



Contents

Foreword from the Chairperson	2	Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2006	29
Introduction and Overview of 2006 by the Director	4		
Role of the Agency	6	Appendix 1: Membership of the Consultative Committee and Subcommittees of the Board	38
The Agency's Working Principles	7	Appendix 2: Funding Programme expenditure in 2006	41
Structure of the Agency	8	Appendix 3: A Code of Ethics for the Crisis Pregnancy Agency	43
The Board	8		
The Consultative Committee	9		
Report on the Work of the Agency in 2006	11		
Programmes and Communications	12		
Research Programme	17		
Funding Programme	21		
Administration of the Agency	27		

Foreword from the Chairperson



In the five years since its establishment the Crisis Pregnancy Agency has made excellent progress in putting the issue of crisis pregnancy on the national agenda. This is down to the work of a number of people: Olive Braiden, the Chair of the Agency from its beginnings, and those who served on the Board for the past five years. Under their guidance and leadership, the process of research, education, information and advice embarked upon by the Agency has been, and continues to be, a major success. The Consultative Committee, under the Chair of Professor Linda Hogan, has offered valuable guidance and direction to the Board in its endeavours. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of these people, whose work I, with the support of the new Board, hope to build upon during my term as Chairperson.

When the Crisis Pregnancy Agency was established in 2001 there was a dearth of research on crisis pregnancy in Ireland. Research gaps have now been addressed, and the Agency has a good knowledge of the factors contributing to crisis pregnancy. Significant new trends have emerged in the last five years, such as the widespread support for sex education, the decrease in the age of first sex and the increase in use and knowledge of contraception.

Ensuring that young people get comprehensive relationships and sex education on sexual feelings, sexual intercourse and contraception, in school and at home, will be a main priority for the work of the Agency in the coming years. This is a key long-term measure to successfully prevent unplanned pregnancies.



Promotional staff distributing Think Contraception tins at the Hi-Fi Music Festival, August 2006.

Delivering comprehensive sex education to every young person, so that they know how to conduct happy, safe and respectful sexual relationships is a challenge. This is not a job that the Crisis Pregnancy Agency can do alone. We need to work in partnership with and support the work of the Department of Health and Children, the Department of Education and Science, the HSE, and the teachers, parents, principals and boards of management of our schools.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the Minister for Health and Children, Mary Harney, T.D., for her

commitment to and continued support for the work of the Agency. I would also like to thank the officials within the Department of Health and Children for their assistance throughout the year.

I thank Suzanne Kirwan, who kindly acted as Director of the Agency for six months during 2006.

I look forward to working with the new Board of the Agency, the Director, Caroline Spillane, and the management team and staff on the implementation of a new strategy to address the issue of crisis pregnancy.

Katharine Bulbulia
Chairperson

Professionals working with sexually active young people are in a very difficult position. If they refuse to provide services to young teenagers without parental consent, the teenager may not access services. If the professional agrees to see the teenager without parental consent, it is unclear as to whether or not they are in breach of the law. Professionals need clarity on this. It is my view, and the view of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency Board, that guidelines for professionals working with sexually active young people need to be developed and published in conjunction with the proposed new law on sexual consent. Katharine Bulbulia, Chairperson, Crisis Pregnancy Agency

Introduction and Overview of 2006 by the Director



2006 had many highlights, including the launch of the **Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships** in October. This report was the culmination of a three-year project with the Department of Health and Children, the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and the Royal College of Surgeons. This nationally representative research is the largest and most comprehensive study on the sexual knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of the Irish population. Going forward, the Crisis Pregnancy Agency and other organisations involved in sexual health are in a position to plan campaigns and strategies from a **robust evidence base**.

The **Concealed Pregnancy** report was launched in May. This report found that concealment of pregnancy still exists in Ireland, and that there is a minority of women who, for various reasons, do not reveal that they are pregnant to their family and friends. The Agency is taking the recommendations of this report on board, and in partnership with the HSE West will be holding the first **National Forum on Concealed Pregnancy** for health professionals in 2007.

Positive Options, the Agency's campaign to bring together and promote state-funded crisis pregnancy counselling services, won a **Public Service Excellence Award** in March 2006, for innovation in creating awareness among women that crisis pregnancy counselling services are available free of charge throughout the country.



Olive Braiden, Chair, Crisis Pregnancy Agency (2001-2006), Mary Harney T.D., Minister for Health and Children and Caroline Spillane at the launch of the Agency's Annual Report 2005.

In July 2006, the Minister for Health and Children, Mary Harney, T.D., requested the Agency increase the promotion of state-funded crisis pregnancy counselling services to tackle the problem of **"rogue counselling agencies"**. The Agency developed a highly visible **Positive Options press campaign**, highlighting that the services promoted under Positive Options were state-funded, non-judgemental and trustworthy.

The **Manual of Good Practice for Crisis Pregnancy Counsellors** was completed in 2006. The Agency began work with NUI Maynooth on the development of a new, **accredited course in crisis pregnancy counselling skills**. Places on the course, due to commence in September 2007, will initially be offered to people currently working as crisis pregnancy counsellors in state-funded agencies

Our research shows that a woman with a crisis pregnancy needs to be able to access support services in her local area. The **expansion of counselling services** was thus a priority for the Agency in 2006 and will continue to be a priority in the years ahead. The **West Cork Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service** was launched in August 2006. The **Kerry Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service** opened in December 2006.

These achievements are chiefly the result of hard work by the staff of the Agency. I would like to thank them for their commitment. I would like to thank the organisations who have worked with us this year, and those who continue to work with us in delivering crisis pregnancy counselling services, sexual health promotion services and post-abortion medical check-ups and counselling services.

On behalf of myself and the staff, I would like to express thanks to Olive Braiden, the Chair of the Agency since its beginnings, for her leadership and courage in guiding the Agency through its first five years.

I would like to thank those who served on the Board of the Agency in 2006, who have provided me - and the Executive of the Agency - with valuable expertise and support.

Finally, I look forward to working with our newly appointed Board and our Chairperson, Katharine Bulbulia, who bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to the work of the Agency, as we begin work on implementing the new strategy 2007 – 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Caroline Spillane'.

Caroline Spillane
Director

Crisis Pregnancy is not exclusively an issue affecting young women. A pregnancy can be a crisis for women over 35 who may feel that they have completed their family, who may have started back to work or education or who may be single, separated or divorced.
Caroline Spillane, Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency



Staff and Chair of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency in 2006.

Role of the Agency

The Crisis Pregnancy Agency was established in October 2001 under the Health (Corporate Bodies) Act, 1961, and is governed by Statutory Instrument No. 446 of 2001.

The primary function of the Agency, as set down in the Statutory Instrument, is to prepare and implement a strategy to address the issue of crisis pregnancy, in consultation with relevant Departments of State and with such other persons as are considered appropriate.

The purpose of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency is to bring strategic focus to the issue of crisis pregnancy and so to add further value to the work of existing service providers.

The Agency has three mandates:

Mandate A: prevention of crisis pregnancy

To achieve a reduction in the number of crisis pregnancies by the provision of education, advice and contraceptive services.

Mandate B: services and supports for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy

To achieve a reduction in the number of women with crisis pregnancies who opt for abortion by offering services and supports which make other options more attractive.

Mandate C: post crisis pregnancy services

The provision of counselling services, medical services and other health services for the purpose of providing support, after crisis pregnancy, as may be deemed appropriate by the Agency.

The Agency's second Strategy will be developed and published in 2007.

The good news is that overall, young people are now more likely to use contraception and protection the first time they have sex. Of concern is the fact that more of those having first sex under 17 report not using contraception and feeling regret later that they had not waited longer before first sex.

Professor Hannah McGee, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and co-author of The Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships

Our Working Principles

All of our activities and the approaches we take are constantly informed by a number of working principles.

The work of the Agency in delivering its mandates is underpinned by the following principles:

- **People centred:** While the woman experiencing crisis pregnancy is at the heart of all our decision-making we also keep the woman's partner and her family in our focus. This is shown in the effectiveness of our communications campaigns – particularly those promoting crisis pregnancy services – and the non-judgmental stance taken by the Agency regarding the choices women make in crisis pregnancy.
- **Evidence based:** All of our actions and activities are underpinned by research, which allows us to have an authoritative voice in the field of sexual health, reproductive decision-making and crisis pregnancy. This is shown in the quality of the outputs from our research and policy function and how these have been used, applied and adopted by the Agency itself and by other organisations.
- **Solution focused, innovative and courageous:** We believe we need to be bold, insightful and imaginative in order to challenge and inform and our messages need also to be solution focused. This is shown in the mix of channels and methods used to communicate contraception and crisis pregnancy messages to particular target groups.
- **Objective:** We work in an area where people have deeply-held, passionate convictions; we meet that challenge as a State Agency by adhering to our mandate, utilising evidence and promoting good practice. This is shown in the spread and scope of our funding programme, the rigour applied in developing our education and information resources and the manner in which we communicate.
- **Value partnership and consultation:** We believe we cannot do it on our own and we value the expertise and experience of others. This is shown in the range and scale of consultation we engage in and the variety of partnerships formed – particularly in the development of resource materials.
- **Accountable:** As a publicly funded body, we are very conscious of the need to combine effectiveness with transparent decision-making, providing value for money and ultimate accountability to the public through the Minister and the Department. We seek to learn from our experience; therefore we invest in evaluation and continuously improve what we do. This is shown in the systematic approach the Agency has taken to evaluation.



Structure of the Agency

The Board

The first Board of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency served from October 2001 to October 2006. Olive Braiden served as Chair for this period. From its appointment date the Board played a central and active role in the establishment of the Agency, including the development and implementation of its first strategy.

The Board comprises of representatives from specified Departments of State and key relevant health disciplines and individuals with other specific expertise relevant to the operation of the Agency. The Board is an independent body with funding provided by the Government, as recommended by the All-party Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children.

The current Board members, nominated by the Minister for Health and Children, Mary Harney, T.D., began their five-year term in December 2006.

Board members at 31 December 2006

Chairperson

Katharine Bulbulia

Maureen Bohan

Senior Inspector, Department of Education and Science

Helen Faughnan

Department of Social and Family Affairs

Peter Finnegan

*Businessman**

Cllr. Sally-Ann Flanagan

Mayor of Tuam

Anne Flood

Director, Centre for Nurse/Midwifery Education, St. Conal's Hospital, Letterkenny

Fergal Goodman

*Department of Health and Children**

Rosemary Grant

*Principal Medical Social Worker, Coombe Women's Hospital**

Geraldine Luddy

*Director, The Women's Health Council**

** Also served on the first Board of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency.*

Other Board members who served during 2006

Olive Braiden

January – October

Chairperson

Professor Linda Hogan

January – October

Theologian, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin

Pauline Moreau

January – June

Principal Officer, Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Dr Máirín O'Sullivan

January – October

Senior Inspector, Department of Education and Science

Margaret Ryan

January – October

Addiction Counsellor, Member of IAAAC

The Board of the Agency met ten times in 2006.



Olive Braiden, Chair of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency (2001-2006), Mary Harney T.D., Minister for Health and Children at the launch of the Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships, October 2006.

The Consultative Committee

The function of the Consultative Committee is “to advise the Agency in relation to

- (a) any matters pertaining to crisis pregnancy as are referred to it by the Agency and
- (b) any other matters coming within the remit of the Agency.”

The Committee was chaired by Professor Linda Hogan on behalf of the Board until October 2006. Geraldine Luddy was appointed Chair of the Consultative Committee in January 2007.

The Consultative Committee provides expert advice to the Board of the Agency and functions as a forum for organisations that have an interest in the work of the Agency to present their views.

The Consultative Committee met on one occasion in 2006. For a list of members of the Consultative Committee, see Appendix 1.

The Executive of the Agency

The internal structure of the Agency is outlined in Figure 1.

During the year, there were several short-term appointments to cover temporary vacancies: Suzanne Kirwan held the position of Acting Director, Madeleine O’Carroll held the position of Acting Research Manager, Donal Rogers held the position of Acting Administration Manager and Lynn Dowling held the position of Acting Administration Officer. Lucy Deegan Leirãio, Anita Nicholson, Aoife Gargan and Joanne Reynolds were employed as Administrative Assistants during the year under short-term contracts.

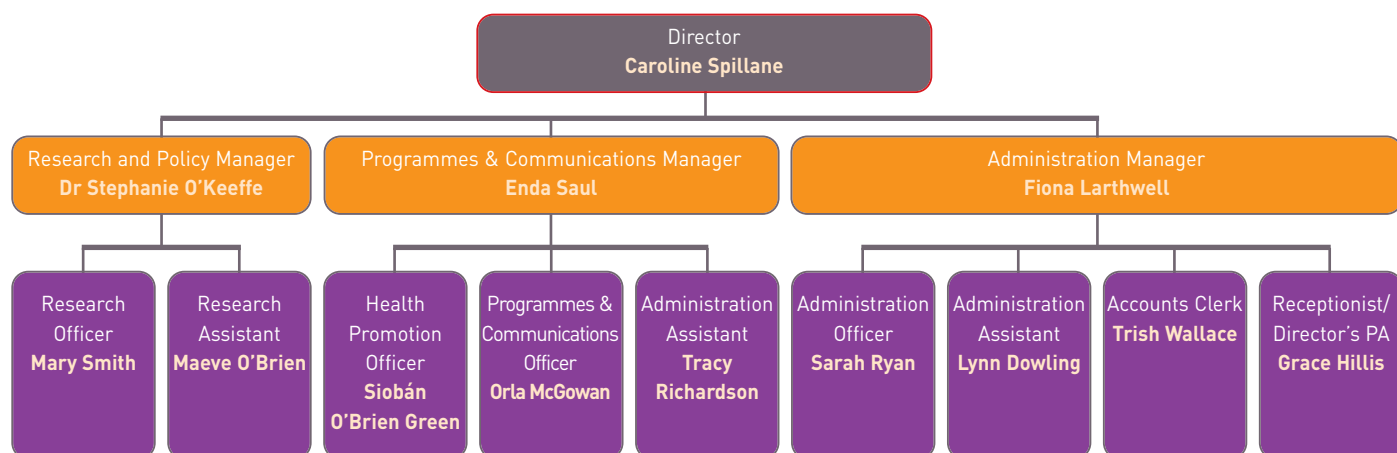


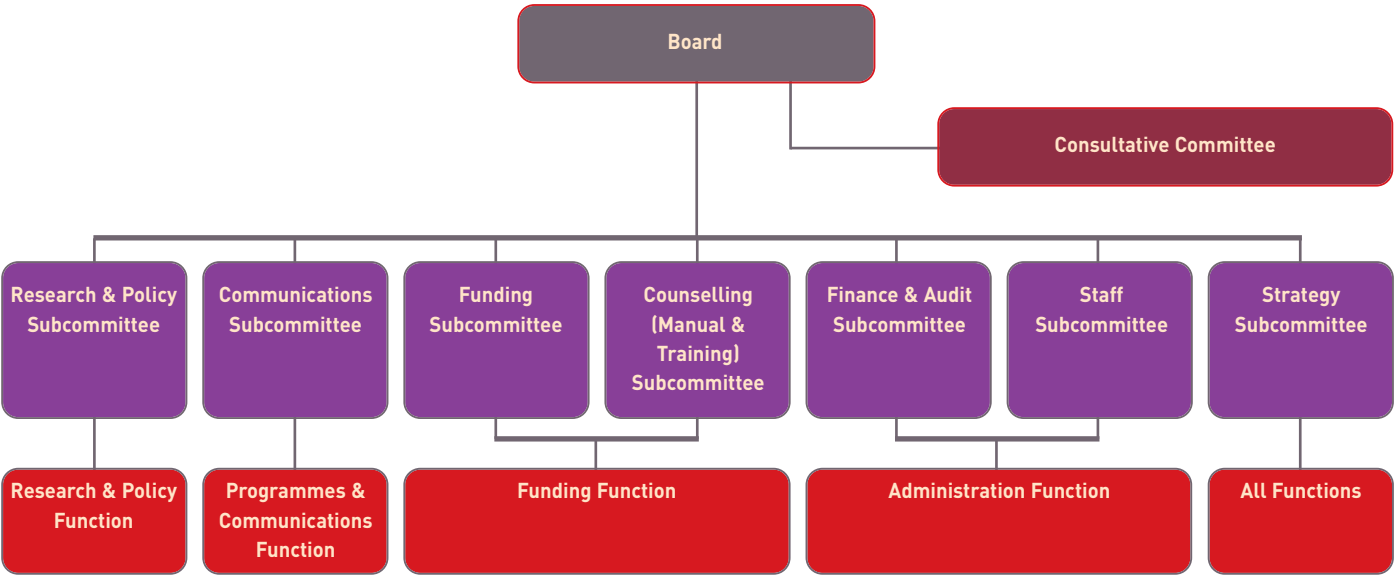
Figure 1

Subcommittees

The Board and the Executive of the Agency are supported in their work by a range of subcommittees:

- Research and Policy
- Communications
- Finance and Audit
- Funding
- Staff
- Counselling manual pre-planning group
- Strategy

These subcommittees are predominately made up of Crisis Pregnancy Agency Board Members. For memberships of the subcommittees, see Appendix 1.



Report on the work of the Agency in 2006

This report on the work of the Agency in 2006 is organised as follows:

Programmes and Communications

Research Programme

Funding Programme

Administration of the Agency

The Agency's funding programme provides approximately €700,000 per year to projects aimed at preventing crisis pregnancy. Four of these projects – The Exit Café in Tallaght, the Zone in Blanchardstown, Squashy Couch in Waterford and the Youth Health Service on Cork are demonstration projects aimed at developing a good model for youth friendly sexual health and information services.

Caroline Spillane, Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency



Programmes and Communications

Highlights

- Positive Options won a Public Service Excellence Award from the Department of the Taoiseach for innovation in creating awareness of crisis pregnancy counselling services.
- 71% of women under 55 were aware of the Positive Options campaign.
- 84% of 18-24 year olds were aware of Think Contraception campaign and message – “No matter where or when – Think Contraception”.

Background

The Programmes and Communications team – consisting of a senior manager, two officers and an administrative assistant - reports to the Communications Subcommittee. The Communications Subcommittee met five times in 2006. The expenditure for Programmes and Communications in 2006 was 2.4 million euros.

The Programmes and Communications function runs two national advertising campaigns, one aimed at preventing crisis pregnancy (Think Contraception) and one directing women to crisis pregnancy counselling services (Positive Options). The Programmes and Communications function develops

resource materials for the public and for professionals with the aim of preventing crisis pregnancy and supporting women with a crisis pregnancy. Resource materials on post-abortion medical check-ups and counselling have also been developed.

The overall work of the Agency is promoted through the development of the Agency's communications channels and networks and through contributions made by the Health Promotion and Education Officer at various conferences.

National Advertising and Promotional Campaigns

Think Contraception

Think Contraception is an award-winning advertising campaign that targets sexually active 18-24 year olds with the message that contraception must be used consistently to avoid a crisis pregnancy.

Market research in 2006 found that 84% of the target audience were aware of the campaign and its message “No matter where or when – Think Contraception”, up from 75% in 2005. 82% of those surveyed agreed with the statement that this



Tracy Richardson and Sioban O'Brien Green with the Think Contraception leaflet and tin.



Campsite at Oxegen 2006.



www.thinkcontraception.ie



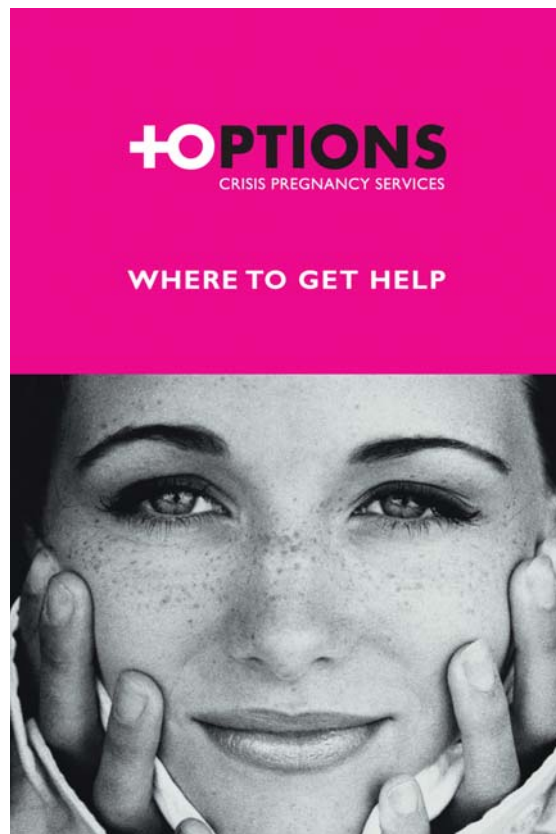
Ann Kennedy, Life Pregnancy Care, Caroline Spillane, Director, Crisis Pregnancy Agency, Ann Doherty, Mayo Crisis Pregnancy Support Service, Karen Kiernan, Director, One Family, Dr Jonathan Egan, Midlands Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service.

advertising campaign makes people more likely to think or plan for the use of contraception, an increase from 74% in 2005.

78,123 Think Contraception leaflets were distributed through pharmacies, GP surgeries and student health centres in 2006. Significant development work was undertaken on the Agency's website www.thinkcontraception.ie in 2006 in order to comply with new guidelines on accessibility set out by the National Disability Authority. The website received over 31,700 visits in 2006.

Think Contraception Promotional Campaign

197,000 Think Contraception tins, which contained sexual health information and condoms, were distributed at music and sporting events. These events were targeted because sexual risk-taking is likely to occur in entertainment settings, particularly when alcohol is available. Health promotion workers gave very positive feedback regarding the suitability of the tin for the target audience. Market research found that 44% of people in the target group recalled seeing the tins. The Think



Contraception promotional campaign won an APMC award for non-profit marketing in 2006.

Positive Options

Positive Options is the umbrella brand that promotes thirteen agencies offering state-funded crisis pregnancy counselling services in Ireland. The message behind the campaign is that the positive way to deal with a crisis pregnancy is to access the help of a crisis pregnancy

RESPONDING TO CRISIS PREGNANCY INFORMATION AND SERVICE DIRECTORY FOR COMMUNITY AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

CONTACT



counselling service. The Positive Options campaign includes TV, radio, press, outdoor and convenience elements.

Omnibus research on the Positive Options advertising campaign showed that 71% of the target audience were aware of the Positive Options campaign and its message.

98,073 Positive Options leaflets were distributed, primarily to GP surgeries and pharmacies. www.positiveoptions.ie received 63,337 page views, and the site was updated in accordance with the new accessibility guidelines. The SMS service responded to 90,443 requests in 2006.

Addressing the problem of “rogue agencies”

The Agency re-developed the Positive Options TV, radio and ambient campaign and ran a press campaign in autumn 2006 with the aim of encouraging women to attend the agencies funded by the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, rather than “rogue agencies”. “Rogue agencies” advertise themselves as legitimate providers of crisis pregnancy counselling but they are known to use manipulative tactics and provide misleading information to intimidate women who are experiencing and trying to cope with crisis pregnancies.

New Information Materials in 2006

Aftercare

Due to the very low number of women attending for post-abortion medical check-ups and counselling, the Agency, in consultation with funded crisis pregnancy counselling agencies, developed a leaflet to direct women who have had a termination abroad to free medical check-up and counselling services available in Ireland. Three termination clinics in the UK were consulted with on the development of the leaflet.

Key Contact

In 2006, the Agency developed three new “Key Contact” resources, which provide information and resources to frontline staff who support women experiencing a crisis pregnancy.

Key Contact for Community and Health Professionals in HSE West

This resource was developed in collaboration with a working group of professionals from the HSE West region. The resource provides a list of service providers in the HSE West region who can be contacted to provide information and support to women experiencing a crisis pregnancy. 3,000 copies of the resource were printed and disseminated. The resource was officially launched in Galway in November 2006.

Crisis Pregnancy Agency and HSE West launch new resource to assist community and health professionals in HSE west to deal with women experiencing crisis pregnancy.



(L-R) Maeve MacDermott, Primary Care Development Unit, HSE West, Lucy Deegan Leirião, CPA, Grainne Woulfe, Letterkenny Health Promotion HSE West, Mairead Kelly, Limerick Health Promotion HSE West, Siobán O'Brien Green, CPA and Adrienne Lynam, Womens Health Advisor, HSE West.



Catherine Duffy, Development Officer of the Primary Care Department, HSE West and member of the Consultative Committee of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, and Dr. Stephanie O' Keeffe, Research and Policy Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency at the launch of Key Contact for Community and Health Professionals in HSE West.

Key Contact for Post-Abortion Care

The Agency worked with the Irish College of General Practitioners in 2006 on the development of this resource. Work will be ongoing on this resource in 2007. This resource will be aimed at professionals, such as GPs and counsellors, and will contain relevant information on patient and client care after an abortion.

Key Contact - Reproductive Health Information for Migrant Women

This resource, developed by Treoir and funded by the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, was launched in March 2006. The resource contains information on crisis pregnancy services in Ireland in English, French, Romanian, Russian, Arabic and Chinese. Polish translation work commenced in 2006. 'Key Contact - Reproductive Health Information for Migrant Women' is available in hard copy and on CD-Rom.

Distribution of Information Materials in 2006 "You Can Talk To Me"

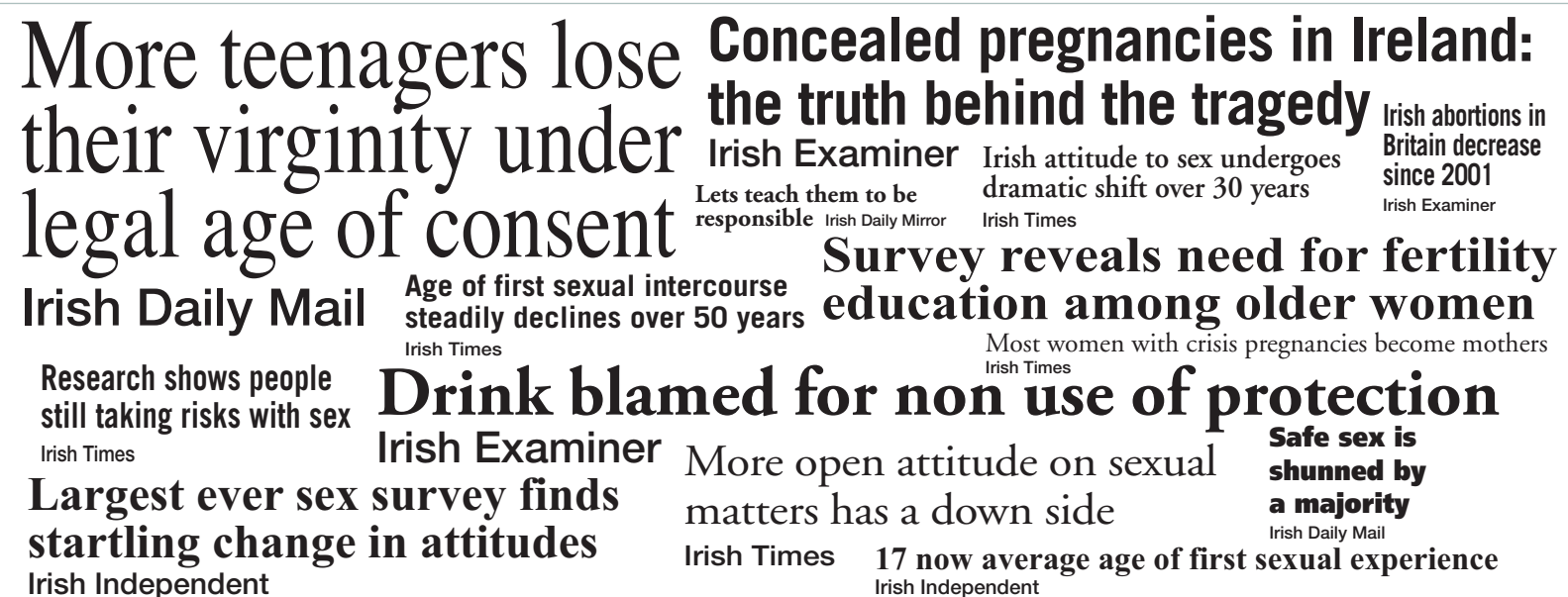
The "You Can Talk To Me" DVD and booklet helps parents to talk to their children about sexual health and relationships. It continues to be utilised as a key resource for the National Parents Council (Primary) parents' training programme "Team Up" and is available in public libraries and Citizens Information Centres.

Over 1,625 DVDs and 5,089 booklets were distributed in 2006. Based on positive feedback from parents, a nationwide campaign will take place in 2007.

Contraception and sexual health for women aged 35-55

The Agency continued to promote and disseminate "Contraception 35-55" leaflets, the contraception and sexual health resource for women aged 35-55. Over 99,555 leaflets were disseminated to GP surgeries and pharmacies in 2006. The leaflet addresses knowledge deficits, confirmed by research, that exist for women in this age range.





Developing the Agency's Communications Channels and Networks

Report launches and media relations

The Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships, the Concealed Pregnancy report and the Annual Report were all launched in 2006 and received significant coverage in the national and regional press.

The Agency issued eleven press releases in 2006 on a range of issues, including contraception for women aged 35-55, open adoption, the age of consent for sexual intercourse, the decrease in the number of teenage pregnancies and the decrease in the number of women giving Irish addresses at UK clinics.

The Agency continued to respond to media queries in 2006, with a noteworthy amount of media interest in rogue counselling agencies, the Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships, and teenage pregnancy.

www.crisispregnancy.ie

The website received 93,818 page views in 2006, with significant interest being shown in the publications section, which contains the Agency's research reports.

Health Promotion and Education

This function conducted specialised workshops on the work of the Agency and gave inputs at training events, including training with USI student welfare officers. The Health Promotion and Education officer gave several presentations on the work of the Agency throughout the year, including at the Department of the Taoiseach's Public Service Excellence Awards and at Club Health 2006, an international health promotion conference in Slovenia.

It is heartening that the numbers of women travelling to the UK for abortion procedures is decreasing – though we should keep in mind that some women could be travelling to other countries. However, in light of the fact that the number of teenagers giving birth is also decreasing, it is fair to say that the situation is improving – that the State's response to crisis pregnancy has greatly improved on the situation here five years ago."

Olive Braiden, Chair, Crisis Pregnancy Agency, 2001-2006



Dr. Richard Layte, ESRI, Professor Hannah McGee, RCSI (Authors of the Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships), Olive Braiden, Chair of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency (2001-2006), Mary Harney, T.D., Minister for Health and Children, Caroline Spillane, Director Crisis Pregnancy Agency, Dr. Stephanie O'Keeffe, Research and Policy Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency, Dr. Nazih Eldin, Health Service Executive.

Research

Highlights

- The publication and launch of the national population survey 'Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships'.
- The publication and launch of the report 'Concealed Pregnancy: A Case-study Approach from an Irish Setting'.
- Development of Research Summaries for GPs and practice nurses, people working in the area of sexual health, and the media.

Background

The research programme is headed by a senior manager with a dedicated research officer and research assistant. The Research and Policy Subcommittee, which includes one external research expert, guides the research function. The Research Subcommittee met five times during 2006. The expenditure for research in 2006 was just over €257,000. The aim of the research programme is to support, inform and monitor the work of the Agency through the development of a reliable evidence base and performance indicators. In 2006, the work of the research function was primarily focused on preparing the Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationship for publication, improving its research dissemination practices, managing ongoing commissioned work and expanding evaluation activities.

The Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships 2006

The *Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships* (Layte et al. 2006), a nationally representative survey of 7,441 adults, and a summary report were launched in October 2006 with the Department of

Health and Children. Requests for the report were high following the launch, and media reporting on the findings was significant. This is the largest and most comprehensive study into the sexual knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of people living in Ireland, and provides the Agency and other organisations with a reliable evidence base to inform the development of new campaigns and strategies.

The study builds upon the already extensive level of research conducted by the CPA since its establishment. The sexual health sector needs robust and comprehensive data to effectively plan sexual health policies and strategies and to inform effective approaches to promoting positive sexual health messages. The findings of this report will be used in planning and development by a wide range of agencies and will inform the strategic direction of the CPA's work in reducing the number of crisis pregnancies.

Olive Braiden, October 2006

Concealed Pregnancy: A Case-study Approach from an Irish Setting

The research report 'Concealed Pregnancy: A Case-study Approach from an Irish Setting' (Conlon 2006) was launched with the HSE West in May 2006. Following the launch of this report, the Agency and our colleagues in the HSE West worked to establish a national forum on concealed pregnancy.

Denial and concealment of pregnancy places a very heavy emotional toll on women. One of the most striking aspects of this study is that women



Cathy Fox, Ballinasloe Crisis Pregnancy Service and Catherine Conlon, Women's Education, Research and Resource Centre UCD and author of *Concealed Pregnancy: A Case-study Approach from an Irish Setting* at the launch of the report in May 2006.

of all ages, of all social backgrounds, both married and single, were in this sample group. The primary reasons for concealing or denying the pregnancy were fear of the social stigma attached to becoming pregnant in unconventional circumstances and fear of their families' reaction.

Catherine Conlon, author, May 2006

Crisis pregnancy and work-life balance

A literature review examining how issues such as work-life balance, workplace culture and maternity/childcare issues affect women with crisis pregnancy (Redmond, Valiulis and Drew 2006) was disseminated in 2006.

A supportive workplace environment, good quality, affordable and accessible childcare and flexible working arrangements are likely to enhance a woman's perception that she can successfully combine work and motherhood if she is faced with an unplanned or 'crisis' pregnancy.

E-newsletter, August 2006

Women's perception of fertility and motherhood

A follow-up project on perceptions of women about fertility, sex, and motherhood (Murphy-Lawless 2006) was produced in 2006. This research developed from a previous project and was based on interviews with young, low waged women from rural communities.

I mean, unless maybe you're living in a massive city somewhere, where there's a chance you're going to go in somewhere and not know anybody, like. But nearly every chemist in the town you know somebody, or someone'll see you; someone who doesn't work there will be there and, you know, you always seem to get caught in the act of walking to the counter with [condoms].

(Woman, 22 years old)

Statistical Report 2006

A statistical report (O'Keeffe, McGrath & Smith 2006) focusing on teenage pregnancy data was compiled in 2006.

The majority of teenage births in Ireland take place to females aged 18 or 19 years. The majority of births are first births. The number of teenagers giving Irish addresses at UK abortion clinics has decreased in last five years, as has the number of teenage births in total.

O'Keeffe, McGrath & Smith, 2006

All research reports are available on www.crisispregnancy.ie/research/reports

I think the assumptions in the past have been quite wrong about there being widespread early sexual behaviour amongst young people in Ireland. Really the big period in which people begin having sex is over 16 and 17 to 18 years.

Dr. Richard Layte, ESRI, co-author of the Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships



Dr. Stephanie O'Keeffe, Research and Policy Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency and Mary Smith, Research Officer, Crisis Pregnancy Agency.

Research Summaries

Following the success of the 'Research Summary' series, two further summaries were developed in 2006: one for GPs and practice nurses and one for people working in the media. Research summaries are leaflets that summarise findings from research reports commissioned by the Agency; the summaries are designed for key target groups. Specific summaries for parents and people working with teenagers, crisis pregnancy counsellors, GPs and practice nurses, and the media are now available.

Disseminating our research

E-newsletters were broadcast four times during 2006. Research was a key part in each e-newsletter.

Evaluating the work of the Agency

A key element of the Agency's research function is evaluation. The research team work very closely with other functions of the Agency to ensure that initiatives are evidence based, monitored and evaluated. In 2006 the research function:

- Commissioned a review of the implementation of the Agency's first strategy.
- Commissioned a survey to track performance of the Agency's national communications campaigns.
- Commissioned an evaluation of new materials for the Positive Options campaign.
- Conducted an evaluation of the 'Think Contraception' summer campaign and Research Summary series.

Ongoing research projects

In 2006 a small number of new projects were undertaken by staff or commissioned by the Agency:

- A peer-review process for critiquing reports commissioned by the Agency was set up.
- A literature review to examine the emotional and psycho-social effects of abortion was progressed.
- A scoping document was completed internally looking to assess the numbers of women resident in Ireland travelling to countries other than the UK for an abortion.
- The text and design for the report titled: 'Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) in the Context of Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE): An Assessment of the Challenges to Full Implementation of the Programme in Post-primary Schools' was finalised and a dissemination and launch plan agreed with the Department of Education and





Catherine Duffy, Development Officer of the Primary Care Department, HSE West and member of the Consultative Committee of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, Olive Braiden Chair of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency (2001-2006), and Catherine Conlon author of *Concealed Pregnancy: A Case-study Approach from an Irish Setting* at the launch of the report .

- Science and the authors of the report.
- Submissions were made on the review of the Children First Guidelines and to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Child Protection on the age of consent for sexual intercourse.
- A framework document on the national development of contraceptive services has provided a benchmark for future developments in this area.

From research to policy

At the end of the term of the 2001-2006 Board, the Research Subcommittee recommended that the name of the group be changed to Research and Policy Subcommittee. This is to take account of the increasingly important role of policy development in the work of the Agency and in its next strategy.

There is a stereotype out there surrounding going for emergency contraception. But women who go for it know about it, know where to go for it and know that a risk has happened. They're doing the responsible thing. Our research shows they're just as likely to have used contraception but that the method has failed, and no more likely to have consumed alcohol. It's protective behaviour and should be encouraged.

Dr. Stephanie O'Keeffe, Research and Policy Manager, Crisis Pregnancy Agency





Funding Programme

Highlights

- The Manual of Good Practice in Crisis Pregnancy Counselling was completed, and work began with NUI Maynooth on the development of the first accredited course in crisis pregnancy counselling skills.
- Two new crisis pregnancy counselling services began operating in Kerry and in West Cork.
- A number of projects funded by the Agency received very successful evaluations in 2006.

Background

The Funding Programme is managed by the Administration Manager, with support from the Administration Officer and an administrative assistant. The work of the Funding Programme is overseen by the Funding Subcommittee, which met three times in 2006.

The aim of the Agency's Funding Programme is to support the three mandates of the Agency by funding projects to provide core services and to undertake innovative projects. The Agency's first mandate - prevention of crisis pregnancy - is addressed primarily through funding innovative projects targeted at young people aged 18 to 24. The second mandate - to provide services and supports for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy - is primarily addressed by funding crisis pregnancy counselling but is also addressed by funding support services for new parents and for those who are considering adoption. The third mandate - to provide post crisis pregnancy services - is primarily addressed by funding post-termination medical and counselling services.

Overview of 2006

In 2006, the total expenditure on the Funding Programme was approximately €4.4m (2005: €4.2m), approximately €4.0m of which was used to fund the provision of services that directly support the three mandates in 30 locations throughout Ireland. The remaining €0.4m was used to:

- Fund printed resources for parents who are not married to each other
- Improve standards in counselling
- Advertise counselling services
- Train parents in delivering relationships and sex education.

Figure 2 shows the split of the €4.0m of locally delivered projects by province and Figure 3 shows the location of counselling services. Figure 4 shows the split of the Agency's 2006 expenditure by type of project, and Figure 5 shows the same expenditure split by the mandate addressed.

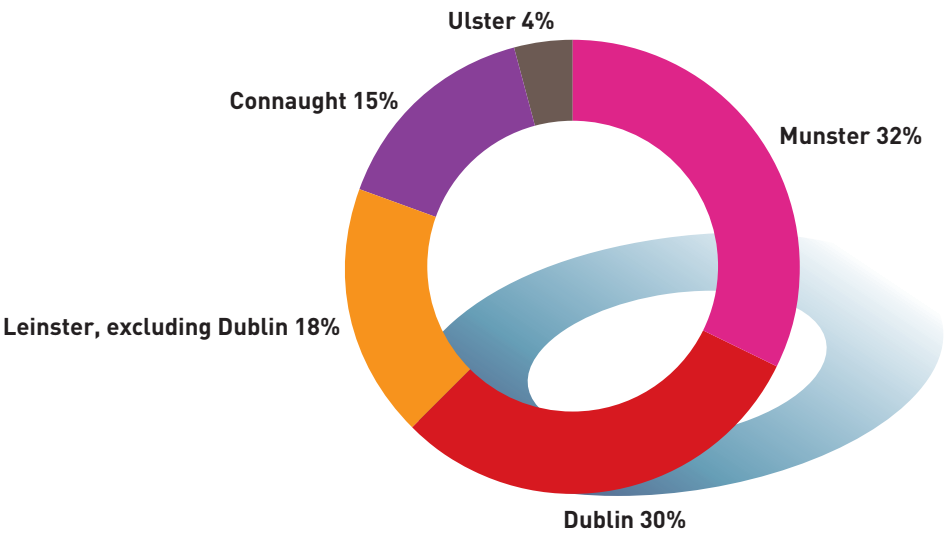


Figure 2 : Locally delivered projects, by province

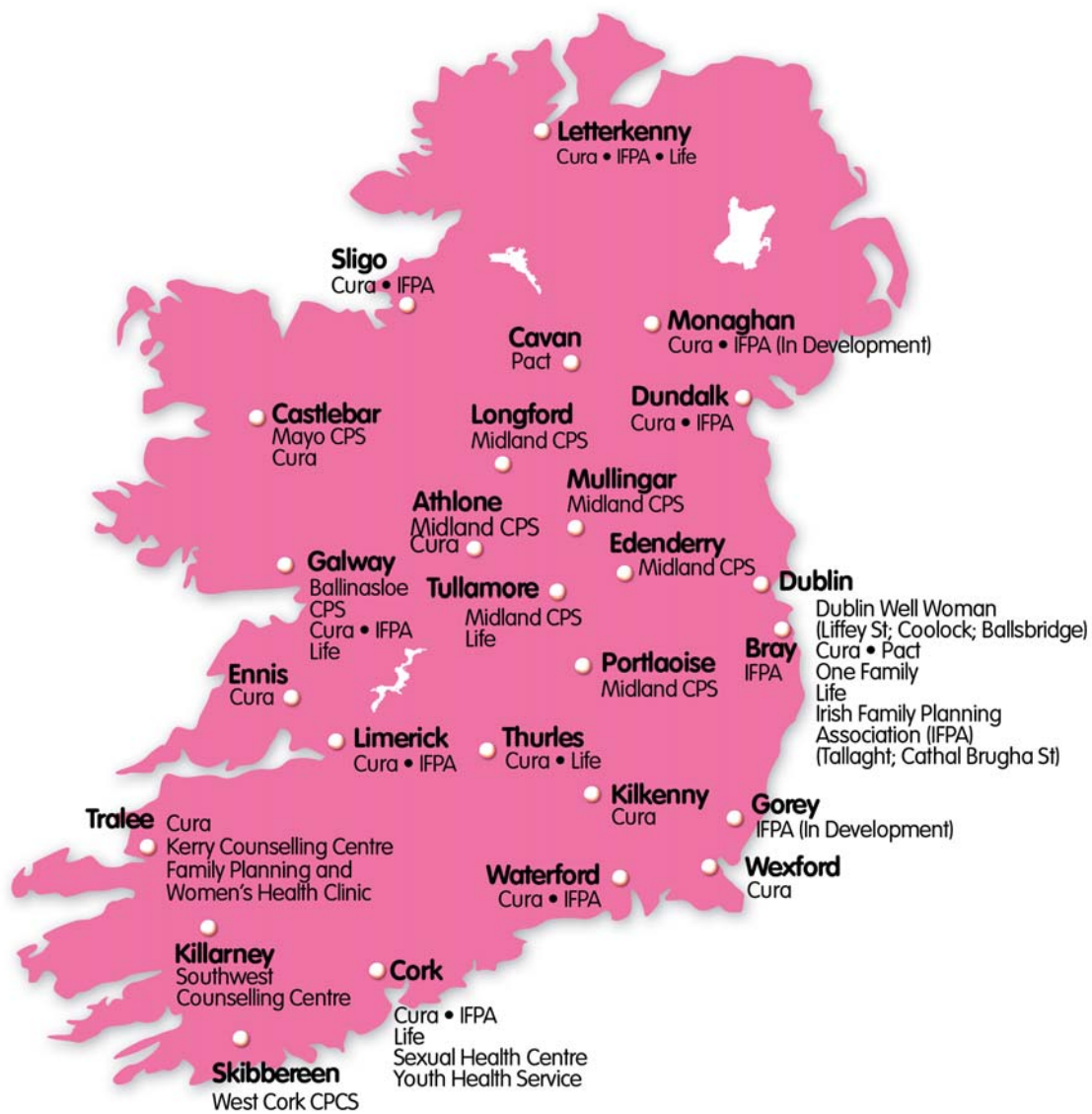


Figure 3: Location of counselling services

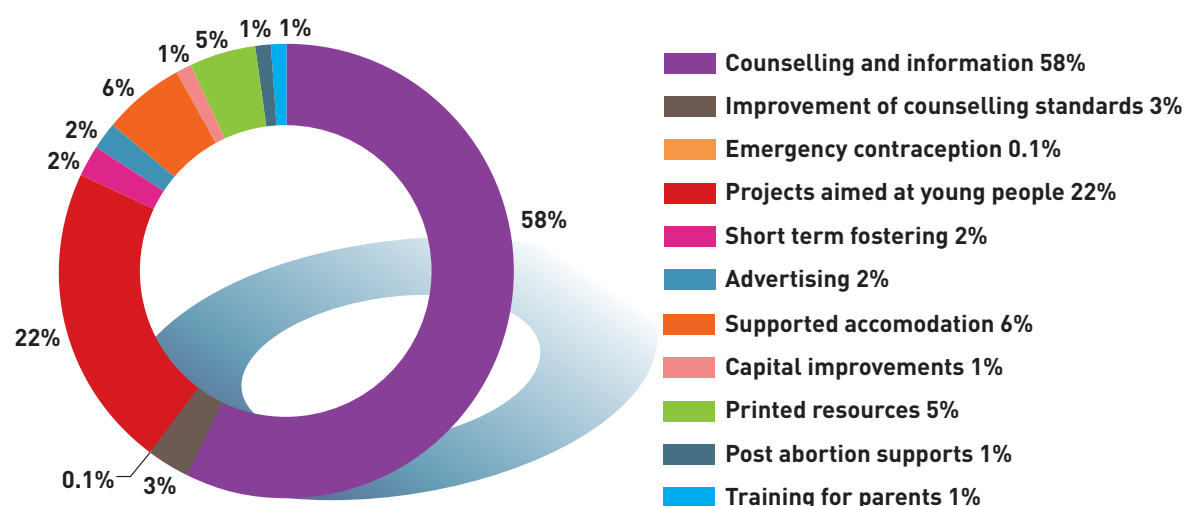


Figure 4: Funding Programme expenditure, by project type

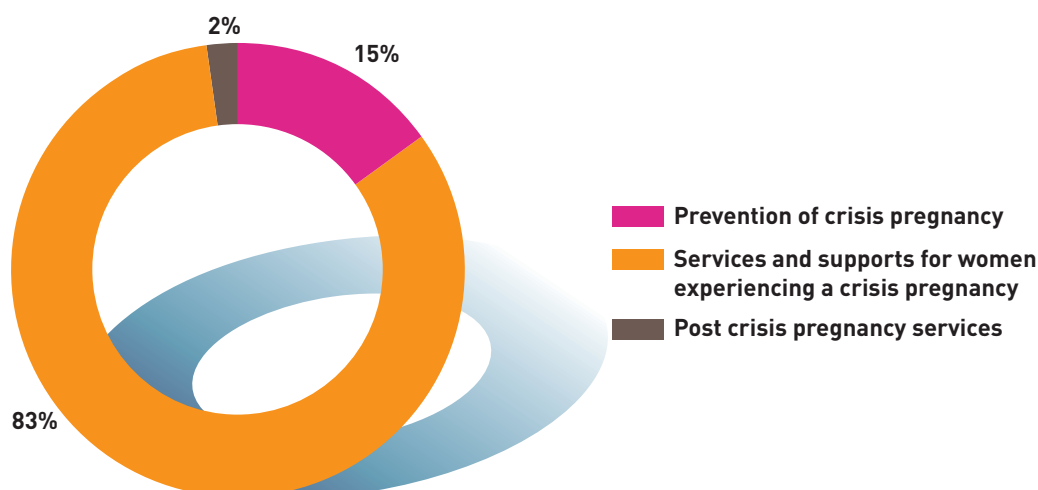


Figure 5: Funding Programme expenditure, by mandate

Crisis Pregnancy Counselling

The majority of the expenditure in the 2006 Funding Programme - approximately €2.6m - was on counselling and information services, as well as improvement of standards in counselling, as shown in Figure 6.

37% of funding for crisis pregnancy counselling was allocated to CURA and Life in 2006. CURA and Life provide counselling for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy and provide information on parenting and adoption and abortion. CURA and Life do not give contact details for abortion clinics.

57% of funding for crisis pregnancy counselling was allocated to the Irish Family Planning Association, One Family, Well Woman, the Ballinasloe Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service, PACT, the Sexual Health Centre in Cork, the Mayo Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service, the Midlands Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service, Kerry Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service and West Cork Crisis

Pregnancy Counselling Service in 2006. These services provide counselling for women experiencing a crisis pregnancy and provide information on parenting, adoption, abortion and abortion clinic contact details in accordance with The Regulation of Information (Services Outside the State for Termination of Pregnancies) Act 1995.

Although training and supervision is an integral part of all counselling services, this funding included an element of specific funding in 2006 to a number of the providers mentioned above, to help them improve their counselling standards.

The remaining 6% of funding in this area was allocated to University of Limerick's Sexual Health Clinic, for an Information Officer in Treoir (the organisation that supports parents who are not married to each other) and for the HSE to provide a Family Support Worker in Galway.



Mary B Ryan and David McCormack, NUI Maynooth and Sarah Ryan, Administration Officer, Crisis Pregnancy Agency who worked together on the initial stages of establishing an accredited course in crisis pregnancy counselling skills in NUI Maynooth.

Development of a Standardised Framework for Crisis Pregnancy Counselling – A Practice Guide and an Accredited Training Course in Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Skills

Work on the development of a manual of good practice in crisis pregnancy counselling was completed in 2006. This work was directed by a subcommittee of the Board, which consists of two Board members, the Director of the Agency and an administrative assistant. The Subcommittee met on four occasions throughout the year. This work involved overseeing the finalisation of the content of this manual, including the incorporation of

expert feedback, the editing of the manual and the commissioning of a comprehensive legal review of the manual. Following the submission of an expression of interest in the project, the Department of Adult and Community Education, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, was awarded the contract in December 2006 to develop and pilot an accredited training course in crisis pregnancy counselling skills. Work on the development of this training course, in consultation with State funded crisis pregnancy counselling agencies, got underway in 2006 and the piloting of this course is planned to take place in the autumn semester of 2007.

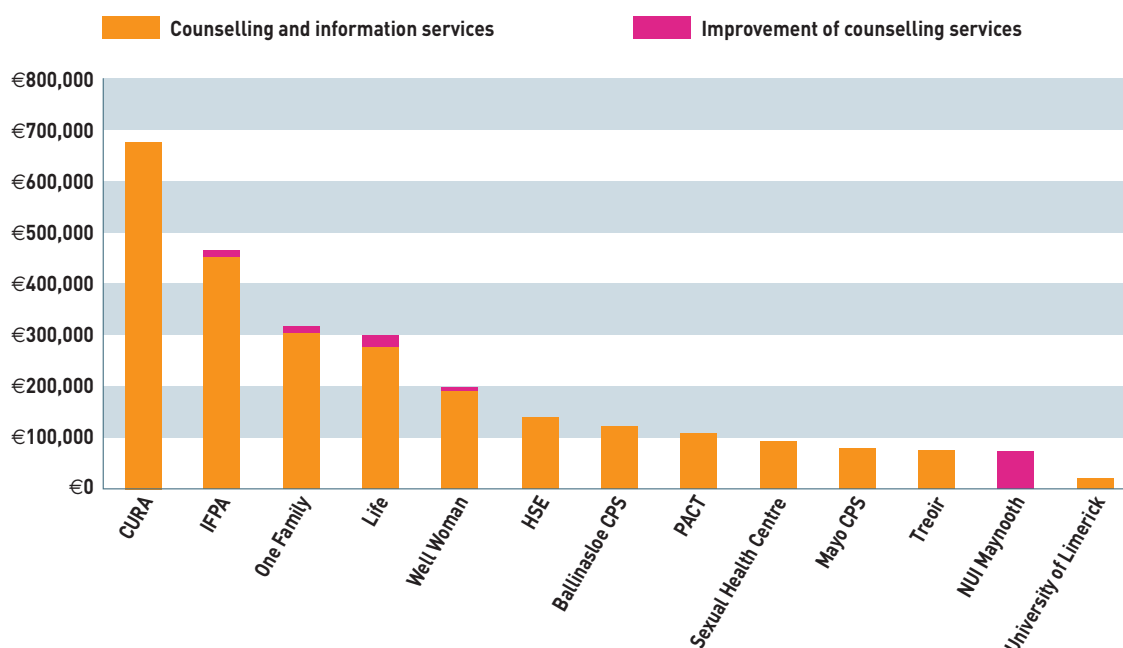


Figure 6: Funding for counselling, information and improvement of standards, by provider



Karl Rossiter, Sibhain Farrell, Sinead Timmons, Sarah O'Hanlon, Nicola Jones, Georgina McCormack, Stephanie Deegan, Craig Fetterson, Kevin Grant from the Zone Café in Blanchardstown at a youth advisory committee residential in Mayo.



Orla Neary (left), Noya Eunedede and Kayleigh Mulligan at the Teen Parents Support Programme conference.

Projects Aimed at Young People

During 2006, the Agency provided €1m of funding for the following six projects aimed at young people:

Teen Parent Support Programme

The Teen Parent Support Programme ('TPSP') was established on a pilot basis by the Department of Health and Children in recognition of the vulnerability of teen parent families and to address their needs. The Agency funded the TPSP's activities in Louth and North Dublin, as well as funding the National Coordinator for the programme. The pilot concluded at the end of 2006 and the project was deemed to have been very successful.

Youth Health Service

The Youth Health Service is a dedicated youth health service in Cork, based on best practice models from the UK, including a comprehensive sexual health service and youth information and counselling/advisory service.

Squashy Couch Café

Squashy Couch is a youth café providing an 'adolescent friendly' information, counselling and support service in Waterford.

Respect Programme

The Respect Project is a peer-led sex education programme piloted in select secondary schools in the South East.

The Zone Café Exit Youth Café

These services, run by the youth development organisation Foróige, provide young people with up-to-date, relevant and accessible information on a variety of health issues, including crisis pregnancy. Services available at the cafés include a coffee shop, information provision point, mentoring programme and teenage health initiative programme.

Supported Accommodation

During 2006, the Agency provided €0.3m of funding to four projects that provide temporary accommodation both to women experiencing a crisis pregnancy and to new mothers:

Life Galway Accommodation Service
Limerick Social Services Council, Sonas
Limerick Social Services Council, Altamira Court
Spring Gardens, Waterford

Dylan Hayden taking part in the summer programme in the Zone Café, Blanchardstown.



Table quiz in the Zone Café, Blanchardstown





Sibhain Farrell, Sarah O'Hanlon, Tracy O'Brien, Nicola Jones and Georgina McCormack from the Zone Café in Blanchardstown, prior to their performance of the play *Grease*.



AnnMarie Hoey, HSE speaking at the Teen Parents Support Programme Conference.

The services also provide counselling and outreach support.

Printed Resources

During 2006, the Agency provided €0.2m of funding to its service partners, principally Treoir, to produce information for counsellors, for those experiencing a crisis pregnancy and for new parents. In 2006, Treoir resources funded by the Agency included:

- Resource for young parents
- Information Pack for Parents who are not married to each other
- Key Contact - Reproductive Health Information for Migrant Women, including the new Polish translation

Other Funding

The Agency also provided a total of €0.3m for a number of other projects, including short-term fostering for women considering adoption through Cúnamh, advertising of the counselling services, computerisation of regional Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA) centres, post abortion counselling and medical check-ups provided by the IFPA, Well Woman and the Sexual Health Centre in Cork, and training for parents in delivery of relationships and sexual education provided by the National Parents Council (Primary).

A greater diversity in the ethnic origin of the people who use our crisis pregnancy counselling service has prompted us to provide multi-cultural sensitivity training to all our counselling and frontline staff so that they understand the complex social, ethical and religious needs that some clients have.

Alison Begas, Chief Executive, Dublin Well Woman Centre



Administration

Highlights:

- The Agency achieved approximate financial breakeven in 2006, with a minor overspend of 0.3%.
- Governance structures were improved through the appointment of internal auditors.
- Three senior appointments were made in 2006, including the appointment of a new Director.
- A database was developed to store, manage and report on information relating to the Agency's Funding Programme.

Background

The Administration function of the Agency is led by a senior manager, with support from an administration officer, an administration assistant and two clerical officers.

This function supports the work of the other three functions to deliver the Agency's mandates by ensuring that there is effective financial management and governance, staff management and ICT support. The Administration function is also responsible for reporting to the Department of Health and Children.

The work of the Administration function is overseen by the Finance and Audit Subcommittee, which met seven times in 2006.

Financial Summary

During 2006, the Agency received an allocation of €8,140,000 from the Department of Health and Children to fund its activities for the year. This represented an increase of 8% over the previous

year (2005: €7,399,030). This included €85,000 of specific funding made available at the direction of the Minister during the year in order to address concerns that had been raised nationally about rogue crisis pregnancy counselling agencies. The Agency experienced a minor overspend against its funding from the Department for the year of approximately €24,500, or 0.29%, which was offset against the accumulated surplus brought forward, resulting in an accumulated surplus at 31st December 2006 of approximately €16,000.

As in previous years, the majority of the Agency's expenditure (over 80%) was on activities with a direct focus on the public, including grants for counselling and other projects, advertising campaigns and information resources.

Financial Management and Governance

During 2006, the main financial management tasks performed by the Administration team were:

- Preparation of monthly financial reports throughout the year, which were reviewed both by the Finance and Audit Subcommittee and by the Board.
- Management of the preparation of the 2005 financial statements, which were audited by the Comptroller & Auditor General in April 2006.
- Management of the day-to-day processes relating to the expenditure of the Agency, including accounting, payroll, and the superannuation scheme, as well as procurement and tendering processes.

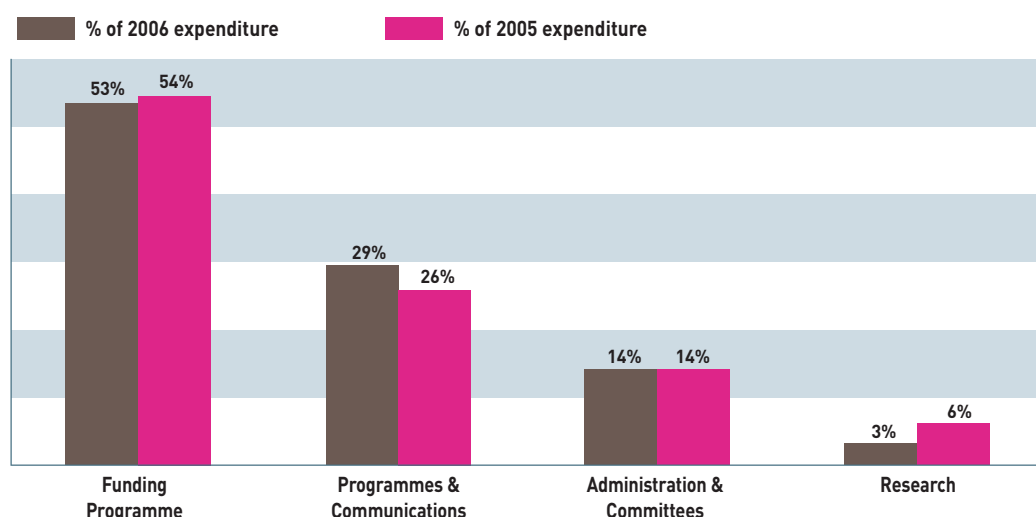


Figure 7: Expenditure by function, 2006 and 2005

As part of its ongoing commitment to good governance, the Agency appointed Deloitte as its internal auditor, through an open tender competition. Deloitte carried out the reviews of the following areas during the year:

- Internal financial controls
- Monitoring processes in the Funding Programme
- Governance

The administration team prepared and submitted required documentation to the Department of Health and Children during the year, including the 2006 Service Plan and its mid-year review, the Annual Report, the financial statements and the annual budgets, as well as monthly financial reports.

Staff Management

2006 was a busy year for recruitment in the Agency, as there were four open competitions during the year to recruit staff to key positions in the Agency, including the posts of Director, Administration Manager, Programmes & Communications Manager and Administration Officer. The Administration team also worked very closely with the Acting Director to ensure that the Agency continued to function smoothly while no Administration Manager was in post.

The Administration team continued to operate day-to-day human resource functions throughout the year, including induction, management of leave (including annual leave, sick leave and maternity leave), training, and compliance with HR policies and procedures.

The Agency placed an increased focus on health and safety during 2006, which resulted in the commissioning of an external review of the physical working conditions for staff within the Agency by an ergonomic specialist. Fire safety training was also arranged for all staff.

The Administration team continued to liaise with the Board and with the Department of Health and Children's Superannuation Section to secure the approval of the Agency's superannuation scheme for staff.

Information and Communications Technology

The majority of the ICT functions of the Agency are outsourced to an external provider. A number of hardware and software upgrades were implemented during the year in order to support the Agency's operations more effectively.

A key achievement was the development of a database by external consultants to store, manage and report on information relating to the Agency's Funding Programme.

Statement of Responsibilities of the Board

Section 17 of Statutory Instrument No. 446 of 2001 Crisis Pregnancy Agency (Establishment) Order, 2001 requires the Board to keep all proper and usual accounts of all moneys received or expended by it including an income and expenditure account and a balance sheet.

In preparing those financial statements, the Board is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless a decision is taken for the Agency not to continue in operation; and
- follow applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping proper books of account that disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Board and that enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 17 of Statutory Instrument 446, 2001. The books of account are held at the Agency's headquarters at 89 – 94 Capel Street Dublin 1. The Board is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Board confirms that it has complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board:



Chairperson



Director

Statement on Internal Financial Control

On behalf of the Board of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency, I acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.

The system can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

The Board has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment is in place by:

- clearly defining management responsibilities and powers;
- establishing formal procedures for monitoring the activities and safeguarding the assets of the organisation; and
- developing a culture of accountability across all levels of the organisation.

The system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information, administration procedures including segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- a comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget that is reviewed and agreed by the Board;
- regular reviews by the Board of periodic and annual financial reports that measure financial performance against forecasts;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance; and
- formal project management disciplines.

The internal audit function is overseen by the Finance and Audit Subcommittee of the Board in line with the Framework standards set out in the Code of Governance of State Bodies. The internal audit function provided the Board with a report on the adequacy and effectiveness of the system of internal financial control during the year. No significant concerns were highlighted by this report.

The Finance and Audit Subcommittee also oversees the work of the senior management team within the Agency who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the financial control framework and for implementing the comments made by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his management letter.

I confirm that the internal financial control system was reviewed by the Board.

Signed on behalf of the Board:



Chairperson

Statement of Accounting Policies

1 Basis of Accounting

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with general accepted accounting principles under the historical cost convention and comply with the Financial Reporting Standards (FRSs) issued by the Accounting Standards Board (ASB), with the exception of Superannuation.

2 Income

The Oireachtas Grant income from the Department of Health and Children is credited to the Income and Expenditure Account in the period to which it relates. This includes the allocation notified to the Agency at the beginning of the year, as well as any supplementary estimates issued during the year.

3 Grant Payments

Grant payments are made by the Agency to service providers that provide a wide range of services that are consistent with the Agency's mandates, as set out in Statutory Instrument 446 of 2001. Grants are provided based on signed service level agreements and are recognised in the period to which they relate.

4 Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are shown at historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis at the following rates:

ICT Equipment and Software	33%
Furniture	12.5 – 25%
Leasehold Improvements	10%

The historical practice in the Agency has been to capitalise all assets, regardless of cost. From 2006, however, the following de minimis levels have been applied for the capitalisation of fixed assets, in accordance with limits applied elsewhere by other bodies funded by the Department of Health and Children:

ICT Equipment and Software	€1,270
Other fixed assets	€3,810

5 Capital Account

The capital account represents the unamortised amount of income allocated for the purchase of fixed assets.

6 Superannuation

Pending the establishment of an approved defined benefits superannuation scheme under Section 20 of Statutory Instrument No. 446, 2001, a pension scheme is being operated on an administrative basis ('the Scheme').

Contributions to the Scheme are deducted from employees and have been retained by the Agency pending the signing of the Scheme by the relevant Ministers. Superannuation costs will be charged against revenue when they arise. No past employees are currently in receipt of superannuation benefits from the Agency.

By direction of the Minister for Health and Children, no provision has been made in the financial statements in respect of future pension liabilities. This is a material departure from the requirements of Financial Reporting Standard 17, Retirement Benefits (FRS 17).

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

I have audited the financial statements of the Crisis Pregnancy Agency for the year ended 31 December 2006 under Section 5 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Amendment) Act 1993.

The financial statements, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein, comprise the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective Responsibilities of the Agency and the Comptroller and Auditor General

The Crisis Pregnancy Agency is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the Crisis Pregnancy Agency (Establishment) Order 2001 and for ensuring the regularity of transactions. The Agency prepares the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland as modified by the directions of the Minister for Health and Children in relation to accounting for superannuation costs. The accounting responsibilities of the Members of the Agency are set out in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Board.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. I also report whether in my opinion proper books of account have been kept. In addition, I state whether the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

I report any material instance where moneys have not been applied for the purposes intended or where the transactions do not conform to the authorities governing them.

I also report if I have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of my audit.

I review whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control reflects the Agency's compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and report any material instance where it does not do so, or if the statement is misleading or inconsistent with other information of which I am aware from my audit of the financial statements. I am not required to consider whether the Statement on Internal Financial Control covers all financial risks and controls, or to form an opinion on the effectiveness of the risk and control procedures.

I read other information contained in the Annual Report, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. I consider the implications for my

report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements.

Basis of Audit Opinion

In the exercise of my function as Comptroller and Auditor General, I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board and by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures and regularity of the financial transactions included in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Agency's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations that I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

As explained in the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Agency recognises the costs of superannuation entitlements only as they become payable. This policy does not comply with Financial Reporting Standard 17 which requires such costs to be recognised in the year the entitlements are earned. While the failure to comply with Financial Reporting Standard 17 does not impact on the overall financial performance or position of the Agency as disclosed in the financial statements, in my opinion compliance is necessary for a proper understanding of the costs of providing the superannuation benefits earned by employees during the year and of the value of the benefits that the Agency has committed to providing in respect of service up to the year end.

Except for the failure to recognise the Agency's superannuation costs and liabilities in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 17, the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in Ireland, of the state of the Agency's affairs at 31 December 2006 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Agency. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

Gerard Smyth
For and on behalf of the
Comptroller and Auditor General
June 2007

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2006

	Note	2006 €	2005 €
Income			
Oireachtas Grant		8,140,000	7,524,030
Expenditure			
Service provision	1	7,035,892	6,560,035
Administration expenses	2	1,157,286	1,059,093
Total Expenditure		8,193,178	7,619,128
Deficit for the year before transfers		(53,178)	(95,098)
Transfer from the capital account	3	28,658	18,491
Deficit for the year		(24,520)	(76,607)
Accumulated surplus as at 1 January		40,441	117,048
Accumulated surplus as at 31 December		15,921	40,441

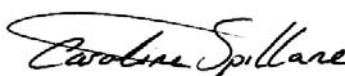
The Agency had no gains or losses in the financial year or the preceding period other than those dealt with in the income and expenditure account.

The Accounting Policies together with notes 1 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board:



Chairperson



Director

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2006

	Note	2006 €	2005 €
Income			
Fixed assets	6	100,280	128,938
Current assets			
Debtors and prepayments	4	140,650	26,442
Cash at bank and in hand		145,546	494,475
		286,196	520,917
Current liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	5	270,275	480,476
Net current assets		15,921	40,441
Net assets		116,201	169,379
Represented by:			
Capital account	3	100,280	128,938
Income and expenditure account		15,921	40,441
		116,201	169,379

The Accounting Policies together with notes 1 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

Signed on behalf of the Board:



Chairperson



Director

Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1: Service provision	2006 €	2005 €
1 (a) Funding Programme		
Services and supports for women experiencing crisis pregnancy	1,483,395	1,239,179
Core funding	1,301,740	1,263,823
Counselling services	856,744	764,573
Prevention of crisis pregnancy	614,210	719,427
New developments	70,420	118,328
Post crisis pregnancy services and supports	42,620	60,902
	4,369,129	4,166,232
1 (b) Programmes and Communications		
Prevention of crisis pregnancy	1,165,003	980,835
Services and supports for women experiencing crisis pregnancy	1,127,910	868,796
Communication services	76,673	67,975
Post crisis pregnancy services and supports	39,762	42,624
	2,409,348	1,960,230
1 (c) Research		
Evaluation of communications initiatives	56,447	49,636
Irish Study of Sexual Health and Relationships	49,966	136,270
Counselling module	-	45,272
Evaluation of the Funding Programme	12,684	57,794
Research summaries, dissemination and printing	97,279	77,308
Other research projects	32,363	38,694
Research services	8,676	28,599
	257,415	433,573
	7,035,892	6,560,035
Note 2: Administration expenses	2006 €	2005 €
2 (a) Pay expenditure	665,543	708,892
2 (b) Non-pay administration expenses		
Rent	115,863	115,864
Staff-related expenses	112,342	24,569
Office supplies	110,460	83,684
Utilities and insurance	44,698	50,112
Professional fees	39,169	9,243
Depreciation	37,271	43,543
Board	19,513	11,765
Audit fee	11,000	10,100
Miscellaneous	1,427	1,321
	491,743	350,201
	1,157,286	1,059,093

Note 3: Capital account	2006 €	2005 €
Balance as at 1 January	128,938	147,429
Portion of income used for capital purposes	8,627	25,052
Amortised in the year in line with asset depreciation	(37,271)	(43,543)
Write offs	(14)	-
Balance as at 31 December	100,280	128,938

Note 4: Debtors and prepayments	2006 €	2005 €
Prepayments	110,650	26,442
Funds due from the Department of Education and Science	30,000	-
	140,650	26,442

During 2006, the Crisis Pregnancy Agency entered into an agreement to produce a report on Relationships and Sexuality Education, in partnership with the Department of Education and Science. The report was jointly funded by The Crisis Pregnancy Agency and the Department of Education and Science although the expenditure was administered by the Agency. The Department's contribution had not been received by the Agency before the year end therefore this income was accrued. The funds were received in 2007.

Note 5: Creditors and accruals	2006 €	2005 €
Trade creditors	65,075	183,547
Pension deductions	109,084	81,862
Accruals	94,087	215,067
Withholding tax	2,029	-
	270,275	480,476

Note 6: Fixed assets

	Furniture & Equipment €	ICT Hardware & Software €	Leasehold Improvements €	Total €
Cost				
Balance as at 1 January	127,309	109,368	121,503	358,180
Additions	-	8,627	-	8,627
Disposals	(70)	-	-	(70)
Balance as at 31 December	127,239	117,995	121,503	366,737
Accumulated Depreciation				
Balance as at 1 January	91,221	89,484	48,537	229,242
Charge for the year	10,740	14,380	12,151	37,271
Disposals	(56)	-	-	(56)
Balance as at 31 December	101,905	103,864	60,688	266,457
Net Book Value				
Balance as at 31 December 2006	25,334	14,131	60,815	100,280
Balance as at 31 December 2005	36,088	19,884	72,966	128,938

Note 7: Contingent liabilities

The Agency's lease for office premises is due a rent review every 5 years; the latest review was due on the 15th of June 2006. The review is expected to take place in 2007 however an entitlement exists whereby the increase may be backdated to the date on which review was due.

The increase is not expected to be greater than 10% however at this time both the amount of the increase and the exercising of the option to backdate the increase remain uncertain. The Agency has therefore elected to disclose this as a contingent liability, in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 12, Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Assets.

Note 8: Capital and other commitments

a) There were no capital commitments as at the 31st of December 2006.

b) The Agency has commitments until 2012 relating to the finance lease for office accommodation at Capel Street, Dublin 1. The current annual rent is €115,864 (2005: €115,864), with rent reviews due every five years.

As discussed in Note 7, "Contingent Liabilities", a review of the annual rent was due on the 15th of June 2006, however this has not yet taken place. The increase is not expected to be more than 10%: an increase of this amount would result in the future commitment being €127,450 per annum.

Note 9: Disclosure of Board Members' interests

The Board adopted procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Finance in relation to the disclosure of interests by Board Members and these procedures have been adhered to in the year.

There were no transactions in the year in relation to the Board's activities in which Board Members had any beneficial interest.

Note 10: Comparative figures

The comparative figures for the 2005 financial year have been reclassified to achieve comparability and consistency with the figures for the 2006 financial year. There have been no restatements therefore there is no effect on net assets or the accumulated surplus for 2005.

Note 11: Approval of the Financial Statements

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board on 12th June 2007.

Appendix 1: Membership of the Consultative Committee and Subcommittees of the Board

Members of the Consultative Committee to the Crisis Pregnancy Agency as appointed by the Minister for Health and Children

Chairperson:

Professor Linda Hogan
Theologian, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin, and Board Member, Crisis Pregnancy Agency. (until October 2006)

Members:

Louise Graham
National Coordinator and representative of Cura

Karen Dent
Member and representative of National Parents Council Post Primary

Dr Michael Darling
Consultant Obstetrician and representative of Church of Ireland Bishops

Margaret Dromey
Director and representative of Treoir

Catherine Duffy
A/Development Officer, Primary Care, HSE West and representative of Health Service Executive

Barbara Keogh
Representative of Irish Congress of Trade Unions

Rosie Toner
Director of Counselling and representative of IFPA

Kay Garvey
Nurse, and representative of Irish Nurses Organisation

Julie Kerins
Senior Social Worker, Cúnamh, and representative of Council of Irish Adoption Agencies

Sherie de Burgh
Director of Counselling and representative of One Family

Ursula Byrne
Education Officer and representative of An Bord Altranais

Alison Begas
Chief Executive and representative of Dublin Well Woman

Dr Ailís Ní Ríain
Director, Women's Health Programme, and representative of Irish College of General Practitioners

Rosaleen McDonagh
Project Officer, Pavee Point, and representative of the Travelling Community

Salome Mbugua
National Director, Akidwa, and representative of non-Irish nationals

Mary Keogh
Representative of people with disabilities

Noelle Shannon
Taoiseach's nominee

Representative from Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists - vacant

Representative from the Irish Episcopal Conference – vacant

Membership of the Subcommittees of the Board

The membership of subcommittees outlined below is as of 31 December 2006.

Funding Subcommittee

This subcommittee advises the Board in relation to the development and management of the Agency's funding programme.

Members:

Rosemary Grant (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Board Member)

Fergal Goodman (Board Member)

Sally-Ann Flanagan (Board Member)

In attendance:

Caroline Spillane (Director)

Fiona Larthwell (Administration Manager)

Administrative Support: Sarah Ryan (Administration Officer)

Suzanne Kirwan (Acting Director) served on this subcommittee from March to September.

Donal Rogers (Acting Administration Manager) served on this subcommittee in January.

Lynn Dowling (Acting Administration Officer) provided administrative support from January to October.

Finance and Audit Subcommittee

This subcommittee advises the Board on all matters relating to the financial management of the Agency.

Members:

Fergal Goodman (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Board Member)

Geraldine Luddy (Board Member)

Noreen O'Kelly (External)

In attendance:

Caroline Spillane (Director)

Fiona Larthwell (Administration Manager)

Administrative Support: Sarah Ryan (Administration Officer)

Pauline Moreau was the Chairperson of this subcommittee from January to June.

Suzanne Kirwan (Acting Director) served on this subcommittee from March to September.

Donal Rogers (Acting Administration Manager) served on this subcommittee in January.

Lynn Dowling (Acting Administration Officer) provided administrative support from January to October.

Research and Policy Subcommittee

This subcommittee advises the Board in relation to all matters pertaining to the research function.

Members:

Helen Faughnan (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Board Member)

Anne Flood (Board Member)

Maureen Bohan (Board Member)

Dr Margret Fine-Davis (External)

In attendance:

Caroline Spillane (Director)

Dr Stephanie O'Keeffe (Research and Policy Manager)

Mary Smith (Research Officer)

Administrative Support: Anita Nicholson

Professor Linda Hogan was the Chairperson of this subcommittee from January to October.

Dr Máirín O'Sullivan (Board Member) served on this subcommittee from January to October.

Madeleine O'Carroll (Acting Research Manager) served on this subcommittee from January to May. Lucy Deegan-Leiriao (Administrative Assistant) provided administrative support from January to July.

Communications Subcommittee

This subcommittee advises on and oversees the development of the programmes and communications campaigns of the Agency.

Members:

Peter Finnegan (Chairperson of subcommittee and Board Member)

Katharine Bulbulia (Chairperson of Board)

Geraldine Luddy (Board Member)

Sally-Ann Flanagan (Board Member)

In attendance:

Caroline Spillane (Director)

Enda Saul (Programmes and Communications Manager)

Orla McGowan (Programmes and Communications Officer)

Siobán O'Brien Green (Health Promotion and Education Officer)

Administrative Support: Tracy Richardson

Olive Braiden was the Chairperson of this subcommittee from January to October.

Joanne Reynolds provided administrative support from April to July.

Staff Subcommittee

This subcommittee advises the Board on issues relating to human resource management in the Agency.

Members:

Katharine Bulbulia (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Chairperson of Board)
Maureen Bohan (Board Member)

In attendance:

Caroline Spillane (Director)
Fiona Larthwell (Administration Manager)
Lynn Dowling (Staff Representative)

Olive Braiden was the Chairperson of this subcommittee from January to October.

Dr Máirín O'Sullivan (Board Member) served on this subcommittee from January to October.

Counselling manual pre-planning group

This subcommittee oversaw the pre-planning and development of the Standardised Framework for Crisis Pregnancy Counselling - Practice Guide and Training Module.

Members:

Rosemary Grant (Board Member)
Anne Flood (Board Member)

In attendance:

Caroline Spillane (Director)
Administrative Support: Sarah Ryan

Margaret Ryan (Board Member) also served on this subcommittee from January to October.

Strategy Subcommittee

This subcommittee was set up in December 2006 to oversee the development of the Agency's strategy for 2007 to 2011.

Members:

Katharine Bulbulia (Chairperson of Subcommittee and Chairperson of Board)
Anne Flood (Board Member)
Fergal Goodman (Board Member)
Helen Faughnan (Board Member)
Maureen Bohan (Board Member)
Peter Finnegan (Board Member)

In attendance:

Caroline Spillane (Director)
Dr. Stephanie O'Keeffe (Research and Policy Manager)
Enda Saul (Programmes and Communications Manager)
Fiona Larthwell (Administration Manager)
Administrative Support: Lynn Dowling

Appendix 2: Funding Programme expenditure in 2006

FUNDING TO CORE SERVICE PROVIDERS ¹		2006 €
CURA	Core funding	674,399.00
Irish Family Planning Association		
	Core funding	416,122.87
	Post termination supports	61,620.00
	Computerisation of counselling centres	26,200.00
	Training & supervision grant	8,940.00
		512,882.87
Life		
	Core funding	277,130.22
	Supported accommodation service, Galway	104,000.00
	Training & supervision grant	20,000.00
		401,130.22
One Family		
	Core funding	306,278.00
	Training & supervision grant	9,760.00
		316,038.00
Well Woman		
	Core funding	179,756.00
	Post termination supports	22,500.00
	Premises refurbishment	20,000.00
	Re-print of information leaflets	13,042.59
	Emergency contraception	6,000.00
	Inter-cultural training grant	750.00
		242,048.59
PACT	Core funding	106,769.00
TOTAL FUNDING TO CORE SERVICE PROVIDERS		2,253,267.68

¹ Funding of the six agencies listed as 'core service providers' was administered by the Northern Area Health Board until responsibility for the management of this funding passed to the Agency in 2004. These providers are funded for 'core' services, which are the services that had been funded by the NAHB, namely crisis pregnancy counselling and supporting administration costs. Funding has increased ahead of inflation for all these agencies since 2004, either through extensions to core funding, or through additional grants for specific projects.

FUNDING TO NON-CORE SERVICE PROVIDERS**2006****€****Projects aimed at young people**

Teen Parent Support Programme	387,850.00
Youth Health Service, Cork	300,000.00
Squashy Couch youth café, Waterford	150,000.00
'Respect' peer-led sex education project	72,710.00
Foróige – Exit and Zone youth cafés	66,000.00
	976,560.00

Non-core crisis pregnancy counselling services

Ballinasloe Crisis Pregnancy Support Service	120,000.00
Sexual Health Centre, Cork	90,098.06
Midlands Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Service	82,800.00
Mayo Crisis Pregnancy Support Service	76,400.00
Kerry and West Cork Crisis Pregnancy Counselling Services	16,200.00
	385,498.06

Printed resources produced by Treoir

Reproductive Health Information for Migrant Women	73,372.00
Information Pack for Parents who are not married to each other	41,000.00
Resource for young parents (in development)	31,000.00
Resource Pack for Workers with Unmarried Parents	20,000.00
Legal Information for Unmarried Parents	3,813.00
	169,185.00

Supported accommodation services

Limerick Social Services Council	108,400.00
Spring Gardens supported accommodation	42,745.00
Distribution of the directory of supported accommodation	450.00
	151,595.00

Other funded projects and services

Cúnamh – short term fostering and training grants	103,750.00
Treoir - Information Officer and support grant	92,100.00
NUI Maynooth – Counselling module	70,420.00
Advertising of Counselling Services	66,473.00
University College Hospital Galway – Family Support Worker	40,000.00
National Parents Council (Primary) – 'Team Up' training	29,580.12
University of Limerick Sexual Health Clinic	19,500.00
Sexual Health Centre, Cork - post termination supports	11,200.00
	433,023.12

FUNDING TO NON-CORE SERVICE PROVIDERS**2,115,861.18****TOTAL FUNDING BY THE AGENCY****4,369,128.86**

Appendix 3: A Code of Ethics for the Crisis Pregnancy Agency

The purpose of this Code of Ethics is to articulate the principles that guide the Crisis Pregnancy Agency's decision-making in light of its responsibilities towards its diverse constituencies. These principles will guide the decisions that are made regarding the development, funding and support of projects and the Crisis Pregnancy Agency's research (including the research it funds). The principles will form part of the frame of reference when proposals for funding are being assessed.

In its approach to its work, and in supporting the work of others, the Agency will:

- be respectful of and non-judgmental regarding the choices made by women who face crisis pregnancy
- be respectful of a woman's autonomy and her right to privacy (within the constraints of the law)
- be guided by reliable research and good practice in all areas of our work
- endeavour to work collaboratively with agencies working in the field
- strive to promote policies that are respectful of the diverse experiences and viewpoints that exist on this issue
- be supportive of agencies which
 - o use professional approaches to counsel, educate and provide information to the public
 - o fully inform clients of their organisation's ethos
 - o promote informed decision-making in resolving issues regarding crisis pregnancy and related sexual health matters
 - o use reliable research and responsible monitoring and evaluation methods to ensure accountability and good practice
 - o work to promote equity of access and quality for clients
 - o provide appropriate referrals when the information or service requested by the client is not available.

