
Developing

A


Community Response

**The Service Needs of the
Irish Community in Britain**

Commissioned by

AGNY ACTION GROUP
FOR IRISH YOUTH

and

Federation of Irish Societies 

UTE KOWARZIK



C H A R I T I E S
E V A L U A T I O N
S E R V I C E S

Developing a Community Response - The Service Needs of the Irish Community in Britain presents the findings of a study on the service needs of the Irish community in Britain conducted at the end of 1993. The study was initiated by the Action Group for Irish Youth (AGIY) and the Federation of Irish Societies in response to the lack of information on clients which approach Irish welfare agencies and their service needs.

The study which was undertaken by Charities Evaluation Services explored the feasibility of introducing a standardised information system which would enable individual agencies to collect data for their own monitoring purposes while also feeding such information into a collective database.

The study constitutes the most current record of issues and experiences affecting Irish people and with well over 1000 cases is one of the largest ever survey samples of the Irish community in Britain.

The data highlighted a number of issues of concern to the Irish community such as the extent of racial and sexual harassment, domestic violence and the extent of mental health problems experienced by clients. The data also presents for the first time, a client profile and identifies groups of clients with specific service needs.

The information system is going to be introduced on a longer term basis to enable Irish agencies to monitor the effective delivery of their services, but equally to identify changes in client service needs. Having a computerised information system will provide a better understanding of the service needs of the Irish community and identify potential gaps in service provision for the community in Britain.

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