

LCDC Consultation – 20th September 2015

SWOT ANALYSIS & DEVELOPMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

	HIGH LEVEL GOALS	SWOT - Observations	EMERGING OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS
G1	<p>Population</p> <p><i>Kildare will build on and respond to the opportunities and challenges presented by significant population growth, notably at younger levels, increasing ethnic diversity and an increasingly urbanised county</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strength: ➤ Weakness: ➤ Opportunities: ➤ Threats: 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disseminating and using the LECP Baseline (AIRO) Report as an evidence base for decision making by a wide range of service providers within the county. 2. Using the Data hub to track the socio-economic profile of the county and the need for a researcher to be employed to carry out this work. 3. Key Agencies to be consulted in ongoing use of the Kildare Data Hub to ensure it develops and is tailored and functional for purpose. 4. To address the needs for persons granted refugees status within both orientation centres and longer-term accommodation within the

			<p>county (using the lessons learnt from the Sudanese re-housing program within the county)</p> <p>5. We need to manage the pace of growth as a key economic driver for the region. We should not develop the county unless the infrastructure is committed and in place e.g. schools, facilities, services</p>
G2	<p>Urban/Rural Mix in the GDA</p> <p><i>Recognise the diversity and contrasting nature of the County's environmental, social and economic and profile and to identify strengthen and enhance the service levels, employment and educational opportunities within the GDA and in urban and rural Kildare</i></p>	<p>➤ Strength:</p> <p>➤ Weakness:</p> <p>➤ Opportunities:</p> <p>➤ Threats:</p>	<p>1. To use the evidence base and LECP plan to actively inform the Action Plan for Jobs (APJ), Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) and the National Planning Framework (NPF) which are all due to be prepared over the next 2 years.</p> <p>2. Use evidence base to show that the perception that that urban Kildare has a sufficient supply of local employment with FDI's.</p> <p>3. Immigration issues – identifying that rural Kildare needs assistance to ensure that any increase in immigration is supplemented with additional services (e.g. new/additional</p>

			educational programs)
G3	<p>Economic and Employment Profile</p> <p><i>Actively promote, support and enable economic activity, business development and employment in Kildare building on its' core strengths while responding to identified challenges</i></p>	<p>➤ Strength:</p> <p>Location to Dublin, the airport, the port, et</p> <p>Access to education, especially in the north-east</p> <p>Transport infrastructure</p> <p>High % of SME's creating diversity</p> <p>Young age profile</p> <p>Existing FDI profile as a draw for more investment</p> <p>➤ Weakness:</p> <p>Non- integration of separate strategies and economic groups</p> <p>Leakage of jobs and employers to Dublin</p> <p>Low service base affects long term choices</p> <p>Weaker service base of smaller towns</p>	1)

		<p>Working wage is lower than Dublin</p> <p>➤ Opportunities:</p> <p>Addressing infrastructure deficits and time lags</p> <p>Promotion of general healthy socio-economic profile</p> <p>Young, highly educated workforce</p> <p>The dynamic nature of Maynooth university</p> <p>More local employment in Rural Kildare</p> <p>Undervalued Tourism given our strategic location</p> <p>Energy supply potential of rural Kildare</p> <p>The potential of the unemployed construction sector</p> <p>➤ Threats:</p> <p>Over dependence on big 14 employers</p> <p>Dominance of Dublin as an economic and employment hub</p> <p>Time lag of infrastructure delivery</p>	
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		Lack of national funding and local autonomy to deliver infrastructure	
G4	Housing <i>Clearly identify and plan responses to a range of housing issues experienced in Kildare to strengthen the economic and community development of the county</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strength: ➤ Weakness: ➤ Opportunities: ➤ Threats: 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver housing in a flexible way – linked to needs e.g. high quality apartments for young, mobile workforce 2. Proactive way to help build programmes get underway especially to ensure that housing lists are reduced 3. Sustainable communities with mixed housing developments are required. (Cul na Knoc Kildare Town is an example of a small mixed development that is very positive). This helps to destigmatise social housing 4. Children with disabilities need to be catered for. (Given our young demographic higher levels of disabled children) 5. Look at South Dublin models that respond to crisis housing. 6. Retrofitting – apartment blocks / small units to bring to a higher standard and makes them attractive options for downsizing and single people/couples 7. Minimum standards must be adhered to.

G5	<p>Education</p> <p><i>Actively plan, facilitate and encourage the development of opportunities for participation in continuous education at all life cycle stages</i></p>	<p>➤ Strength:</p> <p>Access to 3rd level education – Maynooth, Dublin, Carlow – with good infrastructure</p> <p>High % of 3rd level attainment</p> <p>A strong history of educational attainment that can be reinforced</p> <p>➤ Weakness:</p> <p>High average numbers in primary school classes</p> <p>3rd level numbers are falling off in more recent years</p> <p>Too much focus on 3rd level and less on technical skills development</p> <p>No technical institute in the county</p> <p>➤ Opportunities:</p> <p>Planning process can help deliver a better education system.</p> <p>Links with important private sector enterprises –</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Audit the skill set of the unemployed in the county to inform a strategy for reemployment or retraining (ETB and Business Community/Chambers of Commerce) 2. To carry out further work using the LECP evidence base to identify specific gaps and spatial variations that can be addressed through the ETB’s strategy review to include their new roles in delivering local based modularised education programs (e.g. new apprenticeships in engineering and accountancy). 3. To create a new network (ETB, Chamber of Commerce and LEO) that identifies supply and demand for training and educational needs at different levels in the county; FDI’s, SME’s, Micro enterprises, apprenticeships. 4. To create a structured network with the Department of Social Protection (DSP) to allow local information and evidence base to be used to inform their decision making. Information sources to be provided from ETB, Local

		<p>Intel, HP, Kerry Group, Oral B, Pfizer.</p> <p>A new technical institute in the county's</p> <p>A home for multi-denominational and foreign language education centres...campus</p> <p>More Outdoor education centres specific to or rural environment, as per our Equine examples</p> <p>➤ Threats:</p> <p>Not meeting current and future demand for education</p> <p>Non-integration of non nationals into the existing education system</p> <p>Demand for student accommodation and under supply</p>	<p>Employment Services (LES) and LEADER.</p> <p>5. To address the educational needs for specific scenario's, orientation centres and longer-term accommodation for persons granted refugees status within the county</p> <p>6. Increase the role of the libraries in supporting literacy and numeracy. Increase opening hours to facilitate greater use of these resources.</p>
<p>G6</p>	<p>A Commuting County</p> <p><i>Actively plan, facilitate and encourage more sustainable transport patterns, from a local to a national perspective, both within and through the county</i></p>	<p>➤ Strength:</p> <p>➤ Weakness:</p>	<p>1. Transport</p> <p>Huge gaps in rural transport in Kildare</p> <p>School completion programmes, homework clubs etc. are generally not attended by those from rural areas because of lack of transport</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Opportunities: ➤ Threats: 	
<p>G7</p>	<p>Health and wellbeing</p> <p><i>Strengthen the capacity of Kildare to respond to current and future health needs and to provide opportunities for healthy communities across the county</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strength: ➤ Weakness: ➤ Opportunities: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Threats: 	
G8	<p>Safe Communities</p> <p><i>Facilitate and support state agencies, communities and organisations to make Kildare a safer place to live and run businesses</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strength: ➤ Weakness: ➤ Opportunities: ➤ Threats: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪
G9	<p>Children and Young People</p> <p><i>Strengthen the growth and</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strength: 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mental Health

	<p><i>development of children and young people across the county particularly those that are most vulnerable</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Weakness: ➤ Opportunities: ➤ Threats: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More focus needed on 17-25 yr olds. ○ NEET category ○ Further roll out of Mojo <p>2. Early school leavers ‘this is a serious problem in Kildare’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trend is young people not doing anything ○ No alternatives for early school leavers ○ Youthreach long waiting lists ○ An alternative learning programme needs to be developed for non-academic young people who are too young for employment ○ Discussions ongoing in ETB about developing youth generation programme for 16-25 age group <p>3. Kildare is lagging behind on evidence based programmes for young people</p> <p>4. Kildare doesn’t have the large voluntary organisations for young people, e.g.</p>
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			<p>Barnardos</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Kildare only starting to catch up with number of Education Welfare Officers 6. Lack of education supports for Traveller children (Traveller teaching support is gone) 7. Significant number of Roma children in Kildare 8. Direct provision centres in Kildare (co-ordination for children required)
<p>G10</p>	<p>Community, Recreation, Arts & Culture</p> <p><i>Stimulate, support and activate a diverse range of community, recreation, arts and cultural experiences</i></p>	<p>➤ Strength:</p> <p>➤ Weakness:</p>	<p>1. An agreed model of best practice for community centres that focuses on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustainability ○ Funding streams ○ Capacity building for

		<p>➤ Opportunities:</p> <p>➤ Threats:</p>	<p>volunteers/centre boards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strong organisational, financial, administrative skills <p>2. Family Resource Centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least another 3 needed in Kildare (comparable to other counties) ○ Need to be fully staffed ○ Transport is a factor for rural communities <p>3. Library</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opening hours are an issue – not flexible for working parents <p>4. Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Communications and information in relation to the Arts is very weak in Kildare ○ A communications strategy is needed from the Arts Office. Hearing about things after they have occurred ○ An integrated information hub – link
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			to kildare.ie
G11	<p>Environmental Quality</p> <p><i>Enhance and protect Kildare's natural environment through active environmental management of our biodiversity and natural heritage and to ensure that steps are taken to address economic threats from climate change.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strength: ➤ Weakness: ➤ Opportunities: ➤ Threats: 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concern in relation to the sustainability of the public waste system in Kildare given population growth/increase – needs to be monitored 2. Concern that Kildare has the 4th lowest number of civic amenity centres given the level of waste. Communications/publicity is required in relation to where they are and what you can use them for. 3. Kildare is doing well as a county in terms of managing household waste. Important to get the information out to children in schools to keep it up etc. A schools education programme on the benefits of waste efficiency could be set up for schools. 4. Would like to see more about wildlife / threatened species in the LECP (ref. Irish Wildlife Conservation, Bird Watch Ireland) 5. Significant lack of wind turbines in Kildare – promotion on the benefits for the public

			could be a first step.
G12	<p>A Sustainable County</p> <p><i>Actively plan, promote and facilitate the sustainable development of Kildare through growth and employment in a local green economy, promote energy efficiency, sustainable renewable energy the circular economy by maximising resources and minimising waste.</i></p>	<p>➤ Strength:</p> <p>Our FDI's are market leaders in sustainability and can provide advice and learning for the county</p> <p>Healthy BER ratings of the housing stock</p> <p>Rural environment is a resource for creating renewable energy (e.g. bio-digesters)</p> <p>➤ Weakness:</p> <p>Unsustainable of current dominant transport modes</p> <p>High prices of rail services</p> <p>Lack of park and ride facilities</p> <p>➤ Opportunities:</p> <p>More sustainable transport modes can be used more often</p> <p>Provision of local district heating systems for</p>	

	<p>smaller settlements</p> <p>Potential use of aquifers to provide more geo-thermal energy</p> <p>Investment in the Green economy</p> <p>Maynooth Universities centre for wave energy research – local spin offs can be harnessed</p> <p>Importance of our agricultural lands for local food production within the GDA (food security)</p> <p>Opportunity for our waste management sites to have green economy spin offs (case studies available)</p> <p>Good quality environment and the attractiveness to a high quality of life</p> <p>➤ Threats:</p> <p>Over dependence on fossil fuels</p> <p>Changing weather patterns and impacts on local businesses</p> <p>Environmental legislations impacts on local economy</p> <p>Negative impacts on our biodiversity (e.g. pesticides and decreasing bee population)</p>	
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