

**2020 LECP Annual Action Plan - COLLATED RESPONSES – Quarter 4**

**1. Wellbeing**

**SCO 1.1 To reduce the levels of poverty being experienced**

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>What work programmes in your agency relate to the action</b>	<b>What Specific Progress on actions have been achieved since the last quarter</b>	<b>What barriers/limitations are you experiencing with the action</b>	<b>Will the action be achieved by year end, if not, why not.</b>
1.1.1 – Early Intervention(Joint Lead with HSE)	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify the areas and communities where the concentration of poverty and social exclusion is highest.</li> <li>Identify two communities experiencing high levels of child poverty, within which to develop and implement and Area Based Approach Childhood Programme. This will involve early intervention with children and families in disadvantages areas to ensure basic needs are met and to improve outcomes for children and young people and their parents / families, enhance supports for service providers and further develop interagency cooperation. This will be a community led initiative, supporting the implementation of Vetter Outcomes Brighter Futures.</li> <li>DSP will continue to support low income families through income and other supports.</li> </ul>	Community Alliance Navan (CAN) SICAP initiative is targeting the most disadvantaged housing estates in Navan and working with local community groups to build capacity locally and address issues of poverty and exclusion.	Community outreach office has been established in Oaklawns Navan and we continue to deliver a variety of programmes and services specifically targeting poverty and social exclusion. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, community activities were moved online and continue to be delivered this way throughout quarter 3 & 4. The outreach office has proven very beneficial for one to one meetings throughout the restrictions of Q4. Throughout Q1 & 2 and into Q3 Meath Partnership coordinated the Meath Food Initiative providing weekly food hampers to 120 families across Co. Meath specifically targeting low-income families.	Q4 – Due to the restrictions imposed in Q4 group activities have not been permitted and this has meant that some members of the community who do not have adequate internet connection or technology have been harder to reach.	Yes
1.1.1 – Early Intervention(Joint Lead with Meath Partnership)	HSE in its Early Intervention Department are exploring new initiatives to support young children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify the areas and communities where the concentration of poverty and social exclusion is highest.</li> <li>Identify two communities experiencing high levels of child poverty, within which to develop and implement and Area Based Approach Childhood Programme. This will involve early intervention with children and families in disadvantages areas to ensure basic needs are met and to improve outcomes for children and young people and their parents / families, enhance supports for service providers and further develop interagency cooperation. This will be a community led initiative, supporting the implementation of Vetter Outcomes Brighter Futures.</li> <li>DSP will continue to support low income families through income &amp; other supports</li> </ul>	<p>The HSE services are continuously working to target particular areas of disadvantage for children &amp; families throughout Co. Meath..</p> <p>The HSE continue to work with the Interagency Working Group on the Irish Refugee Resettlement Programme.</p> <p>Ongoing work with Asylum Seeker Population and Traveller Health.</p> <p>Ongoing work with children &amp; families</p>	During 2018 and 2019 a number of families have been resettled in Co. Meath under the Irish Refugee Resettlement Programme, with further resettlements planned for Q1 2020. A number of Breastfeeding Support Groups have been established.	HSE Recruitment Pause 2020. Covid 19 Pandemic impacting on HSE Service Provision from March, 2020. All Primary Care Services with exception of Priority 1 have been suspended from March, delivery of these services has commenced a gradual return from Sept, 2020 onwards. Covid Restrictions are being taken into	Ongoing Work in this area

					consideration in this return.  Non Pay Expenditure Controls 2020.	
1.1.2 – Income Adequacy	DSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement a preventative programme to build budget management skills at an early age, including a life skills programme to be delivered through the schools that would prepare young people for independent living.</li> <li>• Develop interagency action to address money lenders and provide access to alternative sources of credit.</li> <li>• Develop supports for people who are constrained by mortgage debt.</li> <li>• Provide education/awareness raising about the Mortgage to Rent and other schemes.</li> <li>• Roll out of personal micro-credit scheme by Credit Union to help eligible borrowers to access low-cost credit, thus combating moneylenders.</li> </ul>	<p>Community Welfare Clinics operate throughout the county in the following locations:-</p> <p>Dunboyne, Enfield, Trim, Athboy, Navan, Kells, Oldcastle, Mosney.</p>	<p>In Q4/2020 the Covid-19 restrictions alternated between Level 3 and Level 5, with significant movement of people in and out of the paid employment as the Levels changed. In terms of income adequacy during the Covid 19 crises, DSP provides a range of supports, including the Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP), Jobseekers Benefit/Allowance to those who are laid off temporarily; and an Enhanced Illness Benefit for those who have to restrict their movements as a result of Covid 19. People who are unable to pay their rent as a result of temporary layoff can avail of Rent Allowance as a result of the special measures introduced to support residential tenancies.</p>		Ongoing
1.1.3 Enhanced Evidence Based Service Provision	MCC - Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustain, and keep up to date, a socio-economic profile of County Meath that would make use of census and other sources of data to present a comprehensive, accessible report on the county. The profile would be repeated for census periods and would make all data available at county, ED and SAP level.</li> <li>• Produce, and keep up to date, a gap analysis that maps the services to those experiencing poverty in the county and identifies where gaps in services exist.</li> <li>• Provide ongoing training to those in key positions within the statutory, community and voluntary sectors on the collation and analysis of a range of data sources that contribute to maintaining high quality socio-economic data</li> </ul>	<p>LECP/SICAP/LEADER/Economic strategy/Social Housing plan/Co Development Plan/Age Friendly strategy/JPC workplan/Clar/Town &amp; Village /CEP scheme /Healthy Ireland/ Outdoor recreational &amp; Covid measures etc funding programmes.</p>	<p>Spatial Insight solutions/Maynooth University continue to upload the stats into the Economic &amp; community monitor tool. This tool is available to the public on <a href="http://www.meath.ie">www.meath.ie</a>. Tool used extensively for strategies &amp; plans and stats when required.</p>	Some due to Covid.	Ongoing as statistics updated on a quarterly basis by Spatial Insight Solutions/AIRO including data on Covid. Contract in place to receive updates.

**SCO 1.2 Increased levels of employment and employability**

1.2.1 New Opportunities for the long term unemployed	DSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An inter-agency Employment and Enterprise Task group will be established to develop a range of actions, supports and services to ensure that long-term unemployed people benefit from the developments on foot of the economic strategy.</li> <li>Steps would be taken ensure training provision to the diverse groups that make up the long-term unemployed and the unemployed is matched with new opportunities in initiatives such as the Boyne Valley Hub, High Tech Campus and tourism.</li> <li>Steps would be taken to ensure access for diverse groups to training and employment services by taking account of and addressing the particular needs, experience and situation of these groups, in particular people with disabilities, Travellers, migrants, carers, lone parents and women.</li> <li>DSP will open an Intreo Service across two offices in Navan. DSP will continue to engage with unemployed people in a timely manner and support customers into employment, training and further education via Intreo, JobPath &amp; the Job Club, and will identify suitable individuals to avail of SICAP. DSP will continue to engage with employers to publicise job vacancies via Jobsireland.ie, support recruitment of suitable employees, and will provide financial support to employers through JobsPlus.</li> </ul>	Customised one to one employment support service being provided to all jobseekers via the Intreo Centre in Navan and outreach facility in Kells and Trim	A team from DSP supported the Careers Expo in the Ardboyne Hotel Meath on 2 <sup>nd</sup> October by providing a 1-2-1 CV & Guidance service for all in attendance throughout the day. The event was promoted to all Jobseekers on the Live Register through mailshot / texts. 117 Group Information Sessions held in Navan, Kells and Trim throughout 2020 with almost 3,000 unemployed people invited to attend. Over 1,700 attended and were supported through the Activation process. Activation Services were suspended in November 2020, however, individuals wishing to access support can arrange a phone appointment with a Case Officer who will provide assistance in referring to education, training or grant supports.	DSP Activation and Employment Support Services moved away from face-to-face engagement to virtual or phone communication. Due to the reinstatement of Level 5 restrictions, all Activation Services were suspended from end November 2020.	Ongoing
1.2.1 New Opportunities for the long term unemployed	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An inter-agency Employment and Enterprise Task group will be established to develop a range of actions, supports and services to ensure that long-term unemployed people benefit from the developments on foot of the economic strategy.</li> <li>Steps would be taken ensure training provision to the diverse groups that make up the long-term unemployed and the unemployed is matched with new opportunities in initiatives such as the Boyne Valley Hub, High Tech Campus and tourism.</li> <li>Steps would be taken to ensure access for diverse groups to training and employment services by taking account of and addressing the particular needs, experience and situation of these groups, in particular people with disabilities, Travellers, migrants, carers, lone parents and women.</li> <li>DSP will open an Intreo Service across two offices in Navan. DSP will continue to engage with unemployed people in a timely manner and support customers into employment, training and further education via Intreo, JobPath &amp; the Job Club, and will identify suitable individuals to avail of SICAP. DSP will continue to engage with employers to publicise job vacancies via Jobsireland.ie, support recruitment of suitable employees, and will provide financial support to employers through JobsPlus.</li> </ul>	Community Coaching/Education/Training Programmes	Community coaching programme is currently in the promotional stage: a promotional video for a higher level of engagement and recruitment of a new cohort of community coaches is currently being promoted. This video also aims to increase awareness and profile of Meath LSP and the Community Sports Hub specifically and raise awareness of community programmes and upskilling and employment opportunities for the unemployed.	Covid-19 is a barrier to the course being held on a face to face basis with NGB's delivering training and education courses.	Promotional video and recruitment will be completed by year end. Training and education will not be completed by year end due to Covid-19.
1.2.2 – Empower the Long-Term Unemployed(Joint Lead with DSP & MERAN)	DSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Centre for the Unemployed to enable long-term unemployed people and unemployed people to identify and respond to structural issues they face. It will serve as a base to provide welcoming, effective and inclusive support services governed by unemployed people. It will inform the development of new access routes to education, training, and employment to respond to the diversity of the long-term unemployed including lone parents, people with disabilities, Travellers, and carers. Unemployed people will be supported to identify their own ambitions, needs and the supports they require.</li> </ul>	Provision of a streamlined service offering practical and tailored employment services and supports to jobseekers and employers alike.	No progress	Not within the DEASP remit.	

1.2.2 – Empower the Long-Term Unemployed (Joint Lead with DSP & MERAN)	LMETB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Centre for the Unemployed to enable long-term unemployed people and unemployed people to identify and respond to structural issues they face. It will serve as a base to provide welcoming, effective and inclusive support services governed by unemployed people. It will inform the development of new access routes to education, training, and employment to respond to the diversity of the long-term unemployed including lone parents, people with disabilities, Travellers, and carers. Unemployed people will be supported to identify their own ambitions, needs and the supports they require.</li> </ul>	<p>The Adult Education Guidance Service provides information and guidance to all including those who are unemployed. This is a free service which provides advice and information to all those who wish to examine the progression opportunities which may be available to them. LMETB provide a free and impartial service, to all who request it, and advise in relation to all potential upskilling and reskilling opportunities, not just those delivered by LMETB.</p> <p>The Meath Adult Guidance and Information Service (MAEGS) provides free outreach clinics across the county, including Athboy, Trim, Kells, and Ashbourne, in addition to the main centre in Navan. Progression opportunities within the ETB include the Back to Education (BTEI) part-time programme, full-time programmes under VTOS and the PLC colleges. The Regional Skills and Training Centre (RSTC) provides full time programmes, traineeships and apprenticeships. The DSP provides the INTREO centres. LMETB meets regularly with DSP to discuss initiatives and address any issues. The Adult Literacy service also provide English language and literacy supports.</p>	<p>The response to Covid 19 was swift, with MAEGS providing virtual clinics, across a range of platforms, with immediate effect. A dedicated helpline was set up and manned with fully trained staff. In addition, once initial restrictions eased, the MAEGS reception area was modified to facilitate pre-planned face to face meetings in a safe and socially distanced manner.</p> <p>The LMETB Guidance Service has continued to work in close collaboration with the DEASP and Intreo. Tailored advice and information and information has continued to be provided for those on the live register. During 2020, LMETB responded swiftly to the needs of those unexpectedly out of work due to the COVID 19 pandemic. 'Skills to compete' courses were promptly made available, to specifically address the needs of those unexpectedly on the PUP payment. Reskilling and upskilling opportunities were provided, through remote learning courses and programmes, in order to strengthen the skills base of those whose jobs were adversely impacted.</p>	Covid 19 has had an impact on face to face interaction. Virtual platforms have been used to great effect, however, in addition to dedicated helplines and face to face contact in a socially distanced manner when legally allowed to do so.	Ongoing
1.2.2 – Empower the Long-Term Unemployed(Joint Lead with DSP & MERAN)  No update provided for Q4	SIPTU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Centre for the Unemployed to enable long-term unemployed people and unemployed people to identify and respond to structural issues they face. It will serve as a base to provide welcoming, effective and inclusive support services governed by unemployed people. It will inform the development of new access routes to education, training, and employment to respond to the diversity of the long-term unemployed including lone parents, people with disabilities, Travellers, and carers. Unemployed people will be supported to identify their own ambitions, needs and the supports they require.</li> </ul>	No Action taken as yet			
1.2.3 – Access to Entrepreneurship(Joint Lead with Meath Partnership)	LEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop programmes of support to encourage women’s entrepreneurship, migrant entrepreneurship and Traveller entrepreneurship, to address the particular barriers they face, and to mobilise the particular potential they offer.</li> <li>Develop a social enterprise programme with a capacity to engage, support and enable entrepreneurs, from among the long-term unemployed and other groups experiencing inequality, to establish enterprises that combine goals of economic gain with social benefit.</li> <li>Enhance the capacity of LEO to develop broader access to mentoring services for social, micro, and small enterprises established by people from</li> </ul>	The LEO 2020 Plan shows an increase in the level of funding available for both financial incentives for start-up companies and training and development initiatives for would be business owners and existing business owners. The LEOs nationally have in place a formal agreement with the DSP to encourage entrepreneurship,	<p>The Start Your Own Business Programme has moved online and is extremely well attended with waiting lists.</p> <p>The Women in Business Network in association with Meath Chamber is gone virtual and a new Meath Business Owners Network has also</p>	None	Yes

		<p>communities experiencing inequality and disadvantage. There is a high level of demand on the mentoring services of LEO. This demand will be met to ensure access to entrepreneurship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a programme of support for business, enterprise and employment through the Library Service on foot of the learning from their current Business, Enterprise and Employment project and make specific links for this programme to this activity.</li> <li>• DSP will continue to support unemployed people into self-employment through the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance and other supports.</li> </ul>	<p>particularly through the back to Work Enterprise Scheme. This is working effectively locally through the Start Your Own Business programme. Mentoring services are available to all micro businesses in the region. The remit of the LEO does not allow support for purely social enterprises, however if there is a commercial element to the enterprise the LEO are happy to provide support.</p>	<p>launched in January 2021.</p> <p>LEO has moved all of it's suite of training programme and mentoring clinics online since 2020 and will continue to add to this range of programme, introducing more in the area of capability building and innovation.</p>		
1.2.3 – Access to Entrepreneurship(Joint Lead with LEO)	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop programmes of support to encourage women's entrepreneurship, migrant entrepreneurship and Traveller entrepreneurship, to address the particular barriers they face, and to mobilise the particular potential they offer.</li> <li>• Develop a social enterprise programme with a capacity to engage, support and enable entrepreneurs, from among the long-term unemployed and other groups experiencing inequality, to establish enterprises that combine goals of economic gain with social benefit.</li> <li>• Enhance the capacity of LEO to develop broader access to mentoring services for social, micro, and small enterprises established by people from communities experiencing inequality and disadvantage. There is a high level of demand on the mentoring services of LEO. This demand will be met to ensure access to entrepreneurship.</li> <li>• Develop a programme of support for business, enterprise and employment through the Library Service on foot of the learning from their current Business, Enterprise and Employment project and make specific links for this programme to this activity.</li> <li>• DSP will continue to support unemployed people into self-employment through the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance and other supports.</li> </ul>	<p>In 2020, Meath Partnership is providing entrepreneurship supports under the SICAP Meath Employment Service and continues to facilitate access for disadvantaged and jobseeker clients to DEASP Back to Work Enterprise Allowance. Through this facilitated service we offer one-to-one business coaching, QQI training and access to local start-up grants.</p>	<p>49 individual jobseekers from disadvantaged backgrounds including migrant, have been supported through the Start your own business course and one to one business coaching in Q3 and Q4.</p>	<p>COVID-19 impacted on the number of referrals received from DEASP throughout the year. However, we continued to offer mentoring supports to clients and 41 have completed the SYOB this year.</p>	Yes

1.2.4 – Access to Opportunity	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement an enabling opportunities initiative that would draw from and expand work being done through SICAP to support individuals to take opportunities in employment, education or personal development. It would be concerned to convert knowledge, skills and experience into earning opportunities by providing resources and supports designed around individual people.</li> <li>Develop initiatives to support groups in Meath to access funding under the positive action measure for women returning to the workforces and women’s entrepreneurship run by the Department of Justice and Equality under the PEIL Operational Programme.</li> </ul>	The SICAP Team continues to offer support services through the Meath Employment Service, Youth Employability Initiative and the Information and Advocacy Service.	112 SICAP clients have been supported through mentoring, advocacy and coaching support in order to be better prepared to enter the labour market throughout the year. During the pandemic emergency period we supported more than 100 clients to access mywelfare.ie and access the pandemic unemployment payment. We also offered 48hours CV service and telephone supports. Continued implementation of the ‘Teach Mná’ Programme addressing the needs of disadvantaged women in Ashbourne, Athboy and Navan.3.1.1	Ongoing uncertainty in relation to the pandemic and its likely impact on employment opportunities for our clients is a worrying trend. Many of the part-time and full-time jobs in the retail, services and hospitality sector will not come back into operation.	Yes
1.2.5 - Progression from Precarious Work - To enable progression for those in precarious work <b>No update provided for Q4</b>	SIPTU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Devise and support new progression paths out of precarious work and inform those in precarious work of these and already existing pathways. Deploy flexibility in creating access routes to new supports for people in low paid and precarious employment. Address the particular obstacles for women to progress out of precarious work.</li> </ul>	No Action taken as yet			
<b>SCO 1.3 To improve health outcomes</b>						
1.3.1 – Community Health Initiatives	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community based initiatives will be stimulated and supported in communities experiencing inequality and disadvantage to enhance access to health services, improve take up of screening services, promote healthy living, and bring health issues of concern within the community to the attention of the health services. Smoking reduction, prevention and reduction of alcohol related harm, healthy eating and active living would be promoted.</li> </ul>	Development of new Primary Care Centres in Navan and Bettystown.  Health Professionals based in Primary Care will routinely promote the Bowel Cancer Screening; Diabetic Retinopathy; Breastcheck and Cervical Check Screening programmes among the population of Co. Meath in collaboration with the National Screening Programmes.	The development of these centres will enhance the provision and development of Primary Care; Disability Services; Mental Health & Palliative Care Services to the population of Navan & East Meath areas.  All therapists working in Primary Care in Meath are being encouraged to undertake the training for Making Every Contact Count. This programme involves healthcare professionals having brief conversations with their patients about behaviour change. The four main risk factors for chronic disease are tobacco; harmful alcohol consumption; physical inactivity and unhealthy eating.	The development of Navan & Bettystown new Primary Care Centres are dependent upon successful outcome of negotiations with all stakeholders to get the projects up and running. The new Bettystown Primary Care Centre is progressing well through the HSE Estates Operational Lease Mechanism. Layouts are signed off by the service. The HSE National Property Review Group approval has been granted. No definite milestones have been agreed at present,	No completion date for new Navan Primary Care Centre development agreed as yet.  Health professionals continue to work with clients on target areas healthy lifestyles.

					however, it is anticipated that this Centre in Bettystown will be operational by Q1, 2022. HSE Estates Department are in active negotiations. Recruitment Pause, 2020. Covid 19 Impact March 2020 Restrictions on non pay expenditure in 2020.	
1.3.1 – Community Health Initiatives	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community based initiatives will be stimulated and supported in communities experiencing inequality and disadvantage to enhance access to health services, improve take up of screening services, promote healthy living, and bring health issues of concern within the community to the attention of the health services. Smoking reduction, prevention and reduction of alcohol related harm, healthy eating and active living would be promoted.</li> </ul>	Promote the benefits of community based sport and physical activity for communities, healthy lifestyles and quality of life in Meath.	Operation Transformation National Walk Operation Motivation Programme. 10 walks organised to coincide with National Walk day - Operation Transformation programme - 405 participants 11 community groups organised 6 week long walking programmes delivering to 140 participants. Planning for national programme in 2021 under way.	N/A	Yes – completed
1.3.2 – County Wide Obesity Initiative(Joint Lead with Meath Sports Partnership)	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and implement a county -wide obesity initiative that will work through the schools, youth clubs and community-based groups to improve access to physical activity will be developed and implemented. There will be a focus on non-competitive sports and recreation and in targeting disadvantaged communities.</li> </ul>	All Primary Care Health Professionals will: - support the delivery of the relevant actions from the HSE's national breastfeeding action plan for 2016-2021 "Breastfeeding in a Healthy Ireland" One in four children are overweight or obese. Six in ten adults are overweight or obese. One in two pregnant women are overweight or obese at booking visit. Three in four adults over 50 are overweight or obese.	Embed the Healthy Weight for Children Framework in Primary Care. All Health Care Professionals are encouraged to undertake the Making Every Contact Count Training and implementation of this message to encourage healthy eating and active living. Dietician services are offered to children and adults. Healthy Ireland have national advertisement campaigns to encourage healthy lifestyles for all.	HSE Primary Care Services will continue to work with the National Chronic Disease Programme to highlight the increasing need for additional Dietician posts within Co. Meath. Demand on Services. Recruitment Pause, 2020. Impact of Covid 19 on service delivery from March, 2020. All Primary Care Services with exception of Priority 1 have been suspended	Ongoing

					from March, delivery of these services has commenced a gradual return from Sept., 2020 onwards. Covid Restrictions are being taken into consideration in this return.  Non Pay Expenditure Controls 2020	
1.3.2 – County Wide Obesity Initiative(Joint Lead with Meath Sports Partnership)	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and implement a county -wide obesity initiative that will work through the schools, youth clubs and community-based groups to improve access to physical activity will be developed and implemented. There will be a focus on non-competitive sports and recreation and in targeting disadvantaged communities.</li> </ul>	Deliver a range of sport and physical opportunities targeted at groups and individual with low participation rates and high sedentary levels	<b>Women in Sports</b> Meet n'Train - 2 face to face taster outdoor exercises sessions delivered over two evenings - suitable for complete beginners and available to 18+.		Ongoing
			Meath Running Group			Completed in Q3
			Men on the Move	Face to Face classes (taster sessions) for men in 3 areas: Navan, Kells and Ashbourne (December)	Challenge to keep men engaged in an activity post programme end; also challenges exist around type of activity	Yes
			Older Adults Projects	<b>Online Classes:</b> Meath LSP provided 2 seated exercise videos per week for 4 weeks. 45 older people registered for the programme. <b>Exercise Video (dvd):</b> Meath LSP linked with 2 tutors to design a DVD for older people which they could complete at home. 4 seated Pilates classes and 4 dance were filmed for the dvd. 2000 copies will be distributed to older people in Meath.	None	Yes

1.3.3 – Mental Health of Young People	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the services of Jigsaw to enable it to meet the demand from young people in the County and to improve understanding of mental illness and information on availability of services to support and respond to individuals, carers and families.</li> </ul>	<p>As a priority under Healthy Ireland, Mental Health and Wellbeing is concerned with promoting the mental wellbeing of the general population including those at risk from, or experiencing mental health difficulties.</p> <p>It aims to strengthen the ability of individuals, families and communities to cope with stressful events that happen in their everyday lives and to reduce the factors that place individuals, families and communities at risk of diminished mental health.</p> <p>Mental Health promotion also seeks to improve the everyday settings (homes; schools; communities and workplaces) where mental health is created, while addressing the broader social; physical and economic environments that determine the mental health of populations and individuals, especially those resulting in mental health inequalities.</p> <p>The development of a National Mental Health &amp; Wellbeing Promotion Plan is a commitment of the Connecting for Life Suicide Strategy. This plan will direct and support the work needed on wellbeing and mental health in the HSE and on a cross-sectoral basis under Healthy Ireland.</p>	<p>The following Action &amp; Targets have been agreed:  Promote infant mental health; continue to deliver "Zippy's Friends" training programme to primary school teachers; Continue to deliver the "Mind Out" programme to post primary school teachers; Continue to deliver identified training to build capacity among staff to promote positive mental health among service users, e.g. Introduction to Youth and Mental Health.</p>	<p>Increasing demand for services.</p> <p>Recruitment Pause, 2020  Impact of Covid 19 on HSE Service delivery from March, 2020 onwards. All Primary Care Services with exception of Priority 1 have been suspended from March, delivery of these services has commenced a gradual return from Sept., 2020 onwards. Covid Restrictions are being taken into consideration in this return.</p> <p>Non Pay Expenditure Controls 2020  Non pay expenditure controls 2020.</p>	Ongoing
1.3.3 – Mental Health of Young People	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the services of Jigsaw to enable it to meet the demand from young people in the County and to improve understanding of mental illness and information on availability of services to support and respond to individuals, carers and families.</li> </ul>	Promote the benefits of community based sport and physical activity for communities, healthy lifestyles and quality of life in Meath	Health and Wellbeing Boards - Meath LSP, Meath GAA and HSE designed health and wellbeing awareness boards to promote awareness on over 15 agencies that can support people of all ages in our community.	None	Yes

1.3.4 – Addiction Services for Young People	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To establish an initiative to address substance misuse among young people that combines treatment and support with enforcement and prevention. Particular attention will be given to providing addiction services to the under 18s. This initiative would be piloted in Trim.</li> </ul>	The Substance Use Service for Teens (SUST) is a HSE under 18 addiction service across Louth & Meath – and the 2 staff already provide supports on an outreach basis across Co. Meath.	This under 18 addiction service takes referrals or self referrals and sees young people in Co. Meath.	There are insufficient resources available at present to extend this service to all areas.  Additional funding is being sought.	These programmes will be ongoing and expanded as resources permit.
1.3.5 – Driver	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To identify a HSE lead person to drive healthy Ireland in the County. This role would include a developmental and policy focus on community health.</li> </ul>	The HSE has appointed a Head of Health and Wellbeing to each of the 9 Community Healthcare Organisations in the country.	Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) 8 which comprises Louth, Meath, Longford, Westmeath, Laois and Offaly have developed a Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018 - 2022.	In particular, there will be a focus on reducing the burden of chronic disease given that half of all people over 50 have at least one chronic condition. A new post of Self Management Support Co-ordinator for Midlands Louth/Meath has commenced Dec., 2017. The appointee will work as a support to the Clinical Teams in targeting Chronic Diseases. Welcome the publication in consultation with HSE of the Healthy Meath Plan 2019 - 2021.	Ongoing.

**SCO 1.4 To Prevent and Reduce Homelessness**

1.4.1 – Social Housing Plan (prevent & reduce homelessness)  No update provided for Q4	MCC- Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and promote the implementation of a social housing and tenancy sustainment plan for the County to meet the needs of the County. This will focus on the needs of those currently homeless and those vulnerable to homelessness. It will also focus on providing supports to maintain tenancies and ensure appropriate accommodation standards.</li> </ul>	Housing	Tenancy Sustainment service continues to be delivered by the Peter McVerry Trust.  Peter McVerry Trust is the Programme Implementer for Housing First in the Mid East Homeless Region (Meath, Kildare, Wicklow). A further two Housing First tenancies were set up in Meath during Q1 2020.	N/A	Yes
1.4.2 – Evidence Base (To increase evidence base for action on housing issue)  No update provided for Q4	MCC – Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake an action based research initiative to identify the range of housing and accommodation issues impacting on people across both the public and private sector. This would provide the evidence base for the development of a comprehensive response to housing and accommodation including a model of support in the County, gaps in services and innovation in response to these issues.</li> </ul>	Existing forums in place that informs policy/strategy in the area of housing, including Regional Homeless Forum, Local Traveller Accommodation Committee, Homeless Action Team, Working Group for Housing People with a Disability, Strategic Policy Committee	Further clarity needed regarding this action and who should lead on same.		N/A

1.4.3 – Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)  No update provided for Q4	MCC – Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise the potential of HAP as a labour activation measure which allows individuals to take up full time employment without losing Housing support.</li> </ul>	Housing	143 HAP tenancies set up during Q1 2020	N/A	Yes
1.4.3 – Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	DSP – Joint Lead with MCC Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise the potential of HAP as a labour activation measure which allows individuals to take up full time employment without losing Housing support.</li> </ul>	Supplementary Welfare Allowance - Rent Supplement Scheme	As a result of Covid 19, DSP is providing temporary support by way of Rent Allowance to people who are unable to pay their rent as a result of temporary layoff. As we move in and out of Level 5/Level 4 restrictions and people return to work, cases are reviewed and anyone who is deemed to have a long term housing need is referred to Meath County Council for HAP		Ongoing
1.4.4 – Tenant Purchase Scheme  No update provided for Q4	MCC – Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise the new Tenant Purchase Scheme to increase home ownership.</li> </ul>	Housing	A total of 33 units acquired via Tenant Purchase Scheme since the Scheme was reintroduced in 2016	Ability of applicants to raise the required finance to acquire properties	Yes
1.4.5 – Social Housing Provision (maximise provision)  No update provided for Q4	MCC – Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise the provision of Social Housing Units through collaboration with the Approved Housing Bodies.</li> </ul>	Housing	Currently 205 AHB units with Departmental approval, representing pipeline delivery for the AHB sector in the County.	N/A	Yes
1.4.6 – A housing NGO (To build greater priority for housing issues and more effective responses through advocacy for homeless people)  No update provided for Q4	MCC – Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a County level non-governmental organisation to bring forward the full range of housing issues for the different groups in the County, to devise and model, as appropriate, innovation in response to these issues, to seek responses to these issues from the appropriate authorities, and to promote and support housing and tenant rights.</li> </ul>	Housing	Further clarity needed regarding this action and who should lead on same.		No

### **SCO 1.5 To increase Perceptions and Experience of Community Safety**

1.5.1 Extend Good Practice-Expand community safety programmes	MCC – Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend the ‘Crime Ambassador’ programme that supports older people to develop crime prevention strategies and extend ‘The Way We Were’ programme that focuses on local older people and young people working jointly on projects throughout the County.</li> <li>Underpin and strengthen the work of the Joint Policing Committees and the development and implementation of the Joint Policing Committee strategy for County Meath.</li> </ul>	LECP/Co Development Plan/Local Area Plans/ Age Friendly strategy/JPC strategy, Healthy Meath strategy/Joint Migrant strategy	JPC committee commenced work plan for 2020 with subgroups meeting virtually due to Covid.	Attendance at JPC meetings can be an issue, with progress slow.	Ongoing and aligns with the JPC action plan.
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### **3. Resilience**

#### **SCO 3.1 To Expand and Strengthen the Community Infrastructure**

3.1.1 Renew our Community Infrastructure	MCC – Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and resource the emergence of new community sector organisations where these are required and the strengthening of existing community sector organisations where this is necessary.</li> </ul>	LECP/SICAP/LEADER/Economic strategy/Co Development Plan/Local Area Plans/ Age Friendly	1000 plus groups registered with the PPN with virtual meetings held by the secretariat to	Trying to maintain commitment by volunteers within	Ongoing work with the PPN groups,
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the establishment of a specific organisation to bring forward the interests of women and a specific organisation to bring forward the interests of people with disabilities.</li> <li>• Support and resource the development and implementation of community plans, area based and group based, through this community sector.</li> <li>• Support and resource a range of development and training opportunities for community sector organisations in areas such as community leadership, community development, and analysis of social issues.</li> <li>• Develop and resource a networking of community sector organisations to promote the sharing of resources, the development of joint policies and projects, new levels and forms of coordination, and the stimulation of new thinking and innovation.</li> <li>• Obtain the necessary resources and employ a team of two community workers that would be directed by an independent steering committee to drive these activities and other activities required.</li> <li>• DSP will continually review Community Employment (CE) Programmes to ensure that outcomes delivered are effective and ensure that CE is flexible in terms of delivering optimum outcomes at a local level</li> </ul>	strategy/JPC action plan/ Healthy Meath strategy/Joint Migrant strategy/PPN work plan	progress their PPN action plan for the year. Progress slow due to Covid restrictions.	groups of the PPN. Difficult to recruit new volunteers onto groups.	secretariat with the assistance of the PPN support workers.
3.1.1 – Renew Our Community Infrastructure(Joint Lead with MCC/LCDC)	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and resource the emergence of new community sector organisations where these are required and the strengthening of existing community sector organisations where this is necessary.</li> <li>• Support the establishment of a specific organisation to bring forward the interests of women and a specific organisation to bring forward the interests of people with disabilities.</li> <li>• Support and resource the development and implementation of community plans, area based and group based, through this community sector.</li> <li>• Support and resource a range of development and training opportunities for community sector organisations in areas such as community leadership, community development, and analysis of social issues.</li> <li>• Develop and resource a networking of community sector organisations to promote the sharing of resources, the development of joint policies and projects, new levels and forms of coordination, and the stimulation of new thinking and innovation.</li> <li>• Obtain the necessary resources and employ a team of two community workers that would be directed by an independent steering committee to drive these activities and other activities required.</li> <li>• DSP will continually review Community Employment (CE) Programmes to ensure that outcomes delivered are effective and ensure that CE is flexible in terms of delivering optimum outcomes at a local level.</li> </ul>	Building Stronger Communities is a SICAP initiative that aims to develop the capacity, skills and core competencies of existing and new local community groups in Co. Meath. Training and capacity building support will be in the thematic clusters of community development, community engagement, advocacy, governance & Charity Regulatory Authority compliance, action-planning, sustainability, and measuring social impact.	One-to-one mentoring support is being provided to 60 community groups. We established Collaboration Space as an online support network for Local Community Groups during the initial restrictions and this has continued on throughout the year. LEADER Grant Aid has been allocated to support the upgrade of community facilities and investment in community projects in County Meath. Investment to Q.4 2020 totalling approx. €1,055,322.71. Projects supported range from outdoor amenities, community facility refurbishment, new facility construction to community development and feasibility studies.	In spite of the COVID-19 restrictions, activities under this Action continued remotely and were mediated by technology.	Yes

3.1.1 – Renew Our Community Infrastructure (Joint Lead with MCC/LCDC)	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and resource the emergence of new community sector organisations where these are required and the strengthening of existing community sector organisations where this is necessary.</li> <li>• Support the establishment of a specific organisation to bring forward the interests of women and a specific organisation to bring forward the interests of people with disabilities.</li> <li>• Support and resource the development and implementation of community plans, area based and group based, through this community sector.</li> <li>• Support and resource a range of development and training opportunities for community sector organisations in areas such as community leadership, community development, and analysis of social issues.</li> <li>• Develop and resource a networking of community sector organisations to promote the sharing of resources, the development of joint policies and projects, new levels and forms of coordination, and the stimulation of new thinking and innovation.</li> <li>• Obtain the necessary resources and employ a team of two community workers that would be directed by an independent steering committee to drive these activities and other activities required.</li> <li>• DSP will continually review Community Employment (CE) Programmes to ensure that outcomes delivered are effective and ensure that CE is flexible in terms of delivering optimum outcomes at a local level.</li> </ul>	Capacity build clubs, schools, communities & NGB's to deliver and sustain a broad range of sport and physical activity programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• x7 Safeguarding 1 workshops delivered to 71 participants</li> <li>• x2 Safeguarding 2 CCO workshops delivered to 21 participants</li> <li>• x1 Sports Injuries First Aid workshop delivered to 12 participants</li> </ul>	None	Yes
3.1.2 Accommodate Our Community Infrastructure	Meath Partnership/ LCDC/LAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map the needs for community based facilities.</li> <li>• Develop and implement a programme to develop community based facilities found to be required including through new builds, adaptation of current facilities, making facilities that are idle at particular times available or refurbishing old buildings, or creating hubs to provide space for community organisation activity.</li> <li>• Make community based facilities available in a manner that is affordable and accessible, allows for pooling of resources between community sector organisations, and addresses the diversity of needs and usages.</li> </ul>	Under the LEADER Programme, we are investing in the renewal of community assets and facilities.	LEADER Grant Aid has been allocated to support the upgrade of community facilities and investment in community projects in County Meath. Investment to Q.4 2020 totalling approx. €1,055,322.71. Projects supported range from outdoor amenities, community facility refurbishment, new facility construction to community development and feasibility studies.	Budgetary limitations had constrained the ability of LEADER to continue its support in respect of community planning, upgrade of existing infrastructure and development of new community amenities. While this issue persisted for both Q.1 and Q.2, a relaxing of these constraints by DRCD in Q.3 has allowed unallocated resources to be fully utilised in the delivery of this objective.	Yes.
3.1.2 Accommodate Our Community Infrastructure	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map the needs for community based facilities.</li> <li>• Develop and implement a programme to develop community based facilities found to be required including through new builds, adaptation of current facilities, making facilities that are idle at particular times available or refurbishing old buildings, or creating hubs to provide space for community organisation activity.</li> <li>• Make community based facilities available in a manner that is affordable and accessible, allows for pooling of resources between community sector organisations, and addresses the diversity of needs and usages.</li> </ul>	Community & Sporting facilities Audit	Ongoing work - number of facility contact list updated per quarter	None	Ongoing

3.1.3 Information on our community infrastructure	MCC – Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An online resource for community sector organisations and other stakeholders that provides up-to- date information on community sector organisations working in different areas and communities; contact points for these organisations; information on different issues and activities that these organisations are engaged in; information on supports available and becoming available for these organisations; and information on issues of concern for these organisations.</li> </ul>	LECP/SICAP/LEADER/Economic strategy/Social Housing plan/Co Development Plan/Local Area Plans/ Age Friendly strategy/JPC workplan/ Healthy Meath strategy/Joint Migrant strategy	This is a continuous action in the new SICAP programme to work with the various youth groups.	To ensure that all youth groups work together and know what services are available. Covid has delayed some measures.	Ongoing under SICAP 2020 plan.
3.1.3 Information on our community infrastructure	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An online resource for community sector organisations and other stakeholders that provides up-to- date information on community sector organisations working in different areas and communities; contact points for these organisations; information on different issues and activities that these organisations are engaged in; information on supports available and becoming available for these organisations; and information on issues of concern for these organisations.</li> </ul>	Develop an online facility management resource pack inclusive of best practice guidelines for sports facility development and programming	Online resource pack		Q3

**SCO 3.2 To Enhance Environmental Protection, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, and Action for Low Carbon Future, and to increase the Range of Transition Activities**

3.2.1 – Community Renewable Energy	MCC – Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a community renewable energy fund and support service.</li> <li>Stimulate and enable local community engagement with renewable energy potential and possibilities for community initiatives in this field.</li> <li>Support a range of locally controlled community led renewable energy initiatives. These initiatives would directly benefit the local community and would not include developer led initiatives.</li> </ul>	MCC Environment Section have teamed up with Trim SEC and are lead partner helping them to prepare an energy masterplan. Batterstown EMP now complete and a number of houses were included in the Dunleer Better Energy Community grant application. A number of other SECs are in the early stages of the process.	Procure framework of energy consultants to prepare Energy Master Plans for SECs, through e-tenders	Resources required	Partly or almost complete by year end
			MCC Environment – Climate Action Team have signed up to include Sustainable Development Goals in their work and This team will now be the Climate Action and SDG Team.	SDGs incorporated in to MCC’s Corporate Plan	Awareness of SDGs among MCC staff	Ongoing
3.2.2- House Retrofits  No update provided for Q4	MCC – Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish, support and resource a social economy enterprise to retrofit houses to raise the</li> <li>BER rating and to improve the heating systems in the homes of people living in poverty.</li> </ul>	Housing	Phase 1 Energy Upgrade works now complete on housing stock of Meath County Council	N/A	Yes
3.2.3 – Community Transport(Joint Lead with NTA)	Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Meath Flexibus to plan for and implement an expansion of its activities.</li> <li>Promote car-pooling and expand with access to bus lanes and with places made available to meet and leave cars.</li> <li>Improve and expand bicycle lanes, in particular on school routes.</li> </ul>	NTA Schemes Milltown Road, Ashbourne; Cantilever Bridge, Navan; Navan GDA Cycle Network & Ratoath Cycleway ; Brindley Park, Ashbourne  Greenway Strategy Projects  RRDF funded schemes	€5.9M allocation for Sustainable Transport Grant Measures in 2020 provided by NTA.  1. Milltown Road – Construction works substantially complete, some minor snagging for early 2021.  2. Navan Cycle Network – Athlumney to Trim Road. Geometric design of Phase	Public resistance to change. Availability of funding and resources. Competing priorities. General increase in consultant and construction rates Covid restrictions having an impact on construction works in some cases	Works will be ongoing - some schemes will take a couple of years to complete from design to construction stage

				<p>1 &amp; 2 has commenced. Site work for Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey is complete. Preliminary design of public lighting for the scheme has been completed. Meeting held with ESB to review in advance of application. Consultation with affected landowners has commenced.</p> <p>3. N52 Kells Footpath and Cycleway (Oldcastle Road – Moynalty Road) – works complete – route open to the public</p> <p>4. Consultants appointed to undertake feasibility study, identified preferred route and obtain statutory approval for Boyne Greenway between Oldbridge House and Navan.</p> <p>5. Boyne Greenway (Drogheda to Mornington) Application made to An Bord Pleanala – extensive list of further information sought by ABP – working on this – will not have a decision until well into 2021.</p> <p>6. Royal Canal Greenway – Signage, waymarking and street furniture being finalised</p> <p>7. Ratoath Cycle Network – Part 8 process ongoing – submissions being looked at following public consultation</p> <p>8. R135 Cycle Network design – feedback received from NTA on the preliminary design</p> <p>The NTA also provided a further €3,105,000 under their Jobs Stimulus Programme 2020 for an approved 38 schemes across all of County Meath for footpath works, pedestrian crossings etc. These are all progressing and are at various</p>		
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				stages with 32 schemes set to be complete or substantially complete by the end of the year.		
3.2.4 – Public Transport (Joint Lead with NTA)	Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a forum for transport users and representative groups will be established to identify and work on issues of accessibility and availability of public transport.</li> <li>Highlight the issues identified in relation to public transport, including issues of accessibility, availability and affordability.</li> <li>Negotiate with the National Transport Authority, Bus Éireann and other relevant companies to address the issues.</li> <li>Highlight issues in relation to public transport infrastructure and accessibility through the community representative on the Transportation SPC.</li> <li>Transportation SPC linkage group to participate in public consultation processes in relation to public transportation strategies.</li> </ul>	Navan 2030 - Bus Interchange - Kennedy Road & Transport Hub Baltrasna - footpath & bus stops Laytown Park & Ride facility Proposal for Taxi Rank in Kells Proposal for Taxi Rank at Aldi in Navan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next phase of new Bus shelters at detailed design stage – will go to tender in early 2021.</li> <li>Navan 2030 – Phase 2 well underway affecting Bridge Street, Abbey Road and Circular Road. Paving works complete at Newgrange Hotel, paving works ongoing at Church retaining wall &amp; Old Infirmary. New kerbing &amp; footpaths installed on Circular Rd junction. Abbey Rd kerbing complete between Cannon Row &amp; Kennedy Rd. Paving works complete on Boreen Keel/Emmett Tce &amp; at Garda Station.</li> <li>NTA provided Allocations for 2020 for the following PT improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pedestrian and Bus stop improvements at Harlockstown</li> <li>Bus Stop Reconstruction – Parochial House Kells – works substantially complete</li> <li>Navan Bus Service Infrastructure - Bus Éireann confirmed commencement of services in December 2020, and advance works carried out to facilitate these, including bus turnabout facility (Gainstown/ Robinstown Crossroads), bus cages (line marking) at stops &amp; erection of bus poles</li> <li>Asset renewal of Laytown Park and Ride – Works substantially complete</li> <li>Cycle parking</li> </ul> </li> <li>Design of 8 wheelchair accessible bus stops in County (3 stops in Navan, 3 stops in Trim, 2 stops in Kells) Project advancing to detailed design stage with Consultants. Utility and topographical survey contractor appointed. Should be ready to tender in Q1 2021, with the</li> </ol>	<p>Funding Availability of staffing resources</p> <p>General increase in consultant and construction rates</p> <p>Disruption to normal traffic impacts on business</p> <p>Taking submissions from the public can result to amendments being required on the provision of some measures</p> <p>Covid restrictions having an impact on construction works in some cases</p>	Design and preparatory works will be ongoing - some schemes will take a couple of years to complete from design to construction stage - Stakeholder engagement on Navan 2030 has commenced with a couple of meetings held

				construction phase commencing in Q2 2021. 5. N51 Park & Ride – Part 8 process ongoing – submissions being reviewed		
3.2.5 – Community Production	Meath Environmental Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support for the further development and tending of community gardens to produce food for a healthy diet, to engage people experiencing social inclusion in ‘growing their own’, to enable healthy eating in disadvantaged communities, and to make productive use of derelict sites and green spaces in these communities.</li> <li>Support microenterprises in food production and processing.</li> </ul>	<p>This action being addressed by the Solas Glan Community Garden, Ardracran, Navan.</p> <p>Not involved in the support of food production enterprises, therefore no progress in this action.</p>	Item to be discussed at next MEN meeting which is scheduled for April (date TBC)	None at present	Ongoing
3.2.5 – Community Production (Joint Lead with Meath Environmental Network)	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support for the further development and tending of community gardens to produce food for a healthy diet, to engage people experiencing social inclusion in ‘growing their own’, to enable healthy eating in disadvantaged communities, and to make productive use of derelict sites and green spaces in these communities.</li> <li>Support microenterprises in food production and processing.</li> </ul>	Educational resources are available through the Health Promotion Department and the Irish Heart Foundation to promote simple healthy meals.	All Health Professionals are being encouraged to "Make Every Contact Count" when engaging with clients to promote healthy lifestyle choices, including nutrition.		Ongoing
3.2.6 – Community Protection of the natural Environment	MCC - Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and implement biodiversity awareness, education and management initiatives within schools, communities and the business sector.</li> <li>Establish a Community Biodiversity Scheme to support the development and implementation of community biodiversity action plans across the County.</li> <li>Stimulate and support the development of more communal nature reserves under this scheme that underpin collective action to protect and enhance biodiversity and provide a focus for educational events.</li> <li>Provide linkages between key green infrastructure resources through multi-functional green corridors which enhance biodiversity, extend access and recreation opportunities.</li> <li>Undertake habitat mapping of the County.</li> </ul>	<p>Progress the implementation of Seven Community Biodiversity Plans – Slane, Ratoath, Longwood, Kells, Rathcairn, Stamullen and Juliantown.</p> <p>Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2020</p> <p>Boyne Valley Field Club Programme 2020 – 4 events to run in 2020</p> <p>Progress actions from the County Swift Survey</p>	<p>Delivery of Community Heritage Grant Scheme for 2020</p> <p>Training for Local Authority Staff in partnership with National Biodiversity Data Centre (Feb 2020)</p> <p>County geology booklet published</p> <p>Swift Conservation Project Nest box project complete in association with Tidy Towns groups and Birdwatch Ireland</p> <p>Online pollinator and citizen workshops held for community groups and the public (n= 9 workshops)</p> <p>Radio campaign with LFM to highlight the importance of nature and actions that can be taken to help biodiversity in your gardens over autumn and winter was developed and rolled out by the Local Authority Heritage Officer Network.</p> <p>Worked with three NGOs to produce highlight short films to encourage people to engage with nature</p>	Restrictions in relation to Covid 19 impacting on community groups and Tidy Towns and Boyne Valley Field Club Spring Activities	All complete except for Boyne Valley Field Club Programme – this was due to Covid 19 Restrictions. However to compensate for that a number of online initiatives and a radio campaign was undertaken.
3.2.7 – Community Environmental Awareness	MCC - Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement an active environmental awareness programme that involves and encourages a community and business participation, including using a community development approach. Test out and apply a community arts approach that engages people in community settings.</li> </ul>	Schools Programme including Green Schools, Really Rubbish Film Festival, Tree Planting Project for Schools, Workshops and Awards	<p>31 Schools were awarded Green Flag Status in 2020.</p> <p>8 Secondary Schools took part in the Rubbish Film Festival Workshops (Awards deferred until 2021)</p>	Covid 19 Restrictions	Partly

				A Green School Seminar took place on line in November. Tree planting projects in schools postponed until 2021.		
			Environmental Campaign including Anti Litter League, Clean Up Navan, Dog Awareness Events	The Anti Litter Initiative was deferred until 2021.  Clean ups have continued throughout the year.  Dog Awareness Events postponed until 2021.	Covid 19 Restrictions	No
			Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund	Applications for 2019 completed and processed, the 2020 Scheme has been deferred until further notice.	Covid 19 Restrictions	Yes
			LAPN Project – What can you do?	Meath Co Co was awarded a grant to establish a Reuse Paint Scheme with the Rediscovery Centre.	Covid 19 Restrictions	On-going
			Anti Dumping Initiative	9 Anti Dumping Initiative (ADI) Projects were undertaken to the value of €190,000 in 2020. All have been completed.	None	Yes
3.2.8 – Drivers for action	MCC - Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appoint a Biodiversity Officer in Meath County Council, within the confines of public sector recruitment policy.</li> <li>Appoint a Sustainability Officer in Meath County Council, within the confines of public sector recruitment policy.</li> </ul>		No progress on this action to date		No Progress on this action to date

**SCO 3.3 To Address the Specific Needs of Particular Groups**

3.3.1 – Young Person’s Strategy(Joint Lead with Youth Work Ireland Meath)	LMETB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a County wide youth strategy to improve the situation, experience and standing of young people and the different groups of young people in the County, including a focus on the development of facilities, support for youth services, and the creation of new opportunities for young people.</li> <li>Link with and integrate the work and plans of the LMETB in this strategy.</li> <li>Obtain the necessary support and employ a team of two community youth workers that would be directed by an independent steering committee to drive the strategy.</li> <li>DSP will engage with other organisations including ETB to support young people back into education and training and will develop programmes to support those furthest from employment into employment through supported employment initiatives.</li> </ul>	LMETB Youth Service          Youthreach Programmes	LMETB Youth Work Plan is complete  LMETB have received approval from DCYA for the Area Profile. This will inform continued funding for current projects and any new projects.  LMETB have been awarded budget for a greenfield site for provision of a new youth service in 2021- purpose is to meet the needs of young people identified in Area Profile Needs Assessment and Service Requirement tool.  LMETB €50,000 committed to a Youth (2019) employability initiative with Meath Partnership  Youth Employability Initiative opening in 2021	Logistics of progressing this approval  Limitations include the fact that the service is available to 15 – 20 year olds however an increasing number of under 15 year olds are presenting for admission to the	Going to print in the coming weeks  Service requirements issuing to existing projects  Ongoing  Ongoing
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					programme.	
3.3.1 – Young Person’s Strategy(Joint Lead with LMETB)	Youth Work Ireland Meath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a County wide youth strategy to improve the situation, experience and standing of young people and the different groups of young people in the County, including a focus on the development of facilities, support for youth services, and the creation of new opportunities for young people.</li> <li>• Link with and integrate the work and plans of the LMETB in this strategy.</li> <li>• Obtain the necessary support and employ a team of two community youth workers that would be directed by an independent steering committee to drive the strategy.</li> <li>• DSP will engage with other organisations including ETB to support young people back into education and training and will develop programmes to support those furthest from employment into employment through supported employment initiatives.</li> </ul>	Meath YouthQuake, group of young people informing Youth Work Ireland Meath Board of Directors of young people’s issues and needs Comhairle na nÓg Representation on Meath CYPSC working group (Connected & respected) Links with LMETB Youth Officers	<p>Consultations continue to take place with young people, council reps, TD’s on lack of appropriate facilities for young people and youth organisations. Invited to submit to the County Development Plan</p> <p>Represented on the LMETB Youth Work Committee. County Youth Plan approved and in action</p> <p>Links with national Involve traveller organisation to begin assessment of traveller service provision within Youth Work Ireland Meath continued</p> <p>Communication with Mosney young people resulted in Mental Health packs being provided and distributed during pandemic</p> <p>Mental Health packs distributed to approx. 400 targeted young people/groups during pandemic supported by funding from DECIDY, MCC, CYPSC</p>	Financial resources, staffing, gathering of up to date data **Covid-19 prevents face to face consultations to follow through on actions	<b>Not without realistic financial resources, Not without a ‘fit for purpose’ youth facility and agency cooperation</b>
			Youth Consultations e.g. Annual Youth Participation Day, online surveys	Youth Work Ireland Meath increased Youth Work staffing hours to 30hrs per week.		
			Youth Consultations eg Annual Youth Participation Day, online surveys	**Consultation took place in 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020 with young people on the LMETB Youth Work Plan		

			Youth Empowered Skills Day with local Business People	38 students from Beaufort College, Loreto Navan and Navan Youth Reach participated in Youth Work Ireland Meath's 'Youth Empowered Skills day' supported by local business people and a national mineral company. Young people learned about how to sell themselves, how to design a business advert, identifying their skills and CV preparation.		
3.3.1 – Young Person's Strategy (Youth Work Ireland Meath Joint Lead with LMETB)	DSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSP will engage with other organisations including ETB to support young people back into education and training and will develop programmes to support those furthest from employment into employment through supported employment initiatives.</li> </ul>		DSP continue to highlight and promote the Youth Employment Support Scheme (YESS). All young people under 25 were invited to events in Navan, Kells, Trim and Drogheda. During 2020 DSP continued to liaise with ETB to ensure access to appropriate training provision people on the live register.		
3.3.1 – Young Person's Strategy	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a County wide youth strategy to improve the situation, experience and standing of young people and the different groups of young people in the County, including a focus on the development of facilities, support for youth services, and the creation of new opportunities for young people.</li> <li>Link with and integrate the work and plans of the LMETB in this strategy.</li> <li>Obtain the necessary support and employ a team of two community youth workers that would be directed by an independent steering committee to drive the strategy.</li> <li>DSP will engage with other organisations including ETB to support young people back into education and training and will develop programmes to support those furthest from employment into employment through supported employment initiatives.</li> </ul>	Promote the benefits of community based sport and physical activity for communities, healthy lifestyles and quality of life in Meath	Supporting work of CYPSC & Jigsaw Meath	N/A	Yes
3.3.2 – Achieving Integration (Joint Lead with Cultúr)	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the re-establishment and operation of the Meath Intercultural Network.</li> <li>Provide seed funding to enable and stimulate the implementation of the Action Plan.</li> <li>Secure and support the participation of Black and minority ethnic representatives in local decision-making structures, in particular the LCDC and the PPN.</li> </ul>	Meath Partnership continues to support the Meath Intercultural Network through the SICAP Integrate Actions and is also contributing to the development of the new county level Integration Strategy	The launch of Meath's new Integration Strategy led by Meath and Louth County Councils and the inaugural meeting of the strategy took place in November.	Unknown – awaiting further details	Ongoing
3.3.2 – Achieving Integration (Joint Lead with Cultúr)	Meath Local Sports Partnership / Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the re-establishment and operation of the Meath Intercultural Network.</li> <li>Provide seed funding to enable and stimulate the implementation of the Action Plan.</li> <li>Secure and support the participation of Black and minority ethnic representatives in local decision-making structures, in particular the LCDC and the PPN.</li> </ul>	Disadvantaged communities programme - Multi Sport Activities, Futsal, Zumba, Cheer Dance, Fitsteps, Basketball, Fundamentals	<b>Basketball</b> - 1 programme X 6 weeks (6 sessions) 12 participants - aged 6-9yrs <b>Buggy Buddies</b> - 1 programme X 2 weeks (2 sessions) 8 participants aged 18yrs+ <b>Cheer Dance</b> - 1 programme X 6 weeks (6 sessions) - 12 participants - aged 6-12yrs <b>Soccer on the Greens</b> - 2 programmes x 6 weeks (12	Some barriers that are being faced is getting young teenage girls to participate in sporting programmes.	Yes

				<p>sessions) - 26 participants - aged 9-12yrs</p> <p><b>Multi-Sport</b> - 1 programme x 6 weeks (6 sessions) - 13 participants - aged 6-12yrs</p> <p><b>Women on the Move</b> - 1 programme X 4 weeks (4 sessions) - 12 participants - aged 18yrs+</p> <p><b>Fun Games</b> - 1 programme x 6 weeks (6 sessions) 19 participants - aged 4-8yrs</p> <p><b>Halloween Multi-Sport Camp</b> - 1 camp over 3 days (3 sessions) - 19 participants - aged 5-12yrs</p> <p><b>Orienteering Event</b> - 1 event over 1 day (1 session) - 14 participants - all ages (families)</p>		
<p>3.3.2 - Achieving Integration is the relevant action</p> <p>No update provided for Q4</p>	Cultúr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the re-establishment and operation of the Meath Intercultural Network.</li> <li>Provide seed funding to enable and stimulate the implementation of the Action Plan.</li> <li>Secure and support the participation of Black and minority ethnic representatives in local decision-making structures, in particular the LCDC and the PPN.</li> </ul>	To increase the capacity of migrants to enable them to acquire more intensive language skills to assist their integration into the workplace.	Continue to support Migrant Forum, Migrant groups and individual on an ongoing basis.	Resources to support more migrants.	Yes, its ongoing
3.3.3 – Achieving Inclusion for People with Disabilities(Joint Lead with Disability Federation of Ireland)	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase supports for disability services in particular to enhance access to personal assistant and home support hours to enable independent living for people with disabilities.</li> <li>Increase supports for the reconfiguration of day services to people with disabilities to secure their full participation in their local communities.</li> <li>Take action to progress the implementation of the Congregated Settings Working Group</li> <li>Report and reduce the number of people with disabilities in these settings in Meath.</li> </ul>	HSE are working with Disability Federation of Ireland to promote inclusion for people with Disabilities	The HSE carry out regular reviews of existing home support hours to disability clients in the region with the view to enhancing where necessary.	Limited resources. Difficulties experienced in providing day services, respite to families due to Covid 19 Restrictions.	Ongoing
3.3.3 – Achieving Inclusion for People with Disabilities(Joint Lead with Disability Federation of Ireland)	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase supports for disability services in particular to enhance access to personal assistant and home support hours to enable independent living for people with disabilities.</li> <li>Increase supports for the reconfiguration of day services to people with disabilities to secure their full participation in their local communities.</li> <li>Take action to progress the implementation of the Congregated Settings Working Group</li> <li>Report and reduce the number of people with disabilities in these settings in Meath. Increase supports for disability services in particular to enhance access to personal assistant and home support hours to enable independent living for people with disabilities.</li> <li>Increase supports for the reconfiguration of day services to people with disabilities to secure their full participation in their local communities.</li> <li>Take action to progress the implementation of the Congregated Settings Working Group</li> <li>Report and reduce the number of people with disabilities in these settings in Meath.</li> </ul>	Sports Inclusion Disability Programmes (SIDP)	<p><b>Inclusive Halloween Camp:</b> 2 day camp with a variety of sports &amp; activities delivered to 10 participants. <b>Run Jump Throw:</b> 6 week Programme rolled out in two areas ( Kells &amp; Navan) with a total of 12 participants taking part in multi activity fun games.</p> <p><b>Zumba Online:</b> 4 week online zumba programme linking Special Hands disability group Kells- 7 participants in total.</p> <p><b>Sport Inclusion &amp; Disability Awareness:</b> Online workshop delivered to 15 participants from clubs/ groups across the county.</p>	Covid-19 was a huge barrier in that numerous programmes had to be cancelled in Q4 due to restrictions.	Yes

3.3.4 – Asylum Responses  No update provided for Q4	Cultúr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish interagency action on the health, education, labour market and training needs of asylum seekers, those with leave to remain, those relocated from other countries, and programme refugees in the County.</li> <li>Identify and respond to the particular needs of those living in direct provision, including targeted support for young people, child centred supports and recreational supports.</li> <li>Resourcing a community work initiative with asylum seekers to support them in representing their issues.</li> </ul>	To support asylum seekers and their families living in Mosney	Ongoing support provided for asylum seekers and their family leaving in Mosney Direct Provision centre	Limited resource to support more residents	Not all actions can be achieved due to lack of resources.
3.3.4 – Asylum Responses	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish interagency action on the health, education, labour market and training needs of asylum seekers, those with leave to remain, those relocated from other countries, and programme refugees in the County.</li> <li>Identify and respond to the particular needs of those living in direct provision, including targeted support for young people, child centred supports and recreational supports.</li> <li>Resourcing a community work initiative with asylum seekers to support them in representing their issues.</li> </ul>				
3.3.5 – Family Carer Supports(Joint Lead with Family Carers Ireland)3.3.4 – Asylum Responses	HSE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the capacity of the Carer’s Association to provide support to family carers by providing for a full-time family carer support officer.</li> <li>Expand the geographical spread of supports for family carers through the County.</li> <li>Expand the supports to family carers, in particular in home respite services, health and information workshops, and the availability of a family carers’ centre.</li> </ul>	The HSE is continuously monitoring the carers supports to families and are seeking alternatives to improve systems in place.	The HSE have liaised with Family Carers Ireland to progress this work	Limited resources.	Ongoing
3.3.5 – Family Carer Supports(Joint Lead with Family Carers Ireland)	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand the capacity of the Carer’s Association to provide support to family carers by providing for a full-time family carer support officer.</li> <li>Expand the geographical spread of supports for family carers through the County.</li> <li>Expand the supports to family carers, in particular in home respite services, health and information workshops, and the availability of a family carers’ centre.</li> </ul>	Active Minds (training support for carers of people presenting with early onset dementia)	Postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions		
3.3.6: Older people in North Meath	MCC – Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish interagency action to build on, expand and enhance current activities to respond to the social, care, cultural, transport, safety, accommodation, social service, and economic needs of older people in the north Meath area.</li> <li>Develop learning from this initiative to expand activities across the County.</li> </ul>	LECP/SICAP/LEADER/Economic strategy/Social Housing plan/Co Development Plan/Local Area Plans/ Age Friendly strategy/JPC workplan/ Healthy Meath strategy/Joint Migrant strategy	These actions identified in the Age Friendly Strategy. We will continue to include this group in new strategies, projects and consultations.	Progress slow during Covid with meetings taking place with OPC virtually.	ongoing
3.3.6: Older people in North Meath	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish interagency action to build on, expand and enhance current activities to respond to the social, care, cultural, transport, safety, accommodation, social service, and economic needs of older people in the north Meath area.</li> <li>Develop learning from this initiative to expand activities across the County.</li> </ul>	Mature Movers Games for Life Active Minds	Exercise video (dvd) will be distributed to older people in North Meath.	None	Yes
3.3.7 – Lone Parents in North Meath	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish interagency action to build on, expand and enhance current activities to respond to the specific needs of lone parents in Navan and in Kells.</li> <li>Develop learning from this initiative to expand activities across the County.</li> </ul>	SICAP programme supports continue to be directed towards this specific target group.	One-to-one support was provided to 32 lone parents this year through SICAP. A number of families have also been supported through the Meath Food Initiative.	None at present	Yes

#### **4. Flourishing**

##### **SCO 4.1 To Reduce Educational Disadvantage**

4.1.1 – Routes to Higher & Further Education	LMETB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct a study on existing routes for people in Meath into further education and on the potential for improving and expanding these routes. location, provision and role of a further education college in the County.</li> <li>Develop and build on the collaboration, outreach and satellite initiatives with existing providers of higher and further education in and near the County in accordance with the study.</li> </ul>	Meath Adult Education Guidance and Information Service, BTEI, VTOS, PLA	<p>MAEGS provide workshops to assist progression through CAO workshops, information on grant application programmes through SUSI and the provision of open days to the various FE and HE centres.</p> <p>A College Preparation Worksop, specifically aimed at mature students, entitled SAIL (Supporting Adults into Learning) provides a week of useful workshops to assist adult learners who are progressing to Further Education or Third Level studies.</p> <p>Linkages have been developed between courses and programmes delivered through FET to facilitate progression to HE. Progression to HE from FE has increased due to the increased partnerships which exist between those in the tertiary education sector.</p>	Transport (lack of and cost) and Childcare (limited places and cost) continue to be educational barriers. In addition one of the major challenges of 2020 has been access to suitable broadband to access remote learning.	Continuous - Evolving and developing to meet required needs
4.1.2 – Forum for Education and Training	LMETB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Forum for Education and Training will be established. It will explore ways to link education and training with labour market opportunities and focus initiatives on the long-term unemployed and people from disadvantaged communities. The Forum will explore innovative approaches to education and training such as establishing a Mobile Learning Unit that could be used to facilitate outreach to communities that cannot access education opportunities. The Forum will develop an education and training plan for the County.</li> </ul>	BTEI and Community Education Service  LMETB (all programmes)	<p>LMETB uses data provided by the census and the Skills and Labour Market Research Unit to link education and training with labour market opportunities and focus initiatives on the long-term unemployed and people from disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>An LMETB mobile training unit has been in existence in Meath for a number of years.</p> <p>As part of the FET Strategy LMETB has developed a 3 year plan for the county and presents a yearly Service plan to SOLAS.</p>	Broadband and Internet coverage, While we have mobile routers coverage in rural areas is poor and routers will not work. This causes difficulty in providing computer Courses in rural areas	Ongoing
4.1.3 – Support the extension of the Yellow Flag initiative throughout the County (Joint Lead with Meath Partnership)	LMETB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend the Yellow Flag initiative within primary and secondary schools in the County with a view to enabling and securing an intercultural environment and practice within these establishments through staff training, school action plans, classroom practice and initiative, and engagement with the wider Black and minority ethnic community.</li> </ul>	All schools are aware of application forms for The Yellow Flag Initiative.	Youthreach centres engage with Show Racism the Red Card competition every year which highlights the needs of minority ethnic groups.		Ongoing
4.1.3 – Support the extension of the Yellow Flag initiative throughout the County (Joint Lead with LMETB)	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend the Yellow Flag initiative within primary and secondary schools in the County with a view to enabling and securing an intercultural environment and practice within these establishments through staff training, school action plans, classroom practice and initiative, and engagement with the wider Black and minority ethnic community.</li> </ul>	No programme funding available in 2018 and not associated with any activities within Meath Partnership.	n/a	No programme funding available in 2020 through Meath Partnership.	n/a

4.1.4 – Support the Extension of Community Education and Training for Women	LMETB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene groups providing community based education and training opportunities for women to explore current provision with the relevant public agencies and how this might be expanded and further developed.</li> <li>• Invest further resources in community education and training initiatives for women throughout the County.</li> </ul>	BTEI, Adult Literacy Service, Adult Education Guidance Service, PLC and Community Education Service	<p>Tuition is provided to a large number of community groups in a wide geographical area of Co. Meath; the majority of applicants for this tuition are women's groups.</p> <p>Youthreach Navan provides a Childcare Course and other education options for young women and in particular traveller girls who are unable to travel for education further afield. BTEI provides part time options and VTOS provides full time options as well as courses available from the PLC colleges</p> <p>The new national initiative <b>Skills to Advance</b> being rolled out for employees interested in upskilling which will also be of benefit to women.</p> <p>In addition, <b>Skills to Compete</b> which was introduced in 2020, enables all those who have been out of the workforce, due to caring or family responsibilities, to return to the labour market.</p>	Broadband and Internet coverage, While we have mobile routers coverage in rural areas is poor and routers will not work. This causes difficulty in providing computer Courses in rural areas. Usual barriers to participation for learners such as travel, childcare etc.	Ongoing
4.1.5 – Language Support (Joint Lead with Meath Partnership and DSP)	LMETB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embed and support English language programmes for migrants in a range of educational establishments and community organisations.</li> </ul>	BTEI, Adult Literacy Service, Adult Education Guidance Service and Community Education Service	LMETB collaborates with Cultur, Meath Partnership, INTREO and DEASP to provide services for migrants. LMETB is currently providing services to refugees and asylum seekers in Mosney and new refugee families resettled in Ashbourne and Navan.	Transport, Childcare; Difficulty recruiting ESOL Tutors as the demand is high, access to broadband to facilitate remote learning	Ongoing
4.1.5 - Language Support	DSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embed and support English language programmes for migrants in a range of educational establishments and community organisations.</li> </ul>	Regular referral of clients in need of language support to LMETB	DSP continue to refer customers to LMETB for ESOL training DSP and LMETB continue to liaise to discuss requirements.	ESOL services are provided by LMETB. Not within the DSP remit.	Ongoing
4.1.5 – Language Support (Joint Lead with LMETB and DSP)	Meath Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embed and support English language programmes for migrants in a range of educational establishments and community organisations.</li> </ul>	Not directly applicable to any programme operated by Meath Partnership	This is an ongoing action identified in the Meath Intercultural Action Plan (see 3.3.2)	n/a	Please see more detailed response provided by LMETB as the primary provider of ESOL classes in Meath

**SCO 4.2 To Further Develop Community Cultural Action**

<p>4.2.1 – Community Based Cultural Action</p>	<p>MCC – ARTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement a programme to bring artists and communities together to devise and engage in activities that build a pride in identity, Irish language, culture and place, with a particular and sustained focus on communities experiencing inequality and disadvantage.</li> <li>• Actions to educate about the arts and culture, to enable access to and appreciation of arts and culture, and to support the production of arts and culture within these communities would be an integral part of this programme.</li> <li>• Ensure the support of professional artists for this.</li> </ul>	<p>Work with Culture Team in development and implementation of Creative Ireland programme and Five Year Cultural strategy. Devise, programme and manage Bealtine Festival; Cruinniu na nOg 2020 ;Toradh Gallery outreach &amp; Toradh on Tour programme; Act Out Youth Theatre - support of development new Youth Theatre for Meath .Work with Kells Type Trail, Hinterland and Guth Gafa, Another Love Story &amp; SOFFT Nights Festivals in elements of programme development and delivery. Work with Co Club re artists supports. Manage MCC Arts Grants, Bursaries &amp; Awards Schemes.</p>	<p>Creative Ireland/Creative Meath Five Year Cultural Strategy being implemented.</p> <p>County Arts Development Plan strategic actions and goals being implemented.</p> <p>New branch of Meath Youth Theatre – Act Out Youth Theatre – established in Dunshaughlin Jan 2020. Navan &amp; Dunshaughlin activities readapted and moved on line by AOYT committee.</p> <p>Meath Artists Meet Up (artists clinic and network) moved online with Zoom and one-to-one mentorship opportunities offered.</p> <p>Six Meath Arts Grants, Awards &amp; Bursaries Schemes successfully administered. <b>55</b> Arts Grants Awards made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>60+</b> artists supported</li> <li>• <b>16</b> Schools supported under the Schools Musical Instrument Purchase Scheme</li> <li>• <b>1900+</b> primary &amp; secondary school children benefit from SMIPS programme</li> </ul> <p>Arts Programme readapted &amp; reimagined in response to Covid. New initiatives introduced – Ceol Comfort; Theatre Tuesdays; Toradh online. These initiatives provided valuable financial support to artists whilst keeping artists and audiences connected. Viewing figures to date 60,000+</p> <p>Implementation of the Music Generation Meath programme continues with LMETB as lead partners. Music Development Officer has readapted programme in response to Covid.</p>	<p>In – person events from mid-March onwards cancelled due to Covid19. Programme re-imagined &amp; readapted though restrictions have proved challenging. Most artists and creatives have seen their work, performances and engagements cancelled or postponed for the foreseeable future. Support for the sustainability of creatives and cultural activity in the county is vital at this time.</p>	<p>New supports for artists being introducing as a response to Covid 19. One such example is the on line commission and performance programme developed. Working with our creative partners – local and national to devise means of delivering cultural, creative and educational programmes and supports during Covid 19. Support for artists, arts organisations and the arts community essential during this time to ensure sustainability and existence post Covid19.</p>
<p>4.2.2 Craft Collectives</p>	<p>MCC – Arts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop craft collectives that gather artists and crafts people in supportive community based settings with facilities available for their creative work in making work and financial support to sustain and promote this work.</li> </ul>	<p>Development of Kells Creative Hub proposal at the Courthouse Kells focusing on the provision of workspace for artists, and the creative industries. Assist with realisation of Kells Printworks</p>	<p>Stage 2 RDF Kells Creative Placemaking Project application successful with funding secured to complete works to the Courthouse Cultural Hub and development of Kells Printworks Project. Architect</p>	<p>Time available to develop proposal due to other programme commitments. Covid restrictions</p>	<p>Architect &amp; Design Team for Printworks Project appointed. Works ongoing</p>

			Studios at the Sawmills Kells.	& Design Team for Printworks Project appointed. Works ongoing at Courthouse.	delaying progress.	at Courthouse.
4.2.3 – Public Realm Work 4.2.2 – Craft Collectives	MCC – Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement a programme of public realm works with a focus on shop fronts, playgrounds, green infrastructure, and streetscapes to enhance sense of place and quality of life.</li> <li>Works should complement those public artworks already in place and should have a high level of design input particularly with regard to streetscapes and green areas and strong artistic merit.</li> </ul>	Public Art Programme; consultation with Planning Dept. on Arts & Culture elements of Local Area Development Plans (variations); assessing Planning referrals re private developer art works; work with local communities in management of schemes.	On-going. Currently working with planning department re developer’s compliance.	Reduced capacity to engage to required level due to other programme commitments and staff shortages.	On-going
4.2.4 – Drivers for Actions 4.2.3 – Public Realm Work	MCC – Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of staff available to the Arts Officer in the County Council to enable a programme of community cultural action to be sustained and to be community led, within the confines of public sector recruitment policy.</li> <li>Support the further emergence of local leaders for community culture activities and to enable their access to new thinking and ideas in this field.</li> </ul>	<p>No increase in Arts Office Staff numbers; Assistant Arts Officer appointed as replacement for previous officer.</p> <p>FEACH - the Arts Office training and mentorship programme for professional artists and arts groups/organisations.</p>	<p>Assistant Arts Officer role increased to full time. Meath Artists Meet Up – artists clinic and network programme introduced Feb 2020. Programme now being remodelled in response to Covid 19.</p> <p>FEACH programme element - Training Notes - Music in a Healthcare Setting Training Programme apprenticeship scheme in partnership with Beaufort Nursing Home Navan, Navan Hospital &amp; St Josephs Nursing Home Trim has had to be suspended due to Covid 19. On line training programme being devised with partners. A number of outside/in concerts have taken place at partner homes.</p> <p>Working with the Arts Council and Creative Ireland re the Creative Schools Project delivery in Meath – currently being readapted in response to Covid19.</p>		On going

**SCO 4.3 To Preserve Meath's Heritage and Enable Appropriate Access**

4.3.1 - Boyne Valley - To conserve and make available a key part of Meath’s heritage in line with the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 and the Boyne Valley Destination Development Strategy, the “Boyne Valley Destination Development Strategy” and the Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy 2016-2020.	MCC - Meath Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop the potential of the Boyne Valley as a visitor destination for the purpose of maximising the length of stay, level of enjoyment and economic return from national and international visitors, including through market research, programme development and partnership building to promote Boyne Valley locally and abroad.</li> <li>Renovate the Boyne Valley navigation along with ancillary heritage and culture initiatives.</li> <li>Facilitate the restoration of the Boyne Valley navigation and the development of the Boyne Valley</li> <li>Greenway along with ancillary heritage and culture initiatives</li> <li>Develop the infrastructure for educational and pilgrimage tourism, walking routes, and access to local heritage activity tourism, festivals, food and crafts and improve access to local heritage.</li> </ul>	The effect of Covid-19 has been catastrophic on the tourism industry which has been opened up and closed a number of times throughout. We are currently working to support businesses through this very difficult time through support via email and via marketing campaigns where possible.	All actions completed	Covid-19 – the challenges facing tourism industry.	yes
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devise and deliver educational programmes on the heritage of the Boyne Valley to “Boyne Valley Champions” Tourism members with those graduating becoming ‘Boyne Valley Ambassadors’.</li> <li>• Support and co-ordinate festivals and events to maximise their economic potential.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Maximising economic return:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New Town Brochures Supported</b> Boyne Valley Tourism supported the Trim brochure committee with the development and funding of the new Trim Guide and also provided funding to the Kells and District Tourism Network for their new Kells brochure.</li> <li>• Boyne Valley Tourism commissioned a <b>new destination website</b> which they are working on at present and will be due for launch in Q1 2021.</li> <li>• <b>Extensive marketing campaigns were undertaken</b> throughout Q3 and Q4 called <i>Rediscover the Boyne Valley</i> to attract visits last Summer and Autumn. Consumers were directed towards a new landing page with itineraries on each town and offers from accommodation providers to encourage overnights. This was supported by social media marketing campaigns.</li> <li>• Invited <b>Social Media Influencer Janet Newenham</b> Journalist on the Run with 100k followers to visit. She produced a video and blog articles on the Boyne Valley. She posted images on Instagram and facebook.</li> </ul>			
			<p><b>Education programmes to Boyne Valley members or Champions:</b></p> <p><b>Boyne Valley Tourism AGM</b> was held on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2020 with a turnout of 38 businesses. Breakout sessions were held on marketing plans for 2021</p> <p><b>Sector Meetings:</b> Regular sector meetings were held with the hotels each Wednesday to discuss and share issues</p> <p><b>3 Sector meetings</b> were held for the small accommodation providers with marketing campaigns implemented</p>	All actions completed		yes

			<p><b>Support and co-ordinate festivals and events to maximise their economic Potential:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Puca Festival:</b> Meath County Council worked with Failte Ireland on the Puca Festival targeting media in 13 international markets with Boyne Valley Flavours produce.</li> <li>• Meath County Council supported the <b>Samhain Festival</b> to go online in 2020 to maintain the brand and keep it to the forefront of people’s minds, resulting in 7k people watching it.</li> <li>• <b>Meath County Council supported Ireland in Music</b>, a production of music filmed at iconic locations including Kila at Newgrange and The Stunning at Trim Castle. This production was aired on RTE on 29<sup>th</sup> December with huge social media and TV viewership. The production will go on tour in the US from March via PBS.</li> </ul>	All actions completed		yes
			<p><b>Develop infrastructure for local product:</b>  <b>Royal Canal Greenway:</b> MCC Tourism Section is working with the 3 Local Authorities and Waterways Ireland to launch and put a marketing plan in place. The Greenway is almost complete with signage installed, mapboards and interpretive panels complete and ready to be installed by Waterways Ireland.</p>	All actions completed		yes
4.3.2 – Historic Town Centre & Village Centre Scheme	MCC – Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish an Historic Town Centre and Village Centre Scheme to support the development and implementation of heritage led regeneration plans.</li> </ul>	Kells Creative Place Making Project – awarded funding from RRDF Support delivery of Kells Print works project – (Town and Village Renewal)	Business Plans for three cultural spaces in Kells complete in partnership with the Arts Office Partnership with the Irish Architecture Foundation to scope the Kells Reimagine Project – (Kells selected as a pilot) Kells Printworks – Paper conservator appointed to complete conservation of printing press archive Worked with Facilities to secure premises for Kells Printworks; prepare tender documentation	None to date	Actions as listed for 2020 complete

				for Kells Printworks Project. Tender process complete and Architect appointed, 2 meetings held with the Design Team. Conservation works complete on fourth printing press. Secured bespoke furniture for Printworks		
4.3.3 – Awareness and Access	MCC – Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement a programme of cultural heritage initiatives to allow schools, communities and the private sector to creatively engage with and develop a sense of ownership of their local heritage.</li> <li>• Improve access and interpretation of heritage sights and include beach/coastal areas in activities.</li> <li>• Develop and support projects to engage local communities in caring for and presenting local heritage to their own community and to visitors.</li> <li>• Promote and communicate the heritage of the County through publications, audio-guides, web and social media platforms.</li> <li>• ☑ Link the Boyne Valley with Ireland’s Ancient East as the ‘master-region’ in order to maximise on the opportunities that Ireland’s Ancient East will bring the Boyne Valley in raising awareness of the abundance and quality of world class heritage available.</li> </ul>	Meath Heritage Awareness Programme 2020;, Geology Exhibition, Knowth Publication, Heritage Week 2020, Industrial Heritage Survey (Phase 2) – Field Survey Turas Columbanus Update heritage section on meath.ie Input as part of Culture Team to prepare Culture and Creativity Strategy for County Meath	Secured funding from Heritage Council for County Heritage Plan Project 2020 February Heritage content for meath.ie website complete Supported work to prepare Knowth Volume on Megalithic Art Completed first phase of field survey of Meath ‘s Industrial Heritage A new Community Monument Scheme was launched by the National Monuments Services and three projects were completed locally at Rathmore, Dulane and Beymore archaeological; sites Conservation of wrought iron gates at Skryne graveyard complete Blackfriary Community Heritage and Archaeology Project (BCHAP) - appointed a Landscape Architect to prepare and Landscape Masterplan for the site; secure additional site infrastructure for educational and interpretive purposes; published <i>Archaeology Ireland Heritage Guide</i> on excavations at the site; design and secured 5 new interpretative panels. Inputted as part of Culture Team to the delivery of Creative Communities Programme 2020 for Meath supported by Creative Ireland	Restrictions as a result of COVID 19 impacting on public events and gatherings	Actions as listed are complete
4.3.4 – Drivers for Action	MCC – Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of staff available for heritage in the County Council to ensure implementation of the County Meath <i>Heritage Plan</i> within the confines of public sector recruitment policy.</li> </ul>	No progress on this action to date			
<b>SCO 4.4 To Increase Participation in Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity</b>						
4.4.1 – Increased Opportunities - To increase opportunities to participate in sport,	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the development of local sports club to broaden the offer available and to expand the groups involved.</li> <li>• Support the emergence and capacity of sports leaders within communities experiencing inequality and disadvantage.</li> </ul>	Capacity build clubs, schools, communities & NGB`s to deliver and sustain a broad range of sport and physical activity programmes	Cycle Safety in Primary schools Youth Leadership award - secondary school Daily Mile Challenge	Podcast Programmes - both 0-3k and 3-5k Podcast programmes were relaunched due	

recreation and physical activity within Meath across the lifespan.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support clubs and community groups in developing, delivering and sustaining a broad range of sports, recreation and physical activity programmes.</li> <li>Provide capacity building programmes for clubs and community groups to empower them to engage with, develop and deliver community wide local sports, recreation and physical activity programmes.</li> <li>Work with school representatives to support the sharing of school based sports facilities, and the development and delivery of extra - curricular sports, recreation and physical activity.</li> </ul>		iRunForFun Primary school sport	to current lockdown restrictions comprising of 3 weekly sessions over a six week period. Sports Leadership - 2 Sports Leader courses delivered to LCA and TY classes.	
			Deliver a range of sport and physical opportunities targeted at groups and individual with low participation rates and high sedentary levels	Blazing Saddles	Deferred due to Covid 19	No
4.4.2 - Public space - To expand local public space opportunities for recreation.	Meath Local Sports Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further develop Slí na Sláinte routes in all areas of the County.</li> <li>Map areas suitable for outdoor gym equipment and install where possible.</li> <li>Take steps to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities to public recreation facilities.</li> </ul>	Support local agencies in the sustainable development of natural and built infrastructure for use by the wider community in county Meath Support public and private facility initiatives that promote increased participation and multi-use, particularly those that target low participation groups	Development work in Blackwater Park	None	Yes
4.4.3. - To Enhance the Standing of Irish in and outside the Gaeltacht Areas - To support tourism in the Gaeltacht areas in a manner that protects the Irish language. <b>No update provided for Q4</b>	Udaras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support for community organisations in the Gaeltacht areas to develop specialised tourist packages that will promote the heritage in the areas in a way that protects the Irish language.</li> </ul>	Language plan for the Meath Gaeltacht Eigse Dharach uí Chathain	A draft of the language plan for the Meath Gaeltacht, has been written. Once Údarás are satisfied, with the plan, it will be forwarded to the Dept for Ministerial approval. Údarás support Cultural events in the Gaeltacht, like Eigse Dharach uí Chathain		Once approve implementation of the plan will start, it will be on going for seven years. Eigse is an annual event
<b><u>SCO 4.5 To increase IT Access for all Groups</u></b>						
4.5.1 – Broadband Coverage – To improve broadband coverage in the County	MCC / Department of Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct an audit of gaps in broadband coverage.</li> <li>Convene a forum for providers to present the gaps.</li> <li>Develop a plan of action to address the gaps.</li> </ul>	NBP	Mobile operators have delivered 5G services in parts of Co. Meath and have improved 4G services. 4 tower sites received planning permission in 2020 and 2 were refused. The NBP rollout has commenced with NBI surveying in East Meath and areas near Athboy & Drumone. 8 Broadband Connection Points are now connected across the County and approval has been given for MCC to develop a further 5 sites. Free Public WIFI is available in Kells under the WIFI4EU programme. Sites for delivering in Navan have been secured.	Availability of suitable sites at an affordable cost to operators.	ongoing