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An Roinn Forbartha  
Tuaithe agus Pobail  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development

# *Disbursement of moneys from the Dormant Accounts Fund*

## *Annual Report 2022*



ciste na  
gcuntas díomhaoin  
the dormant  
accounts fund

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# Disbursement of moneys from the Dormant Accounts Fund

## Annual Report 2022

### Section 1: Background

The Dormant Accounts Acts 2001-2012, together with the Unclaimed Life Assurance Policies Act 2003, provide a framework for the administration of unclaimed accounts in credit institutions (i.e. banks, building societies and An Post) and unclaimed life assurance policies in insurance undertakings.

The main purpose of the legislation is to reunite account or policy holders with their funds in credit institutions or insurance undertakings and in this regard, these bodies are required to take steps to identify and contact the owners of dormant accounts and unclaimed life assurance policies.

However, in order to utilise the unused funds in dormant accounts and unclaimed policies the legislation also introduced a scheme for the disbursement of funds that are unlikely to be reclaimed from dormant accounts and unclaimed policies for the purposes of measures to assist:

1. the personal and social development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged;
2. the educational development of persons who are educationally disadvantaged; or,
3. persons with a disability.

The Dormant Accounts Acts set out a statutory framework governing how measures to assist the above groups should be formulated and implemented.

### Section 2: Statutory framework for Dormant Accounts Funding

Under Dormant Accounts legislation, Disbursement Schemes are drawn up at least every 3 years which outline the types of projects and programmes which should be funded by the Dormant Accounts Fund.

The overall objective of a Disbursement Scheme is to ensure that dormant accounts funds are spent in a manner that optimises their effectiveness and assists the personal, educational and social development of persons who are economically, educationally or socially disadvantaged or persons with a disability, as prescribed in the Dormant Accounts Acts.

The Dormant Accounts Acts also require that the Minister for Rural and Community Development produces an annual Dormant Accounts Action Plan, which contains details of the measures put forward by Government Departments to aid the aforementioned groups. The measures put forward in Action Plans must be in accordance with the objectives set out in the Disbursement Scheme.

The Minister for Rural and Community Development is then tasked with reporting (also on an annual basis) on the rollout by all Departments of the measures funded from the Dormant Accounts Fund during the preceding year. The Minister may also set out other matters relating to the operation and administration of Dormant Accounts funding as part of the annual report.

### **Section 3: Structure of the Annual Report 2022**

The measures to assist those suffering economic, social, or educational disadvantage and persons with a disability which were funded from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 were allocated specific blocks of funding in the annual Action Plans up to 2022, and were governed by the objectives and strategies set out in the relevant Disbursement Schemes, most recently the 2023-2025 scheme. These documents can be viewed on the website of the Department of Rural and Community Development, <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/department-of-rural-and-community-development/?referrer=/drcd>

Section 4 of this Annual Report provides summary details of the measures implemented by Government Departments which benefitted from Dormant Accounts funding in 2022, as well as the amount of funding drawn down from the Fund which enabled them to take place.

Section 5 details a small number of measures for which approved Dormant Account Funding is being decommitted. This is necessary for the proper administration of the fund, and ensures that money that is no longer required for a specific measures can be freed up for new measures.

Finally, Section 6 provides a small number of case studies for measures funded in 2022 and Section 7 some additional details on all funded measures and the amounts provided to each measure in 2022.

## **Section 4: Measures which benefitted from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022**

Total expenditure from Dormant Account Funds during 2022 amounted to over €54.6 million for 46 measures across 10 Government Departments. Summary detail of this expenditure is set out in the table below, with more detail on each measure provided in Section 7 of this report.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Government Department</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Disbursed from DAF in 2022</b>
1	Rural & Community Development	Social Enterprise Measure	2,300,000
2	Rural & Community Development	Senior Alerts Scheme	3,000,000
3	Rural & Community Development	Targeted Social Inclusion	728,538
4	Rural & Community Development	Pre-social Social Cohesion	125,021
5	Rural & Community Development	Public Libraries	448,031
6	Rural & Community Development	Participation and Engagement by marginalised and disadvantaged communities in the Local Economic and Community Planning (LECP) Process.	200,000
7	Rural & Community Development	Rethink Ireland	5,500,000
8	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	Housing First	3,000,000
9	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage	Traveller Accommodation	288,072
10	Department of Justice	Local Community Safety pilot projects completion	445,923
11	Department of Justice	Drogheda Implementation Plan Year 2	242,518
12	Department of Justice	Youth and Community Justice Services	4,932,748
13	Department of Justice	Irish Prison Service: Community Based Health in Justice	269,694.20
14	Department of Justice	Protecting Young People from the Influence of Adult Crime Networks in Ireland	1,426,000
15	Department of Justice	Consent Campaign	300,000
16	Department of Justice	Victim Rights Campaign	499,999
17	Department of Justice	Intimate Images Campaign	299,316
18	Department of Justice	Further Education & Training Consent Campaign	151,200
19	Department of Justice	Adventure Sports Project	30,000
20	Department of Justice	We Have a Dream	120,000
21	Department of Justice	Kickstart 4 Funding	613,400
22	Department of Social Protection	Support Employment, Education and Training Outcomes for People with a Disability and Family Carers	3,980,000
23	Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	Care Supports	1,198,612

No.	Government Department	Measure	Disbursed from DAF in 2022
24	Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	Oberstown Detention Campus Training Initiatives	364,000
25	Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	Traveller and/or Roma Community Initiatives	1,021,200
26	Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	Youth and/or Family Initiatives	6,926,698
27	Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	Refugees Support Initiatives	800,000
28	Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	Babies and/or Young Children	204,000
29	Department of Education	Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)	300,000
30	Department of Education	Young Social Innovators	180,000
31	Department of Education	CDETB Migrant Integration	115,000
32	Department of Education	City Connects Pilot Project	400,000
33	Department of Education	Travellers and Roma Education Fund	340,000
34	Department of Education	Traveller & Roma Learners Transition	100,000
35	Department of Education	Time to Count	20,000
36	Department of Education	Glasnevin Trust	20,000
37	Department of Education	SEN Transitions	150,000
38	Department of Defence	Upgrading of the Civil Defence Fleet of Vehicles	818,098.90
39	Department of Defence	Dormant Accounts funding to Veterans Associations	115,365.25
40	Department of Defence	Sail Training Ireland	50,000
41	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs	2,170,200
42	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	National Sport Education and Training Hub	2,474,400
43	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	Sports Measures for Disadvantaged Communities to Support the National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP)	7,355,400
44	Department of Further and Higher Education, Research and Innovation and Science	Traveller Apprenticeship Incentivisation Programme	450,000
45	Department of Health	Pilot rollout of the carer's needs assessment tool	31,694
46	Department of Health	National rollout of dementia training programme for HSE home care staff	76,548
Total			54,581,676*

\*Actual amount drawn down from the fund was €54,503,547, difference due to prior year overclaim.

## Section 5: DAF Interdepartmental Group and decommitment of funding for certain measures

An interdepartmental Dormant Accounts Group was established in 2018, and since then this group, which consists of all Departments which utilise funding, has been integral to the effective ongoing administration and use of the Fund. This Group continues to meet regularly, supporting the success of the fund and appropriate oversight. As detailed in this report, a total of €54.6 million was utilised in 2022, up from €51.8 million in 2021, and €43.4 million in 2020. The 2020 funding of €43.4 million was supplemented by €50 million in once-off supports for charities, and community and voluntary organisations, in the context of the COVID-19 Stability Fund, which helped such organisations navigate the pandemic by utilising the Dormant Accounts Fund for once off supports.

As noted in the recent review of the Dormant Accounts Disbursement Scheme 2020-2022 this level of disbursement from the fund was enabled by the fact that a strong reserve built up over the period of 2011-2017, during which the levels of disbursement from the fund were very low – averaging less than €8 million per annum over that period. The review of the Disbursement Scheme also found that the level of future disbursement needs to reduce over time, to reach a more sustainable long term level that reflects the net inflows into the scheme. This is likely to require future commitments to reduce to €40 million per annum over time. This future level of commitment must be kept under review in the context of the level of net inflows into the Dormant Accounts Fund.

A key aspect of administering the fund is to ensure ongoing decommitment of funds for measures which no longer required that funding. The decommitment of this funding allows it to be used for the approval of new measures in forthcoming Action Plans. Funding is decommitted for a range of reasons, mainly either (i) because the measure has been completed for less than the maximum approved amount; (ii) the measure has not progressed as planned, or (iii) it has been superseded by other measures or programmes.

The table overleaf provides details of funding for measures approved in previous Action Plans which is now being decommitted.

<b>Lead Dept</b>	<b>Decommitted Funding (€)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action Plan(s) measure was originally included in</b>	<b>Reason(s) funding is being decommitted</b>
D/Health	10,000	Intercultural Healthcare In-Reach Project for Refugees in European Reception and Orientation Centres (EROC)	2017	Area of work has changed significantly since 2017 and more sustainable funding streams for IRPP have been established.
D/Justice	4,077	Local Community Safety pilot projects Year 2	2022	Measure completed with minor balance remaining.

D/Justice	7,482	Implementation of targeted crime prevention and harm-reduction recommendations of Drogheda Community Safety & Wellbeing Scoping Report	2022	Measure completed with minor balance remaining.
D/Justice	67,252	Youth and Community Justice Services	2022	Superseded by funding in new action plan.
D/Justice	1	Victim's Rights Campaign	2022	Measure completed with minor balance remaining.
D/Justice	684	Intimate Images Campaign	2022	Measure completed with minor balance remaining.
D/Justice	150,000	LGBTI+	2020	This measure moved to DRCD Targeted Social Inclusion measures.
DRCD	233	Carbon Monoxide Alarms	2018	Measure completed with minor balance remaining.
DRCD	5,000	Covid-19 Stability Fund	2020	Measure completed with minor balance remaining.
<b>Total</b>	<b>€244,729</b>			



## **Section 6: Case Studies**

The Dormant Accounts Fund enables a huge range of initiatives across many sectors – all aimed at addressing disadvantage or assisting persons with a disability. Section 7 of this Annual Report provides short detail on each measure that utilised funding in 2022, having been previously approved for funding in an Annual Action Plan, and the amount of funding utilised in 2022. This section provides three detailed case studies which aim to demonstrate the variety and impact of measures funding through the Dormant Accounts Fund.

### **Case Study 1: What Works Jigsaw School Hub**

***Department: Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth***

***Measure: What Works Initiative***

The *What Works* initiative, which is funded through the Dormant Accounts Fund, supports moves towards evidence informed prevention and early intervention services for children, young people and their families.

In 2022, the *What Works* Sharing Knowledge Fund was announced by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O’Gorman T.D., with a total budget of €400,000. This fund sought to support professionals working in child, youth, and family services with their learning requirements, peer interaction, project collaboration and



knowledge dissemination. Following an open call for applications, 25 organisations were awarded funding – one of which was the Jigsaw School Hub programme. Jigsaw received €20,000 for this programme. Jigsaw is a national organisation which gives families, educators, and those who support young people’s mental health ways to cope and the skills to be there for

young people. Launched in early 2021, Jigsaw Schools Hub is an interactive online platform that strives to provide teachers and school staff with easily accessible, high quality, clinically-informed and evidence-driven mental health resources and materials for use in the classroom.

The Jigsaw School Hub was created to provide the resource to help children and young people to manage and develop resilience to cope with mental health challenges that they may encounter. The Hub offers primary and post-primary schools with accessible and measureable skill-based supports that support mental health and well-being.

This funding enabled Jigsaw to continue to develop and expand the range of supports and classroom-based resources it provides. This allowed for the creation of the Hub 2.0, which was launched in August 2022. It includes a range of user-informed improvements, including an improved search feature, cleaner navigation, a tighter thematic focus and better use of

push notifications through email. These improvements followed a consultation with young people and educators that saw Jigsaw restructure the classroom based resources under a range of thematic areas such as relationships, social media and mental health awareness along with others.

Since the launch of the Hub 2.0 in August 2022, class all users can now access resources through the search function that relates to a theme or curriculum module by selecting classroom resources. Some of these resources are now made available in Irish.



Jigsaw have also created dedicated sections with information about the eLearning programmes, self-care tips for the school year and leadership support for principals and deputy principals. School staff and leaders can also access and complete learning modules in their own time.

**Quick Search** Filter by All themes All resources

how young people experience social media.      media with your class using these resources.      use social media.

<p><b>SOCIAL MEDIA POSTER</b></p> <p><b>Social media and self-care</b></p> <p>Resources to support your class to think about online self-care.</p>	<p><b>SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY</b></p> <p><b>Privacy, rights and boundaries online</b></p> <p>Classroom resources that consider the implications of sharing online content about others.</p>	<p><b>SOCIAL MEDIA VIDEO</b></p> <p><b>Digital boundaries</b></p> <p>Encourage your class to think about setting digital boundaries.</p>
<p><b>SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY</b></p> <p><b>Media literacy</b></p> <p>Investigate fact from fiction and recognise biases in online content.</p>	<p><b>MEABHAIRSHLÁINTE ACTIVITY</b></p> <p><b>Cad is brí le meabhairshláinte?</b></p> <p>Tuiscint a fháil ar an meabhairshláinte agus ar an bhfolláine.</p>	<p><b>MEABHAIRSHLÁINTE SCENARIOS</b></p> <p><b>Cásanna réalaíocha</b></p> <p>Bain úsáid as na hacmhainní físe seo mar bhonn le haghaidh plé ranga.</p>

The launch of the Hub 2.0, funded through the Sharing Knowledge Fund, has built the confidence and competence in areas of mental health for principals, teachers, school staff, parents and young people through accessible and interactive resources and materials for the classroom.



Overall, the Hub 2.0 has helped to create mentally healthy environments for all. The platform had over 13,000 users in 2022 and Jigsaw sought to increase users from

30% of school staff and 15% of all schools across 26 counties in 2022, to 50% of staff and 30% of all school in 2023 and 70% and 40% by 2024.

With funding from the *What Works* Sharing Knowledge Fund, the Jigsaw School Hub is now in a position to provide a wide range of resources, toolkits and materials for schools, teachers, parents and students. Jigsaw can also plan to expand these resources into the future. With its resources strengthened using the *What Works* Sharing Knowledge funding, the Hub now attracts philanthropic donations.

*What Works initiative* comes under the Youth and Family initiative measure which disbursed €6,926,698 in 2022.

## Case Study 2: STEPS+ in Oberstown Campus (Skills, Training, Education, Person-Centred, Support)

**Department: Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth**

**Measure: Oberstown Detention Campus Training Initiatives**

CareersPortal were successful in their tendering process application to Dormant Accounts Funding in late 2020, to develop a bespoke on-line career learning and development programme for the young people in Oberstown campus. Launched in April 2021, **Steps+** is a three-year pilot phased project, designed and developed by guidance counsellors in consultation with the young people and staff across the Oberstown campus.

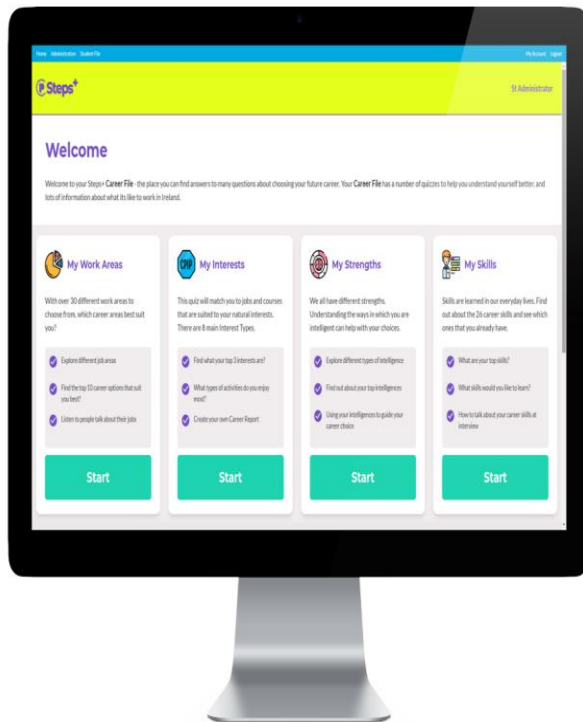


### **Needs Analysis: Scoping the Steps+**

The project is underpinned by a practical action-research approach, whereby an extensive process of consultation was undertaken to fully understand the unique needs of the young people on campus. The platform was created based on feedback from Oberstown staff and their understanding and experience of the needs and challenges of the young people. The current IT systems and processes on campus were also reviewed. The Oberstown **CEHOP Model** was examined in relation to how the new STEPS+ platform could support and enhance their current education and care practices.

The Steps+ platform is administered through a secure interface available only to authorised staff in Oberstown. Within this administration, staff can organise their young people into groups, assign available career exercises on a group or individual basis and map the progress of each young person throughout their time using the programme. A number of reports can be produced, and Staff/Teachers can provide feedback to individuals or groups, as required.

Consistent communications and regular meetings between Steps+ project staff and



Oberstown staff assigned to this phase of the pilot project, ensured that consultation activities and schedules could be discussed, agreed upon and organised in advance. Two key Oberstown staff (CRPF Project Lead/Unit Manager and the Young Person's Advocate) have been instrumental in the successful co-ordination and execution of all planned activities. These activities were agreed by the feedback from care/unit staff and the young people themselves.

Overall, key personnel on campus along with the activities team have been critical to the success of the programme to date in supporting its piloting and implementation as part of the mid-term and evening

activities programmes. A number of staff have registered their interest in supporting the development of this project for the next please, and as such a team of Steps+ Champions have been identified with representatives across the units. The on-going piloting of Steps+ as part of the activities programme has been further developed by securing the services of a Guidance Counsellor to support its implementation in conjunction with the Steps+ Champions.

The Department disbursed €364,000 to Oberstown Detention Campus in 2022 and €249,000 is allocated in the 2023 Dormant Account Fund Action Plan. The current project will continue until April 2024.

### **Case Study 3: Cherry Orchard Equine Centre**

***Department: Department of Rural and Community Development***

***Measure: Targeted Social Inclusion Measures (Cherry Orchard Equine Centre).***

Cherry Orchard Equine Centre (COEC) is an integrated Centre with various services such as the Equestrian Unit, Integrated Youth Service, Garda Youth Diversion Project (CODY) and a Community Development Project (Blue Door). Several funders, including The Department of Rural and Community Development, support our organisation. The core of the grant supports the operation of the Equine Centre. The Community Services Programme is a payroll grant which supports the operations and earned income element of the organisation. This is managed and administered by Pobal. Crucially, without this funding, our Centre would not be able to operate. Below is an account of our recent events that would not have been possible without the support of the Dormant Account funding.

Throughout the month of April, local organisations and residents come together to put on a whole month of events known as Cherry Blossoms. The initiative behind Cherry Blossoms is to highlight and celebrate the great community of Cherry Orchard against the backlash the community receives from the press. Cherry Blossoms signifies Hope to a community that is continuing to thrive, and COEC were involved in multiple events that included:

#### **Cultural Fest**

This festival saw numerous cultures unite to showcase their traditions through music and poetry. Our Blue Door staff host this event. However, the operations department assisted with equipment and supervision.

#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

The event included a scavenger hunt, a DJ, arts and crafts & fun games. One of our young people, an aspiring DJ, facilitated the music. He encouraged games and great music, which was thoroughly enjoyed by many families—a collection of chocolate Easter eggs were given to all who participated in the day's event.



## **The Big Breakfast**

COEC cooked a fabulous breakfast for all those in the community. The big breakfast was a free event that the community could pop in to avail of. It was a roaring success.



*Our catering staff who cooked for  
The Big Breakfast*

## **Equine Open Day**

As part of Horse Aware Week and in conjunction with Cherry Blossoms, COEC hosts an Equine Open Day annually. The event welcomes vendors from various organisations/businesses to promote all things equine, including career opportunities. Vendors included; DSPCA, Kildalton College, The Army Equitation School, The Garda Mounted Unit, RACE, Treo Eile, Equip, Top Spec, Cahill International Transport, Cherry Orchard CTC and Rider Align. Again, community members were invited to attend the free event, to gain knowledge and enjoy the various elements of the day. These were; a musical pony ride from the Cherry Orchard Pony Club, face painting, pony rides, and horse riding displays from the Army Equitation, Treo Eile and The Garda Mounted Unit. We also sold hot food on the day that was catered by our kitchen staff.



Some staff members of the operations department  
at the Equine Open Day 2023

### **Street Feast Food Festival**

Lastly, the Cherry Blossoms event concluded with the Street Feast Food Festival. The event allows many communities to cook, display and share their cultural cuisine. Food choice was abundant from members of the Polish, Irish, African and Asian delicacies. We also had face painting, games, a magician and a DJ for the community to enjoy.



The Cherry Blossom event is a comprehensive centre wide operation where all departments come together to support one another in all aspects of the events.

Cherry Orchard Equine Centre received €123,200 in funding under the Department of Rural and Community Development's targeted social inclusion measures, which provided a total of €728,000 in support for community organisations addressing disadvantage in 2022.



## Section 7: Further Information on DAF measures funded in 2022

### Department of Rural and Community Development

- **Social Enterprise Measure**

The €2.3m Social Enterprise Measure of the Dormant Accounts Fund provided funding for three schemes in 2022.

€1.48m of DAF funding was used to fund the *Scaling-up Scheme for Social Enterprise*. Social Enterprises could apply for funding under either Strand 1 or Strand 2.

Strand 1 provided €1.34m capital funding to 17 social enterprises to deliver projects that are helping them to grow, and that improve the impact and sustainability of their businesses. Social enterprises who received funding included MyMind who received €87k for an electric vehicle that is expanding the outreach potential of their mental health support service, Kilcannon Industries received €100k for Building works including an eight passenger disabled access lift, and Offaly Integrated Local Development Company received €64k for two electric vans to expand the meals-on-wheels programme.

Strand 2 provided organisations with funding of €140k to conduct feasibility studies to ascertain the viability of projects with the potential to expand or scale their goods/services. Each grant covered up to 80% of the total cost of the feasibility study up to a maximum of €10k. A further 17 social enterprises received funding under this strand, including €10k to Connections Arts Centre, €8k to Shuttle Knit CLG and €10k to Not So Different CLG.

€526k of DAF funding was used to support a further 14 organisations under the *Awareness Raising Initiatives for Social Enterprise (ARISE) Scheme* that was first launched in 2021. This scheme enabled organisations to develop projects that raise awareness of social enterprise generally, and of the work they do to support those disadvantaged in their own communities. The Scheme has proven to be very popular amongst Social Enterprises and network/support organisations, particularly in the context of the recovery of the sector and reopening of the economy post COVID-19. Projects funded include events, exhibitions, videos, and podcasts that delivered at a local, regional and national level.

€300k of DAF funding was used to fund the second year of the pilot *Start-up Scheme for Social Enterprise*. Administered by Rethink Ireland, 20 new social enterprises were awarded a small capital grant and a place on Rethink Ireland's Accelerator Programme that equips social enterprises with the skills they need to scale and deepen their social impact.

€2,300,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Seniors Alert Scheme**

The Seniors Alert Scheme (SAS) has been established to encourage community support for vulnerable older people in our communities. It provides funding for a personal monitored alarm, connected to a contact centre to enable older persons of 65 or older and of limited

means, to continue to live securely in their homes with confidence, independence and peace of mind.

The Scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development via Pobal with equipment made available through community, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations registered with Pobal under the SAS.

A new iteration of the Scheme commenced in September 2021, further to a procurement process undertaken by Pobal. This new version continues to incorporate the provision of free monitoring for the first year, as well as introducing a new key feature in the additional option of a digital alarm, for use with web based connections. There were over 106,000 approved participants to the Scheme at the end of 2022, including 16,000 approved in 2022.

The measure to be funded from the Dormant Accounts Fund allows for the increased demand from our most vulnerable citizens to be met. Dormant Accounts funding will be used to meet the additional and exceptional demands of the Scheme, particularly the continued provision of free monitoring for participants of the Scheme, which is a feature of the current iteration of the Scheme.

€3,000,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Targeted Social Inclusion Measure**

€728,538 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

This measure encompasses specific projects aimed at tackling social disadvantage and exclusion and targeted at particular areas/groups of individuals that are suffering from extreme marginalisation or disadvantage and who otherwise would not be reached by existing state services. The overall approved amount was utilised across a range of projects, with ultimate funding based on need. Funding amounts are set out below.

The measure includes:

- Cherry Orchard Equine Centre

Funding of €123,200 for this measure ensures increased engagement with young travellers, marginalised youths and disadvantaged youths in the Ballyfermot/Cherry Orchard area. It supports the training centre in the delivery of early school leaver programmes; it engages with young people at risk of committing offences, challenging attitudes in order to change behaviours using diversion activities and programmes, while supporting education and employment progression opportunities; The Centre provides a range of new programmes, services and supports to supplement the existing activities, which aim to assist young people, prepare themselves for engaging in the labour market.

On average, the service worked with 170 young people per month compared with monthly target of 130 set by City of Dublin Youth Service Board (CDYSB). The total number of engagements for the period was 1,779, which includes one-to-ones, group work and family supports.

➤ Carrickmines Family Support Worker

The funding for this measure of €31,530.50 ensures a part time Family Support Worker assists the continuing day to day needs of the surviving members of families directly impacted by the Carrickmines fire of 10th October 2015. Bray Travellers Community Development Group's (BTCDG) Family Support Service offered supports to 20 families in the Bray Municipal District. This service was client-lead and delivered support to families in line with the community development ethos of (BTCDG).

In addition to advocating for the families, the service was successful in establishing an ethnically sensitive context that facilitates Travellers and settled people, including statutory and voluntary agencies to work together in a flexible, creative and complementary manner.

➤ Cumann Na Daoine (CnD)

The funding of €70,000 supports the main community development and social inclusion project in Youghal, a town which has high levels of deprivation in certain small population areas. The funding provided by the Dormant Accounts Fund allows the project to plan into the future, including addressing some of the more long-term complex issues facing the town.

Funding from the DRCD is allocated towards three main posts:

- Development Manager
- Project (Centre) Co-ordinator
- Administrator

2022 saw additional supports to the men's and women's groups, the publication of the Women's Legacy Project and the launch of the physical health project, made possible through a Sports Partnership grant. In 2022 new programmes were introduced providing a range of 'walk in' courses for the local population of Youghal and the cafe opened full time once again following the difficulties of the pandemic. CnD opened a Ukraine Resource Centre, providing one to one assistance and a psychological support service to Ukrainian nationals who were living in the community.

➤ Inner City Enterprise (ICE)

The Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards scheme was established by the Inner City Enterprise (ICE) and Dublin City Council with the support of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Dublin City in 2015. It provides small flexible financial support to kick-start the creation and development of social enterprises in Dublin City. The programme and competition aims to celebrate and increase awareness of the important contribution made by social enterprise in addressing societal challenges and building communities and in creating employment and strengthening the sustainability of social enterprises.

In 2022, ICE provided continuous mentoring and advice to each of the 2022 awardees and to previous awardees assisting them in developing and growing sustainable social enterprises. As in previous years, ICE also work with their own Sponsors, to provide a range

of free specialist business workshops and supported all of the Dublin City social enterprises who have applied to the awards. There are now 41 social enterprises, who are Awardees of the Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards, many of whom have gone on to win other awards and to scale and grow their business.

Funding of €50,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts fund in 2022 for this measure.

➤ LGBT+ Supports

Under this measure, support services were provided nationwide targeting marginalised people experiencing exclusion on account of their LGBTI identities. The funding to LGBTI community organisations has enabled increased capacity to:

- Enhanced general support services – extending drop-in hours, developing information and guidance tools, holding additional community events, enhancing existing community programmes.
- Delivering LGBTI awareness and sensitivity training in healthcare settings, businesses, schools etc.
- Providing outreach support services targeting high risk and vulnerable groups such as older LGBTI people suffering extreme isolation, asylum seekers and transgender people.
- Providing sporting/physical activity programmes to promote inclusion, community participation, health and wellbeing.
- Deliver awareness campaigns promoting positive visibility of LGBTI people within the local community to foster increased acceptance and social inclusion.
- Developed frameworks and toolkits to assist local employers in improving workplace inclusion for LGBTI people.

Funding of €200,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

➤ The Meath Wellness Hub

In 2022, funding of €131,330 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts fund to the Meath Wellness Hub. They offered and supported a variety of individuals and groups across the county of Meath through wellness workshops. Part of the services within Meath Wellness Hub was to explore strategies for improving mental health and wellbeing. The main aim of these workshops was to encourage self-awareness and self-discovery, provide an understanding to mental health, explore coping mechanisms while also allowing participants to learn how to protect their own individual mental health.

In total 29 wellness workshops were facilitated in county Meath supporting over 798 individuals of all ages, background and gender.

➤ Tallaght Community Outreach Centre

Tallaght Community Outreach Centres provide support to 3 outreach centres in Tallaght (Glenshane Resource Centre, Flexible Training Centre in Brookfield and Mountain Park Centre) operated by South Dublin County Partnership (SDCP), who operate a total of 19 service centres across South Dublin in areas of high disadvantage. SDCP are the Programme Implementer for SICAP in the Clondalkin/Tallaght area. The partnership deliver services across South County Dublin. They run a number of outreach centres as a platform for social inclusion work based within the communities. The areas in which they operate are marked by pockets of extreme disadvantage. The three centres supported in particular are in imminent danger of closure as a result of insufficient funding to meet overhead costs. These three centres are located within local authority housing estates and provide a place where individuals who are far removed from – and often suspicious of – mainstream services feel safe to engage in non-threatening, familiar surroundings.

In 2022:

- Mountain Park offered Lifelong learning English classes for over 20 students weekly.
- They provided extra English language classes for Ukrainian nationals in excess of 40 people per day.
- Glenshane Resource Centre provided developmental supports for their users through a range of their programs.
- The Flexible Training Unit delivered a range of programmes aimed at improving each participants employability skills, increase their abilities to seek, find and keep work or progress into further training.

Funding of €52,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

➤ Windtown, Engaging in Learning

Windtown is an area of high disadvantage. Windtown Students were experiencing difficulty with retention, attendance and punctuality. Navan Schools Completion Programme were aware of the causal factors for the students, which related to lack of transport, walking a distance of 4.7km, 55min, lack of adequate nutrition and motivation to get themselves out to school. The service has and continues to break the cycle of educational disadvantage and provides young people with advantage in their lives.

From Navan School Completion Programme analysis, attendance in school continues to increase. Students are now remaining in education, completing exams and remaining connected to learning. Young people are school ready with a consistent attendance record. This initiative is now part of the school DEIS plan and its success is clearly documented. Flexi bus drivers are caring and supportive to the young people, encouraging them and interacting in a positive way with students. School Completion Programme Staff link regularly with the drivers to ensure that everything is running smoothly.

- The success of the Windtown bus is very evident this year, where the first group of students that started on the bus in 2017, successfully completed their leaving certificate in 2022.
- The bus service has grown from 17 students to now 86 students from the Windtown area attending each morning.
- Attendance and participation in school, remain consistent in the 90% attendance rates.
- Funding of €40,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts fund in 2022 for this measure.

➤ Tractor Driving Skills

The Safe Tractor Driving Skills Programme is delivered by North East West Kerry Development (NEWKD). The Safe Tractor Driving Skills for teenagers training programme was set up in 2000 as a result of a huge number of fatalities over the previous 4 years (approximately 25 per year). Tractor related accidents are the number 1 cause of farm deaths.

The objectives of the programme are to:

- Outline legal requirements of tractors being used by participants.
- Make participants aware of dangers with tractors and machinery.
- Familiarise participants with the relevant tractor controls, including the instrument panel, symbols, etc.
- Demonstrate the safe methods of operating tractors by providing practical instruction to each participant, including good driving position, checking the terrain, etc.
- Operate tractors and equipment to the required standard.

The programme runs in 11 locations in Kerry, Cork & Limerick (Max. 10 participants per location) and includes First Aid and Safe Tractor skills under the syllabus.

Funding of €29,675 was disbursed from the 2022 Dormant Accounts Fund for this measure.

➤ Cumann na Daoine 'Blue & Green' Community Network

**Cumann na Daoine** (CnD) are a community development resource centre in Youghal, Co. Cork supporting communities in Youghal and East Cork. They provide programmes which empower people to help themselves and each other, giving people a voice, building confidence and creating awareness of social issues. CnD is totally committed to social inclusion in all of its projects.

In 2021, CnD established the **Youghal 'Blue & Green' Community Network** which focuses on climate change and the environment and supporting community projects to 'go green'. The Network is committed to climate action and transition using a bottom-up approach, ensuring inclusion and sustainability as it relates to local people's lives.

DRCDC have approved funding of €180,000 (€60,000 per annum over 3 years) for the recruitment of 2 Community Development Workers to support the Youghal 'Blue and Green' Community Network. These workers will further develop the network and strengthen the work with local residents experiencing social exclusion.

Tomar Trust, a philanthropic trust, supporting community and voluntary activity in rural Ireland, has committed a grant of €120,000 (€40,000 per annum for 2022, 2023 and 2024) to the project.

€60,000 was allocated in funding from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022. The priorities for 2022/2023 include:

- Blue & Green Community Work – to support all local community organisations to go 'Green'.
- Community Garden – Develop existing and design new space for local residents and groups.
- Education & Employment Supports – Cullinary courses online, work with ETB offering taster courses and 10 week adult education courses.
- East Cork Cullinary School – Work with ETB as partners to develop a full time Culinary school in Youghal; Fetac level 6.

- **Pre-Social Cohesion Project, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick**

This Funding is for the continuation of the pre-social cohesion project in Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, which commenced in 2013 and is administered by West Limerick Resources. Rathkeale is unique in Ireland in that approximately 80% of the population are from the traveller community. The pre-social cohesion project is a faith based initiative of the Catholic, Church of Ireland and Methodist churches in partnership with West Limerick Resources.

The Departments funding goes towards the employment of a Pre-Social Cohesion Project Officer and ancillary costs in Rathkeale. The aim of the project is to develop momentum towards community cohesion and to enable and develop community leaders who have a shared vision for community reconciliation, mediation and community cohesion. To engage with Statutory Agencies and Limerick City & County Council, raising greater awareness of the need for social cohesion and how more participatory approaches will facilitate it. These aims are being developed by outlining the significant role that Rath Caola Le Cheile has in the town of Rathkeale. This group is the only avenue that enables communication and collaboration between both communities.

€125,021 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Library Supports**

Funding was approved under the 2022 Dormant Accounts Action Plan for public library measures to support disadvantaged, socially excluded and marginalised communities. The funding put libraries at the forefront of reaching out to members of the local community in which they serve, with particular focus on older people, children from disadvantaged communities, people with disabilities and other marginalised groups. In addition to the above main groups, funding was also awarded to a number of libraries that submitted projects designed to reach out to Ukrainian families who are living in Ireland after fleeing the war.

This funding was awarded under four separate measures:

- Programming

Funding was approved for 77 programmes under the Programming measure, to support disadvantaged, socially excluded and marginalised communities. The programmes are diverse in nature and target a range of groups including Travellers, New Irish, residents of Direct Provision Centres, LGBTI, the deaf and visually impaired community and people with learning differences such as autism and dyslexia.

- Digital Equity and Social Inclusion Programme

Funding was approved for 41 projects under the Digital Equity and Social Inclusion measure to support the provision of modern equipment in public libraries that improves accessibility for people with a disability and those with sensory needs, autism, or older members of our community. Equipment funded under this measure included C-PENs, sensory walls, sensory gardens, toys, portable magic tables and wayfinding signage.

- Literacy

Funding was approved under the Literacy measure, which supported libraries in purchasing literacy, numeracy, digital skills licences/apps to assist adults or children with low literacy levels, those with learning difficulties or visually/hearing impaired. The aim of this measure is to provide literacy supports in tandem with the national Right to Read Programme. A total of 44 proposals were approved for funding. A total of 329 public library branches nationwide benefitted from these measures.

- First 5 Little Library Initiative

Funding was awarded under the First 5 Little Library Initiative which was a collaboration between the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth under the First 5 Strategy. It is a national initiative to raise awareness of the services, resources and facilities available through the public libraries. 63,500 book bags have been collected by children in early learning and care settings and public libraries in 2022 and this has resulted in 29,000 new library members



aged 4/5yrs being registered with a further 14,700 memberships being renewed also in this age group.

€448,031 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Participation and Engagement by marginalised and disadvantaged communities in the Local Economic and Community Planning (LECP) Process**

This is a Five Year Strategy to Support the Community and Voluntary Sector in Ireland and contains a number of measures that look to support more comprehensive engagement and participation by communities in decision making at all levels. While this applies to all communities, those communities most marginalised are identified as needing a particular focus.

In 2022, the Department of Rural and Community Development built on the 2021 funding measure to support the identification of methodologies and development of strategies and resources to support the inclusion of those most marginalised in local decision making processes.

A number of Pilots commenced in 2022 with four Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) examining their Local Economic and Community Planning (LECP) process to determine the best ways to engage with identified marginalised or non-engaging communities in order to support their input into the LECP process. Working in collaboration with the Public Participation Networks (PPN), Local Development Companies (LDC) and local expert and advocacy groups, the LCDCs sought to design strategies and processes to reach and involve the identified groups.

The funding also supported the development of a resource guide to be used at national and local level to support engagement and participation by marginalised communities that are flexible and adaptable to the needs of those communities and local circumstances, and a national online event, aimed at building capacity across all LCDCs in good practices in engagement and consultation, as well as highlighting common barriers to participation. This measure will continue in 2023.

€200,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Rethink Ireland**

In 2022, Rethink Ireland managed 26 active innovation funds, including 7 new funds in health, equality, education, social enterprise and the green transition.

In total, Rethink Ireland managed 185 awardees in 2022 with contracts worth €42+ Million. This included 61 new awardees signing contracts worth €8.9 Million with us in 2022.

They funded 150 positions in the not-for profit sector. They have also extended the partnership with government and now receive funding from several other departments

including, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Department of Health and Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection.

Through delivering their innovative services, awardees achieved significant social and environmental impact in 2022. Collectively in 2022, our active awardees;

Worked with over 278,000 participants to make positive changes in people's lives, benefitted from the support of 6,000+ volunteers and supported over 42,000 people to advance their learning. This included;

- 928 leaving certificates completed
- 1,300 junior certificates completed
- 643 QQI qualifications gained (QQI Levels 3 - 8) and
- over 39,000 accredited and non-accredited training outputs delivered.
- Placed over 850+ participants into employment.
- Diverted over 800 tonnes of waste from landfill.
- Educated 16,000 people on issues related to the Green Transition
- Provided physical and mental health supports to over 23,000 people

Rethink support awardees to maximise their impact. Supporting our awardees with tailored non-financial supports and a place on the Capacity Building Programme helps to build their organisational capacity. We ran tailored programmes totalling 64 workshops in 2022. These included modules on:

- Impact Measurement & Management
- Communications & Storytelling
- Strategic Planning and Financial Resilience
- Internal Values & Leadership
- Systems Change & Knowledge Sharing
- Fundraising & Networking
- Diversity & Inclusion

€5,500,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

## **Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage**

- **Housing First**

In the 2022 the total drawdown of Dormant Account Funding by Homelessness Division was €3 million and provided for Housing First. This measure is intended to support the continued the roll out the National Implementation Plan for Housing First. The implementation of the Plan is a joint initiative of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, the Department of Health, the Health Service Executive and local authorities.

Housing First recognises that many of those rough sleeping or users of long-term emergency accommodation have complex needs and require intensive supports to help them exit from homelessness into a sustainable tenancy. Housing First provides these individuals with a home and provides the intensive housing and health supports that they require.

The 'Housing First' National Implementation Plan (2022-2026), published in December 2021, outlines details of over 1,300 new tenancies. A new Housing First Directorate, which will manage the implementation of the new Plan, was launched on 2 March. 240 Housing First tenancies were established in 2022. By the end of 2022 a total of 804 individuals were in a Housing First tenancy.

The Housing First programme had an overall sustainment rate of 86% during the 2018-2021 Implementation Plan period, and most recent figures show that this rate has been maintained during the first year of the 2022-2026 plan. The funding of €3 million under the Dormant Accounts Fund Action Plan provides for the housing elements of Housing First. This funding has been ring-fenced to accelerate the roll out of the Housing First Implementation Plan nationally.

€3,000,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Traveller Accommodation**

Dormant Accounts Funding of €288,000 was used for the first time in 2022 in the context of improving tenancy sustainment in Traveller-specific accommodation. This measure encompasses projects aimed at tackling social disadvantage experienced by Travellers, and at improving outcomes for Travellers, particularly those living in Traveller-specific accommodation. Dormant Account Funds were distributed across 11 Local Authority areas for 16 different projects, reaching Travellers of all age groups across many different communities. The funded projects came under the following 4 headings:

- Training and support to assist Travellers in tenancy sustainment and development of their community in Traveller-specific group housing schemes and Traveller Halting sites. Examples of projects completed under this heading included facilitating focus groups and preparing a report to look at the experiences of the Traveller community in seeking to secure accommodation in the private rented sector and addressing the issues that were identified. Other projects included horticultural enhancements of sites and tenancy sustainment courses.

- To raise awareness and acceptance of Traveller culture to facilitate the development of accommodation. An example of some of the projects under this heading were the refurbishment of an original Barrel Top Wagon by the Offaly Traveller Movement and the delivery of Positive Pathways Programs.
- To seek resolutions where conflicts arise e.g. mediation and community building. Funding was provided for mediation services for residents of a halting site with the aim of identifying the preferred accommodation options of the families on site.
- The introduction of play area facilities in Traveller-specific accommodation. Using dormant accounts funding play areas were created in 5 Traveller-specific accommodation sites. These projects included providing safe play areas, providing sensory play areas for children with sensory needs and erecting goal posts and basketball play areas. These projects will improve the living environment for the children on these sites.
- 

€228,072 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

## Department of Justice and the Irish Prison Service

- **Irish Prison Service, Community Based Health in Prisons**

The Community Based Health programme improves health, mental wellbeing, violence reduction and drug awareness among prisoners. The programme successfully trained and graduated 100 new inmate Irish Red Cross special status volunteers (peer-health educators) serving an overall community of 4000+ inmates within 13 prisons.

It provided opportunities for health awareness transference from prisoners/volunteers to family members. It is estimated that 8000 additional people served, if each prisoner, on average, receives two family member visitors each. Approximately 100 new prison community health and wellbeing projects were undertaken across the estate of 13 prisons by Red Cross volunteers in 2022. These cover the agreed topics of:

- Mental Health
- Non-Communicable Diseases
- Infectious diseases,
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Overdose Prevention
- Violence Prevention
- Social Integration
- Women's health
- Other topics specific to individual prison community assessment

Other projects under this measure include:

- Provide Core Target Health and Wellbeing Topics as Support training supplements
- Provide sensitisation workshops/training as required for recruit prison officers and staff including nurses, assistant psychologists and ETB Teachers
- Ensure Community Health Action Committee (CHAC) Meetings are held every month in each prison
- Provide Facilitation Skills workshops to new volunteers in all Prisons.
- Introduce 'Peer Support Preventing Relapse' workshop to 3 Prisons in 2022.
- Assist Prison management with Infection Control
- Provide opportunities for research on key elements of the CBH programme for evaluative purposes
- Continue to expand the Prison to Community component of the CBH in Justice programme in the wider community in 2022
- Facilitate 12 Overdose Prevention workshops

€269,694 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Community Safety pilot projects**

In 2020 three Local Community Safety Partnership pilots were launched in Dublin's North Inner City, Longford and Waterford. These pilots run for 24 months have been subject to a robust independent evaluation from the outset, in order to ensure the proposed structures are fulfilling their objectives. The learnings from the pilots and their evaluation were taken into account in the drafting of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Bill 2023 which is now before the Dáil, and will be applied to the national roll out of similar partnerships in communities across the country. Funding was granted in 2020 to support the launch of two of these partnerships (Longford and Waterford) and in 2021 and 2022 to support the implementation of all three pilots (Dublin's North Inner City, Longford and Waterford).

To date the funding provided has been utilised to support a Community Safety Coordinator in all three locations as well as outreach and activity costs. Funding has also been utilised to support the development of dedicated and tailored Local Community Safety Plans. Longford published its Local Community Safety Plan in September 2022 while the Waterford and Dublin pilots intend to publish theirs early in 2023.

€445,923 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Implementation of targeted crime prevention and harm-reduction measures in Drogheda**

Funding was provided to support the implementation of the recommendations of the Drogheda Scoping Report. This report was commissioned by Minister for Justice, Ms. Helen McEntee TD, in response to rising concerns regarding crime, and specifically drug-related crime, as well as feuding between organised crime groups in the Drogheda area. The report was published in March 2021 and made over 70 recommendations on short and long term responses to challenges the community faces, including around crime prevention, youth services, drug addiction, education, infrastructure, and community development. An Implementation Plan was developed and published in July 2021 to support implementation of these recommendations.

Dormant Accounts Funding of €150,000 was received in 2021 and supported targeted interventions including the provision of additional supports to the Red Door Project, a community based organisation providing assistance in response to addiction issues in Drogheda, as well as other community interventions. This funding also supported the establishment of a Drogheda Implementation Board in October 2021 that will run for 24 months. The Drogheda Implementation Board is the core driver and coordinator of change associated with the implementation of the recommendations within the Scoping report. Further Dormant Accounts funding of €250,000 was secured in 2022 to provide continued support to the Red Door Project and the Drogheda Implementation Board. This included the continued provision of a Drugs Court Worker, Social Worker and Project Worker to the Red Door Project, continued support for a full-time Coordinator to the Drogheda Implementation Board as well as outreach and activity costs.

€242,518 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Consent Campaign**

The Department of Justice is working with the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC) to develop a national shared understanding of the meaning and importance of consent in sexual relationships.

The issue of consent is fundamental to understanding sexual violence but is often misunderstood. This lack of understanding produces assumptions, presumptions and stereotypes that permit harmful sexual violence. The research and developmental stage of an awareness campaign on such a topic is the most important stage to ensure its success.

Consent is an issue which impacts everyone in society, and it is often those who are more marginalised, more vulnerable and harder to reach who we fail to connect with within blanket social change campaigns.

In order to mitigate that risk with the consent campaign, which will launch in March 2023, Dormant Accounts funding support has allowed us to involve marginalised and harder to reach communities at the research and developmental stage.

In 2022, a series of workshops and focus groups were held with a number of groups, such as people from the Traveler Community, migrant communities, a mixed LGBTQIA+ group and people with disabilities. Each session was tailored to suit that specific community to gather information on the level of understanding of each group, the language, messages and concept which they feel speak to them, and what approaches they feel alienate them from being a part of a movement for better consent in Ireland.

This invaluable information has played a key role in the development of the campaign assets specifically for marginalized and communities, paid for by with 2022 DAF funding, which will be rolled out in tandem with the Department of Justice's national campaign later in 2023.

€300,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Intimate Images Campaign**

In September 2021, The Department of Justice launched a campaign to raise awareness of image-based sexual abuse and to better inform people of the strong legislation in place to combat it.

A second stage of the campaign was launched in 2022, with a major expansion on the media spend and the campaign was shown on TV for the first time, as well as Social Media, Digital Audio, and Video on Demand services.

Thanks to funding from the 2022 DAF Action Plan, the main campaign was supplemented with a separate media strategy to carry the messaging to a local level in communities throughout Ireland. For the first time we used new technology that can target people in rural communities specifically through their TV's, as well as more traditional forms of media such as local radio and showing our ads in cinemas throughout Ireland.

Through this supplementary strategy we were able to reach:

- Nearly 900,000 admissions in Cinemas;
- Over 1.5 million impressions on YouTube using localized targeting;
- 1.3 million impressions on digital audio using localized targeting;
- Radio ad aired 284 for times on 16 local radio stations throughout Ireland;
- Targeted out of home advertising sites at contextually relevant sites around the country such as gym, pubs and shops.

This strategy proved to be an essential extra element to the national campaign in 2022 and expanded and embedding the message in towns and communities throughout the country.

€299,316 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Further Education and Training Consent Campaign**

Consenthub.ie was launched by Active\* Consent in January 2022. The user experience is organised around target groups: Youth under 17 (schools, Youthreach Centres); Youth over 17 (schools, Youthreach Centres, Further Education & Training centres); Parents; and Educators.

Website content includes Frequently Asked Questions and answers, definitions of consent and sexual violence, relevant research, and Get Help. Existing and newly designed resources have been made available through Consenthub, including 19 video resources, the Green\* Light podcast, and the eLearning self-completion module 'Sexual violence and harassment: How to support yourself and your peers'.

Resource development includes partnership with specialist groups such as Galway Rape Crisis Centre. Educator resources include poster packs, information on Active\* Consent workshops for post-primary and higher education students, a staff awareness raising video on consent, sexual violence and harassment, and the Start Here campaign pack on supporting safe disclosures. Parent resources include videos and text relevant to talking to children about sex, consent and pornography, and intimate image sharing.

Two sponsored social media campaigns took place during 2022. 'How to talk about consent' focused on supporting parents to talk to their children about consent, including a sponsored video. 'Consent is for everyone' targeted college students at the start of the academic year. The campaign strapline "Consent is for everyone, consent is for everything" demonstrated that consent is necessary for all relationships, genders and orientations. This campaign aimed to broaden the discussion around consent to include all types of intimacy and sexual activity, including rights concerning digital image sharing.

The Active\* Consent project with the Further Education & Training sector builds capacity among staff members and organisations in ETBs, provides educational programming content for roll out nationally through resources and training, includes training on disclosure skills, while targeting marginalised and new communities where possible. It is supported by research with staff and learners to adapt awareness, education and training resources on consent, sexual violence and harassment.



The national-based engagement strategy during this phase of the project has involved working with directors of FET, PLD coordinators, and other sectoral stakeholder working groups. Over 200 consent workshop facilitators were trained, along with 48 First Point of Contact disclosure training programme participants, and two cohorts of a continuous professional development module.

National awareness raising in the sector was promoted through the 'FET Starts Here' campaign, in partnership with the ETBI PLD Hub manager. These initiatives reflect the tiered approach used in the project, from brief messaging targeting all staff awareness to more specialised forms of education and training.

The national approach is complemented by a localised strategy to engage with a set of individual FET Centres for case study research to design a whole of centre approach. In one example, 40 Youthreach Centre staff engaged in in-person consent workshop delivery, while approximately 700 learners on two FET campuses that serve communities with a high level socioeconomic disadvantage took part in consent workshops during their programme orientation.

€151,200 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Victims Rights Campaign**

A campaign to increase public awareness of the rights enshrined in the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017 and information set out in The Victims Charter began in 2020 with the creation of a new website for the Victims Charter.

Since 2020 The Department of Justice has been rolling out a number of initiatives to ensure that victims of crime know what to expect from their engagement with the criminal justice system, what their legally enforceable rights are and what supports are available at every step in the process.

Thanks to funding from the 2022 DAF Action Plan, specific work to reach marginalized and local communities as part of this work has included:

- The creation and distribution of print materials (posters, leaflets, etc.) to public locations including Garda stations, emergency rooms, court houses, public libraries, GP surgeries etc.
- The translation of this material into a number of languages commonly used in Ireland including more recently Russian and Ukrainian.
- A social media campaign on the Department's social media channels targeting victims of crime;
- The production of information videos based in specific court buildings to inform victims of what to expect on the day they have to attend court as a witness;

A partnership with Men's Aid to; raise awareness of the issue of Intimate Partner Violence within the LGBTI+ and minority communities and the prevalent and unique factors involved; to increase visibility of LGBTI+ and minority victims of Intimate Partner Violence in terms of service provision, resources, and funding; and to develop an interagency approach to service

provision of IPV in an LGBTI+ and minority context and to respond to structural inequalities that may exist.

Also thanks to DAF funding from the 2022 Action Plan, The Department of Justice is now at an advanced stage of developing a major awareness campaign to launch in 2023 that will include TV and radio ads, supported by the use of other media channels yet to be finalised.

The campaign will include specific messaging for people from marginalised communities to ensure they too are aware that if they have been, or become, a victim of crime they are entitled to specific supports and services.

€499,999 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Continuation and Expansion of Youth Diversion Service**

Funding was granted for the ongoing delivery of projects aimed at engaging people at risk of becoming involved, or who are involved in criminal and/or anti-social behaviour. Using crime statistics and individuals' assessments, targeting priorities are aligned with the most prevalent trends contributing to offending behaviour in each Youth Diversion Project (YDP) catchment area. Tailored interventions, including for example, motivational interviewing, relationship building, 1:1 and group work and outreach/street work are designed to help young people stop offending and become more positive contributors to society.

A call for expressions of interest from community-based organisations in relation to the establishment of 4 new projects in 2023 (South Monaghan, Claremorris, Co. Mayo, South and East Co. Wicklow and West Cork.) issued on 30 November 2022 and engagement is underway with those who expressed interest. These new YDPs will be responsible for providing family support, early intervention supports for 8-11 year olds, working with harder to reach young people and supporting schools to retain children with challenging behaviour where the necessary risk threshold has been met.

Funding was also granted for other specialist projects, including Mentoring Projects, support to Best Practice Development Team, QQI courses and Research/Masters programme for Youth Justice Workers delivered by University of Limerick.

€1,426,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Support for the Youth Justice Strategy 2021-2027**

Funding was provided to the Research Evidence into Policy, Programmes and Practice (REPPP) project (University of Limerick) to support the Youth Justice Strategy 2021-2027 by improving the quality of evidence informed policy in the area of youth crime. Priority areas for development undertaken by REPPP in 2022 were:

- Support for Youth Diversion Projects (Exploratory Research/ Capacity Building/ Implementation Study/ Programme Evaluation)

- The Greentown project focussing on the small number of children in Ireland involved in serious crime, adult/child offending relationships within crime networks and how to develop effective means to intervene.
- Bail Supervision evaluation project to capture attributable changes to young people's behaviour and bail compliance, identify any contribution made to reducing offending behaviour and document the conditions that enable the programme to perform.
- Action Research project to improve core practice in Youth Diversion Projects (YDPs) identify 'relationship-building' between youth justice workers and young people.
- Executive Leadership Programme to develop better ways to understand and overcome 'wicked problems' by developing and introducing a new tool for REPPP to engage coalitions of professionals from selected communities to engage more effectively with 'wicked problems'.
- Development of better data collection and analysis practices in the Youth Justice system to baseline current data collection practices against youth justice systems in other comparator jurisdictions.
- Teaching and educational resources to develop a) a specific youth crime module and b) a specific module on using scientific evidence to improve decision making in policy, programme and practice, at Masters level to complement existing offerings in the School of Law. Additionally, the project sought to introduce new modules to create a Masters in Evidence in Evidence Informed planning".

€4,932,748 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Probations Service - KickStart 4 Funding**

The Probation Service KickStart Fund, supported by the Irish Prison Service, has been in operation for the past three years. Originally a fund to support the employment of people with convictions in the social enterprise sector, it was expanded last year to reflect the latest Department of Justice Social Enterprise Strategy Working to Change Social Enterprise and employment strategy 2021 – 2023. This expansion saw the inclusion of two further measures; 1) KickStart Scholarship Fund and 2) KickStart Entrepreneurship Fund. As in previous years, this measure will specifically address Strategies One, Four and Five of the Disbursement Scheme. It is intended that Round Four of the KickStart Fund will include initiatives that specifically target the most marginalised/disadvantaged cohorts of the prison and Probation population i.e. female offenders and members of the Traveller community. Again, this focussed attention on particular groupings of former offenders is aligned with the Working to Change strategy.

In January 2022, the first KickStart Scholarship Fund was launched with the aim of supporting people with a criminal justice history to access Third Level Education. The Scholarship Fund was administered via the Maynooth University Access Programme on behalf of the MEND Cluster of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) which comprises Dublin City University, Dundalk Institute of Technology, Maynooth University and Technological University of the Shannon.

The KickStart Scholarship funding has enabled the provision of bursaries to eight students this academic year, with funding continuing for up to four years of their degree programmes (an interim progress report is being developed).

In June, 25 social enterprises across the country – from Mayo to Wexford and from Cork to Leitrim – were awarded funding from the Kickstart Dormant Accounts Fund. This funding supported social enterprises providing training and employment for people with a criminal justice history with the aim of reducing reoffending and improving community safety.

Amongst the recipients that secured funding were ‘Sailing into Wellness’ a nationwide project that, through the platform of sailing, works with participants to help introduce and improve a wide variety of their skills including team work, leadership, decision making, resilience and coping mechanism.

Sailing into Wellness is using its Kickstart funding to part fund the employment of a Business Development Manager responsible for developing the organisation and increasing its traded income. It currently employs one person with a criminal justice history. The project is also targeting the creation of two additional positions for people with histories of offending.

€613,400 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Probation Service - Adventure Sports Project**

The Adventure Sports Project (ASP) is based in Buckingham St, Dublin1, targeting young people from probation services and vulnerable young people from the North East Inner City of Dublin (NEIC). The project works with children and young people between the ages of 10 and 25 years, and in any year provides activities, supports to a group of particular vulnerable youths, with a particular focus on outdoor and adventure activities, as well as centre-based youth services.

The project seeks to address criminogenic factors through providing social skills training, individual key worker support, and activities (social and outdoor) as alternatives to criminal behaviour.

The funding has been issued to the YPP community organisation to acquire the transport vehicle. The probation Service is meeting the organisation shortly to discuss how the transport vehicle will be used by the organisation to ensure the optimum benefit for the young persons.

€30,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

- **Probation Service - WHAD (We Have A Dream)**

WHAD (We Have A Dream) Youth Project is a Young Persons Probation (YPP) project based in Cherry Orchard in Dublin. The project works generally with young males between the ages of 15 and 20 and supports a group of young persons, who are particularly hard to reach.

The project seeks to address criminogenic factors through providing social skills training, individual key worker support, and activities (social and outdoor) as alternatives to criminal behaviour. WHAD also provides a through care component to both the young person and the family.

The funding has been issued to the YPP community organisation to acquire the transport vehicle and to recruit the relevant project staff. The Probation Service has met the project to ensure that the transport vehicle will be used by the organisation to ensure the optimum benefit for the young persons. There has been delays with the recruitment of one of the project staff, but the funding will be expended for the purposes required.

€120,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

## Department of Social Protection

- **Supporting Employment for Carers and Young People with Disabilities**

This programme began in September 2021 with forty-five organisations approved for funding under the measure. The measure was initially due to conclude at the end of December 2022 however participant projects have been offered an extension of funding up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, under the Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2023.

The focus of the measure is:

- To support People with Disabilities to access employment; improve their career progression opportunities “in work”; and improve their employment outcomes through education and training which will contribute to participants being “work ready”.
- To support potential employers to provide employment for people with a disability.

Based on the most recent Pobal returns, 6,482 participants and 1,942 employers were supported through the various programme outputs.

Programme participant output totals as of January 2023 are presented in the table below:

No of people with disabilities benefitting from progression in employment	102
No of people with disabilities engaged in employment activation activities/training	2,818
No of people with disabilities progressing to paid employment	232
No of people with disabilities progressing to voluntary employment	39
No of people with disabilities supported to access mainstream employment services	212
No of people with disabilities who have engaged in/completed training courses	3,079

Programme employer output totals as of January 2023 are presented in the table below:

No of employers engaged to create opportunities, establish good practices and promote accessible, supportive workplaces for people with disabilities	1,065
No of employers providing employment for people with disabilities	319
No of employers providing work experience opportunities for people with disabilities	476
No of employers who have improved supports for people with disabilities to stay in or return to work	82

€3,980,000 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 for this measure.

## **Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth**

- **Care Support for Vulnerable in Society**

This measure encompasses specific projects that supported vulnerable children and youths. €1,198,612 was disbursed for this measure for the specific projects outlined below.

- Barnahus

Advancing the goals of the Barnahus initiative to deliver on the proposed multi-agency approach to addressing needs of children and families in child sexual abuse.

DCEDIY is leading on the development and implementation of Barnahus Ireland which is a significant initiative to help victims and survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Barnahus is a child-friendly, interdisciplinary and multiagency model of service that brings child protection, policing, medical, therapeutic and forensic services together, under one roof, to provide services for children who experience sexual abuse and their families. In addition to the Barnahus West in Galway, which is currently in operation, two further locations in the East and South will provide national coverage and access for victims and families to the service. Areas have been identified that could act as barriers to national implementation, such as data sharing, and these will form a focus of a recently commenced Council of Europe and EU Commission co-funded project to support the implementation of the Barnahus model in Ireland.

The project is governed by an Interdepartmental Group, chaired by DCEDIY and comprising representatives from the Department of Health, the Department of Justice, Tusla, the HSE, An Garda Síochána and Children's Health Ireland. There is a Financial Governance and Oversight Subgroup which has representatives from the above noted bodies/agencies, this sub group is regularly updated in relation to funding requirements and addresses issues regarding the allocation of funds.

- Provision of specialist therapeutic counselling services to persons who were 'boarded out' or 'at nurse' as children

In 2022 Barnardos received funding of €229,200 from Dormant Accounts via Service Agreement with Tusla to deliver therapeutic supports to adults who had been boarded out as children and other cohorts of vulnerable adults including adopted adults, birth mothers and people whose births were the subject of illegal registration.

Some children in boarded-out placements were severely disadvantaged and/or mistreated, suffered from social, economic and educational disadvantages and were often subject to abuse. While boarding out was essentially the precursor to foster care, there were minimal standards and minimal regulation of placements to safeguard the welfare of children.

Staff took up posts between April and August and the service was extended from two locations in Dublin to locations in Cork and Galway.

In total 112 referrals were made to the services in 2022. However, with the introduction of the Birth Information and Tracing Legislation in 2022, the requests for support increased significantly and a waiting list is now in operation for these referrals.

➤ Therapeutic and health advocate for disadvantaged care leavers

In 2022, 30 care leavers have benefited from this project. Tusla Cork Aftercare service identified this cohort of young adults exiting care with complex case presentations such as those with mild intellectual disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), trauma related issues, mental health challenges and who did not meet the criteria for the HSE/Tusla Joint Protocol. In most cases these young adults have little or no family support, often their parents are too experiencing challenges and therefore these young people need ongoing support post aftercare.

This project relates to the provision of an advocate for a pilot group of care leavers with a mild intellectual disability and complex case presentations with the aim of providing support in their interactions with the healthcare and therapeutic care system.

2022 saw the establishment of a steering committee to roll out, oversee and support the project as well as the recruitment of a dedicated post to undertake the duties required of the post.

The process to contract a researcher for project evaluation and development purposes is ongoing and is due to be completed by end of Q1 2023.

2022 saw the Introduction and identification of this new project to services throughout Cork where twelve of fourteen services were visited. This exercise is due to be completed by end of Q1 2023.

➤ Aftercare Support for disadvantaged care leavers

The measure provided for the procurement of a Career Guidance Counsellor Service to deliver a two year pilot project with an independent evaluation built in by design evaluated. The project is based in the Waterford Wexford area.

A total of 50 young people were referred from the TUSLA Aftercare Service in Waterford and Wexford for Career Guidance support in 2022. Career Guidance Counsellor Support in mainstream school is extremely limited and caters to the needs of the general populace. A Career Guidance Counsellor with a dedicated link to Aftercare Services provides individual support to vulnerable young people and builds links with further education and training providers. They access funding streams to support these children in their educational/training progression.

During 2022, a total of 173 meetings and engagements with young people were recorded. The interactions were with young people who were spread right across the education spectrum from Junior Cycle to Master Programme including Youthreach and VTOS programme. Young people in employment and those unemployed were also reached.



The Interagency Project Oversight Committee met on three occasions in 2022 and the independent evaluation of the pilot project has commenced with planned completion by Q4 2023.

➤ Disability Awareness Initiative for Employers

Under Action 6.13 in the Phase II Action Plan of the Comprehensive Employment Strategy for Persons with Disabilities (CES), DCEDIY has responsibility for the roll out of an Employer Awareness Campaign to promote the opportunities of employing people with disabilities and available supports. This project was commenced in 2020, prior to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, through the provision of grant funding to the Open Doors Initiative to develop the 'Employers for Change' information service.

The Employer Awareness Campaign was also intended to include an advertising campaign and this element of the action is currently being developed with the support of Dormant Accounts Funding.

Creative and media buying companies have been contracted to progress the campaign and initial concept plans were received by the Department in January 2023. It is expected that the campaign will be launched later in 2023. The Department is also coordinating closely with key stakeholders in the design process. This includes Open Doors, who were previously supported through Dormant Accounts. Open Doors have contributed to the early phases of the campaign's conceptualisation to maximise the impact and to ensure that it builds upon the work of Employers for Change to resonate with its target audience.

In terms of impact, once launched later in 2023, it is anticipated that the Employer Awareness Campaign will lead to attitudinal change amongst employers on the importance of disability inclusion in the workforce and help to create meaningful employment opportunities for people with disabilities in Ireland.

• **Oberstown Detention Campus Training Initiatives**

This measure encompasses specific projects that provided appropriate educational training to young people referred to Oberstown Detention Centre. €364,000 was disbursed for this measure for the specific projects outlined below.

➤ Mobile Coffee Van Business and work experience for young people on the Oberstown Children Detention Campus

In line with Oberstown strategy and the further development of the Java Republic partnership, Oberstown received €73,500 funding in 2022 to develop a coffee van company to run and operate on the grounds of Oberstown campus. This company will give the young people a chance to work and participate in a company and the day to day running of a mobile coffee shop.

The coffee trailer was purchased in September 2022. Since then the trailer was fitted with all the necessary equipment to operate a coffee trailer business. Oberstown advertised

through tenders for a Coffee trailer business facilitator to run the business on campus giving due consideration to all HSE regulations, certification and quality control that were required to legally operate the business.

In 2022 all young people on campus benefited from the coffee trailer through seasonal events and award ceremonies on campus. In partnership with Java Republic, 12 young people completed a barista training course in 2022.

- Development of training model – train the trainers – to allow for children detained in Oberstown to attain the National Elite Professional Certificate level 4 (Personal Trainer)

Further to prior success in training 54 young people as level 3 fitness instructors and 6 young people in gym management, Oberstown has disbursed €68,500 in Dormant Account funding to run a National Elite professional fitness certificate level 4 personal trainer course for the young people in 2022.

Oberstown advertised through eTenders for a National Elite professional fitness certificate level 4 personal trainer in July 2022. A trainer was employed to run the course from the end of July 2022.

To date 6 young people have completed this course in 2022. Classroom props such as bone structure skeletons, anatomical skeletons, respiratory aids and heart, lung and liver props have been purchased to aid classroom teaching.

- Career Guidance and Employment Support in Oberstown

2022 was the second year of a 3-year pilot phased action-research project to develop a new career guidance platform for the young people in Oberstown Detention Centre run by CareersPortal.ie.

In early 2022, to help inform and consult with a broader range of staff in relation to their feedback on the Steps+ project, Steps+ training sessions were organised in February where a total of 51 staff engaged with the workshops. Also, during the Easter activities programme in April Steps+ project staff who are qualified Guidance Counsellors met with a total of 23 young people.

As part of the Oberstown placement planning process the Campus asks external agencies/service providers who are working with or have worked with the young person in their community to engage with Oberstown to support meeting the needs of the young person. As discharge approaches, a comprehensive report on the young person's progress and involvement in the Steps+ pilot, customised within the Steps+ platform, is circulated to the young person's key worker and unit manager. The project lead discusses the engagement of the young person in relation to viable educational options in their community on discharge exploring their best fit with the educational and career options. This process of drawing on the engagement and one-to-one support through Steps+ showed

that the platform has great potential to support the Care, Education, Health, Offending Behaviour and Preparation for Leaving (CEHOP) process.

- **Traveller and/or Roma Community Initiatives**

This measure supported a range of initiatives aimed at supporting the Traveller and Roma communities. €1,021,200 was disbursed for this measure for the specific projects outlined below.

- Traveller and Roma Community Education post supports to address the impact of Covid 19 on participation, retention and progression through the education system

In 2022, DCEDIY disbursed €375,000 in Dormant Accounts Funding to address the challenges surrounding the participation, retention and progression of Traveller and Roma children through the education system. Funding was allocated to The National Traveller Partnership (NTP) to support the dispersal of the fund to local Traveller and Roma representative bodies.

Overall this scheme aims to:

- support children and families and address issues impacting on the attendance, participation and progression of children through the education system.
- build engagement and relationships between education providers, children, families and communities.
- seek to achieve parity of education with the settled community and to help address the digital divide issues highlighted by COVID 19 for the Traveller Community

The funding allocated to the NTP provided for the employment of 6 dedicated Education Community Development Workers (ECDW) in the areas of Donegal, Dublin, Galway, Meath, Wicklow and Waterford. These ECDWs work in co-operation with local Traveller and Roma communities, primary and post-primary schools, and any other service providers that can contribute to improving educational outcomes for children and young people from the Traveller and Roma communities. This funding is also being used to support the development of local education programmes and associated travel costs.

- Measure to address Conflict and Mental Health issues in the Traveller community

€180,000 in Dormant Account Funding was provided in 2022 to the Traveller Counselling Service, the Traveller Mediation Service and Exchange House Ireland who are working in collaboration to address the issues of conflict and mental health in the Traveller Community and provide essential family supports. The broad aim of this initiative is to address the trauma caused by inter-family violence within the Traveller community, and to provide direct supports for families trying to move away from violence.

In 2022, this initiative enabled the three partner organisations to provide direct services to the Traveller Communities. This has involved the employment of community access workers and trauma-informed counsellors within the local community.

Key achievements in 2022 included:

- The rollout of the Youth Conflict Skills Training Programme (Youth Pavees), which helps young travellers to develop skills around conflict prevention and management.
- Improved accessibility of Traveller Counselling Services- In 2022, over 1,400 hours of counselling has been provided by TCS, reaching over 100 individuals.
- The recruitment and training of 2 new Family Support Access Workers as part of the delivery of Exchange House's 'Family Access Programme'.
- Training to other relevant service providers on the core concepts of the 'Family Access Programme' (c. 80 Social workers from Tusla took part in these introductory sessions in 2022)
- Exchange House have also established referral pathways with key stakeholders such as Tusla, the Family Law Courts, Women's Aid, and Barnardos.

The funding was also used to commission research on the root causes of inter-family violence and conflict.

➤ Roma Adult Education and Training Project

€300,000 was provided to the Cáirde organisation in 2022 to support the 'Roma Education Programme'.

The Roma Education Programme was established in 2022 as a continuation of Cairde's Roma Women's Advocates Project, which was funded by the Dormant Account Scheme in 2021. The Roma Education Programme specifically targets adult Roma that did not have the opportunity to attend school regularly when they were children. This online initiative supports Roma in building their everyday reading, writing, and numeracy skills, while also supporting their participation in Irish life more generally, i.e. assistance for applying for PPS numbers, medical cards, bank accounts, setting up Revenue accounts etc.

In 2022, the project resulted in 16 Roma improving their English language and literacy, numerical, and digital skills. Participants also completed courses in the areas of nutrition and mental wellbeing to improve their overall living condition.

The funding provided in 2022 also enabled an external evaluation of the programme in order to assess the programme's merits and where areas of improvement might be required. This evaluation is expected to be completed in Q1 2023, and will inform any potential expansion or replication of the programme in the future.

Targeted resources to support young people from the Traveller community to join and be active members of their local Comhairle na nÓg

In 2022, DCEDIY commissioned the specialised support services of Involve CLG to develop a project for the engagement and support of young Travellers to participate in Comhairle na nÓg (CNN), and create sustainable links and pathways that support the ongoing involvement of young Travellers in CNN.

Funding to Involve CLG will be provided in phases. In 2022, €46,200 of the total €60,000 was provided to Involve for the development, scoping and implementation phases of the project. The evaluation and reporting phases will take place in 2023.

In 2022 a number of milestones were reached. The Project lead attended cluster meetings of CNN co-ordinators to introduce the project and hear from co-ordinators about what is working well and what is needed to include more young Travellers in CNN. Co-ordinators were invited to meet with the project lead on a one to one basis for further information and support.

A directory, compliant with GDPR, of regional Traveller organisations is being compiled to enable local CNN co-ordinators to engage directly with these organisation.

And finally, the Project Lead took part in an Inclusivity Forum for CNN and other participation structures. The approach of building universal accessibility, diversity and inclusivity across youth participation structures is welcomed by Involve as the engagement

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A directory, compliant with GDPR, of regional Traveller organisations is being compiled to enable local CNN co-ordinators to engage directly with these organisation.

And finally, the Project Lead took part in an Inclusivity Forum for CNN and other participation structures. The approach of building universal accessibility, diversity and inclusivity across youth participation structures is welcomed by Involve as the engagement of young Travellers in youth participation is not limited to being seldom-heard.

€46,200 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund to support this measure in 2022.

➤ Traveller and Roma Book Project

The project was initiated in late 2022 with €120,000 Dormant Accounts funding. Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre are the project partner. As at February 2023, the mapping of currently available books and connection with Libraries Ireland has been established. Facilitated consultation sessions with the Traveller Community are under way. The project will be completed by Q4 2023.

The purpose of the project is to support Traveller/Roma families with young children to have access to high quality culturally specific books. This will be done through the partnership of Pavee Point and Libraries Ireland.

The objectives of this action is to support children's access to books in their home, support the children's language and literacy development and ensure Traveller and Roma families feel welcome and culturally visible in their local library.

During 2023, two sets of the books will be gifted to each of the 330 libraries in the country. Books will be gifted to children from Traveller/Roma communities through Traveller Primary Healthcare local networks.

The libraries in turn will reach out to the Traveller/Roma organisations in their immediate locality, run a story time for children from the Traveller and Roma communities, and do a friendly tour for the parents of the facilities available in the library. Each county will run at least one event. The libraries will take the opportunity to offer the families membership of the library.

€1,021,200 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for these projects under the Traveller and Roma Community Initiative measure in 2022.

- **Youth and/or Family Initiatives**

This measure supported a range of initiatives aimed at supporting better outcomes for children and young people. €6,926,698 was disbursed for this measure for the specific projects outlined below.

➤ North East Inner City, City Connects Pilot Project (joint w/DES)

The City Connects pilot project, based in the North East Inner City of Dublin, is an innovative partnership between the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and the Department of Education. It was a priority action of the NEIC Strategic Plan 2020-2022. The initiative improved outcomes for disadvantaged young people by addressing multiple domains of development and through the enhancement of interagency co-operation at a local and national level. The pilot project was rolled out in 10 NEIC primary schools and provided a system of integrated supports for students which in turn supported better outcomes.

The City Connects pilot aligns closely with the objectives of the Disbursement Scheme as it had a direct impact on disadvantaged families and children by providing wraparound supports and services. It places the child at the centre with schools being uniquely placed as the drivers of change with a view to reaching out to the community and provide linkages with various stakeholders and agencies.

➤ Youth Employability Initiative

Dormant Account funding was utilised to support the National Youth Council of Ireland initiative Skills Summary. Skills Summary supports the learning of young people, with a particular focus on those young people who find academic learning challenging, by helping them to map the learning acquired through their participation in youth work and other non-formal settings to a set of competences. Skills Summary supports young people to articulate the competencies they have acquired both for themselves and potential future employers. Over 2,600 personal users and over 730 organisational users engaged with the initiative in 2022.

Funding was also utilised for the Targeted Youth Employability Support Initiative which was a programme run over the course of 2021 and 2022 and provided grants to local youth services aimed at developing the soft skills of young people to increase self-esteem and capacity to access the labour market or education/training pathways to employment. The initiative focussed on youth work, work experience and other initiatives which promote youth employment and employability. Funding received for the initiative enabled the 16 Education and Training Boards to fund 26 project providers on a nationwide basis to target disadvantaged young people.

In 2022, €1,498,613 was distributed from the Dormant Accounts Fund to support these 26 approved youth projects for the targeted youth employability support initiative. A further €100,000 was provided to the National Youth Council of Ireland for the Skills Summary initiative.

➤ Foróige - Big Brother Big Sister Mentoring Programme

Big Brother Big Sister (BBBS) is an internationally recognised youth mentoring programme that forms supportive friendships for young people inspiring them to brighter futures. The programme is operated by Foróige- the National Youth Development Organisation and targets disadvantaged young people in need of one to-one supports i.e. those experiencing economic difficulty, poor social skills, under achievement at school etc.

The programme operated in 21 counties in 2022 under two strands - Community based matches comprising of an adult volunteer and a young person and there was over 400 community based matches in 2022. School based matches operated in over 40 secondary schools which facilitated a mentoring friendship between a first year secondary student and an older student of which there was an approximately 2,000 school based matches in 2022.

➤ Online Safety Programme – Safeguarding and protecting young people online

Funding was provided to Foróige - the National Youth Development Organisation for the development and roll-out of an online safety programme which enabled young people to engage online with safe and creative digital learning experiences. This programme also allowed for a mechanism of youth supports to be made available online to young people in rural Ireland who may not be able to access traditional youth service supports. The programme enabled young people aged between 12 years and 18 years to safely participate in their online communities as positive digital citizens. The programme had a national impact but had a particular focus on disadvantaged individuals and communities. The programme resulted in the development of a range of training and programme supports for online safeguarding and protection from harm for young people which is available in youth services across the youth sector.

➤ Youth Sector Equality and Inclusion Support Initiative

Dormant Accounts Funding was provided to the National Youth Council of Ireland for the Youth Sector Equality and Inclusion Support Initiative. This initiative aims to engage with youth work organisations to reflect on how racial justice informs youth work practice and build a deeper understanding of racism. The initiative seeks to lead to meaningful change in youth work practice and provide safer youth spaces for minority ethnic young people. The initiative also enables minority ethnic community leaders and youth workers to collaborate effectively to ensure that the diversity and equality needs of ethnic minority young people were addressed. The initiative made training available to youth organisations to increase awareness of racial justice concepts and also enabled the promotion of new social justice e-learning. A roll-out of the train the trainer module provided for increased capacity to provide racial justice training in youth organisations.

➤ Family Resource Centre (FRC) Programme

The Dormant Account funding was divided equally amongst 121 Family Resource Centres under the National FRC Programme. In 2022, Dormant Account Funding allowed the FRC's to offer a range of supports, sustainability and general pressures use. Funding of €xm allowed FRCS to undertake the following in 2022:

- To created support packages to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and families within the communities
- Relevant equipment was purchased to enhance operational efficiency for service user satisfaction
- Addition of flyers to increase visibility and promote services provided
- To facilitate the development and empower of a youth café, to work with marginalised men and women in the community and enhance the services and activities
- To upgrade telephone system and purchase equipment to support and enhance the service delivery as a centre



- Purchased Kitchen Equipment for cookery classes
- Installation of a lift to accommodate people with disabilities
- Allowed the opportunity to further strengthen collaborations and service integration Network to further collaboration and further improve the outcome for families.
- The refurbishment, safety works and accessibility work in the newly acquired FRC building
- Afforded additional Family Support to Traveller families in the community
- New website which will be more accessible to the community and families with new posters and signage indoors and outdoors
- Updating Health & Safety within buildings

➤ What Works, formerly QCBI

The What Works initiative supports a move towards evidence informed prevention and early intervention services for children, young people and their families.

DCEDIY hosted a series of hybrid and virtual events under the What Works initiative in November 2022 under the 'Festival of Learning' banner, which were launched by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. The series focused on prevention and early intervention initiatives for children, young people and families and included international policymakers, practitioners and academics in the field and attracted an audience of approximately 400 participants.

The What Works initiative provided funding to the Digital Solutions Fund over 2021 and 2022. This supported 10 innovative collaborative projects that were using digital solutions to solve a problem, collect relevant data or scale resources for children and young people. These projects were delivered with a wide geographic spread and reached approximately 77,500 children and young people and 831 schools across Ireland.

DCEDIY awarded funding to several programmes under What Works Sharing Knowledge Fund which supported sharing knowledge, and strong professional relationships. Funding of €408,710 was awarded to 25 successful community and voluntary organisations across the country.

DCEDIY provided funding to Tusla for three projects under What Works. Funding of €619,008 was allocated to scaling proven models from the ABC Programme, which aims to build on tested approaches to developing area based responses to mitigate and address the impact of long term inter-generational poverty. Funding was provided to expanding Early Talk Boost, which is a targeted intervention, delivered by a trained early years' practitioner to a group of up to eight children aged 3-4 years old who have delayed language. Finally, funding was allocated to the Traveller Parenting Pilot to support parents from the Traveller community to access quality parent support programmes.

➤ Educational Champions for children in care

At the end of Q4 2022, there were 5,759 children living in the care of the State. While many children in care do well in education, others struggle and research consistently shows that children in care tend to underachieve when compared with their non-looked after peers. The reason why this is the case is multifaceted and unique to each child, however there is evidence to suggest that a range of factors impact on a child in care's attainment and if addressed the impact could be mitigated.

Educational Champions for Children in Care Project provides a range of initiatives to provide practical support for these young people for example access to a commissioned educational assessment or funding to access beauty or animal welfare courses. In 2022, DCEDIY and Tusla secured €750,000 from Dormant Accounts. The purpose of this funding was to support and assist care experienced young people achieve their full potential in education. Funding secured was used for the continuation of educational supports for care experienced children and young people; seed funding in each Tusla area and a Bursary Scheme for education based supports. As of December 2022, the Bursary scheme helped 215 care experienced young people to further their education.

€6,926,698 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for these projects under the Youth and/or Family Initiative measure in 2022.

- **Refugees Support Initiatives**

➤ Aftercare support for former unaccompanied minor refugees

DCEDIY received €800,000 from the Dormant Accounts fund in 2022 to support the further development and delivery of an after care service provided by Tusla, for unaccompanied young people now over the age of 18 years. The development of the aftercare service has increased the number of available care placements for separated children who remain in care. The funding provides young people who have come to Ireland as refugee children with additional supports prior to embarking on independent living. These supports include stable accommodation, focused educational support to allow them to catch up with their peers and succeed in the Irish education system, and if required, prolonged therapeutic interventions to help them to deal with the difficult experiences and possible trauma in their earlier lives. It also assists with Tusla's ability to receive further unaccompanied minors into care on a more regular sustainable basis. A total of 15 young people were accommodated in two separate units in 2022. Both centres have operated at 100% capacity at all times.

There is a continuing increase in demand for Tusla services for Separated Children. The war in Ukraine has impacted on these services. As of December 2022, 586 unaccompanied minors have been referred to Tusla (including 255 from Ukraine), versus 152 referrals in all of 2021.

€800,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding to support this measure in 2022.

- **Babies and/or Young Children Initiatives**

This measure supported a range of initiatives aimed at supporting young children and babies. €204,000 was disbursed for this measure for the specific projects outlined below

- Little Baby Bundle (formerly Baby Box)

This pilot project, now called the Little Baby Bundle, was launched in 2022 and will be completed with a full evaluation in Q3 of 2023. 500 Little Baby Bundles will have been delivered to participating families by early 2023. Expectant parents from the Rotunda and Waterford University Hospitals, participating in the initiative will subsequently be asked to share their views and experiences of the Little Baby Bundle and its contents, which will inform the development of proposals for wider national roll-out.

The First 5 Little Baby Bundle will be filled a range of useful items, including play items to encourage early communication and bonding, household items for help with safe bathing and safe sleep, as well as a range of other items to support new parents after the birth. This welcome gift from the State for a new arrival to a family acknowledges this very significant and special moment for parents.

- First 5 Little Library Project (formerly Scoping/piloting the intro of Book Bag initiative, families with young children.)

Following a scoping project (2018 – 2021) funded by Dormant Accounts funding, the First 5 My Little Library Book Bag initiative offered a free book bag with books and resources to every 4 and 5 year old who started school in September 2022. The children received an invitation, through their early learning and care settings or special pre-school, to collect a book bag at their local library from April 2022 through to the end of October 2022.

The objective of this initiative was that all children starting school in September 2022 would have storybooks in their home and be members of their local library. As of Q1 2023, of the 60,000 bags that were provided to the libraries, 51,000 bag pickups are reported. The remainder will be used in other library programmes.

Care was taken to include extra measures to target families who children were starting in DEIS schools. Children of Ukrainian families, newly arrived in Ireland and starting primary school, were also reached by this initiative.

Initial indications are that over 24,000 children in the target age group have joined the library since the initiative started and a further 10,000 children renewed their library membership ensuring they have access to a lifetime of books. These figures will likely be higher when the final evaluation which is currently underway reports in Q3 2023. There has been positive feedback from parents on the books and resources.

- Piloting Hot Meals in Early Learning Care (ELC) and School Age Childcare

The hot meals pilot scheme was announced in November 2022. DCEDIY has collaborated with Pobal to recruit nine services as pilot sites to examine the delivery of an enhanced food

offer in sessional pre-school and part-time services. Given that a large number of settings including all full-day care services already provide this service, the aim of this pilot is to provide an in-depth, qualitative test of the logistics and impact of hot meal provision across other types of setting. Additionally, this pilot will be testing the delivery of different meal options. These include:

- A breakfast or snack
- A breakfast or snack, plus a packed lunch to take home
- A hot meal or snack

The provision of healthy food in Early Years settings will have a positive impact on children's health, well-being and development, as well as their social participation. The roll-out will commence in Q1 of 2023, and results of the pilot scheme will inform decisions regarding a wider roll out. Additionally, the pilot will inform the DCEDIY ongoing work to develop a DEIS-type model for early learning and childcare, which aims to provide services with a proportionate mix of universal and targeted supports to support children and families accessing their services who are experiencing disadvantage.

€204,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

## **Department of Education**

- **Time to Count**

This project, managed by Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI), aims to provide a numeracy enhancement programme for primary school children in DEIS or School Completion Programme schools through the use of numeracy games and materials. The programme is delivered in conjunction with business volunteers, who work with groups of young children to engage with a full class group. The aims of the programme are to foster enjoyment and build confidence around numeracy in participants. The BITCI Time to Count initiative continued to operate virtually throughout 2021 and recommenced with in-person programmes from September 2022. The programme has returned to learning through play using board games tailored to teach key skills and maths processes in the primary curriculum.

Reporting on this programme has now moved from a calendar year to an academic year. Ten programmes completed in spring 2022 with another 19 planned for the academic year 2022-23 with 18 schools and 950 students benefiting from the funding.

€20,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

- **Glasnevin Trust (Experience Glasnevin)**

€20,000 was approved in the 2022 Dormant Accounts Fund to enable greater access to Experience Glasnevin for students where transportation costs proved to be an educational barrier.

The funding allowance covered the cost of transport for a cohort of economically or socially disadvantaged students to travel to Experience Glasnevin.

The spending across the academic year 2022/23 has allowed over 1000 students from 18 DEIS schools free transportation to and from Experience Glasnevin.

Schools from Dublin, Kildare, Meath, Wicklow and Kerry have availed of the transport provision and it is hoped to expand this further to other areas across the country.

€20,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

- **Young Social Innovators**

In 2022 YSI engaged 222 schools in one of three social innovation programmes and 23 schools in social innovation education (SIE) workshops at primary and secondary level. 86 of these schools had not participated in YSI in the preceding year.

Over 14,000 young people engaged with SIE developing 800+ social innovation projects with 24% of schools participating having DEIS status. End of academic year reporting shows that

493 students with additional needs participated in 2022, calendar year participation rates will be c.1,000.

172 workshops were delivered by the YSI regional team, providing support to 3,645 young people engaged in their programmes and access to SIE by 333 young people and 23 schools outside of the programmes. 142 teachers trained as YSI guides and 280 observed Local Leaders deliver youth led SIE workshops to their students.

In the 2021/22 academic year young people self-reported 103,271 volunteering hours and engagement with 230 organisations through participation in 381 YSI projects.

In 2022 YSI held three live local community showcase events engaging 560 junior cycle students. YSI's first Local Community Network event was attended by 9 stakeholder organisations. A new pilot targeted at marginalised young people has been launched. Youthreach participation in established programmes increased to 8 centres. The YSI Social Innovation in the Community Programme is awaiting QQI accreditation with CDET.B.

The DAF funding of €180,000 in 2022, was used exclusively to fund staff costs for the project, specifically costs related to the regional local leader team employed to deliver the above work.

€180,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

- **Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)**

The NFTE programme is currently delivered in 24 counties across Ireland. In the academic year 2021 - 2022 six thousand young people participated in the programme, supported by over 270 trained teachers, youth workers and volunteers. A total of 20,000 young people have completed the NFTE programme online since 2020. Additionally the 'NFTE Mentoring Pilot Programme' and 'Social Enterprise' module have been developed to offer more opportunities to young people in the programme.

The NFTE programme is particularly successful at engaging young people who are experiencing adversity and are most at risk in the current social and economic climate. This cohort of young people, in particular those who are students in DEIS Schools, are primary beneficiaries of the Programme.

The funding received from Dormant Account Fund in 2022 allowed the programme to support young people from the travelling community, young people with additional-needs including young people with ASD, all of whom engaged very positively in the programme.

NFTE are increasing the number of learners with additional needs in the NFTE Programme with a target of 30% of participants by 2024.

€300,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

- **Migrant Integration Project**

The Migrant Integration Project (MIP) is managed by the Youth and Education Service (YES) for Refugees and Migrants in the City of Dublin Education and Training Board. MIP provides additional formal and informal education supports to unaccompanied minors and other young migrants aged 12 to 18 who are Beginner English learners and come from disadvantaged education backgrounds.

In 2022 the project supported 100 young people who attended the Migrant Access Programme, a pre-immersion programme, including English, Maths, and Life Skills.

- Students were from 16 different countries of origin- including Afghanistan (22), Somalia (22), Romania (20) and Ukraine (15).
- There were 28 girls and 72 boys.
- 42 were unaccompanied minors; 11 girls and 31 boys.
- There were 59 students living with family members.
- 29 students were living in emergency accommodation with their families.

MIP particularly supports those learners who are not literate in their first language and have limited exposure to previous formal education.

The full-time MIP resource worker coached individual learners throughout 2022 by promoting positive mental health strategies and coping skills, the development of interpersonal and communication skills, supporting positive behaviour management and self-regulation and referring to more specialised support where necessary.

A range of after-school activities are in place that complement the formal English language programme with more informal active learning experiences. MIP also provided continuous in-school support to 7 learners who had progressed into mainstream post-primary school.

€115,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

- **City Connects**

City Connects, originally developed by Boston College, is a systemic approach for schools to provide each and every pupil with a tailored plan of services to address strengths and needs in academic, social-emotional, health and family domains of development. Services and enrichment opportunities are leveraged from both the schools as well as community-based organizations. City Connects staff collaborate closely with teachers, principals, Home School Community Liaison officers, Multi-Disciplinary Teams and School completion programme personnel.

The pilot is led by the Department of Education (DE) and Tusla Education Support Service, in conjunction with Mary Immaculate College and Boston College.

Using their knowledge of the particular needs and interests of the pupils in a school, City Connects identifies existing and new services and enrichments. City Connects school

coordinators cultivate partnerships with community agencies, serving as a point of contact for the school. They work closely with families to facilitate access to supports. They also use proprietary software to document, track, and report on service referrals for each student, and they follow up to assure service delivery, and assess effectiveness.

The City Connects Pilot has been extended into the 2022/2023 academic year and now has six Coordinators across the 10 schools.

In 2022, the MyConnects system was fully rolled out. This enabled Coordinators to record, track and follow up on the progress of students throughout the year and give more regular feedback to principals, teachers, parents and community partners.

For the 21/22 school year MyConnects reflected referrals for 1,519 students from 100 classrooms over the 10 schools and recorded 7,941 services as being delivered. For September to December 2022 MyConnects reflected referrals for 1,773 students from 100 classrooms over the 10 schools recording 5,635 services as being delivered.

€400,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

- **Traveller and Roma Education Fund**

Under the 2022 Dormant Accounts Fund Action Plan, the Department of Education received €400,000 to tackle education disadvantage for Traveller and Roma communities and to support attendance, participation and retention among Traveller and Roma learners.

A *Supporting Travellers and Roma (STAR)* project manager has been appointed whose remit will include coordinating the four STAR pilot teams, developing and monitoring work plans, monitoring operational consistency and supporting operational best practice across the teams.

10 Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) coordinators have been appointed to work with 14 post-primary non-DEIS schools with high enrolments of Traveller and Roma students. The role of the HSCL coordinator is to work primarily with Traveller and Roma students and families to improve school attendance, participation, retention, progression and outcomes. The STAR project manager will also facilitate the sharing of information and learning between STAR teams and the 10 HSCL coordinators, given their similar and shared aims.

Funding has been made available to the HSCL coordinators to run initiatives to encourage improvements in school attendance, retention and progression for Traveller and Roma students.

Funding was used to provide targeted supports to ensure the effectiveness of the HSCL role in working with Traveller and Roma families, including continuous professional development (CPD) training and support. In addition to CPD training, Traveller and Roma Cultural Awareness Training (TCAT) was also delivered.

€340,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.



- **Traveller and Roma Transitions**

Under funding provided to Tusla Education Support Service (TESS) under the 2022 Dormant Accounts Action Plan, TESS was awarded €100,000 to fund transitions initiatives from early years education to primary school, from primary to post-primary and onwards to further and higher education. These transitions are recognised as key milestones in a learner's education continuum, and are stages that present challenges in relation to the retention and attendance of some learners, in particular Traveller and Roma learners.

The fund, delivered by TESS provides supports for Traveller and Roma learners, and their families, to ease the transition between these vital stages and encourage greater levels of school attendance, participation and retention and, specifically, to allow for the development of a range of initiatives to support learners and families from Traveller/Roma communities during these critical transitions.

Based on these criteria and the in-depth local knowledge of TESS, six specific projects were identified for funding by TESS. The approved proposals allowed for an equitable geographical spread of provision, supporting projects in each of the regions and the provision of initiatives over both urban and rural settings.

€100,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

- **SEN Learners Transitions**

This measure is designed to support the transition of learners with complex educational needs to post-school options. €500,000 was approved in the Dormant Accounts Fund in 2022 Action Plan for a pilot project which supports Walkinstown Association for People with an Intellectual Disability (WALK) in delivering its Peer Ability programme in 10 schools (7 Special and 3 post primary) based in Louth, Dublin, Kerry, Cork and Kilkenny. Engagement continues with participants for up to three years after they leave school.

The key objectives and outcomes of the WALK programme are to:

- Support 170 students in their final 2 years of school, across the 10 schools to develop individual transition plans for their chosen post-school options.
- Engage with the Education and Training Board, local to the partner schools, to develop access routes for 25% of participants and allow them to transition to mainstream post-school options (further/higher education, training, or employment) and defer places in HSE funded disability services.
- Engage 80 employers, local to the partner schools, to facilitate: 75% of participants gaining experience of work in the open labour market and 15% of participating students gain part-time paid employment.

€150,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022

## **Department of Defence**

### **• Civil Defence Transport Fleet**

In 2022 Dormant Accounts funding to allowed upgrades to the Civil Defence transport fleet. This transport upgrade allowed Civil Defence volunteers to provide continued support to the HSE, the Garda Síochána and the Local Authorities in events such as missing person searches and severe weather incidents. In addition, Civil Defence Units have been actively involved in supporting Ukrainians seeking protection in Ireland since March 2022. In that regard, vehicles acquired through Dormant Account funding have facilitated 779 related taskings, including:

- Setting up and assisting with Emergency Rest Centres;
- Providing tentage for Emergency Rest Centre sites;
- Transporting displaced persons from Emergency Rest Centres to pledged accommodation;
- Transporting displaced persons to medical appointments and school registrations.

€818,099 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022

### **• Defence Veterans' Associations**

A total of €115,365 was disbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund during 2022 in order to assist the two Veterans' Associations formally recognised by the Department of Defence, i.e. the Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel (ONE) and the Irish United Nations Veterans Association (IUNVA) with specific projects. These projects included infrastructural upgrades at ONE's residential homes in Athlone, Cobh and Letterkenny. ONE currently provides accommodation (board and lodging) for approximately 51 veterans who otherwise would be homeless, in its four residential homes in Cobh, Athlone, Dublin and Letterkenny. The addition of its fifth home in Cork City is estimated to bring this number to 57. The organisation's network of home and Veterans Support Centres around the country aim to prevent homelessness by addressing loneliness through early intervention. Separately, two additional IUNVA projects, namely the development of a Veterans Drop-In Centre in Cavan and a Veterans Training Centre at IUNVA headquarters, remain ongoing.

€115,365.25 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

### **• Sail Training Ireland**

Sail Training Ireland (STIrl) utilised €50,000 in Dormant Accounts funding in 2022. This allowed 52 young people from disadvantaged backgrounds or who had a disability or additional need to participate in the following Sail Training activities:

- Thirty young people took part in a Discovery Ocean Science Voyage which taught the innovative STEM at Sea programme under the supervision of a full-time onboard scientist and STIrl Mentors.

- Fifteen trainees went on the Irish Sea Explorer Voyages. These trainees participated in a pilot collaborative project with Tangent, Trinity College called “The Big 5 Skills of Leadership”. This is a unique new Leadership training programme for young people which combines classroom-based learning at Tangent’s modern facilities in Trinity College Dublin, in addition to real life experiential learning on a tall ship at sea. Participants gained essential leadership skills that will help them in all aspects of their life and will open opportunities for further study via Trinity’s Access Programme.
- Five young people took part on the Three Cities Voyages on board the Pelican of London.
- Two young men – one a wheelchair user and the other his “buddy” went on a voyage on board the fully accessible tall ship ‘Tenacious’. This purpose built ship enabled young people with a range of disabilities to participate on an equal footing with their able-bodied crewmates.

€50,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

## Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

- **Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs (CSPAHS)**

€12,000,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for these measures in 2022.

Community Sports & Physical Activity Hubs (CSPAH) are a collective of progressive sports clubs and other local organisations that work together to improve the sport and physical activity offering in their local community. Each hub has unique characteristics but all work in accordance with certain principles - namely the need to grow participation, to engage with local communities, to promote community leadership, to offer a range of sporting opportunities and to bring all appropriate (key) partners/groups/people together. The hubs provide information, support and advice on a wide range of sports and physical activities to make it easier for people in the disadvantaged areas concerned to get involved and be engaged in a more active and healthier lifestyle. Accordingly, the core objective of this measure is to focus on disadvantaged areas, bring local people together and provide a home for local clubs and sports organisations in order to generate a positive local impact on sustainable sports participation and community integration.

The following was achieved in 2022:

Measure	Outcome
- €1.61 million investment into Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs	- 10 x New LSP Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs, in addition to the existing 34 hubs
- €280k investment into First-Ever NGB Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs	- 4 x New LSP Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs

- **National Sport Education and Training Hub**

This measure targeted individuals at both a local and national level by providing a clear education pathway for those interested in working or volunteering in sport. In 2022 Sport Ireland delivered a range of innovative programmes and projects. Activities include: a Volunteer Supports Programme, which focuses on assisting unemployed people gain employment and supports for building capacity for community clubs to grow volunteer numbers; Youth Leadership programmes addressing the drop off of young people from physical activity. It also includes a range of innovative training and capacity building initiatives. Projects are designed and aligned to the requirements of the National Sports Policy and National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP).

The following was achieved in 2022:

- Measure 2 Investment	- Measure 2 Outcome
- Youth Leadership received 201k in total for LSP 2022 funding	- 16 LSPs were supported under Youth Leadership for 2022, with the maximum funding available being 15k
- Youth Leadership received 300k in total for 2022 funding	- 18 NGBs were supported under Youth Leadership for 2022, with the maximum funding available being 18,750
- €414k invested into LSP Volunteer Supports to support the training and retention of volunteers	- Current funding was awarded to 20 LSPs, however all 29 received a further €5k for volunteer strategy activation
- €250k invested into Sports Disability Training	- All initiatives in this measure are supported through Sport Ireland partner, CARA.
- Over 1 million invested into the Diversity & Inclusion Fund, supporting the implementation of the D&I policy	- 25 NGBs, receiving upto €50k each, were supported through this fund
- €400k for Physical Literacy	- This internal project lead by Sport Ireland Coaching received €400k for 2022
- €50k for Education and Training	- An internal project, led by Sport Ireland Outdoors, for education and training purposes
- €463k Internal Communications	- Communications campaign to support the awareness and legacy of Dormant Accounts in 2022
- €50k for Behaviour Change Research	- An internal project, led by Sport Ireland Research Unit, gathering data on behavioural change

The National Sports Policy (NSP) includes actions across a range of sectors to promote increased levels of participation in sport and physical activity. The overarching target of the NPAP is to increase the proportion of the population, across each life stage, undertaking regular physical activity and thereby generating health, economic and social benefits. There is a particular and compelling requirement to significantly step up efforts to pursue this target amongst disadvantaged communities and people with a disability on the basis of lower levels of sports participation amongst those who are unemployed, those on lower incomes and those with no third level education etc. The NSP emphasises this requirement, which can best be addressed by the deployment of Dormant Accounts funding under this

measure that enables Sport Ireland to deliver a range of targeted programmes for persons who are economically, educationally or socially disadvantaged, or persons with disability.

The following was achieved in 2022:

- Measure 3 Investment	- Measure 3 Outcome
- €2.2 million investment into 'Sport For All' Disability Supports Club Fund.	- Helping 1,023 clubs across 27 different NGBs.
- €800k investment into the city based LSPs for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of the Active Cities initiative	- 8 LSPs across 5 major cities in Ireland funded to reduce the inactivity levels of city citizens in Ireland
- Get Ireland Projects received a total of €500k in investment for 2022	- A total of €125k was invested in each of the NGBs responsible for Get Ireland Swimming, Running, Walking and Cycling projects
- €500k investment into the Sports Inclusion Disability Projects	- 25 LSPs, receiving between 10-30k each, were supported to purchase a range of disability sports equipment
- Innovation for Sports Inclusion received €400k for 2022	- 4 LSPs, receiving €100k each, were supported under this funding stream
- Innovation for Sports Inclusion received €400k for 2022	- 9 NGBs, receiving between 7 and €70k each, were supported under this funding stream
- Aspire Graduate Employment Fund received €400k investment through the NGBs for 2022	- 15 NGBs, each receiving 26,620 per application, were supported for this graduate employment programme for the sports sector
- Urban Outdoor Initiative Fund received €400k investment through the LSPs for 2022	- 11 LSPs, receiving a maximum of €45k per application, were supported for Outdoor recreation programmes in disadvantaged communities

## **Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science**

### **• Travellers in Higher Education**

HEIs reported a range of measures they have put in place with the aim to increase Traveller and Roma students' participation and progression in higher education, as part of the targets set in the National Access Plan (NAP 2022-2028). Dormant Accounts Funding has been pivotal in driving positive impact for Traveller and Roma students and wider communities.

15 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) ran additional workshops or provided supports to the Traveller and Roma communities. The workshops and supports included:

- Whidden workshops
- Mentoring programmes/supports
- Pre-entry academic supports
- Post-entry academic supports
- Career guidance
- Parental engagement workshops
- Raising awareness event
- Celebration of Traveller education event

10 HEIs used the DAF for direct financial assistance, such as scholarships and bursaries. 4 HEIs used DAF to recruit additional staff in the following roles:

- Community Engagement Worker
- Traveller Outreach Officer
- Researcher
- Research Assistant

Overall, 891 Traveller students; 242 other students; 86 community partners and 72 schools were supported through the measures listed above.

Many HEIs recorded positive student feedback on the impact of the Fund. The Fund was described as offering “transformative support” for many Traveller students. Moreover, Traveller students reported that supports relieved social isolation and mental health implications. In addition, many of the negative impacts of COVID-19 were addressed through the Fund. Anecdotal evidence pointed to the importance of direct financial supports in preventing drop-out. Funding allowed for proactive outreach work to support students at second level and opened up discussions around educational challenges. Some HEIs reported improved relationships with community organisations, networks, and schools. Development of specific staff posts increased the visibility of Traveller/Roma students/staff. Early indications from the schools point to a steady and, in some situations, an improvement of Traveller students' engagement with their schooling.

€450,000 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.

## Department of Health

- **Dementia education programme for HSE home care support workers**

The dementia education programme for HSE home care support workers is providing dementia-specific education for home care support assistants caring for people living with dementia. Although education and training are a priority action area in the National Dementia Strategy, many home care support assistants have limited opportunity for dementia-specific education and training.

During 2018 and 2019, almost 900 home care support assistants took part in the then three-day dementia education programme. The programme was put on hold during 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid 19 pandemic. During that period, the National Dementia Office worked with DCU to develop the programme into a QQI level 5 award, accredited by Irish Times Training. The new programme, which was piloted in three Community Healthcare Organisations during the second half of 2022, aims to develop skilled, reflective and self-aware Health Care Support Assistants who are equipped to care for people with dementia with humanity, empathy, and dignity, so that they may live well for longer in their own homes and communities.

The new programme runs over six days and consists of six interconnected units, combining face-to-face and live virtual delivery workshops, supported by practical and reflective exercises. Central to the programme is a workplace learning element which is supported by an experienced supervisor.

During 2022, the pilot programme was rolled out in Community Healthcare Organisations 1, 4 and 5 with 84 home support workers trained, in addition to 20 supervisors. The pilot will continue into 2023.

The final report from the pilot, which is expected in September 2023, will provide key information for service providers and policymakers and will ultimately contribute to increased responsiveness of the health system to family carers.

€108,242 was disbursed from Dormant Accounts funding for this measure in 2022.



