

Human Capital Investment Operational Programme (2007- 2013)

Progress Report Template

*Each **Intermediate Body (IB)** in the HCI OP is required to submit a progress report at Activity Implementation Plan level to the Managing Authority once a year as follows:*

Spring: relating to the entire preceding calendar year 2013

This template sets out the reporting requirements for each Monitoring Committee meeting. The Progress Report to be completed by each IB should be brief and relate only to activity within the reporting period itself. An entry must be made under each heading, even if only to formally record no change.

N.B. Please use Font 11 "Times New Roman" only

FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD: January to December 2013

PRIORITY: No. 2 INCREASING PARTICIPATION AND REDUCING INEQUALITY IN THE LABOUR FORCE

ACTIVITY NAME: Garda Youth Diversion – Additional Workers ESF 2.7

1. Activity description

Provide a paragraph *briefly* describing the objectives of the Activity and its target group.

REPLY:

Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS) provides funding to 100 Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDPs) and engages approximately 5,000 young people (generally aged 12-17) on an annual basis. GYDP are particularly targeted at 12-17 year old "at risk" youth in communities where a specific need has been identified and seek to divert young people from becoming involved in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour by providing suitable activities to facilitate personal development, promote civic responsibility and improve long-term employability prospects. The GYDPs are mainly located in areas that are designated socially disadvantaged with 48 projects located in RAPID areas.

The objective of Sub Measure 2.7 is to provide support for the young people referred to Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDPs) in accessing further education and training through the recruitment of youth justice workers to work with the referred young people, relevant agencies and employers. The youth justice worker is additional to the existing project worker. The Sub Measure improves possibilities of participation in sustainable employment by identifying pathways, including further and second chance education, for individual participants towards the labour market, combating discrimination in accessing and progressing in the labour market and promoting acceptance of diversity in the workplace.

The youth justice workers design and deliver programmes that will encourage the young person to reengage with schools and State services, develop long term achievable goals, become more informed of the effects of drugs and alcohol and, in general, become proactive members of society. In order to achieve this, the youth justice worker engages with the young people in one-to-one sessions, group work, drug awareness programmes, personal development and/or IT courses, educational/employment support and strengthening families programmes.

2. Significant Changes in the Operating Environment

Report on any significant changes in the operating environment that impact, either positively or negatively, on the capacity of the Activity to perform. Examples would include changes in Government policy, socio-economic trends, etc. Where no significant change has occurred, this should be indicated.

REPLY:

POSSIBLY INSERT PIECE ABOUT FINANCIAL SITUATION DEPENDING ON INFORMATION CONTAINED IN FINANCE REPORTS

In 2013 CPU consolidated the management and operational approach on the basis of the 2010-2012 programme of change. In addition CPU commenced the next round of improvements to ensure the best outcomes for young people referred to the GYDPs through:

- a) Contributing to *Tackling Youth Crime, a Youth Justice Action Plan 2014-2018*, the Government's strategy on youth crime. The intention is that this will build on the work under the previous Strategy but will have a greater focus on performance through the implementation of evidence-based policies.
- b) Planning the next trial-site programme which is a method by which CPU working closely with the Garda Youth Diversion Office (GYDO), in partnership with the Community Based Organisations (CBO), can test new approaches with a smaller number of GYDP and continue to develop targeted evidence based interventions and planning before deciding to roll them out to all projects. This ensures the optimization of effectiveness and the promotion of a coherent and consistent approach. This trial-site programme will run from January 2014. As a result of the planning process, the components to be introduced for the trial are:
 - Introduction and use of full YLS – CMI risk assessment tool which measures the risk factors for offending behaviour which are: History of previous offending; Family circumstances/Parenting; Education/Employment; Peer relations; Substance abuse; Leisure/Recreation; Personality/Behaviour; Attitudes/Orientation.
 - Introduction of measurement tools for 3 outcomes (impulsiveness, empathy and pro-social behaviour).
 - Intervention training and guidance.
 - Additional participant youth crime analysis.
- c) Initiating a pilot project to meet the needs of young people in County Kerry who heretofore could not be referred to GYDP services because there was no project close to their communities. The pilot involved 6 established GYDPs developing a new model of service delivery incorporating parts of Kerry formerly without access to a GYDP, on the basis of numbers of young people who would benefit from access to the service of a GYDP. It is an initiative involving CPU, GYDO and Kerry Diocesan Youth Service (KDYS).

3. Commentary on Activity-related progress

This section requires an overall commentary on actions within the Activity *for the period to which the report relates, 2013*. Inclusion of historical information should be avoided. Items of interest to the Monitoring Committee would include, for example:

- Any new initiatives or issues which arose *in the reporting period*;
- Any reports/studies either started or finalised/published *within the reporting period*;
- Any obstacles encountered.

Commentary should be confined to progress *within the area of Activity only*.

REPLY:

At the end of 2013, 95 full time equivalent (121 in total, some working parti-time) youth justice workers in 96 projects were in place to enhance the capacity of the Garda Youth Diversion Projects and to improve the support services available to the participants. The work of the youth justice worker supports the achievement of short term and long term objectives of the projects and participants.

Projects are requested by IYJS to captures the added value arising from the employment of the additional worker in their annual ESF Return. The data captured provides a project by project picture of the contribution of the ESF worker. It also provides case study examples of the impact of the additional worker on the future prospects of the young person. The form requires projects to complete information around needs identified and to comment on the short term and long term outcomes under the headings: improved engagement in education/training/employment, enhanced personal development, reduced offending behaviour and enhanced civic responsibility. Case study examples are also required from projects (example from 2013 below):

Case study 1 (JAY GYDP):

We aimed to involve a young male aged 14 years in the ESF Build a Bike programme. This young person had been recently referred to the Project by the Juvenile Liaison Officer for his offending behaviour. He is attending the local Secondary School where he is now in 2nd year there. His school attendance and punctuality is very poor and when he is in school he is regularly suspended. He explains this by saying he can't get up in the mornings because he goes to bed very late and plays video games in his room late into the night. He lives with his mother and older brother and his mother goes out to work before he goes to school. He had been involved in sport and trained regularly but there was a deterioration in this activity over the summer period and into the autumn of 2013. He displayed a lack of motivation for engaging in any constructive activity.

He was offered a place on this programme because he expressed an interest in bicycles. He engaged very positively with the programme. His attendance was almost 100%, his behaviour was good and he was attentive. He found working as part of a team challenging and was more likely to be disruptive when engaged in team activity. He could relate this to his school experience and he gained some insight in to how his behaviour effects others in a group. He was challenged in a safe environment and took feedback on his performance well. It was a major achievement for this young person to turn up on time each week for the six week period and successfully complete the programme. He is very proud of his achievement and has said he would be interested in securing part-time summer work in this area. This programme also gave staff an opportunity to build a relationship with this young person and we feel now we are in a better position to challenge other areas of this young person's life.

After completing the ESF programme this young person set clear goals for himself in relation to his school attendance and has committed to attending a lunchtime club once weekly in the Project. He has expressed a desire to stay out of trouble and complete his Junior Certificate in 2015.

Case study 2 (KEY GYDP):

Gary is 15 years of age. He was referred to the KEY project by the School Completion Project Worker when he was 12 years of age. Gary comes from a large family of 10 siblings. He is currently living with his mother, father and eight siblings in social housing in a disadvantaged area of West Tallaght.

There is a history of behavioural problems for Gary and a number of his siblings, making his home environment very unsettled with frequent conflicts among family members. The family

have engaged in a number of family support programmes to deal with such issues, for example Families First Therapy. Gary has extremely poor literacy and numeracy skills which are often linked to frequent aggressive and verbal outbursts in his educational setting. Such behavioural issues resulted in Gary being transferred from mainstream secondary education at the age of 14 to Citywise, an educational facility providing intensive support for young people who exhibit complex needs and risks. Having completed four Junior Certificate examinations at Citywise, Gary then enrolled in Youthreach, where he is currently studying.

Gary is associated with an offending peer network and has received a caution for public order offences in the catchment area. Gary is at risk of further offending and has, on a number of occasions, been targeted by local drug dealers to sell drugs. Gary exhibits personal characteristics that make him at-risk of reoffending, for example, poor decision-making skills, poor self-control and behavioural issues.

Gary exhibits a positive value system and has strong motivation to change his behaviour. Gary is a very conscientious young person particularly in terms of his future and regularly seeks support around changing his behaviour. He actively sought literacy support from the project and has a keen interest in building skills for future employment and educational prospects. Gary is extremely receptive to almost all interventions offered to him and has an excellent attendance record.

Specific needs:

Gary scores a 6 out of a possible 8 in the Youth Level of Service Risk Assessment tool (YLS/CMI-sv). Gary presents with a number of high risk behaviours.

- A history of conduct disorder
- Current school problems
- Anti-social friends
- Short attention span
- Poor family situation; frequent conflicts and inadequate supervision
- Anti-social attitude
- Literacy needs
- Anger management.

Three times a year Gary sets goals and evaluates his performance and progress.

Resources invested	Interventions (what you did)	Outcomes (what change has resulted)
Staff knowledge, skills & experience; CBO; IYJS & ESF; Project Advisory Committee; Referral Assessment Committee; Gardai Support; Policies, procedures and guidelines; Academic references; Budget; Premises; Transport; Volunteers;	<u>Group work:</u> Citizenship programme; Impulsive control programme; Entrepreneurial programme – NFTE; Teenage Health Programme; Drug Education and Prevention; Smoking cessation; Gaisce – Bronze medal; Level 1 Kayak skills; Module 1 Foróige Leadership Programme; <u>Individual work:</u> CHART;	Reduced impulsivity; Improved reflection and empathy; Improved pro-social behaviour; Improved development of decision making and communication skills; Improved stress and anger management and conflict resolution skills; Improved motivation to change behaviour; Improved education attendance and performance; Improved parental supervision and family

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	Literacy programme; <u>Family work:</u> Functional Family Therapy; Strengthening Families programme.	cohesion.
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4. Progress in relation to physical performance indicators and targets

Statistical information relating to the reporting period should be provided in the format contained in the programme *Activity Implementation Plan*- in the table below.

A commentary on the main features of the statistical information should also be provided.

If your Activity does not lend itself to report on the Indicators by calendar year (Jan to Dec.), then please state this fact and complete the table on a mid-year to mid-year basis (e.g. June 2008 to May 2009).

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:							
Annual and Cumulative Indicators							
A. OUTPUT							
	Region	Current period/Year: (e.g.) Jan. – Dec. 2013 as applicable			Cumulative totals 2007-2013		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Number of youth justice workers recruited to provide employment support	BMW	1	2	3	33	80	113
	SAE	3	7	10	98	257	355
	NAT	4	9	13	131	337	468
B. RESULT							
	Region	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Number of participants served by youth workers providing employment support	BMW	599	216	815	2458	922	3380
	SAE	2403	840	3243	9418	3426	12844
	NAT	3002	1056	4058	11876	4348	16224
C. IMPACT							
	Region	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Participants (%) who go on to employment or education and training or who feel that their position in the labour market has improved.	BMW						
	SAE						
	NAT						

REPLY:

The above table is completed on the basis of returns received from projects to date for 2013. "IMPACT" indicator is not appropriate to the GYDP participants in general, as the target group are aged 12-17 year olds.

There are a higher number of male participants because more young men are involved in anti-social behaviour than young women.

IYJS requires projects to assess impact under Capacity Measure headings as follows:

1. Needs Identified
2. Inputs
3. Outputs
4. Outcome.

The impact of the employment of the 2nd worker has dramatically increased the capacity of the projects to deliver meaningful interventions to the participants.

In addition, statistics on activity at NUTS III (i.e. Regional Authority) level should be provided in the format contained in the table below and should be gender disaggregated where appropriate. The nature of the indicators available at this level may vary from Activity to Activity (e.g. Number of people trained, number of companies assisted, etc). The type of indicator used should, therefore, be stated. Any significant development at NUTS III level should be commented on.

NUTS III Activity Indicator Report for reporting period (Jan – Dec. 2013)

<i>Activity: Number of persons trained</i>			
<i>Indicator Used:</i>			
Region	Total	Gender break-down	
		Male	Female
<i>Border Region</i>	312	220	92
<i>Midland Region</i>	338	256	82
<i>West Region</i>	165	123	42
BMW Total	815	599	216
<i>South East Region</i>	539	386	153
<i>Mid East Region</i>	123	90	33
<i>Dublin Region</i>	1639	1258	381
<i>South West Region</i>	560	407	153
<i>Mid West Region</i>	382	262	120
SAE Total	3243	2403	840
National (BMW + SAE)	4058	3002	1056

Whilst IBs are free to provide *any other additional information* they feel is relevant, this should be provided *separately by way of an appendix* to the main progress report.

5. Progress with regard to expenditure

This section of the report relates to the performance of the Activity with respect to the Revised Forecast on the Financial Tables. Financial information should be provided for the reporting period, as well as cumulatively since the start of the OP, in the format contained in the tables at Annex 1.

A commentary should be provided on progress in relation to the annual and cumulative forecasts at National and BMW/SAE levels. Where cumulative expenditure to date is below 75% of forecast, Intermediate Bodies are required to provide reasons for the under-spend along with proposals for remedial action.

REPLY:

As projected in Table 2 it is expected that total spend on this sub measure will be in the region of €24m up to the end of 2014.

Table 1 – Expenditure for the Reporting Period Jan. to December 2013 (€m)

HCI OP €m	<i>Total Programme Forecast*</i>	<i>Total Programme spend</i>	<i>Expenditure as % of forecast</i>	<i>Total co- financed spend</i>	<i>EU Structural Funds</i>	<i>National Public Co- financed</i>	<i>Private Co- financed</i>
<i>Source of information within financial tables</i>		<i>Column</i>		<i>Column</i>	<i>Column</i>	<i>Column</i>	<i>Column</i>
Region							
<i>Dublin</i>	€6,383,669	€1,164,041	18.23%	€582,020.50	€582,021	0	0
<i>South East</i>	€3,012,462	€505,575	16.78%	€252,788	€252,788	0	0
<i>Mid East</i>	€1,013,387	€185,389	18.29%	€92,695	€92,695	0	0
<i>Mid West</i>	€2,121,197	€328,390	15.48%	€164,195	€164,195	0	0
<i>South West</i>	€3,653,366	€641,143	17.55%	€320,572	€320,572	0	0
SAE Total	€16,184,081	€2,824,538	17.45%	€1,412,269	€1,412,269	0	0
<i>Border</i>	€1,866,093	€308,000	16.51%	€154,000	€154,000	0	0
<i>Midland</i>	€2,048,571	€310,316	15.15%	€155,158	€155,158	0	0
<i>West</i>	€1,916,989	€228,224	11.91%	€114,112	€114,112	0	0
BMW Total	€5,831,653	€846,540	14.52%	€423,270	€423,270	0	0
National (BMW + SAE)	€22,015,734	€3,671,078		€1,835,539	€1,835,539	0	0

Table 2 – Cumulative Expenditure since January 2007 (€m)

HCI OP €m	<i>Total Programme Forecast*</i>	<i>Total Programme spend</i>	<i>Expenditure as % of forecast</i>	<i>Total co- financed spend</i>	<i>EU Structural Funds</i>	<i>National Public Co- financed</i>	<i>Private Co- financed</i>
<i>Source of information within financial tables</i>		<i>Column</i>		<i>Column</i>	<i>Column</i>	<i>Column</i>	<i>Column</i>
Region							
<i>Dublin</i>	€6,383,669	€5,660,752	88.68%	2,830,376	2,830,376	0	0
<i>South East</i>	€3,012,462	€2,504,724	83.15%	1,252,362	1,252,362	0	0
<i>Mid East</i>	€1,013,387	€914,989	90.29%	457,495	457,495	0	0
<i>Mid West</i>	€2,121,197	€1,709,091	80.57%	854,546	854,546	0	0
<i>South West</i>	€3,653,366	€3,048,125	83.43%	1,524,063	1,524,063	0	0
SAE Total	€16,184,081	€13,837,681	85.50%	6,918,841	6,918,841	0	0

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<i>Border</i>	€1,866,093	€1,438,572	77.09%	719,286	719,286	0	0
<i>Midland</i>	€2,048,571	€1,555,713	75.94%	777,857	777,857	0	0
<i>West</i>	€1,916,989	€1,326,620	69.20%	663,310	663,310	0	0
<i>BMW Total</i>	<i>€5,831,653</i>	<i>€4,320,905</i>	<i>74.09%</i>	<i>2,160,453</i>	<i>2,160,453</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
National (BMW + SAE)	€22,015,734	€18,158,586	82.48%	9,079,293	9,079,293	0	0

* See Financial Tables.

6. Data On Participants In Programme Activity Implementation Plan (Commission Implementing Regulation 1828/2006 - Annex XXIII)

COMPLETE ALL THESE SECTIONS

6.1 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER YEAR

(People entering, those leaving, carry-over from one year to the next)

IYJS continued to collate overall participant entrants to the GYDPs for 2013. Generally, while exit strategies are in place, as participation in a project is voluntary, project staff have indicated that there is no accurate way to capture participants leaving.

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Entrants: (a)			
Leaving: (b)			
Carry-over to next year [(a) less (b)]			
Total:			

6.2 BREAKDOWN OF PARTICIPANTS BY GENDER

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Participants:	X	X	X

6.3 BREAKDOWN OF PARTICIPANTS ACCORDING TO STATUS IN THE LABOUR MARKET

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Employed (Total number of employed, including self-employed)	88	25	113
Self-employed	0	0	0
Unemployed (Total number of unemployed including long-term unemployed)	419	94	513
Long-term unemployed			
Inactive persons (Total number of inactive persons, including those in education, training or retirement, those having given up business, the permanently disabled, those fulfilling domestic tasks or other)	2486	935	3421
Inactive persons in education or training	2486	935	3421
Note: Employed + Unemployed + Inactive = Total number of Participants (by Gender)	2993	1054	4047

IYJS has noted that some variations exist in relation to totals provided by GYDPs. There may be a number of reasons for this – IYJS is waiting on responses to queries.

6.4 BREAKDOWN OF PARTICIPANTS BY AGE

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Young people (15-24)	3027	1070	4097
Older workers (55-64)	0	0	0

	Male:	Female:	Total:
<12 years old	114	39	153
12 years old	180	71	251
13 years old	261	88	349
14 years old	359	119	478
15 years old	550	187	737
16 years old	588	241	829
17 years old	544	180	724
18 years and over	431	145	576
Total	3027	1070	4097

6.5 BREAKDOWN OF PARTICIPANTS BY VULNERABLE GROUPS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATIONAL RULES

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Minorities:	506	155	661
Migrants:	93	13	106
Disabled:	34	6	40
Other disadvantaged people:	-	-	-

6.6 BREAKDOWN OF PARTICIPANTS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Primary or lower secondary education (ISCED 1 and 2)	1647	489	2136
Upper secondary education (ISCED 3)	1195	513	1708
Post-secondary non-tertiary education (ISCED 4)	78	38	116
Tertiary education (ISCED 5 AND 6)	40	18	58

7. Horizontal issues**Reporting on the Horizontal Principles**

(1) Social Inclusion

(2) Gender Equality and (3) Wider Equal Opportunities

will be required only for the Spring Monitoring Committee meeting each year. The templates for reporting on the Horizontal Principles will be issued to IBs by the OP Managing Authority for completion in advance of Spring Monitoring Committee meetings.

SEE SEPARATE TEMPLATES

8. Compliance with EU and National policy

It is a requirement that all Programme Activity Implementation Plans comply with EU and national policy in areas such as procurement, competition, state aids etc. Confirmation of compliance should be formally recorded in the progress report with any deviations reported on specifically.

REPLY:

The Community Based Organisations which run the projects have been issued with procedures manuals and instructions from IYJS with regard to compliance in various areas, including procurement, competition and record keeping. Prior to a claim being made by IYJS a full administrative check of each project return is carried out to ensure these guidelines have been adhered to.

9. Added Value of ESF Interventions

Please supply a paragraph(s) explaining the benefits and giving examples of how ESF is adding value to national policies and projects, e.g. (the following are examples):

- an increase in the number of participants;
- the support of specific target groups or activities which are not covered by national programmes;
- the testing of new approaches, and/or
- the improvement of processes.

Please feel free to add any further information that might help understand how ESF adds value in Ireland.

REPLY:

The number of offences committed by young people continued to reduce in 2013. This can be partly attributed to the work undertaken by GYDPs. The work undertaken by the youth justice workers with these young people provides a very important support to the Gardai (Irish Police) in delivering Government policy to divert young people from the criminal justice system.

The cohort of young people who receive benefits from ESF under Sub Measure 2.7 would not easily receive any support or educational intervention from other sources because they are marginalised in the community and may be excluded from other programmes.

10. Publicity

All ESF co-funded Activities are required to comply with Social Funds information and publicity requirements (see also Section 11 of the AIP). Confirmation of compliance should be formally recorded in the progress report with any deviations reported on specifically.

Specific **examples** of compliance with the requirements should also be provided HERE (e.g. articles in the local or national papers, media, Commission visits, launches, etc).

REPLY:

The Community Based Organisations which run the projects have been issued with guidelines from IYJS with regard to compliance in various areas, including publicity.

Every GYDP funded through ESF has been provided with ESF 2007-2013 publicity posters, which can be refreshed annually, which they are asked to display prominently in their offices. Projects have been instructed that training manuals, notices, etc. display the EU logos and slogan as per the publicity guidelines. In the course of our visits to projects, IYJ S has noted the posters on display. Websites used by the project organisations also display the necessary signage and logos. A number of projects have publicised their activities through articles published in local newspapers, for example, MNYP project in the Northern Standard (04/07/2013), BOYNE project in the Drogheda Leader (22/05/2013) and DAY GYDP in the Dungarvan Observer (08/05/2013).

Garda Youth Diversion Projects frequently appear in the ESF 2007-2013 calendars, newsletter and EU website.

11. Proposals for re-profiling of expenditure (where applicable)

Any proposal to reprofile expenditure should be contained in this section of the report and should include the rationale for doing so. Reprofiling of expenditure can only be carried out with the approval of the Monitoring Committee (and the European Commission depending on the nature of the reprofiling proposed).

REPLY:

IYJS has nothing to report.

12. Proposals to amend Programme Activity Implementation Plans (where applicable)

Amendments to Activity Implementation Plans require the approval of the Monitoring Committee. Any proposal to amend an existing Activity Implementation Plan should indicate the precise change sought and the rationale for doing so. A copy of the proposed new Activity Implementation Plan should also be provided.

REPLY:

IYJS has nothing to report.

Appendix A

Background information on objectives and reporting structures

GYDPs are nationwide, community-based, multi-agency crime prevention initiatives, funded by the Dept of Justice and Equality through the IYJS, which seek to divert young people from becoming involved in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour by providing suitable activities to facilitate personal development, promote civic responsibility and improve long-term employability prospects.

The projects may also work with young people who are significantly *at risk* of becoming involved in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour. The role of the community and other locally based agencies as partners is vital in the implementation and delivery of the projects. The projects assist An Garda Síochána and Garda Juvenile Liaison Officers in particular, in the implementation of the statutory Diversion Programme, which is provided for in Part 4 of the Children Act, 2001(as amended).

The referral basis to participate in a GYDP is set out in the Operational Requirements for Garda Youth Diversion Projects. It is the role of the Referral Committee to consider those young people suitable for inclusion in a GYDP having regard to the project's Annual Plan. The majority of referrals to a project will come from local Garda information sources and priority is given to those considered suitable and admitted on to the Garda Juvenile Diversion Programme. The committee may also consider referrals made from other sources e.g. social workers, schools, the Project Committee and self referral. All project participants must be nominated through the Referral Committee. Participation is voluntary.

Young people are categorised on the basis of (i) primary referrals, i.e. those young people who have received a caution for a crime by the Gardaí and are on the statutory Diversion Programme and (ii) secondary referrals, those young people deemed at risk of being involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour. From early in 2011 Gardaí and youth justice workers were trained in the use of a risk assessment tool - Youth Level of Service – Case Management Inventory - Screening Version (YLS-CMI-Sv). The tool risk assesses those referrals in terms of their likelihood to be involved in anti-social/ criminal behaviour. This tool was rolled out across projects during 2011 and complements the decision making process in accepting referrals into projects. In 2013, the projects continued to be supported in using this risk assessment tool by the ongoing provision of training by IYJS.

As in previous years, in 2013 Garda Youth Diversion Projects were required to plan on the basis of local youth crime patterns which occur in the catchment area of the project and plan interventions specific to the risks and challenges faced by the young people and the circumstances of where they live.

The planning process requires:

- Securing core descriptive information about the intended scope of the project;
- Providing an indication of the level and type of youth crime experienced within the project's catchment area;
- Providing an indication of the project's intention and capacity to make improvements.

A project is required to set out the impact (improvements) it is planning to make. It is also required to provide a description of the planned activities along with the support statement setting out how the intended activities will lead to improvements in outcomes for the young person including their education and employment opportunities. This process has been supported by continued training of the workers within the projects during 2013.

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Projects submit six monthly performance reports to capture statistics and define progress and an annual summary report which also measures performance. These were rolled out in January 2012. The annual summary report is currently being collated and further information from these will be available later in the year.