

empowering people in care

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ADVOCACY REPORT FINDINGS 2017



EPIC Empowering People In Care is Ireland's only independent advocacy service for young people with care experience. EPIC was founded in 1999 and celebrates its 20th anniversary next year.

EPIC offers a voice to children and young people with care experience – our purpose as an organisation is to support children and young people with care experience to have their voice heard. Our goal is to work with children and young people to influence positive change in their own circumstances and the care system.

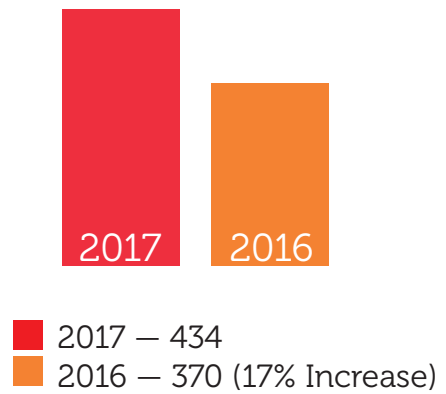
We are a national organisation that provides one to one advocacy to children and young people with care experience, we offer a wide range of opportunities for young people to participate and engage with decision makers and with other children and young people with care experience. We also work to influence national policy and systemic change.

The data presented in this summary will help to inform the future development of EPIC's Advocacy work. In addition, the issues raised will contribute to EPIC's policy work by helping to track emerging trends in presenting issues being experienced by young people who received support from EPIC's National Advocacy Service

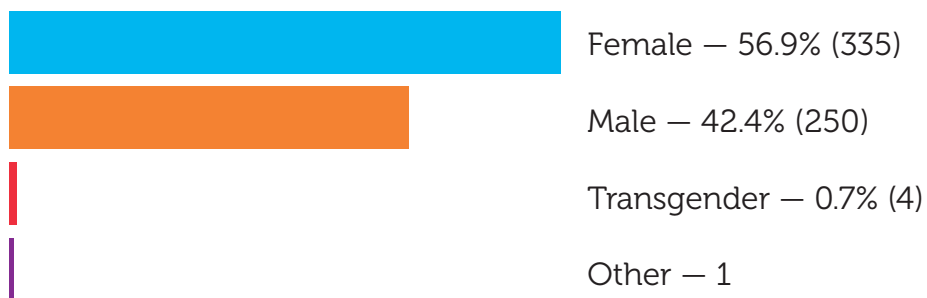
• Advocacy Cases



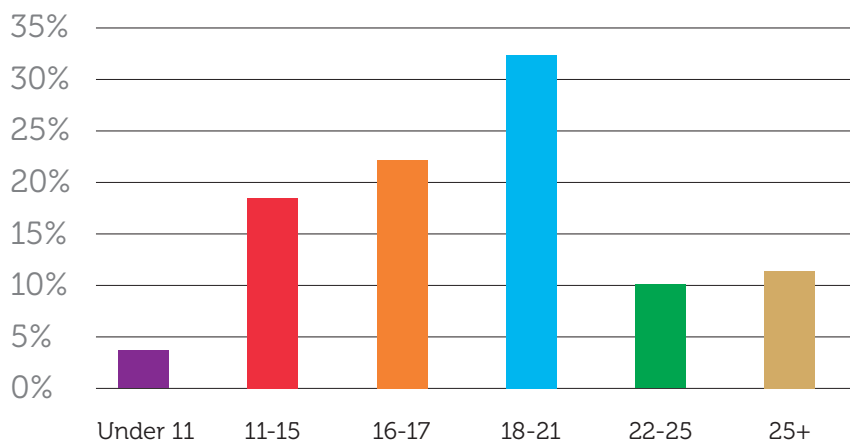
• Referrals



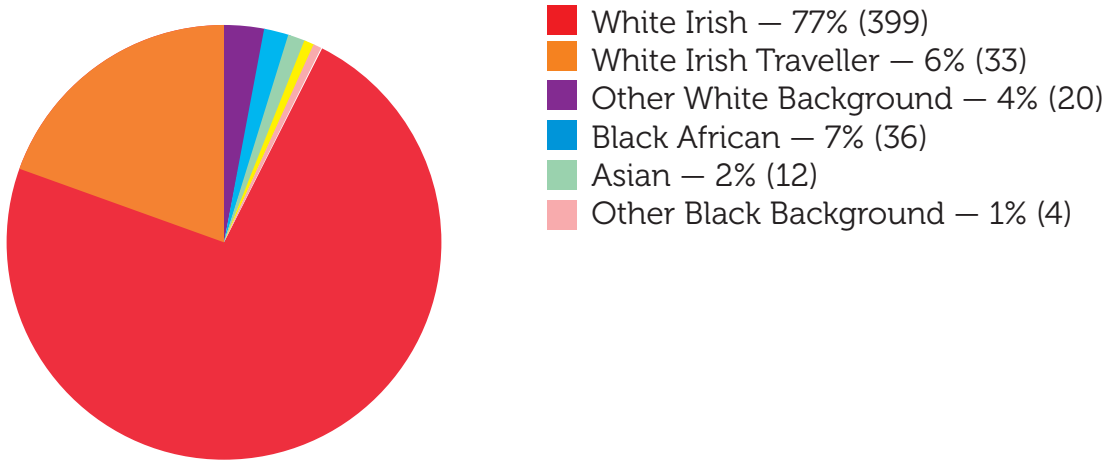
• Gender



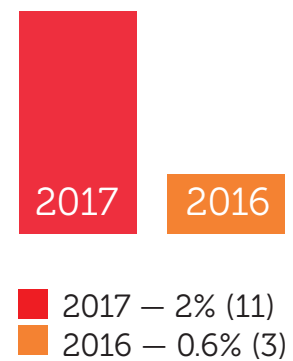
• Chart 2 : Age Group of Advocacy Cases (n=563)



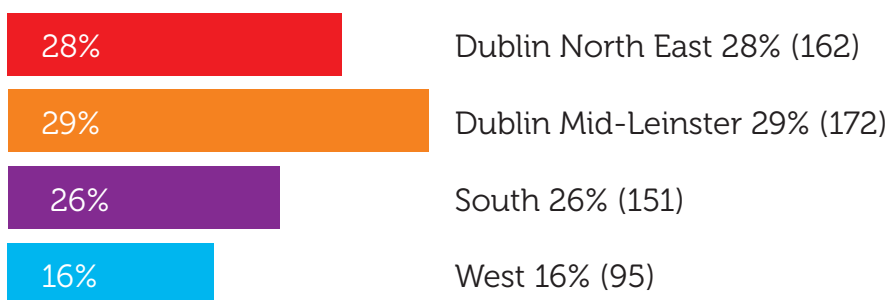
- Ethnicity



- Separated Young People

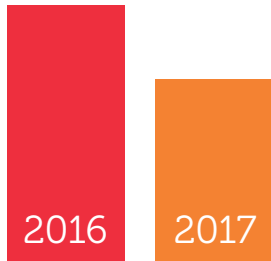


- Geographic Location



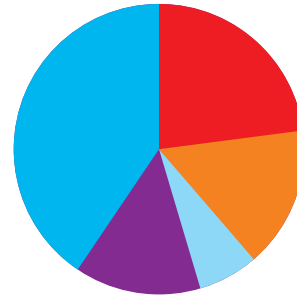
*Number of under 18 year olds (n244) living in same geographical region responsible for their care was 70% 172

• Education / Training



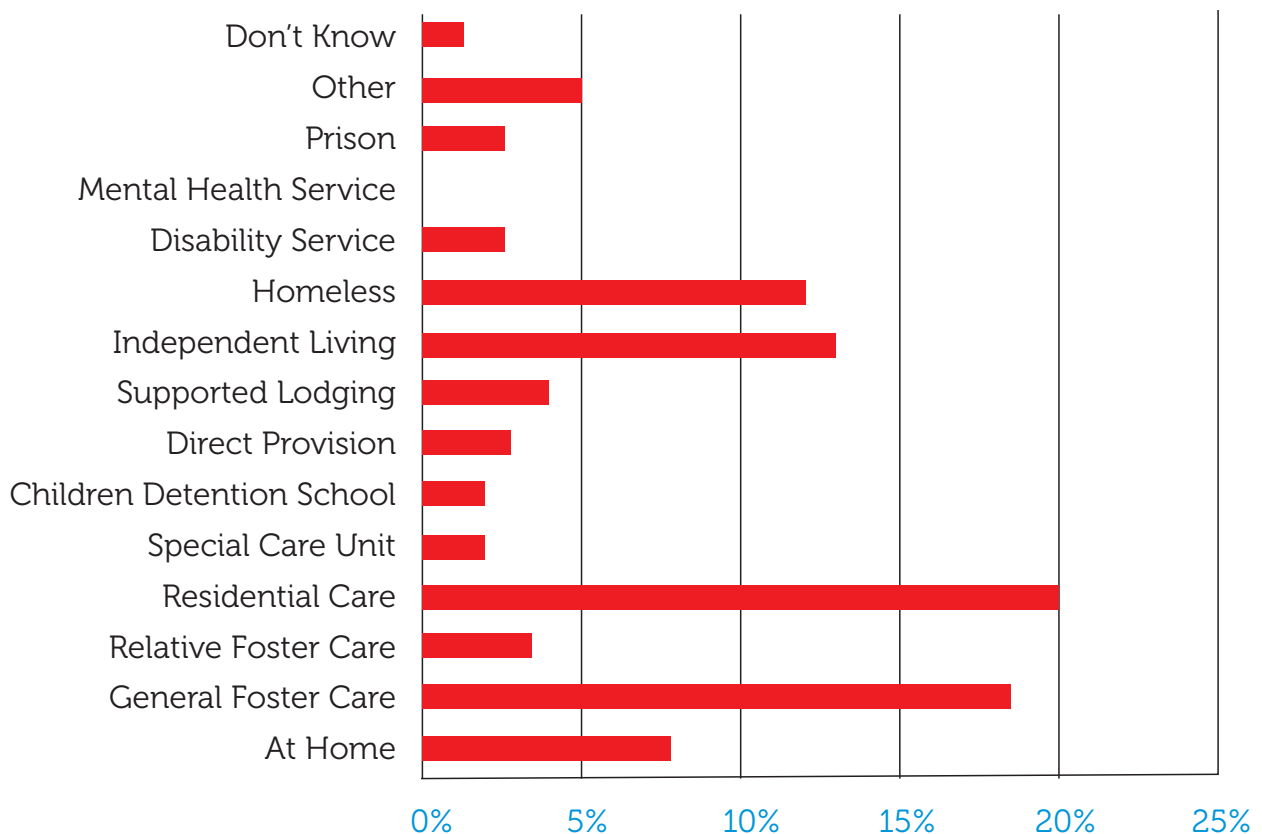
■ 2017 – 61% (304)
■ 2016 – 63% (272)

• Care Status



■ 41% (244) were in care
■ 22% (132) were in aftercare
■ 19% (112) were categorised as “post-leaving care”
■ 5% (31) not in care - e.g. detention, disability service, at home, Section 5.
■ The remaining 2% were in other categories and 10% were missing

• Type Of Care Placement

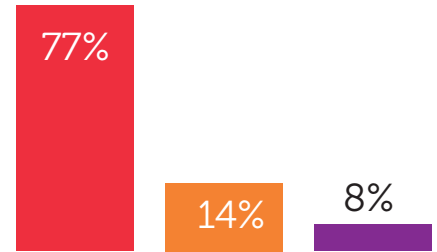


- Private Care Provider



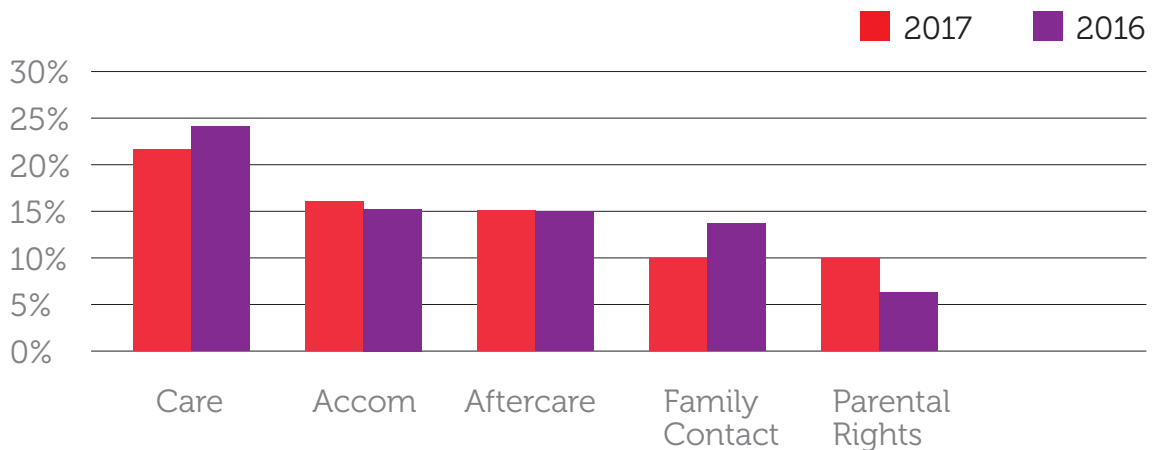
■ 2017 – 7% (44)
■ 2016 – 14% (70)

- Advocacy Case Type

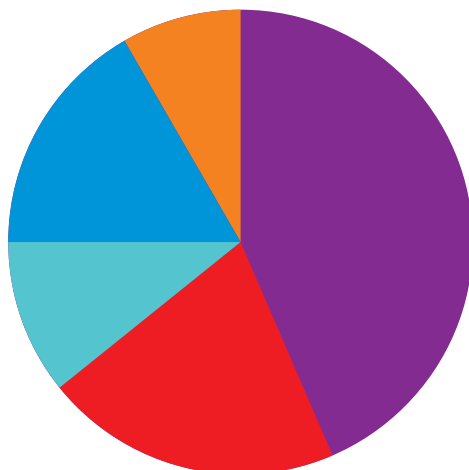


■ Advocacy – 77% (454)
■ Support – 14% (85)
■ Information – 8% (47)

- Chart 4: Top Five Presenting Issues 2016 & 2017 (N=589)



- Outcome For Closed Advocacy Cases (N=469)



■ Very Positive (Concerns Addressed & Happy With Decision), 43% (204)
■ Fairly Positive (Concerns Addressed & Understands Decision), 25% (116)
■ Negative (Concerns Not Addressed & Does Not Understand/Not Happy With Decision), 6% (29)
■ Don't Know (No Information on Final Decision), 17% (81)
■ Don't Know (Missing), 8% (39)

EPIC Empowering People In Care's Advocacy Service is funded primarily by Tusla the Child and Family Agency and also by the Tony Ryan Trust.

