

Promoting the Rights of Children & Young People

Investing in Children Menu of Practice Support

Introduction

Investing in Children has been commissioned to introduce and develop a Quality Assurance process across Tusla to ensure that the collective voice of children and young people is embedded in rights based practice. Following the National Conference in January 2016 the next steps in this programme will be for Investing in Children to provide Practice Support across the 4 regions as well as evaluating projects for the Investing in Children Membership Award™.

The Participation Working Group and Regional Implementation Managers are co-ordinating the programme of Practice Support with liC and services should negotiate their specific support needs with their RIM or Participation and Partnership Officer in the first instance.

Menu of Practice Support

To enable Tusla to develop practice that is centred on the participation and collective voices of children, liC will provide practical support, information and advice as a process of 'hand-holding' as new ways of working emerge or existing good practice is promoted and celebrated.

Practice Support can include:

- Facilitating or co-facilitating Agenda Days™ (see separate paper)
 - Providing on-site support and advice in the lead up to and delivery of Agenda Days™.
- Providing Capacity Building Workshops for young facilitators
 - ½ Day Workshops to provide practical skills and advice to staff and young facilitators to ensure that they have the necessary information and sufficient preparation to facilitate events and activities. These Workshops can be provided for groups of 10-12 people and will provide 'hands-on' advice and practical examples of what works, tips and hints and suggestions about good practice.
- Developing Young People's Research Groups

- To support Tusla staff to create opportunities for young people to research an issue that is important to them. Information will be made available about research activities that have been conducted elsewhere and how this research is best used as part of the process of service development and improvement. Evidence of how best to present research findings and how to engage with service providers and managers will also be discussed.
- Developing specific interest groups
 - Information can be provided about existing groups that have been established in different locations and practical information about what works, how groups can be supported and young people's meetings work best.
- Providing Practice Briefing sessions.
 - Opportunities for project staff to meet locally with a Senior Project Worker from liC - drop-in and ask questions, seek clarification, agree next steps.

Expectations

Each of the four regions will have an entitlement to a certain number of Practice Support Days. Practice Support is provided by a Senior Project Worker from liC and is delivered at a location that is convenient and accessible to Tusla staff. Long-arm support is also available (email, telephone, Skype) at all times from the liC Team. All support is coordinated by your Regional Implementation Manager or Participation and Partnership Officer.

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Investing in Children CIC

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