



An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

# Quarterly Service Performance and Activity Report

QUARTER 1 2022



Quality Assurance Directorate

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## 1.0 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

This report provides an update on the performance and activity of Tusla services at the end of Q1 2022. It is structured around key performance and activity measures included in the Agency's Business Plan. The data presented was provided by services and refers to the latest performance and activity information available at this time. **These data can change from data previously published due to the ongoing validation of data.**

The summary by service type set out below provides an overview of the Q1 2022 position regarding activity and performance.

## CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE SERVICES

### REFERRALS *(Data for Q4 2021 extracted from NCCIS on 21 April 2022)*

- 19,580 referrals to Child Protection and Welfare Services during Q4 2021<sup>1</sup>; 923 (5%) more than Q3 2021 (18,657) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2020 – Q4 2021. Quarter on quarter increase since Q4 2020.
- This brings to 73,069 the number of referrals for 2021, 3,357 (5%) more than 2020 (69,712). *The number of referrals for 2020 / 2021 needs to be interpreted in the context of the closure of schools and other services at various times, due to the pandemic.*
- More than half of referrals for 2021 (52%; 37,758) were for welfare concerns, 35% (25,292) were for abuse/neglect, and the primary report type was not recorded for the remaining 14% (10,019) of referrals.
- The most common source of referrals in 2021 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for 37% (26,922) of referrals, followed to a lesser extent by social workers (11%; 8,066) and teachers (8%; 6146). Mandated persons accounted for 85% (62,108) of all sources. The mandated person was not specified for 8% (5,713) of referrals.
- 53% (10,426) of referrals for Q4 2021 were closed following screening and 50% (36,784) of all referrals for 2021 were closed following screening. Of the referrals closed following screening in 2021, 42% (15,297) were closed with no further action required, a further 40% (14,760) were closed as assessment / safety planning was already ongoing and 6% (2,287) were diverted to Tusla's Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) services.
- 92% (7,704) of preliminary enquiries for Q4 2021 were completed at the time the data was extracted and 13% (991) of completed preliminary enquiries were completed with 5 working days.
- 46% (3,536) of referrals with a completed preliminary enquiry required no further action and were closed; 29% (2,229) required an initial assessment while assessment / safety planning was ongoing in 11% (817) of cases. Some 7% (577) of referrals were closed with diversion to PPFS.
- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 54% (1,212) of initial assessments required following a preliminary enquiry were completed, 19% (415) were ongoing/ awaiting sign-off while the remaining 27% (602) were awaiting commencement. 32% (388) of initial assessments completed were completed within 40 days of receipt of referral.

- 53% (643) of referrals that required an initial assessment following the preliminary enquiry were closed to social work following completion of the initial assessment. Of these 61% (394) required no further action, 23% (148) were diverted to another agency for a service, and 10% (63) were diverted to Tusla PPFS service.
- A further 3% (38) were closed as safety planning was already ongoing.
- 24% (290) of referrals required safety planning following completion of the initial assessment, a further 17% (209) required a children protection response / child protection conference and 5% (64) required admission to care.

## **SOCIAL WORK ACTIVITY DATA**

- 21,729 cases open<sup>1</sup> to social work nationally at the end of Q1 2022, 481 (2%) more than Q4 2021 (21,248) and 2,097 (11%) more than Q1 2021 (19,632).
- 79% (17,235/21,729) of open cases were allocated to a named social worker at the end of Q1 2022; up two percentage points from Q4 2021 (77%).
- 4,494 (21%) cases were awaiting allocation, 313 (7%) fewer than Q4 2021 (4,807).
- 72% (3,255) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were “active” on a duty system<sup>1</sup>.
- 8% (361) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were categorised as high priority, 75 (17%) fewer than Q4 2021 (436).
- 76% (3,401/4,494) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were waiting three months or less and of these 66% (2,248) were waiting less than one month.
- 84% (304/361) of high priority cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were waiting 3 months or less and of these 76% (231) were waiting less than one month.

## **CHILD PROTECTION NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

- 971 children listed as ‘active’ on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)<sup>1</sup> at the end of Q1 2022, 12 (1%) fewer than Q4 2021 (983).
- 48 (5%) more children ‘active’ at the end of Q1 2022 than at the end of Q1 2021 (923).
- 83% (808) of children listed as “active” at the end of Q1 2022 were listed as “active for no longer than 12 months.
- 4% (39) were listed as “active” for > 24 months, down from 5% (48) at the end of Q4 2021.
- All children listed as “active” at the end of Q1 2022 had an allocated social worker.

## **NATIONAL OUT OF HOURS SERVICE**

- 734 referrals to the National Out of Hours Service in Q1 2022, 118 (14%) fewer than Q4 2021 when a high of 852 referrals was reported, and 253 (53%) more than Q1 2021 (481).
- 194 children were placed by the National Out of Hours Service in Q1 2022, seven fewer than Q4 2021 (201), and 54 (39%) more than Q1 2021 (140).

# ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

## CHILDREN IN CARE

- 5,860 children in care at the end of Q1 2022, three fewer than Q4 2021 (5,863). The number of children in care is down 19 (<1%) on Q1 2021 (5,879).
- 90% (5,248) of children in care were in foster care (general and relative) at the end of Q1 2022 and 7% (436) were in a residential (general and special care) placement.
- 823 (14%) children in care at the end of Q1 2022 were in placements with private providers<sup>1</sup>; 38 (5%) more than Q4 2021 (785) and 82 (11%) more than Q1 2021 (741).
- 89% (5,222) of children in care at the end of Q1 2022 had an allocated social worker; up one percentage points from Q4 2021 (88%).
- 638 children were awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of Q1 2022; 86 (12%) fewer than end of Q4 2021 (724).

## AFTERCARE

- 138 referrals in Q1 2022, 16 fewer than Q4 2021 (122).
- 3,118 young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q1 2022, 59 more than Q4 2021 (3,059) and 151 (5%) more than Q1 2021 (2,967). Quarter on quarter increase.
- 77% (1,807/2,359) of those 18-22 years inclusive in receipt of an aftercare service were in education/accredited training.
- 83% (2,585) of young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q1 2022 had an aftercare plan, up one percentage point from Q4 2021. A total of 533 were awaiting a plan, 26 (5%) fewer than Q4 2021 (559).
- 91% (2,129/2,351) of those assessed as needing an aftercare worker had an aftercare worker at the end of Q1 2022, down three percentage points from Q4 2021 (94%). A total of 222 young people were awaiting an aftercare worker at the end of Q1 2022, 99 (80%) more than Q4 2021 (123).

## ADOPTION SERVICES

- 679 new enquiries regarding information and tracing received in Q1 2022, 239 (54%) more than Q4 2021 (440).
- 623 applicants awaiting an information and tracing service at the end of Q1 2022, 92 (13%) fewer than Q4 2021 (715) and the second consecutive quarterly decrease.
- At the end of Q1 2022, the length of time from application (production of ID) to the provision of personal information in line with GDPR legislation ranged from 9 weeks to 16 weeks against a target of 8 weeks, up one week from 8 weeks to 16 weeks at the end of Q4 2021.

## **Adoption – data for Q1 2022 not available at the time of writing**

- 40 receipted completed applications for adoption (all types) received during Q4 2021. This brings to 199 the number of completed applications received for 2021, 41 (26%) more than 2020 (158).
- 37 new children were referred for adoption in Q4 2021. This brings to 208 the number of children referred for adoption in 2021, 12 (6%) more than 2020 (196).
- 49 completed assessments (all types) were presented to local adoption committees during Q4 2021. This brings to 170 the number of assessments presented for 2021, 15 (10%) more than the same period in 2020 (155).

## **FOSTER CARERS**

- 3,991 foster carers (all types minus Brussels II Regulation) on the panel of approved foster carers at the end of Q1 2022, 48 fewer than Q4 2021 (4,039) and the fewest number for the five quarters Q1 2021 – Q1 2022.
- 89% (2,133) of general foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022, down one percentage point from Q4 2021 (90%)
- 263 general foster carers were awaiting an allocated link worker; 29 (12%) more than Q4 2021 (234).
- 89% (938) of relative foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022, down one percentage point from Q4 2021 (90%)
- 114 relative foster carers on the panel were awaiting an allocated link worker at the end of Q1 2022; five more than Q4 2021 (109).
- 93% (176) of unapproved relatives foster carers who had a child placed with them for >12 weeks had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022. A total of 13 carers were awaiting a link worker across two areas, up from none at the end of Q4 2021.

# **CHILDREN'S SERVICES REGULATION**

## **EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE**

- 4,118 early years services (EYS) on the register nationally at the end of Q1 2022, 15 fewer than Q4 2021 (4,133) and 77 (2%) fewer than Q1 2021 (4,195).
- 642 inspections (all types) carried out in Q1 2022, 40 (6%) fewer than Q4 2021 (682). Inspections in early 2021 impacted due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- 3,004 incidents notified to the Inspectorate in Q1 2022. The majority of the incidents pertain to confirmed cases of Covid-19. A total of 2,894 incidents notified in 2021.
- 66 unsolicited information submissions<sup>1</sup> received by the Inspectorate during Q1 2022. A total of 268 received in 2021.
- 25 services were found to have closed in Q1 2022. A total of 141 services found to be closed in 2021.

## NON-STATUTORY ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

- 145 non-statutory residential centres at the end Q1 2022; one more than Q4 2021 (144)
- A total of 45 inspections (all types) were conducted in Q1 2022.
- 6 non-statutory foster care services at the end Q1 2022; no change from Q4 2021

## ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION

### Home Education

- 1,857 children on the register for home education at the end of Q1 2022; 49 (3%) more than Q4 2021 (1,808) and 85 (5%) more than Q1 2021 (1,772).
- 388 applications<sup>1</sup> received for home education during Q1 2022, 102 (21%) fewer than Q4 2021 (490) and 63 (19%) more than Q1 2021 (325). The increase in applications since the early part of 2020 has been linked to the Covid-19 pandemic with more parents/guardians opting to home educate their children.
- 155 assessments (all types) for home education carried out in Q1 2022, 67 (76%) more than Q4 2021 (88) and 36 (19%) fewer than Q1 2021 (191).
- 1,749 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of Q1 2022, 173 (9%) fewer than Q4 2021 (1,922) when a high of 1,922 was reported.

### Independent Schools

- 56 assessed independent schools on the register at the end of Q1 2022, no change from Q4 2021
- 6,036 children in assessed independent schools at the end of Q1 2022 with 4,397 of these children on the register.
- 39 schools due for review assessment ( $\geq$  3-year cycle) at the end of Q1 2022.

## TUSLA EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

### Educational Welfare: Academic Year September 2021 – August 2022

Data presented needs to be interpreted in the context of the impact of Covid-19 on school attendance and service provided.

- 3,951 referrals screened by senior educational welfare officers (EWO) for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 645 (20%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (3,306).
- 3,021 screened referrals on a waiting list at the end of Q1 2022, 1,149 (61%) more than Q1 2021 (1,872).
- 2,229 new individual children worked with for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 453 (26%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (1,776).
- 409 school attendance notices (SANs) issued for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 372 more than the same period in 2020/2021 (37). The SANs issued were in respect of 278 individual children.

- 53 summonses issued for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022. None issued during the same period in 2020/2021. The summonses were in respect of 37 individual children.
- 84 Section 24 meetings convened by EWOs for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 30 (56%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (54).

## PREVENTION, PARTNERSHIP & FAMILY SUPPORT

### Family Support Services (data reported bi-annually, Q2 and Q4)

*Family Support Services includes those services funded through a Service Arrangement with the Agency and those funded internally and delivered through the Agency. Data needs to be interpreted in the context of varying response rates.*

- At least 17,075 children were in receipt of family support services at the end Q4 2021 (based on 80% response rate).
- At least 16,291 children referred to family support services during the last six months of 2021, bringing the total number of children referred to at least 32,473. This equates to about 2.7% of the child population (0-17 years).
- 69% (11,270) of children referred to family support services in the last six months of 2021 received a service while 73% (23,807) of all children referred in 2021 received a service. The percentage who received a service in 2021 ranged from 53% (Midlands) to 99% (Mayo). Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 73%.

### Meitheal (data reported bi-annually, Q2 and Q4)

- 1,131 Meitheal processes requested in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number of Meitheal processes requested for 2021 to at least 2,373. The number of requests is up 86 on the 2,287 reported in 2020.
- The most common pathway for requests is “Direct Access” accounting for 67% (759/1,131) of all requests for the last six months of 2021 and 67% (1,584/2,373) of all requests for 2021. “Social Work Diversion” accounted for a further 18% (199) of requests for the last six months of 2021 and 21% (488/2,373) of all requests for 2021. “Social Work Step-Down” accounted for the remaining 15% (173) of all requests for the last six months of 2021 and 13% (301/2,373) of all requests for 2021.
- 82% (932/1,131) of Meitheal requests received in the last six months of 2021 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage) while 86% (2,041/2,373) of all requests received in 2021 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage).
- 742 Meitheal processes reached completion of Stage 2 in the last six months of 2021, bringing the total number of Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage 2 in 2021 to 1,596.
- 46% (741) of processes reaching completion of Stage 2 in 2021, proceeded to delivery (Stage 3) (Meitheal Support Meeting).
- 828 Meitheal processes were closed in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number of Meitheal processes closed in 2021 to 1,580. 24% (386) of Meitheal processes were closed following submission of a Meitheal request form (Stage 1); 39% (617) of Meitheal processes were



closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Stage 2 Discussion Stage); 11% (171) of Meitheal processes were closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings (Stage 3); 26% (406) of Meitheal processes were closed post-delivery

- 122 Child and Family Support Networks<sup>1</sup> (CFSN) operating at the end of Q4 2021. A further 15 CFSNs are planned/pre planning stage.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

- 4,588.6 whole time equivalent (WTE) staff (excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q1 2022, 9.3 more than Q4 2021 (4,579.3) and 31.2 fewer than Q1 2021 (4,619.8).
- 170 new staff joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in the first three months of 2022.
- 114 staff left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks, excluding retirements) and 30 staff retired in the first three months of 2022.
- At the end of Q1 2022, the overall absence rate for the Agency was 9.05%, 1.8 percentage points higher than Q4 2021 (7.25%) and 3.36 percentage points higher than Q1 2021 (5.69%).
- e-learning activity: 4,729 completions were achieved in Q1 2022
- Virtual classroom training: 1,885 completions.

## **FINANCE**

- The outturn for the year to date (March 2022) is an under spend of €5.819 million.
- Pay costs are under-spent against budget for the year to date by €6.4 million
- Non-pay costs are over-spent against budget year to date by €0.636 million

## 2.0 CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE SERVICES

### **Key Facts (figures for Q4 2021 based on data extracted from NCCIS on 21 April 2022)**

- 19,580 referrals to Child Protection and Welfare Services during Q4 2021<sup>1</sup>; 923 (5%) more than Q3 2021 (18,657) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2020 – Q4 2021. Quarter on quarter increase since Q4 2020.
- This brings to 73,069 the number of referrals for 2021, 3,357 (5%) more than 2020 (69,712). *The number of referrals for 2020 / 2021 needs to be interpreted in the context of the closure of schools and other services at various times, due to the pandemic.*
- More than half of referrals for 2021 (52%; 37,758) were for welfare concerns, 35% (25,292) were for abuse/neglect, and the primary report type was not recorded for the remaining 14% (10,019) of referrals.
- The most common source of referrals in 2021 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for 37% (26,922) of referrals, followed to a lesser extent by social workers (11%; 8,066) and teachers (8%; 6146). Mandated persons accounted for 85% (62,108) of all sources. The mandated person was not specified for 8% (5,713) of referrals.
- 53% (10,426) of referrals for Q4 2021 were closed following screening and 50% (36,784) of all referrals for 2021 were closed following screening. Of the referrals closed following screening in 2021, 42% (15,297) were closed with no further action required, a further 40% (14,760) were closed as assessment / safety planning was already ongoing and 6% (2,287) were diverted to Tusla's Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) services.
- 92% (7,704) of preliminary enquiries for Q4 2021 were completed at the time the data was extracted and 13% (991) of completed preliminary enquiries were completed with 5 working days.
- 46% (3,536) of referrals with a completed preliminary enquiry required no further action and were closed; 29% (2,229) required an initial assessment while assessment / safety planning was ongoing in 11% (817) of cases. Some 7% (577) of referrals were closed with diversion to PPFS.
- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 54% (1,212) of initial assessments required following a preliminary enquiry were completed, 19% (415) were ongoing/ awaiting sign-off while the remaining 27% (602) were awaiting commencement. 32% (388) of initial assessments completed were completed within 40 days of receipt of referral.
- 53% (643) of referrals that required an initial assessment following the preliminary enquiry were closed to social work following completion of the initial assessment. Of these 61% (394) required no further action, 23% (148) were diverted to another agency for a service, and 10% (63) were diverted to Tusla PPFS service.
- A further 3% (38) were closed as safety planning was already ongoing.
- 24% (290) of referrals required safety planning following completion of the initial assessment, a further 17% (209) required a children protection response / child protection conference and 5% (64) required admission to care.

## KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

- 2.1 Referrals (child welfare and child abuse)
- 2.2 Social Work Activity Data
- 2.3 Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)
- 2.4 Crisis Intervention Service / Out of Hours Service

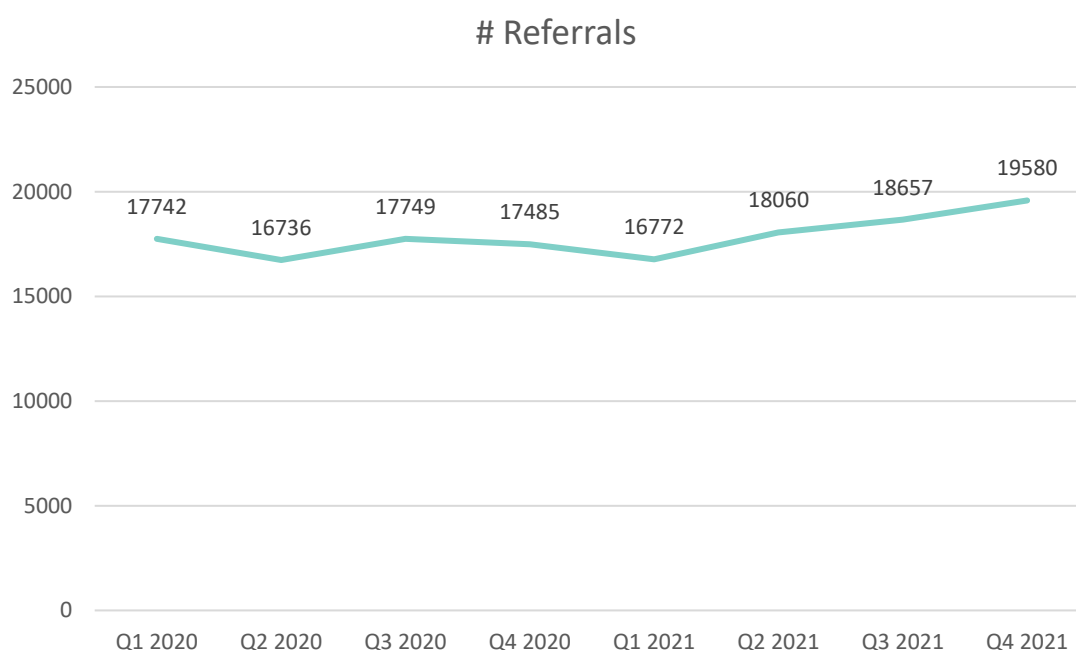
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## 2.1 REFERRALS (CHILD WELFARE AND CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT)

### Number of Referrals

*Data for Q4 2021 extracted from NCCIS on 21 April 2022*

- 19,580 referrals to Child Protection and Welfare Services during Q4 2021<sup>1</sup>; 923 (5%) more than Q3 2021 (18,657) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2020 – Q4 2021. Quarter on quarter increase since Q4 2020.
- This brings to 73,069 the number of referrals for 2021, 3,357 (5%) more than 2020 (69,712). The number of referrals for 2020 / 2021 needs to be interpreted in the context of the closure of schools and other services at various times, due to the pandemic.



- More than half of referrals for 2021 (52%; 37,758) were for welfare concerns, 35% (25,292) were for abuse/neglect, and the primary report type was not recorded for the remaining 14% (10,019) of referrals (Tables 1 and 2). Breakdown of data by quarter presented in Tables 1 and 2 below.

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<sup>1</sup> Data on referrals are reported quarterly in arrears.

**Table 1: Percentage of referrals by primary report type**

Primary Report Type	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Total 2021
Welfare	52%	50%	51%	54%	52%
Emotional abuse	15%	14%	15%	15%	15%
Neglect	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Physical abuse	8%	9%	8%	10%	9%
Sexual abuse	5%	6%	6%	6%	6%
Not recorded	14%	16%	15%	11%	14%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Table 2: Number of referrals by primary report type**

Primary Report Type	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Total 2021
Welfare	8,686	9,069	9,520	10,483	37,758
Emotional abuse	2,591	2,527	2,811	2,959	10,888
Neglect	867	833	976	1,006	3,682
Physical abuse	1,309	1,693	1,511	1,878	6,391
Sexual abuse	912	1,145	1,115	1,159	4,331
Not recorded	2,407	2,793	2,724	2,095	10,019
Total	16,772	18,060	18,657	19,580	73,069

## Referrals by Area

- The number of referrals for 2021 equates to about 61 referrals per 1,000 population under 18 years. The rate of referrals ranges from 36 per 1,000 (Dublin South East/Wicklow) to 106 per 1,000 (Dublin North City). Eight areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national average of 61/1,000.
- The areas that reported the highest numbers of referrals in 2021 were Midlands (7,254), Dublin North (6,982), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (6,834) and Cork (6,448). The fewest number was reported by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (1,415) followed by Mayo (1,531) and Kerry (2,085). A breakdown of referrals by area and quarter is presented in Table 3 below.

**Table 3: Breakdown of referrals by area**

Area	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Total 2021	Pop 0-17 years	Rate /1,000 pop YTD
DSC	1280	1226	1315	1259	5080	65,564	77.5
DSE/WW	740	652	852	842	3086	86,810	35.5
DSW/K/WW	1484	1626	1780	1944	6834	108,186	63.2
Midlands	1715	1806	1817	1916	7254	80,193	90.5
DNC	1147	1177	1187	1244	4755	44,927	105.8
Dublin North	1711	1717	1709	1845	6982	100,654	69.4
LH/MH	1080	1288	1287	1301	4956	93,093	53.2
CN/MN	451	578	583	619	2231	36,446	61.2
Cork	1467	1690	1566	1725	6448	134,015	48.1

Kerry	488	604	488	505	<b>2085</b>	34,527	<b>60.4</b>
CW/KK/ST	1014	906	982	1036	<b>3938</b>	63,009	<b>62.5</b>
WD/WX	1090	1295	1329	1432	<b>5146</b>	68,513	<b>75.1</b>
MidWest	1091	1284	1438	1570	<b>5383</b>	96,266	<b>55.9</b>
GY/RN	789	935	1085	1039	<b>3848</b>	79,912	<b>48.2</b>
Mayo	367	361	374	429	<b>1531</b>	31,968	<b>47.9</b>
Donegal	551	554	529	463	<b>2097</b>	42,865	<b>48.9</b>
SLWC	307	361	336	411	<b>1415</b>	23,554	<b>60.1</b>
National	<b>16772</b>	<b>18,060</b>	<b>18657</b>	<b>19580</b>	<b>73069</b>	<b>1,190,502</b>	<b>61.4</b>

## Source of Referrals

- The most common source of referrals in 2021 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for 37% (26,922) of referrals, followed to a lesser extent by social workers (11%; 8,066) and teachers (8%; 6146). Mandated persons accounted for 85% (62,108) of all sources. The mandated person was not specified for 8% (5,713) of referrals. The source of all referrals is presented in Table 4 below.

**Table 4: Source of Referrals (ranked by # referrals 2021)**

Source	Q1-2021	Q2-2021	Q3-2021	Q4-2021	Total 2021	% Total
Member of An Garda Síochána	6357	6461	7291	6813	<b>26922</b>	36.8%
Social worker	1759	1891	2246	2170	<b>8066</b>	11.0%
Teacher	951	1959	901	2335	<b>6146</b>	8.4%
Mandated reporter - not specified	1536	1497	1153	1527	<b>5713</b>	7.8%
Parent/Guardian	714	701	770	792	<b>2977</b>	4.1%
Anonymous	564	703	862	648	<b>2777</b>	3.8%
Social care worker	585	564	792	699	<b>2640</b>	3.6%
Other	817	681	604	474	<b>2576</b>	3.5%
A safe guarding officer,	455	504	629	729	<b>2317</b>	3.2%
Medical practitioner	507	477	563	558	<b>2105</b>	2.9%
Registered nurse /midwife	464	453	466	429	<b>1812</b>	2.5%
Manager of domestic violence shelter	353	346	422	448	<b>1569</b>	2.1%
Other family member	291	249	294	309	<b>1143</b>	1.6%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	250	248	274	331	<b>1103</b>	1.5%
Psychologist	223	263	251	322	<b>1059</b>	1.4%
Member of the public	169	187	218	122	<b>696</b>	1.0%
Youth worker	127	186	171	142	<b>626</b>	0.9%
Manager of homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility	115	118	177	155	<b>565</b>	0.8%
Courts 1 (S.20 Child Care Act)	106	131	142	169	<b>548</b>	0.7%
Person responsible for the care or management of a youth work service	88	87	106	86	<b>367</b>	0.5%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	38	49	34	37	<b>158</b>	0.2%
Self	39	35	43	30	<b>147</b>	0.2%
Foster carer registered with the Agency	44	32	25	37	<b>138</b>	0.2%
Probation officer	29	47	20	29	<b>125</b>	0.2%
Occupational therapist	17	27	26	32	<b>102</b>	0.1%
Speech and language therapist	22	23	27	25	<b>97</b>	0.1%
A person carrying on a pre-school service	17	32	14	33	<b>96</b>	0.1%
Physiotherapist	24	26	23	21	<b>94</b>	0.1%
An addiction counsellor	26	22	19	20	<b>87</b>	0.1%
Manager of asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision centre)	22	18	17	12	<b>69</b>	0.1%

Emergency medical technician	13	12	15	12	<b>52</b>	0.1%
International Social Services	12	7	16	14	<b>49</b>	0.1%
Other Court Request	14	8	16	8	<b>46</b>	0.1%
Guardian Ad Litem	4	6	15	6	<b>31</b>	0.0%
Member of the Clergy	3	5	5	3	<b>16</b>	0.0%
Director of any institution where a child is detained by an order of a court	8	*	*	*	<b>15</b>	0.0%
Manager of a language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home	7	*	*	*	<b>10</b>	0.0%
Dentist	*	*	*	*	<b>8</b>	0.0%
HSE Officer	0	0	2	0	<b>2</b>	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16772</b>	<b>18060</b>	<b>18657</b>	<b>19580</b>	<b>73069</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\*Figure suppressed for data confidentiality reasons. Suppressed figures included in the totals.

## Mandated Reports

- 25% (18,373/73,069) of all referrals for 2021 were mandated reports. *It is likely that the actual number of mandated reports is slightly higher, due to the fact that the primary report type was not recorded for 14% of referrals at the time the data was extracted.*
- A breakdown of mandated reports by primary report type is presented in Table 5 below. Highest number of reports (41%; 7,611) for 2021 were for emotional abuse; fewest number for neglect (12%; 2,280).

**Table 5: Mandated reports by primary report type, 2021**

Primary Report Type	Q1-2021	Q2-2021	Q3-2021	Q4-2021	Total 2021	% Total
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	953	1328	1074	1481	<b>4836</b>	26%
<b>Emotional Abuse</b>	1689	1803	1967	2152	<b>7611</b>	41%
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	727	959	956	1004	<b>3646</b>	20%
<b>Neglect</b>	471	531	614	664	<b>2280</b>	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3840</b>	<b>4621</b>	<b>4611</b>	<b>5301</b>	<b>18373</b>	<b>100%</b>

- A breakdown of mandated reports by area is presented in Table 6 below. The number of mandated reports for 2021 ranges from 2,678 (Dublin North) to 462 (Cavan/Monaghan) while the percentage of referrals that were mandated reports ranges from 40% (560/1,415) Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan to 13% (682/5,146) in Waterford/Wexford.

**Table 6: Mandated reports by area**

Area	# Referrals Q4 2021	# Mandated Reports Q4 2021	% Mandated Reports	# Referrals 2021	# Mandated Reports 2021	% Mandated Reports
DSC	1259	314	25%	5080	1113	<b>22%</b>
DSE/WW	842	269	32%	3086	945	<b>31%</b>
DSW/K/WW	1944	403	21%	6834	1066	<b>16%</b>
Midlands	1916	492	26%	7254	1651	<b>23%</b>
DNC	1244	457	37%	4755	1585	<b>33%</b>
Dublin North	1845	715	39%	6982	2678	<b>38%</b>
LH/MH	1301	465	36%	4956	1569	<b>32%</b>
CN/MN	619	149	24%	2231	462	<b>21%</b>
Cork	1725	549	32%	6448	1820	<b>28%</b>
Kerry	505	112	22%	2085	522	<b>25%</b>

CW/KK/ST	1036	199	19%	3938	749	<b>19%</b>
WD/WX	1432	216	15%	5146	682	<b>13%</b>
MidWest	1570	227	14%	5383	816	<b>15%</b>
GY/RN	1039	296	28%	3848	1085	<b>28%</b>
Mayo	429	172	40%	1531	519	<b>34%</b>
Donegal	463	119	26%	2097	551	<b>26%</b>
SLWC	411	147	36%	1415	560	<b>40%</b>
<b>National</b>	<b>19580</b>	<b>5301</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>73069</b>	<b>18373</b>	<b>25%</b>

- A breakdown of source of mandated reports is presented in Table 7 below. The most common source of reports for 2021 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for 43% (7,915) of all mandated reports, followed to a lesser extent by teachers (14%) and social workers (13%).

**Table 7: Source of mandated reports (ranked by number of reports 2021)**

Source	# Q4-2021	% Q4 -2021	# 2021 YTD	% 2021 YTD
Member of An Garda Síochána	2153	40.6%	<b>7915</b>	43.1%
Teacher	1060	20.0%	<b>2648</b>	14.4%
Social worker	580	10.9%	<b>2326</b>	12.7%
Social care worker	267	5.0%	<b>1048</b>	5.7%
A safeguarding officer	228	4.3%	<b>762</b>	4.1%
Medical practitioner	189	3.6%	<b>757</b>	4.1%
Manager of domestic violence shelter	171	3.2%	<b>571</b>	3.1%
Psychologist	154	2.9%	<b>492</b>	2.7%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	142	2.7%	<b>471</b>	2.6%
Registered nurse /midwife	105	2.0%	<b>370</b>	2.0%
Youth worker	58	1.1%	<b>239</b>	1.3%
Manager of homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility	40	0.8%	<b>174</b>	0.9%
Person responsible for the care or management of a youth work service	24	0.5%	<b>128</b>	0.7%
Foster carer registered with the Agency	24	0.5%	<b>72</b>	0.4%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	16	0.3%	<b>69</b>	0.4%
Physiotherapist	10	0.2%	<b>56</b>	0.3%
Occupational therapist	18	0.3%	<b>46</b>	0.3%
A person carrying on a pre-school service	16	0.3%	<b>41</b>	0.2%
Manager of asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision centre)	7	0.1%	<b>41</b>	0.2%
Speech and language therapist	13	0.2%	<b>38</b>	0.2%
Probation officer	4	0.1%	<b>26</b>	0.1%
Emergency medical technician	10	0.2%	<b>22</b>	0.1%
An addiction counsellor	5	0.1%	<b>21</b>	0.1%
Guardian Ad Litem	*	0.1%	<b>19</b>	0.1%
Member of the Clergy	*	0.0%	<b>8</b>	0.0%
Director of any institution where a child is detained by an order of a court	*	0.0%	<b>5</b>	0.0%
Dentist	*	0.0%	<b>4</b>	0.0%
Manager of a language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home	0	0.0%	<b>4</b>	0.0%

<b>Total</b>	<b>5301</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>18373</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
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\*Figure suppressed for data confidentiality reasons. Suppressed figures included in the totals.

## Screening

- 53% (10,426) of referrals for Q4 2021 were closed following screening and 50% (36,784) of all referrals for 2021 were closed following screening (Table 8).
- 43% (8,405) of referrals for Q4 2021 and 46% (33,422) of all referrals for 2021 progressed to the next stage of the referral process – the preliminary enquiry stage. The remaining referrals were either at the screening stage, awaiting closure following screening, or another process stage, when the data was extracted for reporting.

**Table 8: Referrals closed following screening**

<b>Area</b>	<b>% Referrals closed Q1 2021</b>	<b>% Referrals closed Q2 2021</b>	<b>% Referrals closed Q3 2021</b>	<b>% Referrals closed Q4 2021</b>	<b>% Referrals closed 2021</b>
DSC	63%	63%	67%	61%	64%
DSE/WW	39%	42%	44%	50%	44%
DSW/K/WW	63%	62%	64%	65%	63%
Midlands	33%	48%	58%	61%	51%
DNC	38%	37%	37%	46%	39%
Dublin North	50%	51%	55%	48%	51%
LH/MH	55%	60%	54%	60%	57%
CN/MN	39%	43%	48%	48%	45%
Cork	39%	41%	47%	46%	43%
Kerry	47%	42%	43%	42%	43%
CW/KK/ST	40%	40%	44%	50%	44%
WD/WX	43%	40%	42%	50%	44%
MidWest	59%	56%	53%	50%	54%
GY/RN	38%	45%	51%	54%	48%
Mayo	59%	55%	55%	59%	57%
Donegal	55%	55%	61%	56%	57%
SLWC	25%	25%	33%	43%	32%
<b>National</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>50%</b>

- A breakdown of the outcome of referrals closed following screening is presented below (Table 9). Of the referrals closed in 2021 (36,784), 42% (15,297) were closed with no further action required, a further 40% (14,760) were closed as assessment / safety planning was already ongoing and 6% (2,287) were diverted to Tusla's Prevention Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) services. The outcome was not recorded at the time the data was extracted for 9% (3,410) of referrals closed.



**Table 9: Outcome of referrals closed following screening**

Outcome of referrals closed	# Q4 2021	% Q4 2021	# 2021	% 2021
No further action - close	4,227	41%	15,297	42%
No further action – close, assessment / safety planning ongoing	4,319	41%	14,760	40%
Divert to another agency - close	249	2%	736	2%
Divert to PPFS - close	647	6%	2,287	6%
Other	111	1%	294	1%
Not recorded	873	8%	3,410	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,426</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>36,784</b>	<b>100%</b>

- The breakdown of outcomes of referrals closed following screening, by area for 2021 is presented in the table below (Table 10).

**Table 10: Outcome of referrals closed following screening by area 2021**

Area	No further action - close	No further action – close, assessment / safety planning ongoing	Divert to PPFS - close
DSC	39%	46%	10%
DSE/WW	39%	47%	3%
DSW/K/WW	39%	41%	15%
Midlands	41%	54%	1%
DNC	35%	43%	2%
Dublin North	19%	53%	25%
LH/MH	54%	38%	3%
CN/MN	30%	59%	8%
Cork	51%	38%	1%
Kerry	51%	38%	2%
CW/KK/ST	60%	19%	2%
WD/WX	49%	31%	1%
MidWest	32%	26%	0%
GY/RN	35%	25%	1%
Mayo	68%	26%	1%
Donegal	56%	36%	0%
SLWC	50%	43%	1%
<b>National</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>6%</b>

## Preliminary Enquiries

- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 92% (7,704) of preliminary enquiries for Q4 2021 were completed. A breakdown of preliminary enquiries completed by area is presented in the table below (Table 11).
- 13% (991) of completed preliminary enquiries were completed with 5 working days. A breakdown of the percentage of preliminary enquiries completed within 5 working days by area is presented in the table below.

**Table 11: Preliminary enquiries commenced and completed, Q4 2021**

Area	# PEs commenced	# PEs completed	% PEs completed	% PEs completed 5 days
DSC	427	369	86%	8%
DSE/WW	363	354	98%	14%
DSW/K/WW	575	506	88%	7%
Midlands	639	603	94%	9%
DNC	590	481	82%	23%
Dublin North	870	706	81%	6%
LH/MH	490	454	93%	13%
CN/MN	299	266	89%	8%
Cork	932	854	92%	12%
Kerry	274	262	96%	5%
CW/KK/ST	507	496	98%	16%
WD/WX	646	614	95%	14%
MidWest	773	750	97%	16%
GY/RN	451	430	95%	12%
Mayo	141	132	94%	5%
Donegal	196	195	99%	21%
SLWC	232	232	100%	34%
<b>National</b>	<b>8405</b>	<b>7704</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>13%</b>

- 46% (3,536) of referrals with a completed preliminary enquiry required no further action and were closed; 29% (2,229) required an initial assessment while assessment / safety planning was ongoing in 11% (817) of cases. Some 7% (577) of referrals were closed with diversion to PPFS (Table 12).

**Table 12: Outcomes from preliminary enquiries, Q4 2021**

Outcomes from preliminary enquiry	#	%
No further action - close	3,536	46%
No further action – close, assessment / safety planning ongoing	817	11%
Initial Assessment	2,229	29%
Divert to another agency - close	545	7%
Divert to PPFS - close	577	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,704</b>	<b>100%</b>

- The percentage breakdown of the outcomes of preliminary enquires completed, by area for Q4 2021 is presented in the table below (Table 13).

**Table 13: Percentage breakdown of outcomes of preliminary enquires, by area Q4 2021**

Area	% Closed - No further Action	% Requiring IA	% Divert - PPFS	% Closed - Assessment / Safety Planning Ongoing	% Closed - Divert to Another Agency
DSC	52%	23%	4%	9%	12%
DSE/WW	48%	35%	6%	6%	5%
DSW/K/WW	53%	25%	8%	4%	9%
Midlands	36%	28%	11%	20%	6%
DNC	22%	28%	5%	33%	11%

Dublin North	43%	34%	11%	9%	2%
LH/MH	49%	28%	13%	0%	9%
CN/MN	49%	25%	18%	6%	1%
Cork	51%	30%	2%	10%	7%
Kerry	53%	29%	7%	8%	3%
CW/KK/ST	55%	23%	11%	10%	1%
WD/WX	50%	23%	12%	12%	3%
MidWest	41%	29%	1%	10%	19%
GY/RN	50%	28%	7%	6%	9%
Mayo	39%	58%	2%	2%	0%
Donegal	39%	43%	0%	9%	9%
SLWC	49%	30%	8%	11%	2%
<b>National</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>7%</b>

## Initial Assessments

- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 54% (1,212) of initial assessments required following a preliminary enquiry were completed, 19% (415) were ongoing/ awaiting sign-off while the remaining 27% (602) were awaiting commencement (Table 14).
- 32% (388) of initial assessments completed were completed within 40 days of receipt of referral.

**Table 14: Breakdown of the status of Initial assessments, by area Q4 2021**

Area	IA Completed	IA Ongoing/Awaiting sign-off	IA not started	% IAs completed 40 working days
DSC	68%	11%	21%	19%
DSE/WW	63%	11%	26%	42%
DSW/K/WW	64%	12%	24%	22%
Midlands	29%	15%	56%	19%
DNC	37%	30%	34%	22%
Dublin North	29%	45%	26%	7%
LH/MH	34%	32%	34%	7%
CN/MN	30%	31%	39%	20%
Cork	71%	14%	15%	28%
Kerry	75%	8%	17%	61%
CW/KK/ST	53%	7%	40%	44%
WD/WX	46%	8%	45%	48%
MidWest	76%	9%	15%	53%
GY/RN	63%	18%	19%	26%
Mayo	72%	21%	7%	13%
Donegal	69%	4%	27%	40%
SLWC	63%	27%	10%	34%
<b>National</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>32%</b>

- 53% (643) of referrals that required an initial assessment following the preliminary enquiry were closed to social work following completion of the initial assessment. Of these 61%

(394) required no further action, 23% (148) were diverted to another agency for a service, and 10% (63) were diverted to Tusla PPFS service.

- A further 3% (38) were closed as safety planning was already ongoing.
- 24% (290) of referrals required safety planning following completion of the initial assessment, a further 17% (209) required a children protection response / child protection conference and 5% (64) required admission to care.
- The outcome of the initial assessments completed is presented in the table below.

**Table 15: Breakdown of the outcome of initial assessment, Q4 2021**

<b>Outcomes from initial assessments</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Admission to Care	64	5.3%
Child Protection / CPC Safety Planning	209	17.2%
Divert to Another Agency - Close	148	12.2%
Divert to PPFS - Close	63	5.2%
Family Welfare Conference	6	0.5%
No Further Action (NFA) - Close	394	32.5%
No Further Action (NFA) - Close, Assessment/Safety Planning ongoing	38	3.1%
Safety Planning	290	23.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## 2.2 SOCIAL WORK ACTIVITY DATA (Child Protection & Welfare)

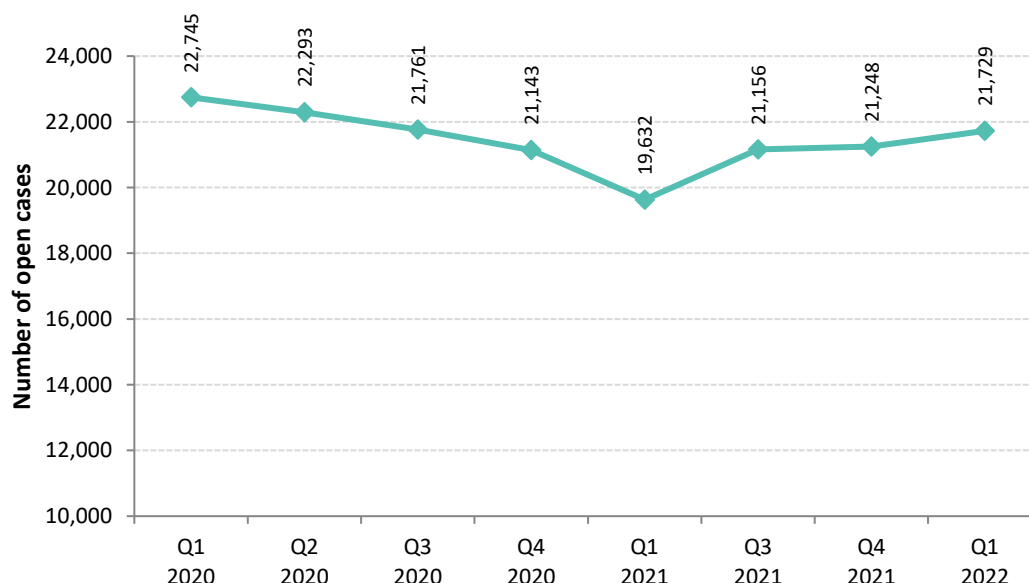
### Key Facts

- 21,729 cases open<sup>1</sup> to social work nationally at the end of Q1 2022, 481 (2%) more than Q4 2021 (21,248) and 2,097 (11%) more than Q1 2021 (19,632).
- 79% (17,235/21,729) of open cases were allocated to a named social worker at the end of Q1 2022; up two percentage points from Q4 2021 (77%).
- 4,494 (21%) cases were awaiting allocation, 313 (7%) fewer than Q4 2021 (4,807).
- 72% (3,255) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were “active” on a duty system<sup>1</sup>.
- 8% (361) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were categorised as high priority, 75 (17%) fewer than Q4 2021 (436).
- 76% (3,401/4,494) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were waiting three months or less and of these 66% (2,248) were waiting less than one month.
- 84% (304/361) of high priority cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were waiting 3 months or less and of these 76% (231) were waiting less than one month.

### 2.2.1 Open Cases

- 21,729 cases open<sup>2</sup> to social work nationally at the end of Q1 2022, 481 (2%) more than Q4 2021 (21,248) and 2,097 (11%) more than Q1 2021 (19,632).

Number of open cases by year

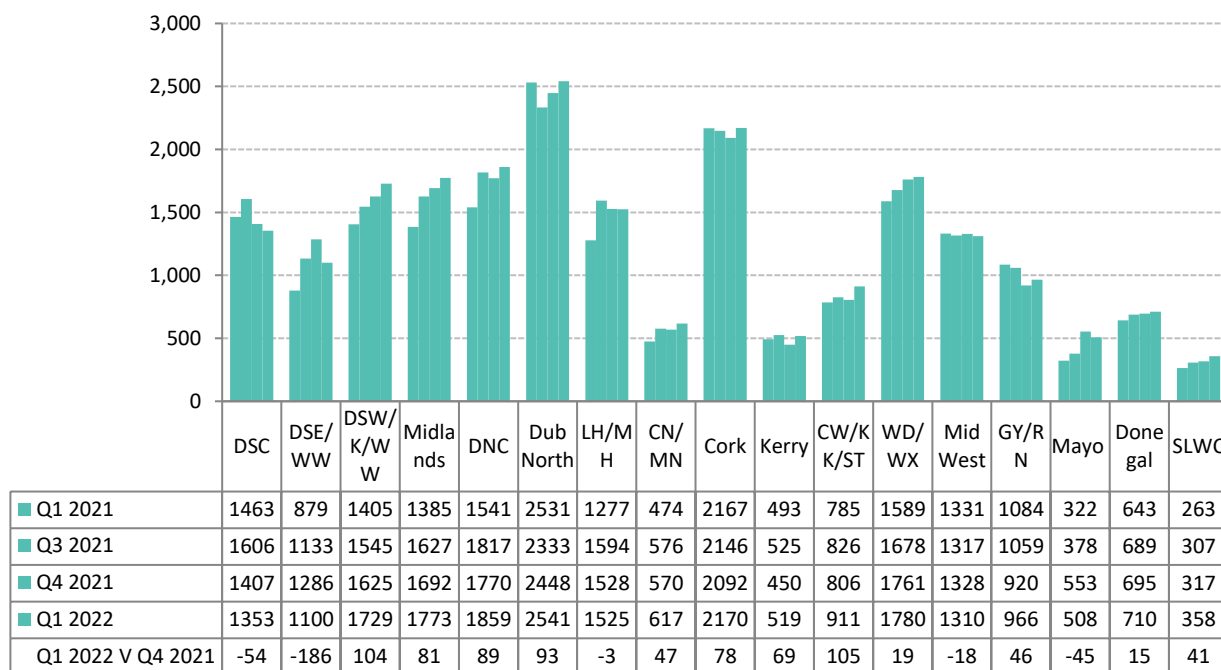


- The number of open cases ranged from 2,541 (12%) in Dublin North to 358 (2%) in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan. Eight of the 17 areas had between 1,000 and 2,000 cases; seven areas had fewer than 1,000 cases while the remaining two areas (Dublin North and Cork) had in excess of 2,000 cases.

<sup>2</sup> Open cases include cases held on intake, allocated, unallocated child welfare and protection and children in care cases.

- 5 areas reported a decrease in open cases from Q4 2021. The largest decrease was reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 186) followed by Dublin South Central (down 54) and Mayo (down 45).
- Of the 12 areas that reported an increase, the largest increase was reported by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (up 105), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 104) and Dublin North (up 93).

**Number of open cases by area**

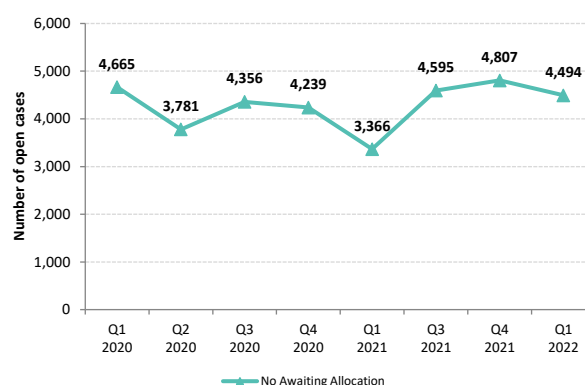
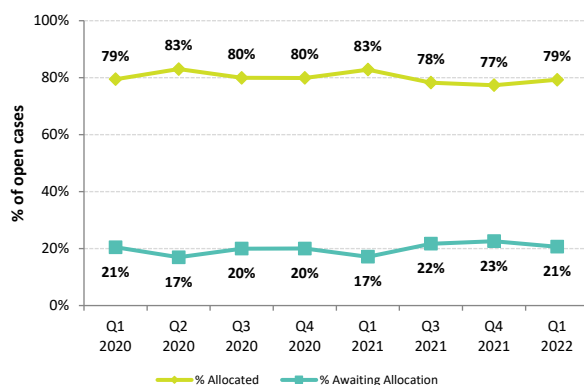


## 2.2.2 Open Cases Allocated / Awaiting Allocation

- 79% (17,235/21,729) of open cases were allocated to a named social worker at the end of Q1 2022; up two percentage points from Q4 2021 (77%).
- 4,494 (21%) cases were awaiting allocation, 313 (7%) fewer than Q4 2021 (4,807).
- 72% (3,255) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were “active” on a duty system<sup>3</sup>.

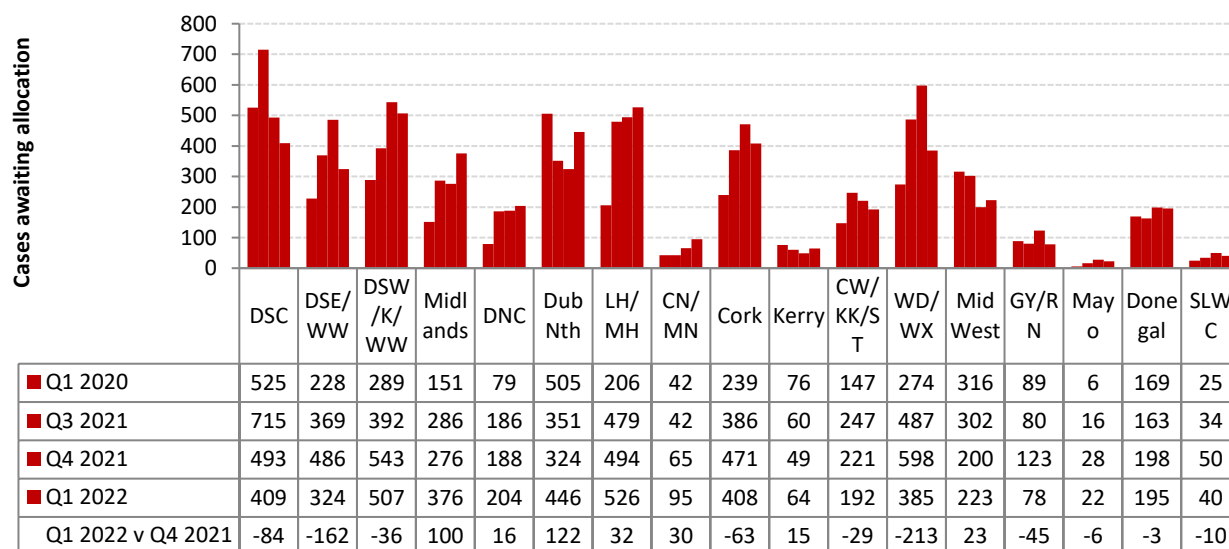
<sup>3</sup> A case awaiting allocation may be “active” on a “duty” system. This means that there are actions being undertaken by a dedicated duty team or rotating social workers on a duty roster to progress the protection and welfare of the child. Examples of actions being undertaken include telephone calls relating to the concern, visits to see children, completing initial assessments and child in care reviews or care plans. The actions undertaken must have occurred within the monthly MTP reporting period. There must be evidence of actions progressing the protection and welfare of the child and not simply a management review of a file. These cases will form a separate category on the MTP returns template under cases awaiting allocation.

## Cases allocated/awaiting allocation



- Louth/Meath reported the highest number of cases awaiting allocation (526; 12%) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (507; 11%), Dublin North (446; 10%), Dublin South Central (409; 9%) and Cork (408; 9%). These five areas account for 51% (2,296) of cases awaiting allocation.
- 7 areas reported an increase in cases awaiting allocation from Q4 2021 with the largest increases reported by Dublin North (up 122), Midlands (up 100), Louth/Meath (up 32) and Cavan/Monaghan (up 30).
- 10 areas reported a decrease with the largest decreases reported by Waterford/Wexford (down 213), Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 162), Dublin South Central (down 84) and Cork (down 63).

## Number of open cases awaiting allocation by area

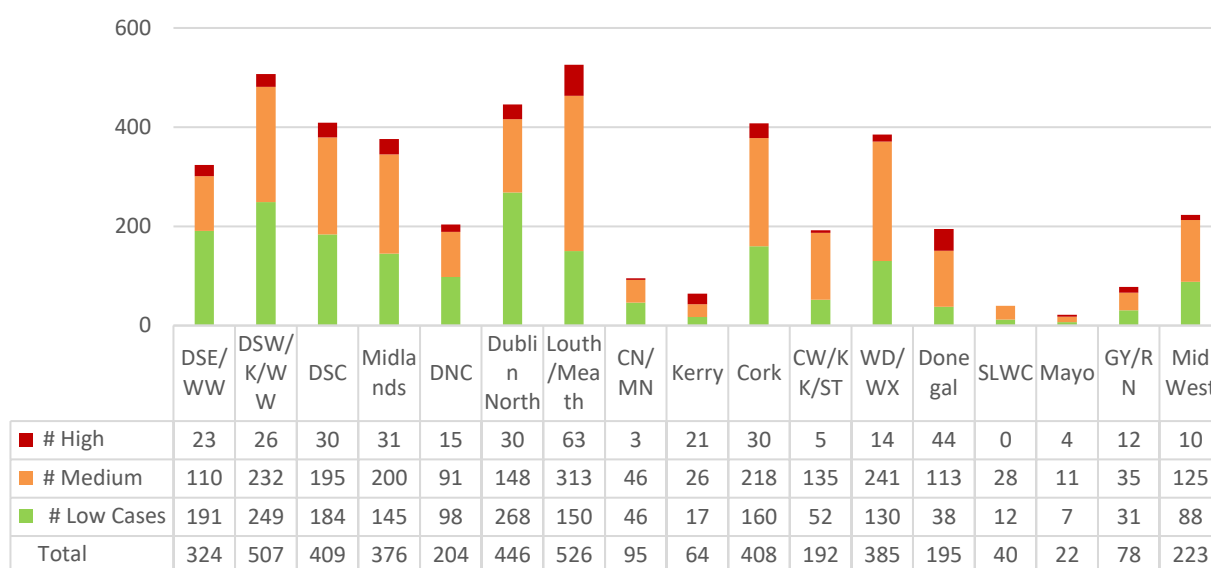


## 2.2.3 Cases Awaiting Allocation by Priority Level

- 8% (361) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were categorised as high priority, 75 (17%) fewer than Q4 2021 (436).
- 50% (2,267) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority while the remaining 42% (1,866) were low priority.

- The highest number of high priority cases reported by Louth/Meath (63) followed by Donegal (44), Midlands (31), Dublin South Central (30), Dublin North (30) and Cork (30). These six areas account for 63% (228) of all high priority cases.

**Number Unallocated Cases by Priority Level**



#### 2.2.4 Cases Awaiting Allocation by Waiting Time

- 76% (3,401/4,494) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were waiting three months or less and of these 66% (2,248) were waiting less than one month.
- 84% (304/361) of high priority cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q1 2022 were waiting 3 months or less and of these 76% (231) were waiting less than one month.

**Breakdown of cases awaiting allocation by priority level and time waiting**

Time Waiting	Q1 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
<1 month	1,602 (48%)	2,081 (45%)	1,865 (39%)	2,248 (50%)
1-3 months	867 (26%)	1,173 (26%)	1,661 (35%)	1,153 (26%)
>3 months	897 (27%)	1,341 (29%)	1,281 (27%)	1,093 (24%)
Total	3,366 (100%)	4,595 (100%)	4,807 (100%)	4,494 (100%)



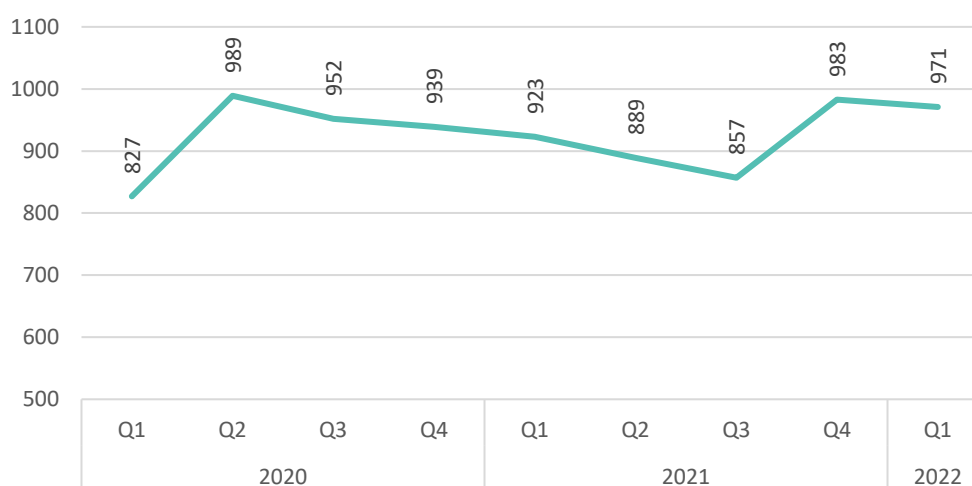
## 2.3 CHILD PROTECTION NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

### KEY FACTS

- 971 children listed as ‘active’ on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)<sup>1</sup> at the end of Q1 2022, 12 (1%) fewer than Q4 2021 (983).
  - 48 (5%) more children ‘active’ at the end of Q1 2022 than at the end of Q1 2021 (923).
  - 83% (808) of children listed as “active” at the end of Q1 2022 were listed as “active for no longer than 12 months.
  - 4% (39) were listed as “active” for > 24 months, down from 5% (48) at the end of Q4 2021.
  - All children listed as “active” at the end of Q1 2022 had an allocated social worker.
- 971 children listed as ‘active’ on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)<sup>4</sup> at the end of Q1 2022, 12 (1%) fewer than Q4 2021 (983).
  - 48 (5%) more children ‘active’ at the end of Q1 2022 than at the end of Q1 2021 (923).

*The number of children listed as "active" for 2020 needs to be interpreted with caution, due to some review child protection conferences (where decisions are made to remove children listed as "active") being deferred due to Covid-19 restrictions. Guidance issued by Tusla on foot of the COVID-19 restrictions in March 2020 advised that following discussion and evaluation of safety plans, review conferences may be deferred for a maximum of 3 months.*

**Number of children listed as 'Active' on the CPNS, by quarter**



- The number listed as “active” equates to about 8.2 children per 10,000 under 18 years and ranges from 2.4/10,000 in Louth/Meath to 16.7/10,000 in Dublin North City, double the national average. Nine areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national average.
- Midwest reported the highest number (96) of children “active”, followed by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (84) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow

<sup>4</sup> The CPNS, in accordance with the Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, 2011, is a national record of all children who are the subject of a child protection plan agreed at a child protection conference. The CPNS is accessible to named professional groups subject to strict protocols.

(80). Kerry reported the fewest number (17) followed by Louth/Meath (22) and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (27).

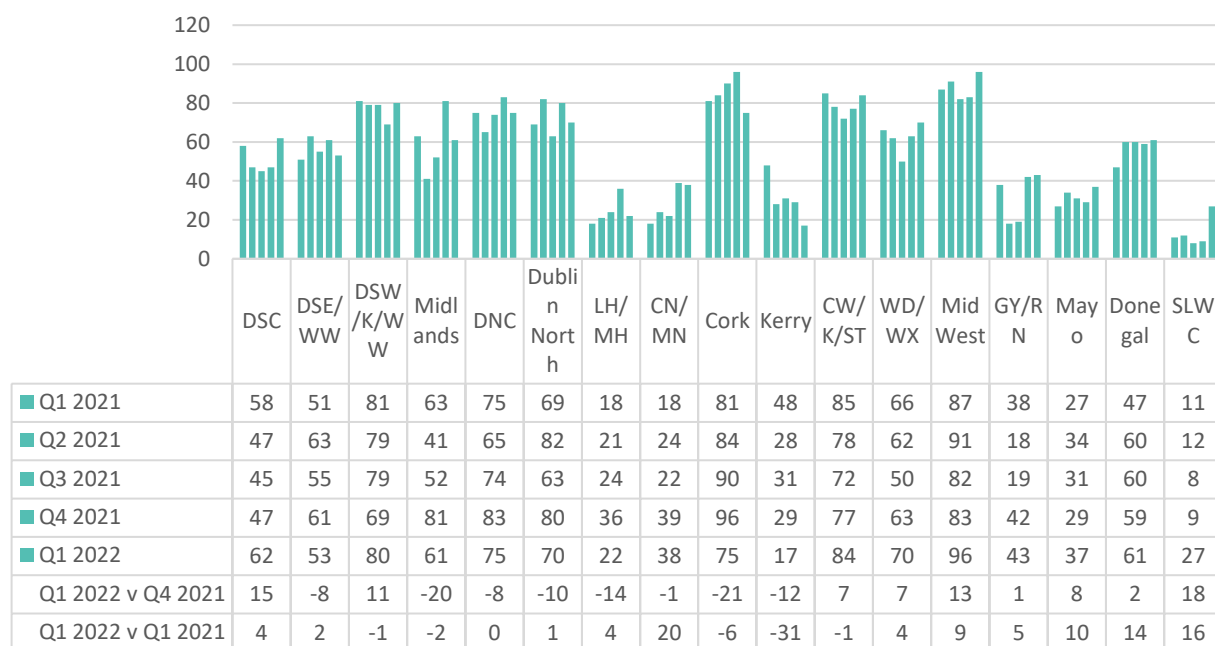
**Children listed as 'active' on CPNS per 10,000 population 0-17 years**

Area	# Q1 2022	Population 0-17 years	Rate / 10,000 pop
Dublin North City	75	44927	16.7
Donegal	61	42865	14.2
Carlow / Kilkenny / South Tipperary	84	63009	13.3
Mayo	37	36446	11.6
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	27	80193	11.5
Cavan / Monaghan	38	68513	10.4
Waterford / Wexford	70	31968	10.2
Mid West	96	96266	10.0
Dublin South Central	62	34527	9.5
Midlands	61	100654	7.6
Dublin South West / Kildare / West Wicklow	80	65564	7.4
Dublin North	70	134015	7.0
Dublin South East / Wicklow	53	86810	6.1
Cork	75	108186	5.6
Galway / Roscommon	43	79912	5.4
Kerry	17	93093	4.9
Louth / Meath	22	23554	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>1190502</b>	<b>8.2</b>

Population: Census 2016

- 9/17 areas reported an increase in the number “active” from Q4 2021. The largest increase was reported by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (up 18) followed by Dublin South Central (up 15) and Midwest (up 13).
- 8/17 areas reported a decrease in the number “active” from Q4 2021. The largest decrease was reported by Cork (down 21) followed by Midlands (down 20) and Louth/Meath(down 14).
- 11/17 areas had more children “active” at the end of Q1 2022 than Q1 2021. Largest increases reported by Cavan/Monaghan (up 20), Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (up 16) and Donegal (up 14).
- 5/17 areas had fewer children “active” at the end of Q1 2022 than Q1 2021. Largest decreases reported by Kerry (down 31), Cork 9down 6) and Midlands (down 2).
- The remaining area (Dublin North City) reported no change.

## Number of children listed as "active" by area, by quarter



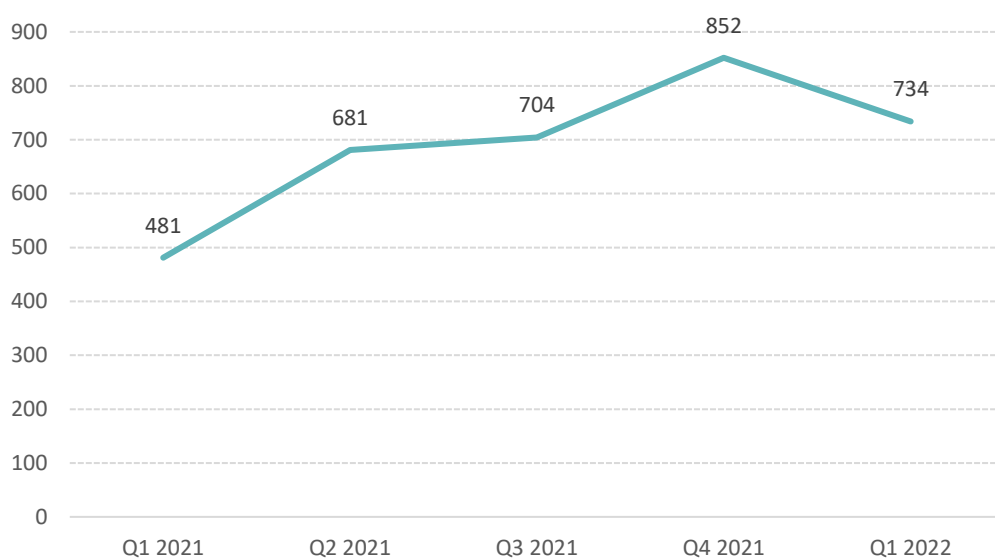
- 60% (582) of children listed as “active” at the end of Q1 2022 were listed for 0-6 months
- 83% (808) of children were listed as “active for no longer than 12 months.
- 4% (39) were listed as “active” for > 24 months, down from 5% (48) at the end of Q4 2021.
- Four areas (Cavan/Monaghan, Kerry, Midlands, and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) had no child “active” for longer than 18 months while seven areas (CW/K/ST, Cavan/Monaghan, DSW/K/WW, GY/RN, Kerry, Midlands and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) had no child “active” for longer than 24 months.
- All children listed as “active” at the end of Q1 2022 had an allocated social worker.

## 2.4 NATIONAL OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

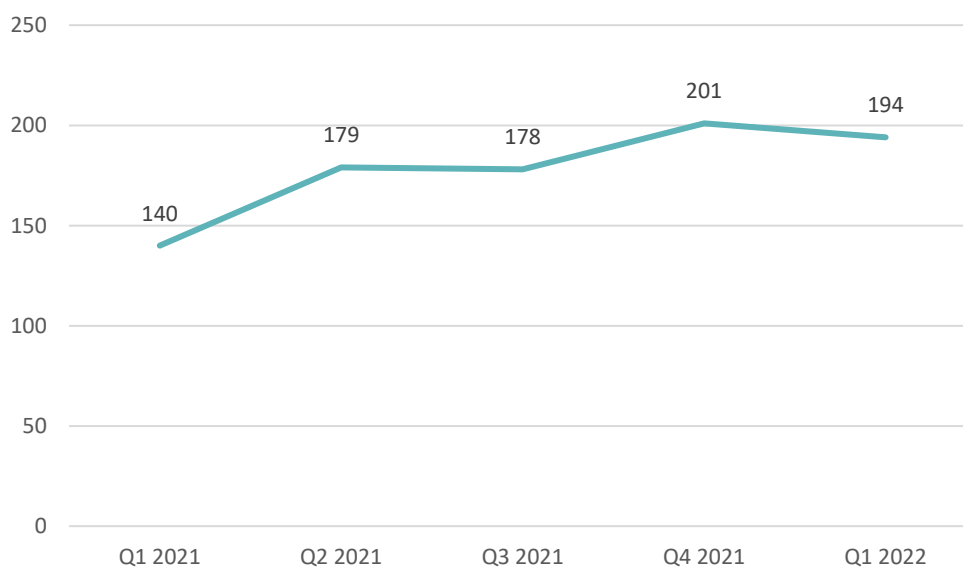
### KEY FACTS

- 734 referrals to the National Out of Hours Service in Q1 2022, 118 (14%) fewer than Q4 2021 when a high of 852 referrals was reported, and 253 (53%) more than Q1 2021 (481).
- 194 children were placed by the National Out of Hours Service in Q1 2022, seven fewer than Q4 2021 (201), and 54 (39%) more than Q1 2021 (140).

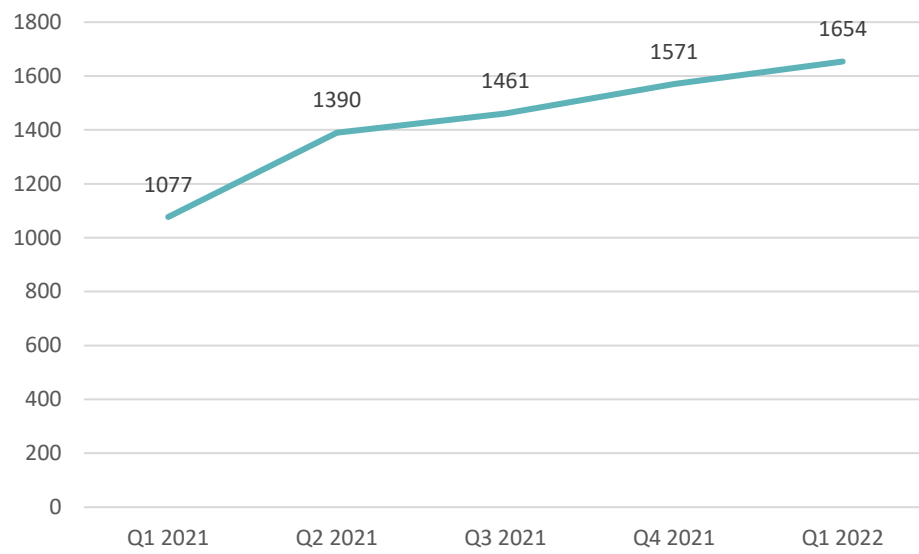
- 734 referrals to the National Out of Hours Service in Q1 2022, 118 (14%) fewer than Q4 2021 when a high of 852 referrals was reported, and 253 (53%) more than Q1 2021 (481).



- 194 children were placed by the National Out of Hours Service in Q1 2022, seven fewer than Q4 2021 (201), and 54 (39%) more than Q1 2021 (140).



- 1,654 nights' accommodation supplied by the National Out of Hours Service in Q1 2022, 83 (5%) more than Q4 2021 (1,571) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2021 to Q1 2022.



## 3.0 ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

### KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

#### 3.1 Children in Care (Foster Care / Residential Care)

#### 3.2 Aftercare

#### 3.3 Adoption

#### 3.4 Foster Carers

### 3.1 CHILDREN IN CARE (FOSTER CARE / RESIDENTIAL CARE)

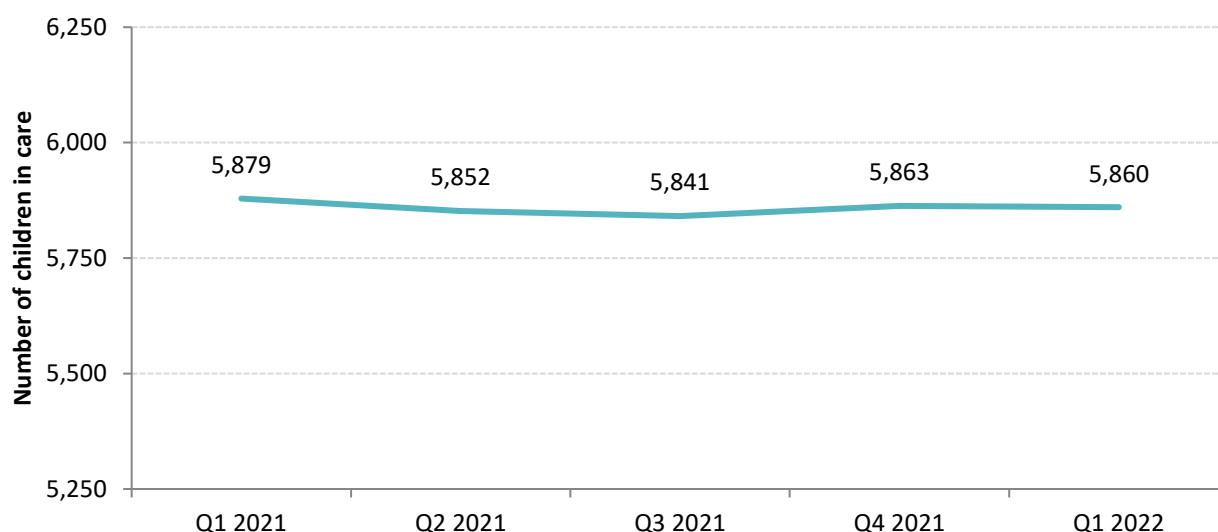
#### KEY FACTS

- 5,860 children in care at the end of Q1 2022, three fewer than Q4 2021 (5,863). The number of children in care is down 19 (<1%) on Q1 2021 (5,879).
- 90% (5,248) of children in care were in foster care (general and relative) at the end of Q1 2022 and 7% (436) were in a residential (general and special care) placement.
- 823 (14%) children in care at the end of Q1 2022 were in placements with private providers<sup>1</sup>; 38 (5%) more than Q4 2021 (785) and 82 (11%) more than Q1 2021 (741).
- 89% (5,222) of children in care at the end of Q1 2022 had an allocated social worker; up one percentage points from Q4 2021 (88%).
- 638 children were awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of Q1 2022; 86 (12%) fewer than end of Q4 2021 (724).

#### 3.1.1 Number of Children in Care

- 5,860 children in care at the end of Q1 2022, three fewer than Q4 2021 (5,863). The number of children in care is down 19 (<1%) on Q1 2021 (5,879).

Number of children in care by quarter



- Across the 17 areas the number of children in care ranged from 733 in Cork to 106 in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan.
- Dublin North City reported the highest rate of children in care per 1,000 population under 18 years (10.4/1,000), more than double the national rate, followed by Wexford (6.1/1,000), Dublin South Central (5.8/1,000) and MidWest (5.6/1,000) while Dublin South East/Wicklow reported the lowest rate at 2.5/1,000 population followed by Dublin North (3.5/1,000).

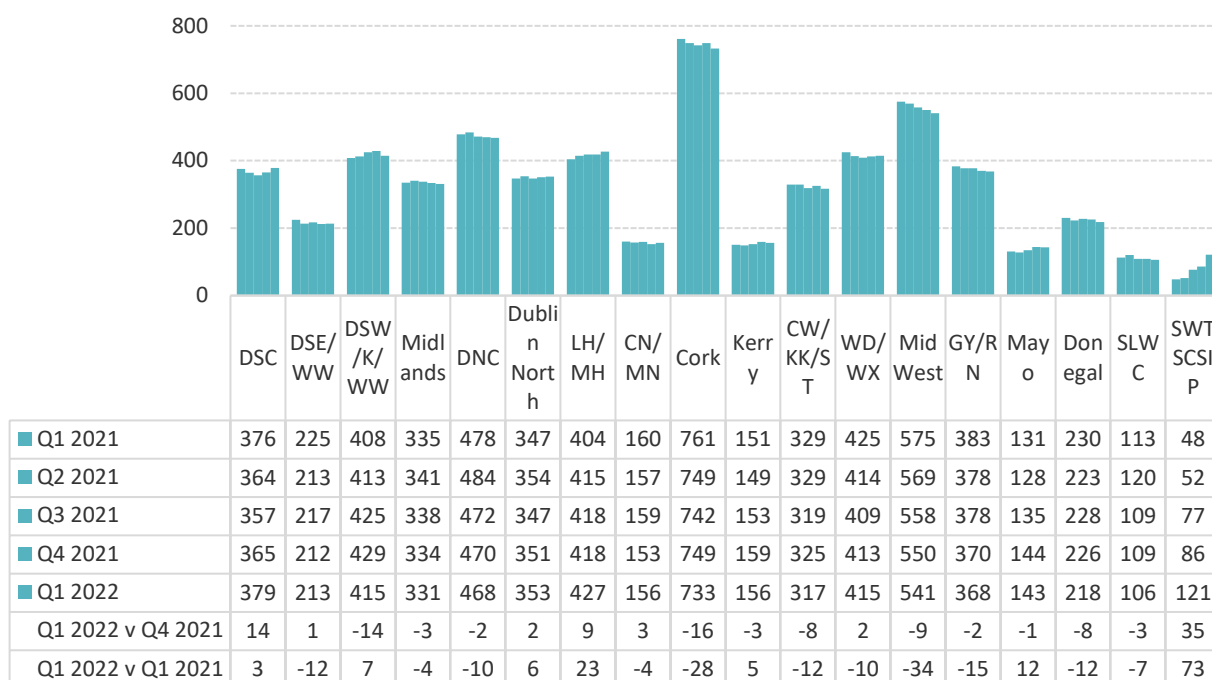
**Number of children in care and rate per 1,000 population 0-17 years**

Area	0-17 population (Census 2016)	No CIC Q1 2022	No of CIC/1,000 population 0-17
DSC	65,564	379	5.8
DSE/WW	86,810	213	2.5
DSW/K/WW	108,186	415	3.8
Midlands	80,193	331	4.1
DNC	44,927	468	10.4
Dublin North	100,654	353	3.5
LH/MH	93,093	427	4.6
CN/MN	36,446	156	4.3
Cork	134,015	733	5.5
Kerry	34,527	156	4.5
CW/KK/ST	63,009	317	5.0
WD/WX	68,513	415	6.1
Mid West	96,266	541	5.6
GY/RN	79,912	368	4.6
Mayo	31,968	143	4.5
Donegal	42,865	218	5.1
SLWC	23,554	106	4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,190,502</b>	<b>5,739</b>	<b>4.8</b>

\*Children under Tusla's Social Work Team for separated children seeking international protection (SWTSCSIP) are not included above.

- 11 areas reported a decrease in children in care from Q4 2021. Largest decrease reported by Cork (down 16) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (down 14).
- 6 areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported an increase in children in care from Q4 2021, with the largest increase reported by the SWTSCSIP (up 35), followed by Dublin South Central (up 14).
- 11 areas had fewer children in care at the end of Q1 2022 than Q1 2021. Largest decrease reported by Midwest (down 34) followed by Cork (down 28).
- The largest increase was reported by the SWTSCSIP (up 73) followed by Louth/Meath (up 23) and Mayo (up 12).

## Breakdown of the number of children in care in each area



\*Figures for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported

## Number of Children in Care, by Care Type

- 90% (5,248) of children in care were in foster care (general and relative) at the end of Q1 2022 and 7% (436) were in a residential (general and special care) placement.

### Breakdown of the number of children in care by care type and quarter

	FC Gen	Δ+/- prev Q	FC Rel	Δ+/- prev Q	Res Care Gen	Δ+/- prev Q	Res Care Spec	Δ+/- prev Q	Other Care	Δ+/- prev Q	Total	Δ+/- prev Q
Q1 2021	3,817	-12	1,517	0	412	+9	17	-1	116	+1	5,879	-3
Q2 2021	3,798	-19	1,503	-14	417	+5	18	+1	116	0	5,852	-27
Q3 2021	3,782	-16	1,489	-14	430	+13	17	-1	123	+7	5,841	-11
Q4 2021	3,770	-12	1,502	+13	438	+8	16	-1	137	+14	5,863	+22
Q1 2022	3,748	-22	1,500	-2	420	-18	16	0	176	+39	5,860	-3

FC Gen = Foster Care General; FC Rel = Foster Care with Relatives; Res Care Gen = Residential Care General; Res Care Spec = Residential Care Special; CIC = Children in care. \*Figures for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported

- 10 (0.2%) children were in out of State placements at the end of Q1 2022; two fewer than Q4 2021 (12). These children are included in the figures for the various care types set out in the table above.
- 6 children in residential care were in a single care placement at the end of Q1 2022, one more than Q4 2021 (5).
- 45 children were in respite care (from home) at the end of Q1 2022.

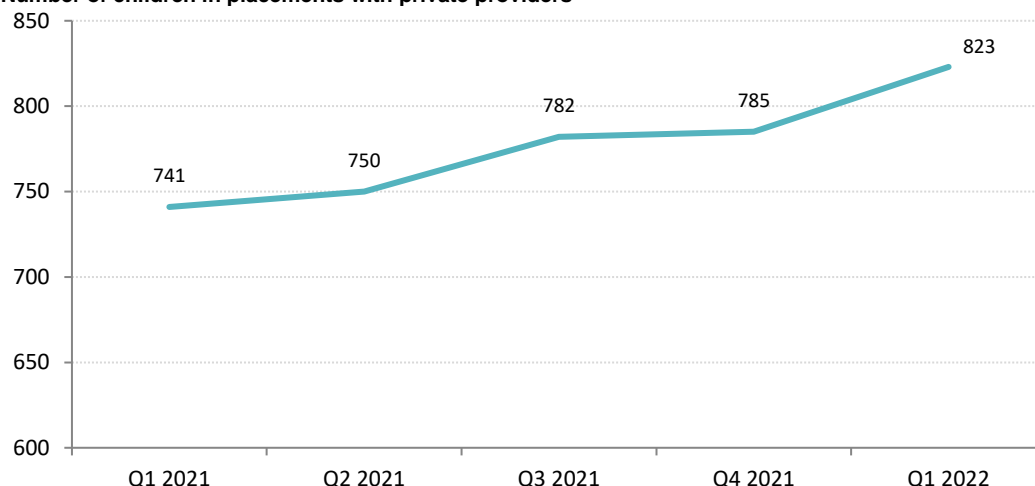


### 3.1.2 Children in Placements with Private Providers

- 823 (14%) children in care at the end of Q1 2022 were in placements with private providers<sup>5</sup>; 38 (5%) more than Q4 2021 (785 revised figure) and 82 (11%) more than Q1 2021 (741).

*Note: data should be interpreted with caution due to the inclusion of a small number of children in residential care in placements with voluntary organisations.*

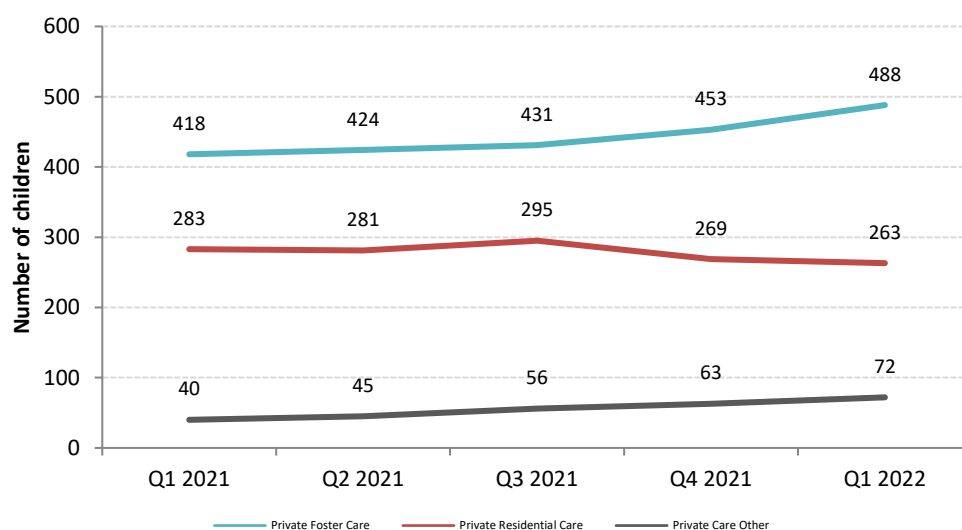
Number of children in placements with private providers



\*Figure for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported

- 59% (488) of children in placements with private providers were in foster care and 32% (263) were in residential placements.
- The number of children in foster care placements with private providers (488) is up 35 (8%) from Q4 2021 (453) and up 70 (17%) from Q1 2021 (418).
- 263 children in residential care with private providers, six fewer than Q4 2021 (269) and down 20 (7%) from Q1 2021 (283). [Ref: note above re voluntary organisations].

Number of children in placements with private providers, by care type



<sup>5</sup> The number of children in private placements is included in the children in care figures presented in sections 3.1.1 and 3.1.2

- The highest number of children in care in placements with private providers is reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (107), followed by Dublin South Central (106), Dublin North City (101), Dublin North (84), Cork (65) and Midlands (63). These six areas account for 64% (526) of all children in private placements.
- Eleven areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported an increase from Q4 2021 in children in placements with private providers with the largest increase reported by Galway/Roscommon (up 11). Five areas reported a decrease with the largest decrease reported by Midlands (down 3). The remaining area (Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary) reported no change.
- 11 areas along with the SWTSCSIP had more children in private placements at the end of Q1 2022 than at the same time in 2021. Largest increases reported by the Dublin North City (up 24), SWTSCSIP (up 17) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 15). Six areas had fewer children with the largest decrease reported by Dublin South Central (down 10) followed by Dublin South East/Wicklow and Waterford/Wexford, both down six.

#### Number of children in placements with private providers, by area

Area	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q1 2022 v Q4 2021	Q1 2022 v Q1 2021
DSC	116	110	108	107	106	-1	-10
DSE/WW	49	40	44	42	43	1	-6
DSW/K/WW	92	99	108	108	107	-1	15
Midlands	54	64	67	66	63	-3	9
DNC	77	81	86	96	101	5	24
Dublin North	75	82	82	82	84	2	9
LH/MH	31	29	35	36	38	2	7
CN/MN	*	*	*	*	*	-1	3
Cork	66	67	67	61	65	4	-1
Kerry	12	11	13	16	21	5	9
CW/KK/ST	16	14	12	12	12	0	-4
WD/WX	47	43	35	36	41	5	-6
Mid West	39	41	38	37	42	5	3
GY/RN	10	9	6	9	20	11	10
Mayo	*	*	*	*	*	1	2
Donegal	22	20	20	22	20	-2	-2
SLWC	5	7	7	7	8	1	3
SWTSCSIP	25	30	46	38	42	4	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>82</b>

Figures for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported. \*Figures suppressed due to small numbers, Suppressed figures included in totals

### 3.1.3 Children in Care with an Allocated Social Worker

- 89% (5,222) of children in care at the end of Q1 2022 had an allocated social worker; up one percentage points from Q4 2021 (88%).
- 638 children were awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of Q1 2022; 86 (12%) fewer than end of Q4 2021 (724).

#### Children in care (CIC) with an allocated social worker (SW) by care type

Care Type	CIC	No with SW	% with SW	CIC	No with SW	% with SW
	Q4 2021	Q4 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q1 2022	Q1 2022
Foster Care (General)	3,770	3,293	87%	3,748	3,356	90%
Foster Care (Relatives)	1,502	1,280	85%	1,500	1,278	85%
Residential Care (General)	438	418	95%	420	402	96%
Residential Special Care	16	16	100%	16	16	100%
Other Placements	137	132	96%	176	170	97%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,863</b>	<b>5,139</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5,222</b>	<b>89%</b>

\*Figures for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported

- One area (Mayo) along with the SWTSCSIP met the target of 100% of children in care with an allocated social worker. Ten areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported 90% or higher.
- The area with the highest number of children awaiting an allocated social worker is Waterford/Wexford (135) followed by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (77), Dublin North (72), Louth/Meath (70) and Midwest (51). These five areas account for 63% (405) of cases awaiting allocation.

#### Number of children in care with an allocated social worker

Area	No in Care Q4 2021	No with an allocated SW Q4 2021	% with an allocated SW Q4 2021	No in Care Q1 2022	No with an allocated SW Q1 2022	% with an allocated SW Q1 2022	# awaiting SW
DSC	365	330	90%	379	367	97%	12
DSE/WW	212	212	100%	213	205	96%	8
DSW/K/WW	429	409	95%	415	386	93%	29
Midlands	334	315	94%	331	296	89%	35
DNC	470	440	94%	468	448	96%	20
Dublin North	351	302	86%	353	281	80%	72
LH/MH	418	328	78%	427	357	84%	70
CN/MN	153	149	97%	156	129	83%	27
Cork	749	684	91%	733	695	95%	38
Kerry	159	154	97%	156	133	85%	23
CW/KK/ST	325	214	66%	317	240	76%	77
WD/WX	413	269	65%	415	280	67%	135
Mid West	550	452	82%	541	490	91%	51
GY/RN	370	339	92%	368	349	95%	19
Mayo	144	144	100%	143	143	100%	0
Donegal	226	221	98%	218	203	93%	15
SLWC	109	95	87%	106	99	93%	7
SWTSCSIP	86	82	95%	121	121	100%	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5863</b>	<b>5139</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5222</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>638</b>

\*Figures for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported

### 3.1.4 Children in Care with a Care Plan

- 98% (5,727) of children in care had a care plan, up one percentage point from Q4 2021 (97%).
- 133 children did not have a care plan, 71 (35%) fewer than Q4 2021 (204).

*It should be noted that variances have been identified in how data on this metric are being reported by areas and it should be interpreted with caution.*

**Number of children in care (CIC) with a care plan by care type**

Care Type	CIC	No with CP	% with CP	CIC	No with CP	% with CP
	Q4 2021	Q4 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q1 2022	Q1 2022
Foster Care General	3,770	3,662	97%	3,748	3,676	98%
Foster Care (Relatives)	1,502	1,436	96%	1,500	1,455	97%
Residential Care General	438	420	96%	420	413	98%
Residential Special Care	16	16	100%	16	16	100%
Other Placements	137	125	91%	176	167	95%
<b>National</b>	<b>5,863</b>	<b>5,659</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5,727</b>	<b>98%</b>

\*Figures for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported

- All areas along with Tusla's Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection reporting 90% or higher.

**Breakdown of the number of children in care with a care plan**

Area	No in Care Q4 2021	No with a care plan Q4 2021	% with a care plan Q4 2021	No in Care Q1 2022	No with a care plan Q1 2022	% with a care plan Q1 2022	# with no UTD plan
DSC	365	334	92%	379	355	94%	24
DSE/WW	212	211	100%	213	206	97%	7
DSW/K/WW	429	388	90%	415	410	99%	5
Midlands	334	333	100%	331	326	98%	5
DNC	470	445	95%	468	457	98%	11
Dublin North	351	314	89%	353	329	93%	24
LH/MH	418	394	94%	427	400	94%	27
CN/MN	153	150	98%	156	148	95%	8
Cork	749	739	99%	733	720	98%	13
Kerry	159	150	94%	156	156	100%	0
CW/KK/ST	325	325	100%	317	317	100%	0
WD/WX	413	413	100%	415	415	100%	0
Mid West	550	538	98%	541	541	100%	0
GY/RN	370	365	99%	368	364	99%	4
Mayo	144	143	99%	143	142	99%	1
Donegal	226	223	99%	218	216	99%	2
SLWC	109	108	99%	106	104	98%	2
SWTSCSIP	86	86	100%	121	121	100%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5863</b>	<b>5,659</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5727</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>133</b>

\*Figures for Q4 2021 revised from previously reported

### 3.1.5 Children in Care in Education

- 93% (3,551/3,813) of children in care aged 6 to 15 years (inclusive) were in full time education at the end of Q1 2022, down two percentage points from Q4 2021. *Note: this figure does not include children in care under the care of Tusla's Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.*
- 12/17 areas reporting 93% or higher with two of these areas (Donegal and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) reporting 100%. Lowest percentage reported by Dublin North (78%) followed by Midwest (81%)
- 70% (2,510) of children 6-15 years were in primary school, 22% (787) were in post primary school, 4% (154) were in special education and 1.5% in pre-school (58). There were a further 31 spread across boarding school, education training facility, home tuition, third level and Other (not specified). The education type was not recorded for the remaining 11 children.
- 90% (888/992) of children in care aged 16 and 17 years were in full time education at the end of Q1 2022, down three percentage points from Q4 2021. *Note: this figure does not include children in care under the care of Tusla's Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.*
- All but four areas reporting 90% or higher with one of these areas (Dublin South East/Wicklow) reporting 100%. Lowest percentages reported by Dublin North (74%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (79%), Louth/Meath (79%) and Midwest (79%)
- 83% (740) of young people 16 & 17 years were in post primary school, 7% (64) were in special education and 4% (37) were attending an educational training facility and 3% (28) were attending primary school. There were a further 17 spread across boarding school, home tuition, third level/higher and other (not specified). The education type was not recorded for the remaining two children.

#### Children in care 6 -15 years, in full time education

Area	No of CIC 6-15 years Q4 2021	No of CIC 6-15 years in FT education Q4 2021	% of CIC 6-15 years in FT education Q4 2021	No of CIC 6-15 years Q1 2022	No of CIC 6-15 years in FT education Q1 2022	% of CIC 6-15 years in FT education Q1 2022
DSC	235	217	92.3%	238	216	91%
DSE/WW	147	147	100.0%	147	144	98%
DSW/K/WW	287	264	92.0%	286	265	93%
Midlands	227	227	100.0%	217	215	99%
DNC	306	270	88.2%	295	261	88%
Dublin North	243	235	96.7%	243	189	78%
LH/MH	263	258	98.1%	270	242	90%
CN/MN	109	106	97.2%	109	104	95%
Cork	513	497	96.9%	503	495	98%
Kerry	102	96	94.1%	98	97	99%
CW/KK/ST	221	210	95.0%	213	203	95%
WD/WX	265	264	99.6%	286	282	99%
Mid West	366	298	81.4%	361	294	81%
GY/RN	259	250	96.5%	255	253	99%
Mayo	90	89	98.9%	90	89	99%
Donegal	139	137	98.6%	137	137	100%
SLWC	65	65	100.0%	65	65	100%
National	3,837	3,630	95%	3813	3551	93%

#### Children in care 16 and 17 years, in full time education

Area	No of CIC 16-17 yrs Q4 2021	No of CIC 16-17 years in FT education Q4 2021	% of CIC 16-17 years in FT education Q4 2021	No of CIC 16-17 yrs Q1 2022	No of CIC 16-17 years in FT education Q1 2022	% of CIC 16-17 years in FT education Q1 2022
DSC	75	69	92.0%	78	71	91%
DSE/WW	43	43	100.0%	39	39	100%
DSW/K/WW	81	64	79.0%	75	59	79%
Midlands	41	41	100.0%	52	49	94%
DNC	85	79	92.9%	87	82	94%
Dublin North	58	55	94.8%	58	43	74%
LH/MH	67	63	94.0%	67	53	79%
CN/MN	27	25	92.6%	24	22	92%
Cork	128	122	95.3%	124	115	93%
Kerry	31	27	87.1%	32	31	97%
CW/KK/ST	56	55	98.2%	51	49	96%
WD/WX	72	69	95.8%	71	69	97%
Mid West	96	78	81.3%	97	77	79%
GY/RN	62	60	96.8%	66	62	94%
Mayo	21	21	100.0%	18	17	94%
Donegal	42	41	97.6%	37	35	95%
SLWC	20	18	90.0%	16	15	94%
National	1,005	930	93%	992	888	90%

## AFTERCARE

### KEY FACTS

- 138 referrals in Q1 2022, 16 fewer than Q4 2021 (122).
- 3,118 young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q1 2022, 59 more than Q4 2021 (3,059) and 151 (5%) more than Q1 2021 (2,967). Quarter on quarter increase.
- 77% (1,807/2,359) of those 18-22 years inclusive in receipt of an aftercare service were in education/accredited training.
- 83% (2,585) of young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q1 2022 had an aftercare plan, up one percentage point from Q4 2021. A total of 533 were awaiting a plan, 26 (5%) fewer than Q4 2021 (559).
- 91% (2,129/2,351) of those assessed as needing an aftercare worker had an aftercare worker at the end of Q1 2022, down three percentage points from Q4 2021 (94%). A total of 222 young people were awaiting an aftercare worker at the end of Q1 2022, 99 (80%) more than Q4 2021 (123).

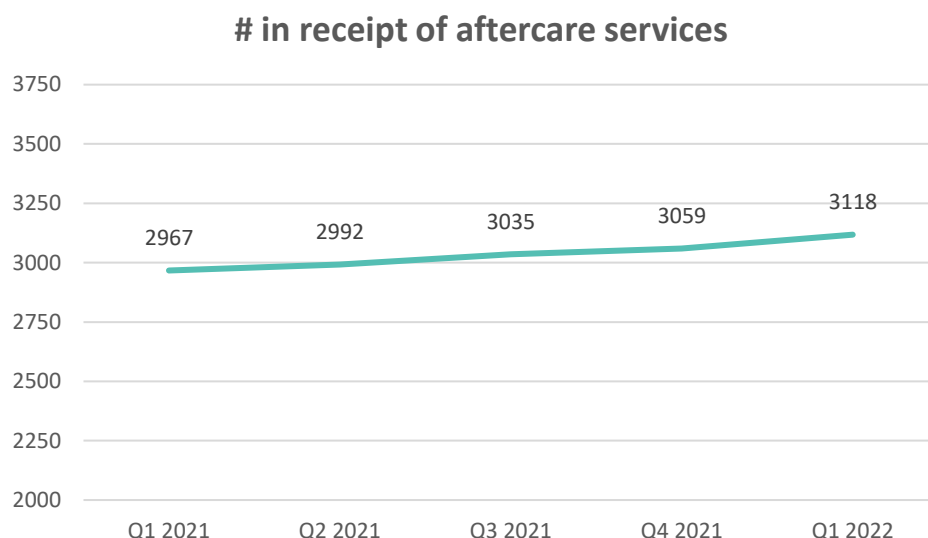
### 3.1.6 Referrals for an aftercare service received in the quarter

- 138 referrals in Q1 2022, 16 fewer than Q4 2021 (122).
- At least 85% (117) of all referrals for Q1 2022 were eligible for an assessment of need (*based on data for 16 areas and Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection*).
- Of those eligible for an assessment of need 98% (115) were < 18 years and in care
- 153 assessments of need were completed in Q1 2022

Area	2021 Total	Q1 2022
DSC	27	10
DSE/WW	21	9
DSW/K/WW	45	7
Midlands	29	8
DNC	42	11
Dublin North	42	6
LH/MH	20	20
CN/MN	17	4
Cork	60	8
Kerry	14	3
CW/KK/ST	20	8
WD/WX	41	8
Mid West	58	8
GY/RN	24	5
Mayo	8	2
Donegal	22	5
SLWC	6	5
SWTSCSIP	27	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>138</b>

### 3.1.7 Young Persons / Adults in receipt of an aftercare service

- 3,118 young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q1 2022, 59 more than Q4 2021 (3,059) and 151 (5%) more than Q1 2021 (2,967). Quarter on quarter increase. *Figure includes young persons < 18 years and those 18-22 years inclusive.*



- Highest number in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q1 2022 reported by Cork (352) followed by Dublin North City (323), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (281), Dublin South Central (241) and Midwest (239).

Area	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service Q4 2021	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service Q1 2022
DSC	232	241
DSE/WW	131	144
DSW/K/WW	284	281
Midlands	163	168
DNC	309	323
Dublin North	184	176
LH/MH	132	156
CN/MN	74	77
Cork	360	352
Kerry	77	76
CW/KK/ST	168	174
WD/WX	175	187
Mid West	256	239
GY/RN	191	205
Mayo	68	66
Donegal	91	90
SLWC	46	43
SWTSCIP	118	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,059</b>	<b>3118</b>



### 3.1.8 Young adults 18-20 years (inclusive) in receipt of an aftercare service

- 52% (1,629) of those in receipt of an aftercare service at the end of Q1 2022 (3,118) were 18 – 20 years inclusive and of these 79% (1,294) were in education/accredited training, down one percentage point from Q4 2021 (table below).
- 14/17 areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported at least seven out of 10 young people (18-20 years) in receipt of aftercare services in education/accredited training. Three areas (Cavan/Monaghan, Mayo and SLWC) reported 100%.
- Rates reported by Dublin North (58%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (67%) and Waterford/Wexford (69%), lower than all other areas.

Area	# 18-20 years Q4 2021	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training	# 18-20 years Q1 2022	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training
DSC	116	91	78%	112	78	70%
DSE/WW	76	65	86%	78	65	83%
DSW/K/WW	122	85	70%	128	86	67%
Midlands	77	60	78%	74	70	95%
DNC	142	109	77%	150	131	87%
Dublin North	102	68	67%	104	60	58%
LH/MH	89	65	73%	89	68	76%
CN/MN	48	44	92%	47	47	100%
Cork	178	136	76%	178	139	78%
Kerry	39	35	90%	39	31	79%
CW/KK/ST	92	73	79%	89	68	76%
WD/WX	100	75	75%	103	71	69%
Mid West	153	135	88%	150	131	87%
GY/RN	102	78	76%	104	77	74%
Mayo	38	38	100%	39	39	100%
Donegal	43	35	81%	45	37	82%
SLWC	22	22	100%	26	26	100%
SWTSCIP	79	75	95%	74	70	95%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,618</b>	<b>1,289</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>1629</b>	<b>1294</b>	<b>79%</b>

- The highest number of those in education/accredited training were in second level (379; 29%) followed by third level colleges /university (304; 23%) and PLCs (255; 20%).

	# 18-20 years in education/accredited Training Q1 2022	%
<b>Second Level</b>	379	29%
<b>Vocational Training</b>	189	15%
<b>PLCs</b>	255	20%
<b>Third Level College / University</b>	304	23%
<b>Accredited Training (e.g., Solas)</b>	98	8%
<b>Other</b>	69	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 3.1.9 Young adults 21-22 years (inclusive) in receipt of aftercare services

- 23% (730) of those in receipt of an aftercare service were 21 – 22 years inclusive and of these 70% (513) were in education/accredited training, up one percentage point from Q4 2021 (table below).
- 11 areas along with the SWTSCIP reported 70% or higher with three of these areas reporting 100% (Cavan/Monaghan, Mayo and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan). Rates reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (47%), Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (53%), Dublin South Central (56%) and Galway/Roscommon (57%) lower than all other areas.

Area	# 21-22 years Q4 2021	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training	# 21-22 years Q1 2022	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training
DSC	55	32	58%	62	35	56%
DSE/WW	28	25	89%	29	24	83%
DSW/K/WW	91	41	45%	88	41	47%
Midlands	48	39	81%	47	38	81%
DNC	112	61	54%	84	55	65%
Dublin North	33	21	64%	34	21	62%
LH/MH	16	16	100%	18	17	94%
CN/MN	9	9	100%	11	11	100%
Cork	70	49	70%	73	53	73%
Kerry	15	12	80%	14	11	79%
CW/KK/ST	32	24	75%	43	23	53%
WD/WX	41	29	70%	40	30	75%
Mid West	41	37	90%	48	47	98%
GY/RN	65	43	66%	63	36	57%
Mayo	12	12	100%	15	15	100%
Donegal	15	13	87%	17	15	88%
SLWC	10	10	100%	10	10	100%
SWTSCIP	28	26	93%	34	31	91%
<b>Total</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>70%</b>

- Almost half (44%; 227) of those in education/accredited training were in third level colleges / with a further 19% in both PLCs (97) and vocational training (98).

	# 21-22 years in education/accredited Training Q1 2022	%
Second Level	6	1%
Vocational Training	98	19%
PLCs	97	19%
Third Level College / University	227	44%
Accredited Training (e.g., Solas)	50	10%
Other	35	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 3.1.10 Young adults 18-22 years (inclusive) in receipt of an aftercare service – accommodation

- Almost half (45%; 1,052) of young people 18 – 22 years (2,339) in receipt of aftercare had remained living with their carers. A further 8% (190) had returned home to parents/family. One in four (28%; 661) was in independent living.

	# 18-22 placement type Q1 2022	%
Residential Care Placement	139	6%
Remained with Carers	1,052	45%
Independent Living	661	28%
Designated Care Leavers Accommodation	61	3%
At home	190	8%
Supported Lodgings	56	2%
Other	200	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,359</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Figure for Designated Care Leavers Accommodation needs to be interpreted with care due to issues regarding the interpretation of the definition

### 3.1.11 Young Persons / Adults in receipt of aftercare services with an Aftercare Plan

- 83% (2,585) of young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q1 2022 had an aftercare plan, up one percentage point from Q4 2021. A total of 533 were awaiting a plan, 26 (5%) fewer than Q4 2021 (559).
- 10 areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported a percentage equal to or higher the national average of 83%. Rates reported by Louth/Meath (67%), Dublin North City (76%), Dublin South West / Kildare/ West Wicklow (78%), Kerry (78%), Cork (78%) and Dublin North (78%) lower than all other areas.
- 97% (2,287/2,359) of those 18-22 years in receipt of an aftercare service had a plan. 39% (298/759) of those <18 years had a plan.

Area	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service Q4 2021	# with an Aftercare Plan Q4 2021	% with an Aftercare Plan Q4 2021	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service Q1 2022	# with an Aftercare Plan Q1 2022	% with an Aftercare Plan Q1 2022
DSC	232	182	78%	241	194	80%
DSE/WW	131	130	99%	144	137	95%
DSW/K/WW	284	221	78%	281	218	78%
Midlands	163	135	83%	168	141	84%
DNC	309	224	72%	323	244	76%
Dublin North	184	143	78%	176	138	78%
LH/MH	132	112	85%	156	105	67%
CN/MN	74	72	97%	77	72	94%
Cork	360	271	75%	352	274	78%
Kerry	77	61	79%	76	59	78%
CW/KK/ST	168	134	80%	174	145	83%
WD/WX	175	151	86%	187	156	83%
Mid West	256	215	84%	239	230	96%
GY/RN	191	155	81%	205	171	83%

Mayo	68	56	82%	66	66	100%
Donegal	91	89	98%	90	88	98%
SLWC	46	39	85%	43	37	86%
SWTSCSIP	118	110	93%	120	110	92%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,059</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>3118</b>	<b>2585</b>	<b>83%</b>

### 3.1.12 Young Persons / Adults in receipt of aftercare services with an Aftercare Worker

- 91% (2,351/2,585) of those with an aftercare plan were assessed as needing an aftercare worker. Thirteen areas along with the SWTSCIP reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 91% with eleven of them reporting 100%.
- Percentages reported by Dublin South West /Kildare / West Wicklow (58%), Midlands (70%), Carlow/Kilkenny Tipperary (72%) and Galway/Roscommon (78%) are lower than all other areas. *Midlands area advised that a number of young persons/adults who are settled and doing well were been moved to the drop-in service (i.e., assessed as not needing an allocated social worker). With a reduction in staff this allows the service to prioritise those with greatest need for allocation to a social worker.*
- 91% (2,129/2,351) of those assessed as needing an aftercare worker had an aftercare worker at the end of Q1 2022, down three percentage points from Q4 2021 (94%). A total of 222 young people were awaiting an aftercare worker at the end of Q1 2022, 99 (80%) more than Q4 2021 (123).
- 12 areas along with the SWTSCIP reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 91% with nine of them reporting 100%. Rates reported by Dublin North (66%), Midwest (73%) and Dublin South Central (74%) lower than all other areas.

Area	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service with a Plan Q1 2022	# with Plan Assessed as needing Aftercare Worker Q1 2022	% with Plan Assessed as needing Aftercare Worker Q1 2022	# with an Allocated Aftercare Worker Q1 2022	% with an Allocated Aftercare Worker Q1 2022	% with an Allocated Aftercare Worker Q4 2021
DSC	194	194	100%	144	74%	71%
DSE/WW	137	137	100%	135	99%	100%
DSW/K/WW	218	127	58%	106	83%	72%
Midlands	141	99	70%	99	100%	100%
DNC	244	244	100%	244	100%	100%
Dublin North	138	138	100%	91	66%	100%
LH/MH	105	105	100%	105	100%	100%
CN/MN	72	72	100%	72	100%	100%
Cork	274	258	94%	235	91%	97%
Kerry	59	59	100%	59	100%	100%
CW/KK/ST	145	104	72%	86	83%	85%
WD/WX	156	149	96%	109	73%	100%
Mid West	230	230	100%	209	91%	95%
GY/RN	171	134	78%	134	100%	100%
Mayo	66	66	100%	66	100%	100%
Donegal	88	88	100%	88	100%	100%

<b>SLWC</b>	37	37	100%	37	100%	100%
<b>SWTSCSIP</b>	110	110	100%	110	100%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2585</b>	<b>2351</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>2129</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>91%</b>

### 3.1.13 Drop-in Service

- All areas reported having a drop-in service.

### 3.1.14 Interagency Aftercare Steering Committee

- All areas reported having an interagency aftercare steering committee.

## 3.2 ADOPTION SERVICES

### KEY FACTS

- 679 new enquiries regarding information and tracing received in Q1 2022, 239 (54%) more than Q4 2021 (440).
- 623 applicants awaiting an information and tracing service at the end of Q1 2022, 92 (13%) fewer than Q4 2021 (715) and the second consecutive quarterly decrease.
- At the end of Q1 2022, the length of time from application (production of ID) to the provision of personal information in line with GDPR legislation ranged from 9 weeks to 16 weeks against a target of 8 weeks, up one week from 8 weeks to 16 weeks at the end of Q4 2021.

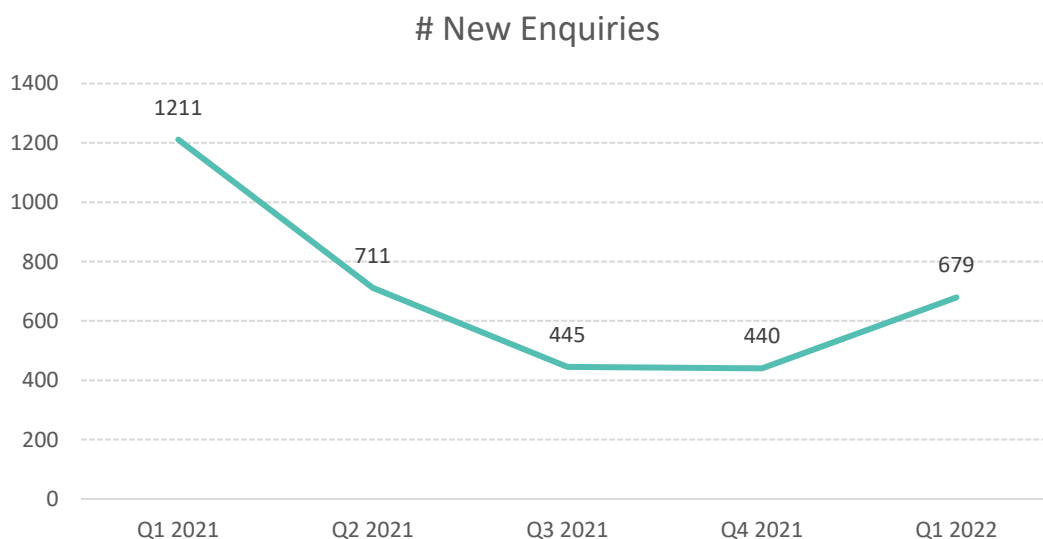
### Adoption – data for Q1 2022 not available at the time of writing

- 40 receipted completed applications for adoption (all types) received during Q4 2021. This brings to 199 the number of completed applications received for 2021, 41 (26%) more than 2020 (158).
- 37 new children were referred for adoption in Q4 2021. This brings to 208 the number of children referred for adoption in 2021, 12 (6%) more than 2020 (196).
- 49 completed assessments (all types) were presented to local adoption committees during Q4 2021. This brings to 170 the number of assessments presented for 2021, 15 (10%) more than the same period in 2020 (155).

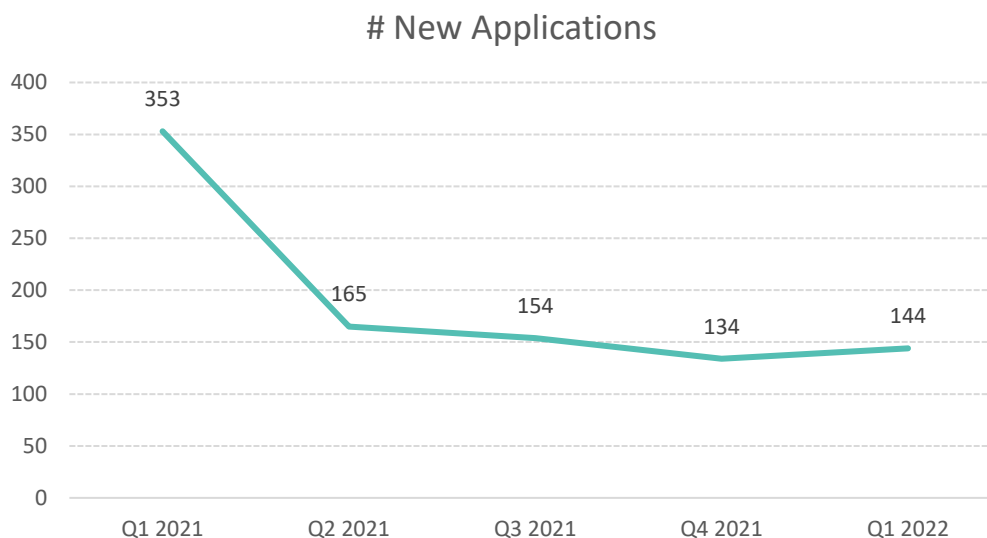
### 3.2.1 Information and Tracing Service

The Agency's Adoption Information and Tracing Service oversees a broad spectrum of enquiries from a wide range of people, including adopted people, birth parents, adoptive parents, siblings of adopted people and other birth relatives and people raised in long-term foster care. The service assists each of these categories of person with their information and tracing enquiries.

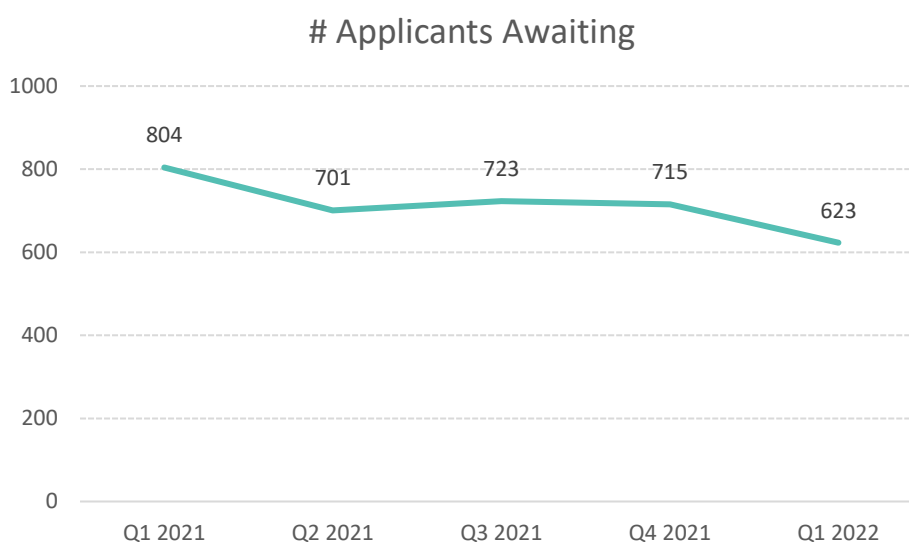
- 679 new enquiries regarding information and tracing received in Q1 2022, 239 (54%) more than Q4 2021 (440). A total of 2,807 in 2021.



- 144 new applications to commence tracing of a searched person received in Q1 2022, 10 more than Q4 2021 (134). A total of 806 applications in 2021.



- 623 applicants awaiting an information and tracing service at the end of Q1 2022, 92 (13%) fewer than Q4 2021 (715) and the second consecutive quarterly decrease.



- At the end of Q1 2022, the length of time from application (production of ID) to the provision of personal information in line with GDPR legislation ranged from 9 weeks to 16 weeks against a target of 8 weeks, up one week from 8 weeks to 16 weeks at the end of Q4 2021.
- The length of time from application (production of ID) to allocation of a social worker for priority 1 applications ranged from 8 months to 31 months against a target of 3 months or less, up from 9 months to 20 months at the end of Q4 2021.
- The length of time from application (production of ID) to allocation of a social worker for priority 2 applications ranged 0 months to 31 months against a target of 6 months or less, up from 0 months to 23 months at the end of Q4 2021.

- The length of time from application (production of ID) to allocation of a social worker for all other applications ranged from 14 months to 38 months against a target of 12 months or less, up from 14 month to 32 months at the end of Q4 2021.

### 3.2.2 Adoption Assessments

#### **Data for Q1 2022 not available at the time of writing**

- 40 receipted completed applications for adoption (all types) received during Q4 2021. This brings to 199 the number of completed applications received for 2021, 41 (26%) more than 2020 (158).
- 37 new children were referred for adoption in Q4 2021. This brings to 208 the number of children referred for adoption in 2021, 12 (6%) more than 2020 (196).
- 49 completed assessments (all types) were presented to local adoption committees during Q4 2021. This brings to 170 the number of assessments presented for 2021, 15 (10%) more than the same period in 2020 (155).



### 3.3 FOSTER CARERS

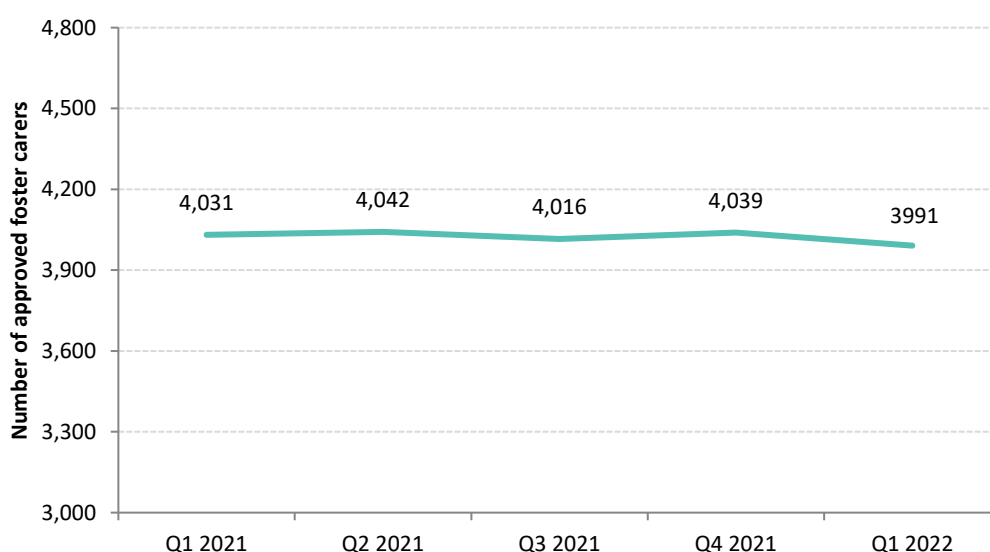
#### KEY FACTS

- 3,991 foster carers (all types minus Brussels II Regulation) on the panel of approved foster carers at the end of Q1 2022, 48 fewer than Q4 2021 (4,039) and the fewest number for the five quarters Q1 2021 – Q1 2022.
- 89% (2,133) of general foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022, down one percentage point from Q4 2021 (90%)
- 263 general foster carers were awaiting an allocated link worker; 29 (12%) more than Q4 2021 (234).
- 89% (938) of relative foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022, down one percentage point from Q4 2021 (90%)
- 114 relative foster carers on the panel were awaiting an allocated link worker at the end of Q1 2022; five more than Q4 2021 (109).
- 93% (176) of unapproved relatives foster carers who had a child placed with them for >12 weeks had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022. A total of 13 carers were awaiting a link worker across two areas, up from none at the end of Q4 2021.

#### 3.3.1 Number of foster carers

- 3,991 foster carers (all types minus Brussels II Regulation) on the panel of approved foster carers at the end of Q1 2022, 48 fewer than Q4 2021 (4,039) and the fewest number for the five quarters Q1 2021 – Q1 2022.
- 216 unapproved relative foster carers of which 88% (189) had a child placed for >12 weeks. 83% (1,052/1,268) of relative foster carers are approved.

**Number of approved foster carers (all types minus Brussels II Regulation)**



- 60% (2,435) of all approved foster carers are general foster carers. Relative foster carers (approved) account for a further 26% (1,062) while private foster carers account for the remaining 13% (542).

- The number of general foster carers (2,435) is down seven from Q3 2021 (2,442) and 41 (2%) from Q4 2020 (2,476). Relative foster carers (approved) are up 12 from Q3 2021 (1,050) and six from Q4 2020 (1,056). Private foster carers (542) are up 18 (3%) from Q3 2021 (524) and 39 (8%) from Q4 2020 (503).

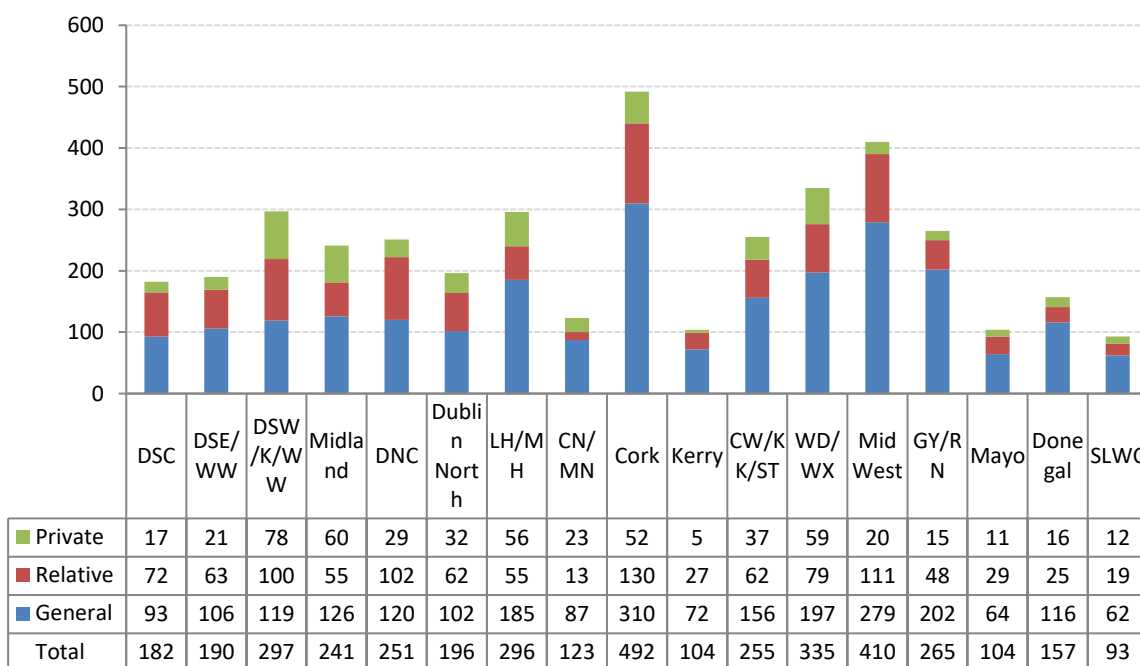
#### Breakdown of foster carers by type

						Δ (+/-)
Foster Carers	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q1 2022 v Q4 2021
General (Approved)	2,460	2,462	2,442	2,435	2,396	-39
Relative (Approved)	1,060	1,052	1,050	1,062	1,052	-10
Private (Approved)	511	528	524	542	543	+1
Total Approved	4,031	4,042	4,016	4,039	3,991	-48
Relative (Unapproved)	221	261	228	246	216	-30

### 3.3.2 Foster carers approved and on the Panel of Approved Foster Carers

- The number of foster carers approved (all types) and on the panel at the end of Q1 2022, ranged from 492 in Cork to 93 in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan.

#### Foster carers approved by type and area on the panel of approved foster carers, Q1 2022



- 8 areas reported an increase from Q4 2021 in the number of foster carers on the panel. The largest increase was reported by Midwest (up 6) followed by Dublin North (up 4).
- 7 areas reported a decrease from Q4 2021. The largest decrease was reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow and Galway/Roscommon, both down 15 followed by Dublin North City and Cork (down 12).
- The remaining two areas (Dublin South Central and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary) reported no change from Q4 2021.

#### Area breakdown of approved foster carers (all types)

Area	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Δ (+/-) Q1 2022 v Q4 2021
DSC	189	196	182	182	182	0
DSE/WW	205	205	209	205	190	-15
DSW/K/WW	295	300	296	298	297	-1
Midland	245	236	237	238	241	3
DNC	275	270	272	263	251	-12
Dublin North	201	200	188	192	196	4
LH/MH	298	291	293	295	296	1
CN/MN	120	121	127	126	123	-3
Cork	495	492	498	504	492	-12
Kerry	104	104	104	114	104	-10
CW/KK/ST	256	257	254	255	255	0
WD/WX	320	323	320	333	335	2
MidWest	418	427	414	404	410	6
GY/RN	271	278	278	280	265	-15
Mayo	101	104	103	103	104	1
Donegal	146	148	151	155	157	2
SLWC	92	90	90	92	93	1
<b>National</b>	<b>4,031</b>	<b>4,042</b>	<b>4,016</b>	<b>4,039</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>-48</b>

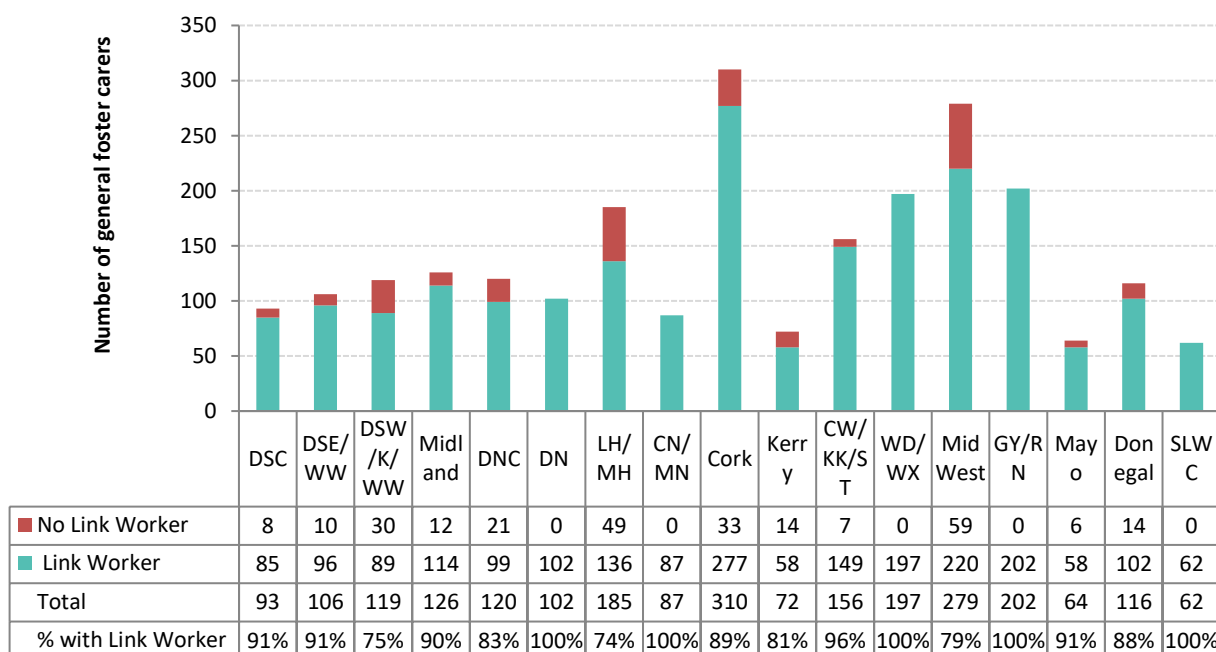
- 89% (2,133) of general foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022, down one percentage point from Q4 2021 (90%)
- 263 general foster carers were awaiting an allocated link worker; 29 (12%) more than Q4 2021 (234).
- 10 areas reported 90% or higher with five of these areas reporting 100%. Rates reported by Louth/Meath (74%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (75%) and Midwest (79%) lower than all other areas.
- Midwest has the highest number of general foster carers awaiting an allocated link worker (59) followed by Louth/Meath (49), Cork (33) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (30).

#### General foster carers (approved) with/awaiting link social worker

Area	With Link Worker Q4 2021	Awaiting Link Worker Q4 2021	% With Link Worker Q4 2021	With Link Worker Q1 2022	Awaiting Link Worker Q1 2022	% With Link Worker Q1 2022	Δ +/- No. Awaiting Link Worker Q1 2022 v Q4 2021
DSC	84	9	90%	85	8	91%	-1
DSE/WW	105	6	95%	96	10	91%	4
DSW/K/WW	93	34	73%	89	30	75%	-4
Midland	114	11	91%	114	12	90%	1
DNC	124	4	97%	99	21	83%	17
Dub North	105	0	100%	102	0	100%	0
LH/MH	140	44	76%	136	49	74%	5
CN/MN	93	0	100%	87	0	100%	0
Cork	285	32	90%	277	33	89%	1

Kerry	70	3	96%	58	14	81%	11
CW/KK/ST	149	7	96%	149	7	96%	0
WD/WX	185	16	92%	197	0	100%	-16
MidWest	225	51	82%	220	59	79%	8
GY/RN	205	0	100%	202	0	100%	0
Mayo	57	6	90%	58	6	91%	0
Donegal	106	11	91%	102	14	88%	3
SLWC	61	0	100%	62	0	100%	0
National	2,201	234	90%	2,133	263	89%	29

General foster carers approved and on the panel with/awaiting a link (social worker), Q1 2022

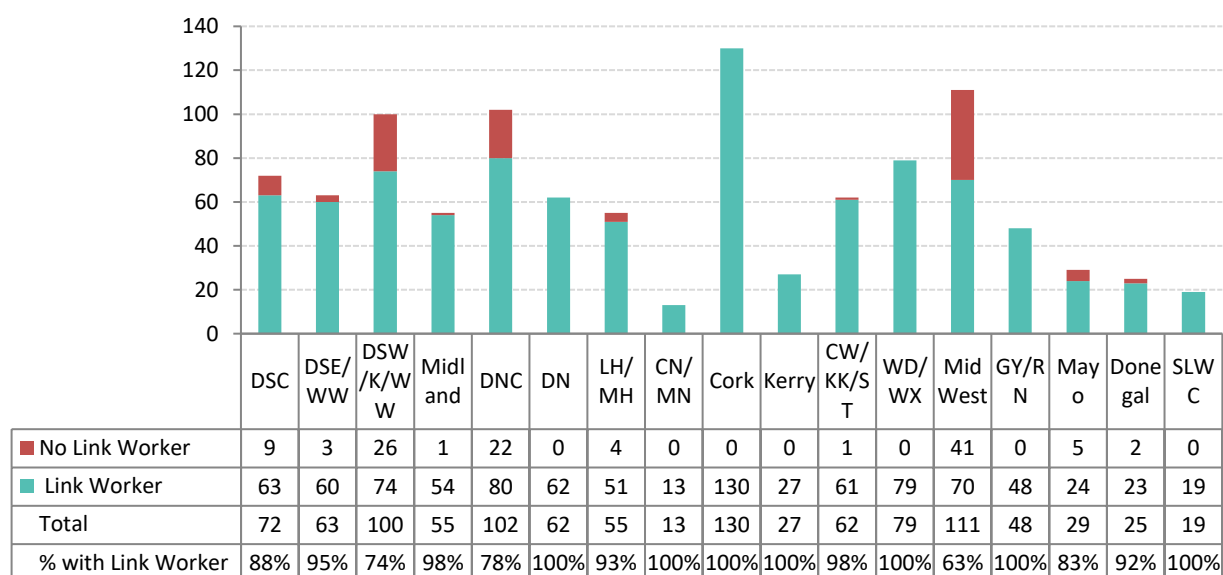


- 89% (938) of relative foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q1 2022, down one percentage point from Q4 2021 (90%)
- 114 relative foster carers on the panel were awaiting an allocated link worker at the end of Q1 2022; five more than Q4 2021 (109).
- 12 areas reported a percentage of 90% or higher with seven of these areas reporting 100%. Rates reported by Midwest (63%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (74%), Dublin North City (78%) and Mayo (83%) lower than all other areas.
- Midwest reported the highest number of relative foster carers on the panel awaiting a link (social) worker (41) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (26) and Dublin North City (22).

### Relative foster carers (approved) with/awaiting link social worker

Area	With Link Worker Q4 2021	Awaiting Link Worker Q4 2021	% With Link Worker Q4 2021	With Link Worker Q1 2022	Awaiting Link Worker Q1 2022	% With Link Worker Q1 2022	Δ +/- No. Awaiting Link Worker Q1 2022 v Q4 2021
DSC	63	9	88%	63	9	88%	0
DSE/WW	54	8	87%	60	3	95%	-5
DSW/K/WW	76	19	80%	74	26	74%	7
Midlands	54	2	96%	54	1	98%	-1
DNC	101	9	92%	80	22	78%	13
Dublin North	55	0	100%	62	0	100%	0
LH/MH	50	5	91%	51	4	93%	-1
CN/MN	8	5	62%	13	0	100%	-5
Cork	135	0	100%	130	0	100%	0
Kerry	36	0	100%	27	0	100%	0
CW/KK/ST	61	1	98%	61	1	98%	0
WD/WX	79	0	100%	79	0	100%	0
MidWest	65	43	60%	70	41	63%	-2
GY/RN	52	0	100%	48	0	100%	0
Mayo	24	5	83%	24	5	83%	0
Donegal	21	3	88%	23	2	92%	-1
SLWC	19	0	100%	19	0	100%	0
National	953	109	90%	938	114	89%	5

### Relative foster carers approved and on the panel with/awaiting allocated link Q1 2022



### 3.3.3 Foster carers (relative) unapproved

- 216 relative foster carers unapproved at the end of Q1 2022; 30 (12%) fewer than Q4 2021 (246).
- Of these, 189 (88%) had a child placed with them for longer than 12 weeks; down two from Q4 2021 (191)

- 93% (176) of foster carers who had a child placed with them for >12 weeks had an allocated link (social) worker. A total of 13 carers were awaiting a link worker, across two areas, up from none at the end of Q4 2021.

**Breakdown of foster carers not approved**

Unapproved Relative Foster Carers	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Δ (+/-) Q1 2022 v Q4 2021
No. unapproved	221	261	228	246	216	-30
No (%) with a child > 12 weeks	189 86%	228 87%	194 85%	191 78%	189 88%	-2
Child > 12 weeks and have a Link Worker	186 98%	211 93%	192 99%	191 100%	176 93%	-15
Child > 12 weeks AWAITING Link Worker	3	17	2	0	13	+13

## 4.0 CHILDREN'S SERVICES REGULATION

### KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

#### 4.1 Early Years Inspectorate

#### 4.2 Alternative Education Regulation

#### 4.3 Non-Statutory Alternative Care Services

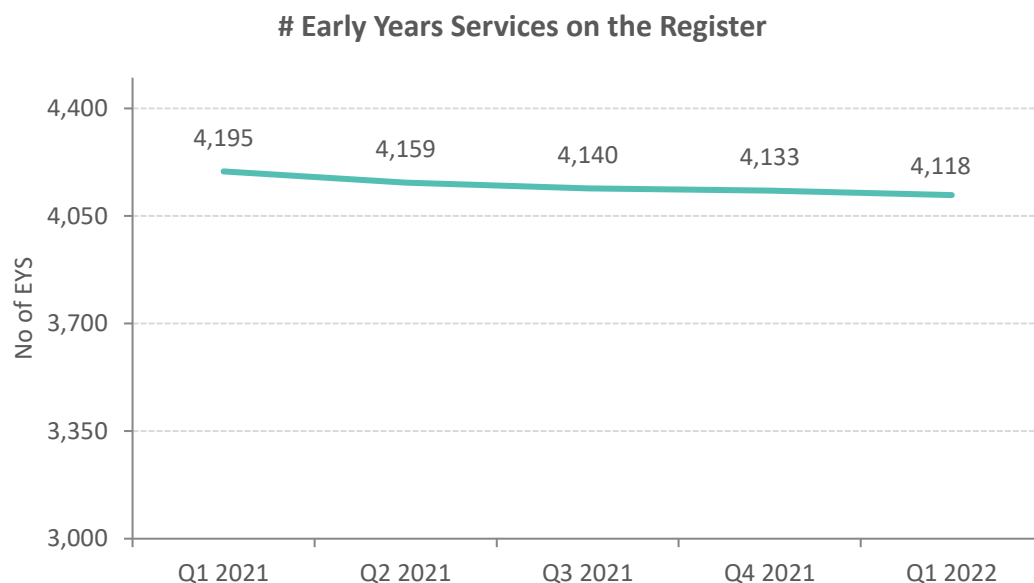
### 4.1 EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

#### KEY FACTS

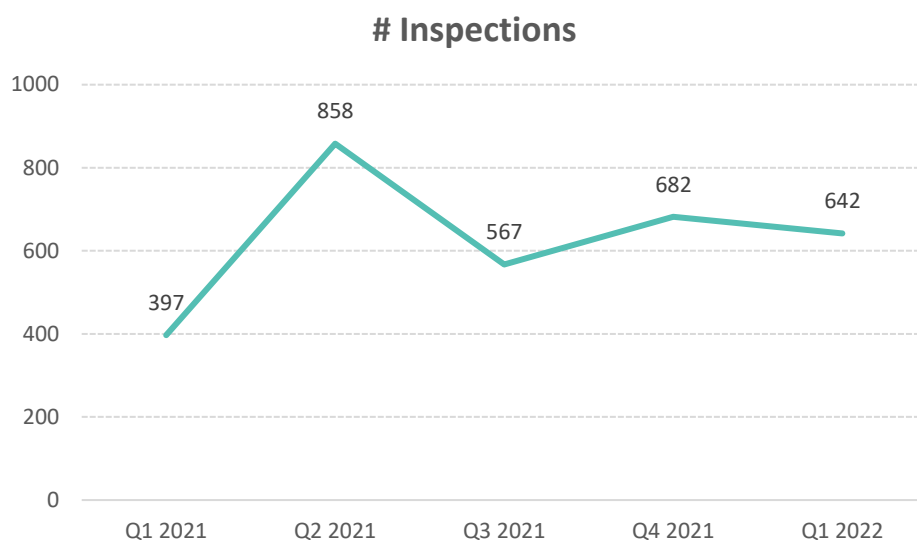
- 4,118 early years services (EYS) on the register nationally at the end of Q1 2022, 15 fewer than Q4 2021 (4,133) and 77 (2%) fewer than Q1 2021 (4,195).
- 642 inspections (all types) carried out in Q1 2022, 40 (6%) fewer than Q4 2021 (682). Inspections in early 2021 impacted due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- 3,004 incidents notified to the Inspectorate in Q1 2022. The majority of the incidents pertain to confirmed cases of Covid-19. A total of 2,894 incidents notified in 2021.
- 66 unsolicited information submissions<sup>1</sup> received by the Inspectorate during Q1 2022. A total of 268 received in 2021.
- 25 services were found to have closed in Q1 2022. A total of 141 services found to be closed in 2021.

#### 4.1.1 Activity Data

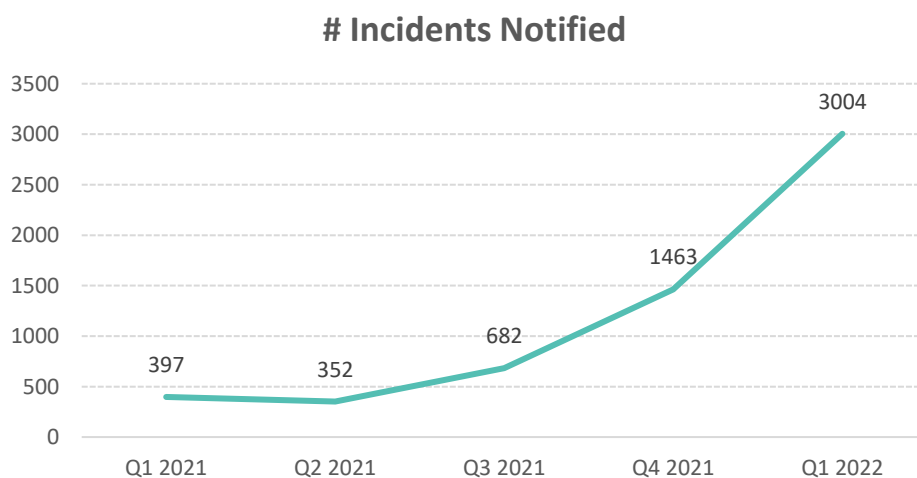
- 4,118 early years services (EYS) on the register nationally at the end of Q1 2022, 15 fewer than Q4 2021 (4,133) and 77 (2%) fewer than Q1 2021 (4,195).



- 642 inspections (all types<sup>6</sup>) carried out in Q1 2022, 40 (6%) fewer than Q4 2021 (682).  
*Inspections in early 2021 impacted due to Covid-19 restrictions.*



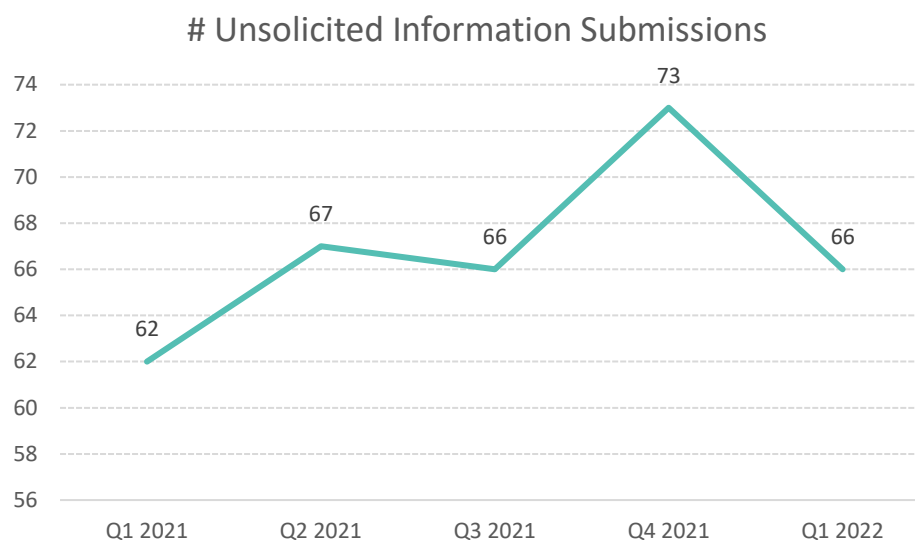
- 20 new applications to become a registered provider received by the Inspectorate in Q1 2022. A total of 107 new applications received in 2021.
- 11 new registration applications approved by the Inspectorate in Q1 2022. A total of 65 applications approved in 2021.
- No applications to become an EYS refused registration by the Inspectorate in Q1 2022, or 2021
- 419 “change in circumstances” requests received by the Inspectorate in Q1 2022. A total of 1,660 “change in circumstances” requests received in 2021.
- 3,004 incidents notified to the Inspectorate in Q1 2022. 3,004 incidents notified to the Inspectorate in Q1 2022. A total of 2,894 incidents notified in 2021.
- A total of 2,894 incidents notified in 2021.



<sup>6</sup> Includes initial, follow up, complaints, focused inspections or fit for purpose inspections



- 66 unsolicited information submissions<sup>7</sup> received by the Inspectorate during Q1 2022. A total of 268 received in 2021.



- 3 EYS prosecuted in Q1 2022, by Tusla for breach of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Service) Regulations 2016. No prosecutions in 2021.
- No service removed from the register by the Inspectorate in Q1 2022, or 2021.
- 25 services were found to have closed in Q1 2022. A total of 141 services found to be closed in 2021.

<sup>7</sup> Unsolicited information is defined as any piece of information that relates to the operation of an Early Years Service that has been brought to the attention of the Inspectorate but has not been sought or requested or invited. Information received in the form of a complaint shall be processed as unsolicited information.

## 4.2 ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION

### Key Facts

#### Home Education

- 1,857 children on the register for home education at the end of Q1 2022; 49 (3%) more than Q4 2021 (1,808) and 85 (5%) more than Q1 2021 (1,772).
- 388 applications<sup>1</sup> received for home education during Q1 2022, 102 (21%) fewer than Q4 2021 (490) and 63 (19%) more than Q1 2021 (325). The increase in applications since the early part of 2020 has been linked to the Covid-19 pandemic with more parents/guardians opting to home educate their children.
- 155 assessments (all types) for home education carried out in Q1 2022, 67 (76%) more than Q4 2021 (88) and 36 (19%) fewer than Q1 2021 (191).
- 1,749 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of Q1 2022, 173 (9%) fewer than Q4 2021 (1,922) when a high of 1,922 was reported.

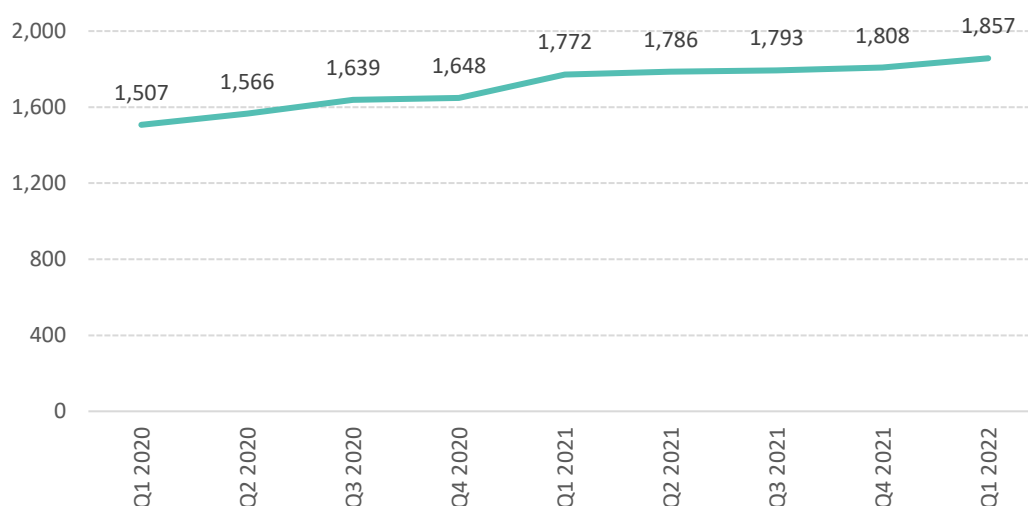
#### Independent Schools

- 56 assessed independent schools on the register at the end of Q1 2022, no change from Q4 2021
- 6,036 children in assessed independent schools at the end of Q1 2022 with 4,397 of these children on the register.
- 39 schools due for review assessment ( $\geq 3$ -year cycle) at the end of Q1 2022.

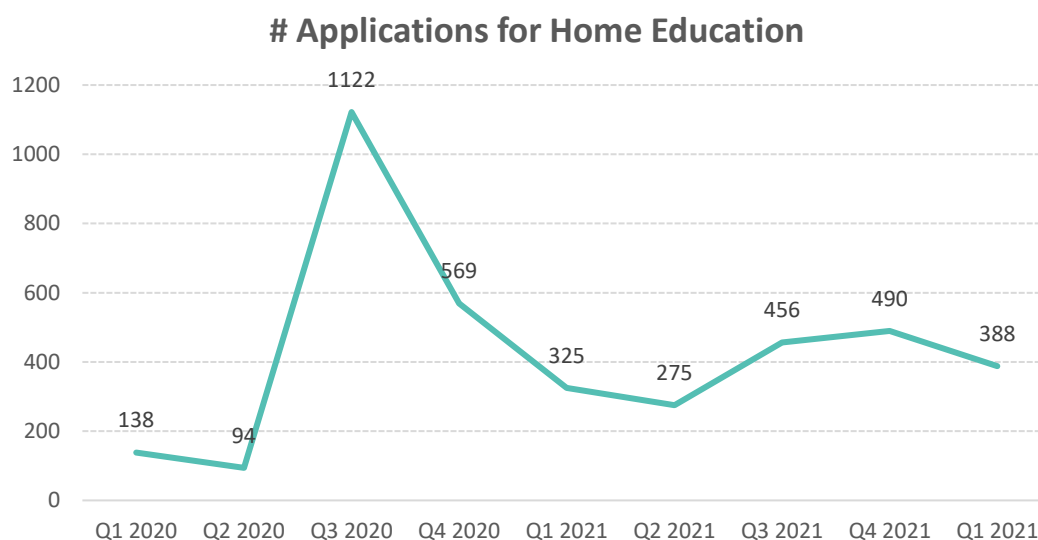
### Home Education

- 1,857 children on the register for home education at the end of Q1 2022; 49 (3%) more than Q4 2021 (1,808) and 85 (5%) more than Q1 2021 (1,772).

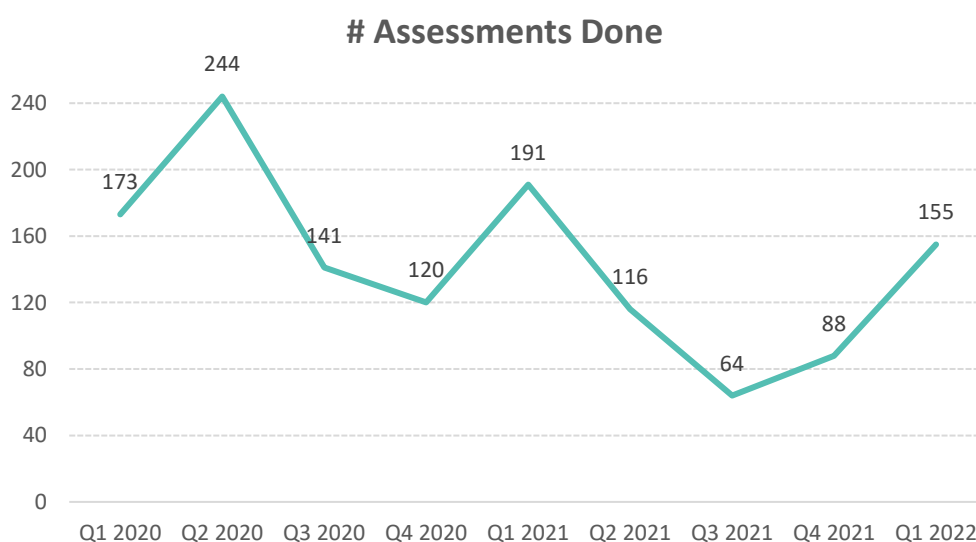
# Children on Register for Home Education



- 20% (374) of children on the register at the end of Q1 2022 have special educational needs.
- 388 applications<sup>8</sup> received for home education during Q1 2022, 102 (21%) fewer than Q4 2021 (490) and 63 (19%) more than Q1 2021 (325). The increase in applications since the early part of 2020 has been linked to the Covid-19 pandemic with more parents/guardians opting to home educate their children.



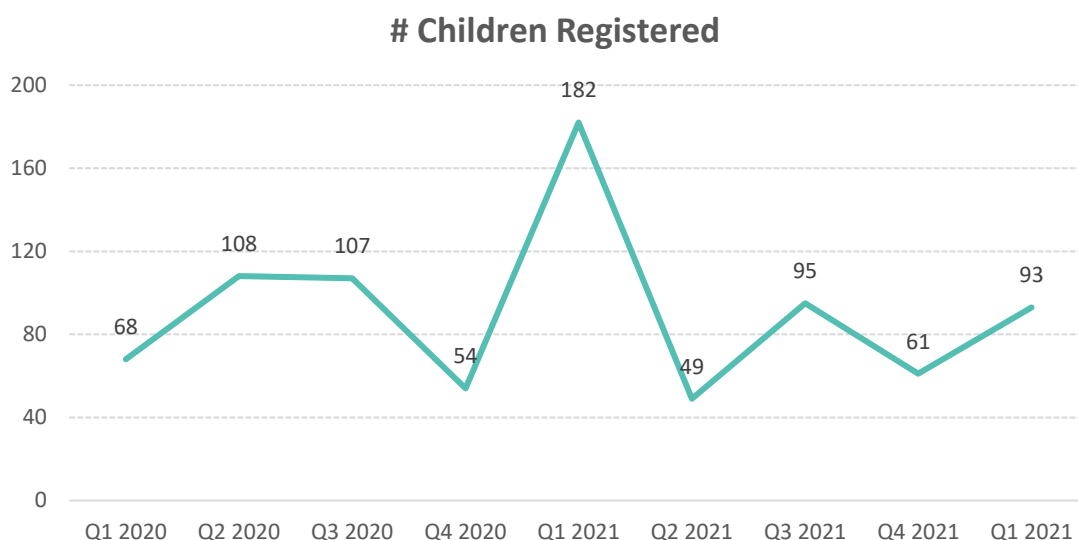
- 155 assessments (all types) for home education carried out in Q1 2022, 67 (76%) more than Q4 2021 (88) and 36 (19%) fewer than Q1 2021 (191).



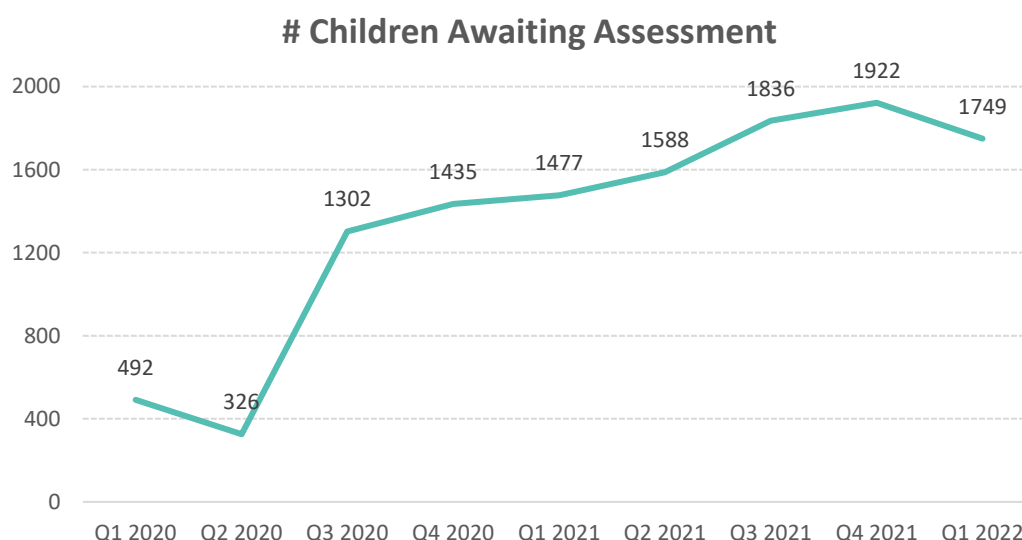
- 93 children registered for home education<sup>9</sup> in Q1 2022, 32 (52%) more than Q4 2021 (61) and 89 (49%) fewer than Q1 2021 (182).

<sup>8</sup> The figure for applications includes valid and invalid applications

<sup>9</sup> Number registered in a quarter does not reflect the number of assessments carried out in the previous quarter – reports are written, reviewed and approved internally before registration



- 1,749 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of Q1 2022, 173 (9%) fewer than Q4 2021 (1,922) when a high of 1,922 was reported. *It should be noted that the figure from Q4 2020 inclusive includes children allocated and unallocated for assessment. Data prior to Q4 2020 included only those who were unallocated.*



- 44 children removed from the register in Q1 2022. Of these, six returned to school and 35 turned 18 years. The remaining three were removed for other reasons.

### Independent Schools

- 56 assessed independent schools on the register at the end of Q1 2022, no change from Q4 2021
- 6,036 children in assessed independent schools at the end of Q1 2022 with 4,397 of these children on the register.
- 39 schools due for review assessment ( $\geq 3$ -year cycle) at the end of Q1 2022.

## 4.3 NON-STATUTORY ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

### Key Facts

- 145 non-statutory residential centres at the end Q1 2022; one more than Q4 2021 (144)
- A total of 45 inspections (all types) were conducted in Q1 2022.
- 6 non-statutory foster care services at the end Q1 2022; no change from Q4 2021

### Non-Statutory Children's Residential Centres

- 145 non-statutory residential centres at the end Q1 2022; one more than Q4 2021 (144)
- A total of 45 inspections (all types) were conducted in Q1 2022.

#### Inspections of Non Statutory Residential Services

Inspections by Type	Total 2021	Q1 2022
Thematic Inspection (announced)	135	39
Thematic Inspection (unannounced)	15	5
New Registration Inspection Visit	15	1
Total	165	45

### Non-Statutory Foster Care Services

- 6 non-statutory foster care services at the end Q1 2022; no change from Q4 2021
- No inspections / monitoring visits scheduled in Q1 2022.

## 5.0 TUSLA EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

### KEY FACTS

#### Educational Welfare: Academic Year September 2020 – August 2021

Data presented needs to be interpreted in the context of the impact of Covid-19 on school attendance and service provided.

- 3,951 referrals<sup>1</sup> screened by senior educational welfare officers (EWO) for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 645 (20%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (3,306).
- 3,021 screened referrals on a waiting list at the end of Q1 2022, 1,149 (61%) more than Q1 2021 (1,872).
- 2,229 new individual children worked with for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 453 (26%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (1,776).
- 409 school attendance notices (SANs) issued for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 372 more than the same period in 2020/2021 (37). The SANs issued were in respect of 278 individual children.
- 53 summonses issued for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022. None issued during the same period in 2020/2021. The summonses were in respect of 37 individual children.
- 84 Section 241 meetings convened by EWOs for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 30 (56%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (54).

#### Educational Welfare: Academic Year September 2021 – August 2022

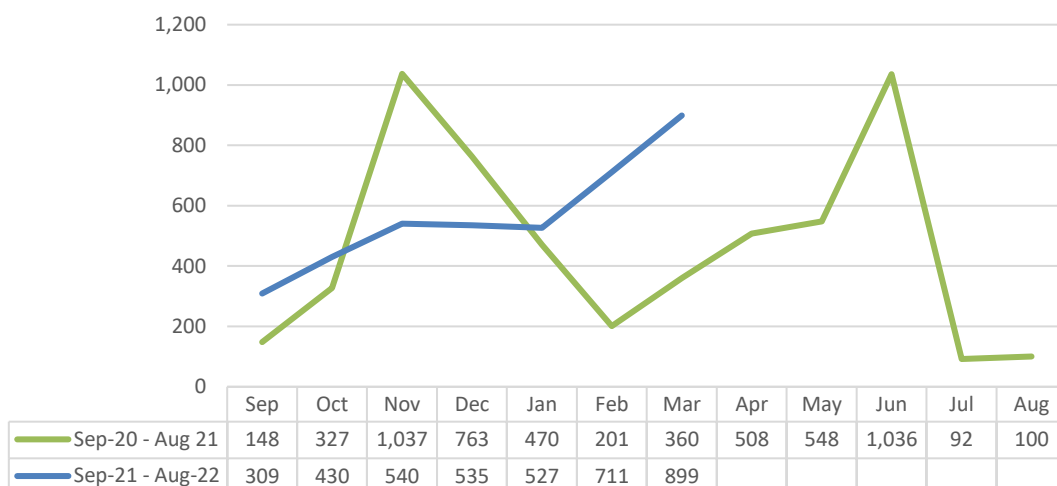
Data presented needs to be interpreted in the context of the impact of Covid-19 on school attendance and service provided.

- 3,951 referrals<sup>10</sup> screened by senior educational welfare officers (EWO) for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 645 (20%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (3,306).
- 1,974 referrals allocated to educational welfare officers for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 397 (25%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (1,577).
- 1,149 referrals screened out / required no further action for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 668 (139%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (481).
- 3,021 screened referrals on a waiting list at the end of Q1 2022, 1,149 (61%) more than Q1 2021 (1,872).

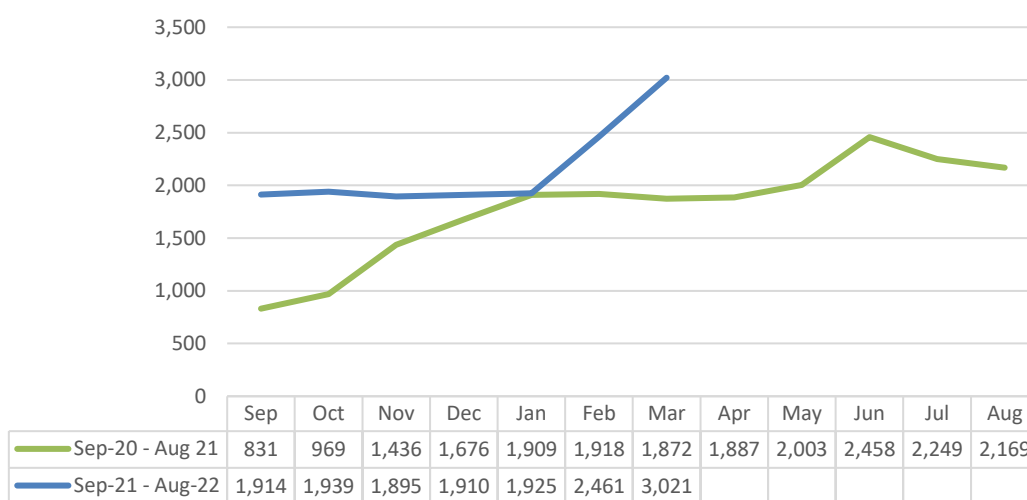
	Sept 2020 – Mar 2021	Sept 2021 – Mar 2022	Δ
# Referrals screened	3,306	3,951	645 (20%)
# Referrals allocated	1,577	1,974	397 (25%)
# Referrals screened out	481	1,149	668 (139%)
# Referrals on waiting list (March)	1,872	3,021	1,149 (61%)

<sup>10</sup> A referral is a written notification of concern to EWS from a school, a parent, agency or concerned citizen in relation to the educational welfare of a named child. Referrals are then screened against a set of criteria by the Senior Educational Welfare Officer and a decision is made as to whether to proceed and open a case in relation this named child, or placed on a waiting list if there is an EWS capacity issue.

### Referrals Screened



### Screened Referrals on Waiting List



- 2,570 new cases assigned to EWOs for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 377 (17%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (2,193).
- 2,071 cases closed for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 103 (5%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (1,968).
- 2,229 new individual children worked with for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 453 (26%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (1,776).
- 5,355 individual children worked with for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 735 (16%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (4,620).

	Sept 2020 – Mar 2021	Sept 2021 – Mar 2022	Δ
# cases assigned	2,193	2,570	377 (17%)
# cases closed	1,968	2,071	103 (5%)
# New individual children worked with	1,776	2,229	453 (26%)
# Individual children worked with (to end Mar)	4,620	5,355	735 (16%)

- 409 school attendance notices (SANs) issued for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 372 more than the same period in 2020/2021 (37). The SANs issued were in respect of 278 individual children.
- 53 summonses issued for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022. None issued during the same period in 2020/2021. The summonses were in respect of 37 individual children.
- EWOs attended 43 court cases in relation to their own cases for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 13 (43%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (30).
- 65 child protection conferences (CPC) attended by EWOs for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 28 (30%) fewer than the same period in 2020/2021 (93).
- 84 Section 24<sup>11</sup> meetings convened by EWOs for the seven months Sept – Mar 2022, 30 (56%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (54).

	Sept 2020 – Mar 2021	Sept 2021 – Mar 2022	Δ
<b>School Attendance Notices Issues</b>	37	409	+372
<b>SANs - individual children involved</b>	23	278	+255
<b>Summonses Issued</b>	0	53	+53
<b>Summonses – individual children involved</b>	0	37	+37
<b>Court cases attended in relation to own cases</b>	30	43	+13 (43%)
<b>Child protection conferences attended</b>	93	65	-28 (30%)
<b>Section 24 meetings convened</b>	54	84	+30 (56%)
<b>Child protection &amp; welfare referrals made</b>	40	70	+30 (75%)

<sup>11</sup> Section 24 Education Welfare Act 2000: Where the board of management of a recognised school or a person acting on its behalf is of the opinion that a student should be expelled from that school it shall, before so expelling the student, notify the educational welfare officer to whom functions under this Act have been assigned, in writing, of its opinion and the reasons therefor. The educational welfare officer concerned shall, as soon as may be after receiving a notification under *subsection (1)*, make all reasonable efforts to ensure that provision is made for the continued education of the student to whom the notification relates.

- (2) For the purposes of *subsection (2)*, the educational welfare officer concerned shall, as soon as may be after receiving the said notification—
  - (a) make all reasonable efforts to consult with the principal of the school concerned or a person nominated by him or her, the student concerned and his or her parents, and such other persons as the educational welfare officer considers appropriate, and
  - (b) convene a meeting attended by him or her of such of those persons as agree to attend such meeting.



## 6.0 PREVENTION, PARTNERSHIP & FAMILY SUPPORT

### KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

#### 6.1 Family Support Services

#### 6.2 Meitheal and Child & Family Support Networks

### 6.1 FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES<sup>12</sup>

#### KEY FACTS

##### Data needs to be interpreted in the context of varying response rates

- At least 17,075 children were in receipt of family support services at the end Q4 2021 (based on 80% response rate).
- At least 16,291 children referred to family support services during the last six months of 2021, bringing the total number of children referred to at least 32,473. This equates to about 2.7% of the child population (0-17 years).
- 69% (11,270) of children referred to family support services in the last six months of 2021 received a service while 73% (23,807) of all children referred in 2021 received a service. The percentage who received a service in 2021 ranged from 53% (Midlands) to 99% (Mayo). Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 73%.

#### 6.1.1 Family Support Providers

- 384 family support providers commissioned for Q3 / Q4 2021.
- 80% (307) of services provided data for Q3/Q4 2021, ranging from 28% (Kerry) to 100% in four areas (Dublin South East / Wicklow, Midlands, Cork, Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan).

##### Data needs to be interpreted in the context of varying response rates

##### Family Support Services Commissioned by Areas

Area	# Family Support Providers Commissioned Q3/Q4 2021	# External to Tusla	# Internal to Tusla	# services that provided data	% that provided data
DSC	33	30	3	29	88%
DSE/WW	15	12	3	15	100%
DSW/K/WW	31	26	5	29	94%
Midlands	7	7	0	7	100%
DNC	46	39	7	32	70%
Dublin North	21	20	1	14	67%
LH/MH	22	17	5	19	86%
CN/MN	22	19	3	21	95%
Cork	7	6	1	7	100%
Kerry	18	17	1	5	28%

<sup>12</sup> Family Support Services includes those services funded through a Service Arrangement with the Child and Family Agency and those internally funded and delivered through the Child and Family Agency.

CW/KK/ST	24	22	2	23	96%
WD/WX	26	23	3	20	77%
MidWest	37	37	0	36	97%
GY/RN	28	21	7	12*	43%
Mayo	18	6	12	10	56%
Donegal	13	13	0	12	92%
SLWC	16	16	0	16	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>80%</b>

\*Relates to Galway only. Data for Roscommon not available

### 6.1.2 Children in Receipt of Family Support Services

- At least 17,075 children were in receipt of family support services at the end Q4 2021. Highest number reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (2,101; 12%) followed by Dublin North City (1,408; 8%), Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (1,382; 8%), Donegal (1,343; 8%) and Midwest (1,316; 8%). Fewest number reported by Midlands (224; 1%) followed by Kerry (389; 2%) and Mayo (432; 3%).

#### Children in receipt of Family Support Services

Area	Total number of children in receipt of a FSS at the end Q4 2020	Total number of children in receipt of a FSS at the end Q2 2021	Total number of children in receipt of a FSS at the end Q4 2021	% Total Q4 2021
DSC	1,043	1421	1,220	7%
DSE/WW	846	753	615	4%
DSW/K/WW	1,971	2342	2,101	12%
Midlands	244	144	224	1%
DNC	1,269	1592	1,408	8%
Dublin North	1,902	1914	1,235	7%
LH/MH	840	646	863	5%
CN/MN	731	296	963	6%
Cork	355	393	479	3%
Kerry	258	582	389	2%
CW/KK/ST	1,413	878	1,034	6%
WD/WX	847	1024	817	5%
MidWest	1,509	1202	1,316	8%
GY/RN	1,116	1102	1,254	7%
Mayo	216	99	432	3%
Donegal	1,662	1008	1,343	8%
SLWC	1,294	1256	1,382	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,516</b>	<b>16,652</b>	<b>17,075</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 6.1.3 Children Referred to Family Support Services

- At least 16,291 children referred to family support services during the last six months of 2021, bringing the total number of children referred to at least 32,473. This equates to about 2.7% of the child population (0-17 years).
- The highest rate of referrals for 2021 was reported by Dublin North City at 10.5% followed by Donegal (5.8%), Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (5.6%), Cavan/Monaghan (4.3%) and Dublin South Central (4.1%).

- The highest number of children referred was reported by Dublin North City (4,725; 15%) followed by Dublin North (3,087; 10%), DSW/K/WW (3,050; 9%), Dublin South Central (2,702; 8%), Donegal (2,467; 8%), Galway/Roscommon (2,329; 7%) and Waterford / Wexford (2,322; 7%). Fewest number reported by Midlands (416; 1%), Mayo (557; 2%) and Cork (728; 2%).

#### Children referred to Family Support Services by area

Area	Total number of children referred to FSS, 2020	Total number of children referred to FSS, Q1/Q2 2021	Total number of children referred to FSS, Q3/Q4 2021	Total number of children referred to FSS, 2021	% Total Referred 2021	Population 0-17 years (Census 2016)	% children referred
DSC	2,516	1335	1,367	2,702	8%	65,564	4.12%
DSE/WW	875	461	561	1,022	3%	86,810	1.18%
DSW/K/WW	3,569	1482	1,568	3,050	9%	108,186	2.82%
Midlands	657	166	250	416	1%	80,193	0.52%
DNC	2,546	3192	1,533	4,725	15%	44,927	10.52%
Dublin North	3,874	1648	1,439	3,087	10%	100,654	3.07%
LH/MH	1,660	722	635	1,357	4%	93,093	1.46%
CN/MN	2,066	779	777	1,556	5%	36,446	4.27%
Cork	701	322	406	728	2%	134,015	0.54%
Kerry	582	582	472	1,054	3%	34,527	3.05%
CW/KK/ST	1,707	878	922	1,800	6%	63,009	2.86%
WD/WX	2,567	1024	1,298	2,322	7%	68,513	3.39%
MidWest	2,008	799	1,191	1,990	6%	96,266	2.07%
GY/RN	1,885	1110	1,219	2,329	7%	79,912	2.91%
Mayo	880	126	431	557	2%	31,968	1.74%
Donegal	2,017	982	1,485	2,467	8%	42,865	5.76%
SLWC	1,157	574	737	1,311	4%	23,554	5.57%
Total	31,267	16,182	16,291	32,473	100%	1,190,502	2.73%

#### 6.1.4 Source of Referrals

- The most common source of referral in 2021 was Tusla Social Work, accounting for 28% (9,178) of referrals followed by Parents/Guardians (22%; 7,148), Self - Referrals (13%; 4,192) and HSE Officers (3,269; 10%).

#### Children referred to Family Support Services by source of referral, 2021

Source	# Referrals Q1/Q2 2021	# Referrals Q3/Q4 2021	# Referrals 2021	% Total
Tusla Social Workers	4545	4633	9178	28%
Parent/Guardian	3305	3843	7148	22%
Self-Referral	2731	1461	4192	13%
HSE Officers	1612	1657	3269	10%
Schools	1156	1616	2772	9%
Other Tulsa Officers	1043	968	2011	6%
Voluntary Agency	622	750	1372	4%

Other	559	741	<b>1300</b>	4%
Other Family Member	264	202	<b>466</b>	1%
GP	185	241	<b>426</b>	1%
AGS	150	159	<b>309</b>	1%
Anonymous	10	20	<b>30</b>	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16182</b>	<b>16291</b>	<b>32473</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 6.1.5 Children who received a service

- 69% (11,270) of children referred to family support services in the last six months of 2021 received a service while 73% (23,807) of all children referred in 2021 received a service. The percentage who received a service in 2021 ranged from 53% (Midlands) to 99% (Mayo). Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 73%.

#### # children referred to Family Support Services (2021) who received a service during the reporting period

Area	Number referred Q3/Q4 2021	Of number referred, number who received a service	% who rec'd a service	Number referred 2021	Of number referred, number who received a service	% who rec'd a service
DSC	1,367	808	59%	2,702	1,663	62%
DSE/WW	561	333	59%	1,022	617	60%
DSW/K/WW	1,568	911	58%	3,050	1,863	61%
Midlands	250	127	51%	416	220	53%
DNC	1,533	1024	67%	4,725	4,077	86%
Dublin North	1,439	949	66%	3,087	2,270	74%
LH/MH	635	404	64%	1,357	890	66%
CN/MN	777	715	92%	1,556	1,494	96%
Cork	406	274	67%	728	453	62%
Kerry	472	393	83%	1,054	666	63%
CW/KK/ST	922	603	65%	1,800	1,436	80%
WD/WX	1,298	1017	78%	2,322	1,916	83%
MidWest	1,191	713	60%	1,990	1,153	58%
GY/RN	1,219	896	74%	2,329	1,653	71%
Mayo	431	431	100%	557	549	99%
Donegal	1,485	1012	68%	2,467	1,683	68%
SLWC	737	660	90%	1,311	1,204	92%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,291</b>	<b>11,270</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>32,473</b>	<b>23,807</b>	<b>73%</b>

- Of the children referred to family support services in 2021 who received a service (23,807), 6% (1,519) were subject of a child in care plan; 6% (1,463) were subject of a Tusla social work child protection plan; 7% (1,639) were subject of a Tusla safety plan; 6% (1,379) were subject of a Meitheal support plan while 40% (9,426) were subject of a single agency family support plan.
- A breakdown on the number and percentage of children who participated in the development, implementation and review of those plans is presented in the table below.

**Breakdown of the number and percentage of children who participated in the development, implementation and review of plans, 2021**

Plan type	# children subject of plan:	# / % children who participated in development of plan	# / % children who participated in implementation of plan	# / % children who participated in review of plan
Children in care plan	1,519	376	345	312
		25%	23%	21%
Tusla social work child protection plan	1,463	498	494	438
		34%	34%	30%
Tusla safety plan	1,639	463	438	386
		28%	27%	24%
Meitheal support plan	1,379	858	744	729
		62%	54%	53%
Single agency response plan	9,426	5,024	4,783	4,589
		53%	51%	49%

### 6.1.6 Parenting Support Service

- 8,643 parents/guardians/care givers were referred to a parenting support service in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number referred for 2021 to 17,619.
- 6,304 (73%) of the parents/guardians/care givers referred in the last six months of 2021 received a service, while 12,941 (73%) of all those referred in 2021 received a service.
- 3,476 individual (one-to-one) parenting support services were commissioned internally during the last six months of 2021; 5,704 commissioned in the first half of 2021.
- 1,282 individual (one-to-one) parenting support services were commissioned externally during the last six months of 2021; 4,023 commissioned in the first half of 2021.
- 1,091 parenting support services that are group-based interventions were commissioned internally during the last six months of 2021; 796 commissioned in the first half of 2021.
- 430 parenting support services that are group-based interventions were commissioned externally during the last six months of 2021; 265 commissioned in the first half of 2021.

## 6.2 MEITHEAL

A key component of Tusla's Prevention, Partnership and Family Support (PPFS) programme of work is the roll-out of **Meitheal** - a national practice model (common approach to practice) for all agencies working with children, young people and their families. This model is designed to ensure that the needs and strengths of children and their families are effectively identified and understood and responded to in a timely way so that children and families get the help and support needed to improve children's outcomes and realise their rights. It is an early intervention response tailored to the needs of an individual child or young person and is used where more than one agency involvement is needed. There are three stages of the Meitheal process; preparation, discussion and delivery.

### KEY FACTS

- 1,131 Meitheal processes requested in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number of Meitheal processes requested for 2021 to at least 2,373. The number of requests is up 86 on the 2,287 reported in 2020.
- The most common pathway for requests is "Direct Access" accounting for 67% (759/1,131) of all requests for the last six months of 2021 and 67% (1,584/2,373) of all requests for 2021. "Social Work Diversion" accounted for a further 18% (199) of requests for the last six months of 2021 and 21% (488/2,373) of all requests for 2021. "Social Work Step-Down" accounted for the remaining 15% (173) of all requests for the last six months of 2021 and 13% (301/2,373) of all requests for 2021.
- 82% (932/1,131) of Meitheal requests received in the last six months of 2021 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage) while 86% (2,041/2,373) of all requests received in 2021 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage).
- 742 Meitheal processes reached completion of Stage 2 in the last six months of 2021, bringing the total number of Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage 2 in 2021 to 1,596.
- 46% (741) of processes reaching completion of Stage 2 in 2021, proceeded to delivery (Stage 3) (Meitheal Support Meeting).
- 828 Meitheal processes were closed in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number of Meitheal processes closed in 2021 to 1,580. 24% (386) of Meitheal processes were closed following submission of a Meitheal request form (Stage 1); 39% (617) of Meitheal processes were closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Stage 2 Discussion Stage); 11% (171) of Meitheal processes were closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings (Stage 3); 26% (406) of Meitheal processes were closed post-delivery
- 122 Child and Family Support Networks<sup>1</sup> (CFSN) operating at the end of Q4 2021. A further 15 CFSNs are planned/pre planning stage.

### 6.2.1 Meitheal Activity Data

- 1,131 Meitheal processes requested in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number of Meitheal processes requested for 2021 to at least 2,373. The number of requests is up 86 on the 2,287 reported in 2020.

- Highest number of requests for 2021 reported by Dublin North (429; 18%) followed by Kerry (293; 12%), Cork (242; 10%) and Waterford/Wexford (203; 9%). These four areas account for almost half (49%; 1,167) of all Meitheal processes requested in 2021.
- The fewest number was reported by the Mayo (46; 2%) followed by Midlands (50; 2%) and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (52; 2%).

#### Meitheal processes requested

Area	# Requested 2020	# Requested Q1/Q2 2021	# Requested Q3/Q4 2021	# Requested 2021	% Total 2021
DSC	76	26	47	73	3%
DSE/WW	58	50	38	88	4%
DSW/K/WW	122	68	37	105	4%
Midlands	93	17	33	50	2%
DNC	99	34	31	65	3%
Dublin North	330	248	181	429	18%
LH/MH	37	81	53	134	6%
CN/MN	214	55	101	156	7%
Cork	198	128	114	242	10%
Kerry	262	151	142	293	12%
CW/KK/ST	204	45	75	120	5%
WD/WX	232	103	100	203	9%
MidWest	111	55	59	114	5%
GY/RN	106	98	48	146	6%
Mayo	54	25	21	46	2%
Donegal	39	32	25	57	2%
SLWC	52	26	26	52	2%
National	2,287	1,242	1,131	2,373	100%

- The most common pathway for requests was Direct Access accounting for 67% (759/1,131) of requests for the last six months of 2021 and 67% (1,584/2,373) of all requests for 2021.
- Social Work Diversion accounted for a further 18% (199) of requests for the last six months of 2021 and 21% (488/2,373) of all requests for 2021.
- Social Work Step-Down accounted for the remaining 15% (173) of requests for the last six months of 2021 and 13% (301/2,373) of all requests for 2021.
- The percentage of direct access requests for 2021 ranged from 57% (77/134) in Louth/Meath to 94% (47/50) in Midlands area. Ten areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 67%.
- The percentage of requests diverted from social work for 2021 ranged from 4% (4/114) Midwest to 43% (57/134) in Louth/Meath. Six areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 21%.
- The percentage of requests stepped down from social work for 2021 ranged from none in two areas (Midlands and Louth/Meath) to 33% (48/146) in Galway/Roscommon. Six areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average 13%.

### Access Pathway for Meitheal Requests Q3 / Q4 2021

Area	# Requested Q3/Q4 2021	Of the total number of Meitheal requests:					
		Direct Access	% Direct Access	Social Work Diversion	% SW Diversion	Social Work Step -Down	% Step-Down
DSC	47	34	72%	0	0%	13	28%
DSE/WW	38	27	71%	4	11%	7	18%
DSW/K/WW	37	29	78%	6	16%	2	5%
Midlands	33	32	97%	1	3%	0	0%
DNC	31	25	81%	4	13%	2	6%
Dublin North	181	108	60%	3	2%	70	39%
LH/MH	53	41	77%	12	23%	0	0%
CN/MN	101	76	75%	22	22%	3	3%
Cork	114	59	52%	34	30%	21	18%
Kerry	142	87	61%	43	30%	12	8%
CW/KK/ST	75	42	56%	32	43%	1	1%
WD/WX	100	68	68%	30	30%	2	2%
MidWest	59	49	83%	2	3%	8	14%
GY/RN	48	26	54%	0	0%	22	46%
Mayo	21	17	81%	1	5%	3	14%
Donegal	25	20	80%	4	16%	1	4%
SLWC	26	19	73%	1	4%	6	23%
National	1,131	759	67%	199	18%	173	15%

### Access Pathway for Meitheal Requests 2021

Area	# Requested 2021	Of the total number of Meitheal requests:					
		Direct Access	% Direct Access	Social Work Diversion	% SW Diversion	Social Work Step -Down	% Step-Down
DSC	73	55	75%	4	5%	14	19%
DSE/WW	88	55	63%	22	25%	11	13%
DSW/K/WW	105	78	74%	20	19%	7	7%
Midlands	50	47	94%	3	6%	0	0%
DNC	65	54	83%	5	8%	6	9%
Dublin North	429	286	67%	61	14%	82	19%
LH/MH	134	77	57%	57	43%	0	0%
CN/MN	156	108	69%	31	20%	17	11%
Cork	242	140	58%	60	25%	42	17%
Kerry	293	170	58%	92	31%	31	11%
CW/KK/ST	120	73	61%	45	38%	2	2%
WD/WX	203	139	68%	60	30%	4	2%
MidWest	114	91	80%	4	4%	19	17%
GY/RN	146	89	61%	9	6%	48	33%
Mayo	46	36	78%	5	11%	5	11%
Donegal	57	47	82%	6	11%	4	7%
SLWC	52	39	75%	4	8%	9	17%
National	2373	1584	67%	488	21%	301	13%



- 82% (932/1,131) of Meitheal requests received in the last six months of 2021 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage) while 86% (2,041/2,373) of all requests received in 2021 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage).
- The percentage of requests for 2021 proceeding to Stage 2 ranged from 54% (85/156) in Cavan/Monaghan to 97% in Dublin North (416/429). Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average (86%).

#### Meitheal requests received proceeding to Stage Two (Discussion Stage) Q3/Q4 2021

Area	# Requested Q3 / Q4 2021	# that proceeded to Discussion Stage (Stage 2)	% that Proceeded to Discussion Stage (Stage 2)
DSC	47	46	98%
DSE/WW	38	20	53%
DSW/K/WW	37	34	92%
Midlands	33	27	82%
DNC	31	25	81%
Dublin North	181	172	95%
LH/MH	53	42	79%
CN/MN	101	47	47%
Cork	114	99	87%
Kerry	142	137	96%
CW/KK/ST	75	60	80%
WD/WX	100	85	85%
MidWest	59	43	73%
GY/RN	48	48	100%
Mayo	21	21	100%
Donegal	25	6	24%
SLWC	26	20	77%
<b>National</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>82%</b>

#### Meitheal requests received proceeding to Stage Two (Discussion Stage) 2021

Area	# Requested 2021	# that proceeded to Discussion Stage (Stage 2)	% that Proceeded to Discussion Stage (Stage 2)
DSC	73	69	95%
DSE/WW	88	57	65%
DSW/K/WW	105	99	94%
Midlands	50	39	78%
DNC	65	56	86%
Dublin North	429	416	97%
LH/MH	134	115	86%
CN/MN	156	85	54%
Cork	242	223	92%
Kerry	293	271	92%
CW/KK/ST	120	98	82%
WD/WX	203	173	85%
MidWest	114	95	83%
GY/RN	146	132	90%
Mayo	46	38	83%
Donegal	57	34	60%
SLWC	52	41	79%
<b>National</b>	<b>2373</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>86%</b>

- 742 Meitheal processes reached completion of Stage 2 in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number of Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage 2 in 2021 to 1,596.
- 46% (741) of processes reaching completion of Stage 2 in 2021, proceeded to delivery (Stage 3) (Meitheal Support Meeting). The percentage of processes that proceeded to delivery ranged from 4% (18/408) in Dublin North to 97% in Dublin South Central (68/70). Fourteen areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 46%.
- 34% (543) were referred for a single agency response – majority (71%; 385) of these were reported by one area (Dublin North). The percentage of processes referred for a single agency response ranged from 0% in six areas (Dublin South East/Wicklow, Donegal, Midlands, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan, Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow and Galway/Roscommon) to 94% (385/408) in Dublin North. Two areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 34%.
- 3% (42) of processes were referred to social work (stepped – up). These processes were reported across nine areas. Eight areas reported none.
- 7% (108) of processes were closed. The percentage of processes closed ranged from 0% in three areas (Donegal, Dublin south Central, Dublin North City) to 28% (30/108) in Cork. Seven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average.

#### Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage Two, Q3 / Q4 2021

Area	# Reaching Completion of Stage 2, Q3/Q4 2021	Of the total number of Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage Two (Discussion Stage) the number and percentage that									
		Proceeded to Delivery	%	Referred to Social Work	%	Referred to a Single Agency Response	%	Closed	%	Categorised as Other	%
DSC	47	46	98%	0	0.0%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%
DSE/WW	26	12	46%	0	0.0%	0	0%	2	8%	12	46%
DSW/K/WW	28	20	71%	0	0.0%	0	0%	6	21%	2	7%
Midlands	20	16	80%	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	5%	3	15%
DNC	24	14	58%	1	4.2%	2	8%	0	0%	7	29%
Dublin North	166	1	1%	0	0.0%	162	98%	3	2%	0	0%
LH/MH	18	17	94%	1	5.6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
CN/MN	24	20	83%	0	0.0%	4	17%	0	0%	0	0%
Cork	54	30	56%	3	5.6%	6	11%	15	28%	0	0%
Kerry	142	25	18%	2	1.4%	15	11%	13	9%	87	61%
CW/KK/ST	45	20	44%	0	0.0%	20	44%	5	11%	0	0%
WD/WX	40	12	30%	0	0.0%	23	58%	5	13%	0	0%
MidWest	38	30	79%	1	2.6%	3	8%	3	8%	1	3%
GY/RN	22	22	100%	0	0.0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Mayo	21	15	71%	0	0.0%	0	0%	5	24%	1	5%
Donegal	24	14	58%	0	0.0%	0	0%	0	0%	10	42%
SLWC	3	2	67%	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	33%	0	0%
National	742	316	43%	8	1.1%	236	32%	59	8%	123	17%

#### Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage Two, 2021

Area	# Reaching Completion of Stage 2, 2021	Of the total number of Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage Two (Discussion Stage) the number and percentage that									
		<i>Proceeded to Delivery</i>	%	<i>Referred to Social Work</i>	%	<i>Referred to a Single Agency Response</i>	%	<i>Closed</i>	%	<i>Categorised as Other</i>	%
DSC	70	68	97%	0	0%	2	3%	0	0%	0	0%
DSE/WW	63	34	54%	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%	27	43%
DSW/K/WW	81	69	85%	0	0%	0	0%	8	10%	4	5%
Midlands	32	28	88%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%	3	9%
DNC	48	32	67%	2	4%	2	4%	0	0%	12	25%
Dublin North	408	18	4%	0	0%	385	94%	3	1%	2	0.5%
LH/MH	66	34	52%	17	26%	8	12%	7	11%	0	0%
CN/MN	56	40	71%	2	4%	12	21%	2	4%	0	0%
Cork	108	60	56%	6	6%	12	11%	30	28%	0	0%
Kerry	227	72	32%	3	1%	37	16%	24	11%	91	40%
CW/KK/ST	78	42	54%	5	6%	26	33%	5	6%	0	0%
WD/WX	80	22	28%	0	0%	50	63%	8	10%	0	0%
MidWest	76	56	74%	2	3%	8	11%	4	5%	6	8%
GY/RN	100	93	93%	4	4%	0	0%	3	3%	0	0%
Mayo	45	32	71%	1	2%	1	2%	10	22%	1	2%
Donegal	52	36	69%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	16	31%
SLWC	6	5	83%	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%	0	0%
National	1596	741	46%	42	3%	543	34%	108	7%	162	10%

- 828 Meitheal processes were closed in the last six months of 2021 bringing the total number of Meitheal processes closed in 2021 to 1,580. The number closed in 2021 ranged from 13 in Dublin South Central to 404 in Dublin North.
- 24% (386) of Meitheal processes closed in 2021 were closed following submission of a Meitheal request form (Stage 1). The percentage closed following submission of a Meitheal request form ranged from 3% (11/404) in Dublin North to 68% (52/77) in Kerry. Ten areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 24%.
- 39% (617) of Meitheal processes closed in 2021 were closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Stage 2 Discussion Stage). The percentage closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form ranged from 0% in Dublin South Central (0/13) to 94% (379/404) in Dublin North. Two areas (Dublin North and Louth/Meath) reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average (39%). Sixty-one (379/617) percent of Meitheals closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Stage) were reported by Dublin North.

- 11% (171) of Meitheal processes closed in 2021 were closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings (Stage 3). The percentage closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings ranged from 2% in Louth/Meath (1/51), Waterford/Wexford (2/111) and Dublin North (7/404) to 38% (5/13) in Dublin South Central. Twelve areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 11%.
- 26% (406) of Meitheal processes closed in 2021 were closed post-delivery. The percentage closed post-delivery ranged from 0% in Louth/Meath (0/51) and Kerry (0/77) to 63% (86/136) in Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow. Eleven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 26%.

#### Number of Meitheals closed Q3 / Q4 2021

Area	Total number of Meitheals closed Q3/Q4	Of the total number of Meitheals closed the number and % that were closed following:							
		Submission of a Meitheal Request Form	%	Completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Discussion Stage)	%	Commencement of Meitheal Support meetings (Delivery Stage)	%	Post delivery	%
DSC	10	0	0%	0	0%	5	50%	5	50%
DSE/WW	26	3	12%	5	19%	9	35%	9	35%
DSW/K/WW	74	7	9%	11	15%	9	12%	47	64%
Midlands	31	15	48%	6	19%	4	13%	6	19%
DNC	27	8	30%	9	33%	2	7%	8	30%
Dublin North	164	7	4%	157	96%	0	0%	0	0%
LH/MH	27	11	41%	15	56%	1	4%	0	0%
CN/MN	27	3	11%	4	15%	10	37%	10	37%
Cork	79	31	39%	16	20%	11	14%	21	27%
Kerry	30	26	87%	3	10%	1	3%	0	0%
CW/KK/ST	81	16	20%	27	33%	16	20%	22	27%
WD/WX	59	30	51%	13	22%	1	2%	15	25%
MidWest	57	24	42%	9	16%	7	12%	17	30%
GY/RN	55	10	18%	9	16%	8	15%	28	51%
Mayo	25	5	20%	2	8%	2	8%	16	64%
Donegal	19	2	11%	2	11%	7	37%	8	42%
SLWC	37	18	49%	1	3%	6	16%	12	32%
National	828	216	26%	289	35%	99	12%	224	27%

## Number of Meitheals closed 2021

Area	Total number of Meitheals closed 2021	Of the total number of Meitheals closed the number and % that were closed following:							
		Submission of a Meitheal Request Form	%	Completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Discussion Stage)	%	Commencement of Meitheal Support meetings (Delivery Stage)	%	Post delivery	%
DSC	13	1	8%	0	0%	5	38%	7	54%
DSE/WW	45	11	24%	8	18%	12	27%	14	31%
DSW/K/WW	136	15	11%	16	12%	19	14%	86	63%
Midlands	31	15	48%	6	19%	4	13%	6	19%
DNC	53	12	23%	14	26%	7	13%	20	38%
Dublin North	404	11	3%	379	94%	7	2%	7	2%
LH/MH	51	30	59%	20	39%	1	2%	0	0%
CN/MN	53	6	11%	8	15%	14	26%	25	47%
Cork	105	32	30%	18	17%	18	17%	37	35%
Kerry	77	52	68%	21	27%	4	5%	0	0%
CW/KK/ST	137	39	28%	47	34%	20	15%	31	23%
WD/WX	111	64	58%	26	23%	2	2%	19	17%
MidWest	114	32	28%	23	20%	20	18%	39	34%
GY/RN	113	30	27%	16	14%	11	10%	56	50%
Mayo	49	10	20%	6	12%	6	12%	27	55%
Donegal	39	6	15%	6	15%	12	31%	15	38%
SLWC	49	20	41%	3	6%	9	18%	17	35%
National	1580	386	24%	617	39%	171	11%	406	26%

## 6.2.2 Child and Family Support Networks

- 122 Child and Family Support Networks<sup>13</sup> (CFSN) operating at the end of Q4 2021. A further 15 CFSNs are planned/pre planning stage.

### Child and Family Support Networks operating and planned

Area	CFSNs Operating Dec 2020	CFSNs Operating Q4 2021	CFSNs Planned
DSC	7	7	3
DSE/Wicklow	7	7	2
DSW/K/WW	9	10	0
Midlands	4	6	4
Dublin North City	6	6	0
Dublin North	4	4	1
Louth/Meath	5	5	0
Cavan/Monaghan	8	8	1
Cork	14	11	1
Kerry	8	8	0

<sup>13</sup> Child and Family Support Networks: Collaborative networks of community, voluntary and statutory providers intended to improve access to support services for children and their families<sup>8</sup>

<b>CW/KK/ST</b>	7	7	2
<b>WD/WX</b>	8	8	0
<b>MidWest</b>	10	11	1
<b>GY/RN</b>	12	12	0
<b>Mayo</b>	4	4	0
<b>Donegal</b>	5	5	0
<b>SLWC</b>	3	3	0
<b>National</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>15</b>

## 7.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

### KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

#### 7.1 Workforce Position

#### 7.2 Absence Rate

#### 7.3 Social Work Staff

#### 7.4 Residential Services

#### 7.5 Workforce Learning and Development

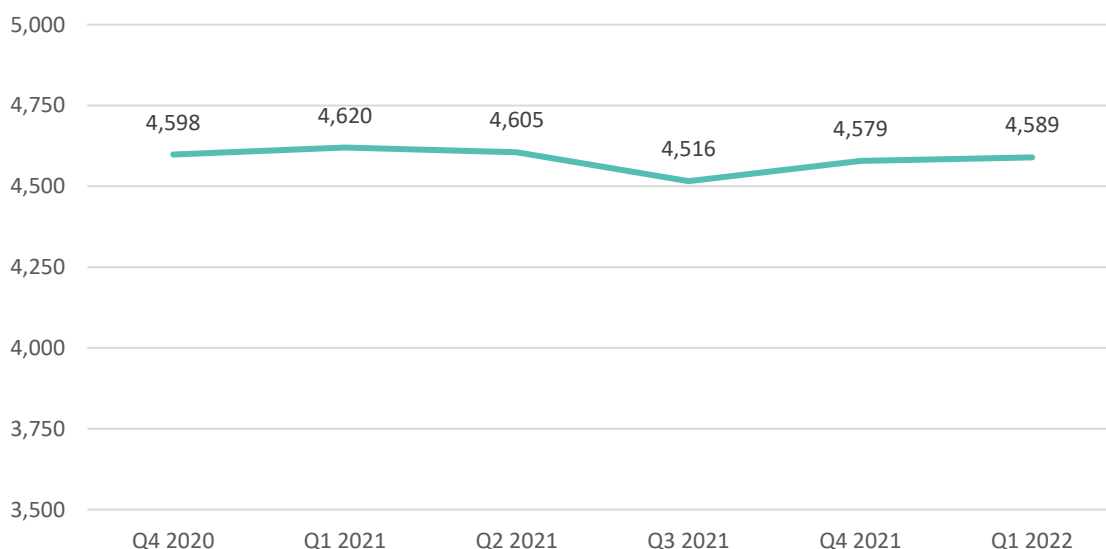
### KEY FACTS

- 4,588.6 whole time equivalent (WTE) staff (excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q1 2022, 9.3 more than Q4 2021 (4,579.3) and 31.2 fewer than Q1 2021 (4,619.8).
- 170 new staff joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in the first three months of 2022.
- 114 staff left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks, excluding retirements) and 30 staff retired in the first three months of 2022.
- At the end of Q1 2022, the overall absence rate for the Agency was 9.05%, 1.8 percentage points higher than Q4 2021 (7.25%) and 3.36 percentage points higher than Q1 2021 (5.69%).
- e-learning activity: 4,729 completions were achieved in Q1 2022
- Virtual classroom training: 1,885 completions.

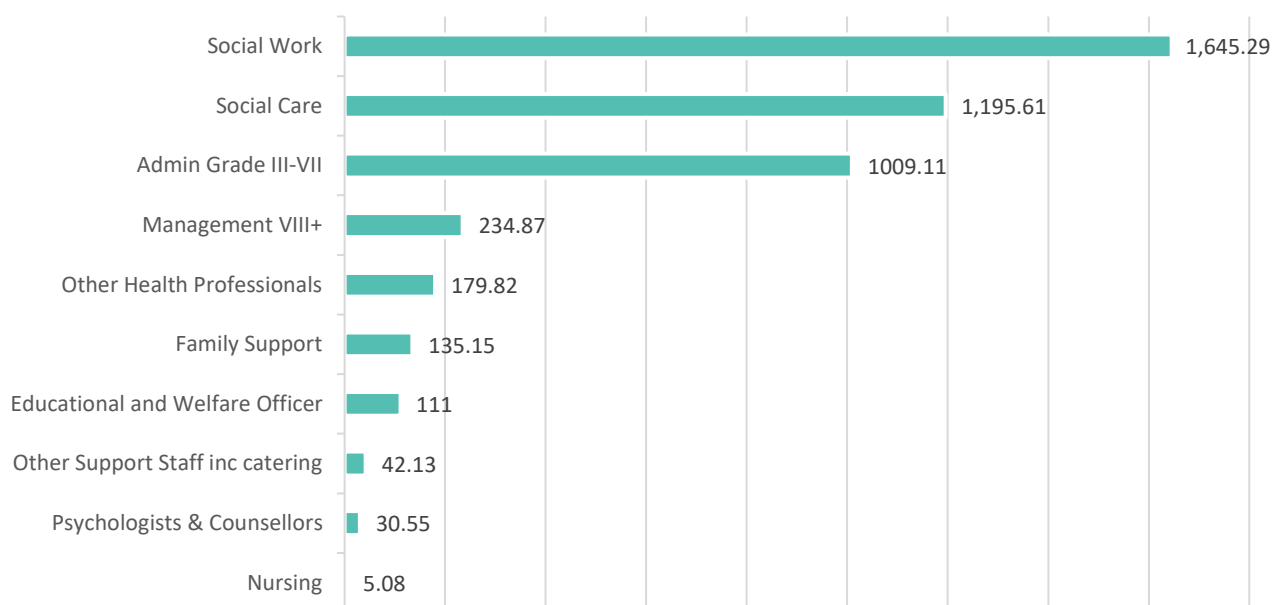
### 7.1 Workforce Position

- 4,588.6 whole time equivalent (WTE) staff (excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q1 2022, 9.3 more than Q4 2021 (4,579.3) and 31.2 fewer than Q1 2021 (4,619.8).

Total Staff Employed (WTE), by quarter



- Social workers are the largest category of staff employed by the Agency, accounting for 36% (1,645.29) of total staff (WTE) employed at the end of Q1 2022, followed by social care staff accounting for a further 26% (1,195.61). Management (Grade VIII+) account for 5% (234.87) of the workforce.



- Increase/decrease in WTEs by staff category from Q1 2021 and Q4 2021 is presented in the table below.

**Breakdown of staff (WTE) by category**

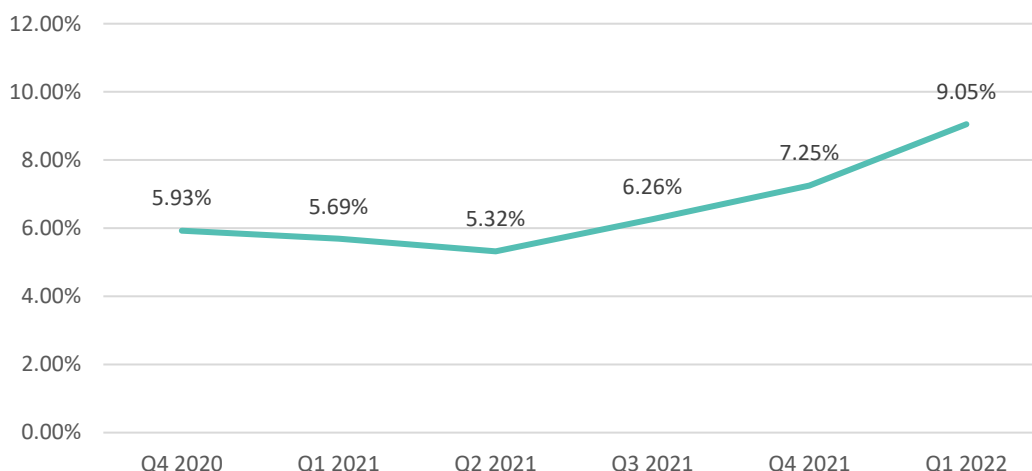
Staffing by Category	Q1 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q1 2022 v Q4 2021	Q1 2022 v Q1 2021
<b>Social Work</b>	1,665.79	1668.93	1,645.29	-23.64	-20.50
<b>Social Care</b>	1,254.03	1,200.03	1,195.61	-4.42	-58.42
<b>Admin Grade III-VII</b>	981.94	982.02	1,009.11	27.09	27.17
<b>Family Support</b>	134.13	132.86	135.15	2.29	1.02
<b>Management VIII+</b>	219.71	229.86	234.87	5.01	15.16
<b>Educational and Welfare Officer</b>	107.85	112.34	111	-1.34	3.15
<b>Other Support Staff inc catering</b>	42.78	42.48	42.13	-0.35	-0.65
<b>Nursing</b>	5.7	5.72	5.08	-0.64	-0.62
<b>Psychologists &amp; Counsellors</b>	31.95	28.99	30.55	1.56	-1.40
<b>Other Health Professionals</b>	175.94	176.07	179.82	3.75	3.88
<b>Total Staffing</b>	<b>4,620</b>	<b>4579</b>	<b>4,589</b>	<b>9.31</b>	<b>-31.21</b>

- 170 new staff joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in the first three months of 2022.
- 114 staff left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks, excluding retirements) in the first three months of 2022.
- 30 staff retired in in the first three months of 2022.
- 184 (4%) staff were on maternity leave at the end of March 2022.



## 7.2 Absence Rate

- At the end of Q1 2022, the overall absence rate for the Agency was 9.05%, 1.8 percentage points higher than Q4 2021 (7.25%) and 3.36 percentage points higher than Q1 2021 (5.69%).



- The highest absence rate was reported for social care staff at 13.25%. The rate for Residential Services (14.06%) (data not shown), is five percentage points higher than the overall rate of 9.05%. The overall absence rate excluding Residential Services is 8.54%.

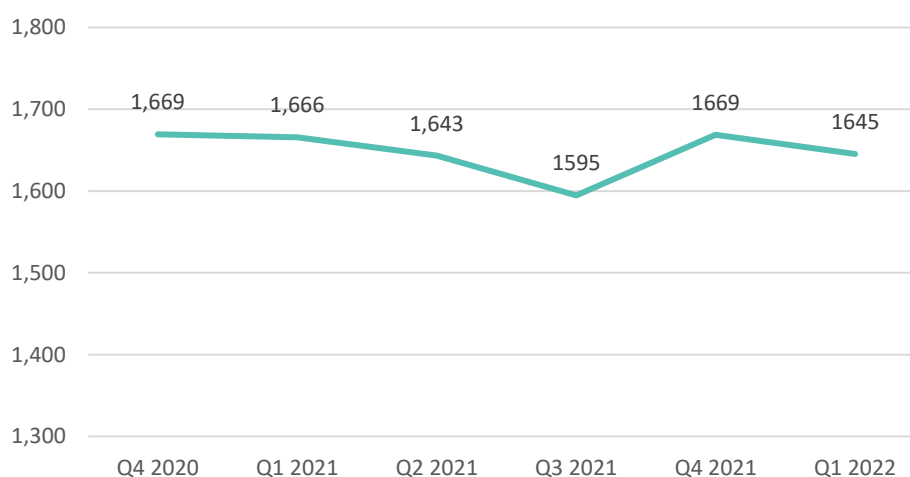
**Absence rate by staff grade**

Staff Grade	Absence Rate March 2022
Social Work	8.04%
Social Care	13.25%
All other grades	7.02%

## 7.3 Social Work Staff (WTE)

- 1,645.29 whole time equivalent (WTE) social work staff (all grades and excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q1 2022; 24 fewer than Q4 2021 (1,669) and 21 fewer than Q1 2021 (1,666).

**Number of social workers (WTE) by quarter**



- 35 social workers joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in the first three months of 2022.
- 61 social workers left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks excluding retirements) in the first three months of 2022.
- 6 social workers retired in the first three months of 2022.
- 93 (6%) social workers were on maternity leave at the end of Q1 2022.
- A breakdown of the number of social workers (all grades) employed at the end of each quarter Q1 2021 to Q1 2022 by area is presented in the table below.

**Breakdown of social work staff (WTE) by area Q4 2020 – Q4 2021**

	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)
Area	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
DSC	101.77	98.96	88.27	98.57	88.39
DSE/WW	98.18	96.08	94.87	101.09	98.72
DSW/K/WW	110.42	107.9	110.06	112.62	109.72
Midlands	97.15	94.83	90.47	94.89	94.11
Regional Services DML	13.75	12.54	12.54	13.44	14.14
<b>DML Total</b>	<b>421.27</b>	<b>410.31</b>	<b>396.21</b>	<b>420.61</b>	<b>405.08</b>
CN/MN	40.98	41.77	40.37	41.72	41.52
DNC	107.02	105.24	104.32	104.64	103.13
LH/MH	84.65	83.96	83.14	89.69	92.35
Dublin North	92.62	89.97	89.2	102.95	98.03
Regional Services DNE	13.4	16.75	15.35	13.29	12.13
<b>DNE Total</b>	<b>338.67</b>	<b>337.69</b>	<b>332.38</b>	<b>352.29</b>	<b>347.16</b>
CW/KK/ST	63.05	61.41	58.91	67.37	67.59
Cork	178.37	180.46	174.41	175.65	171.36
Kerry	46.29	42.65	39.44	42.22	44.11
WD/WX	89.76	88.65	85.09	85	85.92
Regional Services South				0.98	1.81
<b>South Total</b>	<b>377.47</b>	<b>373.17</b>	<b>357.85</b>	<b>371.22</b>	<b>370.79</b>
Donegal	66.16	67.89	66.34	66.93	69.39
GY/RN	98.4	98.18	93.64	92.84	93.48
Mayo	36.73	38.95	33.16	40.03	39.67
Mid West	120.63	117.84	114.8	121.57	116.39
SLWC	40.59	36.65	36.62	38.49	38.77
Regional Services West	2.86	2.86	1.86	1.86	2.37
<b>West Total</b>	<b>365.37</b>	<b>362.37</b>	<b>346.42</b>	<b>361.72</b>	<b>360.37</b>
Residential DML	0.96				
Residential DNE	2	2	2	2.6	2.6
Residential West					
Residential South	1	2	1.99	2	2
Special Care	1				

<b>Residential Services</b>	<b>4.96</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Corporate	158.05	155.83	157.83	158.49	157.29
Early Years Inspectorate	6.96	6.96			
<b>Corporate</b>	<b>158.05</b>	<b>155.83</b>	<b>157.83</b>	<b>158.49</b>	<b>157.29</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,665.79</b>	<b>1,643.4</b>	<b>1,594.68</b>	<b>1,668.93</b>	<b>1,645.29</b>

## 7.4 Workforce Learning and Development (WLD)

- Table 1 below shows virtual classroom training attendance for Q1 2022
- Table 2 shows E-learning activity for Q1 2022.
- The Blended Working in Tusla Policy seminars provided with HR colleagues were the most attended of virtual training events with 1290 participants.
- The most popular E-learning module was 'Implementing Children First in Tusla' with 836 completions. This was followed by the 'Children First in Action' module with 615 completions. Overall, all Children First online training was very popular in this period, showing the benefits of having auto-renewal notifications for mandatory training modules.

### Other Developments in Q1 2022

- With the lifting of COVID restrictions, plans were made to commence some face-to-face delivery of training for Q2 2022.
- Work progressed on the planning of a programme of training to support CASP (Child Abuse Substantiation Policy) implementation.
- Commitments were made to the development and delivery of training on the new NCCIS2 system in September/October 2022.
- WLD staff continued to provide training in support of migration to Tusla Irl, from Dublin and also into the Mid-West

**Table 1: Virtual Classroom Training, Q1 2022**

<b>Name of Module</b>	<b>Total Completions</b>
Child & Youth Participation Virtual Classroom	53
Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Refresher Programme	166
National Child Care Information System (NCCIS) Fundamentals Training	156
NUIG/Tusla Event	40
Microsoft Outlook Training	13
Microsoft Excel Intermediate Training	7
Microsoft Excel Foundations Training	7
Microsoft Word Advanced Training	1
Microsoft Word Foundations Training	6
Microsoft Powerpoint Advanced Training	2
Microsoft Powerpoint Foundations Training	2
Microsoft Teams Training	19
Sharing Personal Data Safely	58
Tusla Coaching Skills Programme	16

Attachment Relationships in Tusla Practice Programme	12
Office for Legal Services Briefings	23
safeTALK	5
Understanding Self Harm	9
Blended Working in Tusla Webinar (x3)	1290
<b>Total</b>	<b>1885</b>

**Table 2: E-Learning Q1 2022**

<b>Name of Module</b>	<b>Total Completions</b>
An Introduction to Parental Participation for all staff	64
An Introduction to PPFS	55
An Introduction to Tusla's Approach to Commissioning	15
Caseload Management	54
CF in Action	615
Child Sexual Exploitation	90
Complaints Handling in Tusla Module1	320
Complaints Handling in Tusla Module2	105
Critical Incident Stress Management	66
Data Protection in Tusla	418
Freedom of Information: An Introduction to the FOI Act	463
Health and Safety Management: Introduction for Line Managers	24
Hidden Harm	70
Implementing CF	836
Introduction to Children First	608
Meitheal Briefing	38
Minute Taking - An Introduction	35
Parental Participation in Practice	22
Revised Standard Business Process (NCCIS)	50
Tusla Employee Health & Safety	667
Tusla NIMS (Complaints) Training Programme	19
Organisational Risk Management	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>4729</b>

## 8 FINANCE

### KEY FACTS

- The outturn for the year to date (March 2022) is an under spend of €5.819 million.
- Pay costs are under-spent against budget for the year to date by €6.4 million
- Non-pay costs are over-spent against budget year to date by €0.636 million

### Financial Performance

- The outturn for the year to date (March 2022) is an under spend of €5.819 million.
- The net expenditure for the year to date is €217.8 million against a budget allocation of €223.6 million.
- Pay costs are under-spent against budget for the year to date by €6.4 million

#### Pay Costs

Child and Family Agency	March 2022 YTD			% Variance
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Act vs Budget
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Pay costs	81,869	88,262	(-6,393)	(-7%)

- Non-pay costs are over-spent against budget year to date by €0.636 million

#### Non-Pay Costs

Child and Family Agency	March 2022 YTD			% Variance
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Act vs Budget
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Non pay costs	142,750	142,114	0.636	0%

## APPENDIX I

### ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations have been used for Tusla Service Areas in charts and tables presented in this report.

Service Area	Abbreviation
Dublin South Central	DSC
Dublin South East / Wicklow	DSE/WW
Dublin South West / Kildare / West Wicklow	DSW/K/WW
Midlands	Midlands
Dublin North City	DNC
Dublin North	DN
Louth / Meath	LH/MH
Cavan / Monaghan	CN/MN
Cork	Cork
Kerry	Kerry
Carlow Kilkenny / South Tipperary	CW/KK/ST
Waterford / Wexford	WD/WX
Mid West	Mid West
Galway / Roscommon	GY/RN
Mayo	Mayo
Donegal	Donegal
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	SLWC
SWTSCSIP	Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection