

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AFFAIRS
VOTE 40
Budget Detail 2018

Gross Expenditure	2017 REV €m	2018 Budget Allocation €m	Difference €m
- Current	1,285	1,356	71
- Capital	26	28	2
- Total	1,311	1,384	73

(5.6% increase in total allocation year on year)

Main Elements

Children and Family Support Programme

The allocation for these Programmes will increase by **€43m** (5.8%) over 2017 to **€786m** in 2018.

Tusla's allocation will increase by €40.6m (5.7%) over 2017 to €754m in 2018. This additional funding will secure Tusla's financial base and progress a number of key developments including the introduction of mandatory reporting, support investment in Family Resource Centres and address gaps in the out of hours service.

Other areas to be funded include Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (DSGBV), educational welfare services including expansion of the School Completion Programme and the Home School Liaison Service in the context of the expanded DEIS Programme, organisational reform and development within Tusla, and funding to implement the National Aftercare Policy which includes setting up area-based dedicated aftercare teams.

Tusla will also further develop services to address the needs of homeless children, and support children in direct provision. Tusla has been working to implement a nationwide programme to enhance area-based approaches to its PPFs (Partnership, Prevention and Family Support) programme as well as support for *Meitheal*, the national practice model for all agencies working with children, young people and families.

The Irish Youth Justice Service current allocation will be increased by €1m to €23.7m (4.6%). This increase in funding will support the rollout of the Bail Supervision scheme and implement findings from a number of independent reviews on operations. Capital funding of €4.2m is also being provided to support the completion of building works on the Oberstown campus.

Sectoral Programmes for Children and Young People

The allocation for these Programmes will increase by **€29m** (5.4%) over 2017 to **€569m** in 2018.

The ECCE scheme will be extended from the current average of 61 weeks to 76 weeks ensuring an entitlement to a full two year service for all qualifying children and the capitation grant for ECCE services will increase by 7% in 2018.

It will also meet the full year costs in 2018 of the new Universal Payment Childcare Subsidy for children aged from 6 months up to 36 months old and increase in the subsidies under the CCS targeted schemes introduced in September 2017 in advance of the commencement of the Affordable Childcare Scheme.

Extra funding of €2.3m will be allocated to enhance further the Early Years Inspection system, and to address further the sustainability concerns being experienced by some community providers.

Extra funding of €1.5m is being made available to increase supports for services provided by the voluntary youth sector. There will be increased funding of €1.9m for cross-border initiatives aimed at children and young people under the PEACE IV programme, and €2.7m extra to support Area Based Childhood programmes (ABC) that address child poverty.

SUMMARY OF NEW EXPENDITURE MEASURES

	Cost in 2018 (€m)
Children and Family Support Programme:	
<i>Tusla, the Child and Family Agency</i>	€40.6m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruitment of additional staff to respond to areas of identified risk and increasing demand for services including unallocated cases and aftercare services. Progress a number of key developments including the introduction of mandatory reporting under the Children First Act. Address gaps in existing Out of Hours Services. Allow for further investment and development of the Family Resource Centres network delivering universal services to families in disadvantaged areas across the country. 	
Irish Youth Justice Service	€2m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An additional €2m in funding, including €1m capital, to support the completion of building works on the Oberstown campus 	

Sectoral Programmes for Children and Young People:	
<p>Childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend ECCE in September 2018 from the current average of 61 weeks ensuring an entitlement to a full two year service (76 weeks) for all qualifying children. • Increase capitation by 7% for ECCE services. • Provide funding to meet full year costs associated with a universal payment and increase in the subsidies under the CCS targeted schemes introduced in September 2017 in advance of the commencement of the Affordable Childcare Scheme. 	€20m
<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give an additional to support the Area Based Approach to child poverty (ABC programme) to maintain all existing sites in 2018. 	€2.7m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide increased funding for cross-border initiatives aimed at children and young people under the PEACE IV programme to contribute towards the promotion of greater levels of peace and reconciliation. 	€1.9m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the support provided to youth work programmes and services by the voluntary youth work sector 	€1.5m