



## **YPAR & NEIC Initiative Research Brief for Proposal for a Needs Assessment Study for the Expansion of After School Supports and Activities to Children aged 5-10 in Dublin North East Inner City**

### **DRAFT Terms of Reference**

#### **Introduction and Background**

YPAR (Young People at Risk) initiative Dublin North Inner City is an action focused interagency network of statutory, voluntary and community projects and services. Established in 2004, our work is to meet the needs of children and young people at risk in the area through a collaborative and co-ordinated approach aimed at improving all aspects of the young person's life. YPAR defines a young person at risk as a child/young person aged 0 to 25 years experiencing significant personal, family, educational or social problems.

As an interagency Network YPAR enables the collaboration of frontline children's services to pool resources and deliver more efficient and effective services including prevention, primary care and early intervention.

YPAR's Mission is:

*"To promote and develop a principled and integrated approach to working with young people that serves their needs and realises their dreams."*

YPAR main Goals are:

- To establish **an integrated, interagency structure** for children and youth at risk
- To **improve the quality and delivery of services** for children and youth at risk
- To **establish appropriate mechanisms to co-ordinate and integrate services** for children and youth at risk
- To support young people at risk in **accessing services, education, training and employment**
- To enhance **primary care, prevention and early intervention measures** for young people and their families
- To **ensure anti-discriminatory and accessible policies and practices** in services for young people at risk
- To **support children and youth** at risk to develop the skills and capacities needed to **become active members of the community**
- To **ensure the voices and views of young people at risk are heard**
- To **monitor and evaluate YPAR interventions** in order to measure change, progress and to learn what works and what doesn't.

### **Research Catchment Area North East Inner City**

The research catchment area comprises of the North East Inner City comprising of Summerhill, Sean MacDermott Street, Buckingham Street, Railway Street, Sherriff Street, Seville Place, Portland Row, Killarney Street, Ballybough, Gardiner Street, Mountjoy Square, North Great George's Street, Foley Street, Rutland Street, James Joyce Street and other smaller adjacent streets and estates.

### **Social and Economic Context**

The North East Inner City (NEIC) is a "RAPID" designated area of Dublin City and extends from Busaras/Connolly Station to Croke Park, bordering parts of Dorset St, O'Connell St on the west over to the edge of the East Wall. It incorporates all or parts of 74 small areas as defined by the CSO which had a combined population of 17,580 in 2011 spread across 6,788 households.

Provisional results from the 2016 Census in the bigger electoral districts (EDs) show slight changes (up and down) to population trends across the electoral districts in this area except for Mountjoy B (+44.7%), Rotunda A (+20%) and Ballybough B (+11%).

Previous Trutz Haase research profiles for the area, based on 2011 Census figures, highlight the complexities of such areas of populations which have seen the emergence of significant clusters of high deprivation alongside affluent population. The 74 small areas linked to this RAPID area range from as small as a population of 82 persons to as big as 771 with most having somewhere between 100 and 300 persons resident in such areas.

In terms of deprivation levels, over a third (26) of the small areas in the NEIC can be described as disadvantaged or very disadvantaged with a further 19 just marginally below average. This measures deprivation based on a range of measures including age dependency, education levels, household composition and employment status.

At the extreme end there are small areas of the NEIC containing 80% lone parent households, where up to half of the population have attained primary education only and less than 5% with third level education. This contrasts starkly with some other small areas in the NEIC with very low levels of lone parent households and where third level attainment is over double the national average of 31%. This creates a certain distinct imbalance in overall population profile in the geographical community. The area is also bordered by very evident areas of strong affluent business, enterprises and residential developments. This differentiation of population in profiles will be further accentuated with planned developments in the Dockland SDZ over the coming years.

The unemployment levels for males in these areas were double and triple the national average including high dependency on the State for housing at over 90% in some cases. The lack of any clear improvement in the very disadvantaged small areas suggests the problem is endemic and requires a significant change in approach.

The area is also home to clusters of a growing non-Irish population from other EU countries and non-EU countries some of whom are the victims of economic, social and human rights issues. The 2011 Census data also highlights significantly higher rates of non-Irish nationals living in the NEIC compared to the national average of 12% ranging from 18% to as high as 52% across the five core electoral districts in the area.

### **YPAR Partners**

YPAR has full support and involvement of statutory agencies and our partners include; Health Service Executive Northern Region, TUSLA, Dept. of Education and Skills, City of Dublin Youth Services Board, City of Dublin Education and Training Board, National Education Welfare Service, An Garda Síochána, Probation Service/Irish Youth Justice, Dublin City Council, Inner City Organisations Network (ICON) and other voluntary and community groups operating in the North Inner City of Dublin.

### **Background Current Proposal**

The persistent inequality and poverty in the North Inner City has led to intergenerational poverty in some areas of this community. This exclusion in turn fuels unemployment, crime, criminality, addiction, family breakdown and early school dropout. As the cycle of poverty continues the State through its agencies has failed to respond adequately to address the causes and consequences resulting in a further spiral of hopelessness and despair for many families, children and young people.

One of the most effective ways to break the cycle of poverty and disadvantage for families is to create equality of opportunity for young people and one of the most effective ways to do this is to ensure that they get the most out of their educational experience. Key to this is enabling them to complete their second level education. To assist this there is a need to break down barriers that inhibit or disable young people's capability of sustaining their participation in the education system by providing appropriate and flexible extra-curricular and afterschool supports and activities.

The YPAR 5-12 Working Group involves representatives from primary schools, afterschool projects, Tusla children services, community based youth projects and parents. Evidence from these groups suggests that there is a huge shortage of afterschool places to support the demands for afterschool places in the north east inner city. In relation to public policy there is a clear gap in afterschool supports and services for the 5 -10 year-olds in comparison to 10-18 year-olds who can access youth services provision provided through the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. While there is very good collaboration between organisations in the area the groups have identified many barriers that prevent more effective and informed integration and collaboration between the various projects offering afterschool supports making it hard to address current gaps and deficiencies in this service. This mainly due to lack of capacity and the increase demands from the increase of children from New Communities (Direct Provision) and children living in emergency homeless accommodation.

### **Overall Purpose**

To expand and develop an effective, collaborative and integrated network of school and community based afterschool services for children aged 5-10 in Dublin North East Inner City and ensure that any child in the community who wants to, can access afterschool activities appropriate to their needs and wants.

### **Research Approach**

The overall methodological framework to be employed in this research will be a variety of specific methodologies to develop and gather information and evidence from different sources.

Multiple methodologies will assist in gathering evidence from multiple sources to allow for validation of issues, cross referencing and checking specific issues as they arise. Anomalous

or striking findings, if they emerge, could therefore be cross corroborated to strengthen their objective validity.

### **Tender Brief**

1. Scope a profile of existing afterschool supports and activities (including, homework clubs, sports, arts and drama dance etc). Identifying;
  - a. Activities offered
  - b. Profile of users (age, gender, ethnicity, etc.)
  - c. Accessibility for children with special needs
  - d. Curriculum for activities
  - e. Location
  - f. Waiting lists
  - g. Referral policies
  - h. Capacity shortfall - including premises and staff skills
  - i. Criteria for access
  - j. Flexibility of access
  - k. Early morning & breakfast clubs
2. Mapping possible/available safe school and community based premises that would facilitate additional afterschool activities.
3. Consult with young people and parents of their current afterschool needs. Identifying
  - a. Required times
  - b. Age groups
  - c. Types of activities
  - d. Geographical area
4. Consult with statutory, voluntary and community services providers to identify ways to enhance afterschool supports and activities.
5. Assess the cost benefit and sustainable cost of an enhanced Afterschool service provision in the NIC
6. Produce a report with costed recommendations on how best to enhance the current afterschool services provision in the NIC.
7. Identifying local, national and international best practices examples of after school supports

### **Primary Groups Involved** (not limited to these)

- Primary Schools
- Youth Projects
- Afterschool Projects
- Community Projects
- Homework Clubs
- Tusla Community Support Workers
- Garda Diversion Projects
- Young People
- Parents
- ICON (SICAP/IC Co-op)
- Dublin City Council
- Garda
- Early Learning Initiative (ABC Programme)
- Dept. of Education & Skill
- Minority ethnic groups

## **Management**

The research will be managed by YPAR and overseen by an interagency Research Steering Committee who have agreed; the Terms of Reference and Tender Document, assessment criteria, management of this public tender to short list and interview applicants. The Steering Committee will liaise with and oversee the implementation of the research project with the successful bidders contracted for the research.

## **Timing line**

It is expected study will be completed over an intensive work period of 4-6 months

## **Profile of Applicant:**

The applicant should have a strong track record of carrying out such pieces of work and it is also desirable if they have active working experience with education, social exclusion and in particular young people from disadvantaged communities.

## **Applicants should include**

- Detailed CV of the consultant highlighting relevant experience
- Examples of similar work undertaken

Interested parties are requested to submit a brief proposal outlining how they would undertake the work as outlined above. Please include the following;

- A proposed project plan outlining the key stages in the work
- A proposed outline of the approaches and methodologies to be used
- A proposed time frame / timetable

## **Skills & Experience:**

The applicant is required to demonstrate:

- a) Knowledge and experience of similar work including;
- b) Research & Analysis Skills
- c) Understanding of education and supported educational and leisure afterschool activities
- d) Appropriate Methodologies
- e) Community consultation and engagement track record
- f) Understanding of issues outlined in the brief

## **Applications could be made under the following headings:**

### **Knowledge & Understanding of Brief**

- The tenderer should demonstrate a sound understanding of the brief

### **Section 2 - Approach/Methodology**

- Detail of how tenderer proposes to undertake this assignment, your interpretation of how the requirements set out in the specification can be met. Outlining the approaches and methodologies to be used.
- Detailed work plan – including a timeframe

### **Section 3 - Value for Money/Added Value**

- Breakdown of costs for proposed research study including VAT.

#### **Section 4 – Further Information**

Any further information the tenderer deems relevant e.g.:- details of previous relevant commissions and/or relevant experience/expertise, references etc.

#### **Proposed Budget:**

- The successful tender will be awarded on a value for money basis, within a maximum budget of €12,000 to include all costs such as institutional fees, administration costs and expenses incurred and VAT.
- Applicants should provide a breakdown of costs.
- A tax free certificate must be provided prior to the awarding of any contract

#### **Payment**

A payment schedule will be agreed with the successful applicant. The following schedule is proposed:

- One third to be paid on signing the contract
- One third to be paid on receipt of draft report
- One third to be paid on receipt of final report

Payments will be made within 28 days of receipt of an invoice. If at any stage during the research, the agreed level of quality of the research is not adhered to, payment may be withheld.

#### **Ethical, Confidentiality & Data Protection Procedures**

Applicants should outline how they propose to comply with research ethics, and standards.

**Completion date: 30 October 2019**

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to: [infoypar@gmail.com](mailto:infoypar@gmail.com); For further information please Tel: 0861263086.

**Closing date for applications Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019:** No applications will be considered after this time

