18 years), 49% living in Rural EDs
- 22% on average does not have a second level qualification, with one in three people in some rural areas
- Unemployment estimated at 7%, with approximately 2250 people on the live register
- Up to 30% (mainly in rural areas) of workforce engaged in agriculture, with 53% of all farms being small holdings.
- 905 (5.4%) of houses rented from Local Authority
- Estimated 10% of children (0-18) in South Kerry living in Lone Parent Families
- 13.5% of South Kerry population not indigenous to the area, with Polish people making up the largest group
- Asian or Asian Irish largest BME group in South Kerry at 1.2%
- An increase in Traveller population of 54%, from 356 to 550 persons
- Estimated 4% of child population (0-18) with a disability
- 17% of Households with NO car, 12% in Rural Areas. 39% with one car, 38% in rural areas

Current Services and Facilities – Impact Analysis

This section of the report describes the feedback from agency representatives and from young people who participated in the consultation process, and relates this feedback to the information available with regard to current services and facilities, and the area profile compiled above. This is done under the thematic headings set out in the brief for the study. The thematic headings are:

- social and development
- education
- environment/ play space
- youth work
- health and welfare (nutrition, mental, physical, spiritual)
- access to information, services and supports
- impact of technology and media

Social and Development

The vast majority of the feedback in relation to social and development related primarily to teenagers and the lack of facilities for them. It was stated over and over by professionals, community workers, parents and young people, that facilities and recreational services for the 13-18 age group was extremely poor, and that all they can do is hang around on the streets, in school yards, fast food outlets and arcades.

From an adult point of view, this lack of facilities and activities was a catalyst for other problems that developed in communities, such as alcohol misuse, a 'boy racer' culture or inter-generational strife. There is a growing sense that young people in this age group and displaying these behaviours are seen as a threat to their community.

Young people themselves in the 13-18 age group are frustrated at the lack of amenities available to them, and say the only choice they have is to stay at home or take to the streets.

Ultimately, there is no building in South Kerry which exists purely for the recreational use of young people over which they have complete control, and the ability to do what they want, when they want. They rely on KDYS drop in facilities and the sharing of other community based facilities of which they have no control, and little if any influence. There is a need for affordable and inclusive community based social outlets for young people across South Kerry, of which they have a degree of ownership. The young people consulted state that this is something they would be willing to work at and participate in, and it would provide much needed opportunities for young people to adopt "leadership roles" as identified by a community based worker during the consultation.

Education

There are 9 secondary and 45 primary schools in the South Kerry area.

The main concern of those taking part in the consultation was the delivery of additional learning supports for disadvantaged students.

Where there are a significant percentage of children in a school who are not doing as well as expected academically, the school can achieve Designated Disadvantage Status (DEIS). There are currently 3 DEIS Co-ordinators in Kerry, who co-ordinate the plans for 13 primary schools and 2 post primary schools. The 3 co-ordinators presently cover Cahersiveen, Rural Primary, and Community Colleges.

There are however a minority of students who do not do well in the education system and for whom there is very little additional support. If a school does not have 'enough' disadvantaged students, the support of the DEIS programme is not available. It is the experience of most schools that there are a small number of pupils who are unable to cope with the academic expectations placed upon them.

Feedback during the consultation identified a need for learning supports for all children across South Kerry who are not doing well in their education, and who then leave to go into unskilled jobs or unemployment.

One example of a project which has achieved this is the FACE (Families and Computers in Education) project in South Kerry. The project is collaboration between South Kerry Development Partnership and the Kerry Education Service, with school

involvement, in which ICT is taught in the home in order to help parents support their children.

There is a need for projects such as FACE to be repeated across the region, for new learning support projects based on this model of working to be set up which respond to locally identified needs, and for existing projects to be supported and guided, all co-ordinated from a central point by an umbrella organisation.

Environment / Play Space

As mentioned previously, there is very little in the way of space specifically for young people. There are no spaces specifically for young adults, or as one contributor said, “nothing young people can call their own”. As a result, young people tend to hang out on streets, and near commercial venues.

County Kerry has a Play Policy¹ produced by the County Council in 2004, which is reflective of National Policy, and which confirms the importance of “promoting play” as part of childhood development. The policy reflects an urban strategy at present, and has been focused on improving current facilities.

Youth Work

Currently in South Kerry, all formal youth work is done by or via the Kerry Diocesan Youth Service (KDYS). Where other organisations have youth related issues as part of their remit, such as SKDP or the HSE, they tend to use partnership arrangements with KDYS to deliver services and projects. Other organisations, such as Family Resource Centres, will occasionally deliver a project to young people, e.g. summer camps, but they do not view themselves as doing ‘youth work’.

KDYS has developed rapidly in the past ten years and now has a large infrastructure, with three major youth centres in County Kerry, one of these being in Killarney (South Kerry), while the other two are in Tralee and Listowel (North Kerry). Traditionally, KDYS has been a voluntary organisation which co-ordinated volunteer efforts on locally run youth projects (e.g. youth clubs, summer projects) throughout County Kerry, and is affiliated to the national organisation Youth Work Ireland.

Development has seen KDYS take on the delivery of a number of issue based programmes from the centres mentioned above, these programmes include:

KDYS Killarney Drugs Initiative – directed at substance misuse

KDYS Youth Reach – directed at early school leavers

KDYS BAPADE Project – activities for 10-17 year olds

KDYS Young Parents Support Service – supporting teenage parents

KDYS Youth Information – training and workshops for personal development

Garda Youth Diversion Project – directed at young offenders

KDYS Schools Programme – drug education, peer mentoring, peer education, sexual health and teambuilding delivered in Schools

KDYS Mentor Project – one-to-one work in schools re behaviour modification / education and training options

There is recognition within KDYS that the development of the centres, and the establishment of the issue based programmes, has meant that its traditional base of volunteer workers and locally run projects have not developed as desired. Having

¹ Developing Play in Kerry – Countywide Policy on The Development and Management of Playgrounds and Play Areas in Public Open Spaces

said this, if it were not for KDYS co-ordinating and supporting local youth projects, there would be very little youth work activity outside of the major towns.

KDYS Youth Clubs have been established in both urban and rural settings, and partnership arrangements have been made with Kerry Community Transport to support these by putting on services which allow young people who would otherwise have difficulties accessing the service to attend.

There is a need to strengthen the KDYS Youth Club Network so that it meets the needs and expectations of young people, and can provide a regular, reliable and consistent service across the region.

Health and Welfare

According to the County Development Board there are three District Community Hospitals in South Kerry located in Killarney, Kenmare and Cahersiveen, with the General Hospital for the county located in Tralee. All three District Community Hospitals house an ambulance base. In addition to this there are ten Health Centres located in the South Kerry area, each of these is in an urban setting, whether small or large settlements, and there is a good geographical spread. Feedback from those consulted, specifically parents and professionals, suggest that general health care provision in South Kerry is satisfactory, with easy access to doctors and health centres.

However feedback also states that while health services are fine generally, parents experience great difficulties if their child develops addition or special needs. The key areas which arose during the consultation in relation to health and welfare, and which were of concern to parents and professionals were Additional or Special Needs, Substance Misuse, Sexual Health and Orientation, and Mental Health.

Additional Needs

Along with the need for youth space and facilities, the area of additional or special needs was one of the most often raised during the consultation. Generally, the majority of feedback from parents of children with additional needs, no matter where on the spectrum, was in relation to the lack of statutory services that were available, and the need for parents to pursue things for themselves in order to get things done.

The more prominent issues that arose were:

- Assessments
- Access to Services
- Financial Difficulties
- Recreation and Respite
- Special Needs and Education

Overview

There is a documented regional approach by the statutory sector to additional or special needs services in South Kerry, and while new structures have been introduced recently, there is an acknowledgement by the HSE of 'unmet need' in the past and from the parents' perspective, achievements are made by informal networking and a lot of individual endeavour. There is a need for a base or service for additional needs in South Kerry, providing information, support and advocacy to parents and groups across the region, and across the spectrum of needs, (Physical

and Intellectual Disability – Downs Syndrome, Autism, Specific Learning Difficulties etc.)

Substance Misuse

Use of alcohol by teenagers was a major theme of the consultation. It was stated that while the use of drugs such as cannabis was acceptable among young people (Killarney Community Drugs Initiative), the use of alcohol was much more widespread and a much bigger problem. Currently there is one project in South Kerry dealing specifically with the issue of substance misuse, with one worker in the project.

There is a need to have a regional and focused approach to the use of alcohol among children in South Kerry, both in terms of early intervention and prevention, with work taking place in both urban and rural settings.

Mental Health

There is a very positive and strong approach to addressing mental health issues among children in South Kerry. There are a number of agencies which exist to support sufferers of mental health problems; however they exist in the urban areas of Killarney, Killorglin and Cahersiveen. Within these organisations is an awareness of the need for services to be directed at young people and for different methods of access and delivery to ensure engagement of this younger age group. This awareness has come about through local, in-depth analysis of young people's attitude to stress and mental health.

As it is clear from the surveys completed by the Kerry Mental Health Association that young people find it difficult to engage with service which are 'out there', there is a need to bring the services to young people. The Jigsaw model would seem the ideal vehicle to achieve this, and should be explored as a possible alternative.

Sexual Health and Orientation

Feedback from the consultation suggested that there is a gap in services for informing young people of issues around sexual health and orientation. While young people may receive information on sexual health matters in school or in a youth project, there are no services in South Kerry for young gays, lesbians or bisexuals.

There is a need to promote positive images of young lesbians and gay men, and to offer support for disclosure as a part of existing youth work and mental health services. There is also a need for a consistent approach to the delivery of sexual information across the region.

Access to Information

During the study a great deal of information was made available to the researcher on a huge variety of issues and topics. It was therefore interesting to note that a great deal of feedback from parents consulted was saying that there is a lack of simple information available, of what's out there, how it can be accessed, and contacts for the relevant people within organisations.

In reviewing all the literature forwarded for the purposes of this study, it is apparent that there is a need for information to be provided in a co-ordinated, pertinent, concise and simple way, which is focused on being user friendly. A structure along the lines of 'Beginners Guide to ...' would be useful to explore.

Impact of Technology and Media

During the course of this study, the use of technology and media was not the major concern of those consulted, with most professionals and community workers seeing it as a low priority when compared with other significant issues relating to child well-being.

Young people themselves do say that access to IT facilities is poor, with only limited availability in the library or school. When talking about the creation of youth venues, young people include access to computers and broadband as a desired amenity.

Underlying Themes

During the study there were two of underlying themes that arose that could be applied generally across the region, and which impacted on young people and their families.

Affordability of Services

One issue that continued to arise during the consultation was the cost to families and young people of accessing facilities and services. Regardless of the activity, whether it be recreational, developmental, educational, or health related, it was stated that “things always cost money”, and that this was prohibitive, and a barrier to participation.

Accessibility of Services

Given that Kerry is one of the largest counties in the country geographically, and given that half of South Kerry’s population live in rural areas, it is not surprising that rural isolation and access to services was a recurring theme of this study.

There is a need to consider the delivery of services to rural communities at the planning stage of any project, whether this be through partnership arrangements with Kerry Community Transport, or by the use of more outreach work. The use of portable structures and service could be explored.

There was general agreement that a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approach was needed for the delivery of services to children and young people in South Kerry.

Conclusions and Recommendations

1. There is a need for affordable and inclusive community based social outlets for young people across South Kerry, which can cater for a variety of ages, and of which they have a degree of ownership.
2. There is a need for new learning support projects to be set up which respond to locally identified needs, and for existing projects to be supported and guided, all co-ordinated from a central point by an umbrella organisation, such as a Learning Support Unit.
3. There is a need for more childcare facilities which are affordable to parents.
4. There is a need to strengthen the Youth Club Network so that it meets the needs and expectations of young people, and can provide a regular, reliable and consistent service across the region.
5. There is a need for a base or service for additional needs in South Kerry, providing information, support and advocacy to parents and groups across the region, and across the spectrum of needs, (Physical and Intellectual Disability – Downs Syndrome, Autism, Specific Learning Difficulties etc.)
6. There is a need to have a regional, inter-agency approach to addressing the use of alcohol among children in South Kerry, both in terms of early intervention and prevention, with work taking place in both urban and rural settings.
7. It is clear from the surveys completed by the Kerry Mental Health Association that young people find it difficult to engage with service which are 'out there', there is a need to bring the services to young people. The Jigsaw model would seem the ideal vehicle to achieve this, and should be explored as a possible alternative.
8. There is a need to promote positive images of young lesbians and gay men, and to offer support for disclosure as a part of existing youth work and mental health services. There is also a need for a consistent approach to the delivery of sexual health information across the region.
9. There is a need for information to be provided in a pertinent, concise and simple way, which is focused on being user friendly. A structure along the lines of 'Beginners Guide to ...' would be useful to explore.

Underpinning Conclusions and Recommendations

1. There is a need to establish an affective South Kerry wide inter-agency network which can co-ordinate the delivery of services to children and young people, and collaborate on projects where there are common goals. The group could address structural causes of disadvantage and improve policy and services through a systemic approach. This network could seek to establish itself as a key part of local structures and the first port of call for all work in the field of child well-being in South Kerry.
2. There is a need to ensure the affordability of services to all those living in a community at the planning stage, with measures put in place to ensure

equality of access, and that no-one is discriminated against because of social class or income bracket.

3. There is a need to consider the delivery of services to rural communities at the planning stage of any project, whether this be through partnership arrangements with Kerry Community Transport, or by the use of more outreach work. The use of portable structures and service could be explored.

The Strategic Plan

The above conclusions and recommendations form the basis of an Inter-agency Strategic Plan designed to improve the lives of children and young people in South Kerry. While not all of the recommendations of the study have been acted upon within this strategy, four strategic impact areas have been identified by the committee as a focus for its work over the coming three years. The four key areas are Interagency Working, Additional Needs, Youth Services, and Learning Supports.

In a focused attempt to ensure practical outcomes and real impacts for children and young people in South Kerry, a Results Based Planning approach was used to develop the strategy. This approach ensures focused actions; specific, results based outcomes; and the ability to monitor and evaluate progress.

Each Strategic Impact Area addressed within this strategy includes a set of measurable outcomes which should be achieved as a result of each action. Each Strategic Impact Area will have a working Sub-Group responsible for the implementation of this plan.

Strategic Impact Area – Interagency Working

EXPECTED IMPACT 1

FORMAL INTERAGENCY NETWORKING IN SOUTH KERRY

Outcome 1.1 Develop a co-ordinated network of agencies (voluntary, community and statutory)

Intended Outcomes Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
1.1.1 Audit of agency and interagency activity in South Kerry	Lots of informal interagency activity currently. No interagency baseline audit currently.	Clear picture of interagency activity through completed audit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key agencies Develop Terms of Reference Set up steering group Prepare Tender Appoint researcher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for Research Staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKDP KES Cahersiveen FRC 	<p>Commence March 2008</p> <p>Audit to begin September 2008</p> <p>Audit completed by January 2009</p>
1.1.2 Identify relevant stakeholders for formal interagency network	Informal network currently with partial representation (mostly community and voluntary organisations).	Broad representation of statutory, community and voluntary sectors signed up to a formal network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use audit research to identify key stakeholders. Promote benefits of network for agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKDP KES Network Steering Group 	Completed by March 2009
1.1.3 Develop a formal structure for interagency network in South Kerry	Child Well-being Committee as a base to build on.	Formalised integrated working practice co-ordinated by an Interagency Network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree membership. Develop Terms of Reference. Each agency reviews its work in strategic impact areas. Stage formalised meetings Agree an integrated work plan Stage annual network events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time Venues for meetings Funding for work plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKDP KES Network Steering Group 	Completed by July 2009

Strategic Impact Area – Youth Services

EXPECTED IMPACT 2 INCREASED YOUTH SERVICES (addressing emotional, physical and mental health)

Outcome 2.1 Development of existing youth services

Intended Outputs Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
2.1.1 Conduct an Audit of existing facilities within communities in South Kerry	Previous reports and directories exist which list facilities.	Document which gives a clear picture of facilities in each area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research current facilities and existing directories in each area, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater Killorglin Greater Killarney Greater Cahersiveen Greater Kenmare Identify appropriate contacts for negotiation 	– Staff Time	– KES	Completed by 30 th September 2008
2.1.2 Increased use of existing community facilities for youth activities	Some use of community facilities for youth activity, but no co-ordinated approach.	Increased access to community facilities for young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact all existing community facilities and negotiate access. Contact schools and negotiate increased usage of facilities outside of normal schools hours. 	– Staff Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDYS – Area Manager and Youth worker SKDP – Youth Officer KES 	Completed by January 2009

Strategic Impact Area – Youth Services

Outcome 2.2

Development of new youth spaces

Intended Outcomes Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
2.2.1 Establish local youth work development groups in four areas of South Kerry	Some groups exist currently (i.e. Positive Mental Health Committee, Youth Club Network), but in isolation from each other.	Local youth work development committees established and active in opening new youth spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with existing groups re membership of committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KES KDYS FRC Schools Other agencies Identify appropriate contacts for negotiation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for Research Staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKDP KES 	Completed by 31 st December 2008
2.2.2 Establish local youth management committees in four areas of South Kerry	Current youth participation structures include KDYS Youth Forum, KDYS Youth Club Committees and student councils within schools.	Increased input and participation by young people in decision making for local youth work development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with existing youth groups re participation in youth committees. Advertise and promote youth committees to engage new members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDYS 	Completed by 31 st December 2008
2.2.3 Identify the Need for Youth Spaces in each of the four areas of South Kerry	Current awareness among youth and community workers, but no formal analysis of need	Areas where youth spaces are most needed in each area clearly identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Audit conducted in 2.1.1 and based on establishment of groups in 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 Consult with youth and community workers Consult with young people in each area Identify towns and villages in need of youth spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKDP KES 	Completed by 31 st December 2008

Strategic Impact Area – Youth Services

Outcome 2.3

Development of youth programmes

Intended Outcomes Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
2.3.1 Develop and standardise capacity of existing employed youth workers	Different standards and capacity currently exist. Youth Work Act now stipulates youth workers must have 3 rd Level qualification in Youth and Community Work	Capacity of youth workers increased through achievement of required standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit of current staffing capacity and identification of gaps. Identify and source appropriate courses for staff falling below required standard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff time Course availability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDYS KES, ITT 	<p>Identification of staff and courses to begin March 2008.</p> <p>Completed by end of 2010.</p>
2.3.2 Develop capacity of existing volunteer youth workers	Some delivery of YWFT to volunteers at KDYS Youth Clubs.	Capacity of volunteer youth workers increased with at least one volunteer from each youth project having completed YWFT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YWFT delivered locally within four areas of South Kerry. KDYS Volunteer Handbook updated and disseminated. Production of a youth club news letter for each of the four areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time Training Programmes Funding for newsletter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDYS SKDP 	Completed by December 2008.
2.3.3 Support and develop the capacity of non-affiliated voluntary youth groups and committees	Non affiliated youth clubs, groups and committees as yet not registered with Kerry Education Service (under the Youth Act 2001)	The support and training needs will be identified through the registration and audit process and delivered upon through inter-agency working	Consult with existing non affiliated groups and relevant statutory agencies about organising information and training sessions that will inform good work practice, re: child protection training, programme development, health and safety, et	Staff time	KES SKDP FRCS HSE	Completed by 31 st December 2008
2.3.4 Development of new and existing youth programmes	KDYS youth club programme. Other locally run programmes (e.g. FRCs)	A range of programmes available to young people across South Kerry addressing three themes of emotional, physical and mental health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit of existing programmes against three themes and identification of gaps. Enhancement of current programmes to include themes where possible. Development of new programmes to address gaps in current provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KDYS – Area Manager and Youth worker SKDP – Youth Officer 	<p>Audit to be completed by August 2008.</p> <p>New programmes developed by January 2009.</p>

Strategic Impact Area – Learning Supports

EXPECTED IMPACT 3 LEARNING SUPPORTS AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Outcome 3.1 Development of a learning support service for South Kerry

Intended Outcomes Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
3.1.1 Research and consultation undertaken to identify best practice model for a learning support service in South Kerry	Some learning supports being carried out currently. Potential Resources available for learning supports from SKDP and KES.	Agreed model and plan ready for implementation. Adequate resources identified to fund the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employ researcher / facilitator to identify model and develop implementation plan. Establish a management committee to oversee the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for Research Staff time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKDP FRCs KES 	<p>Commence March 2008</p> <p>Completed by 30th June 2008</p>
3.1.2 Secure resources needed to implement model and plan agreed.	Some SKDP and KES resources available currently.	Adequate resources secured from within interagency group (HSE, FRC, KES etc.) and from other sources (e.g. Dormant Accounts).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner agencies apply for funding from /on behalf of their organisations. Secure a base for project through negotiations with community organisations (i.e. FRC, Adult Education Centres). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time Management Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Agency Representatives on Committee SKDP 	Completed by July 2008
3.1.3 Establish and launch the new Learning Support Service.	Have a pilot (FACE) running currently giving knowledge and operation expertise.	Increased access to learning supports for children and young people in South Kerry. Increased provision of learning supports across the four areas of South Kerry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit co-ordinator and tutors for project. Promote and publicise the service. Acquire learning resources for the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time Management Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SKDP Project Co-ordinator Management Committee 	Commence September 2009

Intended Outputs Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
3.1.4 Monitoring and Evaluation of Service	Existing models for evaluation and review to be drawn upon.	Annual Reports produced. Quantifiable increased access to learning supports recorded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aims, Objectives and Targets agreed for project. ▪ Monthly supervision of Project Worker ▪ Independent Evaluations conducted annually. ▪ Client feedback collected and collated through user satisfaction surveys. ▪ Numbers and details of children and young people using service recorded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Venues – Project Funding – Learning Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Management Committee – Project Co-ordinator 	Commence September 2008 Reviewed annually thereafter

Strategic Impact Area – Additional Needs

EXPECTED IMPACT 4 IMPROVED ACCESS TO INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Outcome 4.1 Creation of an Information, Advice and Advocacy Service for Additional Needs

Intended Outcomes Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
4.1.1 Project Model for delivery of services designed and agreed	Individual agency delivery of information at present. No model for regionally co-ordinated services in South Kerry presently.	Agreed model for implementation and delivery over a 5 year period, with a monitoring and evaluation framework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and identify other models of good practice for Information, Advice and Advocacy services. Identify potential resources required. Document and agree a model appropriate for delivery in South Kerry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time Funding for Research Office Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSE SKDP CI FRCs 	Completed by 30 th April 2008
4.1.2 Employment of Project Worker	No existing worker in post.	An experienced and professional worker employed to co-ordinate and deliver an Information, Advice and Advocacy Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure funding for post by submitting appropriate funding applications. Develop job description for the post. Recruit worker using a recruitment sub-group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff Time Office Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSE SKDP CI FRCs 	Completed by 30 th November 2008
4.1.3 Delivery of an Information, Advice and Advocacy Service in South Kerry	Individual agency delivery of information at present. No integrated service for the provision of Information, Advice and Advocacy in South Kerry presently, especially in more rural areas.	Information, Advice and Advocacy Service established in South Kerry. Improved access to information by parents of children with Additional Needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish Outreach services in local communities. Compile a 'library' of literature providing information on Additional Needs. Website launched providing overview of service Production of information and literature based on needs arising / gaps in current provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Worker Project Laptop Office Resources Funding for publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HSE SKDP CI FRCs 	Commence 1 st February 2009

Intended Outputs Small steps towards achieving the Outcome	Output Baseline The current context for this step	Output Indicator What would be considered a success for this step	Indicative Activities What tasks will be done to achieve success in this step	Inputs What resources will be put towards these tasks	Who Who will be responsible for the tasks	When By when will the tasks be completed
4.1.4 Monitoring and Evaluation of Service	Existing models for evaluation and review to be drawn upon.	Annual Reports produced. Quantifiable increased access to information for parents recorded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aims, Objectives and Targets agreed for project. ▪ Monthly supervision of Project Worker ▪ Independent Evaluations conducted annually. ▪ Client feedback collected and collated through user satisfaction surveys. ▪ Numbers and details of parents using service recorded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Worker - Project Laptop - Office Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HSE - SKDP - CI - FRGs 	Commence 1 st February 2009 Reviewed annually thereafter

Monitoring and Evaluation

This strategy has been developed by an interagency committee concerned with the well-being of children and young people in South Kerry. As part of the process each agency has taken responsibility for the achievement of particular outcomes, either as the lead agency, or in a supportive role.

In its first strategic impact area, the group recognises the need to develop the capacity of the interagency network for integrated working, and with the active engagement and effective participation of key agencies into the network it is envisaged that this strategy can achieve concrete results for the improvement of the well-being of children and young people in South Kerry.

In order to monitor the progress, achievements and impact of the strategy, the committee has agreed a set of monitoring and evaluation milestones with which it will measure the successes of its work.

Committee Meetings

To ensure regular and ongoing monitoring of the strategy, the committee has agreed a structure of five meetings per annum. The strategy and its strategic impact areas will form the basis of the agenda so as to ensure continued focus on the Impacts and Outcomes of the plan. Each agency will report in detail on the progress of actions for which they have responsibility, report any barriers to completion that are being encountered and draw support from other agencies where needed.

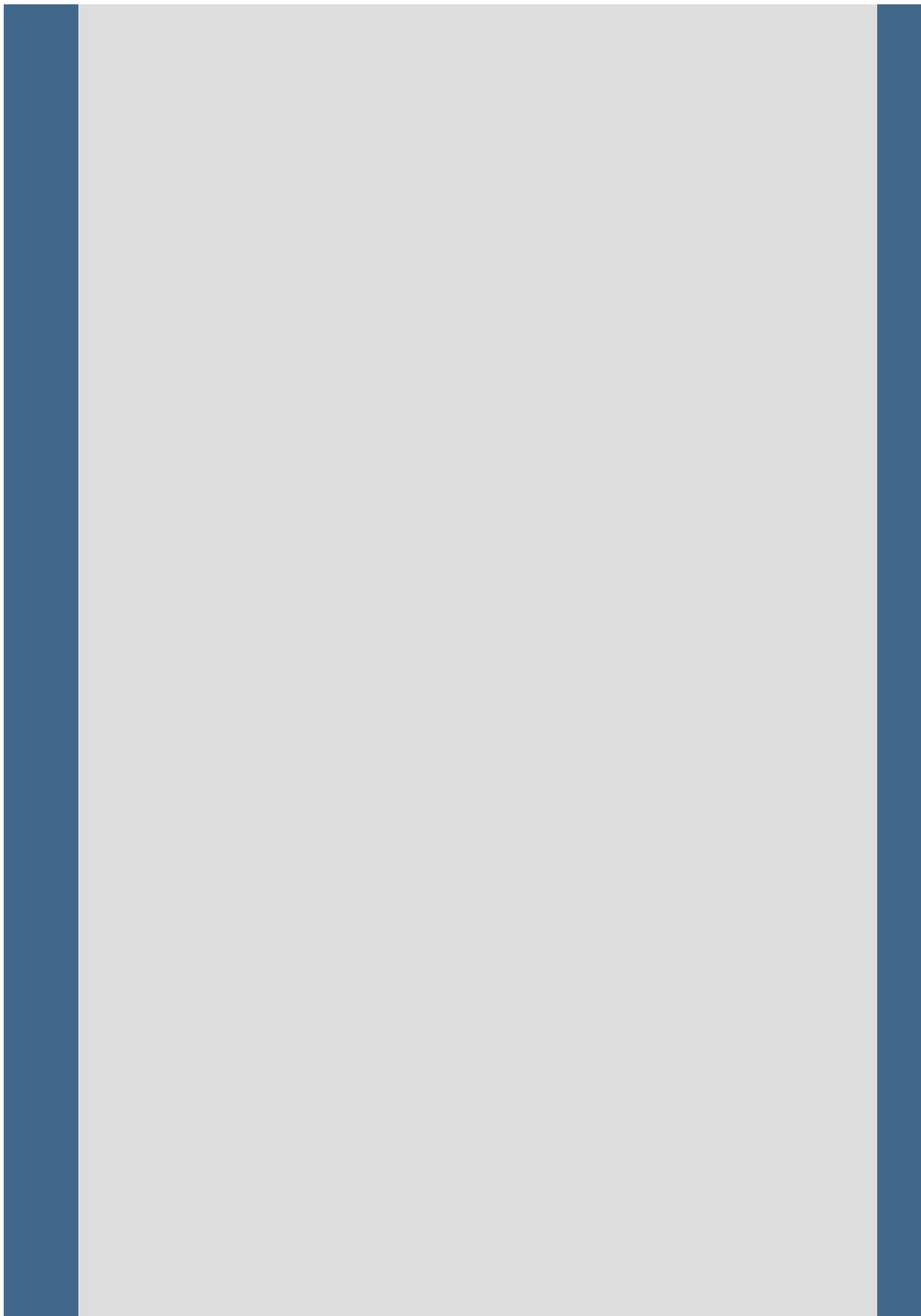
Annual Reviews

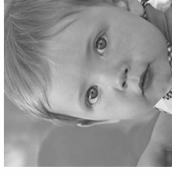
During the implementation of the strategy, two independent reviews will be conducted to measure progress against original objectives, one at the end of 2008 and the other at the end of 2009. These will be conducted by reviewing the plan and measuring the achievement of stated outcomes in purely quantitative terms. These reviews will also examine the development of the network and the integrated work being carried out by the agencies involved.

End of Term Evaluation

A final and comprehensive external evaluation of the strategy will be carried out to evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy at the end of 2010. As with the annual reviews, this evaluation will examine achievement of outcomes and the effectiveness of the interagency network. Unlike the annual reviews, the evaluation will also examine the impact of the strategy through a qualitative analysis of work undertaken and any projects developed under the strategy. The evaluation should commence at least three months prior to the end of the strategy.

The results of this final evaluation would then be used to inform the next phase of planning for the interagency network.





SOUTH KERRY
CHILD WELL-BEING COMMITTEE
Summary of Interagency Report and Strategy 2008-2010
Improving the well-being of children and young people in South Kerry