

Information updates to DONEGAL CDB
August 2010

Project Name	Donegal County Childcare Committee Ltd Glenview Business Park Ballybofey Co Donegal
Project Aim	<p>DCCC Vision: To excel in the development and support of quality childcare in County Donegal to bring about positive outcomes for children and families.</p> <p>DCCC Mission: Proactively working in partnership and effecting positive change with our partners, providers and key stakeholders and implementing the National Childcare Investment Programme on behalf of the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs at local level.</p> <p>DCCC Local Implementation Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local implementation of National Childcare Investment Programme (NCIP) in County Donegal - Local implementation of Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) in County Donegal - Supporting the national objective of developing quality childcare in County Donegal - Supporting parents in accessing quality childcare in County Donegal - Sustaining DCCC's effectiveness and standards as a service provider - Participating in county level structures to ensure integration of childcare issues in cross-cutting policy areas
Partners	HSE
Description of project activities & achievements to date	<p>As of June 2010, DCCC is pleased to report that overall, excellent progress on the 2010 Local Implementation Plan (LIP) for Donegal has been achieved and the organisation has exceeded all mid-year priorities and targets. In addition to making significant progress across all actions, DCCC have fully completed a number of actions at the mid-year stage and have responded to sectoral needs by identifying and implementing a number of additional actions to complement and add value to the 2010 LIP (SEE TABLE 1)</p> <p>DCCC has achieved what it set out to do in the first half of the year. The key successes so far include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The successful Professional Development Event in May • The production of the <i>Building Pictures of Learning</i> Resource file and DVD • The positive feedback from childcare providers regarding the reformatted Quality Engagement Initiative as practical supports for engaging with Siolta and Aistear • The cost effective, efficiency and information sharing improvements to our communications strategy <p>DCCC have also engaged in a number of further actions that are either extensions of existing actions or new actions in response to an identified need (SEE TABLE 2)</p>

Future Plans	<p>Alongside our core work, the second half of the year will focus on rolling out a range of professional development workshops in 3 different locations across the county to support professional practice. In addition, DCCC will work on progressing the two collaborative initiatives on early reading and transitions. We are also hopeful that our application to Peace III will be successful to enable us to embark on a cultural project with pre-school services for the period September 2010- May 2011.</p> <p>Maintaining mechanisms for recording impacts as a result of the DCCC Quality Engagement Initiative will be ongoing in the second part of the year. It is envisaged that this information will be used to inform our 2010 Annual Report regarding the more qualitative aspects of the organisations work.</p>
Project Officer	Avril Sweeney, Manager

Table 1

Actions fully completed June 2010		
1.3.1	Invite and process Parent and Toddler Initiative Grants	100% complete
AA2 (CO3)	Develop a new publication to support Síolta and Aistear implementation	100% complete
3.1	Quality Engagement Initiative reformatted and 3 information sessions delivered countywide	100% complete
3.2.1	Plan and deliver a Professional Development Event	100% complete
3.2.3	Invite and process Childcare Network Grants	100% complete
5.1.1	Provide 3 countywide information sessions to the sector on the role of DCCC, the DCCC Communications Strategy and 2010 LIP for Donegal	100% complete
AA 4 (CO5)	Group Texting, Mass email and electronic newsletter established and operational	100% complete
6.7.1	Collaborate with Donegal Sports Partnership to provide Summer Scheme Training for Childcare Providers	100% complete

Table 2

Additional Actions	
AA 1 (CO6)	Taking the lead on a collaborative action with the Children's Services Committee to roll out a pilot Early Reading Initiative through pre-school services. This initiative will be piloted from September 2010 to June 2011.
AA 2 (CO 3)	Producing a DVD to demonstrate assessment, planning and transition in action in early childhood settings in Donegal to accompany the new DCCC publication
AA 3 (CO3)	Facilitating a training day for 14 BMW CCC's on the reformatted DCCC Quality Engagement Initiative. This included the sharing of all tools and templates developed to support the initiative.
AA 4 (CO 5)	As cost effective measures, DCCC have extended actions under the DCCC communications strategy through the set up of appropriate databases to facilitate group texting and mass email. DCCC have also replaced the hard copy newsletter with an electronic newsletter.
AA 5 (CO 1)	DCCC responded to the announcement of the CETS by supporting applicants and processing applications under the scheme.