

IRISH AFTERCARE NETWORK

Providing Support to People Working With Care Leavers

Dear Member,

With just over two weeks to go to the Annual Conference we are delighted to see so many members booked to attend.

As always, if the network can help you in anyway, please get in touch, all our contact details are at end of this newsletter.

	<p>IRISH AFTERCARE NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE “Power and Empowerment – Changing Perceptions, Challenging Barriers and Promoting Change” SHERATON HOTEL, ATHLONE 13th October 2023</p>
--	---

How to Book Your Tickets:

You can book your tickets online by clicking on this link

<https://aftercareconf2023.eventbrite.ie>

Very limited tickets available

Cork Today

Please click on the link below to listen to an interview with committee member Neil Forsyth regarding young people leaving care at 19, on Monday, 31st July on the Cork Today show with Patricia Messenger.

(Listen back from about 50 mins 8 secs in):

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/50XYjmnkbRiAxZESA2O8wc>



New Beginnings – programmes for leaving care

New Beginnings

A programme for leaving care

Gain 2 x QQI Level 3 Qualifications and learn important life skills including:

- Personal Effectiveness
- Goal Setting
- Positive Decision Making
- Money management

If you'd like to know more, talk to your keyworker, social worker or aftercare worker.

TUSLA
An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlaigh Child and Family Agency

CYPSC
CHILD & YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES (COMMUNITIES) Dublin City North

New Beginnings

An accredited programme for leaving care

Support young people leaving care with Personal Development and Life Skills

Accessible Training Toolkit provided exploring the following themes:

- Personal Development
- Future Plans
- Goal Setting
- Positive Decision Making
- Money Management

-Full Staff Training Provided on Toolkit Use

-1:1 Literacy Supports including support for QQI Level 3 Unit Accreditation through NALA

-Positive relationship building for keyworkers and young people


-Incentives for young people

Speak to your line manager or contact: jamie.reilly@tusla.ie

TUSLA
An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlaigh Child and Family Agency

CYPSC
CHILD & YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES (COMMUNITIES) Dublin City North

Meeting with Ombudsman for Children

 **ombudsman do leanaí for children** On 4th September 2023, Daniel Keogh (Chairperson), Ciaran Kenny (Vice-chairperson) and Neil Forsyth (Communications Officer) met with the Ombudsman for Children, Dr Niall Muldoon.

Issues raised and discussed:

1. Housing. We network again raised the challenges faced by care-leavers in the context of the current housing crisis, and the need for legislative and policy changes in order to meet the complex needs of our client-base.

There was a lengthy discussion about Tusla's Strategic Plan for Aftercare Services for Young People and Young

Adults 2023- 2026, during which we highlighted the network's response to the strategic plan, in particular the following areas:

- A strategic plan with no implementation plan or budget
- Eligibility Criteria
- Housing
- Multiagency Response
- Model of Practice in Aftercare
- National Policy
- Structural Reform

Dr Muldoon thanked the network for its contribution to highlighting the issues above and reasserted his commitment to working closely with us in advocating for care leavers and professionals working with care leavers by continuing our twice-yearly meetings. Our next meeting is scheduled for February 2024.

Please email any views to info@breakingthrough.org

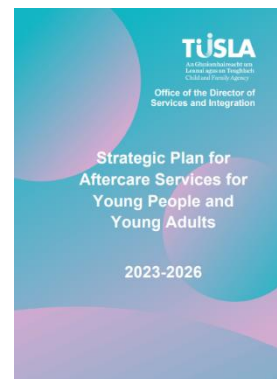
Tusla Strategic Plan for Aftercare Services

You can view this strategic plan at the following link:

[Tusla Strategic Plan on Aftercare Services for Young Adults 2023-26](#)

A submission from the Irish Aftercare Network in relation to the Strategic Plan for Aftercare Services was sent to Tusla in mid-July

An online meeting will be scheduled for network members in November/December and William McNamara will be invited to provide an update. Details will be circulated once confirmed



Dail questions that may be of interest to members

Sexual exploitation of children in care

[Children in Care: 29 Jun 2023: Written answers \(KildareStreet.com\)](#)



Trauma sensitive therapy services

Treehouse Practice are delighted to launch *trauma sensitive therapy services for*

care experienced adults aged 18-25 years.

Information sessions on
9th October @ 2pm and
19th November @ 9.30am







Email: info@treehousepractice.ie to sign up.



Crosscare new strategy Conference 19th October 2023

Crosscare as an organisation is in the process of developing their new strategy for 2024-2029. To this end, they are hosting a one-day conference on 19th October in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry.

If you are interested in attending this event or if you would like further information, please email Sharon on sbyrne@crosscare.ie

	<u>01 6060858</u>
	<u>www.irishaftercare.com</u>
	<u>info@breakingthrough.org</u>
	<u>twitter.com/AftercareIrl</u>
	<u>www.facebook.com/irishaftercare</u>
	<u>Irish Aftercare Network: LinkedIn</u>