



# VISION FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING STATEMENT

**CLANE - MAYNOOTH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT**

# VISION

## FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING



This Wellbeing Vision is based on the data gathered during an in-person consultation held at North Kildare Sports Centre with attendees from the Clane/Maynooth Municipal District. 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. The data was supplemented with additional information gathered from an online consultation. 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)

## **Asset Mapping** (What we have):

- Equestrian centres, castles, and golf courses provide recreational opportunities.
- Town parks, forests, and walks contribute to physical and mental well-being.
- Accessible healthcare facilities such as primary care centres and nursing homes.
- Mental health support services like mindfulness and counselling are available.
- Sports clubs like GAA and Maynooth Town FC promote physical activity.

## **Vision for the future** (What we would like):

- Develop more exercise facilities with accessible equipment and covered outdoor spaces.
- Improve mental health services, including more psychologists and early intervention systems.
- Enhance accessibility for people with disabilities, such as wheelchair swings and footpaths.
- Foster inclusivity by promoting cultural competences in the health system and community spaces.
- Encourage more physical fitness activities for all ages, including older people and carers.

# ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

## Asset Mapping (What we have):

- Community gardens, wildflower areas, and allotments support sustainability.
- Cultural buildings and heritage sites preserve the community's history and identity.
- Canals and greenways offer recreational opportunities and scenic walks.
- Recycling facilities and smoke-free zones promote a healthier environment.
- Bogs and forests provide natural resources and contribute to biodiversity.

## Vision for the future (What we would like):

- Implement better recycling services and facilities for various materials, including glass and batteries.
- Preserve peat bogs and educate the public on the importance of environmental protection.
- Promote environmental science-based actions and educational programs in schools.
- Improve transportation by creating connected footpaths, cycle lanes, and reducing heavy traffic in towns.
- Encourage pond projects and biodiversity awareness in towns and villages.

# VALUES, CULTURE AND MEANING

## **Asset Mapping** (What we have):

- Community halls, cultural groups, theatres, and sports clubs foster a sense of belonging.
- Churches, mosques, and places of worship play a vital role in community life.
- Events such as St. Patrick's Day Parade and Roma Pride Week celebrate diversity.
- Music and drama groups provide opportunities for artistic expression.
- Educational institutions like Maynooth University contribute to cultural and intellectual growth.

## **Vision for the future** (What we would like):

- Create an inclusive community that respects and celebrates cultural diversity.
- Develop local spaces for young people to seek support and express themselves.
- Promote intergenerational projects, crafts, storytelling, and cultural events.
- Support local artisans, farmers' markets, and businesses to preserve the community's identity.
- Offer language classes and facilities for cultural exchange and integration.

# ECONOMY AND RESOURCES

## **Asset Mapping** (What we have):

- Various businesses, including supermarkets, hotels, and industrial parks, contribute to the local economy.
- Educational institutions like Maynooth University and ETB courses provide learning opportunities.
- Community employment schemes and day services support vulnerable populations.
- Local libraries and museums offer educational resources.
- Transport services, such as buses and train stations, connect the community.

## **Vision for the future** (What we would like):

- Encourage more remote work opportunities to support the changing job market.
- Enhance support for local businesses and entrepreneurs through enterprise centers.
- Invest in education and training opportunities to bridge skill gaps.
- Improve public transport and accessibility in the area.
- Simplify grant systems and allocate funds to community priorities.

# SOCIAL & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Asset Mapping (What we have):

- Community centres, sports clubs, and social groups provide spaces for gatherings.
- Tidy Towns, community watch, and residence associations promote safety and engagement.
- Garda stations and community policing improve security.
- Parent and toddler groups, childcare services, and elder care facilities support families and older adults.
- Adult education and recreational facilities enhance personal development.

## Vision for the future (What we would like):

- Develop more community centres and social clubs to encourage inclusivity and socialisation.
- Expand elder care services and home visits for isolated individuals.
- Improve public facilities, such as swimming pools and accessible toilets.
- Promote intercultural understanding and integration through community programs.
- Increase support for volunteering and sustainable roles in the community.

# PARTICIPATION, DEMOCRACY & GOOD GOVERNANCE

## **Asset Mapping** (What we have):

- Parish councils, community groups, and representative bodies provide opportunities for community engagement.
- Political clinics, internet access, and social media platforms facilitate communication with decision-makers.
- National bodies like Kildare PPN advocate for community interests.
- Tidy Towns and environmental groups contribute to local governance.
- Places of worship and cultural spaces foster community connections.

## **Vision for the future** (What we would like):

- Improve the electoral registration process and encourage voter registration.
- Enhance engagement between local councils and communities.
- Ensure proper governance and accountability for community groups and grant recipients.
- Promote inclusive decision-making processes that consider diverse community voices.
- Increase transparency in decision-making and restore trust in charities and voluntary organisations.



# CONCLUSION

To ensure the success of the wellbeing for the Clane/Maynooth Municipal District in the future, it is essential to consider the holistic development of the community. Building a healthy and sustainable community requires focusing on physical and mental health, preserving the environment, promoting cultural diversity, supporting the local economy, and fostering social inclusivity.

Moreover, effective participation, democracy, and good governance are crucial for representing the interests of all residents and ensuring a sense of belonging and pride in the community's identity.

By actively engaging with the identified assets and working towards the shared vision, the Clane/Maynooth Municipal District can create a thriving and resilient community that will be cherished by future generations. Continued collaboration, investment in key areas, and an unwavering commitment to the community's values and culture will be essential for achieving this vision of wellbeing.

