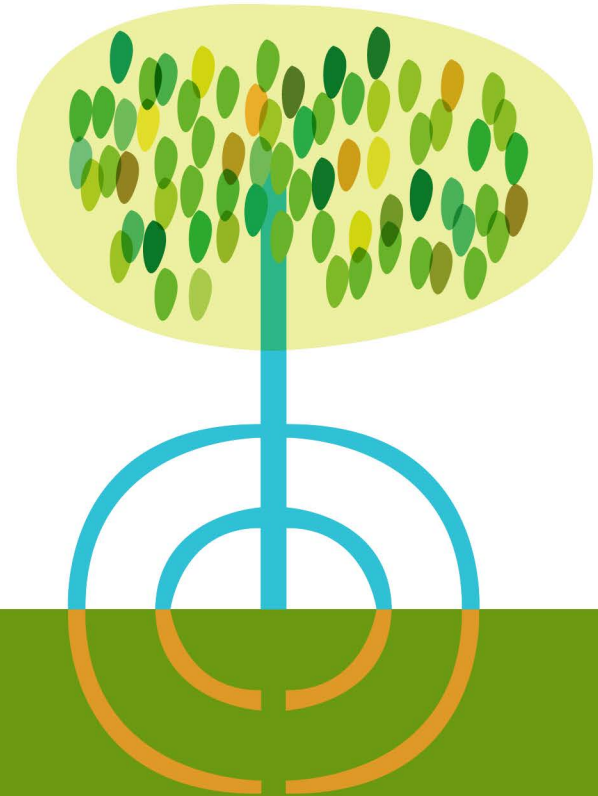




It is a privilege for us to introduce the first Local Economic and Community Plan for County Kilkenny covering the period to 2021.

The Local Community Development Committee and Kilkenny County Council have been entrusted with the responsibility of promoting local economic and community development in the County through this plan. This synopsis of the Community Plan is part of the LCDC's plan to ensure all people of Kilkenny are aware of what agencies and groups around the county are doing address poverty, social exclusion and disadvantage; enhance community participation, support development of community facilities and improve the health and well being of all citizens in the County.

There are almost 30 agencies and organisations named in this plan and they each have a critical role to play in its implementation. We believe that if we all work together to ensure that the actions are delivered, this plan can make a real difference. We are now mandated to implement the plan and to oversee its progress on an annual basis.

We invite you to join with us on the journey to realise the vision of this plan to further develop County Kilkenny as a great place to live, work and play; offering our citizens dignity, security and the capacity to participate to their maximum potential.

LCDC Chair, Fergus Keane

The Kilkenny Community Plan 2016-2021 has 4 High Level Goals and 12 strategic objectives that directly relate to the EU 2020 targets for Ireland.

The plan involves the delivery and implementation of 124 actions across 29 different agencies, groups and/or departments.

This plan outlines a summary of the actions. Each individual action is not listed

Community Plan Acronym Index

AFC	Age Friendly County
AFA	Age Friendly Alliance
CKLP	County Kilkenny LEADER Partnership
DSP	Department of Social Protection
DRUM	Foroige Youth Facility and Drop-in
ETB	Education and Training Board (formerly VEC) Carlow and Kilkenny
FRC	Family Resource Centre
HAT	Homeless Action Team
HSE	Health Service Executive
KIF	Kilkenny Integration Forum
KCC	Kilkenny County Council
KLDTF	Kilkenny Local Drugs Task Force
KTCM	Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement
KTIG	Kilkenny Traveller Interagency Group
KRSP	Kilkenny Recreation and Sports Partnership
LGBTI	Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersexual
NEETS	A young person who is "Not in Education, Employment, or Training"
PPN	Public Participation Network
SICAP	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
TUSLA	The Child and Family Agency

Goal 10

Addressing Area based Poverty and Disadvantage
has 4 Strategic objectives and 50 actions

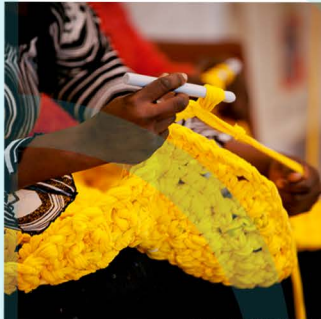
Strategic Objective 1: Improving
deprivation of those living in small pockets of
disadvantage: 14 actions

Strategic Objective 2: Increasing the level
of education attainment for those living in
disadvantaged areas: 19 actions

Strategic Objective 3: Reducing the level of
unemployment in disadvantaged areas:
11 actions

Strategic Objective 4: Reducing the level of
Youth unemployment in disadvantaged
areas: 6 actions

AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:	AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:
County Kilkenny LEADER Partnership Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (CKLP SICAP)	• Carry out a number of needs analysis, support communities to address identified needs and support communities to access funding to address identified needs • Support groups to engage with the PPN • Develop signposting services through information sessions • Provide one to one supports to a number of groups including the unemployed for lifelong learning • Target the 15 – 24 NEET's group, through the delivery of information sessions, outreach, individual supports and referral into CKLP and mainstream education, training and employment services • Support the development of a self-employment programme for the 15 – 24 year age group • Develop an education and employment strategy for the 15-24 age group as well as advocate for increased education provision for disadvantaged areas • Provide supports to Home School Community Liaison and Youth agency steering groups • Support access to employment services especially for those most distant from the labour market • Deliver pre-enterprise workshops into targeted communities and provide one to one business development supports to individuals seeking to establish own enterprise. • Link enterprises in to broader networks and opportunities in the region • Support the development of social enterprise	Kilkenny County Council - Estate Management KCC KCC Library Service DRUM (Foróige)	• Contribute to developing sustainability by consulting with locally based Community Committees on issues which may affect their physical environment and/or their community. • Promote estate management in Kilkenny Local Authority estates and support the development of community projects • Provide estate enhancement funding to residents groups, with priority given to those in disadvantaged areas identified in this plan. • Support residents in their respective responsibilities to play an active part in maintaining a high-quality local environment. • Continue to establish and develop positive relationships through service integration between the members of Community Committees, Local Authorities, and other relevant agencies. • Provide training supports to resident associations in the form of on- line and published materials, and information posted on the Kilkenny Local Authorities website. • Will work in cooperation with relevant agencies in the provision of literacy supports to adults, children and young people in both traditional and digital formats. • Will provide community space for classes and other opportunities both in-house and online that respond to educational needs. • Provide individual support to young people who attend The Drum or are referred to The Drum, to remain in education or explore other education alternatives

AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:	AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:
Family Resource Centre's (FRC's)	• The four Family Resource Centres (FRC's) in Kilkenny will support and undertake direct work with residents and community action groups to address issues in relation to deprivation within the communities they operate in. • 4 FRC's in the county continue to develop employment training and support services for long term unemployed in disadvantaged areas and those most distant from the labour market • 4 FRC's continue to develop social enterprise projects within their specific areas	Carlow Kilkenny Education Training Board ETB	• To continue the provision of Community Education and Literacy Services, Second Chance Education and training programmes for adults who are long term unemployed • To provide Post Leaving Certificate Programmes that offer individuals specialist knowledge, training and work experience which will support them in seeking employment or gaining a place at third level • To identify, explore and review educational and career options through the Kilkenny Adult Guidance Service • Back to Education Initiative - to provide FREE part-time further education programmes for young people and adults giving participants an opportunity to combine a return to learning with family, work and other responsibilities. • To continue the provision of the Youthreach programme in Kilkenny with a wide variety of options and ancillary supports for early school leavers
Callan Community Network (CCN)	• Develop a comprehensive strategy (Callan Inclusion Town) to address social inclusion in all aspects of local life, (with a special emphasis on civic and cultural engagement), through developing partnerships within the county and across the EU.		
Department of Social Protection (DSP)	• Work in partnership with local and countywide community groups in areas of high disadvantage, specifically targeting those who experience the highest levels of deprivation in accessing training supports under the Activational Family Supports Programme. (AFSP)		
Carlow Kilkenny Education Training Board ETB Kilkenny Traveller Interagency Group (KTIG)	• To engage the appropriate bodies to develop a monitoring and information process that identifies the school attendance of Traveller children at both primary and second level.	 Photograph: Ross Costigan	



Photograph: Ross Costigan



Goal 11

Addressing Poverty and Social Exclusion has 2 strategic objectives and 25 actions

Strategic Objective 5: Ensuring the inclusion and engagement of all citizens in the county: 12 actions

Strategic Objective 6: To put particular focus on Lone parents, Travellers, People from ethnic minority and cultural groups, older people, people with a disability and children and young people – ensuring these groupings are prioritised in relation to poverty goals: 13 actions



Photograph: Ross Costigan

AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:
Public Participation Network (PPN)	• Support the social inclusion pillar to be a dynamic structure for communication and engagement of community organisations.
KCC Community & Culture Section (C&C)	• Access funding streams to sustain the KTCM over 3 year periods for continuity of work and to develop as an independent Traveller Project within the county. • Support the Traveller Horse Project in developing its full potential (includes CKLP, the KTCM and KKC Housing section) • Undertake a comprehensive needs analysis of lone parents living in Kilkenny
Kilkenny Integration Forum Immigrant Services	• Support the delivery of cultural awareness training to schools in Kilkenny • Engage with religious leaders to encourage people to get involved in cross cultural community initiatives • To highlight diversity and encourage integration amongst all ethnic and cultural groups in Kilkenny through an intercultural events programme this is to include sporting events • Continue to support the provision of English language classes (formal and
KCC Heritage Office	• Create opportunities to involve youth, active age, marginalised and socially excluded groups in heritage projects.
Age Friendly Alliance	• To continue to identify and establish relevant programmes and projects that improve the lives of Older people living in Kilkenny

AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:	AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:
FRC's	• The 4 FRC's in the county will continue to provide their facilities to local community groups as a means of encouraging interaction between groups operating at local level • The 4 FRC's will , through their children and youth programmes encourage young people engaged in FRC programmes to participate and actively engage in the appropriate decision making structures- i.e. the Comhairle na nÓg • The 4 FRC's to provide the appropriate support s and facilities for the integration of migrants/ refugees and asylum seeker families/individuals in the county as per the Kilkenny Integration Strategy • The 4 FRC's will continue prioritise their service towards vulnerable families who are excluded from society on the basis on mental health status, ethnicity, sexuality, disability , religion, age, marital status and social class.	Kilkenny Traveller Interagency Group and Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement	• Support Traveller development workers and Traveller representatives to undertake Certificate / Diploma / Degree in Community Studies • Target Traveller youth 18-25 years for a pre-employment training and support programme, for 10 Travellers from across the county • Support expansion of the Yellow Flag Schools Programme within the County
TUSLA	• Establish the Children and Young People's Services Committee and develop a socio-demographic profile, an audit of services, undertake a needs analysis of children and young people and develop an action plan and strategy to respond to the needs of children and young people living in the county.	Ossory Youth	• Provide access to youth work opportunities and support, targeted and universal, rural and urban young people annually. Identify, train and support in excess of 150 volunteers annually to provide community-based youth work opportunities for young people aged 12-18yrs. • Ossory Youth will focus their work programme on young people excluded from society on the basis of mental health status, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, level of 'risk' and/or vulnerability to participate in Ossory Youth.



AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:
FRC's	• Provision of meeting facilities to community groups to support the delivery of services and supports to the wider community
Age Friendly County Alliance	• Ensure all Kilkenny citizens have access to appropriate community facilities, increase community participation and civic engagement of older people at municipal and county level.
Kilkenny LAG	• Provision of animation initiatives in local and thematic areas
PPN	• Support the development of PPN Electoral District networks, developing engagement protocols for the community sector and government structures, develop the PPN as a dynamic structure in Kilkenny, ensure those most distant from decision making are engaged. • Developing accountable and informed representation from the PPN; developing a volunteer strategy across a number of themes



Photograph: Gypsy Ray



Goal 12: Enhancing Community Facilities and Participation has 4 strategic objectives and 24 actions

Strategic Objective 7: Ensure all citizens have access to appropriate community facilities: 10 actions

Strategic Objective 8: Ensure all facilities are used to their optimum capacity, open and available to all: 5 actions

Strategic Objective 9: Ensure community development coordination at MD level to support communities at local level: 2 actions

Strategic Objective 10: To increase community participation and civic engagement at MD and county level: 7 actions

AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:
KCC C&C	• Undertake and update an audit of Community Youth Sports Arts facilities to include a programme audit and a road map for directing capital funding into area with gaps, need. • Support the development and viability of the Public Participation network through the provision of a development worker
Ossory Youth	• Will work with communities that are ready to develop community led youth facilities in there are and to continue to develop Desert Hall as an integrated youth centre for Kilkenny and assisting communities to develop volunteer led programmes for youth
Drum	• Provision of meeting facilities to youth and community groups
KKC Heritage Office	• Support community participation in recording, presenting and caring for heritage
Kilkenny Recreation & Sports Partnership (KRSP)	• Maximize the use of sports and recreational facilities by working in collaboration with sports clubs



Goal 13

Improving Health and Well-being
has 2 strategic objectives and 26 actions

Strategic objective 11: Ensure the health & well being of all Kilkennys citizens :
7 actions

Strategic objective 12: To put particular focus on people with a disability, substance misuse, mental health and suicide , Travellers, Ethnic minority and cultural groups, homelessness and LGBTI:
19 actions



Photograph: Ross Costigan

AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT

WHAT THEY WILL DO:

HSE Health Promotion

- Working with statutory, non statutory and voluntary agencies in the roll out of national priorities as identified in Healthy Ireland- the national framework for action to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Ireland

KCC Heritage Office

- Identify and collate evidence based data on the contribution of heritage to health and well-being

HSE Social Inclusion Unit

- Delivery of Training on a Train the Trainer basis of "Intercultural Awareness & Practice in Health & Social Care" and map the Roma Community within Kilkenny
- Ensure those presenting as homeless have access to health services by ensuring each service user has a current valid Medical Card, a Health Needs assessment and a care plan which will support them to manage their physical, general health and addiction issues and to ensure that Homeless Services are working to Quality Standards.
- Implementing the findings contained in the LGBTI Research "The Rainbow Report – LGBTI Health Needs & Experiences & Health Sector Responses

Kilkenny Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force

- Drug and Alcohol: To ensure that Kilkenny operates an effective Local Drugs Task Force that can respond to identified priorities in Kilkenny under the themes of:
 - Supply Control, Community Safety, Crime
 - Treatment, Harm Reduction Services
 - Education, Training and Employment

AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:	AGENCY / GROUP/DEPARTMENT	WHAT THEY WILL DO:
Homeless Action Team	• Homelessness: To continue to work as an integrated Homeless Action Team to meet the needs of complex cases that present in Kilkenny as victims of homelessness	Kilkenny AFC – Service Providers Forum	• Provision of supports to persons with dementia and their carers.
Lifeline	• Mental Health: Support the implementation of the Lifeline County Strategy for Suicide Prevention	KRSP	• Develop and deliver Active Travel programmes to promote behavioural change in schools, workplace and community settings; Provide training and supports to establish sports and active recreation programmes within communities; Support and encourage preschools and schools to prepare and implement an effective physical education and sports programme for children and young people; support sports clubs to provide quality opportunities for engagement in sport and active recreation, in particular minority sports and sports catering for minority groups ; support sport and active recreation providers to facilitate participation for all and increase participation among specific groups who are less actively engaged.
KCC Arts Office	• Mental Health: Continue to Link in With Lifeline when supporting young people's positive mental health through the Arts Office Literary programmes		
Ossory Youth	• Needs based and demand-led services for all young people with a particular focus on young people experiencing exclusion and/or difficulties in adolescence including accessible youth cafes, the mental health resilience programme, the youth mentoring programme		
Kilkenny Traveller Health Project	• Improving the health outcomes of Travellers living in Kilkenny through the delivery of targeted Traveller health messages and programmes as part of the Kilkenny Traveller Health Project		
FRC's	• Provision of family support / individual support to young people referred to them through TÚSLA and other relevant agencies.		
KCC C&C	• LGBTI Continue to support Kilkenny Pride and Out for the weekend event on annual basis and host a series of round-table discussions to identify key needs and responses to the LGBTI in Kilkenny		



Photograph: Ross Costigan



Photograph: Ross Costigan

Kilkenny LCDC is committed to promoting children's rights.

Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states that 'the child's view must be considered and taken into account in all matters affecting him or her'. Young people were directly consulted through Comhairle na nÓg whereby a series of four workshops were held in venues across the county, one in each of the electoral areas. A total of 120 young people attended these workshops from post primary and primary schools around the county.

Young people had an opportunity to discuss matters under a number of themes relating to the high level goals of the LECP. Issues raised at these workshops were brought before the AGM of the Comhairle na nÓg in October 2015 whereby those in attendance collectively agreed what for them were the priority issues that need to be addressed for young people across Kilkenny:

The issues can be summarised as follows:

1. Health & Wellbeing issues:

- The need for awareness campaigns and education programmes on substance misuse including alcohol and smoking / e-cigarettes.
- Bullying, Depression & Mental Health awareness.
- There is a need for more cycle lanes, picnic/public parks and walk ways across the county.
- Programmes and initiatives to promote healthy eating for young people.
- The need for LGBT groups in rural areas.

2. The need was identified for more community facilities, services and amenities to enable young people to come together in a safe environment and with opportunities to engage in social activities outside of sport, particularly in rural areas.

3. Discrimination, Racism & Stereotyping of specific groups and individuals was seen as a big issue and the need for awareness raising in communities and schools - 'Labels are for jars'.

4. Protection of the Environment:

Young people want to be involved in protecting the environment they live in and see the development of community gardens and tree planting and litter/waste management campaigns as opportunities that should be considered.

5. Safety & Security was identified as an issue and the need for more Gardaí in the rural communities.

6. Youth unemployment is very high and the need to have it properly addressed. Young people identified gaps in education, training and information provision with regards to employment opportunities. Supports are needed which enable young people to avail of these opportunities. In addition, a workshop was held for Youth Leaders working in clubs around the county: There was a reiteration of a number of the points the young people identified directly. Youth leaders also highlighted

7. The importance of volunteerism to be acknowledged with a need for recognition events to be organised which reflect the successes in rural communities and provide incentives to continue in this work.

8. The importance of engaging with young people directly was highlighted in the development of projects and initiatives for young people in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The young people from The Growing Patch Childcare Centre shared their hopes and wishes for Kilkenny City.

Hospitals

Skatepark

Childrens Museum

Shelters for the homeless

Less chewing gum on the pavements

More Schools and Colleges

A direct train to Tramore

G.A.A Museum

More Houses

Waterpark



Kilkenny
LOCAL COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
COMMUNITY
PLAN
2016 - 2021