



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Quarterly Service Performance and Activity Report

QUARTER 2 2022



Quality & Regulation Directorate

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	2
1.0 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW	3
2.0 CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE SERVICES.....	10
2.1 Referrals (Child Welfare And Child Abuse/Neglect)	11
2.2 Social Work Activity Data (Child Protection & Welfare)	21
2.3 Child Protection Notification System	25
2.4 National Out Of Hours Service	28
3.0 ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES	30
3.1 Children in Care (Foster Care / Residential Care).....	30
3.2 Aftercare.....	39
3.3 Adoption Services.....	46
3.4 Foster Carers.....	49
4.0 CHILDREN'S SERVICES REGULATION	55
4.1 Early Years Inspectorate	55
4.2 Alternative Education Assessment And Registration.....	58
4.3 Non Statutory Alternative Care Services	61
5.0 TUSLA EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES	62
6.0 PREVENTION, PARTNERSHIP & FAMILY SUPPORT	65
6.1 Family Support Services	65
6.2 Meitheal.....	70
7.0 HUMAN RESOURCES	76
8.0 FINANCE	82
APPENDIX I.....	83

1.0 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

This report provides an update on the performance and activity of Tusla services at the end of Q2 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 Q2 2022 position regarding activity and performance.

CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE SERVICES

REFERRALS *(Data for Q1 2022 extracted from NCCIS on 21 July 2022)*

- 19,893 referrals to Child Protection and Welfare Services during Q1 2022; 313 (2%) more than Q4 2021 (19,580) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2020 – Q1 2022.
- More than half of referrals for Q1 2022 (53%; 10,615) were for welfare concerns, 37% (7,421) were for abuse/neglect, and the primary report type was not recorded for the remaining 9% (1,857) of referrals. A similar breakdown to 2021.
- The most common source of referrals in Q1 2022 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for 34% (6,830) of referrals, followed to a lesser extent by teachers (12%; 2,292) and social workers (11%; 2,239). Mandated persons accounted for 87% (17,266) of all sources. The mandated person was not specified for 8% (1,590) of referrals.
- 28% (5,490/19,893) of all referrals for Q1 2022 were mandated reports.
- 55% (10,882) of referrals for Q1 2022 were closed to social work following screening. Of the referrals closed in Q1 2022 (10,882), 39% (4,284) were closed with no further action required, a further 43% (4,628) were closed as assessment / safety planning was already ongoing and 7% (797) 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 7% (740) of referrals closed.
- 92% (7,504) of preliminary enquiries for Q1 2022 were closed at the time the data was extracted and of these 13% (985) were closed within 5 working days of receipt of referral.
- 44% (3,329) of referrals with a completed preliminary enquiry required no further action and were closed; 29% (2,178) required an initial assessment while assessment / safety planning was ongoing in 12% (875) of cases. Some 8% (603) of referrals were closed with diversion to PPFS.
- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 51% (1,107) of initial assessments required following a preliminary enquiry were closed, 18% (389) were ongoing/ awaiting sign-off while the remaining 31% (682) were awaiting commencement
- 36% (394) of initial assessments closed were closed within 40 days of receipt of referral.
- 50% (558) of referrals that required an initial assessment following the preliminary enquiry were closed to social work following completion of the initial assessment. Of these 67% (373) required

no further action, 22% (124) were diverted to another agency for a service, and 11% (61) were diverted to Tusla PPFS service.

- A further 4% (43) were closed as safety planning was already ongoing.
- 27% (296) of referrals required safety planning following completion of the initial assessment, a further 15% (162) required a children protection response / child protection conference and 4% (40) required admission to care.

SOCIAL WORK ACTIVITY DATA

- 22,017 cases open to social work nationally at the end of Q2 2022, 288 (1%) more than Q1 2022 (21,729), second consecutive increase from Q4 2021
- 75% (16,582/22,017) of open cases were allocated to a named social worker at the end of Q2 2022; down four percentage points from Q1 2022 (79%).
- 5,435 (25%) cases were awaiting allocation, 941 (21%) more than Q1 2022 (4,494).
- 64% (3,457) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were “active” on a duty system.
- 6% (350) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were categorised as high priority, 11 (3%) fewer than Q1 2022 (361).
- 77% (4,212/5,435) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were waiting three months or less and of these 61% (2,553) were waiting less than one month.
- 81% (284/350) of high priority cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were waiting 3 months or less and of these 79% (225) were waiting less than one month.

CHILD PROTECTION NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

- 915 children listed as ‘active’ on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS) at the end of Q2 2022, 56 (6%) fewer than Q1 2022 (971).
- 26 (3%) more children ‘active’ at the end of Q2 2022 than at the end of Q2 2021 (889).
- 83% (758) of children listed as “active” at the end of Q2 2022 were listed as “active for no longer than 12 months. No change from Q1 2022.
- 8% (69) were listed as “active” for > 18 months, up from 7% (65) at the end of Q1 2022.
- All children listed as “active” at the end of Q2 2022 had an allocated social worker.

NATIONAL OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

- 1,232 referrals to the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 498 (68%) more than Q1 2022 and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 1,966 the number of referrals for the first six months of 2022, 804 (69%) more than the same period in 2021 (1,162).
- 281 children were placed by the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 87 (45%) more than Q1 2022 and the highest numbers for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 475 the number of children placed for the first six months of 2022, 156 (49%) more than the same period in 2021 (319).

- 2,481 nights' accommodation supplied by the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 827 (50%) more than Q1 2022 (1,654) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 4,135 the number of nights' accommodation supplied for the first six months of 2022, 1,668 (68%) more than the same period in 2021 (2,467).

ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

CHILDREN IN CARE

- 5,836 children in care at the end of Q2 2022, same number as at the end of Q1 2022 (5,836 revised figure). The number of children in care is up 16 (<1%) on Q2 2021 (5,852).
- 89% (5,219) of children in care were in foster care (general and relative) at the end of Q2 2022 and 8% (429) were in a residential (general and special care) placement.
- 844 (14%) children in care at the end of Q2 2022 were in placements with private providers; 38 (5%) more than Q1 2022 (806 revised figure) and 94 (13%) more than Q2 2021 (750).
- 87% (5,106) of children in care at the end of Q2 2022 had an allocated social worker; down two percentage points from Q1 2022 (89%).
- 730 children were awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of Q2 2022; 92 (14%) more than at the end of Q1 2022 (638).

AFTERCARE

- 120 referrals in Q2 2022, 18 fewer than Q1 2022 (138). This brings to 258 the number of referrals for the first six months of 2022.
- 3,045 young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q2 2022, 73 (2%) fewer than Q1 2022 (3,118) and 53 (2%) more than Q2 2021 (2,992). First decrease after four consecutive increases from Q1 2021.
- 76% (1,735/2,289) of those 18-22 years inclusive in receipt of an aftercare service were in education/accredited training.
- 82% (2,508) of young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q2 2022 had an aftercare plan, down one percentage point from Q1 2022. A total of 537 were awaiting a plan, four more than Q1 2022 (533).
- 91% (2,119/2,317) of those assessed as needing an aftercare worker had an aftercare worker at the end of Q2 2022, no change from Q1 2022. A total of 198 young people were awaiting an aftercare worker at the end of Q2 2022, 24 (11%) fewer than Q1 2022 (222).

ADOPTION SERVICES

- 482 new enquiries regarding information and tracing received in Q2 2022, 197 (29%) fewer than Q1 2022 (679). This brings to 1,161 the number of enquiries for the first six months of 2022, 761 (40%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (1,922).
- 568 applicants awaiting an information and tracing service at the end of Q2 2022, 55 (9%) fewer than Q1 2022 (623) and 147 (21%) fewer than Q4 2021 (715), the third consecutive quarterly decrease.

- At the end of Q2 2022, the length of time from application (production of ID) to the provision of personal information in line with GDPR legislation ranged from 8 weeks to 24 weeks against a target of 8 weeks, up from 9 weeks to 16 weeks at the end of Q1 2022.

Adoption – data for 2022 not available at the time of writing. Metrics are under review

- 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

- 3,985 foster carers (all types minus Brussels II Regulation) on the panel of approved foster carers at the end of Q2 2022, six fewer than Q1 2022 (3,991) and the fewest number for the six quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022.
- 90% (2,378) of general foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q2 2022, up one percentage point from Q1 2022 (89%)
- 238 general foster carers were awaiting an allocated link worker; 25 (10%) fewer than Q1 2022 (263).
- 91% (965) of relative foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q2 2022, up two percentage point from Q1 2022 (89%).
- 92 relative foster carers on the panel were awaiting an allocated link worker at the end of Q2 2022; 22 (19%) fewer than Q1 2022 (114).
- 96% (169) of foster carers who had a child placed with them for >12 weeks had an allocated link (social) worker. A total of seven carers were awaiting a link worker, across two areas, down six from Q1 2022 (13).

CHILDREN'S SERVICES REGULATION

EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

- 4,095 early years services (EYS) on the register nationally at the end of Q2 2022, 23 fewer than Q1 2022 (4,118) and 64 (1.5%) fewer than Q2 2021 (4,159).
- 705 inspections (all types) carried out in Q2 2022, 63 (10%) more than Q1 2022 (642). This brings to 1,347 the number of inspections for the first six months of 2022, 92 (7%) more than the same period in 2021 (1,255). Inspections in early 2021 impacted due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- 1,010 incidents notified to the Inspectorate in Q2 2022, 1,994 (66%) fewer than Q1 2022 (3,004). This brings to 4,014 the number of incidents notified for the first six months of 2022,

3,265 more than the same period in 2021 (749). The majority of the incidents notified pertain to confirmed cases of Covid-19.

- 91 unsolicited information submissions received by the Inspectorate during Q2 2022, 25 (38%) more than Q1 2022 (66). This brings to 157 the number of submissions received for the first six months of 2022, 28 (22%) more than the same period in 2021 (129).
- 33 services were found to have closed in Q2 2022, bringing to 58 the number of services that were found to have closed in the first six months of 2022. A total of 61 services were found have closed during the same period in 2021.

NON-STATUTORY ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

- 142 non-statutory residential centres at the end Q2 2022; three fewer than Q1 2022 (145)
- A total of 44 inspections (all types) were conducted in Q2 2022, three fewer than Q1 2022 (revised figure). This brings to 91 the number of inspections for the first six months of 2022.
- 6 non-statutory foster care services at the end Q2 2022; no change from Q1 2022. Two monitoring visits conducted in Q2 2022.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND REGISTRATION

Home Education

- 1,851 children on the register for home education at the end of Q2 2022, six fewer than Q1 2022 (1,857) and 65 (4%) more than Q2 2021 (1,786).
- 199 applications received for home education during Q2 2022, 189 (49%) fewer than Q1 2022 (388) and 76 (28%) fewer than Q2 2021 (275). This brings to 587 the number of applications for the first six months of 2022, 13 (2%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (600).
- 130 assessments (all types) for home education carried out in Q2 2022, 25 (16%) fewer than Q1 2022 (155) and 14 (12%) more than Q2 2021 (116). This brings to 285 the number of assessments for the first six months of 2022, 22 (7%) fewer than Q2 2021 (307).
- 1,612 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of Q2 2022, 137 (8%) fewer than Q1 2022 (1,749) and the second consecutive decrease.

Independent Schools

- 56 assessed independent schools on the register at the end of Q2 2022, no change from Q1 2022
- 6,296 children in assessed independent schools at the end of Q2 2022 with 4,393 of these children on the register.
- 43 schools due for review assessment (\geq 3-year cycle) at the end of Q2 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.

- 6,468 referrals screened by senior educational welfare officers (EWO) for the 10 months Sept – June 2022, 1,070 (20%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (5,398).
- 3,617 screened referrals on a waiting list at the end of Q2 2022, 1,159 (47%) more than Q2 2021 (2,458).
- 2,936 new individual children worked with for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 523 (22%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (2,413).
- 571 school attendance notices (SANs) issued for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 473 more than the same period in 2020/2021 (98). The SANs issued were in respect of 392 individual children.
- 98 summonses issued for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022. None issued during the same period in 2020/2021. The summonses were in respect of 66 individual children.
- 127 Section 24 meetings convened by EWOs for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 48 (61%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (79).

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 17,873 children were in receipt of family support services at the end Q2 2022, 798 (5%) more than Q4 2021 (17,075). Based on a response rate of 88%
- At least 18,324 children referred to family support services during the first six months of 2022. This equates to about 1.5% of the child population (0-17 years).
- 65% (11,908) of children referred to family support services in the first six months of 2022 received a service. The percentage who received a service ranged from 94% (Cavan/Monaghan) to 43% (Kerry). Ten areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 65%.

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

- 1,168 Meitheal processes requested in the first six months of 2022, 37 more than the last six months of 2021 (1,131) and 74 fewer than the first six months of 2021 (1,242).
- The most common pathway for requests was Direct Access accounting for 70% (817) of requests. Social Work Diversion accounted for a further 16% (190) while Social Work Step-Down accounted for 8% (93) of requests. The pathway was not provided for the remaining 68 (6%) requests, (59 in Waterford/Wexford, 8 Donegal and 1 Galway/Roscommon).

- 84% (982/1,168) of Meitheal requests received in the first six months of 2022 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage).
- 836 Meitheal processes reached completion of Stage 2 in the first six months of 2022.
- 55% (456) of processes reaching completion of Stage 2, proceeded to delivery (Stage 3) (Meitheal Support Meeting).
- 862 Meitheal processes were closed in the first six months of 2022. 24% (211) of Meitheal processes were closed following submission of a Meitheal request form (Stage 1); 29% (247) were closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Stage 2 Discussion Stage); 13% (109) were closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings (Stage 3) and 34% (295) were closed post-delivery
- 123 Child and Family Support Networks (CFSN) operating at the end of Q2 2022. A further 22 CFSNs are planned/pre planning stage.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- 4,574 whole time equivalent (WTE) staff (excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q2 2022, 15 fewer than Q1 2022 (4,589) and 31 fewer than Q2 2021 (4,605).
- 293 new staff joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in the first six months of 2022.
- 258 staff left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks, excluding retirements) and 66 staff retired in the first six months of 2022.
- At the end of Q2 2022, the overall absence rate for the Agency was 7.27%, 1.78 percentage points lower than Q1 2022 (9.05%) and 1.95 percentage points higher than Q2 2021 (5.32%).
- e-learning activity: 5,388 completions were achieved in Q2 2022.
- Virtual classroom training: 1,137 completions.

FINANCE

- The outturn for the year to date (June 2022) is an under spend of €1.528 million.
- Pay costs are under-spent against budget for the year to date by €11.692 million.
- Non-pay costs are over-spent against budget year to date by €11.381 million.

2.0 CHILD PROTECTION AND WELFARE SERVICES

Key Facts (figures for Q1 2022 based on data extracted from NCCIS on 21 July 2022)

- 19,893 referrals to Child Protection and Welfare Services during Q1 2022; 313 (2%) more than Q4 2021 (19,580) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2020 – Q1 2022.
- More than half of referrals for Q1 2022 (53%; 10,615) were for welfare concerns, 37% (7,421) were for abuse/neglect, and the primary report type was not recorded for the remaining 9% (1,857) of referrals. A similar breakdown to 2021.
- The most common source of referrals in Q1 2022 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for 34% (6,830) of referrals, followed to a lesser extent by teachers (12%; 2,292) and social workers (11%; 2,239). Mandated persons accounted for 87% (17,266) of all sources. The mandated person was not specified for 8% (1,590) of referrals.
- 28% (5,490/19,893) of all referrals for Q1 2022 were mandated reports.
- 55% (10,882) of referrals for Q1 2022 were closed to social work following screening. Of the referrals closed in Q1 2022 (10,882), 39% (4,284) were closed with no further action required, a further 43% (4,628) were closed as assessment / safety planning was already ongoing and 7% (797) 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 7% (740) of referrals closed.
- 92% (7,504) of preliminary enquiries for Q1 2022 were closed at the time the data was extracted and of these 13% (985) were closed within 5 working days of receipt of referral.
- 44% (3,329) of referrals with a completed preliminary enquiry required no further action and were closed; 29% (2,178) required an initial assessment while assessment / safety planning was ongoing in 12% (875) of cases. Some 8% (603) of referrals were closed with diversion to PPFS.
- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 51% (1,107) of initial assessments required following a preliminary enquiry were closed, 18% (389) were ongoing/ awaiting sign-off while the remaining 31% (682) were awaiting commencement
- 36% (394) of initial assessments closed were closed within 40 days of receipt of referral.
- 50% (558) of referrals that required an initial assessment following the preliminary enquiry were closed to social work following completion of the initial assessment. Of these 67% (373) required no further action, 22% (124) were diverted to another agency for a service, and 11% (61) were diverted to Tusla PPFS service.
- A further 4% (43) were closed as safety planning was already ongoing.
- 27% (296) of referrals required safety planning following completion of the initial assessment, a further 15% (162) required a children protection response / child protection conference and 4% (40) 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)

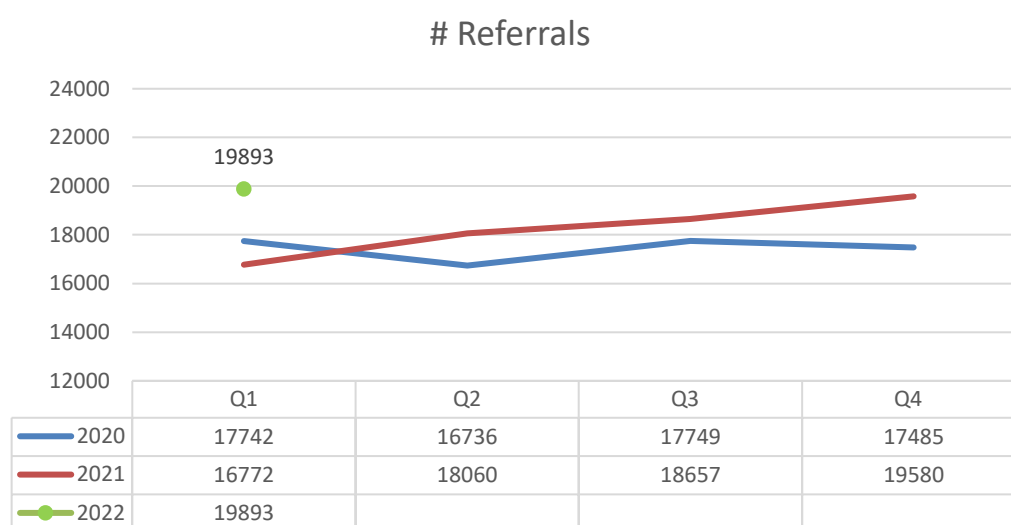
2.4 Crisis Intervention Service / Out of Hours Service

2.1 REFERRALS (CHILD WELFARE AND CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT)

Number of Referrals

Data for Q1 2021 extracted from NCCIS on 21 July 2022

- 19,893 referrals to Child Protection and Welfare Services during Q1 2022¹; 313 (2%) more than Q4 2021 (19,580) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2020 – Q1 2022.
- 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 Q1 2022 (53%; 10,615) were for welfare concerns, 37% (7,421) were for abuse/neglect, and the primary report type was not recorded for the remaining 9% (1,857) of referrals (Tables 1 and 2). A similar breakdown to 2021.

Table 1: Percentage of referrals by primary report type

Primary Report Type	Total 2021	Q1 2022
Welfare	52%	53.4%
Emotional abuse	15%	16.3%
Neglect	5%	5.4%
Physical abuse	9%	9.2%
Sexual abuse	6%	6.5%
Not recorded	14%	9.3%
Total	100%	100%

Table 2: Number of referrals by primary report type

Primary Report Type	Total 2021	Q1 2022
Welfare	37,758	10,615

¹ Data on referrals are reported quarterly in arrears.

Emotional abuse	10,888	3,237
Neglect	3,682	1,070
Physical abuse	6,391	1,830
Sexual abuse	4,331	1,284
Not recorded	10,019	1,857
Total	73,069	19,893

Referrals by Area

- The number of referrals for Q1 2022 equates to about 17 referrals per 1,000 population under 18 years. The rate of referrals ranges from 9 per 1,000 (Dublin South East/Wicklow) to 26 per 1,000 (Dublin North City). Seven areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national average of 17/1,000.
- The areas that reported the highest numbers of referrals in Q1 2022 were Midlands (2,023), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (1,958), Cork (1,904) and Louth/Meath (1,644). The fewest number was reported by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (337) followed by Mayo (358) and Kerry (553). A breakdown of referrals by area is presented in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Breakdown of referrals by area

Area	Total 2021	Pop 0-17 years	Rate /1,000 pop YTD	Total Q1 2022	Rate /1,000 pop YTD
DSC	5080	65,564	77.5	1504	22.9
DSE/WW	3086	86,810	35.5	782	9.0
DSW/K/WW	6834	108,186	63.2	1958	18.1
Midlands	7254	80,193	90.5	2023	25.2
DNC	4755	44,927	105.8	1172	26.1
Dublin North	6982	100,654	69.4	1568	15.6
LH/MH	4956	93,093	53.2	1644	17.7
CN/MN	2231	36,446	61.2	612	16.8
Cork	6448	134,015	48.1	1904	14.2
Kerry	2085	34,527	60.4	553	16.0
CW/KK/ST	3938	63,009	62.5	958	15.2
WD/WX	5146	68,513	75.1	1438	21.0
MidWest	5383	96,266	55.9	1459	15.2
GY/RN	3848	79,912	48.2	1062	13.3
Mayo	1531	31,968	47.9	358	11.2
Donegal	2097	42,865	48.9	561	13.1
SLWC	1415	23,554	60.1	337	14.3
National	73069	1,190,502	61.4	19893	16.7

Source of Referrals

- The most common source of referrals in Q1 2022 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for 34% (6,830) of referrals, followed to a lesser extent by teachers (12%; 2,292) and social workers (11%; 2,239). Mandated persons accounted for 87% (17,266) of all

sources. The mandated person was not specified for 8% (1,590) of referrals. The source of all referrals is presented in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Source of Referrals (ranked by # referrals Q1 2022

Source	Total 2021	% Total	Total Q1 2022	% Total
Member of An Garda Siochana	26922	36.80%	6,830	34.3%
Teacher	6146	8.40%	2292	11.5%
Social worker	8066	11.00%	2239	11.3%
Mandated reporter - not specified	5713	7.80%	1590	8.0%
Social care worker	2640	3.60%	834	4.2%
A safe guarding officer,	2317	3.20%	767	3.9%
Anonymous	2777	3.80%	724	3.6%
Parent/Guardian	2977	4.10%	704	3.5%
Medical practitioner	2105	2.90%	588	3.0%
Other	2576	3.50%	534	2.7%
Manager of domestic violence shelter	1569	2.10%	464	2.3%
Registered nurse /midwife	1812	2.50%	406	2.0%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	1103	1.50%	324	1.6%
Other family member	1143	1.60%	286	1.4%
Psychologist	1059	1.40%	260	1.3%
Member of the public	696	1.00%	159	0.8%
Courts 1 (S.20 Child Care Act)	548	0.70%	156	0.8%
Youth worker	626	0.90%	126	0.6%
Manager of homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility	565	0.80%	87	0.4%
Person responsible for the care or management of a youth work service	367	0.50%	83	0.4%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	158	0.20%	73	0.4%
Probation officer	125	0.20%	64	0.3%
Emergency medical technician	52	0.10%	42	0.2%
Foster carer registered with the Agency	138	0.20%	33	0.2%
Self	147	0.20%	32	0.2%
Occupational therapist	102	0.10%	32	0.2%
A person carrying on a pre-school service	96	0.10%	32	0.2%
Speech and language therapist	97	0.10%	27	0.1%
An addiction counsellor	87	0.10%	20	0.1%
Other Court Request	46	0.10%	20	0.1%
Physiotherapist	94	0.10%	12	0.1%
Manager of asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision centre)	69	0.10%	12	0.1%
International Social Services	49	0.10%	12	0.1%
Guardian Ad Litem	31	0.00%	9	0.05%
Member of the Clergy	16	0.00%	6	0.03%
Dentist	8	0.00%	6	0.03%
Director of any institution where a child is detained by an order of a court	15	0.00%	*	*
Manager of a language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home	10	0.00%	*	*
HSE Officer	2	0.00%	-	-
Total	73,069	100.00%	19,893	100.0%

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

Mandated Reports

- 28% (5,490/19,893) of all referrals for Q1 2022 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 9% 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%; 2,247) for Q1 2022 were for emotional abuse; fewest number for neglect (13%; 701).

Table 5: Mandated reports by primary report type

Primary Report Type	Total 2021	% Total	Q1 2022	% Total
Physical Abuse	4836	26%	1,446	26%
Emotional Abuse	7611	41%	2,247	41%
Sexual Abuse	3646	20%	1,096	20%
Neglect	2280	12%	701	13%
Total	18373	100%	5,490	100%

- A breakdown of mandated reports by area is presented in Table 6 below. The number of mandated reports for Q1 2022 ranges from 661 (Cork) to 103 (Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) while the percentage of referrals that were mandated reports ranges from 40% (142/358) for Mayo to 15% (215/1,459) in Midwest.

Table 6: Mandated reports by area

Area	# Referrals 2021	# Mandated Reports 2021	% Mandated Reports	# Referrals Q1 2022	# Mandated Reports Q1 2022	% Mandated Reports
DSC	5080	1113	22%	1504	412	27%
DSE/WW	3086	945	31%	782	224	29%
DSW/K/WW	6834	1066	16%	1958	344	18%
Midlands	7254	1651	23%	2023	485	24%
DNC	4755	1585	33%	1172	396	34%
Dublin North	6982	2678	38%	1568	605	39%
LH/MH	4956	1569	32%	1644	548	33%
CN/MN	2231	462	21%	612	164	27%
Cork	6448	1820	28%	1904	661	35%
Kerry	2085	522	25%	553	166	30%
CW/KK/ST	3938	749	19%	958	331	35%
WD/WX	5146	682	13%	1438	221	15%
MidWest	5383	816	15%	1459	215	15%
GY/RN	3848	1085	28%	1062	325	31%
Mayo	1531	519	34%	358	142	40%
Donegal	2097	551	26%	561	148	26%
SLWC	1415	560	40%	337	103	31%
National	73069	18373	25%	19,893	5,490	28%

- A breakdown of source of mandated reports is presented in Table 7 below. The most common source of reports for Q1 2022 was members of An Garda Síochána accounting for

40% (2,180) of all mandated reports, followed to a lesser extent by teachers (19%; 1,042) and social workers (13%; 731).

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

Source	# 2021 YTD	% 2021 YTD	Q1 2022	% 2022 YTD
Member of An Garda Siochana	7915	43.10%	2180	39.7%
Teacher	2648	14.40%	1042	19.0%
Social worker	2326	12.70%	731	13.3%
A safeguarding officer	762	4.10%	284	5.2%
Social care worker	1048	5.70%	281	5.1%
Medical practitioner	757	4.10%	204	3.7%
Manager of domestic violence shelter	571	3.10%	199	3.6%
Psychotherapist or a person providing counselling	471	2.60%	151	2.8%
Psychologist	492	2.70%	103	1.9%
Registered nurse /midwife	370	2.00%	98	1.8%
Child care staff member employed in a pre-school service	69	0.40%	37	0.7%
Youth worker	239	1.30%	35	0.6%
Person responsible for the care or management of a youth work service	128	0.70%	32	0.6%
Occupational therapist	46	0.30%	17	0.3%
A person carrying on a pre-school service	41	0.20%	14	0.3%
Probation officer	26	0.10%	13	0.2%
Emergency medical technician	22	0.10%	11	0.2%
Manager of homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility	174	0.90%	10	0.2%
Foster carer registered with the Agency	72	0.40%	10	0.2%
Physiotherapist	56	0.30%	10	0.2%
Speech and language therapist	38	0.20%	9	0.2%
Manager of asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision centre)	41	0.20%	5	0.1%
Guardian Ad Litem	19	0.10%	*	*
Dentist	4	0.00%	*	*
Manager of a language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home	4	0.00%	*	*
An addiction counsellor	21	0.10%	*	*
Member of the Clergy	8	0.00%	*	*
Director of any institution where a child is detained by an order of a court	5	0.00%	*	*
Total	18373	100.0%	5,490	100%

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

Screening

- 55% (10,882) of referrals for Q1 2022 were closed following screening (Table 8).
- 41% (8,160) of referrals for Q1 2022 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

Area	% Referrals closed 2021	% Referrals closed Q1 2022
DSC	64%	65%
DSE/WW	44%	50%
DSW/K/WW	63%	67%
Midlands	51%	64%
DNC	39%	46%
Dublin North	51%	52%
LH/MH	57%	61%
CN/MN	45%	52%
Cork	43%	47%
Kerry	43%	43%
CW/KK/ST	44%	43%
WD/WX	44%	49%
MidWest	54%	48%
GY/RN	48%	52%
Mayo	57%	60%
Donegal	57%	63%
SLWC	32%	42%
National	50%	55%

- A breakdown of the outcome of referrals closed following screening is presented below (Table 9). Of the referrals closed in Q1 2022 (10,882), 39% (4,284) were closed with no further action required, a further 43% (4,628) were closed as assessment / safety planning was already ongoing and 7% (797) 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 7% (740) of referrals closed.

Table 9: Outcome of referrals closed following screening

Outcome of referrals closed	# 2021	% 2021	Q1 2022	% Q1 2022
No further action - close	15,297	42%	4,284	39%
No further action – close, assessment / safety planning ongoing	14,760	40%	4,628	43%
Divert to another agency - close	736	2%	269	2%
Divert to PPFS - close	2,287	6%	797	7%
Other	294	1%	164	2%
Not recorded	3,410	9%	740	7%
Total	36,784	100%	10,882	100%

- The breakdown of outcomes of referrals closed following screening, by area for Q1 2022 is presented in the table below (Table 10).

Table 10: Outcome of referrals closed following screening by area, Q1 2022

Area	No further action - close	No further action – close, assessment / safety planning ongoing	Divert to PPFS - close
DSC	38%	37%	15%
DSE/WW	42%	45%	1%
DSW/K/WW	34%	41%	18%
Midlands	40%	56%	1%
DNC	37%	43%	4%
Dublin North	17%	53%	26%
LH/MH	46%	45%	4%
CN/MN	23%	53%	23%
Cork	41%	44%	3%
Kerry	58%	38%	0%
CW/KK/ST	59%	40%	0.2%
WD/WX	42%	40%	3%
MidWest	32%	31%	0.1%
GY/RN	41%	19%	1.6%
Mayo	71%	28%	0%
Donegal	56%	39%	0%
SLWC	45%	51%	0%
National	39%	43%	7%

Preliminary Enquiries

- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 92% (7,504) of preliminary enquiries for Q1 2022 were closed. A breakdown of preliminary enquiries closed by area is presented in the table below (Table 11).
- 13% (985) of preliminary enquiries that were closed were closed within 5 working days. A breakdown of the percentage of preliminary enquiries closed within 5 working days by area is presented in the table below.

Table 11: Preliminary enquiries commenced and closed, Q1 2022

Area	# PEs commenced	# PEs closed	% PEs closed	% PEs closed 5 days
DSC	384	339	88%	6%
DSE/WW	355	349	98%	18%
DSW/K/WW	460	411	89%	7%
Midlands	653	623	95%	8%
DNC	564	448	79%	28%
Dublin North	660	555	84%	11%
LH/MH	616	596	97%	10%
CN/MN	280	262	94%	6%
Cork	998	866	87%	12%
Kerry	274	269	98%	9%

CW/KK/ST	538	528	98%	16%
WD/WX	655	596	91%	14%
MidWest	744	732	98%	19%
GY/RN	469	438	93%	12%
Mayo	122	110	90%	7%
Donegal	194	189	97%	10%
SLWC	194	193	99%	24%
National	8160	7504	92%	13%

- 44% (3,329) of referrals with a closed preliminary enquiry required no further action and were closed; 29% (2,178) required an initial assessment while assessment / safety planning was ongoing in 12% (875) of cases. Some 8% (603) of referrals were closed with diversion to PPFS (Table 12).

Table 12: Outcomes from preliminary enquiries, Q1 2022

Outcomes from preliminary enquiry	#	%
No further action - close	3,329	44%
No further action – close, assessment / safety planning ongoing	875	12%
Initial Assessment	2,178	29%
Divert to another agency - close	519	7%
Divert to PPFS - close	603	8%
Total	7,504	100%

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

Table 13: Percentage breakdown of outcomes of preliminary enquires, by area Q1 2022

Area	% Closed - No further Action	% Requiring IA	% Divert - PPFS	% Closed - Assessment / Safety Planning Ongoing	% Closed - Divert to Another Agency
DSC	53%	24%	4%	9%	10%
DSE/WW	39%	40%	9%	7%	5%
DSW/K/WW	51%	23%	9%	9%	9%
Midlands	47%	28%	8%	14%	4%
DNC	24%	28%	3%	37%	8%
Dublin North	39%	37%	15%	5%	4%
LH/MH	49%	29%	16%	1%	5%
CN/MN	52%	20%	11%	13%	4%
Cork	47%	33%	1%	11%	8%
Kerry	59%	25%	4%	10%	2%
CW/KK/ST	44%	21%	20%	14%	1%
WD/WX	43%	25%	8%	21%	3%
MidWest	41%	27%	1%	12%	18%
GY/RN	47%	29%	8%	5%	10%
Mayo	49%	36%	9%	2%	4%
Donegal	36%	44%	4%	9%	7%
SLWC	43%	35%	8%	10%	4%
National	44%	29%	8%	12%	7%

Initial Assessments

- At the time the data was extracted for reporting, 51% (1,107) of initial assessments required following a preliminary enquiry were closed, 18% (389) were ongoing/ awaiting sign-off while the remaining 31% (682) were awaiting commencement (Table 14).
- 36% (394) of initial assessments closed were closed within 40 days of receipt of referral.

Table 14: Breakdown of the status of Initial assessments, Q1 2022

Area	IA Closed	IA Ongoing/Awaiting sign-off	IA not started	% IAs closed 40 working days
DSC	50%	15%	35%	37%
DSE/WW	69%	6%	25%	41%
DSW/K/WW	64%	11%	26%	35%
Midlands	37%	16%	48%	34%
DNC	22%	50%	28%	29%
Dublin North	26%	50%	24%	7%
LH/MH	21%	27%	53%	22%
CN/MN	17%	13%	69%	33%
Cork	64%	11%	25%	29%
Kerry	69%	4%	27%	63%
CW/KK/ST	50%	2%	48%	32%
WD/WX	53%	5%	42%	40%
MidWest	73%	10%	17%	44%
GY/RN	54%	26%	21%	39%
Mayo	80%	5%	15%	6%
Donegal	92%	2%	6%	55%
SLWC	50%	15%	35%	24%
National	51%	18%	31%	36%

- 50% (558) of referrals that required an initial assessment following the preliminary enquiry were closed to social work following completion of the initial assessment. Of these 67% (373) required no further action, 22% (124) were diverted to another agency for a service, and 11% (61) were diverted to Tusla PPFS service.
- A further 4% (43) were closed as safety planning was already ongoing.
- 27% (296) of referrals required safety planning following completion of the initial assessment, a further 15% (162) required a children protection response / child protection conference and 4% (40) 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, Q1 2022

Outcomes from initial assessments	#	%
Admission to Care	40	3.6%
Child Protection / CPC Safety Planning	162	14.6%
Divert to Another Agency - Close	124	11.2%
Divert to PPFS - Close	61	5.5%
Family Welfare Conference	8	0.7%
No Further Action (NFA) - Close	373	33.7%
No Further Action (NFA) - Close, Assessment/Safety Planning ongoing	43	3.9%
Safety Planning	296	26.7%
Total	1107	100.0%

2.2 SOCIAL WORK ACTIVITY DATA (Child Protection & Welfare)

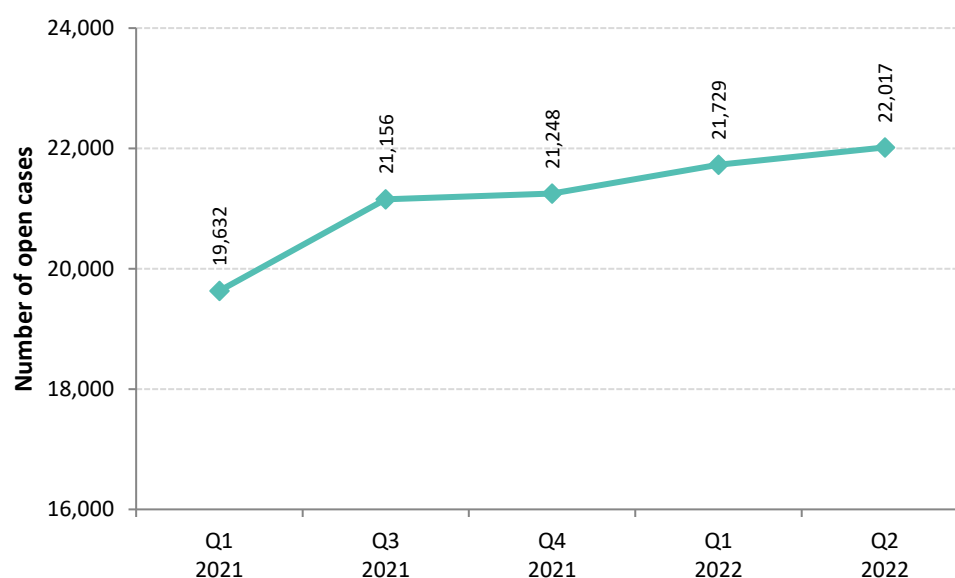
Key Facts

- 22,017 cases open to social work nationally at the end of Q2 2022, 288 (1%) more than Q1 2022 (21,729), second consecutive increase from Q4 2021
- 75% (16,582/22,017) of open cases were allocated to a named social worker at the end of Q2 2022; down four percentage points from Q1 2022 (79%).
- 5,435 (25%) cases were awaiting allocation, 941 (21%) more than Q1 2022 (4,494).
- 64% (3,457) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were “active” on a duty system.
- 6% (350) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were categorised as high priority, 11 (3%) fewer than Q1 2022 (361).
- 77% (4,212/5,435) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were waiting three months or less and of these 61% (2,553) were waiting less than one month.
- 81% (284/350) of high priority cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were waiting 3 months or less and of these 79% (225) were waiting less than one month.

2.2.1 Open Cases

- 22,017 cases open² to social work nationally at the end of Q2 2022, 288 (1%) more than Q1 2022 (21,729), second consecutive increase from Q4 2021. *Data for Q2 2021 not available due to the impact of the cyber-attack.*

Number of open cases by year

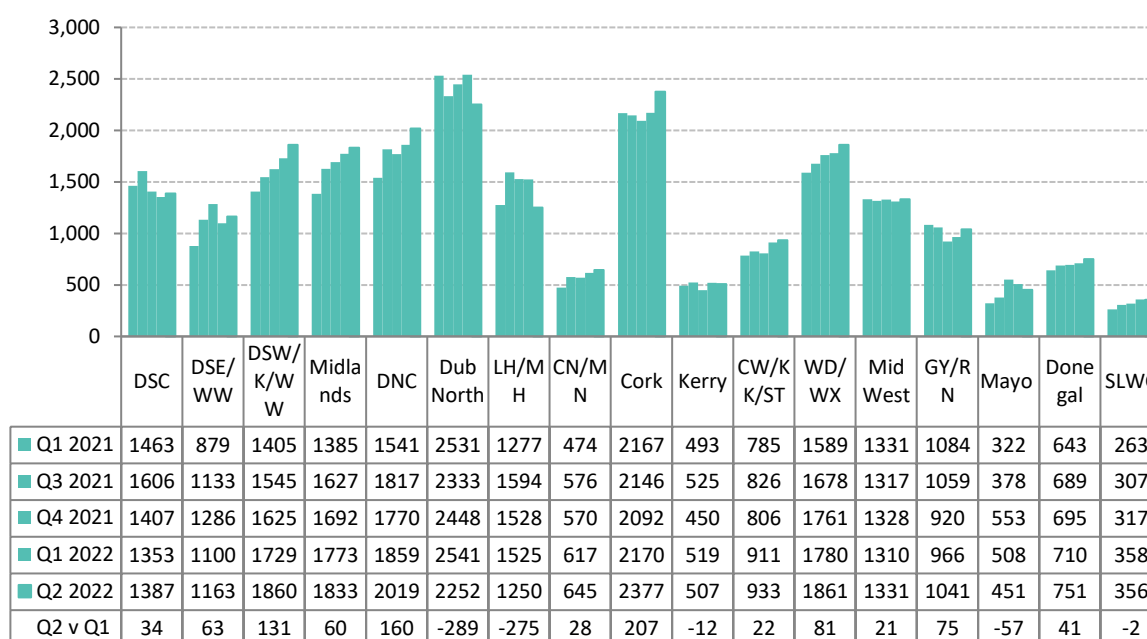


Data for Q2 2021 not available due to the impact of the cyber-attack.

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

- The number of open cases ranged from 2,377 (11%) in Cork to 356 (2%) in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan. Eight of the 17 areas had between 1,000 and 2,000 cases; six areas had fewer than 1,000 cases while the remaining three areas (Cork, Dublin North and Dublin North City) had in excess of 2,000 cases.
- 12 areas reported an increase in open cases from Q1 2022. The largest increase was reported by Cork (up 207) followed by Dublin North City (up 160) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 131).
- Of the five areas that reported a decrease, the largest decrease was reported by Dublin North (down 289) followed by Louth/Meath (down 275), Mayo (down 57), Kerry (down 12) and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (down 2).

Number of open cases by area

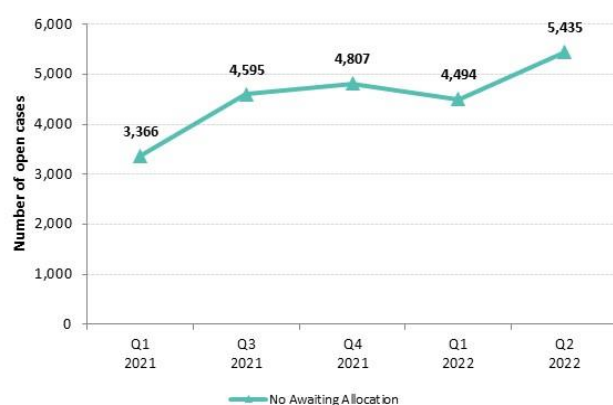
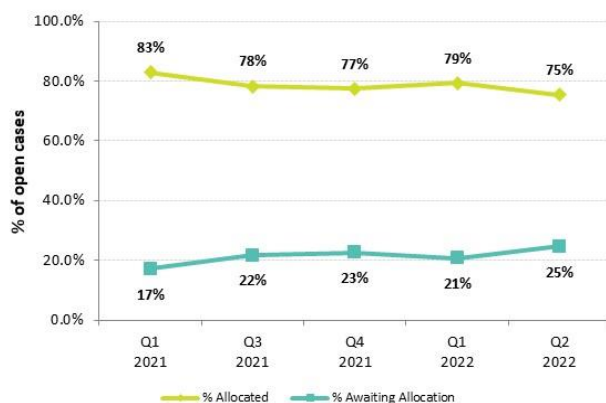


2.2.2 Open Cases Allocated / Awaiting Allocation

- 75% (16,582/22,017) of open cases were allocated to a named social worker at the end of Q2 2022; down four percentage points from Q1 2022 (79%).
- 5,435 (25%) cases were awaiting allocation, 941 (21%) more than Q1 2022 (4,494).
- 64% (3,457) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were “active” on a duty system³.

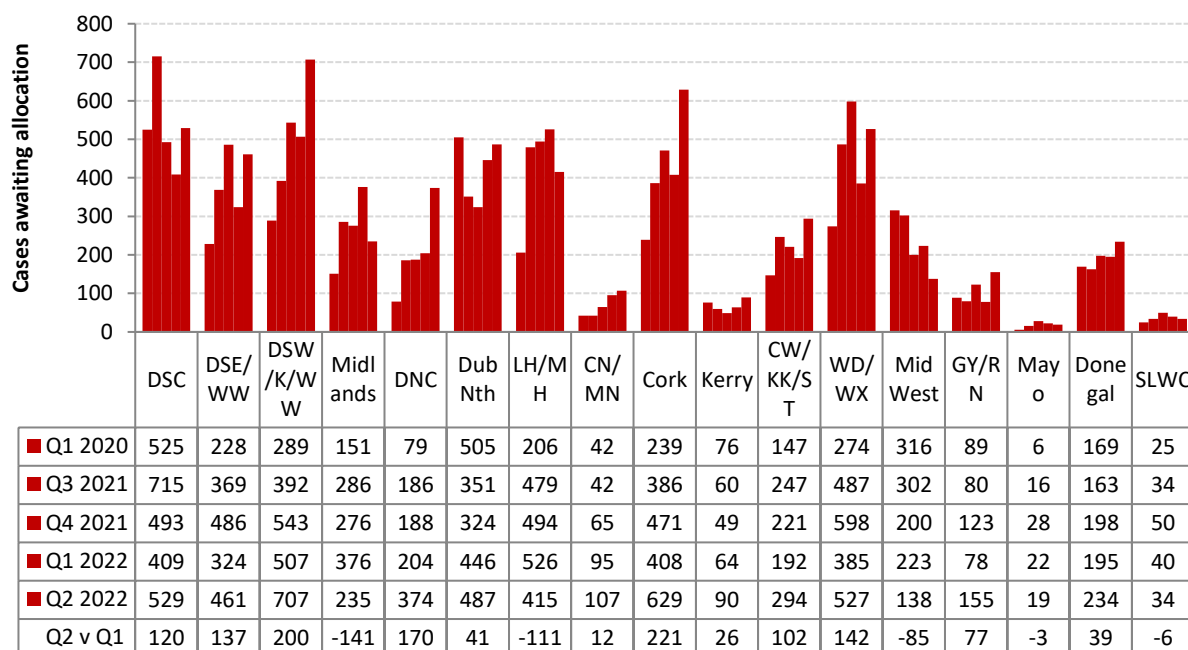
³ A case awaiting allocation may be “active” on a “duty” system. This means that there are actions being undertaken by a dedicated duty team or rotating social workers on a duty roster to progress the protection and welfare of the child. Examples of actions being undertaken include telephone calls relating 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



- Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow reported the highest number of cases awaiting allocation (707 13%) followed by Cork (629; 12%), Dublin South Central (529; 10%), Waterford/Wexford (527; 10%), Dublin North (487; 9%) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (461; 8%). These six areas account for 61% (3,340) of cases awaiting allocation.
- 12 areas reported an increase in cases awaiting allocation from Q1 2022 with the largest increases reported by Cork (up 221), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 200), Dublin North City (up 170) and Waterford/Wexford (up 142).
- 5 areas reported a decrease with the largest decreases reported by Midlands (down 141) and Louth/Meath (down 111).

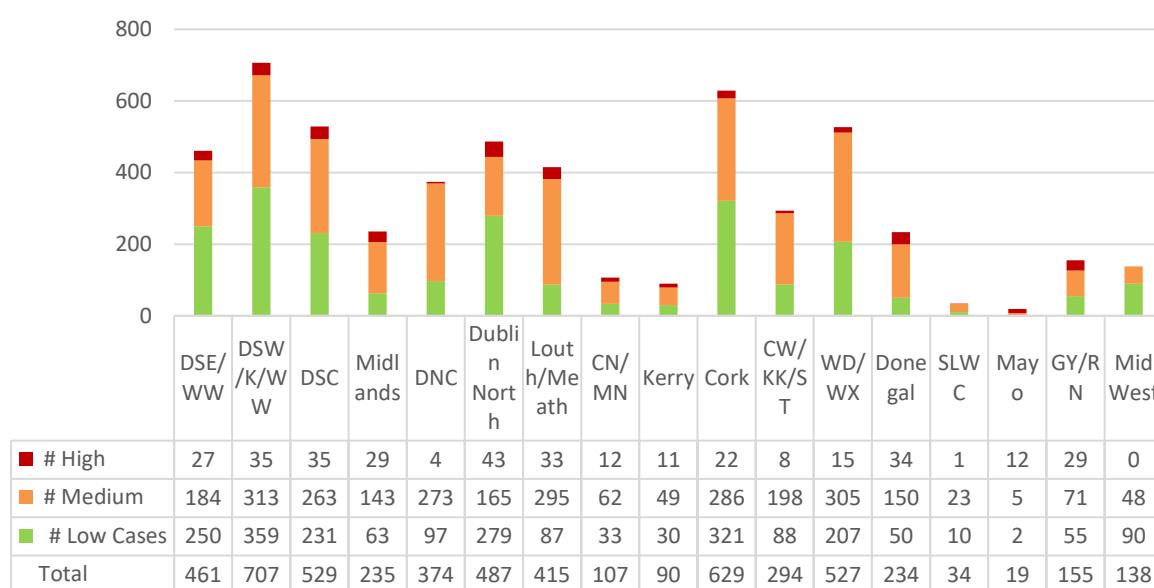
Number of open cases awaiting allocation by area



2.2.3 Cases Awaiting Allocation by Priority Level

- 6% (350) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were categorised as high priority, 11 (3%) fewer than Q1 2022 (361).
- 52% (2,833) of cases awaiting allocation were categorised at medium priority while the remaining 41% (2,252) were low priority.
- The highest number of high priority cases was reported by Dublin North (43) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (35), Dublin South Central (35), Donegal (34) and Louth/Meath (33). These five areas account for 51% (180) of all high priority cases awaiting.

Number Unallocated Cases by Priority Level



2.2.4 Cases Awaiting Allocation by Waiting Time

- 77% (4,212/5,435) of cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were waiting three months or less and of these 61% (2,553) were waiting less than one month.
- 81% (284/350) of high priority cases awaiting allocation at the end of Q2 2022 were waiting 3 months or less and of these 79% (225) were waiting less than one month.

Breakdown of cases awaiting allocation by priority level and time waiting

Time Waiting	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022
<1 month	2,081 (45%)	1,865 (39%)	2,248 (50%)	2,553 (47%)
1-3 months	1,173 (26%)	1,661 (35%)	1,153 (26%)	1,659 (31%)
>3 months	1,341 (29%)	1,281 (27%)	1,093 (24%)	1,223 (23%)
Total	4,595 (100%)	4,807 (100%)	4,494 (100%)	5,435 (100%)

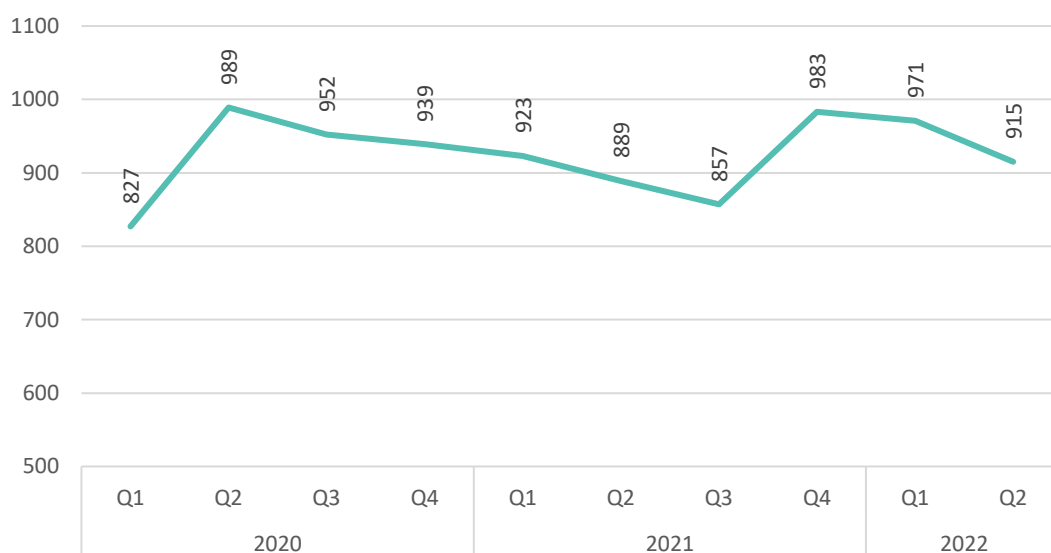
2.3 CHILD PROTECTION NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

KEY FACTS

- 915 children listed as ‘active’ on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)¹ at the end of Q2 2022, 56 (6%) fewer than Q1 2022 (971).
 - 26 (3%) more children ‘active’ at the end of Q2 2022 than at the end of Q2 2021 (889).
 - 83% (758) of children listed as “active” at the end of Q2 2022 were listed as “active for no longer than 12 months. No change from Q1 2022.
 - 8% (69) were listed as “active” for > 18 months, up from 7% (65) at the end of Q1 2022.
 - All children listed as “active” at the end of Q2 2022 had an allocated social worker.
- 915 children listed as ‘active’ on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS)⁴ at the end of Q2 2022, 56 (6%) fewer than Q1 2022 (971).
 - 26 (3%) more children ‘active’ at the end of Q2 2022 than at the end of Q2 2021 (889).

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 7.7 children per 10,000 under 18 years and ranges from 2.9/10,000 in Louth/Meath to 15.1/10,000 in Dublin North City, almost double the national average. Nine areas reported a rate equal to or higher than the national average.

⁴ 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.

- Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow reported the highest number (91) of children “active”, followed by Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (79) and Cork (78). Kerry reported the fewest number (17) followed by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (22) and Louth/Meath (27).

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

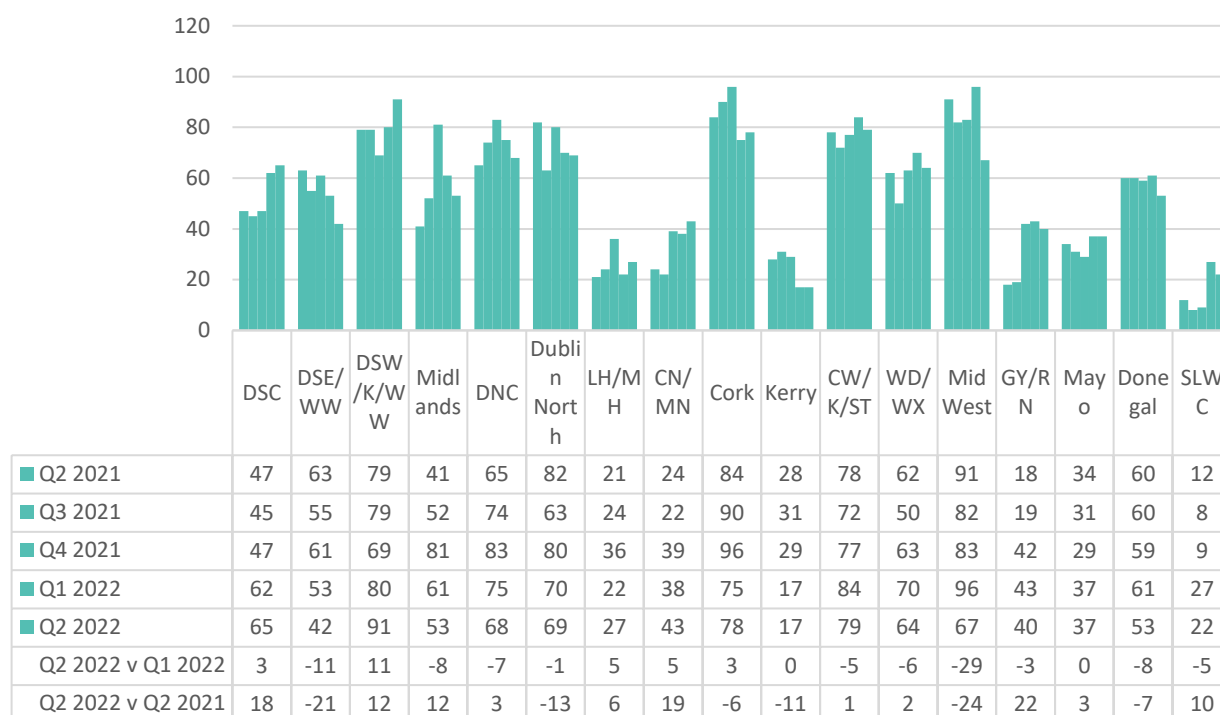
Area	# Q2 2022	Population 0-17 years	Rate / 10,000 pop
Dublin North City	68	44927	15.1
Carlow / Kilkenny / South Tipperary	79	63009	12.5
Donegal	53	42865	12.4
Cavan / Monaghan	43	36446	11.8
Mayo	37	31968	11.6
Dublin South Central	65	65564	9.9
Waterford / Wexford	64	68513	9.3
Sligo / Leitrim / West Cavan	22	23554	9.3
Dublin South West / Kildare / West Wicklow	91	108186	8.4
Mid West	67	96266	7.0
Dublin North	69	100654	6.9
Midlands	53	80193	6.6
Cork	78	134015	5.8
Galway / Roscommon	40	79912	5.0
Kerry	17	34527	4.9
Dublin South East / Wicklow	42	86810	4.8
Louth / Meath	27	93093	2.9
Total	915	1190502	7.7

Population: Census 2016

- 5/17 areas reported an increase in the number “active” from Q1 2022. The largest increase was reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 11) followed by Louth/Meath (up 5), Cavan/Monaghan (up 5), Dublin South Central (up 3) and Cork (up 3).
- 10/17 areas reported a decrease in the number “active” from Q1 2022. The largest decrease was reported by Midwest (down 29) followed by Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 11), Donegal (down 8) and Midlands (down 8). The remaining two areas (Kerry and Mayo) reported no change.
- 11/17 areas had more children “active” at the end of Q2 2022 than Q2 2021. Largest increases reported by Galway/Roscommon (up 22), Cavan/Monaghan (up 19) and Dublin South Central (up 18).
- 6/17 areas had fewer children “active” at the end of Q2 2022 than Q2 2021. Largest decreases reported by Midwest (down 24), Dublin South East/Wicklow (down 21), Dublin North (down 13) and Kerry (down 11).

- Two areas (Dublin South Central and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow) have reported two consecutive increases while four areas (Dublin South East/Wicklow, Midlands, Dublin North City and Dublin North) have reported two consecutive decreases.

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

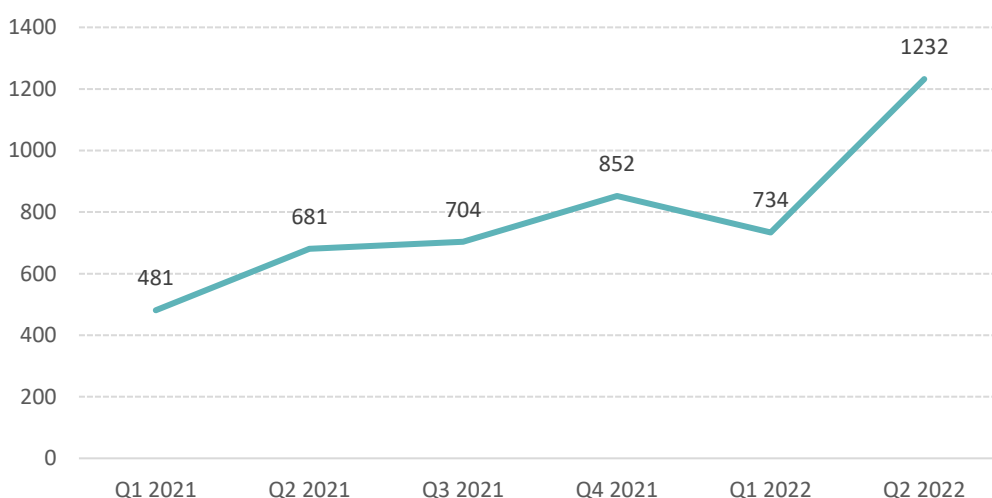


- 53% (485) of children listed as “active” at the end of Q2 2022 were listed for 0-6 months, down from 60% (582) at the end of Q1 2022.
- 83% (758) of children were listed as “active for no longer than 12 months, no change from Q1 2022.
- 8% (69) were listed as “active” for > 18 months, up from 7% (65) at the end of Q1 2022.
- Four areas (Dublin South East/Wicklow, Kerry, Midlands and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) had no child “active” for longer than 18 months while four areas (Cavan/Monaghan, Galway/Roscommon, Louth/Meath and Midwest) had no child “active” for longer than 24 months.
- All children listed as “active” at the end of Q2 2022 had an allocated social worker.

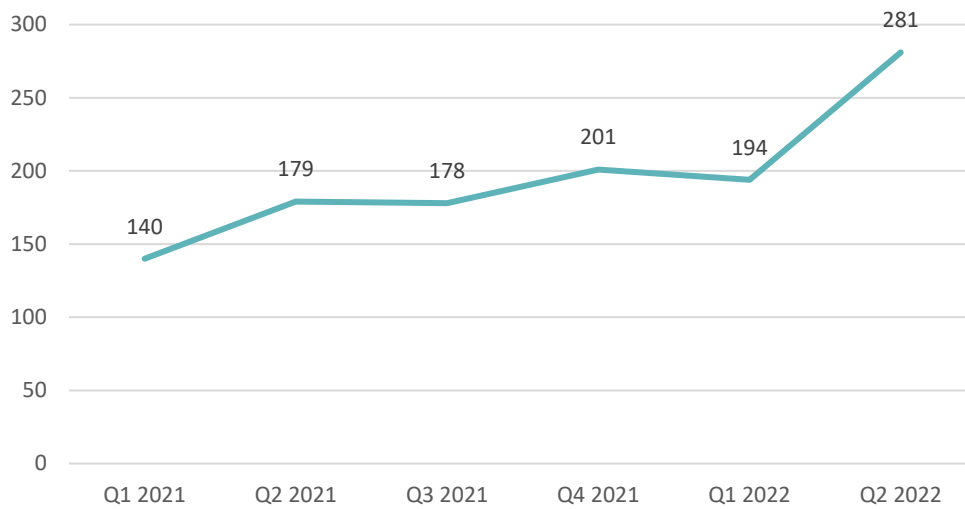
2.4 NATIONAL OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

KEY FACTS

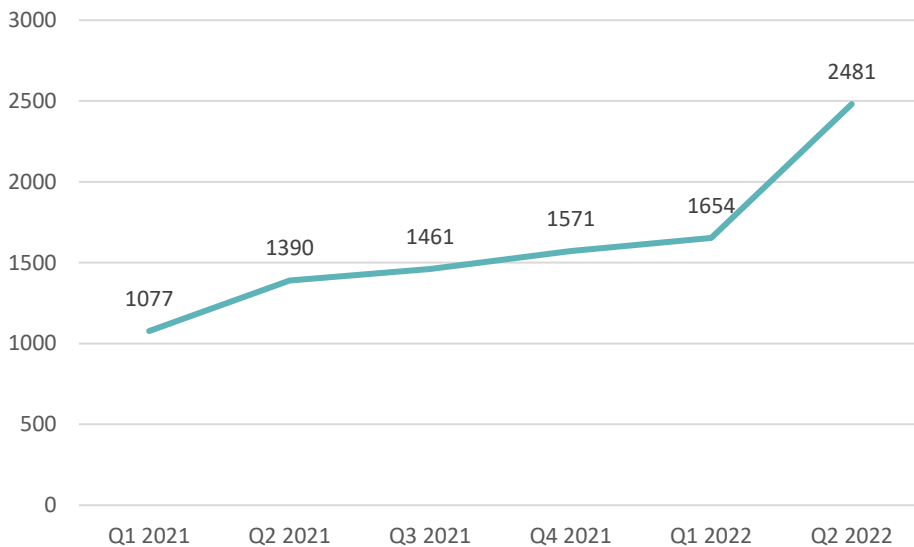
- 1,232 referrals to the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 498 (68%) more than Q1 2022 and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 1,966 the number of referrals for the first six months of 2022, 804 (69%) more than the same period in 2021 (1,162).
 - 281 children were placed by the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 87 (45%) more than Q1 2022 and the highest numbers for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 475 the number of children placed for the first six months of 2022, 156 (49%) more than the same period in 2021 (319).
 - 2,481 nights' accommodation supplied by the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 827 (50%) more than Q1 2022 (1,654) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 4,135 the number of nights' accommodation supplied for the first six months of 2022, 1,668 (68%) more than the same period in 2021 (2,467).
- 1,232 referrals to the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 498 (68%) more than Q1 2022 and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 1,966 the number of referrals for the first six months of 2022, 804 (69%) more than the same period in 2021 (1,162).



- 281 children were placed by the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 87 (45%) more than Q1 2022 and the highest numbers for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 475 the number of children placed for the first six months of 2022, 156 (49%) more than the same period in 2021 (319).



- 2,481 nights' accommodation supplied by the National Out of Hours Service in Q2 2022, 827 (50%) more than Q1 2022 (1,654) and the highest number for all quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022. This brings to 4,135 the number of nights' accommodation supplied for the first six months of 2022, 1,668 (68%) more than the same period in 2021 (2,467).



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)

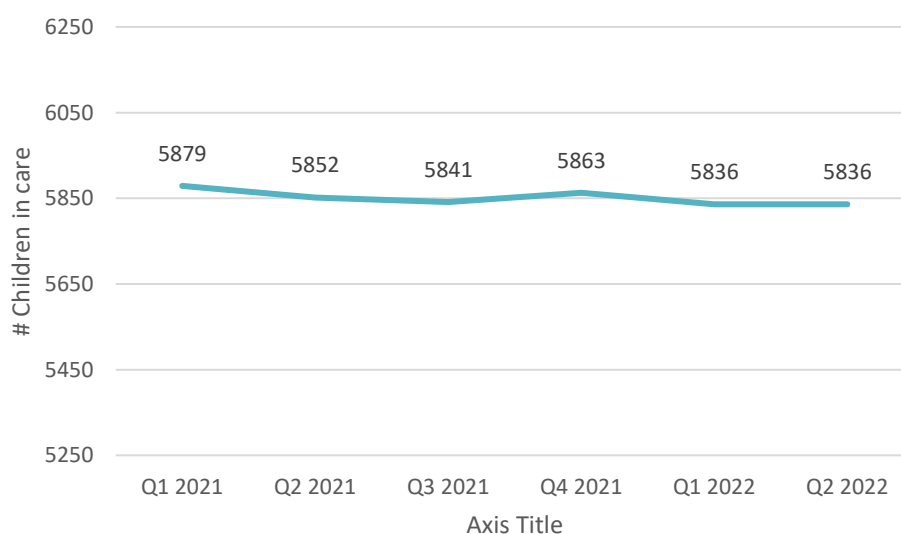
KEY FACTS

- 5,836 children in care at the end of Q2 2022, same number as at the end of Q1 2022 (5,836 revised figure). The number of children in care is up 16 (<1%) on Q2 2021 (5,852).
- 89% (5,219) of children in care were in foster care (general and relative) at the end of Q2 2022 and 8% (429) were in a residential (general and special care) placement.
- 844 (14%) children in care at the end of Q2 2022 were in placements with private providers; 38 (5%) more than Q1 2022 (806 revised figure) and 94 (13%) more than Q2 2021 (750).
- 87% (5,106) of children in care at the end of Q2 2022 had an allocated social worker; down two percentage points from Q1 2022 (89%).
- 730 children were awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of Q2 2022; 92 (14%) more than at the end of Q1 2022 (638).

3.1.1 Number of Children in Care

- 5,836 children in care at the end of Q2 2022, same number as at the end of Q1 2022 (5,836 revised figure). The number of children in care is up 16 (<1%) on Q2 2021 (5,852).

Number of children in care by quarter



Note: data for Q1 2022 revised from previously published.

- Across the 17 areas the number of children in care ranged from 734 in Cork to 108 in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan.
- Dublin North City reported the highest rate of children in care per 1,000 population under 18 years (10.6/1,000), more than double the national rate, followed by Waterford/Wexford (5.9/1,000), Dublin South Central (5.6/1,000) and Midwest (5.5/1,000). Lowest rate reported by Dublin South East/Wicklow (2.5/1,000) followed by Dublin North (3.6/1,000) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (3.9/1,000).

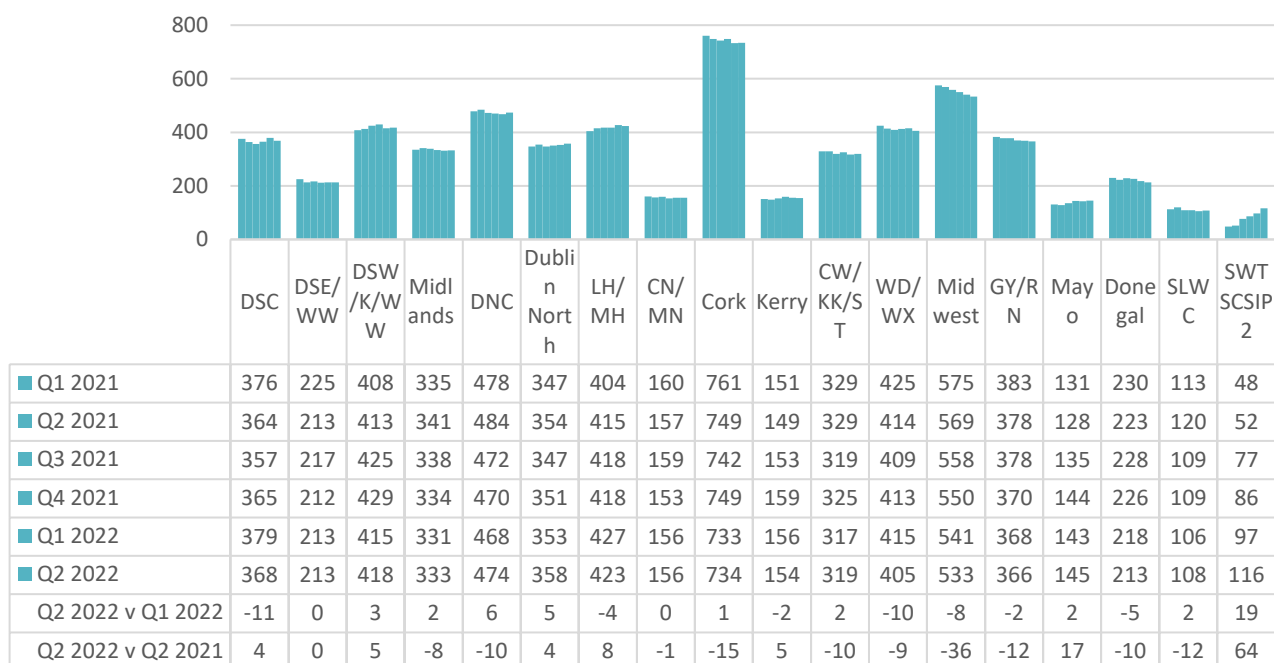
Number of children in care and rate per 1,000 population 0-17 years

Area	0-17 population (Census 2016)	No CIC Q2 2022	No of CIC/1,000 population 0-17
DSC	65,564	368	5.6
DSE/WW	86,810	213	2.5
DSW/K/WW	108,186	418	3.9
Midlands	80,193	333	4.2
DNC	44,927	474	10.6
Dublin North	100,654	358	3.6
LH/MH	93,093	423	4.5
CN/MN	36,446	156	4.3
Cork	134,015	734	5.5
Kerry	34,527	154	4.5
CW/KK/ST	63,009	319	5.1
WD/WX	68,513	405	5.9
Mid West	96,266	533	5.5
GY/RN	79,912	366	4.6
Mayo	31,968	145	4.5
Donegal	42,865	213	5.0
SLWC	23,554	108	4.6
Total	1,190,502	5,720	4.8

*Children under Tusla's Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SWTSCSIP) are not included above.

- 8 areas along with the Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (SWTSCSIP) reported an increase in children in care from Q1 2022. Largest increase reported by the SWTSCSIP (up 19) followed by Dublin North City (up 6) and Dublin North (up 5).
- 7 areas reported a decrease in children in care from Q1 2022, with the largest decrease reported by Dublin South Central (down 11) followed by Waterford/Wexford (down 10) and Midwest (down 8).
- 10 areas had fewer children in care at the end of Q2 2022 than Q2 2021. Largest decrease reported by Midwest (down 36) followed by Cork (down 15), Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (down 12) and Galway/Roscommon (down 12).
- The largest increase was reported by the SWTSCSIP (up 64) followed by Mayo (up 17) and Louth/Meath (up 8).

Breakdown of the number of children in care in each area



Data for Q1 2022 for the SWTSCSIP revised from previously published.

Number of Children in Care, by Care Type

- 89% (5,219) of children in care were in foster care (general and relative) at the end of Q2 2022 and 8% (429) 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	3,731	-39	1,500	-2	418	-20	16	0	171	+34	5,836	-27
Q1 2022	3,715	-16	1,504	+4	414	-4	15	-1	188	+17	5,836	0

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

Note: data for Q1 2022 revised from previously reported.

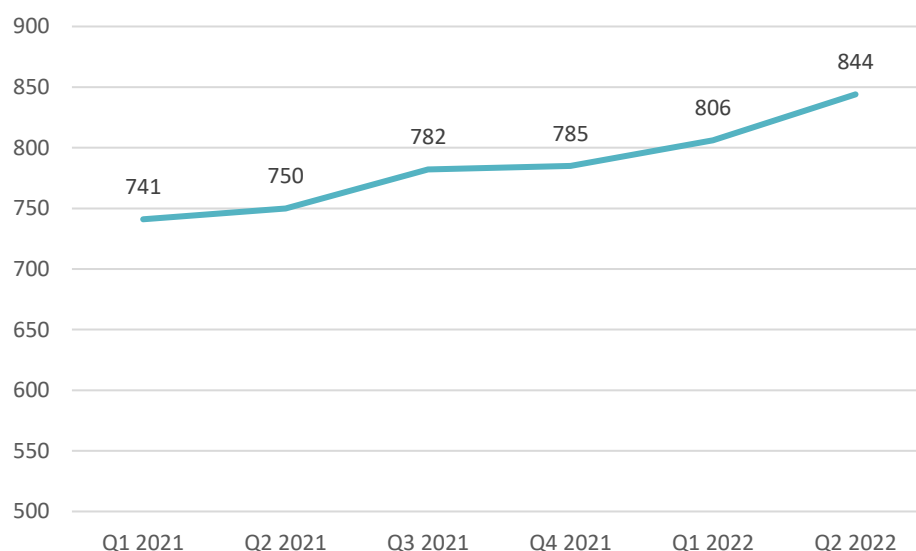
- 11 (0.2%) children were in out of State placements at the end of Q2 2022; one more than Q1 2022 (10). These children are included in the figures for the various care types set out in the table above.
- 7 children in residential care were in a single care placement at the end of Q2 2022, one more than Q1 2022 (6).
- 38 children were in respite care (from home) at the end of Q2 2022.

3.1.2 Children in Placements with Private Providers

- 844 (14%) children in care at the end of Q2 2022 were in placements with private providers⁵; 38 (5%) more than Q1 2022 (806 revised figure) and 94 (13%) more than Q2 2021 (750).

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.

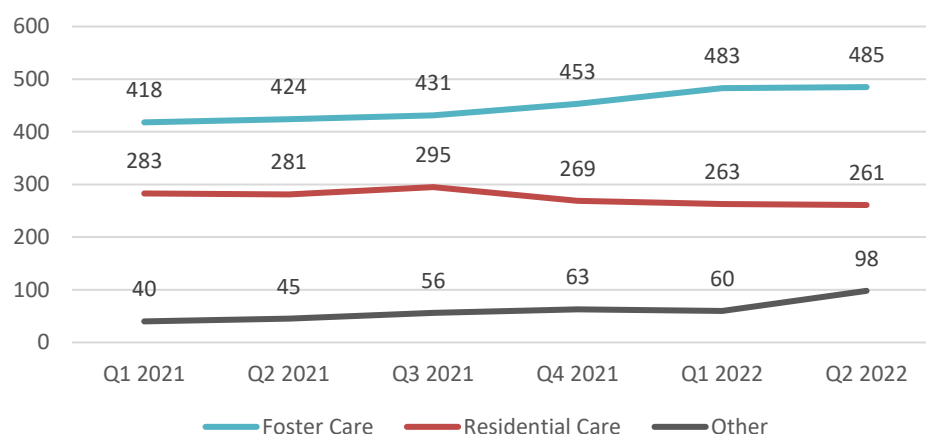
Number of children in placements with private providers



Note: data for Q1 2022 revised from previously published.

- 57% (485) of children in placements with private providers were in foster care and 31% (261) were in residential placements.
- The number of children in foster care placements with private providers (485) is up two from Q1 2022 (483 revised figure) and up 61 (14%) from Q2 2021 (424).
- 261 children in residential care with private providers, two fewer than Q1 2022 (263) and 20 (7%) fewer than Q2 2021 (281). *[Ref: note above re voluntary organisations].*

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



⁵ 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. Data for Q1 2022 revised from previously published.

- The highest number of children in care in placements with private providers is reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (111) followed by Dublin North City (109), Dublin South Central (104), Dublin North (82) and the Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (72) and These five areas account for 57% (478) of all children in placements with private providers.
- Seven areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported an increase from Q1 2022 in children in placements with private providers with the largest increase reported by the Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (up 43). Nine areas reported a decrease with the largest decrease reported by Waterford/Wexford (down 17). The remaining area (Cavan/Monaghan) 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 Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection (up 55), Dublin North City (up 28) and Dublin South West / Kildare/West Wicklow (up 12). Five areas had fewer children with the largest decrease reported by Waterford/Wexford (down 19) followed by Dublin South Central (down 6).

Number of children in placements with private providers, by area

Area	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2022 v Q1 2022	Q2 2022 v Q2 2021
DSC	110	108	107	106	104	-2	-6
DSE/WW	40	44	42	43	44	1	4
DSW/K/WW	99	108	108	107	111	4	12
Midlands	64	67	66	63	67	4	3
DNC	81	86	96	101	109	8	28
Dublin North	82	82	82	84	82	-2	0
LH/MH	29	35	36	38	35	-3	6
CN/MN	*	*	*	*	*	0	5
Cork	67	67	61	65	66	1	-1
Kerry	11	13	16	21	19	-2	8
CW/KK/ST	14	12	12	12	15	3	1
WD/WX	43	35	36	41	24	-17	-19
Mid West	41	38	37	42	40	-2	-1
GY/RN	9	6	9	20	19	-1	10
Mayo	*	*	*	*	*	-1	1
Donegal	20	20	22	20	18	-2	-2
SLWC	7	7	7	8	10	2	3
SWTSCSIP	30	46	38	25	72	47	42
Total	750	782	785	806	844	38	94

*Figures suppressed due to small numbers, Suppressed figures included in totals. Figure for Q1 2022 for the SWTSCSIP revised from previously published.

3.1.3 Children in Care with an Allocated Social Worker

- 87% (5,106) of children in care at the end of Q2 2022 had an allocated social worker; down two percentage points from Q1 2022 (89%).
- 730 children were awaiting allocation of a social worker at the end of Q2 2022; 92 (14%) more than at the end of Q1 2022 (638).

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
	Q1 2022	Q1 2022	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2022
Foster Care (General)	3,731	3,339	89%	3,715	3,245	87%
Foster Care (Relatives)	1,500	1,278	85%	1,504	1,273	85%
Residential Care (General)	418	400	96%	414	390	94%
Residential Special Care	16	16	100%	15	15	100%
Other Placements	171	165	96%	188	183	97%
Total	5,836	5,198	89%	5,836	5,106	87%

Note: data for Q1 2022 revised from previously published.

- One area (Mayo) along with the SWTSCSIP met the target of 100% of children in care with an allocated social worker. Eight areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported 90% or higher.
- The area with the highest number of children awaiting an allocated social worker is Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (133), followed by Waterford/Wexford (95), Dublin North (76), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (65), Cork (54) and Galway/Roscommon (53). These six areas account for 65% (476) of all cases awaiting allocation.

Number of children in care with an allocated social worker

Area	No in Care Q1 2022	No with an allocated SW Q1 2022	% with an allocated SW Q1 2022	No in Care Q2 2022	No with an allocated SW Q2 2022	% with an allocated SW Q2 2022	# awaiting SW
DSC	379	367	97%	368	355	96%	13
DSE/WW	213	205	96%	213	192	90%	21
DSW/K/WW	415	386	93%	418	353	84%	65
Midlands	331	296	89%	333	295	89%	38
DNC	468	448	96%	474	458	97%	16
Dublin North	353	281	80%	358	282	79%	76
LH/MH	427	357	84%	423	388	92%	35
CN/MN	156	129	83%	156	129	83%	27
Cork	733	695	95%	734	680	93%	54
Kerry	156	133	85%	154	127	82%	27
CW/KK/ST	317	240	76%	319	186	58%	133
WD/WX	415	280	67%	405	310	77%	95
Mid West	541	490	91%	533	494	93%	39
GY/RN	368	349	95%	366	313	86%	53
Mayo	143	143	100%	145	145	100%	0
Donegal	218	203	93%	213	181	85%	32
SLWC	106	99	93%	108	102	94%	6
SWTSCSIP	97	97	100%	116	116	100%	0
Total	5,836	5198	89%	5836	5106	87%	730

Data for Q1 2022 revised from previously published.

3.1.4 Children in Care with a Care Plan

- 97% (5,657) of children in care had a care plan, down one percentage point from Q1 2022 (98%).
- 179 children did not have a care plan, 46 (35%) more than Q1 2022 (133).

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
	Q1 2022	Q1 2022	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2022
Foster Care General	3,731	3,659	98%	3,715	3,610	97%
Foster Care (Relatives)	1,500	1,455	97%	1,504	1,454	97%
Residential Care General	418	411	98%	414	398	96%
Residential Special Care	16	16	100%	15	15	100%
Other Placements	171	162	95%	188	180	96%
National	5,836	5,703	98%	5,836	5,657	97%

Data for Q1 2022 revised from previously published.

- 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 Q1 2022	No with a care plan Q1 2022	% with a care plan Q1 2022	No in Care Q2 2022	No with a care plan Q2 2022	% with a care plan Q 2022	# with no care plan
DSC	379	355	94%	368	349	95%	19
DSE/WW	213	206	97%	213	212	100%	1
DSW/K/WW	415	410	99%	418	410	98%	8
Midlands	331	326	98%	333	331	99%	2
DNC	468	457	98%	474	453	96%	21
Dublin North	353	329	93%	358	337	94%	21
LH/MH	427	400	94%	423	384	91%	39
CN/MN	156	148	95%	156	148	95%	8
Cork	733	720	98%	734	712	97%	22
Kerry	156	156	100%	154	152	99%	2
CW/KK/ST	317	317	100%	319	316	99%	3
WD/WX	415	415	100%	405	399	99%	6
Mid West	541	541	100%	533	530	99%	3
GY/RN	368	364	99%	366	355	97%	11
Mayo	143	142	99%	145	141	97%	4
Donegal	218	216	99%	213	209	98%	4
SLWC	106	104	98%	108	103	95%	5
SWTSCSIP	97	97	100%	116	116	94%	10
TOTAL	5,836	5703	98%	5836	5657	97%	179

3.1.5 Children in Care in Education

- 92% (3,554/3,848) of children in care aged 6 to 15 years (inclusive) were in full time education at the end of Q2 2022, down one percentage points from Q1 2022. *Note: this figure does not include children in care under the care of Tusla's Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.*
- 14/17 areas reporting 90% or higher with two of these areas (Donegal and Kerry reporting 100%. Lowest percentages reported by Midwest (80%) and Dublin North (81%).
- 71% (2,519) of children 6-15 years were in primary school, 21% (755) were in post primary school, 5% (161) were in special education and 2% in pre-school (65). There were a further 25 spread across boarding school, education training facility, home tuition, third level and Other (not specified). The education type was not recorded for the remaining 29 children.
- 89% (876/982) of children in care aged 16 and 17 years were in full time education at the end of Q2 2022, down one percentage points from Q1 2022. *Note: this figure does not include children in care under the care of Tusla's Social Work Team for Separated Children Seeking International Protection.*
- 11/17 reporting 90% or higher with one of these areas (Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan) reporting 100%. Lowest percentages reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (78%), Louth/Meath (79%), Midwest (79%), Dublin North (81%), Mayo (86%) and Dublin North City (89%).
- 85% (741) of young people 16 & 17 years were in post primary school, 7% (63) were in special education and 4% (35) were attending an educational training facility and 2% (16) were attending primary school. There were a further 18 spread across boarding school, home tuition, third level/higher and other (not specified). The education type was not recorded for the remaining three children.

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

Area	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	No of CIC 6-15 years Q2 2022	No of CIC 6-15 years in FT education Q2 2022	% of CIC 6-15 years in FT education Q2 2022
DSC	238	216	91%	240	216	90%
DSE/WW	147	144	98%	145	139	96%
DSW/K/WW	286	265	93%	283	265	94%
Midlands	217	215	99%	225	221	98%
DNC	295	261	88%	299	262	88%
Dublin North	243	189	78%	254	205	81%
LH/MH	270	242	90%	282	255	90%
CN/MN	109	104	95%	116	114	98%
Cork	503	495	98%	504	490	97%
Kerry	98	97	99%	97	97	100%
CW/KK/ST	213	203	95%	213	203	95%
WD/WX	286	282	99%	283	263	93%
Mid West	361	294	81%	363	291	80%
GY/RN	255	253	99%	252	245	97%
Mayo	90	89	99%	89	88	99%
Donegal	137	137	100%	134	134	100%
SLWC	65	65	100%	69	66	96%
National	3813	3551	93%	3848	3554	92%

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

Area	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	No of CIC 16-17 yrs Q2 2022	No of CIC 16-17 years in FT education Q2 2022	% of CIC 16-17 years in FT education Q2 2022
DSC	78	71	91%	71	65	92%
DSE/WW	39	39	100%	44	43	98%
DSW/K/WW	75	59	79%	81	63	78%
Midlands	52	49	94%	48	45	94%
DNC	87	82	94%	87	77	89%
Dublin North	58	43	74%	59	48	81%
LH/MH	67	53	79%	62	49	79%
CN/MN	24	22	92%	23	22	96%
Cork	124	115	93%	126	118	94%
Kerry	32	31	97%	28	26	93%
CW/KK/ST	51	49	96%	51	50	98%
WD/WX	71	69	97%	69	67	97%
Mid West	97	77	79%	95	75	79%
GY/RN	66	62	94%	66	61	92%
Mayo	18	17	94%	22	19	86%
Donegal	37	35	95%	34	32	94%
SLWC	16	15	94%	16	16	100%
National	992	888	90%	982	876	89%

AFTERCARE

KEY FACTS

- 120 referrals in Q2 2022, 18 fewer than Q1 2022 (138). This brings to 258 the number of referrals for the first six months of 2022.
- 3,045 young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q2 2022, 73 (2%) fewer than Q1 2022 (3,118) and 53 (2%) more than Q2 2021 (2,992). First decrease after four consecutive increases from Q1 2021.
- 76% (1,735/2,289) of those 18-22 years inclusive in receipt of an aftercare service were in education/accredited training.
- 82% (2,508) of young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q2 2022 had an aftercare plan, down one percentage point from Q1 2022. A total of 537 were awaiting a plan, four more than Q1 2022 (533).
- 91% (2,119/2,317) of those assessed as needing an aftercare worker had an aftercare worker at the end of Q2 2022, no change from Q1 2022. A total of 198 young people were awaiting an aftercare worker at the end of Q2 2022, 24 (11%) fewer than Q1 2022 (222).

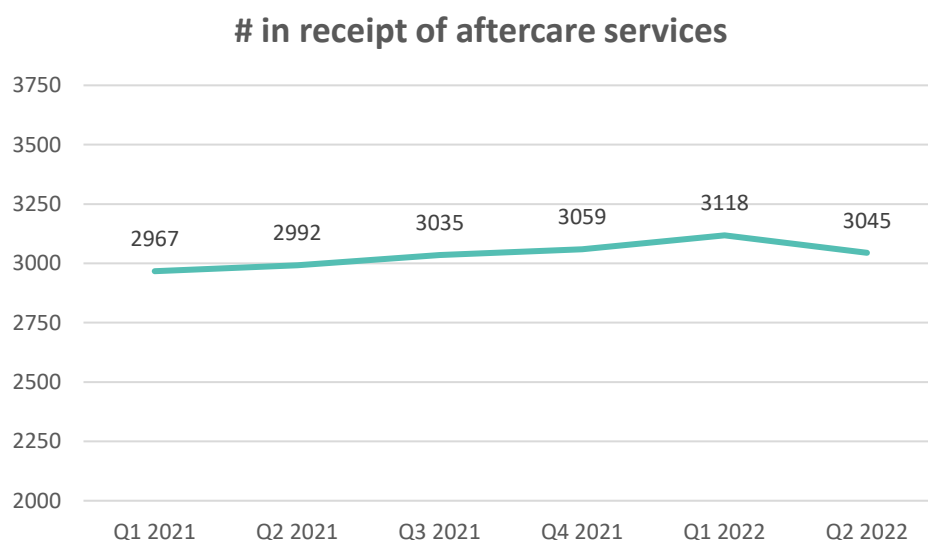
3.1.6 Referrals for an aftercare service received in the quarter

- 120 referrals in Q2 2022, 18 fewer than Q1 2022 (138). This brings to 258 the number of referrals for the first six months of 2022.
- 98% (117) of referrals were eligible for an assessment of need.
- Of those eligible for an assessment of need 99% (116) were < 18 years and in care.
- 66 assessments of need were completed in Q2 2022, brings to 219 the number of assessments completed for the first six months of 2022.

Area	2021 Total	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	2022 YTD
DSC	27	10	10	20
DSE/WW	21	9	4	13
DSW/K/WW	45	7	8	15
Midlands	29	8	6	14
DNC	42	11	15	26
Dublin North	42	6	6	12
LH/MH	20	20	2	22
CN/MN	17	4	3	7
Cork	60	8	9	17
Kerry	14	3	6	9
CW/KK/ST	20	8	7	15
WD/WX	41	8	3	11
Mid West	58	8	15	23
GY/RN	24	5	1	6
Mayo	8	2	6	8
Donegal	22	5	0	5
SLWC	6	5	4	9
SWTSCSIP	27	11	15	26
Total	523	138	120	258

3.1.7 Young Persons / Adults in receipt of an aftercare service

- 3,045 young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q2 2022, 73 (2%) fewer than Q1 2022 (3,118) and 53 (2%) more than Q2 2021 (2,992). First decrease after four consecutive increases from Q1 2021. Decrease partly explained by a sharp decrease in one area due to validation of their register. *Figure (3,045) includes young persons < 18 years and those 18-22 years inclusive.*



- Highest number in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q2 2022 reported by Cork (359) followed by Dublin North City (332), Midwest (251) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (248).

Area	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service Q4 2021	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service Q1 2022	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service Q2 2022
DSC	232	241	214
DSE/WW	131	144	121
DSW/K/WW	284	281	248
Midlands	163	168	153
DNC	309	323	332
Dublin North	184	176	173
LH/MH	132	156	148
CN/MN	74	77	72
Cork	360	352	359
Kerry	77	76	80
CW/KK/ST	168	174	173
WD/WX	175	187	190
Mid West	256	239	251
GY/RN	191	205	202
Mayo	68	66	70
Donegal	91	90	91
SLWC	46	43	42
SWTSCIP	118	120	126
Total	3,059	3118	3,045

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

- 54% (1,636) of those in receipt of an aftercare service at the end of Q2 2022 (3,045) were 18 – 20 years inclusive and of these 76% (1,246) were in education/accredited training, down three percentage points from Q1 2022 (table below).
- 13/17 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 (55%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (62%), Dublin South Central (65%) and Waterford/Wexford (68%), lower than all other areas.

Area	# 18-20 years Q1 2022	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training	# 18-20 years Q2 2022	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training
DSC	112	78	70%	119	77	65%
DSE/WW	78	65	83%	69	62	90%
DSW/K/WW	128	86	67%	124	77	62%
Midlands	74	70	95%	76	61	80%
DNC	150	131	87%	145	102	70%
Dublin North	104	60	58%	100	55	55%
LH/MH	89	68	76%	86	67	78%
CN/MN	47	47	100%	49	49	100%
Cork	178	139	78%	184	147	80%
Kerry	39	31	79%	44	32	73%
CW/KK/ST	89	68	76%	88	65	74%
WD/WX	103	71	69%	96	65	68%
Mid West	150	131	87%	156	133	85%
GY/RN	104	77	74%	111	80	72%
Mayo	39	39	100%	36	36	100%
Donegal	45	37	82%	49	42	86%
SLWC	26	26	100%	27	27	100%
SWTSCIP	74	70	95%	77	69	90%
Total	1629	1294	79%	1,636	1,246	76%

- The highest number of those in education/accredited training were in second level (432; 35%) followed by third level colleges /university (295; 24%) and PLCs (179; 14%).

	# 18-20 years in education/accredited Training Q2 2022	%
Second Level	432	35%
Vocational Training	122	10%
PLCs	179	14%
Third Level College / University	295	24%
Accredited Training (e.g., Solas)	155	12%
Other	63	5%
Total	1,246	100%

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

- 21% (653) of those in receipt of an aftercare service were 21 – 22 years inclusive and of these 75% (489) were in education/accredited training, up five percentage points from Q1 2022 (table below).
- 12 areas along with the SWTSCIP reported 70% or higher with four of these areas reporting 100% (Cavan/Monaghan, Mayo, Donegal and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan). Rates reported by Galway/Roscommon (56%), Dublin South Central (58%), Dublin North (59%), Kerry (67%) and Dublin North City (67%) lower than all other areas.

Area	# 21-22 years Q1 2022	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training	# 21-22 years Q2 2022	# in education / accredited training	% in education / accredited training
DSC	62	35	56%	31	18	58%
DSE/WW	29	24	83%	20	19	95%
DSW/K/WW	88	41	47%	55	39	71%
Midlands	47	38	81%	43	37	86%
DNC	84	55	65%	91	61	67%
Dublin North	34	21	62%	32	19	59%
LH/MH	18	17	94%	19	17	89%
CN/MN	11	11	100%	8	8	100%
Cork	73	53	73%	79	57	72%
Kerry	14	11	79%	12	8	67%
CW/KK/ST	43	23	53%	41	30	73%
WD/WX	40	30	75%	41	29	71%
Mid West	48	47	98%	50	45	90%
GY/RN	63	36	57%	61	34	56%
Mayo	15	15	100%	21	21	100%
Donegal	17	15	88%	13	13	100%
SLWC	10	10	100%	6	6	100%
SWTSCIP	34	31	91%	30	28	93%
Total	730	513	70%	653	489	75%

- Almost half (47%; 229) of those in education/accredited training were in third level colleges with a further 20% (100) in vocational training and 17% (81) in PLCs.

	# 21-22 years in education/accredited Training Q2 2022	%
Second Level	8	2%
Vocational Training	100	20%
PLCs	81	17%
Third Level College / University	229	47%
Accredited Training (e.g., Solas)	52	11%
Other	19	4%
Total	489	75%

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

- Almost half (46%; 1,048) of young people 18 – 22 years (2,289) in receipt of aftercare had remained living with their carers. A further 8% (190) had returned home to parents/family. One in four (27%; 618) was in independent living.

	# 18-22 placement type Q2 2022	%
Residential Care Placement	139	6%
Remained with Carers	1,048	46%
Independent Living	618	27%
Designated Care Leavers Accommodation	61	3%
At home	190	8%
Supported Lodgings	49	2%
Other	184	8%
Total	2,289	100%

*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

- 82% (2,508) of young persons/adults in receipt of aftercare services at the end of Q2 2022 had an aftercare plan, down one percentage point from Q1 2022. A total of 537 were awaiting a plan, four more than Q1 2022 (533).
- 8 areas along with the SWTSCSIP reported a percentage equal to or higher the national average of 82%. Rates reported by Louth/Meath (66%), Dublin North City (71%), Waterford/Wexford (76%), Dublin South West / Kildare/ West Wicklow (77%) and Cork (79%) lower than all other areas.
- 97% (2,224/2,289) of those 18-22 years in receipt of an aftercare service had a plan. 38% (284/756) 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 Q2 2022	# with an Aftercare Plan Q2 2022	% with an Aftercare Plan Q2 2022
DSC	241	194	80%	214	172	80%
DSE/WW	144	137	95%	121	119	98%
DSW/K/WW	281	218	78%	248	191	77%
Midlands	168	141	84%	153	141	92%
DNC	323	244	76%	332	236	71%
Dublin North	176	138	78%	173	139	80%
LH/MH	156	105	67%	148	98	66%
CN/MN	77	72	94%	72	72	100%
Cork	352	274	78%	359	285	79%
Kerry	76	59	78%	80	65	81%
CW/KK/ST	174	145	83%	173	142	82%
WD/WX	187	156	83%	190	144	76%
Mid West	239	230	96%	251	228	91%
GY/RN	205	171	83%	202	168	83%

Mayo	66	66	100%	70	70	100%
Donegal	90	88	98%	91	90	99%
SLWC	43	37	86%	42	34	81%
SWTSCSIP	120	110	92%	126	114	90%
Total	3118	2585	83%	3,045	2,508	82%

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

- 92% (2,317/2,508) of those with an aftercare plan were assessed as needing an aftercare worker. Twelve areas along with the SWTSCIP reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 92% with eleven of them reporting 100%.
- Percentages reported by Galway/Roscommon (70%), Midlands (71%) and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (79%) are lower than all other areas. *Midlands and Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow areas advised that a number of young persons/adults who are settled and doing well were 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% (2,119/2,317) of those assessed as needing an aftercare worker had an aftercare worker at the end of Q2 2022, no change from Q1 2022. A total of 198 young people were awaiting an aftercare worker at the end of Q2 2022, 24 (11%) fewer than Q1 2022 (222).
- 13 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 South Central (62%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (66%) and Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary (75%) lower than all other areas.

Area	# in Receipt of an Aftercare Service with a Plan Q2 2022	# with Plan Assessed as needing Aftercare Worker Q2 2022	% with Plan Assessed as needing Aftercare Worker Q2 2022	# with an Allocated Aftercare Worker Q2 2022	% with an Allocated Aftercare Worker Q2 2022	% with an Allocated Aftercare Worker Q1 2021
DSC	172	172	100%	107	62%	74%
DSE/WW	119	119	100%	119	100%	99%
DSW/K/WW	191	150	79%	99	66%	83%
Midlands	141	100	71%	100	100%	100%
DNC	236	236	100%	236	100%	100%
Dublin North	139	139	100%	139	100%	66%
LH/MH	98	98	100%	98	100%	100%
CN/MN	72	65	90%	65	100%	100%
Cork	285	269	94%	248	92%	91%
Kerry	65	65	100%	65	100%	100%
CW/KK/ST	142	113	80%	85	75%	83%
WD/WX	144	137	95%	116	85%	73%
Mid West	228	228	100%	216	95%	91%
GY/RN	168	118	70%	118	100%	100%
Mayo	70	70	100%	70	100%	100%
Donegal	90	90	100%	90	100%	100%

SLWC	34	34	100%	34	100%	100%
SWTSCSIP	114	114	100%	114	100%	100%
Total	2,508	2,317	92%	2,119	91%	91%

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

- 482 new enquiries regarding information and tracing received in Q2 2022, 197 (29%) fewer than Q1 2022 (679). This brings to 1,161 the number of enquiries for the first six months of 2022, 761 (40%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (1,922).
- 568 applicants awaiting an information and tracing service at the end of Q2 2022, 55 (9%) fewer than Q1 2022 (623) and 147 (21%) fewer than Q4 2021 (715), the third consecutive quarterly decrease.
- At the end of Q2 2022, the length of time from application (production of ID) to the provision of personal information in line with GDPR legislation ranged from 8 weeks to 24 weeks against a target of 8 weeks, up from 9 weeks to 16 weeks at the end of Q1 2022.

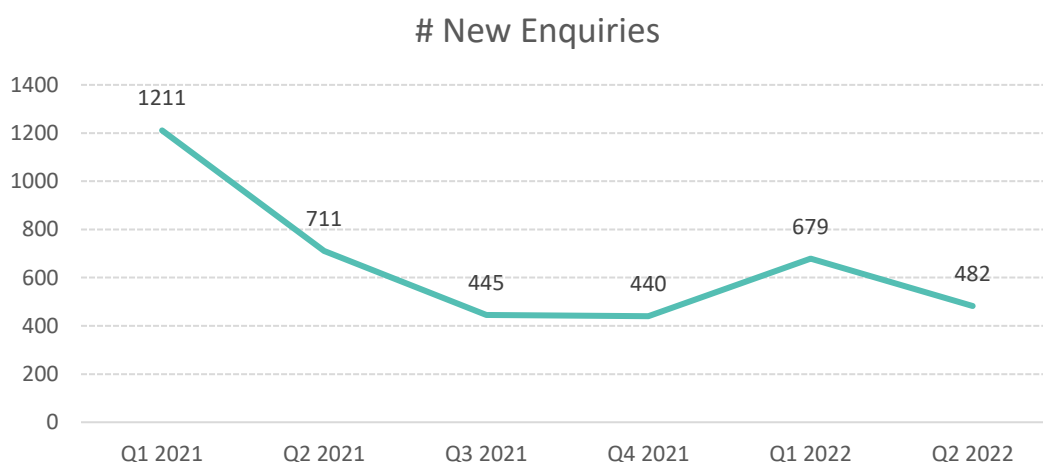
Adoption – data for 2022 not available at the time of writing. Metrics are under review

- 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).

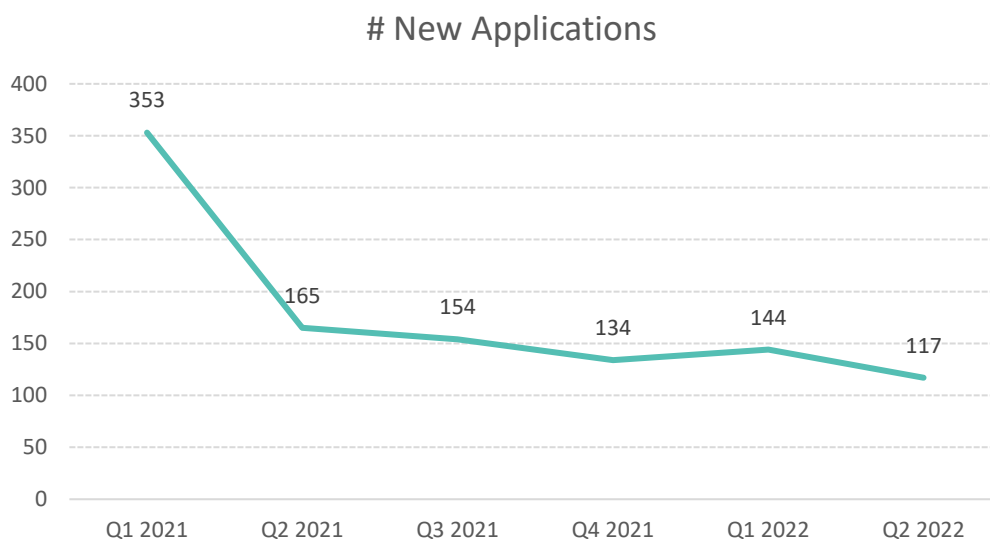
3.2.1 Information and Tracing Service

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.

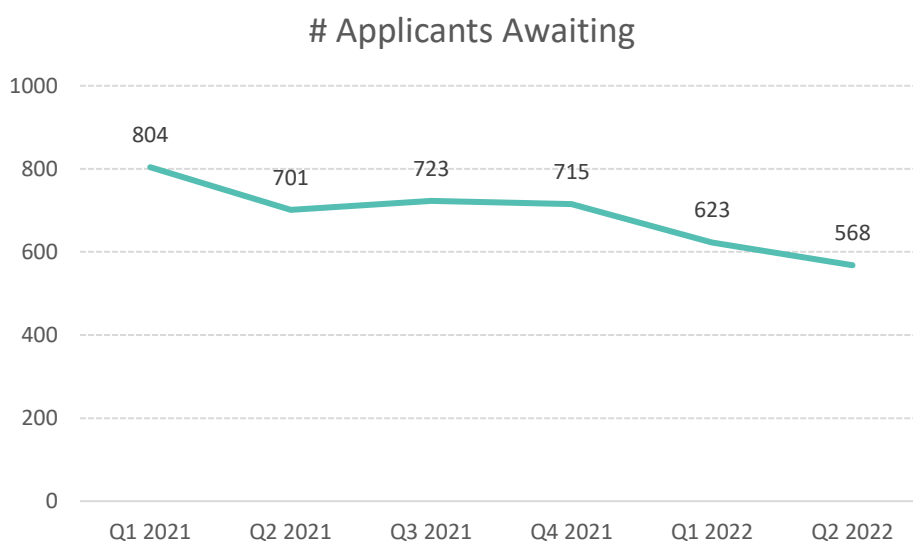
- 482 new enquiries regarding information and tracing received in Q2 2022, 197 (29%) fewer than Q1 2022 (679). This brings to 1,161 the number of enquiries for the first six months of 2022, 761 (40%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (1,922).



- 117 new applications to commence tracing of a searched person received in Q2 2022, 27 (19%) fewer than Q1 2022 (144). This brings to 261 the number of applications for the first six months of 2022, 257 (50%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (518).



- 568 applicants awaiting an information and tracing service at the end of Q2 2022, 55 (9%) fewer than Q1 2022 (623) and 147 (21%) fewer than Q4 2021 (715), the third consecutive quarterly decrease.



- At the end of Q2 2022, the length of time from application (production of ID) to the provision of personal information in line with GDPR legislation ranged from 8 weeks to 24 weeks against a target of 8 weeks, up from 9 weeks to 16 weeks at the end of Q1 2022.
- The length of time from application (production of ID) to allocation of a social worker for priority 1 applications ranged from 6 months to 48 months against a target of 3 months or less, up from 8 months to 31 months at the end of Q1 2022.
- The length of time from application (production of ID) to allocation of a social worker for priority 2 applications ranged 6 months to 48 months against a target of 6 months or less, up from 0 months to 31 months at the end of Q1 2022.

- The length of time from application (production of ID) to allocation of a social worker for all other applications ranged from 12 months to 59 months against a target of 12 months or less, up from 14 month to 38 months at the end of Q1 2022.

3.2.2 Adoption Assessments

Data for 2022 not available at the time of writing. Metrics are under review.

- 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

- 3,985 foster carers (all types minus Brussels II Regulation) on the panel of approved foster carers at the end of Q2 2022, six fewer than Q1 2022 (3,991) and the fewest number for the six quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022.
- 90% (2,378) of general foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q2 2022, up one percentage point from Q1 2022 (89%)
- 238 general foster carers were awaiting an allocated link worker; 25 (10%) fewer than Q1 2022 (263).
- 91% (965) of relative foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q2 2022, up two percentage point from Q1 2022 (89%).
- 92 relative foster carers on the panel were awaiting an allocated link worker at the end of Q2 2022; 22 (19%) fewer than Q1 2022 (114).
- 96% (169) of foster carers who had a child placed with them for >12 weeks had an allocated link (social) worker. A total of seven carers were awaiting a link worker, across two areas, down six from Q1 2022 (13).

3.3.1 Number of foster carers

- 3,985 foster carers (all types minus Brussels II Regulation) on the panel of approved foster carers at the end of Q2 2022, six fewer than Q1 2022 (3,991) and the fewest number for the six quarters Q1 2021 – Q2 2022.
- 215 unapproved relative foster carers of which 82% (176) had a child placed for >12 weeks. 83% (1,057/1,272) of relative foster carers are approved.

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



- 60% (2,378) of all approved foster carers are general foster carers. Relative foster carers (approved) account for a further 27% (1,057) while private foster carers account for the remaining 14% (550).

- The number of general foster carers (2,378) is down 18 from Q1 2022 (2,396) and 84 (3%) from Q2 2021 (2,462). Relative foster carers (approved) are up five from Q1 2022 (1,052) and Q2 2021 (1,052). Private foster carers (550) are up seven (1%) from Q1 2022 (543) and 22 (4%) from Q2 2021 (528).

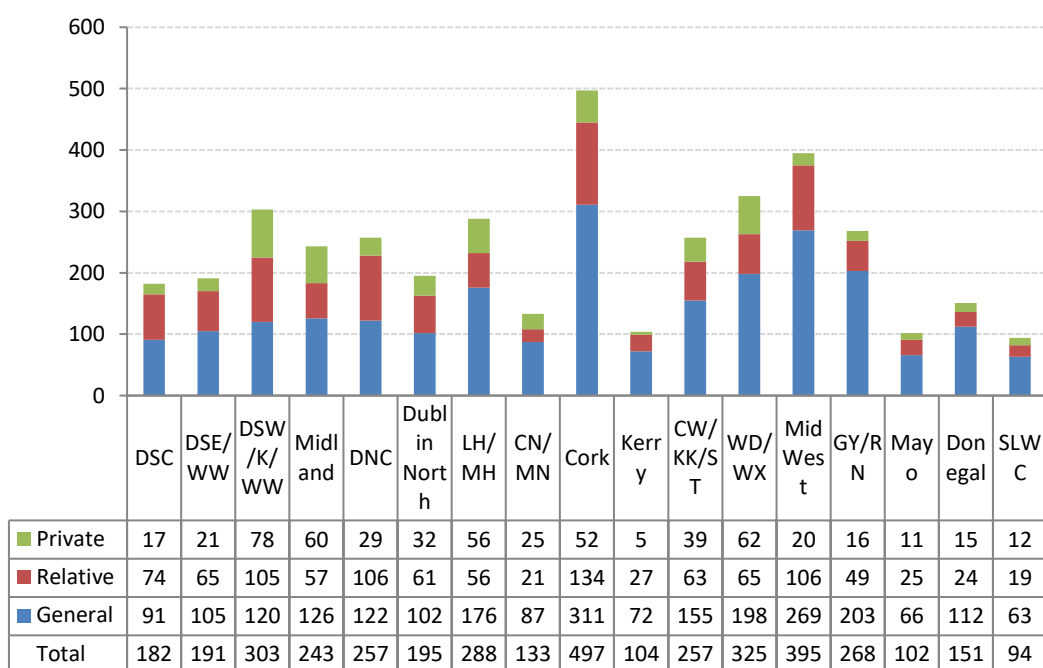
Breakdown of foster carers by type

						Δ (+/-)
Foster Carers	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2022 v Q1 2022
General (Approved)	2,462	2,442	2,435	2,396	2,378	-18
Relative (Approved)	1,052	1,050	1,062	1,052	1,057	+5
Private (Approved)	528	524	542	543	550	+7
Total Approved	4,042	4,016	4,039	3,991	3,985	-6
Relative (Unapproved)	261	228	246	216	215	-1

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 Q2 2022, ranged from 497 in Cork to 94 in Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan.

Foster carers approved by type and area on the panel of approved foster carers, Q2 2022



- 9 areas reported an increase from Q1 2022 in the number of foster carers on the panel. The largest increase was reported by Cavan/Monaghan (up 10) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (up 6) and Dublin North City (up 6).
- 6 areas reported a decrease from Q1 2022. The largest decrease was reported by Midwest (down 15) followed by Waterford/Wexford (down 10) and Louth/Meath (down 8).
- The remaining two areas (Dublin South Central and Kerry) reported no change from Q1 2022.

Area breakdown of approved foster carers (all types)

Area	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Δ (+/-) Q2 2022 v Q1 2022
DSC	196	182	182	182	182	0
DSE/WW	205	209	205	190	191	1
DSW/K/WW	300	296	298	297	303	6
Midland	236	237	238	241	243	2
DNC	270	272	263	251	257	6
Dublin North	200	188	192	196	195	-1
LH/MH	291	293	295	296	288	-8
CN/MN	121	127	126	123	133	10
Cork	492	498	504	492	497	5
Kerry	104	104	114	104	104	0
CW/KK/ST	257	254	255	255	257	2
WD/WX	323	320	333	335	325	-10
MidWest	427	414	404	410	395	-15
GY/RN	278	278	280	265	268	3
Mayo	104	103	103	104	102	-2
Donegal	148	151	155	157	151	-6
SLWC	90	90	92	93	94	1
National	4,042	4,016	4,039	3,991	3,985	-6

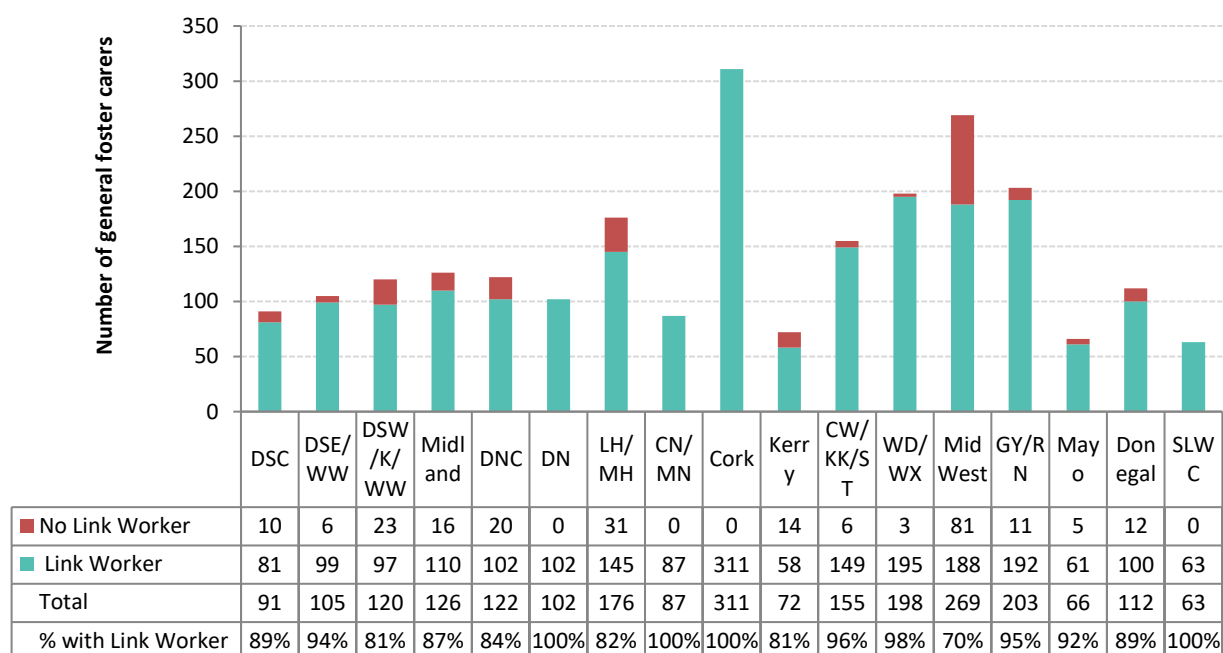
- 90% (2,378) of general foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q2 2022, up one percentage point from Q1 2022 (89%)
- 238 general foster carers were awaiting an allocated link worker; 25 (10%) fewer than Q1 2022 (263).
- 9 areas reported 90% or higher with four of these areas reporting 100%. Rates reported by Midwest (70%), Kerry (81%), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (81%), Louth/Meath (82%) and Dublin North City (84%) lower than all other areas.
- Midwest has the highest number of general foster carers awaiting an allocated link worker (81) followed by Louth/Meath (31), Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (23) and Dublin North City (20).

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

Area	With Link Worker Q1 2022	Awaiting Link Worker Q1 2022	% With Link Worker Q1 2022	With Link Worker Q2 2022	Awaiting Link Worker Q2 2022	% With Link Worker Q2 2022	Δ +/- No. Awaiting Link Worker Q2 2022 v Q1 2022
DSC	85	8	91%	81	10	89%	2
DSE/WW	96	10	91%	99	6	94%	-4
DSW/K/WW	89	30	75%	97	23	81%	-7
Midland	114	12	90%	110	16	87%	4
DNC	99	21	83%	102	20	84%	-1
Dub North	102	0	100%	102	0	100%	0
LH/MH	136	49	74%	145	31	82%	-18
CN/MN	87	0	100%	87	0	100%	0

Cork	277	33	89%	311	0	100%	-33
Kerry	58	14	81%	58	14	81%	0
CW/KK/ST	149	7	96%	149	6	96%	-1
WD/WX	197	0	100%	195	3	98%	3
MidWest	220	59	79%	188	81	70%	22
GY/RN	202	0	100%	192	11	95%	11
Mayo	58	6	91%	61	5	92%	-1
Donegal	102	14	88%	100	12	89%	-2
SLWC	62	0	100%	63	0	100%	0
National	2,133	263	89%	2,140	238	90%	-25

General foster carers approved and on the panel with/awaiting a link (social worker), Q2 2022

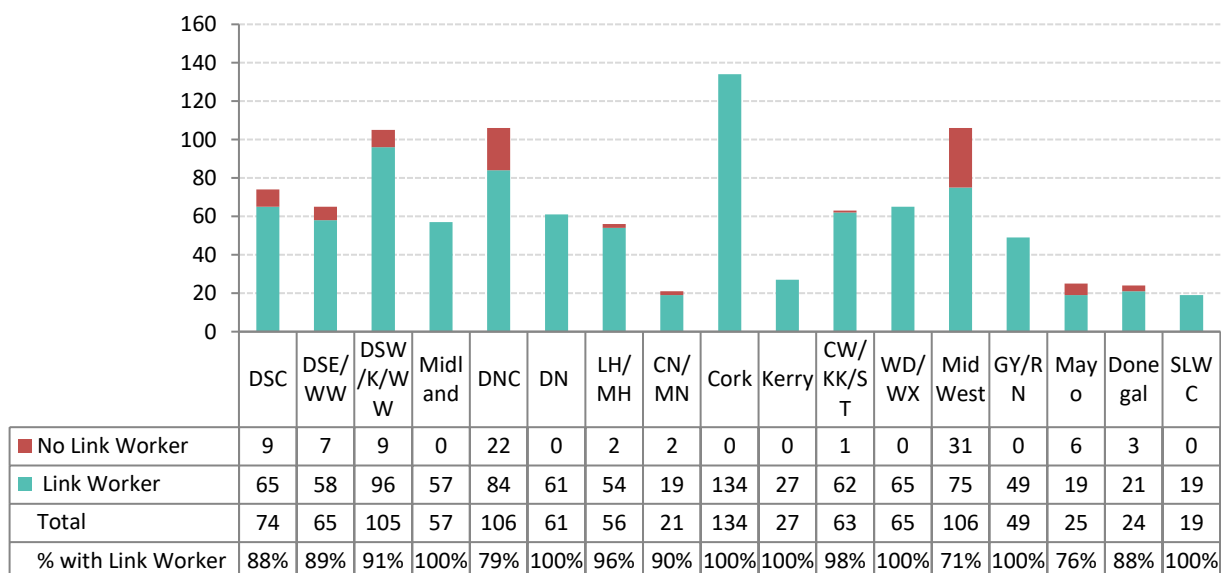


- 91% (965) of relative foster carers on the panel had an allocated link (social) worker at the end of Q2 2022, up two percentage point from Q1 2022 (89%)
- 92 relative foster carers on the panel were awaiting an allocated link worker at the end of Q2 2022; 22 (19%) fewer than Q1 2022 (114).
- 10 areas reported a percentage of 91% or higher with seven of these areas reporting 100%. Rates reported by Midwest (71%), Mayo (76%) and Dublin North City (79%) lower than all other areas.
- Midwest reported the highest number of relative foster carers on the panel awaiting a link (social) worker (31) followed by Dublin North City (22), Dublin South Central (9) and Dublin South West/Kildare West Wicklow (9).

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

Area	With Link Worker Q1 2022	Awaiting Link Worker Q1 2022	% With Link Worker Q1 2022	With Link Worker Q2 2022	Awaiting Link Worker Q2 2022	% With Link Worker Q2 2022	Δ +/- No. Awaiting Link Worker Q2 2022 v Q1 2022
DSC	63	9	88%	65	9	88%	0
DSE/WW	60	3	95%	58	7	89%	4
DSW/K/WW	74	26	74%	96	9	91%	-17
Midlands	54	1	98%	57	0	100%	-1
DNC	80	22	78%	84	22	79%	0
Dublin North	62	0	100%	61	0	100%	0
LH/MH	51	4	93%	54	2	96%	-2
CN/MN	13	0	100%	19	2	90%	2
Cork	130	0	100%	134	0	100%	0
Kerry	27	0	100%	27	0	100%	0
CW/KK/ST	61	1	98%	62	1	98%	0
WD/WX	79	0	100%	65	0	100%	0
MidWest	70	41	63%	75	31	71%	-10
GY/RN	48	0	100%	49	0	100%	0
Mayo	24	5	83%	19	6	76%	1
Donegal	23	2	92%	21	3	88%	1
SLWC	19	0	100%	19	0	100%	0
National	938	114	89%	965	92	91%	-22

Relative foster carers approved and on the panel with/awaiting allocated link Q2 2022



3.3.3 Foster carers (relative) unapproved

- 215 relative foster carers unapproved at the end of Q2 2022; one fewer than Q1 2022 (216).
- Of these, 176 (82%) had a child placed with them for longer than 12 weeks; down 13 from Q1 2022 (189)

- 96% (169) of foster carers who had a child placed with them for >12 weeks had an allocated link (social) worker. A total of seven carers were awaiting a link worker, across two areas, down six from Q1 2022 (13).

Breakdown of foster carers not approved

Unapproved Relative Foster Carers	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Δ (+/-) Q2 2022 v Q1 2022
No. unapproved	261	228	246	216	215	-1
No (%) with a child > 12 weeks	228 87%	194 85%	191 78%	189 88%	176 82%	-13
Child > 12 weeks and have a Link Worker	211 93%	192 99%	191 100%	176 93%	169 96%	-7
Child > 12 weeks AWAITING Link Worker	17	2	0	13	7	-6

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

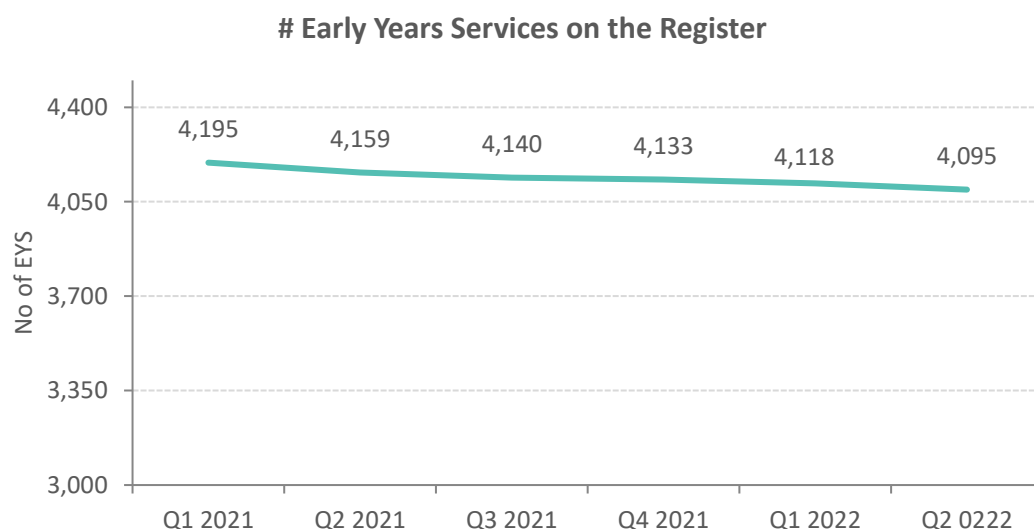
4.1 EARLY YEARS INSPECTORATE

KEY FACTS

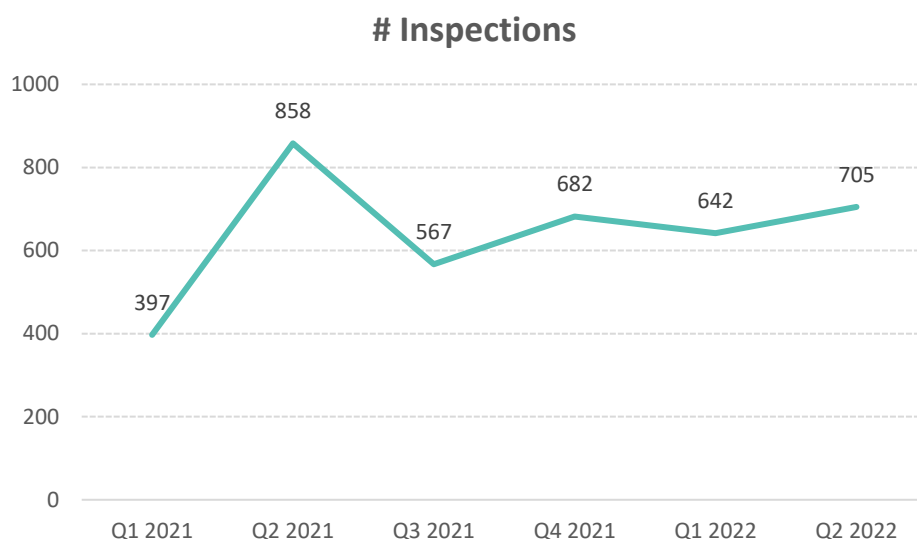
- 4,095 early years services (EYS) on the register nationally at the end of Q2 2022, 23 fewer than Q1 2022 (4,118) and 64 (1.5%) fewer than Q2 2021 (4,159).
- 705 inspections (all types) carried out in Q2 2022, 63 (10%) more than Q1 2022 (642). This brings to 1,347 the number of inspections for the first six months of 2022, 92 (7%) more than the same period in 2021 (1,255). *Inspections in early 2021 impacted due to Covid-19 restrictions.*
- 1,010 incidents notified to the Inspectorate in Q2 2022, 1,994 (66%) fewer than Q1 2022 (3,004). This brings to 4,014 the number of incidents notified for the first six months of 2022, 3,265 more than the same period in 2021 (749). The majority of the incidents notified pertain to confirmed cases of Covid-19.
- 91 unsolicited information submissions received by the Inspectorate during Q2 2022, 25 (38%) more than Q1 2022 (66). This brings to 157 the number of submissions received for the first six months of 2022, 28 (22%) more than the same period in 2021 (129).
- 33 services were found to have closed in Q2 2022, bringing to 58 the number of services that were found to have closed in the first six months of 2022. A total of 61 services were found have closed during the same period in 2021.

4.1.1 Activity Data

- 4,095 early years services (EYS) on the register nationally at the end of Q2 2022, 23 fewer than Q1 2022 (4,118) and 64 (1.5%) fewer than Q2 2021 (4,159).



- 705 inspections (all types⁶) carried out in Q2 2022, 63 (10%) more than Q1 2022 (642). This brings to 1,347 the number of inspections for the first six months of 2022, 92 (7%) more than the same period in 2021 (1,255). *Inspections in early 2021 impacted due to Covid-19 restrictions.*



- 56 new applications to become a registered provider received by the Inspectorate in Q2 2022, 36 (180%) more than Q1 2022 (20). This brings to 76 the number of new applications for the first six months of 2022, 47 (162%) more than the same period in 2021 (29).
- 10 new registration applications approved by the Inspectorate in Q2 2022, one more than Q1 2022 (11). This brings to 21 the number of applications approved for the first six months of 2022, 10 (91%) more than the same period in 2021 (11).
- No applications to become an EYS refused registration by the Inspectorate in the first six months of 2022.
- 471 “change in circumstances” requests processed by the Inspectorate in Q2 2022, 52 (12%) more than Q1 2022 (419). This brings to 890 the number of requests processed for the first six months of 2022, 266 (43%) more than the same period in 2021 (624).
- 1,010 incidents notified to the Inspectorate in Q2 2022, 1,994 (66%) fewer than Q1 2022 (3,004). This brings to 4,014 the number of incidents notified for the first six months of 2022, 3,265 more than the same period in 2021 (749).

⁶ Includes initial, follow up, complaints, focused inspections or fit for purpose inspections

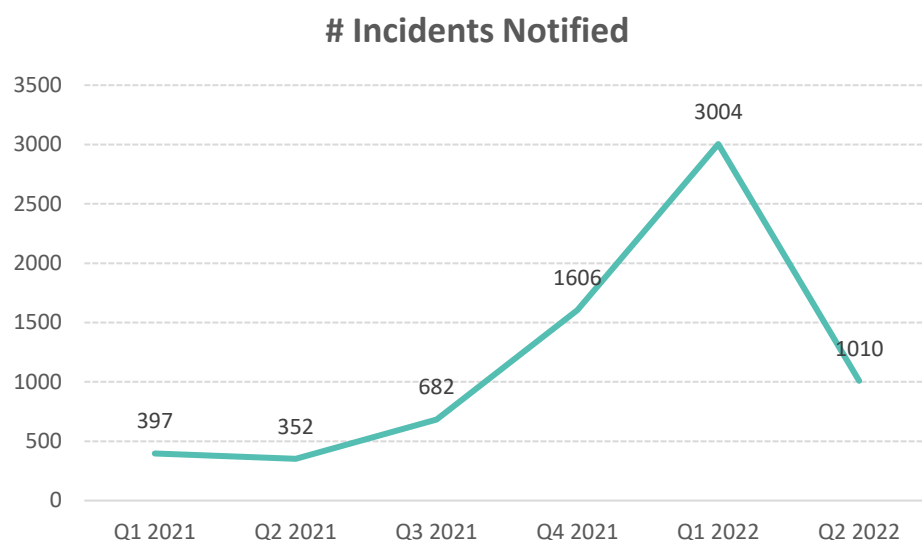
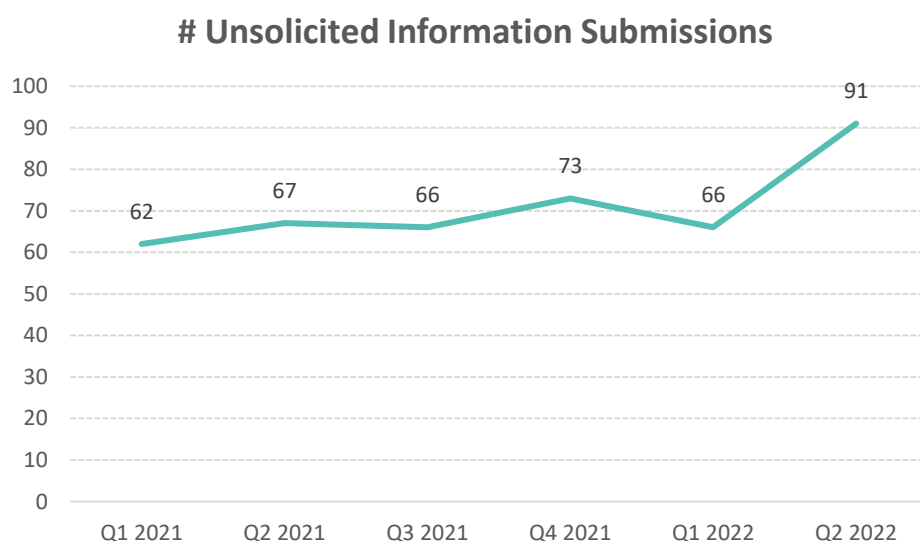


Figure for Q4 2021 revised from previously publish.

- 91 unsolicited information submissions⁷ received by the Inspectorate during Q2 2022, 25 (38%) more than Q1 2022 (66). This brings to 157 the number of submissions received for the first six months of 2022, 28 (22%) more than the same period in 2021 (129).



- No EYS prosecuted in Q2 2022, by Tusla for breach of the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Service) Regulations 2016. A total of three prosecutions in the first six months of 2022.
- No service removed from the register by the Inspectorate in the first six months of 2022.
- 33 services were found to have closed in Q2 2022, bringing to 58 the number of services that were found to have closed in the first six months of 2022. A total of 61 services were found have closed during the same period in 2021.

⁷ 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

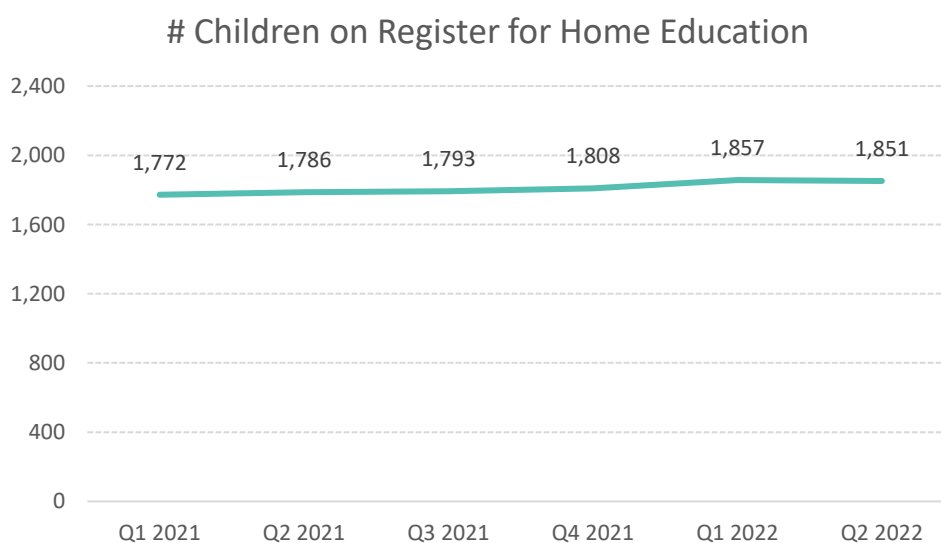
- 1,851 children on the register for home education at the end of Q2 2022, six fewer than Q1 2022 (1,857) and 65 (4%) more than Q2 2021 (1,786).
- 199 applications received for home education during Q2 2022, 189 (49%) fewer than Q1 2022 (388) and 76 (28%) fewer than Q2 2021 (275). This brings to 587 the number of applications for the first six months of 2022, 13 (2%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (600).
- 130 assessments (all types) for home education carried out in Q2 2022, 25 (16%) fewer than Q1 2022 (155) and 14 (12%) more than Q2 2021 (116). This brings to 285 the number of assessments for the first six months of 2022, 22 (7%) fewer than Q2 2021 (307).
- 1,612 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of Q2 2022, 137 (8%) fewer than Q1 2022 (1,749) and the second consecutive decrease.

Independent Schools

- 56 assessed independent schools on the register at the end of Q2 2022, no change from Q1 2022
- 6,296 children in assessed independent schools at the end of Q2 2022 with 4,393 of these children on the register.
- 43 schools due for review assessment (≥ 3 -year cycle) at the end of Q2 2022.

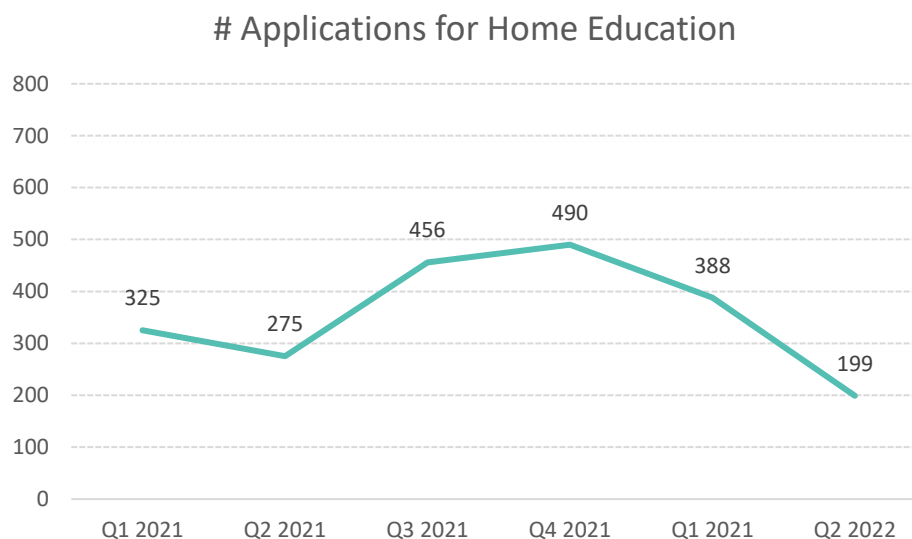
Home Education

- 1,851 children on the register for home education at the end of Q2 2022, six fewer than Q1 2022 (1,857) and 65 (4%) more than Q2 2021 (1,786).

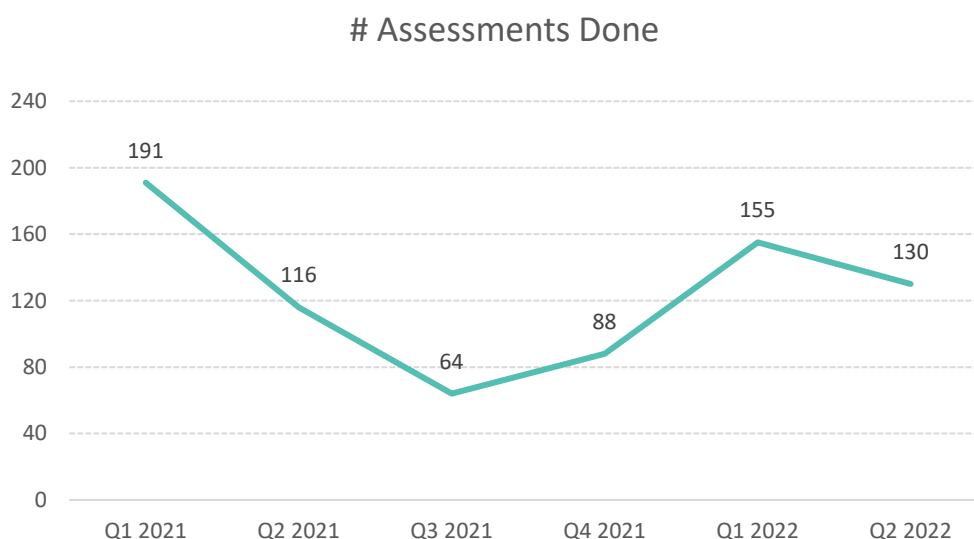


- 20% (365) of children on the register at the end of Q2 2022 have special educational needs.

- 199 applications⁸ received for home education during Q2 2022, 189 (49%) fewer than Q1 2022 (388) and 76 (28%) fewer than Q2 2021 (275). This brings to 587 the number of applications for the first six months of 2022, 13 (2%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (600).



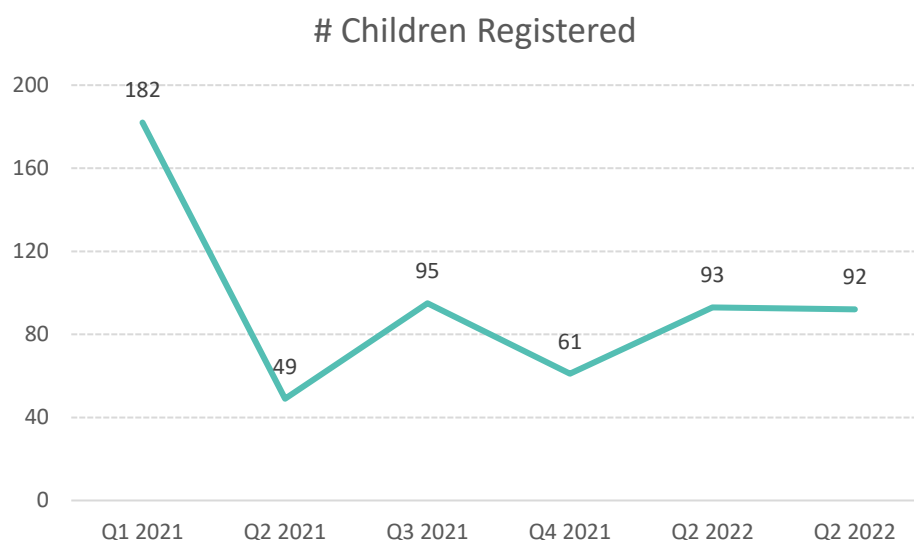
- 130 assessments (all types) for home education carried out in Q2 2022, 25 (16%) fewer than Q1 2022 (155) and 14 (12%) more than Q2 2021 (116). This brings to 285 the number of assessments for the first six months of 2022, 22 (7%) fewer than Q2 2021 (307).



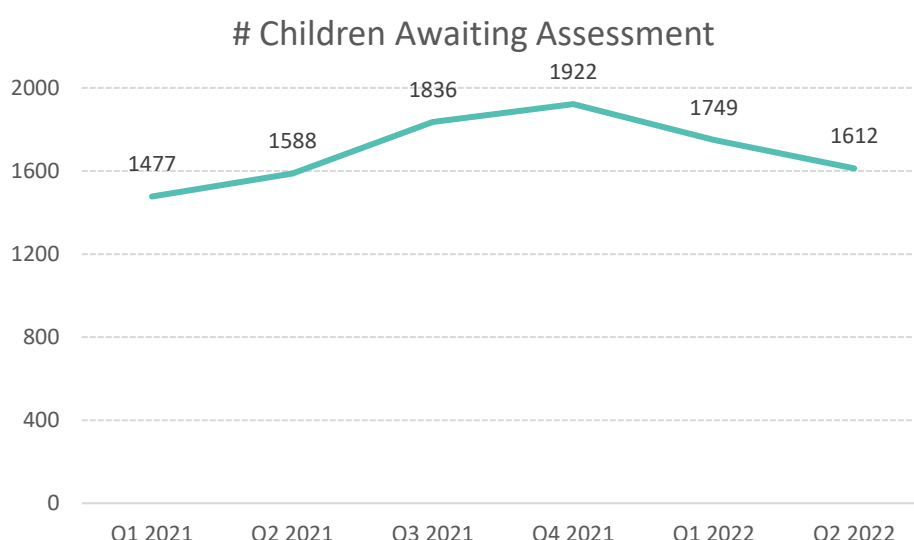
- 92 children registered for home education⁹ in Q2 2022, one fewer than Q1 2022 (93) and 43 (88%) more than Q2 2021 (49). This brings to 185 the number of children registered for the first six months of 2022, 46 (20%) fewer than the same period in 2021 (231).

⁸ The figure for applications includes valid and invalid applications

⁹ 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



- 1,612 children on a waiting list for assessment at the end of Q2 2022, 137 (8%) fewer than Q1 2022 (1,749) and the second consecutive decrease.



- 98 children removed from the register in Q2 2022. Of these, 61 returned to school and 32 turned 18 years. The remaining five were removed for other reasons. This brings to 142 the number of children who were removed from the register in the first six months of 2022.

Independent Schools

- 56 assessed independent schools on the register at the end of Q2 2022, no change from Q1 2022
- 6,296 children in assessed independent schools at the end of Q2 2022 with 4,393 of these children on the register.
- 43 schools due for review assessment (\geq 3-year cycle) at the end of Q2 2022.

4.3 NON-STATUTORY ALTERNATIVE CARE SERVICES

Key Facts

- 142 non-statutory residential centres at the end Q2 2022; three fewer than Q1 2022 (145)
- A total of 44 inspections (all types) were conducted in Q2 2022, three fewer than Q1 2022 (revised figure). This brings to 91 the number of inspections for the first six months of 2022.
- 6 non-statutory foster care services at the end Q2 2022; no change from Q1 2022. Two monitoring visits conducted in Q2 2022.

Non-Statutory Children's Residential Centres

- 142 non-statutory residential centres at the end Q2 2022; three fewer than Q1 2022 (145)
- A total of 44 inspections (all types) were conducted in Q2 2022, three fewer than Q1 2022 (revised figure). This brings to 91 the number of inspections for the first six months of 2022.

Inspections of Non Statutory Residential Services

Inspections by Type	Total 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022
Thematic Inspection (announced) on-site	135	40*	37
Thematic Inspection (unannounced) on site	15	5	3
Thematic Inspection (announced) remote inspection	0	1*	3
New Registration Inspection Visit	15	1	1
Total	165	47	44

*Revised since previously reported

Non-Statutory Foster Care Services

- 6 non-statutory foster care services at the end Q2 2022; no change from Q1 2022
- Two monitoring visits conducted in Q2 2022.

5.0 TUSLA EDUCATION SUPPORT SERVICES

KEY FACTS

Educational Welfare: Academic Year September 2021 – August 2022

- 6,468 referrals screened by senior educational welfare officers (EWO) for the 10 months Sept – June 2022, 1,070 (20%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (5,398).
- 3,617 screened referrals on a waiting list at the end of Q2 2022, 1,159 (47%) more than Q2 2021 (2,458).
- 2,936 new individual children worked with for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 523 (22%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (2,413).
- 571 school attendance notices (SANs) issued for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 473 more than the same period in 2020/2021 (98). The SANs issued were in respect of 392 individual children.
- 98 summonses issued for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022. None issued during the same period in 2020/2021. The summonses were in respect of 66 individual children.
- 127 Section 24 meetings convened by EWOs for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 48 (61%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (79).

Educational Welfare: Academic Year September 2021 – August 2022

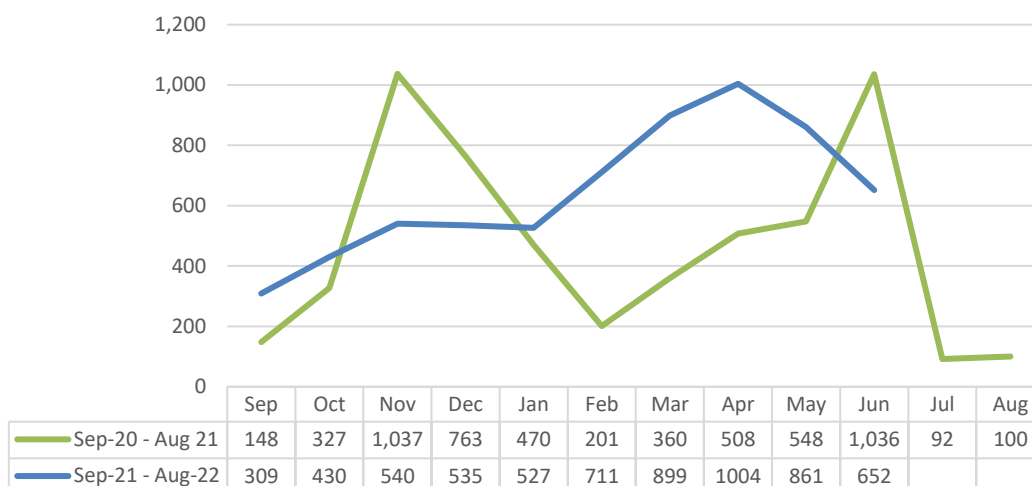
Data presented needs to be interpreted in the context of the impact of Covid-19 on school attendance and service provided.

- 6,468 referrals¹⁰ screened by senior educational welfare officers (EWO) for the 10 months Sept – June 2022, 1,070 (20%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (5,398).
- 2,782 referrals allocated to educational welfare officers for the 10 months Sept – Mar 2022, 495 (22%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (2,287).
- 2,172 referrals screened out / required no further action for the 10 months Sept – Mar 2022, 1,032 (90%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (1,140).
- 3,617 screened referrals on a waiting list at the end of Q2 2022, 1,159 (47%) more than Q2 2021 (2,458).

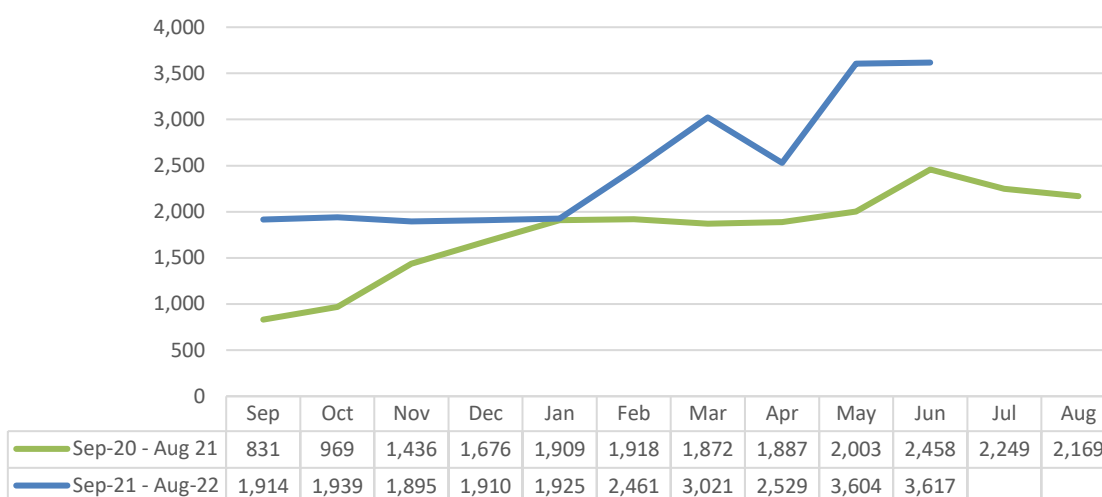
	Sept 2020 – June 2021	Sept 2021 – June 2022	Δ
# Referrals screened	5,398	6,468	+1,070 (20%)
# Referrals allocated	2,287	2,782	+495 (22%)
# Referrals screened out	1,140	2,172	+1,032 (90%)
# Referrals on waiting list (March)	2,458	3,617	+1,159 (47%)

¹⁰ 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



- 3,425 new cases assigned to EWOs for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 396 (13%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (3,029).
- 3,058 cases closed for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 247 (9%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (2,811).
- 2,936 new individual children worked with for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 523 (22%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (2,413).
- 6,062 individual children worked with for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 805 (15%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (5,257).

	Sept 2020 – June 2021	Sept 2021 – June 2022	Δ
# cases assigned	3,029	3,425	+396 (13%)
# cases closed	2,811	3,058	+247 (9%)
# New individual children worked with	2,413	2,936	+523 (22%)
# Individual children worked with (to end Jun)	5,257	6,062	+805 (15%)

- 571 school attendance notices (SANs) issued for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 473 more than the same period in 2020/2021 (98). The SANs issued were in respect of 392 individual children.
- 98 summonses issued for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022. None issued during the same period in 2020/2021. The summonses were in respect of 66 individual children.
- EWOs attended 116 court cases in relation to their own cases for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 83 (252%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (33).
- 114 child protection conferences (CPC) attended by EWOs for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 22 (16%) fewer than the same period in 2020/2021 (136).
- 127 Section 24¹¹ meetings convened by EWOs for the 10 months Sept – Jun 2022, 48 (61%) more than the same period in 2020/2021 (79).

	Sept 2020 – June 2021	Sept 2021 – June 2022	Δ
School Attendance Notices Issues	98	571	+473 (483%)
SANs - individual children involved	62	392	+330 (532%)
Summonses Issued	0	98	+98
Summonses – individual children involved	0	66	+66
Court cases attended in relation to own cases	33	116	+83 (252%)
Child protection conferences attended	136	114	-22 (16%)
Section 24 meetings convened	79	127	+48 (61%)
Child protection & welfare referrals made	75	114	+39 (52%)

¹¹ 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—
- 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
 - 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 SERVICES¹²

KEY FACTS

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

- At least 17,873 children were in receipt of family support services at the end Q2 2022, 798 (5%) more than Q4 2021 (17,075). Based on a response rate of 88%
- At least 18,324 children referred to family support services during the first six months of 2022. This equates to about 1.5% of the child population (0-17 years).
- 65% (11,908) of children referred to family support services in the first six months of 2022 received a service. The percentage who received a service ranged from 94% (Cavan/Monaghan) to 43% (Kerry). Ten areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 65%.

6.1.1 Family Support Providers

- 370 family support providers commissioned for the first half of 2022.
- 88% (325) of services provided data for the first half of 2022.

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

Family Support Services Commissioned by Areas

Area	# Family Support Providers Commissioned Q1/Q2 2022	# External to Tusla	# Internal to Tusla	# services that provided data	% that provided data
DSC	36	33	3	36	100%
DSE/WW	12	9	3	31	100%
DSW/K/WW	24	19	5	24	100%
Midlands	15	15	0	15	100%
DNC	42	35	7	40	95%
Dublin North	21	18	3	18	86%
LH/MH	20	15	5	20	100%
CN/MN	22	19	3	19	86%
Cork	6*	5	1	6	100%
Kerry	13	10	3	0	0%
CW/KK/ST	28	26	2	26	93%
WD/WX	26	23	3	17	65%

¹² 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.

MidWest	38	38	0	38	100%
GY/RN	28	20	8	18	64%
Mayo	9	9	0	6	67%
Donegal	12	12	0	12	100%
SLWC	18	18	0	18	100%
Total	370	324	46	325	88%

*Cork: a recent review for family support metrics established the scope of the services requested for the return did not expand in line with the guidance and questionnaire issued in 2020 and consequently the data for the Cork Area is an under representation. This will be rectified for future data returns.

6.1.2 Children in Receipt of Family Support Services

- At least 17,873 children were in receipt of family support services at the end Q2 2022, 798 (5%) more than Q4 2021 (17,075). Highest number reported by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (2,668; 15%) followed by Midwest (1,827; 10%) and Dublin North (1,595; 9%). Fewest number reported by Midlands (125; <1%), Mayo (274; 1.5%) and Kerry (305; 1.7%).

Children in receipt of Family Support Services

Area	Number of children in receipt of a FSS end of Q4 2021	Number of children in receipt of a FSS end of Q2 2022	% Total Q2 2021
DSC	1,220	1,220	6.8%
DSE/WW	615	626	3.5%
DSW/K/WW	2,101	2,668	14.9%
Midlands	224	125	0.7%
DNC	1,408	1,406	7.9%
Dublin North	1,235	1,595	8.9%
LH/MH	863	900	5.0%
CN/MN	963	721	4.0%
Cork	479	416	2.3%
Kerry	389	305	1.7%
CW/KK/ST	1,034	1,432	8.0%
WD/WX	817	968	5.4%
MidWest	1,316	1,827	10.2%
GY/RN	1,254	1,059	5.9%
Mayo	432	274	1.5%
Donegal	1,343	1,412	7.9%
SLWC	1,382	919	5.1%
Total	17,075	17,873	100.0%

6.1.3 Children Referred to Family Support Services

- At least 18,324 children referred to family support services during the first six months of 2022. This equates to about 1.5% of the child population (0-17 years).
- The highest rate of referrals was reported by Dublin North City (4.9%) followed by Donegal (3.3%) and Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (2.8%).
- The highest number of children referred was reported by Dublin North City (2,202; 12%) followed by Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow (2,022; 11%) and Dublin North

(1,580; 9%). Fewest number reported Midlands (161; <1%), Cork (328; 2%) and Dublin South East/Wicklow (537; 3%).

Children referred to Family Support Services by area

Area	Total number of children referred to FSS, Q3/Q4 2021	Total number of children referred to FSS Q1/Q2 2022	% Total Referred Q1/Q2 2022	Population 0-17 years (Census 2016)	% children referred
DSC	1,367	1,412	7.7%	65,564	2.15%
DSE/WW	561	537	2.9%	86,810	0.62%
DSW/K/WW	1,568	2,022	11.0%	108,186	1.87%
Midlands	250	161	0.9%	80,193	0.20%
DNC	1,533	2,202	12.0%	44,927	4.90%
Dublin North	1,439	1,580	8.6%	100,654	1.57%
LH/MH	635	881	4.8%	93,093	0.95%
CN/MN	777	633	3.5%	36,446	1.74%
Cork	406	328	1.8%	134,015	0.24%
Kerry	472	620	3.4%	34,527	1.80%
CW/KK/ST	922	1,402	7.7%	63,009	2.23%
WD/WX	1,298	1,226	6.7%	68,513	1.79%
MidWest	1,191	1,340	7.3%	96,266	1.39%
GY/RN	1,219	1,334	7.3%	79,912	1.67%
Mayo	431	594	3.2%	31,968	1.86%
Donegal	1,485	1,402	7.7%	42,865	3.27%
SLWC	737	650	3.5%	23,554	2.76%
Total	16,291	18,324	100.0%	1,190,502	1.54%

6.1.4 Source of Referrals

- The most common source of referrals was parents/guardians, accounting for 27% (4,896) of referrals followed by Tusla social workers (25%; 4,529), schools (10%; 1,878) and HSE Officers (10.2%; 1,866).

Children referred to Family Support Services by source of referral, Q1/Q2 2022

Source	# Referrals Q3/Q4 2021	# Referrals Q1/Q2 2022	% Total
Parent/Guardian	3,843	4,896	26.7%
Tusla Social Workers	4,633	4,529	24.7%
Schools	1,616	1,878	10.2%
HSE Officers	1,657	1,866	10.2%
Self-Referral	1,461	1,643	9.0%
Other Tulsa Officers	968	1,248	6.8%
Other	741	931	5.1%
Voluntary Agency	750	862	4.7%
GP	241	234	1.3%
Other Family Member	202	125	0.7%
AGS	159	89	0.5%
Anonymous	20	23	0.1%
Total	16,291	18,324	100.0%

6.1.5 Children who received a service

- 65% (11,908) of children referred to family support services in the first six months of 2022 received a service. The percentage who received a service ranged from 94% (Cavan/Monaghan) to 43% (Kerry). Ten areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 65%.

Children referred to Family Support Services (Q1/Q2 2022) who received a service during the reporting period

Area	Number referred Q1/Q2 2022	Of number referred, number who received a service	% who rec'd a service
DSC	1412	808	57%
DSE/WW	537	329	61%
DSW/K/WW	2,022	1,137	56%
Midlands	161	128	80%
DNC	2,202	980	45%
Dublin North	1,580	1,156	73%
LH/MH	881	584	66%
CN/MN	633	593	94%
Cork	328	144	44%
Kerry	620	269	43%
CW/KK/ST	1,402	942	67%
WD/WX	1,226	945	77%
MidWest	1,340	1002	75%
GY/RN	1,334	935	70%
Mayo	594	466	78%
Donegal	1,402	1,142	81%
SLWC	650	348	54%
Total	18,324	11,908	65%

- Of the children referred to family support services in first six months of 2022 who received a service (11,908), 6% (676) were subject of a child in care plan; 5% (595) were subject of a Tusla social work child protection plan; 6% (686) were subject of a Tusla social work led safety plan; 6% (661) were subject of a Meitheal support plan while 47% (5,591) 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, Q1/Q2 2022

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	676	254	251	212
	6%	38%	(37%)	(31%)
Tusla social work child protection plan	595	201	202	190
	5%	(34%)	(34%)	(32%)
Tusla safety plan	686	310	300	280
	6%	(45%)	(44%)	(41%)
Meitheal support plan	661	359	349	298
	6%	(54%)	(53%)	(45%)
Single agency response plan	5,591	2,846	2,847	2,744
	47%	(51%)	(51%)	(49%)

6.1.6 Parenting Support Service

- 10,524 parents/guardians/care givers were referred to a parenting support service in the first six months of 2022.
- 8,197 (78%) of the parents/guardians/care givers referred received a service.
- 3,861 individual (one-to-one) parenting support services were commissioned internally during the first six months of 2022.
- 2,832 individual (one-to-one) parenting support services were commissioned externally.
- 1,528 parenting support services that are group-based interventions were commissioned internally during the first six months of 2022.
- 702 parenting support services that are group-based interventions were commissioned externally.

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

- 1,168 Meitheal processes requested in the first six months of 2022, 37 more than the last six months of 2021 (1,131) and 74 fewer than the first six months of 2021 (1,242).
- The most common pathway for requests was Direct Access accounting for 70% (817) of requests. Social Work Diversion accounted for a further 16% (190) while Social Work Step-Down accounted for 8% (93) of requests. The pathway was not provided for the remaining 68 (6%) requests, (59 in Waterford/Wexford, 8 Donegal and 1 Galway/Roscommon).
- 84% (982/1,168) of Meitheal requests received in the first six months of 2022 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage).
- 836 Meitheal processes reached completion of Stage 2 in the first six months of 2022.
- 55% (456) of processes reaching completion of Stage 2, proceeded to delivery (Stage 3) (Meitheal Support Meeting).
- 862 Meitheal processes were closed in the first six months of 2022. 24% (211) of Meitheal processes were closed following submission of a Meitheal request form (Stage 1); 29% (247) were closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Stage 2 Discussion Stage); 13% (109) were closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings (Stage 3) and 34% (295) were closed post-delivery
- 123 Child and Family Support Networks (CFSN) operating at the end of Q2 2022. A further 22 CFSNs are planned/pre planning stage.

6.2.1 Meitheal Activity Data

- 1,168 Meitheal processes requested in the first six months of 2022, 37 more than the last six months of 2021 (1,131) and 74 fewer than the first six months of 2021 (1,242).
- Highest number of requests for the first six of 2022 reported by Waterford/Wexford (143; 12%) followed by Kerry (134; 11.5%), Cork (132; 11.3%) and Dublin North (108; 9.2%). These four areas account for almost half (44%; 517) of all Meitheal processes requested.
- The fewest number was reported by the Mayo (19; 1.6%) followed by Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan (26; 2.2%) and Dublin South Central (32; 2.7%).

Meitheal processes requested

Area	# Requested Q1/Q2 2021	# Requested Q3/Q4 2021	# Requested Q1/Q2 2022	% Total Q1/Q2 2022
DSC	26	47	32	2.7%
DSE/WW	50	38	35	3.0%
DSW/K/WW	68	37	83	7.1%
Midlands	17	33	50	4.3%
DNC	34	31	51	4.4%
Dublin North	248	181	108	9.2%
LH/MH	81	53	74	6.3%
CN/MN	55	101	45	3.9%
Cork	128	114	132	11.3%
Kerry	151	142	134	11.5%
CW/KK/ST	45	75	79	6.8%
WD/WX	103	100	143	12.2%
MidWest	55	59	47	4.0%
GY/RN	98	48	75	6.4%
Mayo	25	21	19	1.6%
Donegal	32	25	35	3.0%
SLWC	26	26	26	2.2%
National	1,242	1,131	1,168	100.0%

- The most common pathway for requests was Direct Access accounting for 70% (817) of requests. Social Work Diversion accounted for a further 16% (190) while Social Work Step-Down accounted for 8% (93) of requests. The pathway was not provided for the remaining 68 (6%) requests, (59 in Waterford/Wexford, 8 Donegal and 1 Galway/Roscommon).
- The percentage of direct access requests ranged from 95% (18/19) in Mayo to 33% (15/45) in Cavan/Monaghan. Twelve areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 70%.
- The percentage of requests diverted from social work ranged from 47% (21/45) in Cavan/Monaghan to none in four areas (Mayo, Midlands, Dublin South Central and Dublin North. Eight areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 16%.
- The percentage of requests stepped down from social work ranged 20% (9/45) in Cavan/Monaghan to none in Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary). Four areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average 8%.

Access Pathway for Meitheal Requests Q1 / Q2 2022

Area	# Requested Q1/Q2 2022	Of the total number of Meitheal requests:					
		Direct Access	% Direct Access	Social Work Diversion	% SW Diversion	Social Work Step -Down	% Step- Down
DSC	32	30	94%	0	0%	2	6%
DSE/WW	35	24	69%	9	26%	2	6%
DSW/K/WW	83	61	73%	20	24%	2	2%
Midlands	50	47	94%	0	0%	3	6%
DNC	51	37	73%	7	14%	7	14%

Dublin North	108	88	81%	0	0%	20	19%
LH/MH	74	53	72%	16	22%	5	7%
CN/MN	45	15	33%	21	47%	9	20%
Cork	132	93	70%	20	15%	19	14%
Kerry	134	102	76%	22	16%	10	7%
CW/KK/ST	79	47	59%	32	41%	0	0%
WD/WX	143	54	38%	25	17%	5	3%
MidWest	47	34	72%	12	26%	1	2%
GY/RN	75	69	92%	1	1%	4	5%
Mayo	19	18	95%	0	0%	1	5%
Donegal	35	22	63%	3	9%	2	6%
SLWC	26	23	88%	2	8%	1	4%
National	1168	817	70%	190	16%	93	8%

- 84% (982/1,168) of Meitheal requests received in the first six months of 2022 proceeded to Stage 2 (Discussion Stage).
- The percentage of requests proceeding to Stage 2 ranged from 98% (106/108) in Dublin North to 49% in Cavan/Monaghan (22/45). Twelve areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average (84%).

Meitheal requests received proceeding to Stage Two (Discussion Stage) Q1/Q2 2022

Area	# Requested Q1/Q2 2022	# that proceeded to Discussion Stage (Stage 2)	% that Proceeded to Discussion Stage (Stage 2)
DSC	32	23	72%
DSE/WW	35	28	80%
DSW/K/WW	83	77	93%
Midlands	50	47	94%
DNC	51	45	88%
Dublin North	108	106	98%
LH/MH	74	67	91%
CN/MN	45	22	49%
Cork	132	116	88%
Kerry	134	130	97%
CW/KK/ST	79	66	84%
WD/WX	143	78	55%
MidWest	47	44	94%
GY/RN	75	69	92%
Mayo	19	18	95%
Donegal	35	21	60%
SLWC	26	25	96%
National	1168	982	84%

- 836 Meitheal processes reached completion of Stage 2 in the first six months of 2022.
- 55% (456) of processes reaching completion of Stage 2, proceeded to delivery (Stage 3) (Meitheal Support Meeting). The percentage of processes that proceeded to delivery ranged from 92%

(60/65) in Kerry to 10% in Dublin North (11/109). Eleven areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 55%.

- 30% (250) were referred for a single agency response – majority (85%; 213) of these were reported by four areas (Dublin North, Waterford/Wexford, CW/K/ST and Cork). The percentage of processes referred for a single agency response ranged from 85% (93/109) to none in four areas (Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan, DSW/K/WW, Donegal and Dublin South East/Wicklow). Three areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 30%.
- <2% (13) of processes were referred to social work (stepped – up). These processes were reported across eight areas. Nine areas reported none.
- 7% (61) of processes were closed. The percentage of processes closed ranged from 33% (18/54) in Cork to none in five areas (Midlands, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan, Dublin South Central, Mayo and Galway/Roscommon). Six areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average.

Meitheal processes reaching completion of Stage Two, Q1/Q2 2022

Area	# Reaching Completion of Stage 2, Q1/Q2 2022	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	23	19	83%	0	0.0%	3	13%	0	0%	1	4%
DSE/WW	34	17	50%	1	2.9%	0	0%	3	9%	13	38%
DSW/K/WW	72	57	79%	0	0.0%	0	0%	4	6%	11	15%
Midlands	46	28	61%	4	8.7%	7	15%	0	0%	7	15%
DNC	42	21	50%	0	0.0%	3	7%	7	17%	11	26%
Dublin North	109	11	10%	0	0.0%	93	85%	5	5%	0	0%
LH/MH	67	48	72%	1	1.5%	6	9%	12	18%	0	0%
CN/MN	27	20	74%	1	3.7%	4	15%	2	7%	0	0%
Cork	54	21	39%	0	0.0%	15	28%	18	33%	0	0%
Kerry	65	60	92%	1	1.5%	1	2%	3	5%	0	0%
CW/KK/ST	50	14	28%	0	0.0%	35	70%	1	2%	0	0%
WD/WX	83	9	11%	2	2.4%	70	84%	2	2%	0	0%
MidWest	29	22	76%	1	3.4%	2	7%	3	10%	1	3%
GY/RN	75	67	89%	2	2.7%	6	8%	0	0%	0	0%
Mayo	19	14	74%	0	0.0%	5	26%	0	0%	0	0%
Donegal	28	16	57%	0	0.0%	0	0%	1	4%	11	39%
SLWC	13	12	92%	0	0.0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	8%
National	836	456	55%	13	1.6%	250	30%	61	7%	56	7%

- 862 Meitheal processes were closed in the first six months of 2022. The number closed ranged from 152 (Cork) to 10 (Dublin South Central).
- 24% (211) of Meitheal processes were closed following submission of a Meitheal request form (Stage 1). The percentage closed following submission of a Meitheal request form ranged from

71% (12/17) in Kerry to none in Donegal. Five areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 24%.

- 29% (247) of Meitheal processes 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 91% (94/103) in Dublin North to 9% in three areas (DSW/K/WW, Midlands and Cork). Five areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average (29%). Thirty-eight (94/247) percent of Meitheals closed following completion of the Strengths and Needs Form (Stage) were reported by Dublin North.
- 13% (109) of Meitheal processes were closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings (Stage 3). The percentage closed following commencement of Meitheal support meetings ranged from 50% (5/10) in Dublin South Central to none in three areas (Waterford/Wexford, Louth/Meath, Kerry). Ten areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 13%.
- 34% (295) of Meitheal processes were closed post-delivery. The percentage closed post-delivery ranged from 71% (36/51) in Cavan/Monaghan to 5% (5/103) in Dublin North. Nine areas reported a percentage equal to or higher than the national average of 34%.

Number of Meitheals closed Q1 / Q2 2022

Area	Total number of Meitheals closed Q1/Q2	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	1	10%	1	10%	5	50%	3	30%
DSE/WW	40	6	15%	4	10%	10	25%	20	50%
DSW/K/WW	53	7	13%	5	9%	7	13%	34	64%
Midlands	17	3	18%	7	41%	4	24%	3	18%
DNC	63	9	14%	12	19%	23	37%	19	30%
Dublin North	103	1	1%	94	91%	3	3%	5	5%
LH/MH	41	20	49%	12	29%	0	0%	9	22%
CN/MN	51	3	6%	6	12%	6	12%	36	71%
Cork	152	75	49%	13	9%	20	13%	44	29%
Kerry	17	12	71%	4	24%	0	0%	1	6%
CW/KK/ST	65	18	28%	37	57%	6	9%	4	6%
WD/WX	82	19	23%	29	35%	0	0%	34	41%
MidWest	45	8	18%	4	9%	6	13%	27	60%
GY/RN	63	20	32%	9	14%	5	8%	29	46%
Mayo	17	3	18%	3	18%	3	18%	8	47%
Donegal	16	0	0%	4	25%	3	19%	9	56%
SLWC	27	6	22%	3	11%	8	30%	10	37%
National	862	211	24%	247	29%	109	13%	295	34%

6.2.2 Child and Family Support Networks

- 123 Child and Family Support Networks¹³ (CFSN) operating at the end of Q2 2022. A further 22 CFSNs are planned/pre planning stage.

Child and Family Support Networks operating and planned

Area	CFSNs Operating Q4 2021	CFSNs Operating Q2 2022	CFSNs Planned
DSC	7	8	2
DSE/Wicklow	7	7	2
DSW/K/WW	10	9	1
Midlands	6	5	0
Dublin North City	6	6	0
Dublin North	4	4	1
Louth/Meath	5	5	0
Cavan/Monaghan	8	6	0
Cork	11	12	12
Kerry	8	8	0
CW/KK/ST	7	8	4
WD/WX	8	8	0
MidWest	11	13	0
GY/RN	12	12	0
Mayo	4	4	0
Donegal	5	5	0
SLWC	3	3	0
National	122	123	22

¹³ Child and Family Support Networks: Collaborative networks of community, voluntary and statutory providers intended to improve access to support services for children and their families⁸

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

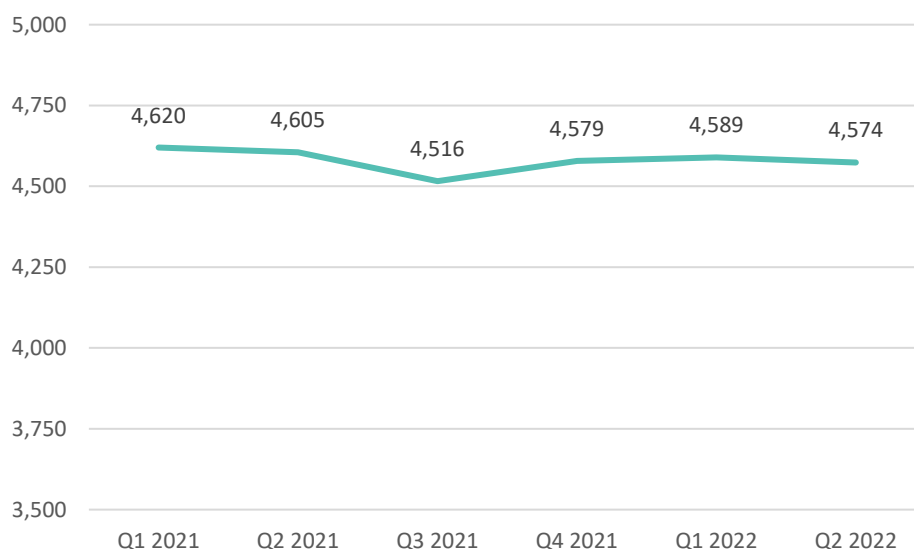
KEY FACTS

- 4,574 whole time equivalent (WTE) staff (excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q2 2022, 15 fewer than Q1 2022 (4,589) and 31 fewer than Q2 2021 (4,605).
- 293 new staff joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in the first six months of 2022.
- 258 staff left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks, excluding retirements) and 66 staff retired in the first six months of 2022.
- At the end of Q2 2022, the overall absence rate for the Agency was 7.27%, 1.78 percentage points lower than Q1 2022 (9.05%) and 1.95 percentage points higher than Q2 2021 (5.32%).
- e-learning activity: 5,388 completions were achieved in Q2 2022
- Virtual classroom training: 1,137 completions.

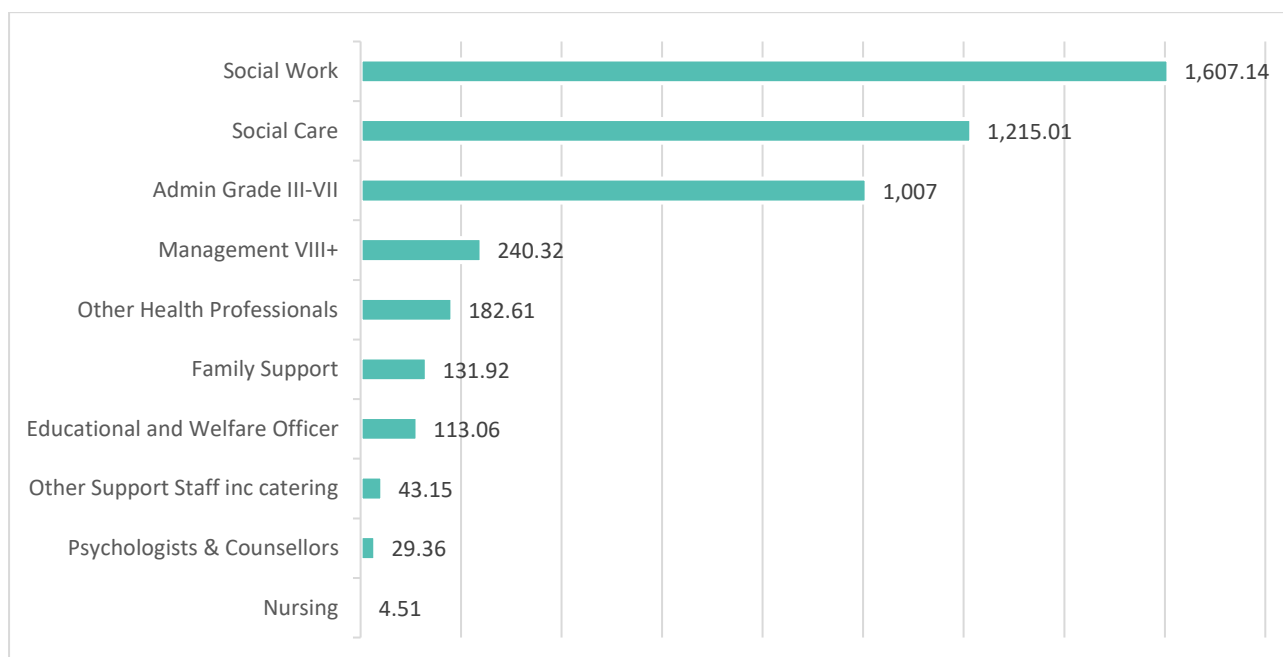
7.1 Workforce Position

- 4,574 whole time equivalent (WTE) staff (excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q2 2022, 15 fewer than Q1 2022 (4,589) and 31 fewer than Q2 2021 (4,605).

Total Staff Employed (WTE), by quarter



- Social workers are the largest category of staff employed by the Agency, accounting for 35% (1,607) of total staff (WTE) employed at the end of Q2 2022, followed by social care staff accounting for a further 27% (1,215). Management (Grade VIII+) account for 5% (240) of the workforce.



- Increase/decrease in WTEs by staff category from Q1 2022 and Q2 2021 is presented in the table below.

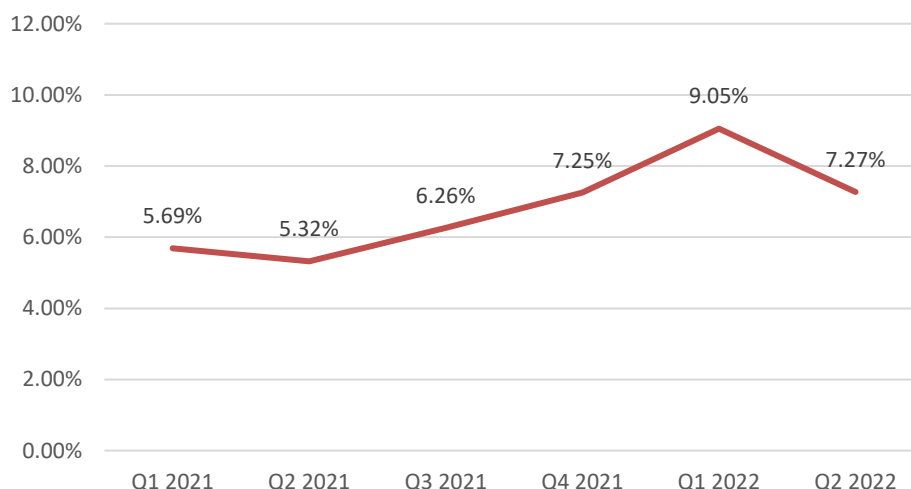
Breakdown of staff (WTE) by category

Staffing by Category	Q2 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q2 2022 v Q1 2022	Q2 2022 v Q2 2021
Social Work	1,643.37	1,645.29	1,607.14	-38.15	-36.23
Social Care	1,246	1,195.61	1,215.01	19.40	-30.99
Admin Grade III-VII	994.93	1,009.11	1,007	-2.11	12.07
Family Support	133.04	135.15	131.92	-3.23	-1.12
Management VIII+	218.04	234.87	240.32	5.45	22.28
Educational and Welfare Officer	109.99	111	113.06	2.06	3.07
Other Support Staff inc catering	42.99	42.13	43.15	1.02	0.16
Nursing	5.62	5.08	4.51	-0.57	-1.11
Psychologists & Counsellors	32.5	30.55	29.36	-1.19	-3.14
Other Health Professionals	178.53	179.82	182.61	2.79	4.08
Total Staffing	4,605	4,589	4,574	-14.53	-30.93

- 293 new staff joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in the first six months of 2022.
- 258 staff left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks, excluding retirements) in the first six months of 2022.
- 66 staff retired in in the first six months of 2022.
- 151 (3%) staff were on maternity leave at the end of Q2 2022.

7.2 Absence Rate

- At the end of Q2 2022, the overall absence rate for the Agency was 7.27%, 1.78 percentage points lower than Q1 2022 (9.05%) and 1.95 percentage points higher than Q2 2021 (5.32%).



- The highest absence rate was reported for social care staff at 11.09%. The rate for Residential Services (12.36%) (data not shown), is five percentage points higher than the overall rate of 7.27%. The overall absence rate excluding Residential Services is 6.64%.

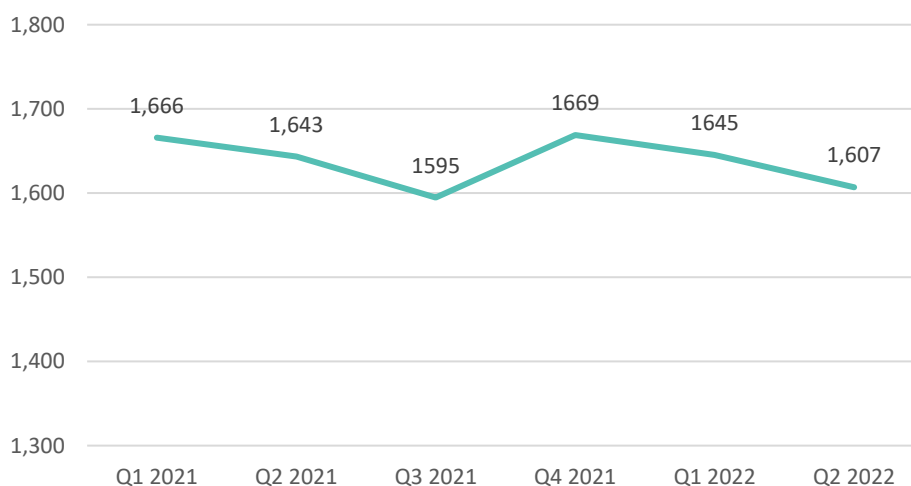
Absence rate by staff grade

Staff Grade	Absence Rate March 2022	Absence Rate June 2022
Social Work	8.04%	6.57
Social Care	13.25%	11.09
All other grades	7.02%	5.17

7.3 Social Work Staff (WTE)

- 1,607 whole time equivalent (WTE) social work staff (all grades and excluding agency staff) employed by Tusla at the end of Q2 2022; 38 fewer than Q1 2022 (1,645) and 36 fewer than Q2 2021 (1,643).

Number of social workers (WTE) by quarter



- 66 social workers joined Tusla (came onto Tusla's payroll) in in the first six months of 2022.
- 141 social workers left Tusla (i.e., resigned, career breaks excluding retirements) in the first six months of 2022.
- 18 social workers retired in in the first six months of 2022.
- 74 (5%) social workers were on maternity leave at the end of Q2 2022.
- A breakdown of the number of social workers (all grades) employed at the end of each quarter Q2 2021 to Q2 2022 by area is presented in the table below.

Breakdown of social work staff (WTE) by area Q2 2021 – Q2 2022

	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)	Social Work (WTE)
Area	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022
DSC	98.96	88.27	98.57	88.39	82.21
DSE/WW	96.08	94.87	101.09	98.72	93.17
DSW/K/WW	107.9	110.06	112.62	109.72	107.67
Midlands	94.83	90.47	94.89	94.11	90.76
Regional Services DML	12.54	12.54	13.44	14.14	15.1
DML Total	410.31	396.21	420.61	405.08	388.91
CN/MN	41.77	40.37	41.72	41.52	45.84
DNC	105.24	104.32	104.64	103.13	88.63
LH/MH	83.96	83.14	89.69	92.35	86.97
Dublin North	89.97	89.2	102.95	98.03	90.79
Regional Services DNE	16.75	15.35	13.29	12.13	12.18
DNE Total	337.69	332.38	352.29	347.16	324.41
CW/KK/ST	61.41	58.91	67.37	67.59	66.63
Cork	180.46	174.41	175.65	171.36	162.37
Kerry	42.65	39.44	42.22	44.11	44.56
WD/WX	88.65	85.09	85	85.92	91.29
Regional Services South			0.98	1.81	2
South Total	373.17	357.85	371.22	370.79	366.85
Donegal	67.89	66.34	66.93	69.39	68.77
GY/RN	98.18	93.64	92.84	93.48	98.72
Mayo	38.95	33.16	40.03	39.67	39.34
Mid West	117.84	114.8	121.57	116.39	115.53
SLWC	36.65	36.62	38.49	38.77	40.32
Regional Services West	2.86	1.86	1.86	2.37	2.57
West Total	362.37	346.42	361.72	360.37	365.25
Residential DML					
Residential DNE	2	2	2.6	2.6	2.54
Residential West					
Residential South	2	1.99	2	2	1.48
Special Care					

Residential Services	4	3.99	4.6	4.6	4.02
Corporate	155.83	157.83	158.49	157.29	157.7
Early Years Inspectorate	6.96	6.96			
Corporate	155.83	157.83	158.49	157.29	157.7
Total	1,643.4	1,594.68	1,668.93	1,645.29	1,607.14

7.4 Workforce Learning and Development (WLD)

- Table 1 shows virtual classroom training attendance for Q2 2022.
- Table 2 shows E-learning activity for the months Q2 2022.
- The most attended classroom training was “Sharing Personal Data Safely” with 106 participants at virtual classroom sessions for this quarter.
- The most popular e-learning module was ‘Implementing Data Protection in Tusla’ with 797 completions. This was followed by the ‘Implementing Children First’ module with 670 completions.

Table 1: Virtual Classroom Training, Q2 2022

Name of Module	Total Completions
Child & Youth Participation Virtual Classroom	80
Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Refresher Programme	96
National Child Care Information System (NCCIS) Fundamentals Training	47
NUIG/Tusla Event	29
Microsoft Outlook Training	33
Microsoft Excel Advanced Training	13
Microsoft Excel Foundations Training	13
Microsoft Word Advanced Training	19
Microsoft Word Foundations Training	1
Microsoft Powerpoint Advanced Training	7
Microsoft Powerpoint Foundations Training	11
Microsoft Teams Training	34
Sharing Personal Data Safely	106
Tusla Coaching Skills Programme	25
Child Trafficking Awareness Webinar	39
CASP Programme	83
Court Skills in Practice - Mock court session for child care cases	11
LGBTQI+ Issues in Child Protection, Foster Care and Alternative Care	20
Mayo Learning and Practice - West Mayo Child Protection and Alternative Care staff only.	27
Office for Legal Services, Briefings 2022 - Classroom Based	78
Response Ability Pathways	31
Staff Fire Safety Training	39
Tusla Manual Handling	63
Violence Harassment & Aggression (VHA)	62
WLD Live Webinar Event: "Know Sex Trafficking"	78

WLD Live Webinar Event: Digital Safety in Practice - Perspectives on safeguarding children online	92
Total	1137

Table 2: E-Learning Q2 2022

Name of Module	Total Completions
An Introduction to Parental Participation for all staff	40
An Introduction to PPFS	30
An Introduction to Tusla's Approach to Commissioning	19
Tusla Case Management - The Fundamentals	433
CF in Action	527
Child Sexual Exploitation	58
Complaints Handling in Tusla Module1	243
Complaints Handling in Tusla Module2	73
Critical Incident Stress Management	74
Data Protection in Tusla	797
Freedom of Information: An Introduction to the FOI Act	286
Health and Safety Management: Introduction for Line Managers	51
Hidden Harm	45
Implementing Children First	670
Introduction to Children First	498
Meitheal Briefing	41
Minute Taking - An Introduction	39
Parental Participation in Practice	14
Revised Standard Business Process (NCCIS)	25
Tusla Employee Health & Safety	597
Tusla NIMS (Complaints) Training Programme	22
Organisational Risk Management	56
CASP elearning	750
Total	5388

8 FINANCE

KEY FACTS

- The outturn for the year to date (June 2022) is an under spend of €1.528 million.
- Pay costs are under-spent against budget for the year to date by €11.692 million.
- Non-pay costs are over-spent against budget year to date by €11.381 million.

Financial Performance

- The outturn for the year to date (June 2022) is an under spend of €1.528 million.
- The net expenditure for the year to date is €447.369 million against a budget allocation of €448.897 million.
- Pay costs are under-spent against budget for the year to date by €11.692 million

Pay Costs

Child and Family Agency	June 2022 YTD			% Variance
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Act vs Budget
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Pay costs	165.812	177.504	(-11.692)	(-7%)

- Non-pay costs are over-spent against budget year to date by €11.381 million

Non-Pay Costs

Child and Family Agency	June 2022 YTD			% Variance
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Act vs Budget
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Non pay costs	296.281	284.900	11.381	4%

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