



Fingal Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) invites tenders from suitably qualified candidates/organisations to research the educational needs of 12 to 15 year olds in Fingal.

Introduction

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth established Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) in 2007 with the purpose of improving outcomes for children and families at local and community level. Since then, CYPSC have been identified as a key structure by government to plan and co-ordinate services for children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years, in every county in Ireland. Young Ireland The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023 – 2028 underscores the necessity of interagency working and tasks Children and Young People's Services Committees with a key role in this regard. In Fingal, partner agencies have come together to form a Steering Group to address the need for a comprehensive assessment of the educational needs of children, young people, and their families across County Fingal and to identify where there are gaps in supports and provisions to meet those needs. This research will support FCYPSC and partner agencies in realising its objective to support young people to remain in education.

Invitation to Tender

Tenders are invited from suitably qualified and experienced professional organisations and/or individuals to develop, guide and carry out a thorough countywide assessment of the educational needs of children and young people (12 - 15 years) who have disengaged from mainstream education and at risk of not completing formal education.

Specifically, the research aims to;

Research, collate and produce a profile of the educational needs of Children & Young People in Fingal using multiple sources (Census, DCEDIY, Department of Education, Department of Justice, CYPSC etc.)

Identifying challenges and barriers to children accessing mainstream education.

Review literature on children and young people's educational needs and identify examples of best practice from an Irish and European perspective.

Inform service provision through direct feedback from children and young people giving them a voice in the provision of educational services in County Fingal.

Make recommendations about the gaps in educational provisions and emerging needs of children & young people 12 to 15 in Fingal.

Identify opportunities for collaborative working to enhance and improve educational provision to children & young people in the County.

This will be a collaborative approach that ensures all relevant partner agencies can feed into this research and will be aligned to Young Ireland The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023 – 2028.

Purpose of the research into the educational needs of children and young people in Fingal

- To document education provision in County Fingal to date.
- To map out the future direction of educational provision including alternative education provision in County Fingal. Taking account of need, geography, demographics, existing service provision, resourcing opportunities and sustainability
- To identify the number of home-based and blended learning centres iScoil places, alternative learning programme, special schools required in the county per annum in response to need.
- To provide a clear, concise and practical roadmap of the recommended approach to ensuring that children and young people are in receipt of appropriate education.

Key Elements of the research on the educational needs in Co. Fingal

- Document the existing provision for alternative educational support in Fingal.
- Highlight national and local policy and practice context in which educational and alternative education operates.
- Document the need for school and alternative educational needs in Fingal.
- Identification of a sustainable funding strategy, taking account of local, regional and national sources.
- Identify pockets of high need in Fingal.
- Examine current provision and demonstrate projected need.

The role for the successful candidate/organisation will include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. To agree the process for development of the research into the education needs of children and young people in Fingal with the working **group** at the outset of the project.

2. To complete a review of relevant literature.

3. To provide administration, coordination and facilitation of workshops, meetings and other forms of consultation with key stakeholders including iScoil, TESS, CAMHS, CDNT, Educational Welfare Officers, schools, DDLETB, FCYPSC etc.

4. To identify and analyse relevant available data to inform the research for County Fingal including iScoil, Department of Education, TESS.

5. To engage in ongoing liaison with the Fingal CYPSC coordinator and the Working Group over the course of the development of the research.

6. To produce a draft report of the research; to present report findings to the working group and to complete the final report having taken account of appropriate feedback from agreed sources.

Submission of Tenders

This is a fixed price contract that will be awarded following a competitive procurement process. Written tender submissions should include:

- A demonstrable track record in strategic planning, data gathering and analysis, facilitation and consultation.
- A thorough understanding of the purpose of the project.
- A detailed description of the proposed methodological approach.
- A proposed work plan and programme, including a timeline for tasks and related costs.
- Name of person responsible for fulfilment of contract.
- Examples of previous similar work completed.
- Contact details for two references for previous similar work completed.
- CV for key personnel who will be involved in the project.
- Tax Reference Number and Tax Clearance Access number
- Contract Price: €10,000 (including VAT)

Timescale

The successful applicant must be in a position to commence the work by September 2025. It is envisaged that the report will be completed by December 2025.

Evaluation of Tenders

In selecting a provider, the following criteria will apply:

Understanding of the project	20
Proposed methodology	20
Proposed project structure and timeframe	20
Evidence of experience of similar work	20
Value for money	20

Closing Date for Receipt of Tenders: 22nd of May 2025

Tenders to be sent to: Úna Caffrey, Fingal CYPSC Coordinator una.caffrey@tusla.ie