

Activation of youth at highest risk of social exclusion – Young People in trouble with the law.

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Community Programmes Unit, Irish Youth Justice Service

- Established in 2005
- Part of the Dept of Justice
- Guided by the Children Act (2001) legislation
- Strategic approach to young people (12-17) in trouble with the law
- Work closely with An Garda Síochána (Police)

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IYJS continued

- Community Programmes Unit
 - Supports diversionary approach for young offenders
 - A statutory Programme under Part 4 of Children Act
 - Filters to keep young people out of criminal justice system
 - Supported by community based Diversion Projects
 - Young Persons Probation Projects
 - **Detention is the last resort**

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Garda Youth Diversion Projects

- Community based, multi-agency crime prevention initiative
- Provide suitable activities in order to divert young people from criminal/anti-social behaviour
- 100 Projects in operation
 - 31 – Border Midlands West
 - 69 – South & East
- Managed by local committees

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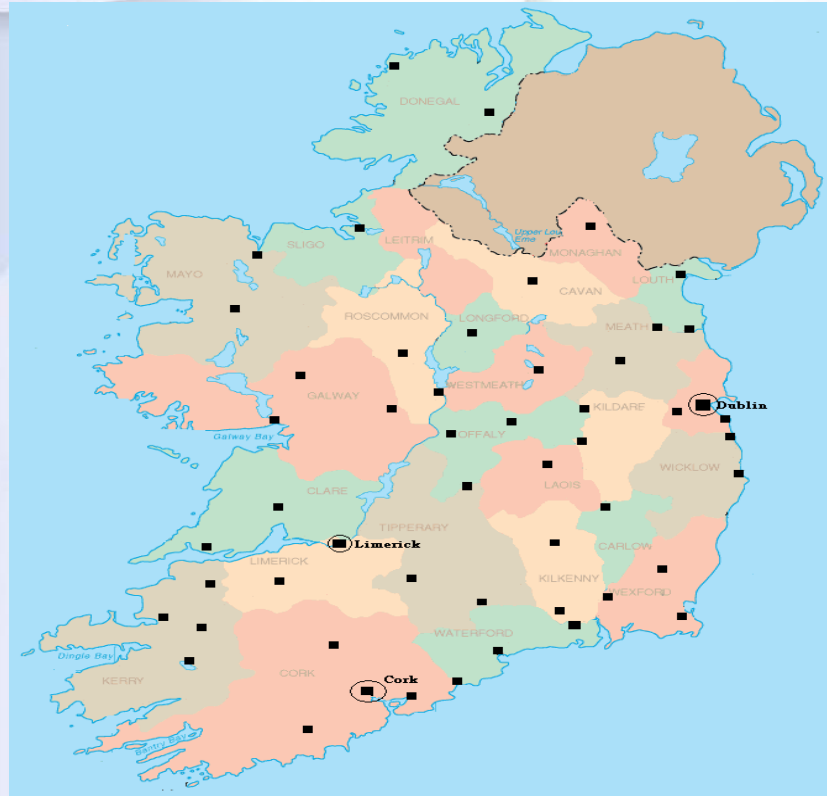


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Locations of Garda Youth Diversion Projects



Multiple projects

Dublin	29
Cork	11
Limerick	6

Investment Example

Garda projects ESF investment - €24 mil (2007 – 2015)

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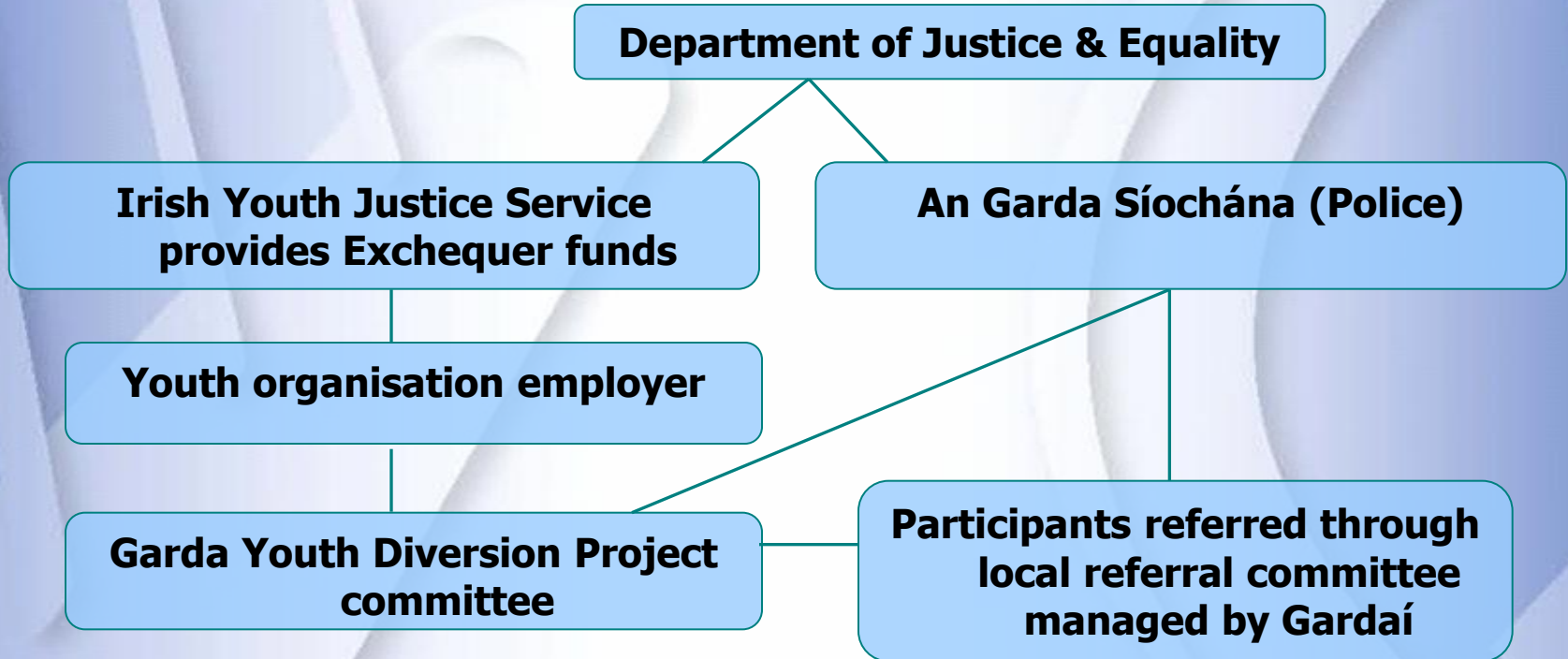
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Management Model



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Typical Project

Physical location in the community

Staffed by two workers

Managed by youth organisation

Project committee chaired by local Garda Supt.

Referral committee to refer young people at risk

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Typical Project contd.

- Young person comes to attention of An Garda Síochána
- Young person discussed at referral committee
- Admitted to Project
- Risk assessed
- Interventions provided

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Target Participants 2011

- 5,673 participants – 4,103 male (72%)
- 2990 (53%) had committed a crime
- 2,683 (47%) were considered at risk
- 4,000 approx between 15-18 age range
- All kept out of Criminal Justice system
- 15% from different cultural backgrounds

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Offences

- 50% relate to alcohol and public order
- 22% for theft (generally from shops) and related offences
- 20% for burglary

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Risks for participants 2011

- 86% participants have anti social peers
- Lack of appropriate spare time activities
- Family circumstances/parenting issues
- Current school or employment problems

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What are the symptoms of these needs?

- Family
 - Lack of boundaries, need for attention, sad, depressed, poor coping strategies (drinking, aggressive behaviour), poverty (hungry, scruffy clothes), cannot take correction/lack of understanding of rules
- Education
 - Early school leaving, low literacy/numeracy levels, truancy, low self confidence, education not a priority, school is seen as a negative, teachers seen as authority figures (not necessarily trusted or liked)
- Environment
 - Easy access and acceptable use of alcohol and drugs, anti-social behaviour, offending, intergenerational unemployment, gang subculture, alcohol related crimes, criminal damage, promiscuous behaviour, distain of authority figures, etc.

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How do we aim to meet these needs?

- To understand and identify each young persons needs and situation
- To ensure the young person understands why they are in the project and the benefits of being in the project
- To work with the young person on how to meet those needs in a positive and pro active way
- To encourage and facilitate education/training achievements and to enhance the employability of the young people in the Garda Youth Diversion Project.
- Work with Gardaí, local agencies and community groups in an effort to address youth offending in the area

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Proposal for ESF

- To enhance service delivery of projects under the programme
- 2 sub measures proposed
- Formal Approval given in February 2007
- Priority under HCI-OP – Increasing participation and reducing inequality in the Labour Force
- To the value of €25,106,000
 - Sub Measure 1 €946,000
 - Sub Measure 2 €24,160,000

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Sub Measure 1

- Personal Development courses for participants
- Information Technology courses for participants

to include: Interpersonal Skills
Career planning
Job seeking skills
CV writing
Team Working

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Sub Measure 2

- Employment of an additional Youth Justice Worker
- To provide support to participants towards training, education and skills
- Increase capacity of project
- Funding made available to projects to a maximum of €38,500 for employment

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PD Courses

- Art & Music Programme
- Build a Bike Programme
- Carpentry Programme
- Child Care Programme
- Cookery Programme
- Driver Theory and Instruction
- Educational Support
- Equestrian Programme
- First Aid Programme
- Fishing Programme
- Horse Welfare
- Health & Beauty Programme
- Health & Safety Awareness Programme
- Horticulture Programme
- Mechanical Education Programme
- Personal Development Programme
- Pre-Employment Programme
- Sports & Fitness Programme

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IT courses

- Multi media
- IT skills
- IT Equipment

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How...

Planning and Reporting

- Planning informed by local crime data
- Target audience
- Logic model approach
- Annual Plan appraisal
- Six monthly reports
- Annual Reports

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Measurement

- Participation is voluntary - when young person leaves it is not possible to follow up
- Quantitative
- Qualitative - certification
- Specified Outcomes

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Measurement contd.

- Short term objectives
 - Successfully engage a group
 - Plan and deliver appropriate interventions
 - Groups and 1 to 1
 - Local case study examples

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Stats for Sub Measure 1 to date

	S&E	BMW	Total
Number of males	1741	591	2332
Number of females	172	128	951
Number of PD courses run	113	45	158
Number of IT skills	43	15	58

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Sub Measure 2 – 2012 stats

	S&E	BMW	Total
Total projects with ESF funded Youth Justice Workers	73	23	96

	S&E	BMW	Total
Number of male participants	2251	717	2968
Number of female participants	927	293	1220
Total	3178	1010	4188

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ESF - Impact on a project before....

- One worker, under resourced and over stretched
- Waiting lists in project
- Limited service provision
- Intensive care plans limited
- Home visits limited
- Development of project curtailed
- Largely reactive work, limited preventative work

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ESF – Impact on a project after...

- Additional staff member
- Increased number of clients
- Varied service delivery – prevention programmes
- Expansion of project; greater emphasis on education and employment opportunities of clients
- Increased networking capabilities
- Allowed for a more intensive and holistic approach
- Personal Development funding; new innovative programme

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Project Example 1

'Work to Learn' Programme

- Participant engaged with project since 2009
- Participated in the 'Work to Learn' programme
 - Place participants in work experience within the community
 - Participant gained work experience with a butcher and obtained a positive reference
 - Completed his leaving certificate and applied to the Armed Forces and the Naval Services
 - Accepted into the Irish Naval Service and commenced training in November 2012.

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Project Example 2

Drug Awareness Road Safety Programme and Accident Simulation

- Purpose of ESF 2007 – 2013 funded programme was to highlight the dangers of drug use and driving
- It was a joint initiative between the Kerry Diocese Youth Service and An Garda Síochána.
- A film was created of a 'crash scene' simulation which took place in the Square in Tralee.

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For more information on the Garda Youth Diversion
Projects please see the GYDP Progress Report 2009 –
2011 on our website

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