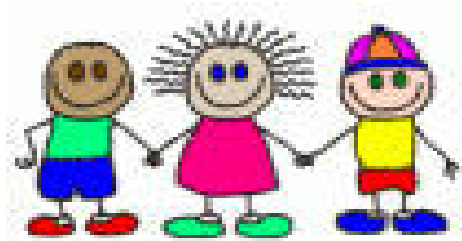


Fingal Development Board

Integrated Target Group Plan

for

Children in lone- Parent Families,



at risk of poverty in the Swords area

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SECTION ONE: BACKGROUND

1.1. INTRODUCTION

This plan has been written in response to Circulars LG 03/04 & LG 15/04 issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government requesting that County Development Boards (CDBs) prepare an Integrated Target Group Action Plan for one priority target group identified under the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS). CDBs were further instructed to select a tight subset of the chosen priority group to provide additional specificity.

The Social Inclusion Monitoring Committee (SIMC) of the Fingal Development Board took on this task in April 2004 and worked closely with the FDB executive over the intervening months to produce this plan. Towards the end of this process the FDB were awarded funding from the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs for Improved Cohesion among Local Development Groups in the County. Elements of that plan will also be referred to in this document, as there are strategic synergies between the two plans.

1.2. RATIONALE FOR TARGET GROUP SELECTION

The target group chosen was that of *Children at risk of Poverty*, with a specific focus on *Children (0-14) in Lone-Parent Families*, as it was felt that these families were particularly vulnerable to the effects of poverty. It is a long documented fact that one parent families are less likely to be in (full-time) employment and subsequently more likely to rely on social welfare payments making them a vulnerable group prone to social exclusion.

Most of the current SIM member agencies already have an existing focus on children and/or childcare related issues and are providing a number of services for parents and children in the Fingal area.

The FDB itself, although not a direct service provider, has an increasing involvement with child and youth issues. For example, the County Childcare Committee, 4 School Completion Programmes, Comhairle na nOg, and the National Play Policy. This common focus therefore provided an opportunity for statutory, community & voluntary organisations to co-ordinate services within a tightly focussed framework.

It was further decided that geographical targeting would increase the focus for identified actions within this plan and would also link in with a specified action in the Improved Cohesion Plan, namely Improving County Coverage. This issue will be referred to in greater detail in sections 1.5 & 2.2. This should not detract from high levels of continuing social disadvantage in other areas especially Blanchardstown, or indeed elsewhere in the North Fingal area.

It should also be noted that whilst we have chosen the tighter subset of Lone Parent Families within the overall category of *Children at risk of Poverty*, the problem of universal versus targeted support needs to be addressed. Lone Parents can be self-selecting in terms of the support they chose to access; children do not necessarily have that luxury. In order to be as inclusive as possible and to avoid unnecessary labelling & identification of one-parent

families, it may sometimes be more effective to include them in an overall family support action rather than specially designing a programme for lone parents only.

1.3.SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA

1.3.1. SOURCES OF DATA

A variety of national and Fingal-specific sources of data were accessed during the preparation of this plan (see Appendix One) and it soon became apparent that the data regarding children and lone parents living in the Swords area is incomplete in many ways. The SIM Committee firmly believes that evidence based decision making about target groups is a vital part of anticipating service need and developing services to fit those who are socially excluded.

Figures from the 2002 Census confirmed that Fingal is now officially the youngest county in Ireland, with an average age of 31. Fingal County Council anticipates that this trend will continue as their own population projections indicate a large natural increase in children until at least 2012.

1.3.2. GEOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF SWORDS

The greater Swords area is composed of 6 District Electoral Divisions (DEDs) with a total population of 34,576. While it is not the most disadvantaged area of Fingal, it was observed in the 2002 Fingal Development Board's Audit of Services that it lacked Local Development type services as well as local offices of key statutory services. For example, no Department of Family & Social Affairs office, no Probation & Welfare office, no Juvenile Diversion Projects, etc. The 2002 ADM/Gamma Baseline report has also reported that in terms of the change in relative deprivation since 1991 the Swords area has dis-improved compared to other parts of the county.

1.3.3. PROFILE OF LONE PARENT FAMILIES

According to the ADM/Gamma 2002 Baseline Report, Fingal was classified as having 11.0% of all households with lone parents. That amounts to a total of 1091 households in the Greater Swords Area. This number can be further broken down into (a) households with all children under 15 years of age (411), and (b) households with at least one child under 15 years of age (616). In total there are **1,415 children** in this situation in Swords, which makes for a manageable target group within a defined location.

The Fingal County Childcare Census has analysed the number of one-parent families in receipt of the One Parent Family Allowance in the Fingal area in 2003. At present there are 771 live claims in the Swords area alone, accounting for almost one fifth of all claims in Fingal. In its Strategic Plan 2004-2006 *One Family*¹ has reported that the majority of one-parent families in this country depend on social welfare as their main or only source of income. In 2001 42.9% of people at risk of poverty (60% of median income) lived in lone parent headed households in comparison with 21.9% of the overall population (ESRI). The current figures for 2004 indicate 659 recipients in the Swords area to date, 171 of which are under the age of 25.

1.4. CURRENT SERVICE DELIVERY IN THE SWORDS AREA

¹ The one parent family support organisation formerly known as Cherish

In addition to mainstream public services available to all residents in the Swords area² there are a number of services & facilities that are currently available to children and parents in general. With the exception of the One Parent Family Allowance (SW 82) few services are specifically aimed at lone parents:

- **Adult Education:**
The County Dublin VEC runs a number of day & evening Adult Education courses in the Swords area. The Brackenstown Adult Scene of Education (BASE) also provides a number of services such as adult education, adult literacy, counselling, & parent supports.
- **Childcare Services:**
The 2003 Childcare Census³ has reported that 78% of childcare services in the Swords area are attended by one-parent families. Unlike other areas of the county however, Swords has only one community facility despite having the highest population under the age of twelve within its area. With a population that is only 3,194 less than Blanchardstown⁴, where 16 community facilities operate, and a population 3,708 greater than the Lusk/Balbriggan area where 7 community facilities operate, the FCCC has concluded that “...it is inexplicable and somewhat concerning that the Swords area has only a solitary community childcare facility”.
- **Citizens Advice Centre:** With the support of Comhairle a local office in Swords provides information on a variety of issues for people living in the area.
- **Community Employment Schemes with the support of FÁS:**
78 lone parents are currently accessing 12 CE schemes in the Swords area, which constitutes 35% of CE participants.
- **Counselling Supports:**
The Mater Child & Family Centre provides a variety of counselling services for children and young people in Swords.
- **Financial Advice Supports**
There is a local Money Advice Budgeting Service (MABS) supported by the DSFA has an office in Swords.
- **Parents Networks:**
The Fingal County Childcare Committee currently support both Parent Networks in Fingal, one of which is based in Swords. Approximately 20-30 parents of pre-school children attend on a bi-monthly basis.
- **Recreation & Amenities:**
Swords Castle is the local public park but has no play facilities. There is a small playground in the River Valley area of Swords. The formulation of a play policy by Fingal Co. Co. in conjunction with Fingal Development Board is at an early stage. This will further address unmet local needs and infrastructural deficits.
- **Youth Services:**
The Swords Youth Services supported by County Dublin VEC currently provide a number of activities such as Outwards Bounds Activities for young people, generally from the age of 10 upwards.

² For example, NAHB Health Centre, Primary & Secondary Schools, Local Authority Housing etc.

³ Which had an overall response rate of 86%

⁴ This should be qualified by the higher levels deprivation in Blanchardstown where 5 District Electoral Divisions are disadvantaged.

- Youthreach: County Dublin VEC local scheme available in the Swords area to early school leavers, catering for 25 clients. Many early school leavers in the Youthreach scheme are also lone parents.

1.5. IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS

Many of the organisations represented on the Fingal SIM Committee are aware of a number of gaps in service delivery for parents & children in the Swords area and are providing the best services that they can with current resources.

1.5.1. Lack of County Coverage

The biggest gap has been in the provision of an overview of social supports for children and families in the Swords area. This matter has been specifically identified as a matter for concern in the FDB Improved Cohesion Plan for Local Development & Community Development Organisations. Swords is the only county town in Ireland to lack access to the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme (LDSIP). 60% of Fingal county is currently within the operational area of the LEADER+ programme, but excluded from the benefits of the LDSIP.

1.5.2. Multi-Agency Response

As a result of research carried out by the NAHB (see section 2.1) it would appear that there is a need for a more co-ordinated response to vulnerable families across a spectrum of statutory, community & voluntary agencies. Within the context of this plan the focus will be on support for one-parent families, but some of the structures discussed will ultimately support all families.

1.5.3. School Completion Programme

There are 2 SCPs in the Swords area comprising 8 primary & post-primary schools, supporting about 350 children at risk of early school leaving. Unlike most other SCPs in the country, none of the schools have access to a Home School Community Liaison Officer. The focus of this service is to support the *parents* of the children at risk. However the funding parameters of the SCP do not allow for support work with parents, which is an obvious deficiency within the current programme. Whilst there are indications that the next evolution of ESL programmes (post 2005) will incorporate the full range of supports necessary to keep children in school, this will not help the parents who are struggling at present.

1.5.4. Lack of local DSFA office:

The DSFA is one of the few statutory agencies without a local office in Swords – a fact that has been highlighted in the FDB's ten-year strategy. As part of an overall goal to maximise the health, development & social well being of children, there is a commitment from the DSFA to provide a local base, which will help to provide a better service for clients living in the area. It would also add to the continuum of agencies who wish to work together strategically on a local basis. Currently all Swords related matters are processed in the North Cumberland Street office which can make it difficult to get an accurate picture of local client need as well as the profile of lone parents.

1.5.5. Services for Children & Young People in North Fingal:

The Fingal Youth-at-risk Network (FYNET) recently completed a mapping exercise for services for children & young people in the North Fingal area. Several key gaps in service provision were noted (see Appendix 2) which have implications for children (& young

lone parents) in particular in the Swords area as they may have to access services either in Drogheda or other parts of Dublin city.

1.6. POLICIES IMPACTING ON TARGET GROUP

In the past decade a number of strategy documents and funding programmes have addressed both child and family policy issues in several ways. The most significant ones are listed below:

- The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
- Department of Justice, Equality & Law Reform's Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (1994 onwards)
- Commission on the Family (1998) *Strengthening Families for Life*
- National Childcare Strategy (1999)
- The National Children's Strategy (2000): *Our Children – Their Lives*
- NAHB Childcare Framework (2001)
- *Sustaining Progress 2003-2005*
- *Ready Steady Play* (2004) A National Play Policy (2004)

Some key directions in relation to policy emerging from many of these documents are outlined in The *Supporting Parents Strategy*⁵ which the Fingal SIM committee fully endorses as a set of complementary guiding principles to drawn up by the committee as outlined in section 3.1:

- A focus on children's rights
- Recognition of the need for partnerships, multi-agency approaches & interdepartmental working
- The need for universal as well as targeted supports
- The need for consultation & partnerships with parents & children

SECTION TWO: PRIORITY NEEDS OF THE TARGET GROUP:

2.1. CURRENT NEEDS

Despite the absence of a comprehensive report on lone parent families in the Swords area there is growing evidence to suggest that this is a target group that needs support. For example, although outside of their catchment area Co-operation Fingal responded to local requests in 2002 to run a pre-training course for lone parents in the Swords area.

In 2001 the Northern Area Health Board began to work with the UK based Dartington Social Research Unit to help them better understand the needs of children being dealt with by Public Health Nurses (PHNs). The research unit undertook to produce a profile of the needs of the children living in Swords who were deemed by the PHNs to have unmet social needs. It was felt that the service provision in that area was not growing fast enough to meet the increasing level of need.

The method used in this study is called *Matching Needs and Services* whereby information is collected across five dimensions of the children's lives: Living Situation; Family & Social Relationships; Social and Anti-Social Behaviour; Physical & Psychological Health; and

⁵ Best Health for Children 2002: *Investing in Parenthood to Achieve Best Health for Children* Policy Documents:

Education & Employment. Almost 200 cases were identified of which 43% were single parent cases. The main findings indicated that (1) the groups/clusters and cases display a multiplicity of need across care groups and various agencies; and (2) although agencies tend to address particular types of problems, it was generally acknowledged that most families experience a multitude of problems which rarely fall neatly into the jurisdiction of a single agency.

2.2. CHALLENGES FOR IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY

2.2.1. Targeted versus Universal Supports:

The *Investing in Parenthood* policy document⁶ debates the problem of targeting versus universal supports for families and concludes, “...no service programme can provide all that is needed to support and strengthen every family. A system of well co-ordinated, assessable, family centred services must rest on a foundation of a healthy community that affords adequate basic services and opportunities for education, housing and employment. Efforts to strengthen family-centred services will be insufficient unless the basic needs of families are met”.

2.2.2. Parents are self-selecting – Children are not:

Following on from the debate above it must be acknowledged that whilst every effort can be made to target specific lone parent families, the stigmatising element of such programmes may provide a deterrent for some parents or for their children. It is important that any supports provided are within the context of overall family support services.

2.2.3. Co-ordinating Research:

Preliminary research findings have already been referred to in earlier parts of the document in addition to opportunities arising out of Improved Cohesion Actions. The challenge will be to co-ordinate these findings in a meaningful way to generate multi-agency responses to support vulnerable families.

2.2.4. Capacity Building:

Dublin 15 and North Fingal are already served by a number of Local Development and Community Development Organisations with a proven history of co-ordinated interagency work. Benefiting from the experiences of these organisations will be crucial to the success of this plan. There is willingness among the statutory agencies currently working with children and lone parents in Swords to develop a co-ordinated approach to supporting vulnerable families.

SECTION THREE: OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS

3.1. Guiding Principles:

At the beginning of this planning process the SIM committee agreed on a number of guiding principles:

1. This plan should take account of what already in place and should attempt to connect existing interventions to run more efficiently. It should therefore create actions that involve joint implementation.

⁶ Lyons, S; Collins, C; Staines, A. (2001), *Are Universally Available Supports for Families Effective & Efficient?*

2. The primary focus should be on service gaps already identified in reports such as the FDB Audit of Services and other localised audits or mapping exercises.
3. The plan should reflect the Holistic Child approach of the National Children's Strategy which emphasises the need to see the child within the context of his/her family & community and not as an isolated entity.
4. The plan should allow for learning from work carried out in other parts of the county e.g. Home Start programme in Blanchardstown, Community Development Organisations, etc. so that they can be mainstreamed into agency practices.
5. It should attempt to set priorities on proven quality of life interventions that minimise the effect of Poverty.
6. It should measure and evaluate success in terms of the effects on existing NAPS targets and set other targets if necessary

3.2. Proposed Actions:

It was acknowledged by the SIM Committee that as the Swords area does not have a history of community development and inter-agency collaboration the proposed actions should rolled out over two phases within a three year period. The first phase would involve laying the groundwork, establishing the need and prioritising actions arising from that research. We have outlined a provisional timeline for the proposed actions below, although it should be recognised that certain flexibility will be needed between phase one & phase two actions. Additional high priority actions may also emerge as a result of the proposed baseline study.

PHASE ONE: 2004 - 2005

1. CO-ORDINATING RESEARCH & INFORMATION

1.1.Action: Improving County Coverage

The Improved Cohesion Plan has outlined terms of reference to include a baseline study of those areas in Fingal which are currently without access to the Local Development Social Inclusion Programme. The parameters of that study can therefore incorporate the target group within this current application.

Lead Agency: Co-operation Fingal / Blanchardstown Local Drugs Task Force

Partners: Fingal Development Board

KPI Completion of study & identification of potential actions by end of Q.2 2005.

Action 1.2. Multi-lingual Pack for Parents

To develop a multi-lingual information pack for parents, whose first language is not English, to inform them about local childcare services.

Lead Agency: Fingal County Childcare Committee

Partners: NAHB, Fingal CICs, Blanchardstown Partnership,
Co- operation Fingal

KPI: - Have the material available in at least 8 languages
- Make available to local childcare providers
- Make available to FCC Housing Dept

Action 1.3. Localised Bulletin for One Parent Families

A localised information bulletin highlighting the existing range of supports for one-parent families will be available to those in receipt of the OPFA.

Lead Agency: Fingal CICs

Partners: NAHB, FCCC, DSFA

KPI: - Distribute to families known to DSFA
- Make available to CIC offices & Health Centre

Action 1.4. Sports, Cultural & Leisure Information Bulletin

A calendar of free Sports, Cultural & Leisure events will be devised in the form of an information bulletin & targeted at children in low-income families through schools, clubs & libraries.

Lead Agency: Fingal CICs

Partners: Fingal Sports Partnership, Fingal Arts Office, DSFA, Fingal County Council.

KPI: Information bulletin to be distributed quarterly

2. CO-ORDINATING CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORTS:

Action 2.1. Establish links with Community Development Organisations in Dublin 15 & North Fingal:

Community Development structures in the Swords area for this target group are weak. Additional groups will need to be set up whose focus & function is similar to that of the Lone Parent Steering group in Dublin 15. Existing groups will be supported to develop their capacity to focus on this target area.

Lead Agency: Fingal Co. Co.

Partners: Co-operation Fingal, Blanchardstown Partnership

KPI: Establishment of appropriate structure to support one-parent Families in Swords.

Action 2.2. Support Parents within the School Completion Programme

To employ a part-time project worker to assist lone parents of children within the St. Finian's SCP to support their children to stay in school. This worker will liase closely with the SCP Co-ordinator & the Educational Welfare Officer for the area.

Lead Agency: St. Finian's SCP

Partners: NAHB, EWO

KPI: To be determined by SCP

Action 2.3. Support identified families arising out of NAHB/Dartington Research

To employ a part-time project worker for 1 year to examine the needs of vulnerable one-parent families and to link them to a best-fit solution for their issues by taking an inter-agency focussed approach. This action research study will be evaluated as a potential model for best practice.

Lead Agency: NAHB

Partners: Fingal County Childcare Committee, DSFA, Co-Operation Fingal
KPI: - Link to upcoming NCO Child Well being Indicators
- Evaluation of overall study
- Link to NAPs indicators:
(1) Reducing children in consistent poverty;
(2) Reducing the disparity in birth weights between top & bottom Socio-economic groups.

Action 2.4. Juvenile Diversion

Using data gathered by Action 1.1, 2.3 and general crime incident statistics, an application will be submitted to DJELR and Garda HQ to set up a Juvenile Diversion Project to support vulnerable children at risk of offending.

Lead Agency: An Garda Siochana
Support Agency: Fingal Development Board
KPI: Successful application for a JDP

PHASE TWO 2006 -2007:

Action 3.1. Supporting children through Sports interventions

Conditional on securing a Juvenile Diversion Project for Swords a sports based programme will be rolled out emphasising social, emotional, physical and teamwork development. The programme will assess participants' improvements. The programme will seek to recruit clients from other programmes and initiatives.

Lead Agency: Fingal Sports Partnership
Partners: Fingal Co. Co., Co-operation Fingal, An Garda Siochana
KPI: Improvements on emotional, social & physical assessments

Action 3.2. Explore possibility of establishing a Multi-Agency Family Support Forum:

A series of meetings with direct practitioners will convene on a regular basis to co-ordinate activities and make cross referrals. The Blanchardstown *Equal* Interagency Action Model could provide a potential model for multi-agency work in Swords. (Note: this could be a universal support action that focuses on one-parent families as one of its objectives).

Lead Agency: NAHB
Partners: Fingal Co. Co., FCCC, DSFA
KPI: Establishment of Forum & identification of terms of reference

Action 3.3. Tracking Early School Leaving

The tracking system currently being developed by Co-operation Fingal⁷ will be extended to cover the 2 SCPs in Swords.

Lead Agency: SCPs
Support Agency: FDB, EWO

Action 3.4. Family Fun Day

To organise a community based family fun-day⁸ in Swords for all participants and their parents. The day will be considered a celebration for those children and their families who have participated in the various actions and projects. (Note this is a universal support action).

⁷ Supported by Dormant Accounts Fund, CRGA

Lead Agency: Fingal Co. Co.

KPI: Minimum of 50% of the target group attending

⁸ Several Family Fun days are run by Fingal County Council each year at a larger scale

SECTION FOUR: ROLES, RESOURCES & RESPONSIBILITIES

In advance of the taskforce secretariat memoranda on this matter some outline discussion was underway at committee level. In this context the SIMC would welcome the opportunity offered by the availability of additional resources. However, the SIM Committee believes the actions outlined can be done through a combination of bending the existing spend and allocating specific resources that are applied *strategically*, for example:

- To add a missing element to existing interventions
- To lever local commitment of resources
- To evaluate and transmit learning between agencies

However, it has been agreed that agencies should remain focussed on the delivery of interventions rather than trying to *lever flexibility* out of their existing allocations or trying to source out *additional resources*. SIM members have agreed responsibility as Lead Agency or Partner within each proposed action. An indicative budget is outlined below in relation to the proposed actions:

Phase One Actions	D/CRGA Fund	Local Matching Funds	Total
Action 1.1 ⁹	Nil	Nil	Nil
Action 1.2	5,000	5,000 (FCCC/NAHB/ Fingal Co. Co.)	10,000
Action 1.3	2,500	Staff time (Swords CIC)	2,500
Action 1.4	2,500	Staff time (Swords CIC)	2,500
Action 2.1	1,500	1,500 (Fingal Co. Co.)	3,000
Action 2.2	25,000	Staff time	25,000
Action 2.3	26,000	10,000 (FCCC/NAHB)	36,000
Action 2.4	Nil	Nil	Nil
<i>SUBTOTAL</i>	<i>62,500</i>	<i>16,500</i>	<i>79,000</i>
Phase Two Actions	D/CRGA Fund	Local Matching Funds	Total
Action 3.1	4,000	4,000 (FSP)	8,000
Action 3.2	3,000	Nil	3,000
Action 3.3	5,000	5,000 (FDB)	10,000
Action 3.4	Nil	5,000 (Fingal Co. Co.)	35,000
<i>SUBTOTAL</i>	<i>12,000</i>	<i>14,000</i>	<i>26,000</i>
OVERALL TOTAL	74,500	30,500	105,000

⁹ This money has been secured through the Improved Cohesion Initiative

SECTION FIVE: MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have been identified for each action. Some of the proposed actions are based on current knowledge but may have to be modified as the baseline study results become known. An ongoing monitoring & evaluation exercise must therefore be maintained by the SIM Committee in order to react and respond to emerging identified needs of the target group. Ultimately this plan is aimed at providing empowering supports for children and parents

APPENDIX 1: SOURCES OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA

ADM/Gamma Baseline Data Report 2002

Best Health for Children 2002:

Investing in Parenthood to Achieve Best Health for Children Policy Documents:

- *The Supporting Parents Strategy*
- Lyons, S; Collins, C; Staines, A. (2001), *Are Universally Available Supports for Families Effective & Efficient?*
- Clavero, S.(2001), *Parenting Support: An International Review*

Central Statistics Office 2002 Census Reports

Combat Poverty 2001-2004 (Fact sheets & poverty briefings)

Co-Operation Fingal (North) Ltd Operational Plan 2004-2006

Department of Family & Social Affairs:

- 2004 Social Welfare Data
- Daly, M (2004) *Families & Family Life in Ireland: Report of Public Consultation Fora*

End Child Poverty Coalition (2004) Budget Submission

Fingal County Childcare Committee 2003 Census of Childcare Services

Fingal Development Board 2002 Audit of Services

Fingal Youth-at-risk Network Mapping of Services 2004

Northern Area Health Board:

(2001) Child Care Framework Action Plan

(2002): *Matching Needs & Services: Cases Held by Public Health Nurses*

One Family Strategic Plan 2004-2006

APPENDIX 2:

Gaps In Services For Children & Young People In Balbriggan

Identified Gap	Agency Responsible
<p>Education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School Completion Programme 2. Assessment, diagnosis & treatment of emotional behaviour problems 3. Choice of Secondary Schools / Pressure of places / Poor curriculum choice 4. Alternative Education Services for Young People who have been suspended or expelled, & Mediation 5. School Attendance: Tracking System / Up to date figures 6. Traveller access to schools (girls & boys) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dept. of Education & Science ● National Educational Psychological Service ● NAHB – Child Guidance ● DES ● Education Welfare Officers ● DES ● NAHB ● VEC ● EWO / DES / SCP ● SCP / DES / EWO
<p>Childcare:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crèches & Pre-Schools: limited access in terms of no: of services operating & cost of fees 2. No play facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fingal County Childcare Committee ● VEC ● Dept of Justice, Equality & Law Reform ● Fingal County Council
<p>Parent Support:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of Information e.g. Return to Education; child development; Support groups 2. EWO's cannot work with children under 6 who attend school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Citizens Information Centres / Community Groups ● NAHB ● DSFA ● DES / Schools
<p>Juvenile Justice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Juvenile Liaison Officers & Community Gardai are under resourced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DJELR ● FDB (to make representations)
<p>Drugs Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of drugs services, therefore clients are referred to Drogheda or Swords 2. Need for parents support network, outreach counsellors, education & mentors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NAHB / NDST / RDTF / CRAGA ● NAHB / NDST / RDTF / CRAGA
<p>Youth Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better co-ordination of youth services 2. Youth House Resource Centre – i.e. information & support (& music?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VEC / DES / FCC / RDTF / CRAGA ● FCC / DES / VEC / RDTF
<p>Mental Health Services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More are needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NAHB Child & Adult Psychiatric
<p>Sport & Leisure:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of services & amenities for the following: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FCC / Youth Services / VEC

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indoor & outdoor athletics ● Music ● Arts ● Competitive sports 	
<p>Cultural Resources:</p> <p>1. More support needed for immigrant, local & traveller needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DES / Pavee Point / FCC / Immigrant Support Groups
<p>Roles & Responsibilities:</p> <p>1. Continuity of posts at all levels & managing change & relationships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Statutory Bodies
<p>New Community Growth / Other Services:</p> <p>1. Balbriggan is servicing other areas - medical & addiction services</p> <p>2. Geographical growth as well as new members & families</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NAHB / DES ● DSFA / CDPs