AGE-FRIENDLY KERRY

Report and Work plan

(draft)

2018 – 2022



**AGE –FRIENDLY**

**KERRY**

**AGE-FRIENDLY KERRY REPORT AND WORK PLAN**

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*‘Only in this century has human civilisation made it possible for most people in Western societies to reach the age of seventy and over. Therefore, the shaping of what is possible in old age does not have a long tradition. As a society, we are only at the beginning of a learning process about old age. In this sense, old age is still young, its potential is not fully realized…’*

(Baltes and Mayer, quoted at the conference ‘Towards an Age-Friendly Society in Ireland 2006’)

**‘’Older people are not a homogenous group….**

**In 2016 there were 25,034 people over 65 years of age living in Kerry, but what does that really tells us? A group of people that would fill about a third of Croke Park, or a group of people roughly the same size as the population of Tralee Town and environs. That figure is made up of people who have lived in Kerry all their lives, Irish people who are returning emigrants, perhaps married to a Kerry person, asylum seekers or refugees who perhaps up to a very short period of time ago never heard of Ireland let alone Kerry!! It also comprises entrepreneurs, artists, millionaires, homeless people and our parents, siblings, uncles and aunts, grandparents and great grandparents.**

**So.. an Age-Friendly plan needs to aim to cater for the needs of a very diverse and ever changing group. This plan comes at a time of opportunity as the economy hopefully continues to improve, if we plan for an Age-Friendly place in Kerry, we will be working towards improving the quality of life of current and future generations for us all’**

**Hilary Scanlan, Community Work Manager**

**April 2018**

**Developing a Vision for the Kerry Age-Friendly Programme.**

Kerry people are proud of the county and have always responded positively to initiatives that improve the quality of life. This has been reflected in the positive response by people who have engaged in the community consultation and meetings regarding the Age-Friendly programme over the past year. This consultation is an ongoing process and ensuring that the conversation continues around the challenges of creating a more Age-Friendly society is central to its success.

Co. Kerry is built on the experience of our older residents. Through community involvement and volunteering, by working and being active members of our business community, the essence of what makes Kerry a good place to live is built on their efforts. The role and experience of older people is fully reflected in the work of this Age-Friendly Programme.

There have been many innovative responses in Co Kerry over many years in response to the needs of our older citizens. Guided by the good practice in the work undertaken by communities, state agencies such as the HSE, Local Authority, Local Development Companies and many other agencies, the Kerry Age-Friendly work programme seeks to take its lead from and build on this solid foundation.

The result of the work to date has been the creation of actions in the eight distinct WHO themes which will lead to an enrichment of life in Co Kerry. This four year road map is the first step in transforming plans to reality. This initial report is not the end of the work but rather the beginning of the steps needed to succeed.

Under the auspices of the Local Community Development Committee, the Age-Friendly Steering Group will monitor the work programme in cooperation with the Older Persons’ Council. Many of the recommendations are low cost and involve agencies working collaboratively. All are designed to ensure our communities are more Age-Friendly with enhanced quality of life for all citizens.

**However,**

***Age-Friendly Kerry’s work programme is larger than implementing actions; the challenge is to ensure that people in Kerry live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives and be connected within their communities throughout the life cycle. The Age-Friendly Programme challenges society to confront prejudices about aging in order to become more inclusive and respectful of older people in daily life.***

**Kerry Age-Friendly: Building on a strong foundation.**

County Kerry’s approach to age-friendly is based on the principle of inclusion. Age-friendly communities are those that are inclusive and accessible for people of all ages. This includes spaces and places, in addition to plans and initiatives that make a community better for all residents throughout the life cycle; children, young people, parents and people as they get older.

There is a long and proud tradition of working with and responding to need in the county.

The HSE Community Work Department in particular has been very innovative in its response and delivery of a range of services, from self-directed peer support groups who come together for social and recreational interaction, right through to Day Care Centres where the focus is on people who require a certain level of support and help in activities of daily living. Between 2,500 and 3,000 people in Kerry participate in these services. This partnership model with the community and voluntary sector has been established and developed by the Community Work Department over a period of four decades; it works well and is well embedded in both the statutory and voluntary structures but also in the various communities in Kerry. (See Appendix 6.)

There are strong older people’s community networks in existence for many years in the County, including Sean Cháirde in the south of the county and Sliabh Luachra Active Retired Group which embraces a number of communities in east Kerry. Tea Dances and short mat bowling programmes are well developed. There have been innovative initiatives such as the Rural Men’s Group and Men’s Sheds developed in cooperation with the Local Development Sector to counter social isolation. Many communities host social events for older members at Christmas and at other times. Group holidays are also popular, as are health and wellbeing programmes, choirs and many other initiatives. Kerry Local Link has over many years responded to the needs identified by older people. Kerry County Council has worked on innovative housing developments, accessibility projects and other initiatives.

Being cognisant of this work was central to the development of a formal approach to the development of the Age-Friendly programme. There is much good practice and innovation in the county. The added value is the embedding of the programme which was seen as the single most important first step.

Therefore, a strategic approach has been taken in the development and delivery of the County’s Age-Friendly Programme. The Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) contains the framework of the County’s Age-Friendly Strategy and the Age-Friendly County Programme which ensures it’s alignment to the work of Kerry’s Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), which represents the local community and the local public and private sectors. Actions outlined in Kerry’s Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) were developed collaboratively with all relevant stakeholders and older people’s representative groups across the County.

Aligning the Age-Friendly programme with the LCDC in Kerry has supported the effective engagement of key statutory agencies at a local level. The LCDC as a local joint working structure is ideally placed to deliver multiagency programmes and to influence Age-Friendly actions across the community and the local public and private sectors. Already, there have been a number of funding streams targeted at Age-Friendly initiatives.

Also embedded in the LECP s is the County’s commitment to establish Kerry as an exemplar county for Accessible Tourism. Kerry is committed to working with other stakeholders to promote and develop universally accessible tourism environments and services for citizens and visitors alike.

Being part of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities will also help to accelerate this Age-Friendly approach. Building on national and international good practice, we are setting our aspirations for older people in Kerry at the highest level.

The Kerry Age-Friendly Steering group reports to the LCDC. This multi-stakeholder approach is continuing to develop methodologies where the appropriate State agencies, NGOs and older people can engage more effectively together to both identify and deliver actions. It is very important that those on the Steering group are at a level where they have decision-making powers enabling continuing change.

There is an important role for the Elected Representatives and the Local Community Development Committee to engage actively with the Age-Friendly Steering Group and the Older People’s Network to resolve difficulties in the implementation of the Age-Friendly Programme.

Based on the existing active older people’s network groups, an Older Peoples Council has been established. It has been agreed that to be truly representative, additional work on the structure of the council needs to take place. The Older Peoples Council should reflect the diversity of older people and enable formal participation. The focus of this Older People’s Council, for its first year, is to agree a long term sustainable structure and to contribute to the Age-Friendly work programme. Four members of this group sit on the Age-Friendly Steering Group and one member on the LCDC. This ensures good communication across the different structures. A mechanism employed in Kerry is that this group is now being established as a recognised link group to the Kerry Public Participation Network.

There are a number of mechanisms that need to be employed to ensure that the staff of the Local Authority work to deliver the Age-Friendly Programme. Within the Local Authority the development of a high-level cross departmental group meeting with the Age-Friendly Coordinator to assess progress on the strategy builds up awareness and understanding in addition to achieving results. The Municipal District structure allows for local implementation and review and also ensures a good geographic and rural/urban mix of projects.

The Age-Friendly Programme involves age-proofing key public sector planning and policy documents. The Strategic Policy Committee structure is a mechanism for review and implementation of policies and work programmes. Ensuring that the work programmes and actions are reviewed at this level will assist with the delivery of the programme.

There is a continuous learning in relation to the optimum linkages and opportunities to deliver the Age-Friendly Programme. Collaboration is key to achieving results and this work is always challenging.

The Table below illustrates how Age Friendly Programme has been embedded in Kerry.

Embedding the the Kerry Age Frienldy Programme using the WHO Principles and Values.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WHO Planning Principles and Values** | **How?** |
| Commitment to Action | Embedded age-related actions in local plans (i.e. County Development Plan, LECP, Tourism Strategy, Work Plans of the Joint Policing Committee, KRSP Strategic Plan 2017-2022, Arts Strategy 2016-2021 and the PPN Work Plan).  Extensive consultation and engagement on draft strategies (online, focus groups, public consultations etc.). Delivered training and awareness programmes (Public Realm and Access Training).  A number of Grant Schemes have been targeted at Age Friendly Actions including the Community Facilities Scheme, RAPID, Community Support Fund, Arts Grants and KRSP grants. |
| Future Proofing our Infrastructure & Key Services | Access Audits and Health Checks are underway in a number of towns across Kerry. Submissions have been made to the South West Regional Assembly and other policy makers.  Hosted by the PPN; an Access-for-All consultation Road Show in four Municipal Districts during 2018. Public Realm Training has been delivered. |
| Collaboration | The Age Friendly Programme is a high level action in Kerry’s LECP and is a priority action for 2017 and 2018. The Age Friendly Steering Group/Alliance reports to the LCDC - strong agency and older person representation. Older Peoples’ Network is being developed as part of very active PPN structure in Kerry.  Partnerships on specific areas of work with HSE such as Healthy Ireland, Connecting for Life. |
| Inclusion | The Older People’s Network aims to have wide representation - Business, Social, Sport, Health. Working with existing networks – Sean Cháirde, Rural Mens’ Network, Sliabh Luachra Network, and Listowel. Identifying and addressing gaps in representation. |
| Innovation | Economic based initiatives such as the Killarney Accessible Tourism Project. Seomra Scheme delivered through the LCDC and Community Facilities Funding. Implementing a Beach Access Programme.  Community Resilience Programme.  Healthy Ireland Fund targeted at age-related actions and in particular inter-generational projects. |

**The Added Value of an Age-Friendly Strategy for Kerry**

* As mentioned in other parts of this document, the development of an age-friendly strategy for County Kerry is built on the decades of experience in the county. It is built upon the work of a myriad of voluntary organisations, of community-based services, and of key agencies, all providing essential programmes and services for and with older people. The Age Friendly programme gives recognition to this work and will highlight innovative good practice.
* Having consulted with older people, older people’s organisations, service providers and key agencies, we now have a set of priorities – a consensus of basic needs to be addressed. Until now this consensus was perhaps implicit but not explicitly recorded.
* There is now the potential for greater interagency collaboration and coordination – a need highlighted by various respondents.
* Establishing the Older People’s Council provides a forum for consultation with older people, for feedback, for information gathering and for monitoring progress of actions.
* Having a strategy provides an opportunity to challenge attitudes towards aging, which is a priority issue in fostering age equality and inclusion.
* The Age-Friendly Alliance and the Older Person’s Council are structures which enable older people to participate in decision-making and influencing policy.
* The possibility for greater communication, for information-sharing between service providers leading to improved services, meeting gaps in provision and providing greater value for public money.

**Executive Summary based on the Consultation**

**We Are Growing Older!**

We are an ageing population in Ireland, and in Kerry in particular. This is well illustrated by Census 2016 reports. We are living longer due to improvements in lifestyle and medical advances. The census reports also shows us particular areas within the county that have higher levels of older people, with some communities reporting a very high level of age dependency and rural decline. Living longer poses new challenges. We need to facilitate greater participation and inclusion of older people, we need to provide for better services for the growing older population, we need to examine how our organisations and our practices could change to meet future demands; perhaps the starting point is how we perceive ageing.

**A Developed Policy Framework**

There is a substantial, well-developed set of national and international plans and policies for developing age-friendly in Ireland. In these documents emphasis is given to valuing the contribution of older people, to removing obstacles to full participation, and on developing national and local strategies in pursuit of an age-friendly society. The themes encompass health, equality, access to goods and services, care services, and support for continued living at home. These strategies and policies will help guide the development of an age-friendly strategy for Kerry. A number of key county strategies are referenced in this report (see bibliography). These strategies provide a framework that contribute towards preparing an age-friendly strategy for Kerry. The following are key points for consideration, in developing the Kerry Age-Friendly Strategy emerging from a review of the literature, from the individual and group consultations and from the statistics.

* **Health**

We are living longer and the population over 55 is predicted to increase significantly. More of us can expect into live to our eighties or beyond. This raises the question ‘what is the quality of these extra years?’ When we consider the health of the over 55s we are referring to a very broad range of abilities and health conditions. Each person’s situation is distinct and strategies need to meet individual needs. Irish research reports that a growing number of older people are living with chronic diseases, disability and social isolation. Public and voluntary services have been under-resourced and lack coordination to respond to the health needs of older people. Strategies call for barriers to participation to be removed, for supports to enable people to age with confidence, and to support people to maintain or improve their health. On-going health research is also required to understanding health needs.

* **Ageism**

On reading the literature on ageing one of the main challenges to be addressed is that of ageism. The stereotypical image of older people in Ireland is negative and ageism is widespread in our society, with older people being perceived as a burden rather than a resource. Ageism excludes the full participation of older people and perpetuates false beliefs about a growing proportion of our society. A lot can be done, and needs to be done, to counteract the negative perceptions and to highlight and value the many positive contributions that older people make in their families, their communities, in the workplace etc. To counter this, national policies suggest taking positive actions to promote positive images of older people. It is also worth remembering that age discrimination is against the law in Ireland. [[1]](#footnote-1)

* **Practical & Policy**

People wish to see practical action as is evidenced by the range of suggestions in the survey feedback. A number of issues dominate the feedback across the county; namely transport, the walkability of towns and villages, a range of access issues and some simple comfort requirements. Many are issues that can be addressed in the short to medium term. At a county level it is also necessary to have a policy context, or a strategic framework to drive the actions. Practice on the ground usually precedes policy; local communities and voluntary organisations responding to emerging needs. It is in gathering this experience and knowledge that better age-friendly practice can be identified and supported.

* **Living At Home**

Older people wish to remain living in their own homes as long as possible. In this regard they value the wide range of services and supports they receive. However, given the inconsistent nature of home supports and the cut-back in home-care hours, it is reasonable to assume that many older people at home have limited levels of these supports. There is a need for greater coordination between all providers, both statutory and voluntary to support older people to continue living at home in comfort and security.

* **Coordination & Interagency**

At both national and county level the need for greater coordination and interagency collaboration is highlighted by agencies and voluntary organisations. There are a considerable number of agencies and community and voluntary organisations providing a wide range of services, facilities and activities for older people across the county. However, many involved now call for greater coordination. While partnership has become accepted practice, the cut-backs in funding during the economic crash have left many organisations struggling to maintain their services, and partnership working can be seen as a luxury.

* **Networking**

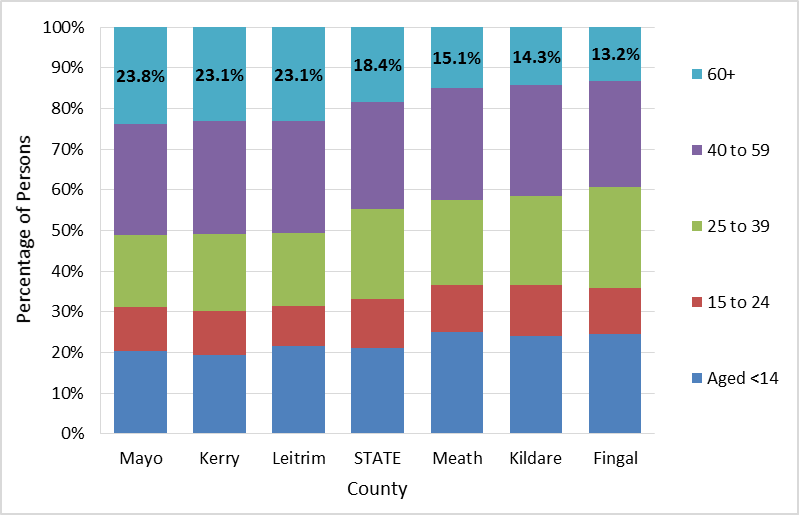
Networking provides valuable opportunities for older people’s groups to come together to share experiences and receive updates, to plan activities and to engage strategically with agencies and NGOs. Sean Chairde – the network of older people’s groups in South Kerry - provides a good example of networking of older people’s groups. It has developed good working relationships with various agencies and is recognised for its achievements. These networks also provide a democratic arrangement for nominating representatives onto county committees and structures.

* **Decision-Making**

Older people are best placed to identify the developments and improvements needed to make the county more age-friendly. Older people need to seek places in decision-making bodies so that their needs and views are presented first-hand. Agencies and organisations need to facilitate this involvement. The LECP action to establish a ‘management group’ to implement the age-friendly strategy is a good opportunity to ensure the direct involvement of the older person.

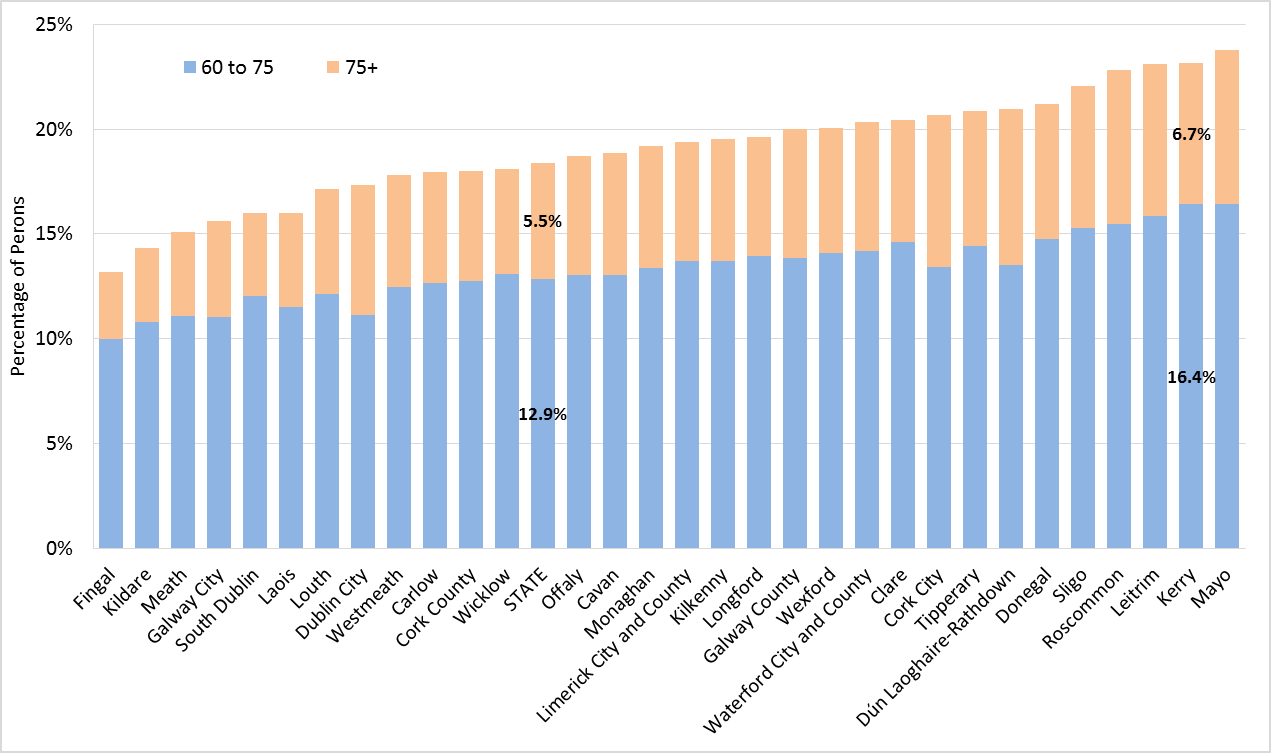
**Census 2016 – What Does it Tell us About Kerry?**

County Kerry has a total population of 147,707. Of these, 34,190 are aged 60+, while 9,910 are aged 75+. Thus, persons aged 60+ comprise 23.1% of the population, while those aged 75+ make up 6.7% of the county’s population. After Mayo, Kerry has the oldest population of any county in the State. Returns from the 2016 Census of Population shows that nationally, 18.4% of the population is aged 60+. In Kerry, the corresponding figure is 23.15% - a gap of almost five percentage points (4.75%). The following graph shows the percentage breakdown by age cohort of the counties with the oldest and youngest populations in Ireland.



**Percentage of Persons in defined Age Cohorts in Selected Counties and Ireland, 2016.**

As the following graph shows, Kerry has more in common with the counties of Connaught (except Galway) than it has with the rest of the State in respect of the proportion of persons aged 60 to 75 years and aged 75 and older.

**Percentage of Persons Aged 60 to 75 and Aged 75+ by County, 2016**

The following table provides a gender breakdowns of the cohorts aged 60+ and 75+ in selected geographies.

**Percentage of Persons by Gender in defined Age Cohorts in Selected Counties and Ireland, 2016.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County** | **Males** | | | | |  | **Females** | | | | |
| **Age 0 to 14** | **15 to 24** | **25 to 39** | **40 to 59** | **60+** |  | **Age 0 to 14** | **15 to 24** | **25 to 39** | **40 to 59** | **60+** |
| Mayo | 20.9% | 11.1% | 17.4% | 27.2% | 23.4% |  | 19.8% | 10.5% | 18.0% | 27.4% | 24.2% |
| Kerry | 20.0% | 10.9% | 18.5% | 28.1% | 22.6% |  | 19.0% | 10.5% | 19.3% | 27.5% | 23.7% |
| STATE | 21.9% | 12.4% | 21.6% | 26.4% | 17.6% |  | 20.4% | 11.8% | 22.4% | 26.2% | 19.1% |
| Kildare | 24.9% | 12.9% | 21.1% | 27.3% | 13.9% |  | 23.2% | 12.2% | 22.7% | 27.1% | 14.7% |
| Fingal | 25.6% | 11.8% | 24.0% | 26.2% | 12.5% |  | 23.5% | 10.9% | 25.6% | 26.2% | 13.8% |

As the table shows, females are proportionately over-represented in the older age cohort across all geographies. In Kerry, 22.6% of males are aged 60+, while the corresponding figure for females is 23.7%. The following population pyramids confirm both, Kerry’s older age profile and the higher proportion of females aged 60+. Moreover, Kerry has a higher proportion of persons aged 55+, indicating that the current ‘older than average’ age profile is likely to continue – thus necessitating a medium to long-term strategic approach.

**Population Pyramids for Ireland and County Kerry, 2016.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | |
| Ireland | | Kerry |

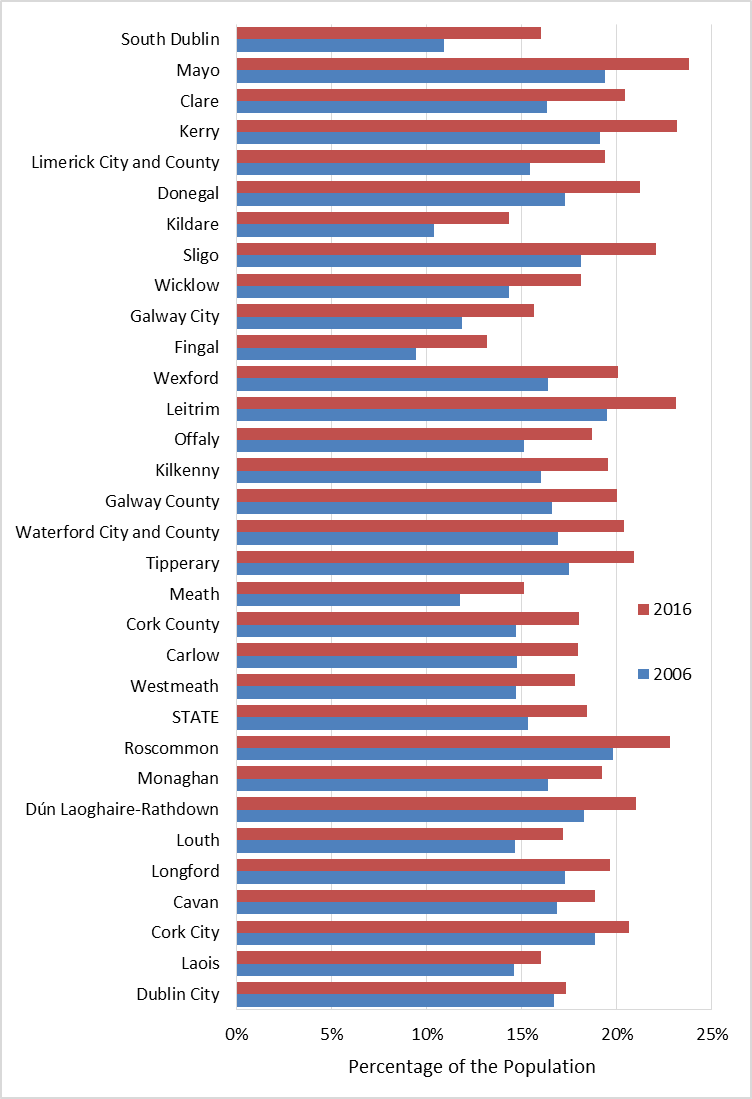
The population pyramids also reveal Kerry’s demographic composition, as they illustrate a relative undersupply of young people. This phenomenon can also be enumerated in respect of age dependency and economic dependency ratios, as per the following table. This shows that Kerry has:

* The second highest Elderly Dependency Ratio;
* The twelfth highest Economic Dependency Ratio; and
* The fifth lowest Youth Dependency Ratio.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County** | **Dependency Ratios** | | |
| **Youth** | **Elderly** | **Economic** |
| Mayo | 0.203 | 0.176 | 0.379 |
| **Kerry** | **0.195** | **0.169** | **0.364** |
| Leitrim | 0.216 | 0.169 | 0.385 |
| Roscommon | 0.212 | 0.166 | 0.378 |
| Sligo | 0.203 | 0.162 | 0.365 |
| Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown | 0.184 | 0.159 | 0.343 |
| Cork City | 0.143 | 0.157 | 0.300 |
| Donegal | 0.220 | 0.157 | 0.377 |
| Tipperary | 0.213 | 0.153 | 0.366 |
| Waterford City and County | 0.211 | 0.150 | 0.361 |
| Clare | 0.215 | 0.149 | 0.364 |
| Wexford | 0.220 | 0.147 | 0.367 |
| Galway County | 0.227 | 0.145 | 0.372 |
| Longford | 0.233 | 0.142 | 0.375 |
| Kilkenny | 0.219 | 0.142 | 0.361 |
| Limerick City and County | 0.203 | 0.141 | 0.344 |
| Monaghan | 0.227 | 0.140 | 0.367 |
| Cavan | 0.231 | 0.137 | 0.369 |
| Offaly | 0.227 | 0.136 | 0.363 |
| **STATE** | **0.211** | **0.134** | **0.345** |
| Dublin City | 0.150 | 0.130 | 0.281 |
| Wicklow | 0.227 | 0.130 | 0.357 |
| Cork County | 0.229 | 0.130 | 0.359 |
| Carlow | 0.222 | 0.129 | 0.351 |
| Westmeath | 0.223 | 0.128 | 0.351 |
| Louth | 0.230 | 0.125 | 0.355 |
| Laois | 0.246 | 0.113 | 0.359 |
| Galway City | 0.168 | 0.112 | 0.281 |
| South Dublin | 0.230 | 0.111 | 0.341 |
| Meath | 0.251 | 0.107 | 0.357 |
| Kildare | 0.241 | 0.099 | 0.340 |
| Fingal | 0.245 | 0.091 | 0.337 |

**Youth, Elderly and Economic Dependency Ratios in Irish Counties, 2016**

Between 2006 and 2016, the number of persons aged 60 years and over in County Kerry increased from 26,701 to 34,190. This represents an increase of twenty-eight percent. This level of increase is below the national average of thirty-five percent (34.9%) over the same period. Other counties that have large proportions of older people (e.g., Mayo and Leitrim) also recorded below average increases in the proportion of person aged 60+, but indicating that the trend toward an ageing population has been established in Kerry and in rural Connaught over a longer period of time than is the case elsewhere. Between 2006 and 2016, the proportion of the State’s population aged 60+ increased from 15.3% to 18.4%, an increase of 3.1 percentage points. The percentage point increase in Kerry was 4.1%, behind South Dublin (5.1%), Mayo (4.4%) and Clare (4.14%). The following diagram shows the inter-censual changes for all counties. Counties are sequenced on the graph in descending order, beginning with the county that experienced the largest percentage point increase.



**Percentage of the Population aged 60+ in Irish Counties and the State, 2006 and 2016**

The Central Statistics office (CSO) projects that the ageing trend will continue, as presented in the following tables:

**Projected Population from 2011 (M1) (Thousand) by Criteria for Projection, Age Group and Year**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cohort** | **2011** | **2016** | **2021** | **2026** | **2031** | **2036** | **2041** | **2046** |
| 60 - 64 years | 217.1 | 235.4 | 262.2 | 292.7 | 318.4 | 348.7 | 374.2 | 349.4 |
| 65 - 69 years | 172.1 | 205.8 | 226.4 | 253.9 | 284.2 | 309.9 | 340 | 365.7 |
| 70 - 74 years | 130.1 | 157.8 | 192.3 | 213.6 | 240.9 | 270.8 | 296.3 | 326.1 |
| 75 - 79 years | 101.4 | 112.3 | 139.9 | 172.9 | 194.1 | 220.6 | 249.6 | 274.7 |
| 80 - 84 years | 69.8 | 78.7 | 90.4 | 115.6 | 145.2 | 165.4 | 190.3 | 217.6 |
| 85 years and over | 58.2 | 69.9 | 85.2 | 104.6 | 136.6 | 179.5 | 221.8 | 266.9 |

Within Kerry, there is considerable spatial variation in respect of distribution of persons aged 60+. As the following table shows, the South and West Municipal District has the highest proportion of persons aged over 60.

**Persons Aged 60+ by Age Cohort and Municipal District (MD) in County Kerry, 2016.**



The following table lists the twenty Electoral Divisions with the highest proportions of older people, by gender.

**Electoral Divisions in County Kerry with the highest Proportions of Persons aged 60+, 2016**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ED** | **Females** | |  | **ED** | **Males** | |
| **% aged 60+** | **% aged 65+** |  | **% aged 60+** | **% aged 65+** |
| 013 Darrynane | 34.9% | 23.3% |  | 013 Darrynane | 41.7% | 27.4% |
| 156 Knockglass | 33.5% | 28.4% |  | 054 Glanmore | 34.4% | 25.0% |
| 107 Gullane | 32.7% | 22.8% |  | 042 Márthain | 32.9% | 21.4% |
| 049 Castlecove | 31.3% | 18.8% |  | 006 Ballybrack | 28.8% | 22.0% |
| 103 Cloontubbrid | 31.0% | 27.7% |  | 049 Castlecove | 28.5% | 20.0% |
| 042 Márthain | 30.9% | 24.3% |  | 060 Sneem | 28.4% | 18.6% |
| 059 Reen | 30.9% | 21.0% |  | 103 Cloontubbrid | 28.2% | 23.3% |
| 055 Greenane | 30.2% | 23.8% |  | 019 Loughcurrane | 28.0% | 17.3% |
| 017 Killinane | 29.8% | 19.8% |  | 046 Ardea | 28.0% | 16.9% |
| 023 St. Finan's | 29.0% | 21.7% |  | 090 Muckross | 27.8% | 19.5% |
| 060 Sneem | 28.4% | 21.4% |  | 153 Killahan | 27.6% | 18.4% |
| 105 Duagh | 28.2% | 24.1% |  | 027 Ballyduff | 27.1% | 20.3% |
| 037 Inch | 28.2% | 22.4% |  | 055 Greenane | 27.0% | 20.5% |
| 094 Astee | 27.8% | 21.2% |  | 014/011 Cloon/Daoire Ianna | 26.7% | 16.4% |
| 054 Glanmore | 27.6% | 22.0% |  | 032 Deelis | 26.4% | 16.9% |
| 025 Valencia | 27.6% | 22.6% |  | 037 Inch | 26.1% | 19.3% |
| 148 Gneeves | 27.4% | 21.3% |  | 125 Tarmon | 26.1% | 20.1% |
| 001 Killarney Urban | 27.4% | 21.3% |  | 004 Bahaghs | 25.2% | 17.1% |
| 004 Bahaghs | 27.3% | 19.2% |  | 113 Kilshenane | 24.8% | 17.3% |
| 006 Ballybrack | 27.0% | 23.8% |  | 059 Reen | 24.7% | 20.6% |

While the majority of EDs with high proportions of persons aged 60% are in rural areas, Kerry’s main towns also have considerable numbers of older persons, as the following table shows:

**Persons in Kerry’s Main towns aged 60+, in Absolute Numbers and as a Proportion of the Population**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ED** | **60 - 64 years** | **65 - 69 years** | **70 - 74 years** | **75 - 79 years** | **80 - 84 years** | **85 years and over** | **Total Persons** | **% Aged 60+** |
| Killarney Urban | 577 | 550 | 514 | 373 | 232 | 177 | 10,194 | 23.8% |
| Killarney Rural | 312 | 251 | 203 | 146 | 94 | 42 | 6,585 |  |
| Listowel Urban | 219 | 164 | 135 | 127 | 80 | 82 | 3,901 | 20.7% |
| Listowel Rural | 86 | 66 | 57 | 47 | 39 | 35 | 1,397 |  |
| Tralee Urban | 297 | 267 | 238 | 205 | 150 | 87 | 5,456 | 22.8% |
| Tralee Rural | 661 | 614 | 467 | 332 | 224 | 158 | 16,611 |  |
| **Town and Environs** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Killarney | 889 | 801 | 717 | 519 | 326 | 219 | 16,779 | 20.7% |
| Listowel | 305 | 230 | 192 | 174 | 119 | 117 | 5,298 | 21.5% |
| Tralee | 958 | 881 | 705 | 537 | 374 | 245 | 22,067 | 16.8% |
| **Other Towns[[2]](#footnote-2)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Castleisland | 171 | 147 | 114 | 104 | 74 | 51 | 3,285 | 20.1% |
| Dingle | 77 | 63 | 54 | 56 | 36 | 39 | 1,775 | 18.3% |
| Killorglin | 197 | 161 | 129 | 92 | 72 | 59 | 3,868 | 18.4% |
| Kenmare | 107 | 100 | 76 | 64 | 55 | 57 | 2,462 | 18.6% |
| Milltown | 81 | 64 | 43 | 34 | 36 | 26 | 1,447 | 19.6% |
| Cahersiveen | 110 | 72 | 97 | 83 | 48 | 42 | 2,127 | 21.3% |

**Quality of Life Issues**

The CSO projects that an increasing number of persons aged 60+ years will remain in the labour force, as the following table illustrates:

**Actual and Projected Labour Force from 2011 (M2) by Age Group, statistical indicator and Year**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Age Cateogory** | **Cohort** | **2011** | **2016** | **2021** | **2026** |
| 60 - 64 years | Persons (Thousand) | 97.8 | 110.9 | 125.8 | 139.8 |
| Males (Thousand) | 60.8 | 70 | 79.9 | 88.6 |
| Females - all (Thousand) | 37 | 40.9 | 45.9 | 51.2 |
| Females - married (Thousand) | 33.2 | 36.3 | 40.1 | 44.7 |
| Females - other (Thousand) | 3.8 | 4.6 | 5.8 | 6.5 |
| 65 years and over | Persons (Thousand) | 48.9 | 66.3 | 92.6 | 125.4 |
| Males (Thousand) | 33.3 | 46.1 | 61.3 | 79.8 |
| Females - all (Thousand) | 15.6 | 20.2 | 31.3 | 45.6 |
| Females - married (Thousand) | 14.2 | 17.5 | 27.2 | 39.7 |
| Females - other (Thousand) | 1.4 | 2.6 | 4.1 | 5.9 |

The CSO data suggest that the increase in older people’s participation in the labour force will be more pronounced in respect of females. Health and ability/ disability issues are particularly relevant to the quality of life of older people. As the following table shows, the number and proportion of persons with a disability in Kerry and across Ireland is increasing. These increases are associated with the ageing of the population.

**Persons with a Disability as a Percentage of All Population, 2011 to 2016 in Ireland and Co. Kerry.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Classification** | **State** | **Kerry** |
| Total persons 2011 (Number) | 4,588,252 | 145,502 |
| Total persons 2016 (Number) | 4,761,865 | 147,707 |
| Persons with a disability 2011 (Number) | 595,335 | 19,168 |
| Persons with a disability 2016 (Number) | 643,131 | 19,965 |
| Persons with a disability as a % of total persons (%) | 13.5 | 13.5 |
| Actual change in persons with a disability since previous census (Number) | 47,796 | 797 |
| Percentage change in persons with a disability since previous census (%) | 8 | 4.2 |

The census data also include an enumeration on self-declared health status. The following table presents the responses provided by older persons:

**Self-Declared Health Status among persons in County Kerry, Aged 60+, 2016**



The table illustrates the association between ageing and health challenges. The following table provides details on some of these health challenges – specifically, the types of disabilities which affect older persons.



**What Does The Literature Tell Us?**

**An Ageing Global Population**

The World Health Organisation has developed strategies and policies to guide national governments as they develop their own national age-friendly plans. The age-friendly strategy for Ireland has been framed in this context.

* **The World Health Organisation,** **Draft Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Ageing and Health, 2016-2020**
* Populations around the world are ageing rapidly. Between 2000 and 2050, the proportion of the world’s population aged 60 years or over will double from about 11% to 22%.
* These extra years of life and this reshaping of society have profound implications for each of us, as well as for the communities we live in.
* Longer lives provide the opportunity for rethinking not just what older age might be but how our whole life course might unfold.
* Longer lives are an incredibly valuable resource, both for each of us as individuals and for society more broadly. Older people participate in, and contribute to, society in many ways, including as mentors, caregivers, artists, consumers, innovators, entrepreneurs and members of the workforce.
* **World Health Organisation 2016 – 2020;** **Multisectoral Action for a Life Course Approach to Healthy Ageing: Draft Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Ageing and Health.**

The vision of the World Health Organisation’s strategic plan is;

*A world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life*

All nation states are encouraged to develop their own strategic plans within the five strategic objectives of the WHO global plan;

1. Commitment to action on Healthy Ageing in every country

2. Developing age-friendly environments

3. Aligning health systems to the needs of older populations

4. Developing sustainable and equitable systems for providing long-term care (home, communities and institutions)

5. Improving measurement, monitoring and research on Healthy Ageing

*What is Age-Friendly?*

The World Health Organisation defines an “age-friendly” community as one in which all organisations, and everyone from all walks of life:

* recognises diversity among older people
* promotes the inclusion of older people
* values their contribution to community life
* respects their decisions
* anticipates and responds flexibly to ageing-related needs and preferences.

**The Irish Context – Key Strategies & Reports**

* **Age-Friendly Ireland[[3]](#footnote-3)**

In the context of global initiatives to make our cities, towns and counties more age-friendly an Age-Friendly Strategy has been developed in Ireland. The Age-Friendly Cities and Counties Programme is part of an international effort, coordinated by the World Health Organisation (WHO). It is a global movement that is enabling older people to contribute to their localities and communities on every continent. The results are positive ageing, better cities and counties, and more relevant and effective local government, service delivery and business opportunities.

Age-Friendly Ireland’s vision is;

***‘ that Ireland becomes a great country in which to grow old’***

And the mission of Age-Friendly Ireland is;

*To guide the development of effective city- and county-based, multi-agency Age-Friendly Strategies aimed at improving the quality of life of older people throughout Ireland.*

Age-Friendly Cities and Counties will:

* show how older people contribute to society and are a resource, not a burden
* support greater participation by older people in the social, economic and cultural life of the community to everyone’s benefit
* foster improvements in older people’s health and wellbeing
* demonstrate how collaborative working and imaginative, cost-effective partnerships can make services and supports for older people more responsive, professional, effective, efficient and accessible.

Universal Design

The concept of universal design is central to this process because a city/ town/ village which enhances life for older people also improves the mobility and independence of people with disabilities. Safe neighbourhoods allow children, young families and older people partake in physical, leisure and social activities with confidence. Families experience less stress when their older members have the community support and health services that they need.

* **Healthy Ireland Strategy; A Framework for Improved Health & Well-Being,**

**Dept Health 2013-2025**

The strategy envisages agencies, voluntary and community organisations collaborating together to;

* Support, link with and further improve existing partnerships, strategies and initiatives that aim to support older people to maintain, improve or manage their physical and mental wellbeing.
* Remove barriers to participation and to provide more opportunities for the involvement of older people in all aspects of cultural, economic and social life in their communities.
* Enable people to age with confidence in comfort, security and dignity in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.
* Strengthen participation in decision - making for health and wellbeing at community level
* Create ‘activity friendly’ environments: cycle lanes, playgrounds, well-lit paths, etc …facilities that are appropriate to the needs of the community.
* **Positive Ageing Strategy, Dept Health, 2013**

The National Positive Ageing Strategy sets out a vision for an age-friendly society and includes four National Goals around participation, health, security, and research to provide direction on the issues that need to be addressed to promote positive ageing. The Strategy is to be implemented under the broader Healthy Ireland framework, which sets out a vision to improve the health and wellbeing of the entire population of Ireland.

The Strategy identifies four national goals:

1. Remove barriers to participation and provide more opportunities for the continued involvement of people as they age in all aspects of cultural, economic and social life in their communities according to their needs, preferences and capacities;
2. Support people as they age to maintain, improve or manage their physical and mental health and wellbeing;
3. Enable people to age with confidence, security and dignity in their own homes and communities for as long as possible;
4. Support and use research about people as they age to better inform policy responses to population ageing in Ireland.

* **Healthy & Positive Ageing for All, HSE Research Strategy 2015-2019**

‘Many people are living longer in better health, but not everyone who is

living longer is adding ‘healthy years’ to their life’

* Over the last 50 years, Ireland has changed significantly. We have a multi-national, cosmopolitan and globalised society with an increasing population. Our population aged 65 years and over is growing by approximately 20,000 each year and will have increased by 111,200 people by 2022. Similarly, our population aged 85 years and over is growing by 4% each year.
* Living longer poses challenges, including living with chronic disease, isolation, cognitive loss and financial hardship. Service use and the care needs of older populations differ significantly
* Ireland’s population structure is changing. Similar to other European countries, Ireland is witnessing a growth in its older population, primarily due to medical innovations, enhanced treatments and improved lifestyles… There are an increasing number of older people in Ireland living with multi-morbidities and chronic disease, social isolation, disabilities, and cognitive decline. These can impact severely on their quality of life. The country is projected to witness a major growth in the number of persons aged 50 years and older, with a significant increase occurring in those 80 years and over.
* **Implementing Equality For Older People, Equality Authority, 2002**

‘Strong negative stereotypes of older people persist. Systems and institutional behaviours end up posing barriers to the participation of older people…’

In their policy document on equality for older people in Ireland the Equality Authority states that ageism is social constructed, and that it is perceived as; ‘*received wisdom…plain common sense!...’*

Their recommendations are built on key strategies and include;

* + - Age proofing/ equality proofing
    - Positive action
    - Participation in decision-making
    - Age-awareness training
    - Legislative development
* **Provision of Age-Friendly Goods & Services, Conference Proceedings, Towards an Age-Friendly Society in Ireland, Report No 94, The Equality Authority; Health Service Executive; National Council on Ageing and Older People, 2006**

Papers presented at the conference corroborate the findings of similar studies carried out in other countries that older people (in Ireland) are stereotyped when it comes to dealing with service providers. The study found that some service providers treated older people as if they had limited understanding of their situation and were unable to make decisions regarding their own care. It also found that there was age discrimination in relation to older people’s access to services with many older people feeling that they had been ‘fobbed off’ because of their age. The study further found that much of the ageism that exists is purely unintentional.

* **Towards Age-Friendly Provision of Goods and Services, The Equality Authority & HSE, 2nd Edition, June 2010**

This report highlights the difficulties brought about through ageism in Ireland. Ageism is widespread in Ireland it states; both young and old can hold ageist attitudes. Being bombarded with negative images of age, and misunderstandings about the ageing process, it is not surprising that many older people take on board these views and come to believe them to be ‘natural’ and ‘common sense’. The report proposes a framework for action. Nine different initiatives are identified as providing starting points for age-friendly provision of goods and services;

1. Develop staff awareness about ageism and equality for older people.
2. Take steps to ensure older customers are treated with dignity and respect.
3. Consult with older customers and organisations of older people.
4. Age proof or audit provision of goods and services for their relevance and availability to older people.
5. Take steps to ensure goods and services provided are accessible to older people.
6. Provide user friendly information to older customers.
7. Provide advocacy supports to older customers when required.
8. Target specific goods and services to meet the particular needs of older people.
9. Employ older people.

* **Care For Older People, National Economic & Social Forum, Report No 32, November 2005**

This reports proposes a strategy on supporting older people to continue to live at home. It highlights some of the challenges relating to strategies and services for older people.

* 1. An underdeveloped community care system, that is crisis-driven and lacking in coordination and resources
  2. Slow pace of implementation of service development
  3. Ageism and negative discrimination are serious blockages to progress
  4. Carers are a core element of any strategy

Key recommendations include;

* + - Greater coordination
    - More resources
    - Clarify entitlements
    - A national action plan on aging
    - Promote positive action/ address ageism
    - Age awareness training for relevant staff
    - Acknowledge the role of carers as a core element of any strategy

**What Does The Literature Tell Us? – Key Kerry Strategies**

* **County Development Plan, 2015 – 2020, Kerry County Council**

The county development plan aims to provide for the proper planning and sustainable development of County Kerry within a spatial planning framework. Chapter 9 of the plan; Social Infrastructure & Community Development outlines the councils’ strategic objectives relating to age-friendly and older people. This plan specifically references the inclusion of age-friendly values and commitments within future local areas development plans. Another objective in the plan is to support older people to continue living in their own homes as long as is possible. The council also commits to promoting universal equality of access to spaces and facilities under their management. The plan also prioritises the provision of social housing, the integration of healthcare facilities, the clustering of facilities within villages and towns, the provision of outdoor gym equipment and improving the walkability of towns and villages also.

* **Kerry Local Community & Economic Plan, 2016 – 2022**

The purpose of the plan is described in terms of supporting, promoting and strengthening sustainable development within the county. The plan sets out a series of high-level goals within which is goal 3.5 relating to the development of this age-friendly strategy. Some of the strategic actions in the plan are;

* consultation with older people in developing an age-friendly strategy
* the development of a transport form and a county transport strategy which are lacking at present
* undertaking a physical access audit to identify barriers to services and facilities
* supporting independent living
* establishing a management group for the age-friendly strategy
* promoting a community safety strategy
* **Connecting For Life; Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2017-2020**

Disturbingly, the report *Connecting for Life Kerry* states that the county has the second highest rate of death by suicide in the (National Office for Suicide Prevention 2013). Some people in our communities are more vulnerable to risk of suicide including older men in isolated rural area. Of relevance to Age-Friendly are the factors that protect people from risk of suicide and this includes having strong personal relationships, religious or spiritual beliefs and a lifestyle practice of positive coping strategies and wellbeing.

*Relationships are especially protective for adolescents and the elderly,*

*who have a higher level of dependency.*

In the course of preparing the report the authors consulted widely and 3 factors were highlighted for protecting against suicide in Kerry;

1) Social Interaction

2) Building Resilience and

3) Physical Activity

The actions in the plan particularly relevant to the Age-Friendly strategy are related to providing information and training to local organisations and community groups.

* **Aging With Confidence, Cork & Kerry, Southern Health Board, October 1999**

*‘We must remove the narrow perception of older people being dependent on society…’*

*‘The longer older people remain in good health and disability-free, the better will be their quality of life and the greater their contribution to society’*

Some key elements in this strategy relevant to Kerry Age-Friendly Strategy;

* + Need for greater coordination of services between all providers including community and voluntary organisations
  + Promotion of partnership model and greater interagency collaboration, with a need to clarify roles and better lines of communication
  + Establish an interagency forum for older people’s services
  + Highlights the need to change attitudes, acknowledgement that institutions and services themselves can be ageist, age-awareness training
  + Key role of carers
  + Valuing the role of older people
  + Valuing and support the services provided by community and voluntary
  + Loneliness and isolation – the importance of social networks
  + Common feedback across the sectors from the consultation process;
    - Valuing the contribution of older people
    - The need for empowerment and personal choice
    - Supporting independence in the home
    - Provision of a spectrum of services
    - Valuing the contribution of the voluntary sector
    - Valuing the role of carers

**What Can Be Learned From the Reports & Strategies?**

* Living longer poses challenges and opportunities for the way we plan and provide for services and for the participation of older people. To meet the new challenges actions need to be strategic. As can be seen there is a developed framework to inform counties as they develop and implement their local age-friendly strategies.
* Enjoying good health is a key element of ageing with confidence. As long as older people enjoy good health, quality of life is better. Individual responses are required for individual needs. Health is multi-faceted and a range of factors need to be considered when preparing a strategy.
* Ageism is widespread and it excludes older people. Mostly age-based discrimination is unintentional, it is a learned attitude that tends to stereotype a wide section of society simply based on age and perceptions of age. Ageism is found within younger and older people, as the prevailing wisdom and portrayal of ageing is internalised and accepted as ‘common sense’. In developing a strategy, actions need to be developed that address age discrimination, for example staff age-awareness training.
* Formal structures need to be put in place to give older people a voice. While services and facilities provide essential supports, it has not necessarily been the case that this was based on the expressed needs of older people. Consultation and engagement will assist older people to become more vocal in expressing the needs.
* The contribution of older people should be valued and portrayed positively. Positive actions need to be taken, e.g. media initiatives that portray the positive roles, achievements and contributions of older people.
* Continue to support older people to live at home but at the same time avoid social isolation. People wish to remain living in their own home as long as is possible, and this is supported by national policy. Individuals require individual responses that address a number of issues including; health, safety and security, and social participation.
* Include older people in decision-making and influencing policy. Actions need to be taken to ensure representation. To facilitate this space needs to be created on various structures to accommodate the representation of older people directly.
* Coordination and collaboration. Both national strategies and local feedback call for greater coordination and collaboration, this will facilitate State agencies and community-based to maximise resources and improve effectiveness of services.
* Research and learning. A key component of influencing policy is the gathering of qualitative and quantitative data and feedback. This allows progress to be measured, needs to be clarified and successful strategies to be identified and highlighted.

**World Health Organisation Age-Friendly Themes**

The eight age-friendly themes arose from the work of the World Health Organisation on active ageing. These are the themes guiding all Age-Friendly strategies in Ireland and throughout the world.



In the Kerry Age-Friendly Report and Work Plan, the following are the higher level objectives that have been developed based on consultations and feedback from individuals and organisations;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **WHO Themes** | **Objectives** |
| 1. **Outdoor Spaces & Public Buildings** | Improve accessibility and public realm design in our communities, villages and towns |
| 1. **Transportation** | Through consultation to develop a public and community transport strategy that meets the needs of older people. |
| 1. **Housing** | Support people as they age to stay living in their own homes and communities. |
| 1. **Social Participation** | Support activities and facilities that promote social connections. |
| 1. **Respect and Social Inclusion** | Challenge ageism and promote the positive contribution of older people in social, economic and public life. |
| 1. **Civic Participation & Employment** | Develop initiatives that facilitate people to engage in employment, civic life and lifelong learning. |
| 1. **Communication & Information** | Improve access to information and develop increased usage of information technology. |
| 1. **Community Support & Health Services** | Coordinate and develop services to enable people to lead healthier and active lives for longer. |

**Consulting with Older People – What did People Say?**

The feedback from almost 200 older people in the county was gathered and summarised for this action plan. This included questionnaires completed by hand, questionnaires completed on line, focus groups, and a specific survey undertaken by HSE with Sean Chairde in South Kerry. In addition the report was presented to a stakeholder’s workshop

Taking the eight age-friendly themes, the feedback from individual questionnaires can be summarised as per the table below. These comments and needs give a good indication of the feedback received, for further details see appendix 2.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Theme and Some Comments** | **Needs Identified** |
| * + - * 1. **Outdoor Spaces & Buildings**   *paths difficult to negotiate*  *footpaths uneven, not enough seating*  *Lack of public areas with seat/benches* | Good footpaths, kerbs crossings and ramps.  Key services connected.  Sufficient toilets and in good locations.  More public seating.  Clear signage.  Consult older people.  Reduce traffic speed. |
| **2. Transport and Access**  *Lack of transport*  *no transport availability on many days and weekends*  *not easy to join up with health and activity appointments* | Design the service to meet users’ needs.  More routes, greater flexibility.  Disability friendly, accessible services. |
| **3. Home and Where You Live**  *lovely place to live*  *good community spirit*  *need for services/facilities to assist aging in place*  *feeling more vulnerable with age*  *some people don’t feel very safe*  *neighbourhood watch not active enough* | Allow older people to live in their own environment.  Trustworthy, reasonably priced home and garden help.  Home visitation services, more contact  A better Garda presence in both rural and urban areas including daytime.  Active Community Alert and neighbourhood |
| **4. Community Support & Health**  **Services**  *Local services are not consistent*  *Community hospitals excellent*  *Some communities lack facilities locally*  *lack of support in the home* | Make community centres more attractive.  More outreach services and home visits.  Provide the supports needed to live at home.  Provide information on services & supports. |
| **5. Respect and Social Inclusion**  *good local inclusion, friendly community*  *exclusion making it difficult for older people to be involved*  *older people targeted as vulnerable* | Importance of the Older Peoples Council  Ageism awareness training  Involve older people in policy development.  Highlight achievements of older people.  Develop links with younger people. |
| **6. Social Participation**  *plenty to go to in bigger towns if you have the company*  *not being mobile to attend social days, no transport*  *Poor facilities and range of activities in some communities*  *not enough for younger retirees* | Greater emphasis on health and well-being.  Provide leadership training.  School education progammes involving older people.  Improved local public transport.  More creative and arts based activity  Better meeting spaces. |
| **7. Communication and Information**  *nearly everything has to be done on-line*  *Information readily available for those who are computer literate*  *Difficult to find information on activities* | Community groups need to use a range of methods when communicating.  Better mobile phone coverage required.  Training on better use of phones, laptops etc.  Continue providing IT programmes. |
| **8. Civic Participation & Employment**  *lack of education opportunities for older persons on the updating technology skills*  *Many older people would like to be more involved and share expertise*  *Many older people volunteer*  *Many older people are involved in childcare and caring* | Lobby to change compulsory retiring age.  Examine schemes that facilitate the employment of older people.  Mentoring and other schemes to be explored.  Promote and support the involvement of older people in communities and society. |

**Kerry County Age-Friendly Draft Action Plan**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Theme 1 – Outdoor Spaces & Buildings**  National Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcome; *that all people as they age are enabled by the built and social environment*  Commentary  The starting point for an Age-Friendly county is that streets, parks and public buildings allow for comfortable movement of people. This involves for example ensuring footpaths are even and dished at crossings, that adequate toilet facilities are provided, public seating appropriately located, and bus shelters where required. This theme refers to accessibility and ‘walkability’ of towns and villages. People were asked to comment on what it is like to go for a walk, to go shopping or meet people. The question prompted people to consider footpaths and going into buildings such as public offices, shops or banks.  The physical environment in which older people live has considerable potential to enable or disable their physical, social, civic and community interactions.  (The Story So Far; Age Friendly Ireland)  Survey feedback;   * Footpaths are a key issue; surfaces need to be even, steps should be avoided, enforce by-laws regarding parking on footpaths and placing obstacles such as wheelie-bins and signs on footpaths * Walking in safety; more footpaths required connecting the outskirts of villages and towns to the centres * Comfort; sufficient toilet facilities, well-placed seating and bus shelters all add to the comfort of movement within towns and villages   ***‘’We don’t have footpaths as such down to the village…treacherous walking down and up for anyone. I am my husband’s carer, he is in a wheelchair and going blind, hard to take out as I don’t drive. The road is so bad, the cars race down the road by us and as he can’t see – I have to be his eyes’’ (wife and husband both over 75)***  ***‘’At Killarney Bus Depot, while waiting for a bus, there are no external seats to sit on, only cold window ledges’’***  Kerry County Council – County Development Plan 2015 – 2020;  It is therefore important that our living, working and leisure environments are designed and maintained in a manner to ensure people of all backgrounds and circumstances can achieve equality and access to the facilities and services needed to achieve their own potential in life… Kerry County Council is committed to contributing to the development of a more inclusive public realm which allows all people to use space in the same way – and on equal terms.  ...Engage with local communities and other key stakeholders to improve the quality and experience of towns for older people.  …Promote universal equality of access to public spaces, buildings and community services by ensuring that appropriate design solutions are  incorporated into all developments.  **Public Realm -** areas, spaces, buildings etc used by the public in general.  **Universal Design -** designing our public spaces and buildings to be accessible and inclusive for all. | | |
| **Theme 1- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**  **Action; Improve accessibility and public realm design in the delivery of projects in our communities, villages and towns based on Design for All.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agencies & Partners** |
| 1. Footpaths need to be of the highest standard. Walking from outskirts of towns and villages to the centre can be difficult. 2. Walking in rural areas is difficult. 3. Strategically located public conveniences are needed to enable better circulation and participation by local people and visitors. 4. Infrastructure such as additional seating and covered bus shelters are required. 5. Obstacles are placed on footpaths, such as wheelie-bins and signs. 6. Lighting can be poor in some areas. 7. Parking is an issue and people without disabilities, park in disability spaces. 8. Safe Cycling Routes would enable people to remain active for longer. 9. Business and services need to be made aware of the older person as a consumer and the level of disposable income. | * + 1. Conduct audits of accessibility, walkability and connectivity in towns, villages and approach roads, in each Municipal Area.     2. Integrate footpath improvements with road improvement works.     3. Install age-friendly surfaces in towns and villages.     4. Pursue a funding model to support above actions   1.2.1 In consultation with local communities and in partnership with the Local Authority, develop responses locally. Eg alternative walking routes or integrate footpaths with road improvement works.  1.2.2 Develop further schemes to promote the importance of wearing high vis clothing and the importance of visibility while walking generally.  1.3.1 Deliver additional toilet facilities in general as well as in shops, shopping centres and businesses.  1.4.1 Deliver more covered bus shelters with seating in addition to seating generally.  1.5.1 Enforce by-laws regarding parking on footpaths and obstacles on footpaths.  1.5.2. Increase business awareness of obstacles eg signage, sandwich boards etc  1.6.1 Review public lighting in public recreation areas and where people congregate.  1.7.1 Enforce by-laws regarding parking in disability spaces and increase disability parking spaces.  1.7.2 Introduce Age-Friendly parking scheme.  1.8.1 Develop more cycling routes at strategic locations around the county.  1.9.1 Develop an age-friendly business plan to incorporate both awareness raising and the requirements to make a business Age-Friendly.  1.9.2 Develop an Age-Friendly Business Recognition Award Scheme. | KCC  KCC  KCC and private businesses  National Transport Authority  KCC, Gardai  KCC, Gardai  KCC/Chamber Alliances/Community Groups  KCC, Local Communities, Local Link, Chamber Alliances, LDCs.  KCC, Chamber Alliances, Local Communities.  Chamber Alliances  Grocery Representative bodies, Vintners, LEO. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Theme 2 – Transportation & Access**  National Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcome; …*get to where we need to go, when we need to*  Commentary  From the survey feedback it could be argued that this is the priority theme for developing an age-friendly county in Kerry. Given the age profile for Kerry and the rural nature of the county, it is not surprising that transport is identified as the main issue to be addressed. While there is a distinct difference in the scale of the problem for those living in rural areas, the issue of local transport for older people living in urban areas should not be overlooked. People stated that having a car and being able to drive to town, to the local village and to social events etc gives great freedom and independence – whereas not having a car or not being able to drive creates dependency and contributes to social isolation. Kerry does not have a County Transport Strategy at present, without it the issue cannot be addressed comprehensively.  Many people are living longer in better health, but not everyone who is living longer is adding ‘healthy years’ to their life. There are an increasing number of older people in Ireland living with multi-morbidities and chronic disease, social isolation, disabilities, and cognitive decline. These can impact severely on their quality of life.  Healthy & Positive Aging for All, HSE Research Strategy, 2015-2019  Survey feedback;   * Public transport is criticised as being insufficient with services very limited * Older people want to maintain their independence but can feel dependent on family, friends and neighbours for a lift * Rural transport services provided by Local Link Kerry and Kerry Flyer are greatly appreciated and valued, however, greater flexibility and frequency is required * Vehicles need to be disability friendly and accessible, and need to meet modern standards   **‘’Transport for older people to activities is a big issue. We are dependent on our children, maybe grandchildren and we don’t like that.**  **We were used to transporting them all our lives! Hard to adapt to changes’’**  **‘’Living in rural Ireland is wonderful as long as one can drive. Without a car, one cab be totally isolated’’**  Kerry County Council – County Development Plan 2015 – 2020;  The Council is strongly committed to the promotion of sustainable means of travel including public transport, walking and cycling…  Kerry Local Economic & Community Plan 2016 – 2021;  Development of a Transport Forum that will support the development of a County Community Transport Strategy | | |
| **Theme 2 – Transportation and Access**  **Action; To develop both a public transport and community transport action plan that meets the needs of older people.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agencies & Partners** |
| * 1. Community transport services are greatly appreciated, however Community and Rural transport provision is limited. Lack of evening and weekend provision is a major issue.   2. Urban Provision is limited with little linkage from outskirts of towns to town centres.   3. Accessibility & suitability of vehicles is not consistent. Need identified for more accessible vehicles.   4. Bus stops and shelters need to be of a consistent standard and should include information on bus services.   5. There are not sufficient accessible taxis especially in rural areas.   6. Dangerous roads and lack of alternatives to car/bus makes access difficult in their everyday lives.   7. Car Insurance can be difficult for older people. | * + 1. Develop a county transport policy including rural transport and provision in urban centres     2. Establish a Transport Forum as in LECP Strategy.     3. Develop Volunteer Car Scheme   2.2.1 The County Transport Policy to include provision of transport in urban centres.  2.3.1 Apply guidelines regarding best practice in accessible vehicles for public and community transport  2.4.1 Engage with Bus Eireann and NTA re provision of bus shelters.  2.5.1 Identify need locally. Promote Rural Hackney Licence Scheme.  2.6.1 Provide safe walking and cycling routes at local level.  2.7.1 Engage with providers to examine the best options. | NTA, KCC, Local Link Kerry, Bus Eireann, Irish Rail, Private Providers, Taxi Regulator, Older People’s Groups  Older Peoples’ representative groups. |

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| **Theme 3 - Home & Where You Live**  We must remove the narrow perception of older people being dependent on society….The longer older people remain in good health and disability-free, the better will be their quality of life and the greater their contribution to society.  Aging With Confidence, Cork & Kerry SHB, 1999  Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcomes;  1) *Stay living in our own homes and communities, and*   * + - 1. *Feel and be safe at home and out and about*   Commentary  National and county policy is to support older people to continue to live in their homes for as long as is practical. This is what older people want; in developing an age-friendly society this wish needs to be facilitated with practical actions. Along with Mayo, Kerry shares the position of having the highest proportion of Older People in the country, and a significant number live in rural areas, some of which are quite isolated. Due to budget cut-backs the HSE has been unable to fully implement its strategic plan for Cork and Kerry. There are a wide range of groups and organisation providing services to older people enabling them to continue to live at home. These groups know first-hand the needs for home-based supports. Some worthy initiatives including visitation services and friendly-phone call services were unsustainable due to lack of core-funding. As each person’s situation is different, it is important to respond to individual circumstances.  … Older persons are, however, subjected to burglary and thefts as frequently as the rest of the population. … can make older persons feel vulnerable and more fearful of becoming a victim of crime  **Gardai Siochana Security for Older People Leaflet**  Older people can feel vulnerable to intruders and attacks in their own homes, even though older people are at a lower risk of crime. Media reports of attacks on isolated individuals raises the level of fear and anxiety. The closure of Garda stations adds to the feeling of vulnerability. This highlights the needs for active community groups such as Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch to continuously promote their services to older people, especially those most vulnerable. Security and feeling safe also applies to the general safety within the home and to the promotion of personal alarms etc. Individual solutions are needed for individual situations.  Feedback;   * Most older people are happy in their own homes and appreciate the services and supports they receive, however people feel more vulnerable as they age. * Various comments of Gardai being less visible, media stories of burglaries and attacks on older people cause worry and anxiety * Concern is expressed for the future, for example when people are no longer able to maintain their home and garden. * People’s responses also refer to the need for more information on available supports and services.   *Am happy at home- we have community alert and very good neighbours - house caters for all our needs*  *Very comfortable and warm house – love it! very happy here and feel very safe*  *…looking ahead, worries re help needed with house and garden, maintaining standards*  *Windows not very good, lots of work to be finished, would be impossible if our situation changed*  *…cannot have all services purely based on economic benefit, need to consider social and community benefit,*  *otherwise we will just end up all living in town or city.*  *Like everywhere …don't feel very safe*  *…home visiting service or telephone service for social calls and conversations especially for those living alone.*  *Guards not visible enough. Older people couldn't name one local guard.*  Kerry Local Economic & Community Plan 2016 – 2021;  Support independent living through community services initiatives at local, neighbourhood level and projects supported through Tús, RSS and CE.  Ensure that older people can continue to live in their homes for as long as possible. Review existing successful community initiatives and promote adoption in other communities.  County Development Plan;  Facilitate the sustainable development of sheltered housing and other such schemes which cater for the elderly and other vulnerable groups. | | |
| **Theme 3 – Home and Where you live**  **Action; To support people as they get older to continue to live in their own homes and communities.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agency & Partners** |
| * 1. People value the various home improvement and safety schemes, and there are a number of agencies, schemes and service providers involved. However, some people unsure as to what services are available to them and there is a need for more collaboration between service providers.   2. As people get older there can be concerns about the future when they will be less able to maintain homes and gardens.   3. Applying for the Local Authority Home Improvement Grant can be bureaucratic and discouraging for some people.   4. Poor Broadband provision can impact considerably on a person’s ability to access information and services, to stay in touch, and impacts on quality of life   5. Long-term planning is required for financial longevity, starting at a younger age. Planning for matters such as pensions, wills, assets   6. Less Garda presence – some people feel less safe   7. Comments that some Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch groups are not very active | * + 1. Establish a networking or forum structure to coordinate delivery of services, information sharing and dissemination between the various service providers.   3.2.1 Offer a service to individuals to prepare a plan to ensure their home is comfortable, accessible and safe. Likewise prepare a plan to ensure the garden is accessible and low-maintenance.  3.2.2 Revise housing policy to introduce long-term planning for all ages.   * + 1. Review the policy and administration of the Home Improvement Grant Scheme with a view to greater accessibility. Devise an easy access to grants and an awareness programme on the process.   3.4.1 Groups representing older people should campaign for better broadband and innovative responses.  3.4.2 Invite telecom companies to display capabilities to groups.  3.5.1 Provide information sessions in conjunction with older people’s groups and community organisations, follow up with individual appointments.   * + 1. Develop partnerships between Gardai and local groups and services, ensuring front-line staff and volunteers are aware of, and can promote home security and safety.     2. More presence of Garda cars in communities. Attendance of Gardaí at local meetings.     3. Re-launch Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch groups. Identify the inactive groups. Link up/ network the Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch Groups.     4. Examine training and support needs of Community Alert and Neighbourhood Watch groups, and respond to need identified | Cunamh, RSS, FRCs, KCC, Local Development Companies, Primary Care Teams, Older Persons Groups, Sean Chairde  Local Development  KCC Planning  KCC  Broadband is a national issue  Credit Unions, CIS, Community Workers, Primary Care Team, Sean Chairde  Gardai, Community Councils, Community Alert groups, Primary Care Teams, Local Development Companies, Family Resource Centres  Gardai, Community Alert Groups, Neighbourhood Watch Groups |

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| **Theme 4; Community Support & Health Services**  Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcome; *to lead healthier and active lives for longer*  Commentary  …a common theme that emerged was that services are not sufficiently tailored around the individual; on the contrary, often older people have to fit in with what is available in their area and, if the service they need is not available, they have to go without.  Care For Older People, NESF  This theme refers to health in and well-being in general. With age we naturally become more prone to ill-health, much can be done to prevent or delay a range of conditions that tend to limit our quality of life. While isolation is a key factor, there are other factors that we have control over such as diet, physical activity, consumption of alcohol and smoking. Steps can be taken by individuals to prevent or delay illnesses such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and cancers. Given the geographic spread of older people in isolated, rural communities throughout the county, there are challenges accessing the health and support services required.  Many people are living longer in better health, but not everyone who is living longer is adding ‘healthy years’ to their life. There are an increasing number of older people in Ireland living with multi-morbidities and chronic disease, social isolation, disabilities, and cognitive decline. These can impact severely on their quality of life.  Healthy & Positive Aging for All, HSE Research Strategy, 2015-2019  Feedback;   * Older people appreciate and value the wide range of social services and supports provided by state agencies and various community and voluntary organisations. Having said that, individuals and organisations are critical of government cut-backs to services and budgets. * While some people indicate a good level of knowledge and appreciation of locally-run facilities and services, other older people are unsure of what is available and where to go for information. * Community and voluntary organisations highlight the need for greater coordination and collaboration of all services providers, including statutory and voluntary. * Kerry Connecting for Life, Suicide Prevention Strategy identifies certain target groups who are more vulnerable to mental ill-health and suicide, for example isolated older men.   *Home help facilities extremely limited due to distance from town*  *More contact needed for people living alone*  *…afraid of getting sick with long waiting lists*  *Providing individuals with the supports needed to live at home if wished and not a nursing home,*  *… having someone call with a list of local support groups for older persons to be aware of contact details and supports available to them*  Kerry County Development Plan 2015 – 2020;  Encourage the integration of healthcare facilities within new and existing communities and facilitate public, private and community based agencies to provide appropriate healthcare facilities, including hospital care and community-based primary care throughout the County and to discourage proposals that would cause unnecessary isolation or other access difficulties, particularly for the disabled, older people and children.  Connecting For Life Strategy Kerry, Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2017-2020  2.1 Improve the continuation of community level responses to suicide through planned multi-agency approaches  2.2 Ensure that accurate information and guidance on effective suicide prevention are provided for community- based organisations | | |
| **Theme 4 – Community Support and Health Services**  **Action; Coordinate and develop services to enable people to lead healthier and active lives for longer.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agency & Partners** |
| * 1. The role of community and voluntary groups is valued and appreciated by older people, however, voluntary organisations are looking for greater coordination and collaboration.   2. Information on health-related services needs to be improved   3. There is no home visitation in some areas   4. Isolated, older men can be more at risk of mental ill-health and suicide.   5. The county does not have a dedicated social worker for older people | * + 1. Establish a service provider’s forum including both statutory and voluntary to share information and to identify key areas where greater coordination and collaboration could improve health and well-being outcomes for older people.     2. Develop and distribute information on health services and facilities available at a local level in coordination with older people’s groups and networks.     3. Map the range of home visitation services in the county and identify areas where gaps exist, implement plans to address the gaps.     4. Expand the level of home visitation to provide information and advocacy support   4.4.1 Develop collaboration with service providers and older people’s groups and networks in support of implementing the actions in the Kerry Connecting for Life Suicide Prevention Action Plan.  4.4.2 Encourage greater participation in Men’s Shed and other initiatives.  4.4.3 Promote the role of Local Link Kerry  4.5.1 Advocate for a post of Social Worker for Older People in the county | LCDC  HSE  Kerry Citizen’s Information Service  HSE |

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| **Theme 5 – Respect & Social Inclusion**  Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcome; *Be truly valued and respected*  Commentary  Both young and old can hold ageist attitudes. Being bombarded with negative images of age, and misunderstandings about the ageing process, it is not surprising that many older people take on board these views and come to believe them to be ‘natural’ and ‘common sense’.  **Towards Age-Friendly Provision of Goods & Services**  **The Equality Authority**    Ageism is quite widespread in Ireland. Ageism reflects a negative understanding and attitude towards ageing, and it limits older people’s opportunities in life. Ageism is often found within older people’s own approach to ageing, this is not surprising given the stereotypical portrayal of older people in the media and in society. It negatively impacts on the level and type of goods and services offered to an older person. Family members too can discourage or restrict the activities or plans of an older parent. All of this being done with ‘the best intentions’ for the older person. With the out-migration of young people from rural Kerry, there is less contact between younger people and older people. This leads to less interaction and less understanding.  Feedback;   * Some people experience good inclusion in their local area, friendly communities with social groups and activities * Value is placed on feeling safe, on having caring neighbours and having a good community * Dwindling populations in some areas leave people feeling more isolated and more vulnerable * Others highlight the need for greater interaction with young people   *Elderly people need more recognition*  *Less tolerance when unable to use mobile phones & social media*  *Low expectations of retired people*  *A lack of variety of options*  Kerry County Development Plan 2015 – 2020:  Ensure that Age-Friendly values and commitments, as set out in the Dublin Declaration of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities in Europe 2013, are incorporated into all aspects of the local authorities’ plans, policies and service provisions.  Kerry Local Economic & Community Plan 2016 -2022  Action 3.5.2.3 Work in partnership with Comhairle na nOg to develop initiatives that create inter-generational links at local level. | | |
| **Theme 5 – Respect and Social Inclusion**  **Action; To challenge ageism and promote the positive contribution of older people in social, economic and public life.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agency & Partners** |
| * 1. Ageism exists between older people themselves as well as in society. Perception of lower expectations of older people, of being less valued and of having fewer options. Concern over growing intergenerational gap.   5.2 The needs of some older people not well understood or catered for, e.g. members of the Traveller Community, older Gay people, older people from the migrant community, and older people with disabilities. | * + 1. Challenge ageism; engage with the media to promote and value and the contribution of older people     2. Provide age-awareness training to staff in key state agencies     3. Develop structures to support the involvement of older people in decision-making. Establish an Older Person’s Council, as per LECP.     4. Establish local networks of older people’s groups where none exist at present.     5. Develop intergenerational activities     6. Raise the profile of volunteerism and the valuable role older people provide e.g. in their communities, caring roles etc.   5.2.1 Undertake additional consultation and needs analysis to clarify the needs of older people in specific categories. | Media organisations, Kerry County Council, HSE  KCC/ LCDC  HSE, Mental Health Services, Gardai  Primary and secondary schools, Cor na nOg, Older People’s groups  KASI, TIRC, Kerry Travellers, Groups working with people with disabilities. |

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| **Theme 6 – Social Participation**  Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcome; *People as they age can participate in social, economic and public life*  Commentary  One of the main determinants of health and wellbeing is a sense of social connection or feeling part of a network of family, friends and community.  **The Story So Far; Age Friendly Ireland**  Social participation is vital to maintaining good mental and physical health. We maintain better health through regular contact with others, and the less contact we have with people, the greater the risk to our health and well-being. And while home visits and a social cup of tea are good, it is through active, physical involvement that we gain even more benefits. There are many Active Retired or Active Age groups throughout the county, but sometimes working in isolation. Networking with other older people’s groups can be very beneficial for groups. As in the replies to other themes, people emphasise that participation for many in rural Kerry is determined to a large degree by a person’s car ownership or their access to transport. Supporting a range of options in the local area, arranging transport and effective communications are elements to encouraging social participation.  Feedback;   * The responses to this question were dominated by the issue of transport. * There appears to be a good level of awareness of a wide range of activities and groups in their area, * Some areas, or community centres, have more activities than others. * Networking of older people’s groups can help share information and experiences.   *…but nothing is easy unless one can drive*  *Can only access these (activities) by car, when insurance gets too high or become unable to drive can’t go anywhere…*  *Ballyferriter shop with coffee area has proved a massive bonus.*  *more coffee mornings just for a cuppa and chat*  *plenty of places for a cup of tea to meet*  The County Development Plan and the Local Economic & Community Plan have a number of objectives referring to improved facilities and supports related to social participation including; outdoor gym equipment, library facilities, broadband, free recreational facilities, age-friendly tourism, wider sporting and recreation activities and Men’s Sheds. | | |
| **Theme 6 – Social Participation**  **Action; To support activities and facilities that promote social connections.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agency & Partners** |
| * 1. Social contact is essential for well-being, and physical activity is a very beneficial way of engaging, however, not available in all areas.   2. There are a wide range of community and voluntary organisations in the county, however some communities have not developed services to the same extent as others   3. Some community halls are not fully accessible and could be more comfortable and welcoming   4. Arts and creative activities are very effective in supporting the engagement of older people   5. The Library Network is very valuable and need to be more widely promoted. | * + 1. Support community and voluntary groups to develop their own health and well-being programmes     2. Support community and voluntary groups to promote their activities and services using a broad range of media     3. Develop relationships between service providers and Older Person’s networks to discuss improvements     4. Aiming to provide connections between the 1,250 people in long stay residential care with community for improved quality of life.     5. Facilitate community and voluntary groups to network     6. Provide leadership training for those involved in community-based facilities, groups and services.     7. Identify the gaps in community service provision and services for older people.     8. Produce an Age-Friendly Newsletter quarterly.     9. Support community halls and facilities to undertake accessibility audits     10. Support community halls to provide a ‘Seomra’ that is comfortable and welcoming   6.4.1 Develop an arts-based initiative to reach more older people in towns, villages and rural communities   * + 1. Library network to be promoted and an Age-Friendly Library established. | HSE, KRSP, LDCs, Local Link Kerry. |

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| **Theme 7 – Communication & Information**  Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcome; *Have the information we need to lead full lives*  Commentary  Older people need access to information to continue to live independently. The constantly changing advances in Information Technology provide opportunities for sharing and accessing information, as well as introducing challenges to accessing services and information. Many older people enjoy the benefits of IT eg for keeping in touch with family, searching for information or availing of on-line services. At the same time, many older people feel bewildered and left behind by the digital divide. Also, there is a need for locally-based groups and organisations to provide information through a range of media, not solely relying on traditional media only.  More than half of internet users over 60 here refuse to share personal or payment details with online services, despite such information being necessary to participate in social and economic activities.  **Irish Independent/ CSO, December 2016**  Feedback;   * Some communities rely on traditional methods of communication which may not reach a wide audience in the community * Some older people engage very effectively with modern technology and avail of IT education programmmes * Many older people lack the skills or confidence to engage with modern communication technologies * Poor broadband coverage is an obstacle to modern communications and accessing services in rural areas   *Information readily available for those who are computer literate*  *nearly everything has to be done on-line these days and many older people are not competent with computers*  *Lack of education of older persons on the benefits of IT…*  *technology is too complicated for some older people*  National Positive Aging Strategy 2013  Ensure that older people can exercise choice and control over their own lives by being able to access user-friendly, up-to-date, comprehensive and coordinated information and advice in relation to entitlements, services, support and activities. | | |
| **Theme 7 – Communication and Information**  **Action; To improve access to information and develop increased usage of information technology.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agency & Partners** |
| * 1. Poor broadband in many parts of rural Kerry limits access to the benefits of IT   2. Reliance in some communities on a limited range of communications, e.g. parish newsletter only   3. Many older people prefer to complete paper-based forms   4. Technology is perceived as too complicated. More and more government services require people to set up an account to access the service. Growing level of technology in the home such as telemedicine, personal alarms. As a result some people are not accessing services. | * + 1. Lobby effectively to provide adequate broadband coverage across the county     2. Support older people’s groups and services to adopt a wide range of communications media.     3. Local authority services to make information available in print and accessible formats     4. Continue to expand training in IT programmes specifically developed for Older People’s groups and organisations     5. Develop more user-friendly communications systems e.g. within on-line services, banking etc     6. Farming Community needs to up skill their IT capabilities. A training and IT equipment scheme is required.     7. Develop intergenerational IT based programmes.     8. Age-Friendly Training for organisations providing services to older people and awareness of the difficulties some people may have in accessing services.     9. Link with the Digital Skills Programme to upskill people. | KETB  Local Development |

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| **Theme 8 – Civic Participation & Employment**  Age-Friendly Counties & Cities Outcome; *Continue to learn, develop and work*  Commentary  This theme relates to involvement in community life, in civic life and in employment. Continued participation has a very positive impact on both physical and mental health. Having had a career in the workplace or at home, older people have valuable life skills and insights to offer. Many people are happy to retire from employment at the traditional retirement age. For them it gives an opportunity to pursue further education, to get involved in a social club or to give time to a voluntary activity. But as people are living longer and healthier, many older people with to continue working, and they resent compulsory retirement. It can induce a feeling of not having a role and not being valued any longer. Society loses out if it doesn’t facilitate older people to share their knowledge and energy.  …however in recent times it has been shown that ageing does not reduce capacity for learning and that the brain needs mental exercise and exposure to new experiences throughout life to remain vital.  **The Story So Far, Age Friendly Ireland**  Feedback;   * Resentment at the compulsory retirement age * Some say it’s difficult for older people to get employment * Some expressed feelings of wanting to be valued more, and wanting to contribute their knowledge and skills * Many state volunteering as the best option to stay involved and active, and refer to a wide number of possibilities for involvement, for example adult education, tidy towns groups, community councils etc   *People* *can take early retirement and start new careers, no need to stop working at 66*  *Low expectation of people post-retirement.*  *Nothing much except for the community centre -* *nothing positive here in relation to any employment*  *having to retire at 65 even when still healthy and competent*  *pension age is rising and is not suitable for everyone*  *promote and support the involvement of older people in communities and society and the benefits of employing older people*  Kerry Local Economic & Community Programme 2016 - 2022  3.5.2.2 Develop a scheme to encourage and enable more active retired people to volunteer and act as mentors in their communities | | |
| **Theme 8 – Civic Participation and Employment.**  **Action; Develop initiatives that facilitate people to engage in employment, civic life and life long learning.** | | |
| **Issues Emerging** | **Draft Actions** | **Lead Agency & Partners** |
| 8.1 Many people are unhappy with the compulsory retirement age of 65 years  8.2 Volunteering in local community and civic life is seen as a valuable option for older people  8.3 Older people want to continue to feel valued and appreciated  8.4 Employment opportunities are very few for older people. Some feel the knowledge and experience gained over their careers is now lost and undervalued.  8.5 Older people are a valuable resource in terms of career skills, life experience and wisdom | * + 1. At a county level support a change in legislation regarding the compulsory retirement age to allow people to work longer if they wish.     2. Establish regular pre-retirement workshops and options for people facing the transition from full time employment to retirement.     3. Promote volunteering options to older people or people at retiring age.     4. Develop a scheme to enable people who retire early to offer expertise and advice.     5. Implement a campaign to highlight the positive contribution older people continue to make in the county     6. Implement a campaign to promote the employment of older people.     7. Develop a mentoring scheme to enable older people to provide advice and support.     8. Establish a skills/Crafts register of older people.     9. Promote the reintroduction of the Early Retirement Scheme to involve the next generation into farming.     10. Develop intergenerational projects | Older Peoples Groups  PPN  Kerry Volunteering Centre  KCIS, KETB  Local Development Schemes  LEO |

**Managing Implementation**

The diagram below illustrates the Age Friendly Programme structures in Kerry.

The body with overall responsibility is the Local Community Development Committee, and it has developed the Steering Group for the purposes of planning and implementing the age-friendly strategy.

* + - 1. The Age-Friendly Steering Group will develop an annual work plan and it will monitor the progress with input from the Older People’s Council. It will prepare quarterly reports for the LCDC.
      2. The Older People’s Council, contributes to the annual work-plan, receive updates on progress and will act as a forum for information-exchange and for consultation on older people’s issues.

Kerry

Age-Friendly

Strategy

**Appendices**

**Appendix 1; Methodology**

* Survey of individual older people. Older people were invited to complete a questionnaire based on the Age-Friendly themes. An on-line questionnaire was also distributed through Kerry PPN network. (500 groups approx.) Some of this was facilitated at a meeting of members of Sean Chairde (the network of older people’s groups in South Kerry). Approximately 60 replies were received. People were asked for their age-friendly positive and negative views and their suggestions for improvements.
* Survey of groups and organisations. An on-line survey was also distributed through Kerry PPN and a number of organisations were contacted directly. 29 responses were received from a range of agencies, service providers and voluntary organisations.
* Census 2016 reports provided a number of graphics illustrating the profile of aging within Kerry and in comparison to national figures.
* Review of literature. The range of literature reviewed includes; the international framework as set out by The World Health Organisations, the Age-Friendly Ireland strategy, national strategies on ageing and older people, on health and on caring in the home, reports on equality and ageing, and a number of key strategies for Kerry.
* Analysis of findings. The findings from the consultations and the literature review were collated under the eight national age-friendly themes.
* Preparation of draft strategic action plan. Similarly, the proposed strategic age-friendly actions for Kerry were prepared according to the eight themes.
* Agency consultation on draft document. A draft of the plan was considered and further refined by key agencies through a half-day round-table workshop.
* Community consultation on draft document. Following the agency consultation, community consultation was held with a series of focus groups and organisations.
* The Older Peoples Council has also inputted to the draft document.

 **Appendix 2**

**KERRY AFC CONSULTATION FEEDBACK SHEET -INDIVIDUALS**

***WHAT IS IT LIKE TO LIVE IN CO KERRY AS AN OLDER PERSON?*** 

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| **Topic** | **Age-Friendly good features** | **Age-Friendly negative features** | **Suggestions for improvements** |
| **1.**  **Outdoor Spaces and Buildings** | Good footpaths (wide footpaths)  Clear signs  Wheelchair accessibility  Good lighting  Pedestrian crossings with ample time to cross!!   |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Seating, ramps, automatic doors  Places to meet for a cup of tea in local town or village.  Step-free access |   Public physical exercise equipment  Community gardens | |  | |  | |  | | Bad footpaths, uneven paving and surfaces  No footpaths, roads very busy, walking is stressful  Steps/ steep steps  No parking spaces for older people  Parking on footpaths   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Not enough benches  Not enough public toilets   |  | | --- | | Steps/ steep steps, uneven paving | | Lack of public areas with seats/ benches | | No ramps  Lack of lighting | | Heavy doors | | |  | | |  | | --- | | Provide even surfaces, better kerbs, better crossings, and ramps | | Provide footpaths, extend footpaths Connect key services by footpaths Ensure street traders, chairs and tables in the street don’t cause obstruction. | | More public toilets and ensure that all toilets are on ground floor. | | More seats in public spaces. | | More outdoor spaces | | Use big, clear signs. | | Consult older people. | | Ensure all public buildings are accessible for all.  Enforce speed limits, slow through villages and towns.  . | |
| **2.**  **Transport and Access** | |  | | --- | | Friendly bus drivers | | Rural transport – Local Link Kerry  Bus services to local town  Flexible rural transport/ pick up & drop off | | Free travel | | Wheelchair access, visual displays at stops | | Transport, transport, transport!!!  The issue of transport was mentioned in response to each of the survey themes.  Limited buses in rural areas.   |  | | --- | | Lack of transport to services, shops and appointments.  Bus services not coordinated enough | | Poor assessment of older people’s needs  No evening or weekend bus services | | The use of machines on buses instead of cash | |  | | |  | | --- | | A daily transport system to all rural areas | | Design the service to meet service users’ needs e.g. locations of pick-ups etc. | | More bus routes | | Greater flexibility in transport  Greater usage of smaller buses  Disability friendly and wheelchair accessible services | | Pilot the social car model | |  | |
| **3.**  **Home and where you live** | |  | | --- | | Many people state they are happy, warm and comfortable in their homes  They value the benefits of insulation, smoke alarms and security alarms.  People appreciate good neighbours and good communities *‘a lovely place to live’*  People like local, accessible facilities  Something as simple as a shelter at a bus-stop is greatly appreciated.  When staff are helpful. | | Comfort, familiarity, ownership, family, community were highlighted.  People appreciate a range of services such as; Meals on Wheels, Community Alert, Home-Help and Home Maintenance Service. | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | A 3-yr long exhausting experience for a woman to secure a grant from KCC to make her house accessible for her husband.  Concern is expressed about how to remain at home in comfort in future years. Future concerns about house and garden maintenance   |  | | --- | | Loss of services such as Garda Station and Post Office (rural sustainability) | | Population decline, emigration of young families leads to loneliness. | | Poor broadband connectivity | | |  | | |  | | --- | | Reinvest in rural life.  Build low cost housing in small villages to allow older people to live in their own environment. Design houses for life and for accessibility. Support independent living. Need expressed for trustworthy, reasonably priced home and garden help. | | Support more young people to live in the area | | Home visitation services, more contact *‘a call to the house’* | | More community alert groups | | Create Ambassador volunteer program to be there (based in Library?).  Expand broadband and wifi.  Provide assistance with on-line business; bookings, purchases, paying bills | | Better campaigns to inform older people of what is available to them in their community. | |  | |
| **4.**  **Community Support & Health Services** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Local! Local! Local! (researchers comment)  People listed a range of services both state and community that they avail of, indicating that a broad range is required to support people to continue to live at home.   |  | | --- | | Good activities in community hall | | | |  | | --- | | Lack of information on local services including care and health services.  Not enough activities in local/ rural communities centres. | | Afraid of getting sick with long waiting lists | | Doctor’s hours limited.  Underinvestment in community based services. Lack of government support for community initiatives.  Cut-backs in services - not enough home supports for those who need it most.  Demise of older person’s network.  No family around for future support. | | Bureaucracy attached to grant applications | | |  | | --- | | Make community centres more attractive e.g. heat, comfort etc | | More outreach services for where people live  Provide individuals with the supports needed to live at home. Call to homes to provide people with information on local services and supports.  Improve the availability and accessibility of information.  More home help/ support hours.  More financial support from government for community centres. | |
| **5.**  **Respect and Social Inclusion** | |  | | --- | | Some people report good local inclusion, friendly communities with social groups and activities.  Some report good local communications  Value is placed on feeling safe, on having caring neighbours and a good community. | | When assistance is offered | | |  | | --- | | Dwindling populations with fewer opportunities, more prone to isolation. | | Older people feeling vulnerable   |  | | --- | | Pace of life, no time to chat  Some state that socialisation is impossible without a car.  No group for men | | Low expectations of retirees and their involvement and contribution to life | | |  | | |  | | --- | | Need for more infrastructure locally to save a dwindling population. | | Develop more links with younger people through schools. | | Set up an Older Person’s Forum  Involve people in policy development, with local feeding into national policy.  Set up a Men’s Shed.  Highlight achievements of older people | |
| **6.**  **Social Participation** | |  | | --- | | People answered this question mainly in terms of groups and activities.  A wide range of local groups, facilities, activities and services were listed in answer to the question reflecting the range of ways older people get involved. | |  | | . | | |  | | --- | | Concern expressed with lack of facilities and opportunities to keep young people - local groups suffering as a consequence. | | Lack of mobility restricts participation. | | Reliance on others for lifts. | | Some areas have not developed in terms of activities for older people.  Having to drive to everything  Night time meetings  Not enough recognition of older people. | | |  | | --- | | Provide leadership training  Improve funding for community organisations  Place greater emphasis on health and well-being | | Older people can be part of education programmes in schools. | |
| **7.**  **Communication and Information** | |  | | --- | | A broad range of responses given to this question. People tend to use a range of communication, this can vary from one community to another.  Some people are quite confident with IT and social media. | |  | |  | | |  | | --- | | Some communities rely on a small number of traditional ways of communicating.  Some older people are not competent with IT. Technology keeps changing, hard to follow. Its complicated.  Poor internet coverage | |  | | |  | | --- | | Groups and communities need to use a broad range of methods when communicating.  Better mobile phone coverage.  Provide assistance / programmes to help older people make better use of their devices. Engage TY students for this.  Continue to provide IT programmes. | |  | |
| **8.**  **Civic Participation & Employment** | |  | | --- | | People focussed on volunteering when answering this question. Volunteering is seen as a very important option.  There were mixed responses with regard to the question of employment.  Some find new projects upon retirement and through this a new lease of life.  Community-based programmes were mentioned as contributing to civic participation.  Some refer to organisations such as Active Retirement Groups, Tidy towns,  Community Councils and local politics as options for civic involvement. | | |  | | --- | | Sentiments expressed of having no purpose, of low expectations of older/ retired people  With rural decline some feel that communities have little to hold people.  The obligation to retire at 65 when still healthy and competent.  Poor employment prospects for ‘seniors’  A frustration expressed that a career’s experience is being lost to the community due to retirement. | |  | |  | | |  | | --- | | More funding for older people’s activities  Promote and support Mens’ Sheds  Promote pre-retirement education programmes in all employment.  Promote and support the involvement of older people in communities and society.  Highlight the benefits of employing older people.  Change legislation regarding compulsory retiring age, giving people the choice to work longer.  Take on older people as advisors as they have significant experience and knowledge to contribute.  Value the experience of older people. | |
| **9.**  **Security and Feeling safe** | In answering this question people gave a wide range of factors that help with feeling safe. This would suggest that there are different supports required for different circumstances | Some people don’t feel very safe.  Feeling more vulnerable with age.  Neighbourhood Watch not active enough, not assuring people.  Some older people too trusting of strangers.  Living a distance from neighbours.  No Garda presence  Noisy ‘Boy Racer’ drivers at night  Perception of increased crime in rural areas.  Immigration leading to rural isolation.  Phone package withdrawn by Govt. | A better Garda presence in rural areas including daytime.  Awareness raising on home security to older people.  A home visitation system especially for those living alone.  Active Community Alert groups. |

**Appendix 3; AGENCIES & ORGANISATIONS- SURVEY RESPONSES SUMMARY**

Q. Type of organisation:

Community-Based 10

Statutory 01

Voluntary 13

**Total 24**

Q. Describe the Age-Friendly activities of your organisation

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Leisure, cultural & recreation activities  Social outings | Care & day-care services  Home repairs, home security | Health & Well Being programmes  Providing Information | | Volunteering Opportunities | Affordable counselling  Bereavement groups | Outdoor Education | |
|  |

Q. What type of challenges do you encounter in running your organisation?

**Securing Programme Funding**

**Rural Transport**

**Viability due to population decline and old age**

**Engaging with isolated people**

**Insurance Issues/ Limitations**

**Overheads**

**Funding**

**Insurance**

|  |
| --- |
| **Reliance on Volunteers Good-Will**  **Recruiting Volunteers**  **Lack of Interagency Collaboration** |
|  |
| Q. What gaps are there with regard to Kerry being a more Age-Friendly County?   * A number of responses identified the need for greater coordination between community and voluntary organisations and state agencies. * Inadequate Rural Transport services which lead to isolation * Technology continues to change, this can cause difficulties for some older people * Accessible footpaths in towns, villages and approach roads. Parking for older people. * Older people’s attitude to their own aging, need for a culture of activism * Providing counselling services to older people in different settings, meeting the need where it is at * Voluntary organisations trying to recruit new volunteers * Supporting older people to live at home if they wish   …/…  Q. Is there a particular aspect of your work that you are most proud of or find most rewarding?  *Facilitating integration, enabling individuals, empowering communities*  *Organising activities for older people*  *Addressing rural isolation*  *Enhancing our area*  *Our group physical activities eg bowling*  *Witnessing people grow and blossom, increase in self-esteem*  *Helping older people socialize, helping improve the lives of older people*  *Assisting older people to feel safe in their community.*  *Keeping older people involved in the community*  *Socialisation, companionship and independent living benefits*  *Providing affordable counselling for many years, our outreach work and workshops*  *Collaboration of community, agencies and individuals*  *We have increased membership in recent years*  *Seeing results!*  *Introducing people to the outdoors and opening the opportunities for life long engagement.*  *Just meeting up and the crack!*  *Getting people to leave their homes and meet other people.*  *We enjoy improving the social and physical needs of our patrons*  Q. What plans has your organisation (Age-Friendly)?  The majority of responses to this question were to continue providing current services, suggesting that for most organisations, survival is their first priority. They plan to continue promoting their activities and services and try to engage with more people.  Some wish to expand their activities through new programmes or through outreach, and some wish to extend their premises to provide additional services. This involves pursuing funding from various sources and developing partnerships.  Visiting and learning from other groups and projects is also in some groups’ plans.  Q. Any other comment you may wish to add:   |  | | --- | | * Need for home visits to encourage isolated men to get involved in events etc * A suggestion for a forum such as the Sliabh Luachra Active Retired to liaise with HSE staff and local Doctors and Carers. * A planned, collaborative approach with medical providers is needed to reach people and make best use of existing services | | * Car parking designated for older people * To investigate the concept of a mobile counselling service, would require interagency collaboration | | * We are fast becoming an ageing population, new ways to support the elderly in rural Ireland * Continue what we have is vital (eg transport) * While Tralee town has a lot to offer the older people there is need to have older people more involved in decision-making. * Insurance is a big problem | |

**Appendix 4; AGENCIES AND ORGANISATIONS SURVEYED/ INTERVIEWED**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. "Bealtaine", Ballyduff | Active Age |
| 1. Asdee Village | Active Age |
| 1. Baile Mhuire, Balloonagh, Tralee | Day Care Centre |
| 1. Ballybunion Mens Shed | Men’s Group |
| 1. Ballyduff Active Retirement | Active Age |
| 1. Ballyduff Social Services | Social Services |
| 1. Ballyheigue Men’s Shed | Men’s Group |
| 1. Beaufort GAA Club Healthy Club Project | GAA Club |
| 1. Cappanalea OETC | Outdoor Recreation |
| 1. Fossa Area Community Alert | Community Alert |
| 1. Greenville, Listowel. | Day Care Centre |
| 1. Halla Le Chéile | Services for Older People |
| 1. HSE Community Dept | Services for Older People |
| 1. IRD Duhallow | Local Development |
| 1. Kerry Volunteer Centre | Volunteering Centre |
| 1. Killorglin Family Resource Centre | Family Supports |
| 1. Killorglin Tidy Towns | Tidy Towns |
| 1. Knocknagoshel Over 55s Social Club and Women's Group Ltd. | Active Retired |
| 1. Local Link Kerry | Community Transport |
| 1. NCCWN Southwest Kerry | Women’s Network |
| 1. North, East & West Kerry Development | Local Development |
| 1. Rural Mens Group | Men’s Group |
| 1. Saint John of Gods | Services; Intellectual Disabilities, Mental Health, Older People, Children’s Respite |
| 1. Sceilg Le Cheile | Active Age |
| 1. Sean Chairde | Older Person’s Network |
| 1. South Kerry Development Partnership | Local Development |
| 1. SouthWest Counselling Centre | Counselling |
| 1. The Social and Health Education Project | Education |
| 1. Woman 2000, Killorglin | Women’s Group |
| 1. Woodbrook Residents Association | Residents Association |

**Appendix 5; HSE Survey of 57 members of Sean Chairde – The Older Person’s Network in South Kerry**

When asked about the good things in their community the thing people liked best was the sense of community spirit, this is closely followed by ‘great neighbours’. This shows the importance of having a good community to live in.

The two main issues in the answer to this question are closely connected; greater transport helps reduce isolation and vice versa. It is closely followed by security concerns.

As can be seen from these answers, the majority of people wish to remain living in their own home, and as above, this is followed by security concerns. This is very closely linked in with the answers to the first question.

**Annex 6: Percentage of the Population aged 55+ and 65+ by ED in County Kerry, 2006 and 2016.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2006** | |  | **2016** | |  | **% Change** | |
| **ED** | **% aged 55+** | **% aged 65+** |  | **% aged 55+** | **% aged 65+** |  | **Proportion aged 55+** | **Proportion aged 65+** |
| 001 Killarney Urban | 29.8% | 18.1% |  | 31.9% | 20.2% |  | 2.1% | 2.1% |
| 002 Listowel Urban | 26.9% | 15.1% |  | 30.5% | 18.5% |  | 3.6% | 3.4% |
| 003 Tralee Urban | 28.5% | 17.4% |  | 31.4% | 18.9% |  | 2.9% | 1.5% |
| 004 Bahaghs | 34.3% | 18.1% |  | 34.5% | 21.3% |  | 0.2% | 3.2% |
| 005 Ballinskelligs | 32.4% | 16.9% |  | 40.3% | 22.3% |  | 7.9% | 5.4% |
| 006 Ballybrack | 34.4% | 23.0% |  | 44.6% | 21.7% |  | 10.2% | -1.3% |
| 007 Caher | 27.3% | 16.1% |  | 36.3% | 22.3% |  | 9.0% | 6.2% |
| 008 Caherdaniel | 31.0% | 13.5% |  | 48.9% | 26.8% |  | 17.8% | 13.3% |
| 009/020 Ceannúig/Máistir Gaoithe | 31.7% | 13.3% |  | 40.6% | 19.3% |  | 8.8% | 6.1% |
| 010 Castlequin | 24.3% | 11.6% |  | 35.2% | 19.2% |  | 11.0% | 7.6% |
| 012 Curraghbeg | 25.4% | 11.7% |  | 32.9% | 17.1% |  | 7.6% | 5.4% |
| 013 Darrynane | 48.8% | 25.3% |  | 45.3% | 30.7% |  | -3.6% | 5.4% |
| 014/011 Cloon/Daoire Ianna | 36.5% | 16.7% |  | 40.4% | 28.1% |  | 3.9% | 11.4% |
| 015 Emlagh | 28.6% | 14.4% |  | 36.5% | 21.9% |  | 7.9% | 7.5% |
| 016 Glanbehy | 28.3% | 15.1% |  | 35.1% | 20.5% |  | 6.8% | 5.4% |
| 017 Killinane | 37.0% | 17.2% |  | 40.6% | 25.8% |  | 3.6% | 8.6% |
| 018 Lickeen | 22.0% | 13.6% |  | 26.5% | 11.8% |  | 4.4% | -1.8% |
| 019 Loughcurrane | 35.8% | 18.2% |  | 36.0% | 22.5% |  | 0.2% | 4.3% |
| 021 Maum | 22.9% | 10.9% |  | 29.8% | 16.7% |  | 6.9% | 5.8% |
| 022 Portmagee | 28.2% | 13.3% |  | 35.1% | 18.9% |  | 6.9% | 5.6% |
| 023 St. Finan's | 27.9% | 16.2% |  | 36.0% | 16.5% |  | 8.1% | 0.2% |
| 024 Teeranearagh | 28.2% | 13.7% |  | 37.5% | 16.1% |  | 9.3% | 2.3% |
| 025 Valencia | 29.2% | 18.8% |  | 39.9% | 20.7% |  | 10.7% | 1.9% |
| 026 Ballinvoher | 27.1% | 12.2% |  | 29.5% | 16.1% |  | 2.4% | 3.9% |
| 027 Ballyduff | 29.4% | 19.3% |  | 44.2% | 17.7% |  | 14.8% | -1.6% |
| 028 Ballynacourty | 31.4% | 15.5% |  | 30.3% | 20.1% |  | -1.1% | 4.6% |
| 029 Brandon | 29.2% | 8.9% |  | 40.5% | 17.6% |  | 11.4% | 8.7% |
| 030 Castlegregory | 29.2% | 13.9% |  | 31.7% | 20.4% |  | 2.5% | 6.5% |
| 031 Cloghane | 27.5% | 17.2% |  | 40.1% | 19.0% |  | 12.6% | 1.7% |
| 032 Deelis | 35.1% | 16.7% |  | 35.8% | 21.2% |  | 0.7% | 4.5% |
| 033 An Daingean | 24.7% | 14.0% |  | 34.9% | 19.8% |  | 10.1% | 5.8% |
| 034 Dunquin | 32.1% | 8.8% |  | 40.7% | 21.4% |  | 8.6% | 12.6% |
| 035 Dunurlin | 26.8% | 16.9% |  | 35.5% | 20.1% |  | 8.7% | 3.2% |
| 036 Glin | 22.5% | 10.2% |  | 27.4% | 13.5% |  | 4.9% | 3.4% |
| 037 Inch | 41.6% | 20.8% |  | 41.8% | 28.4% |  | 0.2% | 7.6% |
| 038 Kilmalkedar | 29.9% | 16.7% |  | 41.8% | 18.5% |  | 11.9% | 1.8% |
| 039 Cill Chuáin | 25.3% | 12.3% |  | 38.2% | 18.9% |  | 12.9% | 6.6% |
| 040 Kinard | 25.5% | 12.6% |  | 32.5% | 16.8% |  | 7.0% | 4.2% |
| 041 Lack | 27.2% | 14.5% |  | 32.1% | 17.7% |  | 4.9% | 3.2% |
| 042 Márthain | 43.5% | 22.8% |  | 35.8% | 21.5% |  | -7.7% | -1.3% |
| 043 An Mhin Aird | 25.3% | 14.0% |  | 34.5% | 16.3% |  | 9.2% | 2.4% |
| 044 An Sráidbhaile | 26.6% | 13.5% |  | 28.9% | 17.6% |  | 2.3% | 4.0% |
| 045 Ceann Trá | 27.8% | 15.5% |  | 40.9% | 20.7% |  | 13.1% | 5.2% |
| 046 Ardea | 34.4% | 14.6% |  | 42.1% | 24.7% |  | 7.7% | 10.1% |
| 047 Banawn | 29.4% | 14.0% |  | 28.3% | 16.4% |  | -1.1% | 2.4% |
| 048 Cappagh | 24.0% | 12.6% |  | 26.8% | 14.6% |  | 2.7% | 2.0% |
| 049 Castlecove | 37.9% | 19.5% |  | 45.3% | 23.9% |  | 7.4% | 4.5% |
| 050 Dawros | 29.7% | 16.4% |  | 37.8% | 22.9% |  | 8.1% | 6.6% |
| 051 Dromore | 26.2% | 12.5% |  | 35.8% | 20.4% |  | 9.6% | 7.9% |
| 052 Glanlee | 29.0% | 15.9% |  | 32.8% | 19.5% |  | 3.8% | 3.7% |
| 053 Glanlough | 25.3% | 15.8% |  | 35.3% | 19.9% |  | 10.0% | 4.0% |
| 054 Glanmore | 41.6% | 23.5% |  | 46.6% | 28.0% |  | 5.0% | 4.5% |
| 055 Greenane | 33.9% | 22.2% |  | 36.5% | 22.0% |  | 2.6% | -0.2% |
| 056 Kenmare | 24.3% | 14.3% |  | 29.3% | 17.2% |  | 5.0% | 2.9% |
| 057 Kilgarvan | 29.9% | 18.2% |  | 30.6% | 18.7% |  | 0.7% | 0.6% |
| 058 Loughbrin | 25.9% | 15.9% |  | 41.1% | 26.0% |  | 15.2% | 10.1% |
| 059 Reen | 30.3% | 20.8% |  | 41.6% | 22.7% |  | 11.2% | 1.9% |
| 060 Sneem | 36.0% | 19.9% |  | 31.0% | 20.0% |  | -5.1% | 0.1% |
| 061 Tahilla | 32.1% | 14.5% |  | 52.2% | 28.1% |  | 20.1% | 13.6% |
| 062 Aghadoe | 19.2% | 8.7% |  | 23.9% | 12.3% |  | 4.7% | 3.7% |
| 063 Aglish | 20.4% | 10.4% |  | 23.3% | 13.1% |  | 2.8% | 2.8% |
| 064 Ballyhar | 23.3% | 11.7% |  | 27.3% | 10.4% |  | 4.0% | -1.3% |
| 065 Brewsterfield | 17.0% | 7.5% |  | 21.3% | 10.7% |  | 4.3% | 3.2% |
| 066 Caragh | 29.3% | 15.7% |  | 28.4% | 18.1% |  | -1.0% | 2.4% |
| 067 Churchtown | 19.3% | 9.8% |  | 24.5% | 13.6% |  | 5.2% | 3.8% |
| 068 Clydagh | 27.8% | 16.7% |  | 38.5% | 24.6% |  | 10.7% | 7.9% |
| 069 Coolies | 16.0% | 7.2% |  | 19.8% | 10.6% |  | 3.8% | 3.4% |
| 070 Coom | 23.3% | 12.1% |  | 29.1% | 15.6% |  | 5.8% | 3.5% |
| 071 Curraghmore | 23.2% | 12.6% |  | 28.0% | 14.3% |  | 4.8% | 1.7% |
| 072 Currans | 27.1% | 12.8% |  | 33.6% | 19.9% |  | 6.4% | 7.1% |
| 073 Doocarrig | 22.7% | 13.5% |  | 24.4% | 13.6% |  | 1.8% | 0.1% |
| 074 Dromin | 24.0% | 14.2% |  | 25.3% | 14.1% |  | 1.3% | -0.1% |
| 075 Dunloe | 22.9% | 11.9% |  | 30.9% | 17.7% |  | 7.9% | 5.8% |
| 076 Flesk | 20.7% | 8.8% |  | 27.5% | 14.4% |  | 6.8% | 5.6% |
| 077 Headfort | 19.6% | 9.4% |  | 23.0% | 12.1% |  | 3.3% | 2.7% |
| 078 Kilbonane | 21.0% | 8.9% |  | 22.8% | 11.8% |  | 1.7% | 2.9% |
| 079 Kilcummin | 22.8% | 11.4% |  | 26.5% | 15.7% |  | 3.7% | 4.2% |
| 080 Kilfelim | 27.7% | 18.1% |  | 27.5% | 17.8% |  | -0.2% | -0.3% |
| 081 Kilgobnet | 19.2% | 10.3% |  | 25.9% | 14.5% |  | 6.6% | 4.2% |
| 082 Killarney Rural | 21.9% | 11.2% |  | 26.5% | 14.3% |  | 4.6% | 3.2% |
| 083 Killeentierna | 21.7% | 12.1% |  | 28.8% | 13.5% |  | 7.1% | 1.4% |
| 084 Killorglin | 24.2% | 13.3% |  | 27.2% | 15.6% |  | 3.0% | 2.3% |
| 085 Kilnanare | 23.9% | 13.4% |  | 24.7% | 15.2% |  | 0.8% | 1.7% |
| 086 Knocknahoe | 18.0% | 10.6% |  | 21.6% | 11.0% |  | 3.6% | 0.4% |
| 087 Lahard | 23.7% | 11.8% |  | 26.4% | 13.4% |  | 2.7% | 1.6% |
| 088 Milltown | 24.5% | 14.0% |  | 22.4% | 14.6% |  | -2.1% | 0.5% |
| 089 Molahiffe | 20.0% | 10.6% |  | 21.0% | 12.4% |  | 0.9% | 1.7% |
| 090 Muckross | 33.6% | 19.6% |  | 30.7% | 17.6% |  | -2.9% | -1.9% |
| 091 Rathmore | 21.1% | 13.2% |  | 26.5% | 14.0% |  | 5.5% | 0.7% |
| 092 Rockfield | 19.2% | 10.7% |  | 20.5% | 11.0% |  | 1.3% | 0.3% |
| 093 Ardagh | 23.9% | 12.7% |  | 32.3% | 14.6% |  | 8.4% | 1.9% |
| 094 Astee | 31.2% | 19.3% |  | 33.5% | 19.8% |  | 2.3% | 0.5% |
| 095 Ballincloher | 22.1% | 11.2% |  | 31.5% | 16.8% |  | 9.4% | 5.7% |
| 096 Ballyconry | 29.9% | 14.3% |  | 36.8% | 23.2% |  | 7.0% | 9.0% |
| 097 Ballyduff | 28.3% | 16.7% |  | 35.0% | 19.0% |  | 6.7% | 2.3% |
| 098 Ballyegan | 18.1% | 9.5% |  | 33.0% | 13.9% |  | 14.9% | 4.4% |
| 099 Ballyhorgan | 30.1% | 18.3% |  | 23.3% | 15.6% |  | -6.8% | -2.7% |
| 100 Beal | 30.9% | 19.1% |  | 33.6% | 18.2% |  | 2.7% | -1.0% |
| 101 Carrig | 29.3% | 16.9% |  | 41.9% | 21.9% |  | 12.5% | 5.1% |
| 102 Causeway | 23.8% | 11.4% |  | 32.3% | 16.7% |  | 8.5% | 5.3% |
| 103 Cloontubbrid | 36.5% | 25.5% |  | 39.8% | 30.1% |  | 3.3% | 4.7% |
| 104 Drommartin | 28.2% | 16.1% |  | 28.7% | 17.8% |  | 0.5% | 1.7% |
| 105 Duagh | 32.6% | 20.2% |  | 31.8% | 19.7% |  | -0.8% | -0.5% |
| 106 Ennismore | 26.0% | 13.2% |  | 33.9% | 18.6% |  | 7.9% | 5.4% |
| 107 Gullane | 34.1% | 20.0% |  | 35.5% | 20.6% |  | 1.4% | 0.6% |
| 108 Gunsborough | 26.6% | 16.7% |  | 28.3% | 14.8% |  | 1.7% | -1.9% |
| 109 Kilfeighny | 22.2% | 9.8% |  | 27.8% | 15.2% |  | 5.6% | 5.3% |
| 110 Killehenny | 29.5% | 15.9% |  | 35.6% | 20.7% |  | 6.2% | 4.8% |
| 111 Killury | 28.0% | 14.6% |  | 31.3% | 19.3% |  | 3.3% | 4.7% |
| 112 Kilmeany | 25.2% | 14.0% |  | 29.5% | 14.8% |  | 4.2% | 0.8% |
| 113 Kilshenane | 40.3% | 17.1% |  | 48.9% | 28.2% |  | 8.6% | 11.1% |
| 114 Kiltomy | 27.0% | 13.9% |  | 31.8% | 18.4% |  | 4.8% | 4.5% |
| 115 Leitrim | 26.1% | 12.8% |  | 28.3% | 17.4% |  | 2.2% | 4.6% |
| 116 Lislaughtin | 27.7% | 14.6% |  | 37.6% | 22.7% |  | 9.9% | 8.1% |
| 117 Lisselton | 26.9% | 15.8% |  | 32.2% | 17.3% |  | 5.3% | 1.6% |
| 118 Listowel Rural | 30.1% | 17.5% |  | 32.4% | 20.8% |  | 2.3% | 3.3% |
| 119 Lixnaw | 19.9% | 11.9% |  | 19.0% | 10.4% |  | -0.9% | -1.5% |
| 120 Moynsha | 24.0% | 12.3% |  | 30.1% | 15.7% |  | 6.1% | 3.4% |
| 121 Newtownsandes | 26.4% | 14.2% |  | 34.8% | 18.2% |  | 8.4% | 4.0% |
| 122 Rathea | 30.5% | 16.9% |  | 35.5% | 20.9% |  | 5.0% | 4.0% |
| 123 Shronowen | 29.7% | 19.2% |  | 40.5% | 25.3% |  | 10.8% | 6.1% |
| 124 Tarbert | 32.8% | 15.9% |  | 40.9% | 23.7% |  | 8.0% | 7.7% |
| 125 Tarmon | 32.7% | 20.3% |  | 34.5% | 22.3% |  | 1.7% | 1.9% |
| 126 Trienearagh | 26.8% | 14.8% |  | 27.7% | 15.0% |  | 0.9% | 0.1% |
| 127 Urlee | 33.4% | 18.3% |  | 35.5% | 21.8% |  | 2.1% | 3.5% |
| 128 Abbeydorney | 27.7% | 13.7% |  | 26.5% | 17.1% |  | -1.1% | 3.4% |
| 129 Arabela | 28.4% | 14.6% |  | 34.1% | 18.5% |  | 5.7% | 3.8% |
| 130 Ardfert | 20.3% | 10.2% |  | 28.0% | 13.4% |  | 7.6% | 3.2% |
| 131 Ballyegan | 21.6% | 10.0% |  | 21.0% | 12.2% |  | -0.6% | 2.2% |
| 132 Ballyheige | 30.2% | 16.0% |  | 34.7% | 19.0% |  | 4.5% | 3.0% |
| 133 Ballynahaglish | 25.4% | 13.4% |  | 28.9% | 15.8% |  | 3.5% | 2.4% |
| 134 Ballynorig | 27.5% | 14.5% |  | 30.3% | 17.4% |  | 2.8% | 2.9% |
| 135 Ballyseedy | 17.0% | 10.4% |  | 24.1% | 12.9% |  | 7.1% | 2.6% |
| 136 Banna | 24.7% | 12.0% |  | 31.0% | 16.9% |  | 6.3% | 4.9% |
| 137 Baurtregaum | 32.2% | 17.2% |  | 38.4% | 24.3% |  | 6.2% | 7.1% |
| 138 Blennerville | 22.6% | 11.1% |  | 33.9% | 17.5% |  | 11.2% | 6.4% |
| 139 Boolteens | 24.9% | 13.3% |  | 29.7% | 18.5% |  | 4.8% | 5.2% |
| 140 Brosna | 30.6% | 16.7% |  | 36.7% | 20.9% |  | 6.1% | 4.2% |
| 141 Carker | 24.9% | 16.0% |  | 33.2% | 16.7% |  | 8.3% | 0.7% |
| 142 Castleisland | 26.3% | 14.9% |  | 30.4% | 17.1% |  | 4.1% | 2.1% |
| 143 Clogherbrien | 21.6% | 9.9% |  | 33.8% | 17.1% |  | 12.2% | 7.2% |
| 144 Cordal | 28.4% | 16.2% |  | 34.2% | 17.6% |  | 5.8% | 1.4% |
| 145 Crinny | 20.5% | 13.0% |  | 38.1% | 14.9% |  | 17.5% | 1.8% |
| 146 Derreen | 29.3% | 16.0% |  | 29.2% | 16.7% |  | -0.1% | 0.6% |
| 147 Doon | 18.4% | 8.1% |  | 26.7% | 12.6% |  | 8.3% | 4.5% |
| 148 Gneeves | 30.3% | 17.1% |  | 29.1% | 17.0% |  | -1.2% | -0.1% |
| 149 Kerryhead | 29.6% | 13.4% |  | 30.3% | 19.6% |  | 0.7% | 6.2% |
| 150 Kilflyn | 31.4% | 14.3% |  | 35.5% | 22.7% |  | 4.1% | 8.4% |
| 151 Kilgarrylander | 24.4% | 12.1% |  | 35.9% | 16.2% |  | 11.5% | 4.0% |
| 152 Kilgobban | 23.7% | 11.1% |  | 36.8% | 19.1% |  | 13.1% | 8.0% |
| 153 Killahan | 34.4% | 17.4% |  | 32.4% | 20.1% |  | -2.0% | 2.8% |
| 154 Kilmurry | 19.7% | 10.5% |  | 35.3% | 11.1% |  | 15.6% | 0.6% |
| 155 Kiltallagh | 22.1% | 12.1% |  | 29.7% | 19.5% |  | 7.6% | 7.4% |
| 156 Knockglass | 32.5% | 22.2% |  | 34.3% | 23.8% |  | 1.8% | 1.6% |
| 157 Knocknagashel | 29.0% | 16.1% |  | 33.6% | 19.1% |  | 4.6% | 3.0% |
| 158 Lackabaun | 20.0% | 10.1% |  | 30.6% | 15.2% |  | 10.6% | 5.1% |
| 159 Millbrook | 26.4% | 13.2% |  | 31.7% | 15.9% |  | 5.2% | 2.7% |
| 160 Mount Eagle | 25.4% | 13.5% |  | 29.4% | 16.4% |  | 4.0% | 2.9% |
| 161 Nohaval | 19.5% | 10.0% |  | 32.5% | 14.4% |  | 13.0% | 4.4% |
| 162 O'Brennan | 18.8% | 8.9% |  | 25.1% | 12.0% |  | 6.3% | 3.2% |
| 163 Ratass | 20.4% | 7.9% |  | 28.2% | 15.2% |  | 7.7% | 7.3% |
| 164 Scartaglin | 20.9% | 10.9% |  | 27.2% | 13.9% |  | 6.3% | 2.9% |
| 165 Tralee Rural | 19.5% | 10.8% |  | 23.7% | 13.4% |  | 4.2% | 2.6% |
| 166 Tubrid | 26.0% | 12.3% |  | 29.1% | 17.3% |  | 3.1% | 5.0% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Kerry** | 25.4% | 13.8% |  | 29.8% | 16.9% |  | 4.4% | 3.1% |

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1. The law which deals with discrimination in relation to goods and services is the Equal Status Acts 2000-2015 (ESA).  The ESA prohibits discrimination on nine specific grounds. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Figures are based on the entire ED (Electoral Division) in which the town is located. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Various references [www.agefriendlyireland.ie](http://www.agefriendlyireland.ie) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)