12th April 2023.

**Re: Third Kilkenny Age Friendly Strategy Submission**

I enclose “Having Your Say” the report on Kilkenny Older Peoples Council Community Gatherings held in 2022, together with draft template of Suggested Actions, arising from the report, for consideration by the Kilkenny Age Friendly Alliance, in its preparation of Kilkenny’s third Age Friendly Strategy as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| 1. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings | Page No 2 |
| 2. Transportation | Page No 6 |
| 3. Housing | Page No 9 |
| 4. Respect and Social Inclusion | Page No 11 |
| 5. Social Participation | Page No 13 |
| 6. Communication and Information | Page No 15 |
| 7. Civic Participation & Employment | Page No 16 |
| 8. Community Supports and Health Services | Page No 17 |

Yours sincerely,

***Michael Delahunty***

**Michael Delahunty,**

**Chairperson, Kilkenny Older Peoples Council.**

**WHO Domain : Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**  | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **Kilkenny County Council** |  | **Footpaths*** Continue the programme of footpath provision and footpath improvements including dished/level access , elimination of uneven or broken surfaces, in our City, City Environs, District , Ferrybank, in our Larger and smaller Villages and in smaller settlements in the interests of people of all abilities including older people .
* (Dean Kav Place, Dean Street, Vicar Street, Patrick Street, and other areas of Kilkenny City specifically mentioned
 | 2023-2027 |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** | Kilkenny Older Peoples Council | **Pedestrian Crossings**.* Provide pedestrian crossings at appropriate locations such as medical practices, pharmacies, churches, and community centres in all parts of the County.
* Specifically from Mullinavat GAA to village, in Graiguenamanagh, Castlecomer & at Kilkenny Garda Station.
* Increase the time it takes for older people to use Pedestrian Crossings
* All pedestrian crossings should have audible signals.
* All crossings should be lit (including appropriate public lighting at/near crossings),
* Maintain road markings and replace where worn,
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council****Alliance****Kilkenny Chamber** | All Alliance Partners | **Seating:*** Provide Age Friendly Seating along footpaths and walkways, especially where there are inclines, such as in Ferrybank, Lacken Walk (City),
* Provide additional Seating in Castlecomer Discovery Park-being a customer of the café should not be a condition of using seating,
* Provide more seating in Shopping Centres and at bus stops in City and County,
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** |  | **Dog Walking**: * Provide appropriate bins in every village and town-specifically mentioned were Graiguenamanagh, and Kilkenny City Environs
* Enforce the appropriate laws regarding dog fouling,
 |  |  |  |
| **Age Friendly Alliance** |  | **Older Peoples Hubs*** Provide Older Peoples Hubs/Trial a Community Hub on a pilot basis-a place where older people can go to meet up, find out information, hear from Service Providers and socialise.
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny LEADER Partnership** |  | **Community Shops:*** Provide a Community Shop in Glenmore Village -it does not have a shop of PO facility).
 |  |  |  |
| **An Garda Siochana** |  | **Safety and Security:*** Provide a more visible Garda presence in residential areas.
 |  |  |  |
|  **Alliance** | Kilkenny Chamber,Local Enterprise Office,PPN,Kilkenny County Council,OPC, | **Business*** Extend the Age Friendly Business Recognition Scheme to include Kilkenny City Environs and all District Towns & Villages
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council****Kilkenny Chamber** |  | **Public Toilet Facilities:** * Provide public toilets in the High Street area of Kilkenny City,
* **Shopping Centres** in multi-level Shopping Centres -aim to provide public toilets on each floor.
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council****Kilkenny LEADER Partnership/Kilkenny County Council** |  | **Outdoor Gyms/Tone Areas:** * Provide an Outdoor Gym/Tone area in Kilkenny Castle grounds,
* Provide outdoor exercising equipment at the Hub Graiguenamanagh.
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** | Thomastown Age Friendly Town Committee (of Alliance partners).Age Friendly Town Committees. | **Age Friendly Towns:*** Complete the process to enable Thomastown to be an Age Friendly Town
* Secure Age Friendly Town Status for Castlecomer, Graiguenamanagh & Ferrybank**.**
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**WHO Domain : Transportation**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**   | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **Alliance** | Kilkenny County CouncilKLP | **Rural Bus Services:** Create an awareness in all Rural Areas (including Towns & Villages) of all the bus services available, including routes, timetables, bus stops, pick up and drop off points so as to promote and increase usage. |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council.****An Garda Siochana** |  | Provide measures to prevent parking in designated bus stop spaces and at bus shelters in towns and villages, |  |  |  |
| **Alliance** | Kilkenny OPC | Provide Rink-a Link services to Kilmacow and Tullogher and to other locations as the need arises, |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** |  | Provide a bus Shelter in Ballyhale |  |  |  |
|  |  | Provide proper bus connectivity from Plunkett Station Waterford to Waterford Regional Hospital & Whitfield Clinic including, integrated bus/ train arrival/departure times, and real time information on routes. |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** | Kilkenny OPCHSE-St Luke’s Hospital Committee | **Kilkenny City Bus Service**: * Include Kilkenny Older Peoples Council in any Review of Kilkenny City Bus Service,
* Increase the number of bus routes, number of buses and frequency of services,
* Provide a direct bus route from Castlecomer Road to St Luke’s Hospital,
* Provide more bus stops on the KK Routes to include Newpark, Newpark Close, Rath Ullard,
* Provide more bus shelters at appropriate locations,
* Promote the KK bus Service through ongoing publicity campaigns
 |  |  |  |
| **Alliance** |  Iarnród Éireann*.* | **Railway Stations*** Open, at appropriate times, the Customer Toilets at Thomastown Railway Station
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** |  | * **The Square Castlecomer** is a difficult place for older people to navigate-Provide a Roundabout on the Square.
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** |  | **Mullinavat**:* Provide Traffic Calming measures in Main Street Mullinavat,
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** |  | **Graiguenamanagh**:* Provide Traffic Calming measures on all approach Roads to Graiguenamanagh,
* Provide pedestrian footpaths on the Bridge in Graiguenamanagh,
* Provide a taxi service in Graiguenamanagh
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council****Kilkenny Chamber** |  | **Car Parking:** * Provide Age Friendly Car Parking in Castlecomer, Graiguenamanagh, Callan, Ferrybank and in all larger villages to the AFI standard, appropriate width and at appropriate locations in consultation with Kilkenny OPC
* Provide additional Age Friendly Car Parking in Kilkenny City Environs to include Medical Centres, Shopping Centres, Hospitals , Sports Facilities, and other locations.
 |  |  |  |
| **McDonagh Age Friendly Railway Starion Steering Group** |  **Alliance** | **McDonagh Age Friendly Railway Station*** Continue the programme of Improvements and age friendly services at McDonagh Age Friendly Railway Station
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**WHO Domain : Housing**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**  | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **Age Friendly Alliance****Age Friendly Ireland****HSE****Local Authority****Local Authority****Age Friendly Alliance****Age Friendly Alliance****Kilkenny County Council** | Kilkenny County CouncilHSEKLPPPNDepartment of Housing.Department of Social ProtectionHSE | **Staying in our Own homes*** Increase the awareness of the various Home Improvement Grants available to older people,
* Make Grants to the value of 100% of cost available to cover home adaptions-significantly more cost effective than costs of nursing homes and health care,
* Make access to the Home Help Service easier,
* Publish the Local Authority plans for Housing including Older Peoples Housing,
* Allow in principal sons/daughters to build beside their parent’s homes in Rural Areas,
* Operate a Trusted Tradesman Scheme,
* Continue to grow the provision of smart homes, devices, and technologies for older adults,
* Provide Appropriate Housing for older people including on-site support services in all areas of the City & County including on the Brewery site.
 |  |  |  |
| **Alliance** | Kilkenny County Council | **Broadband:*** Provide a High Quality & Reliable Broadband Service in all part of the County
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**WHO Domain : Respect and Social inclusion**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**  | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **KLP****HSE****Local Authority****ETB** |  | Provide Personal Development Programmes to Older People in Rural Areas, particularly in Urlingford/Johnstown, Castlecomer, Mullinavat & Graiguenamanagh, to build confidence, value older peoples in their communities, address, loneliness, shyness, and isolation. |  |  |  |
| **PPN** |  | Encourage Older Adults to become involved in the Men’s Sheds |  |  |  |
| **PPN** |  | Encourage the setting up of Women’s Sheds, |  |  |  |
| **Age Friendly Alliance** |  | Trial the establishment of an Older Peoples Hub/Citizens Centre in a Rural Town/Village or Area-where Older People may obtain information on services, meet, and socialise, make connections, and share life experiences,  |  |  |  |
| **KLP****PPN****Local Authority****HSE****An Garda Siochana** |  | Encourage older people amongst our new Irish communities to become involved with and in local community & voluntary groups, |  |  |  |
| **All Alliance Partners** |  | Provide Intergenerational Projects so that both Older People and Younger people share in a 2 way process in the transfer of skills, knowledge, and information, |  |  |  |
| **An Garda Siochana** |  | Promote the setting up of additional Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in the City & County and in particular in Kilkenny City Environs. |  |  |  |

**WHO Domain : Social Participation**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**  | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **Age Friendly ALLIANCE** | All Alliance Partners KLPPPN | **Getting Involved.*** Implement a **“Get Involved”** Campaign to encourage Older Adults to become involved in Local Community and Voluntary Groups, walking and other form of outdoor/indoor sports and fitness Groups, Town Teams, Tidy Towns, Village Improvement Groups, Social Groups etc,
* Use **Targeted Events** as part of the campaign,
* Implement a specific part of the **Get Involved** campaign that targets older Men,
* Target Local Champions to drive the **Get Involved** campaign**-**Provide them with appropriate leadership skills, where required.
 |  |  |  |
| **Alliance** | All Alliance PartnersIncluding Kilkenny Older Peoples Council | **Befriending*** Support Alone’s befriending service to extend the service to include additional older clients.
 |  |  |  |
|  **Alliance** | Older Peoples CouncilAll Alliance Partners | **Keeping Older People Informed*** Include local Older People issues/information etc in Local Newsletters and in other local media.
 |  |  |  |
| **Alliance** | Kilkenny Volunteer Centre | **Volunteerism*** Promote greater involvement of Older People as Volunteers,
* Promote the Kilkenny Volunteer Service amongst Employers/ Service Providers, encouraging them to take on Older People as Volunteers.
 |  |  |  |
| **(Age Friendly Ireland-Nationally)****Kilkenny Age Friendly Alliance (locally)** | Kilkenny Older Peoples Council | **Labelling*** Implement Age Friendly Ireland Media & Advertising Guidelines in relation to Older People
 |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny Older Peoples Council** |  All Alliance Partnerrs | * Hold an Annual Event to promote membership, inclusion, participation, and information sharing.
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**WHO Domain : : Communication and Information**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**  | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **KLP/Local Authority** | PPN | Promote the use and erection of Local Information Notice Boards in Towns & Villages, |  |  |  |
| **Local Authority/KLP** |  | Continue to highlight Broadband deficits in terms of provision, speeds, and reliability across the County with All service providers. |  |  |  |
| **Age Friendly Alliance** | Kilkenny Older Peoples Council | Promote Older People issues on Local Radio, |  |  |  |
| **Age Friendly Alliance** | All Alliance Partners | Provide Digital Drop-in Centres for Older People, |  |  |  |
| **Age Friendly Alliance** | All Alliance Partners | Encourage the use by Older People of Social Media through their digital phones, I-pads laptops and desktops including What’s App groups, Facebook local Newsletters, |  |  |  |
| **Age Friendly Ireland (Nationally)****Age Friendly Alliance** | Kilkenny ChamberLocal Enterprise Office | **Banking & Other Services:**Encourage Service Providers to provide face-face to face customer service alongside digital services |  |  |  |

**WHO Domain : Civic Participation and Employment**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**  | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **Age Friendly Alliance** | All Alliance Members including PPN | **Local Decision Making**: Promote the involvement of Older People in local decision making including Town Teams, Improvement Groups, Tidy Towns , Community & Voluntary Groups. |  |  |  |
| **Age Friendly Alliance** | PPNLocal Authority Elected Members | **Women in Politics**: Promote & encourage more women to get involved in local politics including in the 2024 Local Elections, |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny Chamber****Local Enterprise Office****& Age Friendly Ireland (Nationally)** |  | **Employment**: Encourage and incentivise the employment of older people including into part time roles,*(Older people should not lose benefits as a result of working full or part time).* |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny Volunteer Centre** | PPN | **Volunteerism:** Promote and Encourage Volunteerism amongst Older Adults-Increase the awareness of the availability of Volunteers and Volunteer Opportunities in all parts of Kilkenny City & County, |  |  |  |

**WHO Domain : : Community Supports and Health Services**

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| (Suggested) **Lead Partner** | (Suggested) **Delivery support partners**  | **Action**  | **Timescale** | **Indicator -How will we know it has been achieved.** | **Identify funding opportunities.** |
| **HSE****HSE** |  | Increase the number of GP’s and Nurses and extend their services to include all large Villages, more frequent visits to Residential and Nursing Homes, Provide walk in GP & Health Service Clinics for older people |  |  |  |
| **Kilkenny County Council** |  | Increase the number of Outdoor gyms/tone zones and exercising equipment in our Towns & Villages, |  |  |  |
| **HSE****Kilkenny Chamber****Local Enterprise Office** |  | Encourage Health Services, Banking Services & other services to be provided through a blend of in-person & online services including telephone services. |  |  |  |
| **KRSP** |  | Provide Pilates & Aqua Aerobic classes for Older Adults. |  |  |  |
| **HSE** | Kilkenny Older Peoples Council | Increase the awareness amongst all adults aged 69 and over of the Free GP Card, Medical Card Schemes. |  |  |  |
| **HSE** | Kilkenny Older Peoples CouncilPPN | Extend the Meals on Wheels Service |  |  |  |
| **An Garda Siochana** | Kilkenny County Council | Increase the number of Community Gardai and visibility of Community Gardai in all areas |  |  |  |
| **HSE** | St Luke’s Age Friendly Hospital Committee | Continue the programme of age friendly improvements at St Luke’s Hospital |  |  |  |
|  **HSE****Older Peoples Council** |  | Promote the “Your Service , Your Say “ amongst all older patients of St Luke’s Hospital & other Health Services. |  |  |  |
| **HSE** | Integrated Care Programme for Older People(ICPOP) Team | Develop the Integrated Care Programme for Older People include services and support hub |  |  |  |