**Objective**

The Irish Youth Justice Strategy 2021-2027 outlines, as a strategic objective and action, the need to support enhanced collaborative service delivery, based on a ‘no wrong door’ approach, for young people at risk of being in contact with the justice system.

The purpose of this research is to inform the development of a ‘No Wrong Door’ strategy that can support young people with complex needs in six local sites in Ireland. These local sites, chosen by the Department of Justice as trial sites for Joint Commissioning of services, are Thurles/North Tipperary, Clare, Limerick City/County, Longford, Ballyfermot/Cherry Orchard (Dublin City) and Cavan/Monaghan.

The specific research objectives are:

* To provide a description of the characteristics of young people with complex needs, including an understanding of the context of their circumstances and prior engagement with services.
* To provide an understanding of the complexity of the service provision landscape.
* To provide an understanding of No Wrong Door in the context of meeting the needs of young people with complex needs.
* To develop a response strategy and implementation plan co-produced with local stakeholders and service providers linked to the needs identified in the research.

**Methods**

The research is arranged in two phases. In Phase 1, semi-structured qualitative interviews will be undertaken in each of the selected sites, with deliberately sampled practitioners working with the complex cases, to explore the causes, factors, and implications of the complexity as experienced in each site location. The interviews will explore complexity from 2 perspectives – complexity of individual circumstances and complexity in the service provision landscape.

In Phase 2 of the study, a series of discussion events will be conducted in each site location with a wider group of service providers and practitioners. The discussions will be centred on the findings of Phase 1 and will enable a wider cohort of relevant service providers to analyse the key themes identified in Phase 1 in relation to what complexity looks like for young people and their families, the service provision landscape, and how services can collaboratively respond in order to improve outcomes for young people with complex needs. The outcome of the discussion events will inform the development of a co-produced multi-agency/multi-disciplinary responses and implementation strategies linked to the needs identified throughout the process.