

# 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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Full copies of the Child Well-Being Report, Strategic Plan and Maps upon which this summary is based can be accessed online at [www.skdp.net](http://www.skdp.net) and also at Kerry Education Service website [www.cokerryed.ie](http://www.cokerryed.ie) as well as Kerry Diocesan Youth Service website [www.kdys.ie](http://www.kdys.ie)

## **Introduction**

### **Background**

This initiative is prompted by the PLANET policy document on the well being of the child of mid 2007, which has been adopted by South Kerry Development Partnership. A working group has been set up 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  
Sarah O'Brien & Aileen Brosnan - Youth Officers  
Paul O'Raw - Head of Community Development  
Department  
Claire O'Toole, Childcare Officer

### **Kerry Education Service**

Miriam Galvin, Youth Officer

### **Kerry Diocesan Youth Service**

Linda Kearin, Regional Development  
Manager

### **Family Resource Centres**

Nancy Holmes Smith - South West Kerry  
Tom Millane - Sneem  
Aileen O'Sullivan - Castlemaine

Helen Quinn & Noreen Murnane - The Cahah Centre, Adrigole

**Kerry County Childcare Committee**

Oonagh Flemming, Manager

**Health Service Executive**

Patricia Maher – HSE Community Worker

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 – South Kerry

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 DEDs
- 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 in November 2007
- Up to 30% (mainly in rural areas) of workforce engaged in agriculture, with 53% of all farms being small holdings.
- 905 (5.4%) 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 Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) group in South Kerry at 1.2%























































