Kildare Digital Strategy Submission

Name of your Organisation or Group:	Kildare Public Participation Network
Sector or field that your org is primarily involved in:	Community & Voluntary Environmental Social Inclusion
Geographic Area (Local, County-wide, Regional, National):	County Kidare
Which of these themes best describe your interest in the forthcoming Kildare Digital Strategy. *Please highlight themes in red and select multiple categories where applicable.*	• Digital Economy (Digitalisation in Enterprise, innovation facilities & services) • Digital Infrastructure (broadband, telecoms, connected facilities) • Digital Skills (In business, the public sector, community) • Digital Society (Smart Communities / Citizens, Culture, Heritage & Tourism) • Digital Services (Digitisation of Public Services) • Other (Please specify) _____
What are the main Challenges or Issues that Kildare Digital Strategy should seek to respond to?	• Digital Infrastructure: the availability of high quality broadband, especially in rural areas of Kildare. • Education for all age groups on how to embrace the digital world especially older members of the community. • Respect for the older members of our community, and how embrassing digital may impact or isolate them. • Usability and asccessibility of digital services for people with disabilities (visual or hearing impairments etc). • Address Digital poverty within the County. • Internet safety and security. • Efficiency of resources to ensure reduced carbon emissions.
What are the main Opportunities that Kildare Digital Strategy should seek to pursue and capitalise on?	• Options for public services to be accessed online to increase efficiency and accessibility for members of the public. Please note: the provision of accessing services online should not replace in-person services. • The OECD has defined smart cities as the "initiatives or approaches that effectively leverage digitalisation to boost citizen well-being and deliver more efficient, sustainable and inclusive urban services and environments as part of a collaborative, multi-stakeholder process". Within the Digital Society theme, we should progress smart technologies which allow better environmental data collection which will contribute to policy making and also enable more efficient sustainable transport and energy saving services. • To further enhance access to information for communities in Kildare through online directories, GIS mapping, etc.
What digital projects or initiatives is your organisation involved in, or aware of, that should be highlighted in the Kildare Digital Strategy	• Potential upcoming project with Kildare PPN: Sustainable Development Goals Interactive Map for Kildare. Mapping the work, projects and initiatives undertaking by communities groups in Kildare highlighting the work being done in Kildare to deliver on the SDG's

Additional Recommendations and Comments. **Please share any additional recommendations, comments or information that you feel is relevant and should inform the development of the new Kildare Digital Strategy.**	• Implementation of any strategy is difficult. An actions taskforce should be put in place to monitor the progress against KPIs and address any shortfalls early to ensure its success.