

Meeting 10: 15th July 2022 in The D Hotel, Drogheda

Assistant Commissioner Paula Hillman of An Garda Síochána, with national responsibility for Roads Policing and Community Engagement met with the Board. AC Hillman indicated that the work of the Drogheda Implementation Board is of particular interest to her and highlighted the areas in her portfolio that overlap with the Drogheda Report Implementation Plan. She further noted that she had the opportunity to spend time with the members of the Community Policing unit in Drogheda and commended the team on their work. AC Hillman was accompanied by Inspector Tim O’Keeffe of An Garda Síochána Kerry Division who gave a presentation to members on the See Something Say Something initiative which is identified in action 2.12 of the Drogheda Report Implementation Plan. The Board agreed to support the roll out of See Something Say Something in Drogheda and noted that roll out is dependent on the development of a new Computer Aided Dispatch system in An Garda Síochána.

The allocation of additional teaching resources over a sustained period of 5 years to St. Brigid’s & St Patrick’s, Presentation and St. Joseph’s national schools by the Department of Education was noted and recognised as a significant input to action 6.1 of the Plan.

The Board welcomed the allocation of €75k p.a. by Department of Justice to the Boyne Youth Diversion Project for family and early intervention supports

LMETB have engaged further with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth regarding their submission for a post of Youth Officer to prioritise the Drogheda area which was endorsed at the February meeting of the Drogheda Implementation Board.

The Strengthening Families Programme, led in Drogheda by Boomerang Youth Café, will commence again in September and is currently recruiting participants.

The work of Louth County Council, Drogheda Chamber, Drogheda BIDs and Drogheda Tidy Towns in response to the recent IBAL litter survey was discussed. The #LookingGoodDrogheda campaign in particular was highlighted, with opportunities for individuals or groups to adopt a street and a #LookingGoodDrogheda charter for businesses being developed.

It was noted that the next quarterly report of the Drogheda Report Implementation Plan will now reflect progress up to the end of June rather than the end of April and will be published on that basis.