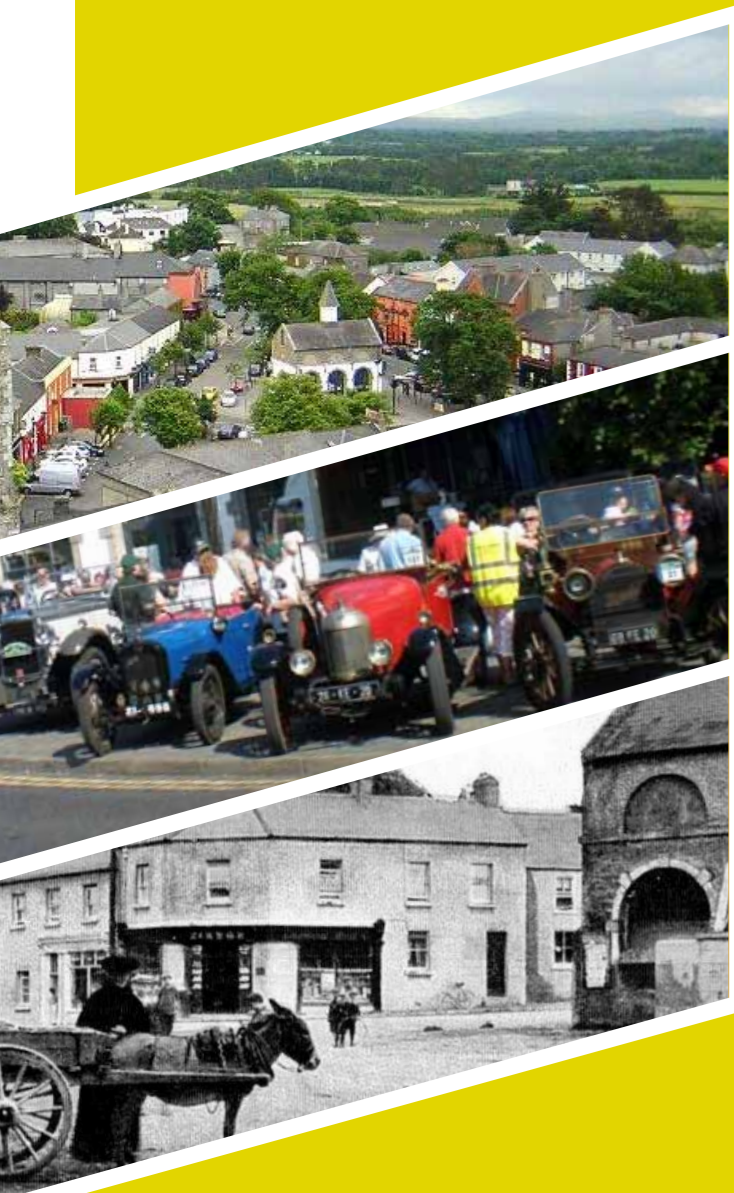


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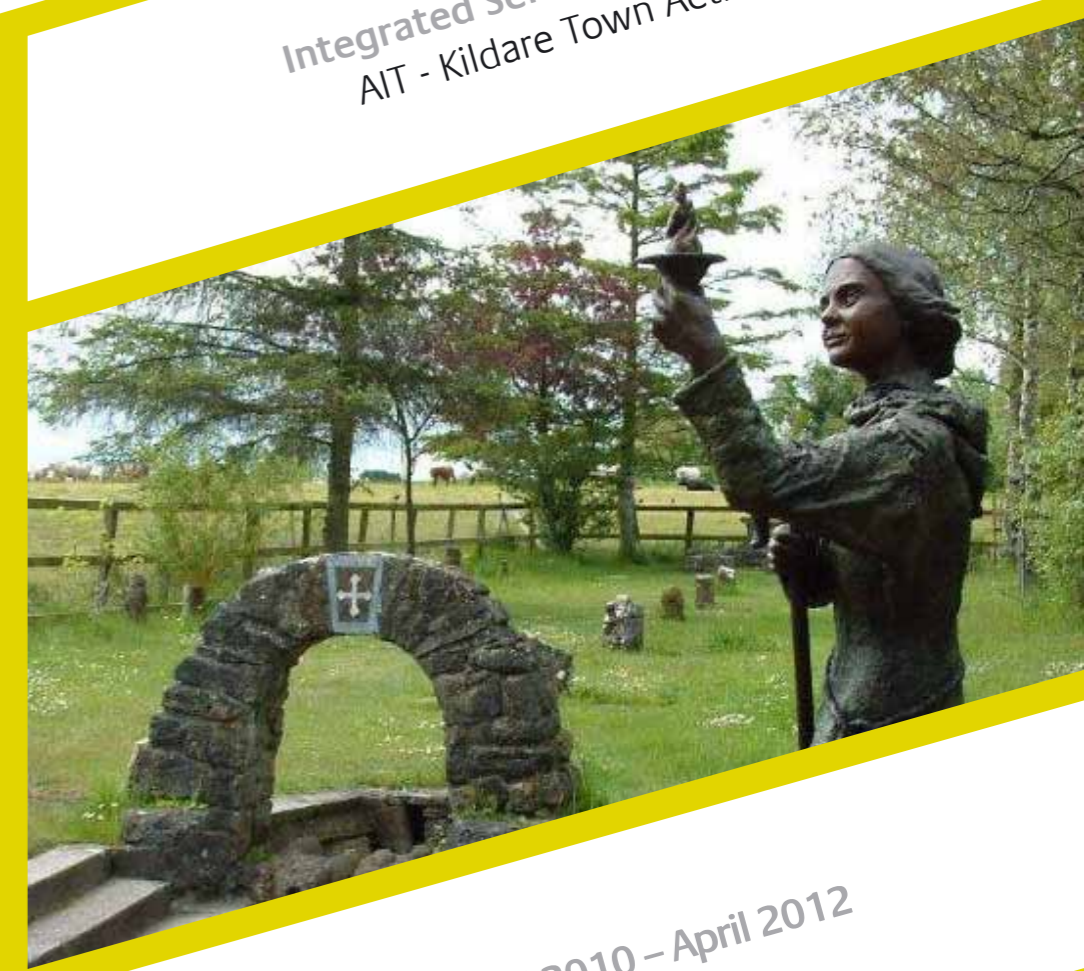
This action plan reflects the needs of Kildare Town based on the views of the people of Kildare Town captured in the research report 'Let Your Voice be Heard', and is endorsed and supported by Kildare County Development Board.



Kildare County Council
Comhairle Contae Chill Dara



Integrated Services Programme AIT - Kildare Town Action Plan



April 2010 – April 2012

“The Integrated Services Programme for Kildare Town works with and builds on a range of existing planning, co-ordination and development structures in Ireland”

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Introduction & Background

The Integrated Services Programme (the Programme) for Kildare Town began with the recognised need to establish an inter-agency and partnership approach to improving the quality of life in the town in terms of social, economic, cultural & recreational services. The programme is the initiative of the Kildare County Development Board.

Core to the programme’s success is an Area Implementation Team (AIT) (See Appendix 1) with membership drawn from statutory and non statutory organisations. Although most members of the group knew each other, they had not worked together as a unit prior to the establishment of the Programme.

The Integrated Services Programme (ISP) for Kildare Town works with and builds on a range of existing planning, co-ordination and development structures in Ireland. In developing the ISP the County Development Board acknowledged the experience gained through a range of recent initiatives such as the RAPID Programme. The RAPID programme gave us a series of practical lessons, for example in the development of inter-agency plans. As such this plan reflects the RAPID template of actions.

The ISP used the research report ‘Let Your Voice be Heard’, 2008 (available from KCEP), and a follow-up facilitated session in August 2010 with the Community Forum, Chamber of Commerce and the Gardai as the basis for its actions. This approach ensured community participation and self-identification of needs.

This plan outlines a broad range of actions, under Family Issues, Youth Issues etc. However, the AIT prioritised the following:

**The development of a Youth Space
Enterprise and Employment Actions
Further work on Family Issues**

Two existing sub-committees of the AIT represent the first two of these priorities. One examining Youth Space (incorporating a Youth Café) for the town with membership comprised of representatives from Kildare Youth Service, Foroige, Kildare LEADER Partnership, HSE, KCEP, Schools Completion Programme, Kildare County Council and SWRDTF. The other, Enterprise & Employment was developed as a response to the changed economic climate and includes members from Kildare Co Co, Elected Rep.s, FÁS, Dept of Social Protection, Kildare LES and Kildare LEADER Partnership.

In relation to Family Issues the AIT recognise Teach Dara as central to the identification of needs and the provision of supports and services. A new sub-committee on Family Issues will provide an opportunity for the relevant agencies and the service providers to examine family support needs, to identify what is currently delivered and to work with Teach Dara to explore how services and supports link with and/or are delivered through Teach Dara.

Finally it is envisaged that the Kildare ISP, including the plan, structure, and processes will be evaluated and the findings used to develop the ISP in the County post 2011.



Outcomes

The outcomes to date (since April 2010) include the recruitment of the ISP Coordinator and the set up of the AIT. The softer less measurable outcomes include the interagency work at the heart of the AIT, the enhancement of relationships, sharing of information and the building of trust between those involved.

In parallel to this the development of the Community Forum in Kildare Town commenced. The County Kildare LEADER Partnership held a number of community meetings in the town, assisting in the set up of the executive and the election of their representatives for the AIT. The ISP Coordinator attended meetings to ensure there was clarity on the rationale and objectives of the AIT prior to their representatives being in place.

An Executive Committee (a requirement of the County Development Board) was set up to ensure that staffing issues could be managed between the programme partners as the programme is funded through the County Development Board and the ISP Coordinator is employed by the County Kildare LEADER Programme.

The initial actions agreed by the AIT and their progress to date are outlined below in some detail (a) to (f). The following section outlines the action plan for all areas of the AIT's work up to December 2010.

(a) 'Let Your Voice be Heard' research revisited & updated – A joint meeting of Kildare Town Community Forum, Kildare Town Chamber of Commerce & the Gardai was held and facilitated by an independent facilitator with the aim of adding to and updating the recommendations in 'Let Your Voice be Heard'.

(b) Action: Development of AIT Youth Space Subgroup – Outcomes: Several meetings of the AIT Youth Space subgroup were held with representatives from Kildare Youth Service, HSE, SWRDTF, KCEP, Schools Completion Programme, Foroige, Kildare County Council Arts Dept., and community youth representatives with planning based on the OMCYA Best Practice guide to developing Youth Cafes. The subgroup's aim is to develop a multi-purpose youth facility for the town incorporating a youth café, local music venue and recording studio with space provision for a youth based organisation to become an anchor tenant ensuring the sustainability of the project. In September 2010 members of the subgroup visited four youth space venues across Kildare and in South Dublin on a fact finding mission and the group are currently in discussions regarding suitable premises in Kildare Town.

(c) Action: Development of AIT Employment Subgroup – Outcomes: A number of meetings have been held with representatives from County Kildare LEADER Partnership, FÁS, KCC, Dept. Social Protection, Kildare Local Employment Service Network & Elected Rep. The current aim is to understand the profile of unemployed in Kildare town and develop a training response. Unemployment statistics have been received officially from the Regional Manager, Dept Social Protection. FÁS have delivered a training programme over 16 weeks in the town aimed at under 25's with a view to ascertaining their next steps into education or work life. An information day 'Managing Unemployment: Supports & Options' was held in Eurospar on November 2nd 2010

Family Issues

where FÁS, Dept. of Social Protection, Kildare LES, Co Kildare VEC, County Kildare LEADER Partnership, EmployAbility Kildare and Citizen's Information Centre provided staff, stands and information on issues relating to employment, self-employment, education and social welfare entitlements. Following this event the Citizen's Information Centre agreed to deliver an outreach information service in the Library in Kildare Town the first Tuesday of every month starting in January 2011. Agreement in principle has been made with the CEO of the National Stud and FÁS to develop a high profile horticultural training programme with input from the gardeners from the Japanese Gardeners. It is expected that this programme will be further developed for delivery in 2011.

(d) **Action: Development of AIT Family Issues Subgroup** – It is envisaged that this subgroup will meet for the first time in 2011 with a view to accessing information from the various agencies and organisations involved in service delivery to families, including the developing Kildare Children's Service Committee on needs in Kildare Town. Representatives invited onto the subgroup will also represent those delivering services to families and once information on service delivery has been collated, a response from all agencies and service delivery organisations will be developed. It is seen as timely as funding of €500k has been secured for the development of Teach Dara (through the Rural Development arm of the County Kildare LEADER Partnership) as a family resource centre in the town.

(e) **Additional Actions: Support to Bishopsland Community Crèche** – Outcomes: Meetings convened and held with County Childcare Committee, Kildare County Council and Crèche volunteers. A late application was made to OMCYA for the ECCE programme which was successful thus enabling the service to re-open in September 2010 with no loss of service locally. Incorporation of company limited by guarantee (a requirement for funding through OMCYA) and audit & accountancy support was agreed pro bono through the Chamber of Commerce. A staff member has been recruited and a CE place provided through FÁS with the CE worker due to start in 2011.

(f) **Slí na Sláinte** – The Slí na Sláinte routes for Kildare Town were agreed in conjunction with the Sports Partnership, Kildare Town Heritage Committee and the Heart Foundation. Funding was secured through the County Development Board and the routes were launched on February 1st 2011 in conjunction with the Féile Bríde celebrations.

Project	Expected Outcome (2yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Provide more play areas for children, including outdoor and indoor facilities.	None for 2011 – review for 2013	Local Authorities		Co Co Local Area Play strategy completed until 2013
(b) Develop community Childcare facilities	Community Childcare facility in Bishopsland Further Community Childcare facility (evidence based need) identified in CCC Plan Clarity on the ring fenced childcare places	Kildare Integrated Services Project & County Childcare Committee (CCC) CCC (Support LEADER Partnership & CF)	Community Childcare Facility incorporated and providing childcare places in Bishopsland	1. Community Forum to clarify additional areas that require Community Childcare 2. Community Forum to liaise with CCC to identify need & to identify groups of people willing to set up child care services 3. HSE to provide list of ring fenced places
(c) Introduce support, advice and education for parents See Enterprise & Employment				
(d) Provide stronger support for families in general and provide a place for families to meet (ensure there is a multi-cultural focus)	Establishment of Teach Dara	Teach Dara	Teach Dara in development	ISP to liaise as requested by Teach Dara. (This is a separate entity with its own strategic plan)
Additional Area from Consultation: Provide evidence based Parenting Programme/s	Establish the need for a Parenting Programme or additional Parenting Programmes	Childrens Services Committee (CSC) (supported by Teach Dara)		Track Progress
Community Mothers Programme	Clarify what is available	HSE		HSE to provide information to ISP

Youth Issues

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Increase the number of youth specific activities available to young people in the town, particularly non-sport activities	(a), (b) and (c) outcomes Multi-functional Youth Space	Youth Space Sub-Group		Referral to youth groups for information in relation to further needs and gaps
(b) Increase the capacity of the Youth Sector so it can provide services to more young people in the town	(a), (b) and (c) outcomes Multi-functional Youth Space	Youth Space Sub-Group		Youth Space Sub-Group to make presentation to AIT
(c) Develop a space for young people to 'hang out', such as a youth café, ensure young people have ownership of the space	Multi-functional Youth Space - representing best practice, with interagency involvement in Kildare Town	Youth Space Sub-Group	Sub-group established Models considered Site visits completed Premises options identified	Continuation of sub-group work
Additional Areas from Consultation:				
Space for teams to meet e.g. sports teams	Potential space within Youth Space	Youth Space Sub-Group		1. Feedback on this issue 2. Seek feedback from Access Committee
Safe Crossing area for playgrounds	Request to Access Committee for pedestrian crossing	Access Committee		3. Community Forum to work with Sports Partnership in relation to information provision
Support/information for people to access sports			Web site in development by Sports Partnership. Sports information to be available in Youth Space	

Healthcare & Education Facilities

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Relocate library within the town centre	Library Relocated	Kildare Library and Arts Service	Completed	
(b) Work to secure longer opening times at local doctors' surgeries & look towards providing improved medical facilities within the town	Plans for Primary Health Care Centre in the town (note four year plan) Longer GP opening hours		Plan in place to develop Primary Healthcare Centre in the town (public/private partnership) in 4 years Site selected Will include almost all GPs *low number of GPs noted At this point does not include addiction service	1. ISP to advocate for this at set up stage of PHC 2. Community Forum to liaise with GPs on opening hours 3. RDTF & HSE to ensure addiction service in planning stage 4. Conduct mapping for mental health
Review the services for mental health	Map of mental health services in the town	HSE Com. Forum RDTF for drug specific element Note: link to County Dev. Plan HSE		
(c) & (d) Moved to Enterprise & Employment				
(e) Explore the viability of and seek to provide a museum in the town	None for 2011	Agreement to remove from 2010-2012 plan	The Integrated Services Programme decided that it was not viable for them to progress this issue	1. Protect plan for museum in CDP plan 2. Review in 2011
Additional Areas from Consultation:				
Increase the Saturday morning hours in the Library	None expected in 2011	Kildare Library and Arts Service	The Library stated that this was not possible within their current budget	1. Review for next plan 2. Community Forum to liaise with CCC to establish evidence based gaps – track progress
Ensure the new school has after school activities homework clubs etc.	Clarity in relation to current after school provision/homework clubs, demand and gaps	CCC	See CCC plan	

Services for Vulnerable Groups

Project	Expected Outcomes (2 yrs)	Lead & Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Improve awareness of existing services	Map of Children's & Family Services in Kildare Community more aware of services	CSC Integrated Services Programme (support)	CSC commenced planning process	1. Review other mapping exercises (Limerick) 2. Develop map for Kildare 3. Community Forum to raise awareness of existing service
(b) Look towards providing space within existing buildings for future developments to encourage services not based in the town to have a part time presence within the town	Teach Dara Community Forum representation included on Board Family Support Network Continuation of Health Promotion Steering Committee in relation to suicide	Teach Dara RDTF HSE	Plans for Teach Dara in progress (Family Resources Centre Model -note Newbridge Model) Family Support Network(RDTF) Service User Forum in progress	4. Teach Dara Plan to be presented to Integrated Services Programme & Community Forum 5. Community Forum representative planned on Board of Teach Dara 6. Family Support Network to present to Integrated Services Programme & Community Forum 7. Invite Teach Dara to make presentation to AIT in relation to their proposed model
(c) Build capacity among vulnerable groups	Outcomes in CSC plan	CSC	CSC plan in development	8. Presentation on plan when available (see note on Mapping)
(d) Build capacity of Community Forum to facilitate participation by the community	Improved capacity for participation through Community Forum and Access Group	County Kildare LEADER Partnership	Community Forum established Access Group established	9. Ongoing support for the development of the Community Forum & Access Group

Sport Leisure & Entertainment

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Look to improve access to existing sporting and entertainment facilities in surrounding towns	Completed for 2010/2011		Transport network has improved considerably since the report was conducted	
(b) Increase the range of sporting activities provided & explore the potential to develop a leisure or sports complex and swimming pool	Outcomes will come from Sports Partnership	Sports Partnership with ISP support	The LA have provided the Newbridge Sports Centre for the County (it is being extended) no plans for further Centres	1. CF to liaise with Sports Partnership Track Progress
(c) Explore the sustainability of & seek to introduce entertainment facilities such as cinemas, bowling alleys & theatres	Options explored for cinema club/s		In other areas	2. Potential for use of new school auditorium explored (includes space for theatre/ drama)

Issues for Older People

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) removed by agreement				
(b) Introduce some type of floating support to ensure the wellbeing of older residents, particularly in winter months	Clarity on initiatives by voluntary sector organisations providing supports Gap analysis for Kildare	Aging Well Network (support from KCEP)	Home Help and Public Health Nurse are the only known responses	1. KCEP to establish need and liaise with relevant agencies (see Appendix 2)
(c) Seek to improve links between generations in the town	See (b)	Aging Well Network & KCEP	In progress through KCEP	2. Track implementation
Additional Areas from Consultation: Transport from the hospital including: – fund for taxis – negotiate taxi rates – Link to Kildare community transport – Volunteers More activities in the current facilities / centres: – Library – School band – Local history group – Knitting – Afternoon art – Voices for art – Explore inter-generational models	Pilot transport initiative in place early 2011 with South Kildare Community Transport & HSE Increased activities	South Kildare Community Transport & HSE with ISP assistance Aging Well Network (support from Co. Arts Officer & KCEP)	Contacts ascertained with HSE, SKCT researching North Kildare Community Transport Model and ISP Co-ordinator supporting the partnership None as yet	3. Research existing initiatives 4. Meet with HSE Area Administrator 5. Get buy-in from Kildare Town Daycare Centre & Nursing Homes 6. Start Pilot 7. Support the partnership & track progress

Shopping, Infrastructure & Support

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Support sustainable shopping, industry and business investment in the town.	Chamber of Commerce (COC) responsible for development & delivery of Strategic Plan	COC, Elected Reps & CDB	Development of strategic plan is a standing item on Chamber of Commerce Agenda.	1. Support COC as required with delivery of plan.
(b) Work towards increased maintenance of open spaces, improved litter collection and rapid graffiti removal	Continued partnership with COC & Tidy Towns.	COC Tidy Towns Committee Kildare LA	Tidy Town rating has improved consistently. Sixteen Estates involved in Environmental Award with Horticultural Expert Judge. IBALL – Kildare Town tidy to EU Norms Joint Tidy Town/CF/ COC clean up days Planters in Town Centre	2. Support COC
(c) Look towards improving disabled access on buses and at the Kildare train station		KRUG – Kildare Rail Users Group	Website set up Facebook Page	3. Connect with KRUG ISP Support as required
(d) removed by agreement				
(e) Consider the role of the AIT in relation to Heritage & Tourism	Agree role of AIT	Heritage Committee & COC	Additional area agreed by the AIT	4. For discussion at AIT session

Shopping, Infrastructure & Support

(Continued)

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
Additional Areas from Consultation:				
Complete an economic analysis in relation to the issues and gaps, e.g. rent, clothes shops	Should be included in the development of a strategic plan for COC.	COC		5. Consulted on plan as appropriate
Make the case to shop locally	As above	COC	COC planning a new campaign	6. ISP Support as required 7. ISP Support as required
Develop a Christmas Fair with family orientation	Christmas Fair held on 12/12/10 in conjunction with Kildre Co Co Cribs	COC	Farmers Market/ Restaurants/Derby Festival Committee/ COC involved in joint planning.	8. Elected Reps & ISP Support to CKLP with links to Council
Note key times for exposure to local products	COC to lead and should be assumed into their strategic plan	COC		9. Gardai continue to monitor Review Cork case outcome on bylaws ISP Support as required
IDA as an opportunity to zone areas. Clean up litter & maintain flower baskets	Highlight viability of Magee Barracks site for foreign direct investment.	COC	Meeting held with IDA and initial conversation started.	
Access – including ensuring that the current application for trains includes access considerations	Improved access of footpaths and market square	CKLP	Access Group set up and walk of town completed and fed back to Area Engineer.	
Compliment the Outlet Village and the Stud as tourist destinations e.g. antique & white elephant shops	COC to lead and should be assumed into their strategic plan			
Upgrade/regulate the market	Better Quality Market with diversity of goods on offer. Environmentally Cleaner and safer.	Gardai/KCC/ COC	Meeting with Joint Policing Committee Increased Garda presence Revenue Customs visits to market.	

Community Participation

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Improve the dissemination of information to the community, both in terms of availability of services and with reference to development plans for the town	Easier Access to Information Consultation with CF in relation to relevant agency plans	CF (with support from LEADER Partnership) & Elected Reps		1. County Kildare LEADER Partnership to assist CF to prioritise, plan and action these areas
<i>For example by:</i> – Developing a website – Community Centre, focus on providing information on what is going on – Youth Space – information on what is happening (additions from consultation)				
(b) Work towards the provision of a sustainable, town wide, Community Centre with a dedicated youth space.	(note: Teach Dara & Youth Space)			

Enterprise & Employment

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(a) Introduce support, advice and education for parents	Managing Unemployment: Supports & Options 2/11/10 Community familiar with information points in Kildare (see Appendix 3) Relevant Kildare statistics available Training Needs Analysis	AIT Employment sub-committee.	Employment sub-committee set up Impact of changes in the economy noted Noted that not all services, training will be available in Kildare Town	1. Provide information on unemployment levels, job seekers, one parent families etc. 2. Continue to assess potential for Kildare due to changes in FÁS and VEC
(b) Increase the variety of adult education courses within the town and seek to provide childcare to facilitate participation	Increased variety of (needs based) adult education courses Improved related childcare if required	VEC CCC & CF (previous partners)	VEC involvement in sub-group noted Clarity on relevant current childcare	3. VEC to provide list of current courses 4. VEC to consult with CF 5. Community Forum to clarify the current relevant childcare provision with the Childcare Committee to include: after school, Family Resource Centres
(c) Employment Options Training Programme aimed at under 25's started 26th October 2010 in Kildare Business Park	16 Participants trained in employment/ further education options, personal development, computers by early 2011	FÁS & Employment Sub-Com	In-place	6. Review waiting list and examine education/job paths of trainees post training and add to TNA for town.

Enterprise & Employment

(Continued)

Project	Expected Outcome (2 yrs)	Lead Support	Progress & Information	Actions
(d) Development of High Profile Horticulture programme	Training Programme in place delivering high level horticulture education to c.14 to 18 individuals – Possibility of developing social economy programme post training	FÁS, National Stud/ Japanese Gardens & Employment Sub-Com	Agreement in principle with Stud CEO and FÁS – meeting to discuss outline programme in 2011	7. ISP Coordinator to support the partnership between Stud & FÁS and support with additional partners as required.
(e) Examine possibility of training programme based on retro-fitting and sustainable energy to involve those recently redundant from construction industry	Training programme does or does not go ahead depending on research	Employment Sub-Committee & Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland	For discussion at Employment Sub Committee	8. ISP Coordinator to support
Additional Areas from Consultation:	There are a range of VEC courses but we should ask people what they want e.g. if the demand for start your own business course is high amongst the people who are newly unemployed	LEADER Partnership in conjunction with Employment Subgroup		

Appendix 1

AIT Membership

- Kildare Town Community Forum - Mario Corrigan
- Kildare Town Community Forum - Donna Hill
- Kildare Town Chamber of Commerce - Michael McWey
- Kildare Community Education Partnership - Aidan McKeon (Chair)
- HSE - Marie Faughey
- FÁS - Grainne Cassidy
- Garda Síochána - Inspector Kevin Lavelle / Sergeant John Flaherty
- Co Kildare VEC - Michael Byrnes
- Dept Social Protection - Joan Piggott
- Kildare County Council - Breda Gleeson
- County Kildare Leader Partnership - Pat Leogue
- South Western Regional Drugs Task Force - Lisa Baggott
- Elected Council Member represented on CDB - Suzanne Doyle

Appendix 2

Elderly Groups include:

- Age Action
- Vincent De Paul
- Scheme in Carnew
- Carers Association
- KCEP Buddy System
- KCEP Grandparent course
- Aging Well Network
- Sports Partnership

Appendix 3

Information points include:

Kildare

- Kildare Local Employment Service Network - Bridge Street
- Kildare Job Club (including monthly presentation by Joan Piggott of Dept Social Protection on welfare entitlements) - Bridge Street
- Citizens Information Centre Outreach (First Tuesday of each month) - Kildare Town Library
- Teach Dara Kildare - 2012 onwards
- Open Days (Euro Spar as notified)
- Kildare Library - Claregate Street
- Aras Bhríde - Parish Centre

Newbridge

- FÁS

“The softer less measurable outcomes include the interagency work at the heart of the AIT, the enhancement of relationships, sharing of information and the building of trust between those involved”