

Children & Young People's Services Directorate

**Review of Youth Work through the
Medium of Irish Language Provision**

Thursday 20th June 2019

RAG Group Meeting

Belvoir Youth Centre, Belfast



Background

- Implementation of Irish Medium Education Report 2009 - Recommendation 18
- RYDP 2018 - EA tasked with Review of Youth Work through the Medium of Irish Language Provision (*EA Funded Youth Provision*)



RYDP 2018-2019

- Provide a baseline audit of current EA funded youth work providers through the medium of Irish both at a local and regional level
- Identify the needs of the IMYW sector
- Provide considerations for IMYW sector support and specifically regional support.



Information & Engagement

Sources of Information

- Previous ELB/YCNI IMYW sector review reports
- EA IMYW sector statistics
- EA Geo-mapping of youth services
- Fóram na nÓg Handbook 2014
- A Model of Irish-Medium Youth Working (2016)
- Feedback on the developments from the IMYW sector 2016-2018

Engagement

- IMYW sector paper presented to EA 2017
- Review Sub Group and Terms of Reference
- Review Focus Group



Findings

- IMYW relatively small sector - 1894 young people aged 4-25 years
- Approximately 40 active youth units operating 34 weeks per year
- Primary focus; promotion/development of Irish Language/non-targeted generic youth provision.
- Sector support:
 - Glór na Móna - development support for local delivery Belfast
 - Fóram na nÓg - regional support.
 - Governance support and development required
 - Issues presented by the sector are faced by other voluntary organisations
 - No clear strategy linking Irish Medium Education and IMYW
 - IMYW sector receives enhanced funding at both regional and local levels



The Way Forward

- IMYW sector regional support service to take forward the review findings
 - Access support provided by NICVA, on behalf of EA
 - Identify the current gaps in provision
 - Continue to evaluate engagement of children & young people
 - Embed youth work outcomes into the IMYW curriculum
 - Leadership development fostered across the IMYW sector
 - Strengthen links with potential strategic partners
- IMYW sector groups available to young people 42 weeks of the year
- Enhanced Funding should demonstrate Enhanced Outcomes
- EA Area Plans reflect the work of the IMYW sector

