

Meeting 22: Boomerang Youth Café, Fair Street, Drogheda

Friday 17th November 2023

As agreed at their October meeting the Board have published a review of actions delivered over the past two years. It has been issued via email database, directly to local elected representatives and local media and given to the public at a number of events. This document <u>can be accessed here</u>.

The success of the recent Community Safety and Wellbeing Event in the Holy Family Parish Centre, Ballsgrove was noted. All agencies on the Board were represented and members of all four subgroups of the Board were involved in the planning of this event. More information on the event is <u>available here.</u>

Board members also noted the success of an event for Sports clubs and organisations in Drogheda and East Meath which was held soon after their last meeting. The event was an opportunity for clubs from different sporting codes to connect with one another, look at the actions in the Drogheda Report Implementation Plan and to come up with ideas to respond to those actions. It was attended by almost 50 representatives of 32 clubs across 15 sporting codes. A report has been compiled in relation to this event, <u>available here</u>.

The Policing and Drugs subgroup of the Board are convening a meeting of frontline services who deal with out of hours mental health incidences, or the aftermath of these incidences, in response to Action 2.8.

Probation Services and An Garda Siochána have identified and commenced an initial cohort of individuals on a Joint Agency Response to Crime (JARC) initiative. The programme is delivered on the ground by an operational team of frontline Gardaí, probation officers and prison officers who work closely with each client to address the factors behind their offending and to direct them away from criminality. In Drogheda this initiative is supported by the Red Door Project, in particular their Prison Links Worker who is funded through the Department of Justice Community Safety Innovation Fund. JARC is a named objective in the Drogheda Report Implementation Plan under action 2.5.

It was noted that many of the Drogheda Implementation Board Small Grants Scheme projects are coming to an end with a series of events having taken place over the past number and coming weeks. Board members noted the significant impact of the funding on community interventions. Data relating to the projects, such as the number of beneficiaries, will be reviewed in the new year.

Board members ratified provision of funding in response to a number of initiatives identified by subgroups – including Child and Adolescent Counselling in line with Action 5.5; Delivery of a Community House in Rathmullen in line with Action 4.3; Youth Mental Health supports in line with Action 5.5 and Support the expansion of services for people in addiction in line with Action 3.1.