



VISION FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING

ATHY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

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This Vision presents an analysis of the findings from a consultation held on Thursday, 20th July 2023, at The Irish Wheelchair Association in Athy Municipal District (MD), Kildare. It incorporates additional findings from an online survey which was circulated to ensure maximum participation. The consultation involved attendees from many community organisations and aimed to assess the current wellbeing of the district whilst exploring opportunities for improvement to ensure a better future for the current and future generations. The Vision is structured around six key themes: Health (Physical and Mental), Environment and Sustainability, Values, Culture and Meaning, Economy and Resources, Social and Community Development, and Participation, Democracy, and Good Governance. This Vision is a high-level view of the key themes that emerged, and detailed data can be accessed on the Kildare PPN website.



HEALTH (PHYSICAL AND MENTAL)

The consultation participants emphasised the significance of holistic health, encompassing both physical and mental aspects. The assets identified for this theme include various sports clubs, walking groups, fitness centres, healthcare facilities, and addiction centres. However, there was a call for more accessible health facilities, additional support for mental health services, and social prescribing link workers to connect people to relevant resources. The vision for the future includes expanding healthcare infrastructure, promoting physical activities, and enhancing mental health support services.

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Participants acknowledged the importance of a healthy environment for overall wellbeing. The assets listed include green spaces, museums, and natural resources. To ensure a sustainable future, the community seeks to reduce its environmental impact through renewable energy adoption, waste reduction, and improved infrastructure. The vision includes a focus on nature preservation, sustainable development, and effective management of resources.

VALUES, CULTURE AND MEANING

The consultation recognised the significance of cultural heritage, community gatherings, and shared experiences. The assets mentioned include various cultural events, arts, music, and community organisations. The vision for the future emphasizes preserving cultural identity, encouraging community engagement, and promoting inclusivity amongst diverse groups.

ECONOMY AND RESOURCES

The participants discussed the changing job market and the need for diverse economic opportunities. The identified assets include educational institutions, local businesses, and industry-specific organisations. To thrive economically, the community aims to improve infrastructure, attract new industries, and support small businesses. The vision involves enhancing job opportunities, ensuring affordable housing, and investing in local resources and skills.

SOCIAL & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The consultation highlighted the significance of community cohesion and safety. The assets listed include recreational facilities, community centres, and support organisations. The community aims to improve accessibility, promote inclusivity, and strengthen community support systems. The vision focuses on creating safe, inclusive spaces where everyone feels welcome and valued.

PARTICIPATION, DEMOCRACY & GOOD GOVERNANCE

The participants discussed the importance of citizen involvement, with an emphasis on the importance of a transparent decision-making process. The assets identified include community groups, political representatives, and the Kildare Public Participation Network. The community envisions encouraging youth involvement, improving governance accountability, and ensuring fair distribution of funds and resources.

CONCLUSION

The consultation for Athy Municipal District shed light on key areas impacting the wellbeing of the community. The findings suggest a strong focus on holistic health, sustainable development, cultural preservation, economic diversification, community engagement, and transparent governance. The vision for the future involves various initiatives, such as enhancing healthcare services, promoting sustainable practices, preserving cultural heritage, supporting small businesses, fostering inclusivity, and encouraging youth participation. By actively working on these aspects, the community can strive to create a flourishing environment for current and future generations, making Athy the best it can be.

The document outlines the key themes identified in the consultation and presents the vision for the future. It serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, community leaders, and stakeholders in fostering positive change and enhancing the overall wellbeing of the district

