KINSALE
& Hinterlands

My Town, My Plan
Community Training Programme

September 2019 - May 2020

Participants of the **My Town, My Plan** Community Training Programme have developed this Ideas document, with the support of the programme Facilitators and Trainers, during the twelve-session programme. This Ideas Document is intended as a means to further develop a strategy/plan for the area, seek funding and / or prioritise actions.

The objective of the community training programme was to provide an innovative approach to support future planning and development of community resources in towns and their hinterlands. Training workshops were used to provide information, stimulate discussions, link resources and develop ideas for each of the areas in conjunction with the community.

Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence, part of the School of Business at Cork Institute of Technology delivered the **My Town, My Plan** Community Training Programme in collaboration with **SECAD Partnership CLG** (SECAD). SECAD is a Local Development Company that delivers a range of rural development and social inclusion programmes including LEADER 2014-2020, the Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme, the Rural Social Scheme, Tus, PEIL 2014-2020 and others.

The programme was delivered as part of the LEADER Programme in South and West Cork, which SECAD manages as an Implementing Partner on behalf of the South and West Cork Local Community Development Committee and Cork County Council.

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1   Acknowledgments

We were participating in a programme providing an innovative approach to support future planning and development of community resources in towns and their hinterlands. The expected outcome of the training programme was a positive impact on the development of a cohesive plan for the area: establishing goals, objectives and priorities through integrating the needs and aspirations of the community while utilising available resources and external opportunities for support.

Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence, part of the School of Business at Cork Institute of Technology, delivered the training programme in collaboration with SECAD Partnership CLG. SECAD is a Local Development Company that delivers a range of rural development and social inclusion programmes including LEADER 2014-2020. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the role SECAD, the Hincks Centre and Veronica Murphy, from the Discovery Partnership, played in this programme and in assisting us in creating this document.

2   Executive Summary

Over the course of 6 months (September 2019 - March 2020), a group of community members from Kinsale, Belgooly, Tracton and Ballinspittle came together as part of the My Town, My Plan project to formulate a development strategy and plan for our area. This project was in the context of pressing environmental, social and economic challenges such as: healthcare and housing, climate change and biodiversity loss, job security and economy, food supply and energy needs, flood defence and population growth. We acknowledged the need to build community capacity and resilience to navigate these challenges and for our communities to thrive.

Evident from the outset was the extraordinary energy, motivation and passion among participants to action and realise a range of projects that would benefit the community. The exceptional work being carried out already by the various community groups in the area was recognised and acknowledged and the tangible benefits to the communities from many of these projects were discussed, along with the learnings that accompanied them.

These discussions emphasised the huge resources that the Kinsale and hinterland areas have to offer in terms of community development experience, business acumen, heritage, the arts, the natural environment, marine and agricultural skills, tourism, culture, education and sports facilities. Numerous new projects and initiatives were tabled and discussed against this backdrop, as were the expected benefits to the local communities from same (See Section 5). The common value underlying all these projects was *Care*; care for the wellbeing of everyone in the community, which is intrinsically linked to care of our environment. We were acknowledging our connection with each other and our dependence on the natural world.

To avoid fragmentation given the disparate nature of the groups active in the area (across the spectrum of agriculture, the Arts, our churches, community, biodiversity, business, education, health and well-being, marine and sports) and the number of projects and project ideas on the table, it was believed that deeper collaboration and connection between groups and between the communities would contribute to better project outcomes and open up many more possibilities. Thus, it was considered that any plan for the area had to address the need for this cohesion and greater communication among, and between, all groups in

Kinsale and surrounding hinterland in order to maximise the social return from available resources and external supports.

The fundamental first step in the strategy therefore was to figure out how we could all work together within the context of a collective, inclusive and holistic vision for the entire area.

To this end, we focussed on the concept of setting up a legally incorporated Community Partnership, representative of all groups, and all who live, within the area. The purpose of this Partnership would be to facilitate and enable collaboration and connection within the wider community of Kinsale and its hinterland through its role in acting as:

    a.   A space for community members to explore ways of working together for the betterment of all, and which promotes the building of connections and shared understanding between all community groups;

    b.   A keeper of the vision, values and principles that guide decision making within the community;

    c.   A platform that provides access and invitation to all community members to open discussion, information and other resources, and the means required for realising projects;

    d.   A legal vehicle for securing funding that will benefit community-led projects and the resources and actions that enable the realisation of these;

    e.   A focus for the development of social enterprise projects that promote inclusivity.

Guiding Principles of the Community Partnership

- We envision a community where care of each other and the planet we live on, is the foundation cornerstone of everything we do and where initiatives grounded in such care are enabled by collaboration between all groups within the community.
- We envision a community where everyone's concerns are listened to (via surveys, World Café, think tanks, meetups etc.), where all perspectives and opinions matter, and where people are encouraged and empowered to be involved and to directly influence change making decisions.
- Furthermore, we conceive a community where people with the insights, energy and passion to make changes will be enabled to bring projects of a high standard to fruition, through provision of resources, collaborative tools such as empathy mapping, mentoring expertise etc., and benefit from the experience existing within or external to the community.
- We anticipate that the Community Partnership would be a vehicle to instigate training programmes that would benefit community members and promote the use of methodologies that will enhance understanding, communication and decision making.
- We recognise the need for local inclusion and support for the success of any venture. A collective approach was identified as the best path forward to nurturing and developing the huge potential that exists in the area and to allow for the largest possible participation from the local community in the implementation of the development plan. We feel a Community Partnership will fulfil this role. When considering this structure, we envisaged one that would allow for the fullest and broadest participation where everybody has a voice and an opportunity to be heard. The Partnership would be central to promoting care and welfare across all areas, creating a holistic view of community life while acting as a catalyst and support for all voluntary groups. It would have the potential to be transformative for the entire area.

- We recognise that facilitating this participation will not happen overnight. We require professional guidance to assist in continuing the work we have done thus far and to leverage the momentum that has been created. We hope that we can secure this assistance in the form of a consultant who has the experience and track record of directing and funding similar projects in other communities. This support is vital for success. The financial resources required for this are not fully scoped out, as this will require further research, but a preliminary account is given. We note that to achieve the ambition outlined in this document it will be essential to work with all our public bodies including our Local Authority and the HSE. We would also suggest that this Community Partnership, as a member of the Cork County Public Participation Network, would offer a means of developing the participatory role of this network.

Key Insights
- We are all facing the same challenges; we will be stronger working together.   - We recognise that there is a requirement for an overarching body to ensure the views of the whole community are sought and represented, and that this body could support all the voluntary groups in the area in their endeavors.   - The ethos underpinning this Community Partnership will be *Care and Sustainability*.   - There is a need to develop an environmental-socio-economic plan for the area.   - A Greenway-Blueway was proposed as an initial flagship project which would connect all the communities involved together.

3   Area Profile

Kinsale and the hinterland is situated on the south Cork coast and has stunning seascapes and sandy beaches, is steeped in history with many historic landmarks and has an international reputation for cuisine and restaurants. The area has several art galleries, a theatre space at Tracton and is the centre of a thriving art scene with several annual festivals. A new Public Health Centre for the area was opened in 2015 and Kinsale Community School, among other achievements, has a national reputation for success at the annual BT Young Scientist Exhibition. Kinsale College is host to a broad selection of courses which attracts international students. The harbour serves as a commercial port and is home to a fishing fleet as well as two Marinas (Kinsale Yacht Club and the Castlepark Marina). Several local businesses offer water-based activities. The area has a large agricultural community, a range of businesses ranging from small local ones to those with global reach, and is served by numerous community groups, clubs and societies across a wide spectrum of activities.

The area is within easy access of Cork City (R600), and the national rail and bus network. In the Cork County Development Plan 2014, Kinsale was identified as a Ring Town of Cork City. The hinterland includes the villages of Ballinspittle, Ballinadee, Belgooly, Dunderrow, Minane Bridge, Nohoval, Riverstick and Tracton. The region is bound to the South by the Atlantic Ocean and by large urban centres Carrigaline to the East, Cork City to the North and Bandon / Clonakilty to the West. It is situated 20 km from Cork airport and 27 km from Ringaskiddy Ferry Terminal. Public transport, though existent in the area, needs upgrading especially in context of our need to reduce our transport greenhouse gas emissions. Bus Eireann operates an hourly daytime service between Kinsale and Cork City (route 226) which also calls to Cork International Airport. There are other daily bus services running to Bandon (route 254) and Clonakilty (route 253). These services call to many of the villages en route. Kinsale marks the beginning of the Wild Atlantic Way. There may be an

argument to start this from the Ferry at Ringaskiddy given that some of our communities lie outside the catchment of this initiative.
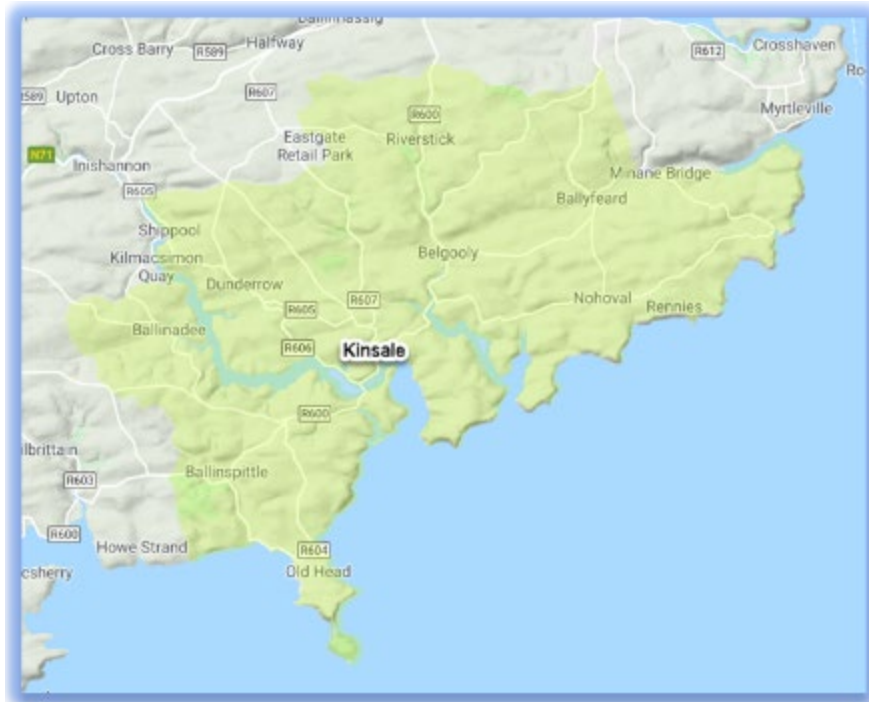

Figure 1: *After some debate and purely for statistical purposes, the region was defined to include the CSO Small Areas as per the table in Appendix 7.1*

The region is reputed to be one of the sunniest in Ireland and other natural energy sources like wind and wave are readily accessible. It has an area 266 km^2 and a coastline that stretches for over 30 km. The river Bandon enters the sea at Kinsale, and a feature of the region are a number of river valleys cutting through steep inclines (Figure 2). The area has a lot of potential due its geographical location and mix of habitats to protect and nurture the biodiversity of its flora and fauna.

Figure 2: *River valleys running North-South, with Glacial valleys running East-West.*

Over the course of the sessions it was noted that it would be useful to create a list of resources in the area, the good stories and the assets that are not being utilised, projects ongoing and also, the numerous community groups, clubs and societies across the area. This could be an element of the environmental-socio-economic plan outlined as a potential project in Section 5. An illustrative preliminary capture of this is shown below with the caveat that this is just a glimpse of what is in the area. A brief profile of population statistics is outlined in Appendix 7.1. Though there are many volunteer community organisations across the area their effort and communication can be fragmented, and the hope of this plan is to create a more united and cohesive development approach for the whole area.
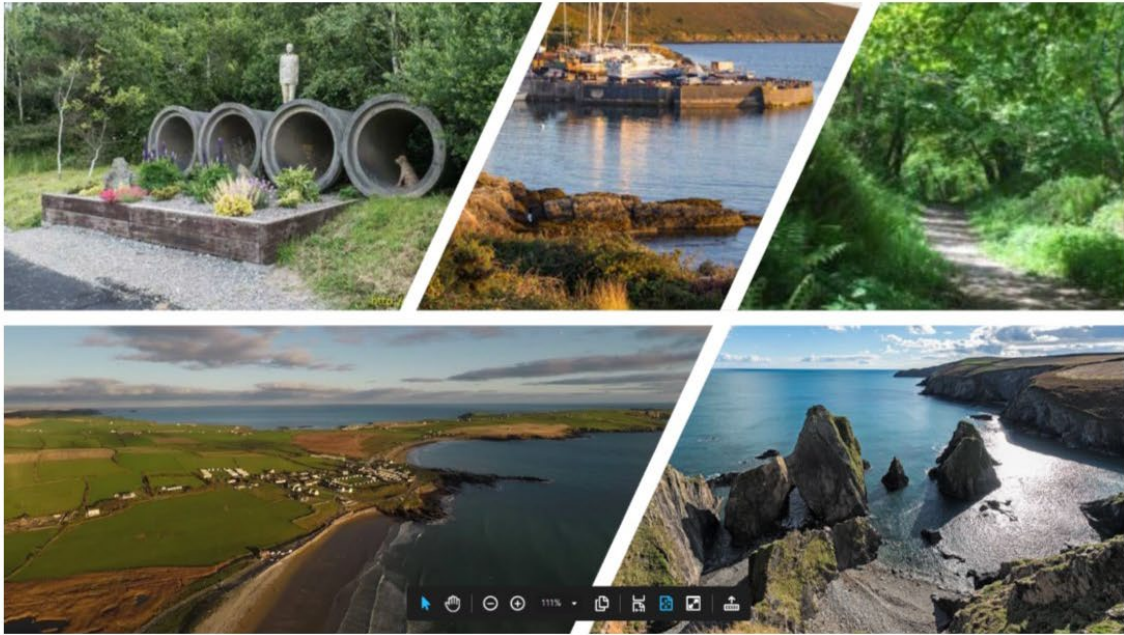

The People

Clockwise from top— The Sea+Me (Plastic Free Kinsale); Future Kinsale Inaugural Meeting; The Lusitania Project wins Pride in our Community Award; Transition Town Kinsale Meitheal at Kinsale's Community Orchard; Night at the Theatre—Tracton Community & Arts Centre.

The Landscape

Clockwise from top—The Belgooly Walk; The Charles Fort Walk; Garretstown Wood; Nohoval Cove and Garretstown to the Old Head

The Built Landscape

Clockwise from top—St Catherine's Cultural Centre; The Muncipal Hall Kinsale; The Old Mill—James O'Neill Builidng; The Lusitania Tower and Tracton Community & Arts Centre

4   Methodology

Our first challenge was to describe the area we were planning for. We described it as the P17 Eircode area for simplicity, thus including Kinsale and the communities of Ballinspittle, Ballinadee, Dunderrow, Belgooly, Riverstick, Minane Bridge, Nohoval and Tracton. This was a starting point and we didn't limit it to this area; we described it as *'a frame of mind'* - if a place felt connected, it was. So, the area may extend as the programme develops.

There is a wealth of organisations, clubs, societies and community groups in the area across the spectrum of sports, the arts, well-being, marine, agriculture, business and community as well as our church groups. The group who were drawn to attend the My Town, My Plan sessions came from a subset of these groups, and we would hope that, in the months ahead, a more collective voice is found for all who live in the area and call it home; *'from those who have lived here for generations to those newly arrived'*.

Alongside our Core training sessions, the programme also provided a series of optional topics. The following are the topics that we chose:

Date	Topic
20th November 2019	Incubating and supporting the development of local business and trade
4th December 2019	Owning and managing community assets
10th December 2019	Promoting positive mental health
28th January 2020	Eco aware town design

Processes utilised included SWOT Analysis, needs and wants analysis and group envisioning. In addition to the formal sessions of the My Town, My Plan programme, the group also met on a number of occasions to clarify their views as the process unfolded.

4.1   Main Findings

What became apparent as the sessions went on was that the concept of care, both of our individual wellbeing and of the collective, was to be the main value touchstone of the area plan.

Since the drafting of this document, the unfolding of the Covid19 pandemic and its accompanying tragic loss of human life in such a short space of time, brings into focus the vulnerability of our existence as a species, and the assumptions we all make about how our societies as we know them must work. It is also however, shining a light on the power we have to change our future when communities work together with informed leadership in a spirit of care, co-operation, respect and love for one another. With these values underpinning our decisions, we can move mountains.

Furthermore, we recognised that the care and protection of our environment, along with our concerns around climate change, were fundamental to the concept of collective care and that these issues needed to be addressed in the development of any plan for our future. A key driver in our thought process was an overriding sense that by creating strong connectivity between our communities we would be stronger together in facing the challenges that lie ahead.

We acknowledged that future scenarios which imagine how we will live have to reflect anthropogenic climate change as outlined in the Paris Agreement adopted by 195 nations (at the 21st Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change)) in December 2015, to hold *"…the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and (to pursue) efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels"* (United Nations, 2015)[1]. This ground-breaking global agreement acknowledges that climate change represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to human societies and life on the planet, and thus requires global cooperation to affect the appropriate response.

We understand from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), in their summary document to policy makers in 2018, that limiting global warming to 1.5°C requires *"rapid and far-reaching"* transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities and that global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (CO_2) would need to fall by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching net zero around 2050 (IPCC , 2018)[2]. We agreed that actions to bring about this just transition have to be reflected in the plans we make locally. We agreed that we need to look at new ways of doing things.

We discussed at length the need to see the big wins while being cognisant of the benefit of the small wins to create buy-in and cohesiveness in our community for what we hope is a transformative approach. It is the community who will lead what these big and small wins might be.

Based on the collective feedback from both the formal sessions of the programme and the meetings self-organised by the group, the big idea we decided to focus on was to explore the possibilities of creating a forum for collective decision making for the P17 area, i.e. the Kinsale Postal district. However, as noted above, the consensus was that it was not limited to this area.

It was acknowledged that a detailed plan required opening conversation with, information gathering and feedback from all stakeholders and that this process would be essential to the relevance and usefulness of the outcome. This is a complex job and involves time and resources. The benefits in terms of insight would be powerful but could not be done within the time allowed and given the volunteer status of all participants. Other limiting factors at this point included:

- Different attendees at each session as volunteering to this programme required a substantial commitment;
- Though many different groups and organisations from the area attended, it was agreed that this document could only be a top-level preliminary plan for the area, outlining core values to be referenced when scoping how we might organise ourselves to deliver a future plan;
- We acknowledge that there are many people in the area who would have been interested in participating in this programme, but other commitments would have prevented them from doing so;
- We must also consider how inclusive this programme was in bringing all to the table and how we could create better communication channels and ways to increase participation. We noted

[1] United Nations. (2015). Paris Agreement - Conference of the Parties Twenty-first session. https://doi.org/10.1007/-BF02327128

[2] Masson-Delmotte, V et al. (eds. (2018). IPCC, 2018: Summary for Policymakers. In: Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C

the necessity of going to where people gather and volunteer already at clubs, societies and other groups;

- The challenge of housing was raised but not discussed in a solution focused way;
- Likewise, the challenge of transport in rural Ireland and how we could approach it into the future was only highlighted;
- Agriculture, fishing and the marine were only discussed briefly.

To address some of these issues, the following were suggested:

- As a priority for a programme of this ambition, project support resources need to be in place (e.g. a person who is driving and minding the programme on the ground and enabling the connections between volunteers to take place). This person would also play an essential role in communication.
- The development of an environmental-socio-economic plan for the area: to highlight the resources and the vulnerabilities, to consider the resources underutilised. To create a user-friendly document for the area so that informed collective decision making can take place on potential infrastructure and developments. Resources would be required to do this in a timely and effective manner.
- Suggested early steps in the plan of action to address the gaps in representation and participation, and to gain a more collective voice were, a survey to prioritise themes (see Appendix 7.3) and a Public Event (World Café / Think Tank) to gauge how to move forward to form a Community Partnership.
- A community project like this needs to have a budget to be effective to bring in expertise when needed.
- The need for the development of a social enterprise enabling structure (at county level possibly) which will support new entities in the start-up process; and access to expertise on potential funding.
- As mentioned above, when planning for the future, we will have to have an environmental focus. The Aarhus Convention, The UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) Convention on 'Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making' and 'Access to Justice in Environmental Matters' was adopted in 1998 in the Danish city of Aarhus and ratified in Ireland in 2012. It has led to the setup of Ireland's Public Participation Network with one in each county and city. "*PPNs give citizens a greater say in local government decisions which affect their own communities.*"[3] Alongside this network we propose here a Community Partnership as a means of giving us a clearer voice in issues that affect us and our families, and of empowering local communities to bring projects to fruition which are aligned to their collective vision.
- This Community Partnership will create opportunities for our area to benefit from regional regeneration funding programmes and for us all to have a voice in the application for these funding opportunities.
- To learn from our own successes (and failures) and from those in other parts of the country. This is peer to peer learning with others who understand how community development programmes happen on the ground.
- Through the use of effective participatory methods and supporting collaboration between existing groups, we will empower all stakeholders, to collectively make the transition to a low carbon green future and a more caring, inclusive society.

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[3] https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/b59ee9-community-network-groups/

We also need to highlight the outcomes of recent surveys carried out in the area, as they resonate with what has evolved from this facilitated envisaging programme. Key results from the Future Kinsale Survey (2018) and Tracton Community Needs Survey (2019) are outlined below.

Summary of Future Kinsale On-line Survey (residents) - 2018[4]
687 respondents (in excess of 10% of population aged 16 plus):
What Matters Most for Kinsale's Future
The majority agreed that: • Kinsale should be at the forefront of climate change   • More needs to be done to retain its young population   • Kinsale is overly dependent on tourism   • Kinsale needs to embrace its foreign national population   • Property development is in danger of ruining Kinsale   • Kinsale residents are good at working together for the good of the town   • Most divisive is the issue of Airbnb, which splits the pro group (29%) from the anti-group (44%)   • New Kinsalers support the business hub and Kinsale co-op concepts more than others
Most Essential (list provided)
• Better waste / recycling   • Development of walking and cycling trails   • An edge of town coach park with shuttle service to the town centre.   • Pedestrianisation of parts of the town centre   • Making Kinsale a Wi-Fi town   • Setting up a business hub   • Introduction of frequent bus services to surrounding villages
Of Less Importance
• Renewable energy generation scheme   • Multi-purpose indoor visitor centre   • Iconic mark to the Wild Atlantic Way   • Better access to the harbour for water activities.

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[4] https://futurekinsale.home.blog/2018/12/22/kinsale-residents-survey-results/

Tracton Community Needs Survey 2019[5]			
Supporting Young Adults	**Greater Care of the Elderly**	**Giving Under 12's the Best Start**	**Supporting Parents and Caregivers**
56% of respondents felt that outdoor adventure activities would inspire our teenagers / young adults. Followed by mindfulness workshops.	58% of respondents felt that regular visiting programmes should be made available.	66% of respondents felt that a local playground would give our under 12's the best start. Youth Club and Afterschool care were also mentioned.	63% of respondents felt that visiting Respite Friendship would make a difference to Parents and Caregivers.
Improving Infrastructure	**Physical and Mental Wellbeing**	**Protect and Improve our Natural Habitats**	**Protect and Improve our Culture and Heritage**
Footpaths and local bus services are by far the highest infrastructural improvements required by the community at 68%. 76% of respondents felt that better broadband / mobile reception might help encourage social enterprise, followed by training course and work experience programmes.	59% of respondents felt that workshops on mindfulness were important. Followed by nutrition health talks and a walking club at 51% and 50% respectively.	75% of respondents felt that we should do more to protect our environment. 65% of respondents are keen to see a Plastic Free Tracton initiative.	68% of respondents felt that increasing signage on heritage sites would raise awareness. Followed by more local heritage events at 60%.

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[5] https://www.tracton.org/

5   Key Ideas to Progress

For Our Area We Suggest	
OUR BIG IDEA	**A representative Community Partnership to catalyse action through collective decision making and with this decision-making underpinned by *Care.***
Environmental-Socio-Economic Plan	Creating an environmental-socio-economic plan for the area which would map resources and highlight potential opportunities and vulnerabilities.
Prioritisation of Projects	Prioritisation of projects to promote wellbeing of our physical and mental health while cherishing our future environment and with the urgency of climate change foremost in our minds.
Social Enterprise Centre	The creation of a social enterprise centre. It was suggested this could be entwined with a business hub which would create a revenue stream.
Flagship Project	To create connections within our area, we would like to develop a Greenway-Blueway which will exemplify this care for our well-being and where we live. We also advocate for more pathways within our towns and villages.

5.1 Our Big Idea

> **A representative Community Partnership to catalyse action through collective decision-making and with this decision-making underpinned by *Care*.**

Objective:

A representative group which will create open communication and consultation so that everyone has a voice and will also act as a liaison between the many organisations with common pursuits and objectives in our community. Care, both of each other and of the planet we live on, was proposed as the cornerstone (heart) of this Partnership. Deciding the Partnership's core values will be an essential element in its formation.

Purpose:

A forum for collective participation in decision making for the area, and for applying and drawing down funds for initiatives. Underpinning this is the creation of cohesiveness across the area in its actions and initiatives while leveraging the experience, expertise, energy and passion of the many individuals and groups living and operating in the area in order to meet the needs of the community.

Initial Strategic Steps:

- Set up a Working Group from those who have been meeting at the My Town My Plan programme sessions and with others from the community through the creation of a stakeholder list.
- Seek support from SECAD to support this process including facilitation resources, and funding to put a Community Development Manager in place to drive, mind and create the valuable connections needed for success.
- Initial meetings with Cork County Council, Kinsale Chamber of Tourism and Business, local development groups, schools, community / club / society leaders to create a network out into the community.
- Facilitate the development of the Value Proposition of a Community Partnership - mapping learnings form other communities.
- Preparation of environmental-socio-economic plan for the area (see Section 5.2).
- Seek the community's input on what they view as important.
- World Café style event to discuss the formation of a Community Partnership and what would be envisaged as its core values, and its communication, decision-making and conflict resolution process.

Supports and Resources Required:

For the effective roll-out of the above programme, project support resources need to be in place to drive and mind the process. This has an impact on budget required. If this budget is not available, the timeline becomes extended. Funding for a Community Development Manager is needed in addition to funding for capital spend and event management, facilitation etc. Given the urgency of climate action which underpins our plan, such a role is essential to the delivery of a programme of action in our area in a timely manner.

Expert training of the Working Group is also needed in selecting the best approaches to working with communities in a participative way and in selecting appropriate developmental processes for community and social change management.

This ambition can only be realised with a remunerated person and collaboration with the community and with our Public Bodies. Thus, funding is a caveat to the progression of this initiative. A top line estimate of resources required is outlined below.

Resource	Details (see also Section 6 - Development Strategy)	Costing Estimates €
Community Development Manager	A role which is contracted as required at different phases of implementation	60,000
Environmental-Social-Economic Report	Specific funding to be acquired for this	50,000
Facilitation Support	This is key to bring the project beyond My Town, My Plan to formation of a Working Group with constitution, etc.	5,000
Consultation - best practice - community Partnership / forum	Specific consultative piece required for formation of Community Partnership	5,000
Legal and Financial Guidance	Specific expertise required for formation of Community Partnership	5,000
Training Workshops - best practice visit	Upskilling and capacity building of Working Group and inaugural Community Partnership	5,000
Administration and Communication Costs	Costs required to go from volunteer Working Group to representative Community Partnership	20,000
Total		**150,000**

5.2   Environmental-Socio-Economic Plan

> **Creating an environmental-socio-economic plan for the area which would map resources in the area and highlight potential opportunities and vulnerabilities.**

Objective:

To have an environmental-socio-economic plan for the area.

Purpose:

This plan would highlight resources and assets in our area alongside gaps in same. It would review the changing demographics and consider what we should be planning for. It would note our vulnerability because of climate change and highlight some of the climate actions, both adaption and mitigation, we could take. It would look at economic opportunities for the area thorough regional development and regeneration funding and would specifically look at the potential for agricultural diversification and Community Renewable Energy.

Initial Strategic Steps:

- Create a Working Group for this project.
- Establish who are the key stakeholders.
- Scope out the plan.
- Apply for funding to carry out the plan.

Supports and Resources Required:

See under Our Big Idea (Section 5.1), estimated cost: €50,000

See also:

- Local Area Development Plan[6]
- Kinsale Town Development Plan[7]
- Kinsale Transportation Study (2009)
- Energy Master Plan for the P17 area (Transition Town Kinsale, 2020)
- Community Biodiversity Action Plan (Transition Town Kinsale, 2020)

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[6] http://corklocalareaplans.com/bandon-kinsale-municipal-district/
[7] https://corkcocoplans.ie/wp-content/uploads/bsk-pdf-manager/2016/07/KINSALE-DEV-PLAN-VOL-1-Survey-and-Analysis.pdf

5.3   Prioritisation of Projects

> **Prioritisation of projects to promote wellbeing of our physical and mental health**
> **while cherishing our future environment**
> **and with the urgency of climate change foremost in our minds.**

Objective:

Purposeful projects to support the mental and physical wellbeing of those living in the area while we cohesively support the protection of our environment.

Purpose:

To prioritise projects in our area collectively to promote wellbeing while cherishing our future environment; to bring projects to fruition which are aligned to the collective vision; to create opportunities for our area to benefit from regional regeneration funding programmes and to have a voice in the application for these funding opportunities.

Initial Themes:

Themes unfolded over the course of the sessions. At our first Public Forum we would explore how these themes resonate with the broader community. A survey prior to this would provide an opportunity to explore how proposed projects could be prioritised under these themes (See draft Information Sheet - Appendix 7.3).

Themes We Outlined
• Support the physical and mental wellbeing of all (building on the wealth of our Primary Care Team, the incredible sports and other clubs, organisations like KYSS).
• Explore how and where we will live in our communities.
• Local food production and new and more sustainable local agricultural enterprises.
• Promote local biodiversity.
• Improved transport infrastructure and access for all.
• Connect the hinterland communities - development of the Kinsale Greenway and Kinsale Blueway.
• Renewable energy options - opportunities for generation of income.
• Action to mitigate the effects of climate change in our area.

An envisaging event was carried out after these themes were agreed and with some new participants; priorities from this process were similar as listed below.

- Council and Local Governance   Community Council Facilitated public / plans decision making

- Land Use and Development   Pedestrianisation of Kinsale town centre
  Community energy project
  Bicycle trails and walking trails
  Social housing mixed with all housing

- Nature, Culture and Heritage   No cars in centre of town

- Citizen Safety and Wellbeing   Carbon neutral

- Infrastructure and Buildings   Municipal hall as community enterprise centre - food oriented
  Local authority housing

Supports and Resources Required:
The public event outlined under 'Our Big Idea' (Section 5.1) will be an opportunity to create a prioritised list of initial projects. The formation of a Community Partnership will enable this to take place on an ongoing basis. Work plans with stakeholders, actions and costs outlined can then be created for these projects. Resources needed include facilitation, project management and project feasibility studies.

5.4 Social Enterprise Centre

> **The creation of a social enterprise centre. It was suggested this could be intertwined with a business hub which would create a revenue stream.**

The Community Partnership would have overall responsibility for the management of this centre and as a legally incorporated entity, would be the employer of the staff within the centre. This initiative could be aligned with projects ongoing within Future Kinsale and other groups in the area.

Objective:
Look at the potential of creating a social enterprise hub in the area (possibly supported by a county level structure which also can provide information on funding streams available to communities) to facilitate new social enterprise start-ups with access to facilities, funding and mentoring.

Purpose:
To create employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for all our residents and especially for our younger people, and through social enterprises be able to implement community development projects in the area.

Initial Strategic Steps:
- Set up a Working Group with representative from each area
- Establish the key stakeholders (see potential alignment with Future Kinsale)
- Outline potential for such a Hub and how it could be set up
- Create the Hub

Supports and Resources Required:
To be determined.

Potential buildings and resources in the area include St Catherine's Cultural Centre and Kinsale Municipal Hall (Future Kinsale - Kinsale Municipal Hall Revival Committee are exploring potential uses of this building with Cork County Council).

5.5   Flagship Project

> **To create connections within our area, we would like to develop a Greenway-Blueway which will exemplify this care for our well-being and where we live.**
> **We also advocate for more pathways within our towns and village*s*.**

Objective:
To create a physical connection between the different communities in the area. The geography of the area offers the possibility of a combined Greenway and Blueway and its design would exemplify our core concept of *Care* for our wellbeing and our environment and highlight our local heritage and biodiversity.

Purpose:
Connection - Care - Wellbeing: A flagship project to motivate the wider community.

Initial Strategic Steps:

- Set up a Working Group with representation from each area.
- Establish the key stakeholders (County Council, landowners and community groups).
- Create a potential map for the Greenway-Blueway.
- Application to SECAD for funding to facilitate the development of a feasibility study.
- Alongside, discuss with local authority potential for better pathway networks in our towns and villages.

Supports and Resources Required:
The Community Partnership outlined in 'Our Big Idea' (Section 5.1) will be an opportunity to see if there is an interest in such a project in the greater community. Once a Working Group is set up and possible pathways are mapped out, support will be needed to develop a feasibility study for this Greenway-Blueway. Having a Community Development Manager in place on the ground will enable this project to be rolled out more effectively.

6   Development Strategy

A top-line development strategy for progress is outlined below. We would highlight again that to rely on a volunteer network with no operational assistance will limit the expectations of this group. There is a key role needed on the ground to manage and drive projects as well as create a connected community i.e. a Community Development Manager. Preliminary Milestone stages are outlined below without timelines. Costs are estimated.

PHASE I			
	Milestone	**Cost**	**Details and Funding Possibilities**
1	Strategic Working Group formed to progress initiative. To move to next phase: extend the invitation out to wider community to form this group; consider also the formation of specific Working Groups. Facilitation needed to come together and to gain greater buy in. How this is done is a critical first step and given the limited time availability of volunteer network this aspect needs to be resourced.	Volunteer time €5,000	Invitation to others to join the process to form the strategic working group. Funding via SECAD potentially for facilitation with SHEP (discussed with Liam McCarthy). Outcome - Formation of Strategic Working Group and draft constitution / MOU / shared values.
2	Strategic Working Group secures funding for further development of the vision outlined (with SECAD potentially).	Volunteer time	
3	Community Development Manager in Place.[8]	€20,000	This will be on a contract base for specific milestone implementation e.g. to drive formation of Community Partnership. Possibly with a role funded through the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund or Town and Village Renewal Scheme (Cork County Council). Initially for 3 months.
4	Collation of research and expert advice on the formation of a Community Partnership and the structure that would work best given the characteristics of the community.		It is anticipated that the above person will carry out this work; if further expertise is needed there may be an additional cost.
5	Environmental-socio-economic plan for the area completed.[9]	€50,000	Funding through the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund or Town and Village Renewal Scheme (Cork County Council).

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[8] See as reference funding of Manager role within Youghal Socio-Economic Development Group (Y.S.E.D.G)

[9] See financing of Passage West Socio-Economic Plan - https://www.corkcoco.ie/sites/default/files/2018-04/passage-west-strate-gic-plan-2018-2022.pdf

	PHASE II		
	Milestone	**Cost**	**Details and Funding Possibilities**
6	Dissemination strategy - Community Connector Role. Information Sheet to be prepared and distributed (see Appendix 7.3). Collate feedback. Organisation and publicity for public event.	Volunteer time €18,000	Funding for community connection role and information dissemination and collation of feedback. Possible sources include: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF - Cork County Council) and Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP - West Cork Development Partnership).
7	Public Event to consider possibilities of a Community Partnership, Social Enterprise Centre and potential projects.	Volunteer time €2,000	Facilitation and harvesting of this public event. RRDF, SICAP
8	Community Partnership in place.	Volunteer time €15,000	Funding for legal, financial, best practice guidance and support and training for new representatives in collaborative best practice. Some of this expertise could be provided via Cork County Council.
	PHASE III		
	Milestone	**Cost**	**Details and Funding Possibilities**
9	Prioritisation of community projects.	Volunteer time	With feedback from the Public Meeting this will be one of the first objectives of the new Community Partnership.
10	Funding opportunities for key projects explored.	Volunteer Time €20,000	Milestones 10-12 will be co-ordinated, managed, driven by contracted Project Manager / Community Development Manager on a 3-month basis. Leader Funding possibly.
11	Working groups for key projects set up.	Volunteer time	
12	Creation of Work Plans for key projects.	Volunteer time	

PHASE IV			
	Milestone	**Cost**	**Details and Funding Possibilities**
13	Roll-out of key projects. Note the flagship project outlined - Blueway-Greenway will be considered by working group in earlier phases especially if there are opportunities for funding.	€20,000	For Project Manager / Community Development Manager via Cork County Council - RRDF or Leader see list below.

Other possible opportunities for funding include:

- Regional Enterprise Development Fund (social enterprise aspects)
- Climate Action Fund (as per themes listed)
- Fáilte Ireland (a good source for funding in Kinsale area in the past)
- Greenway Fund
- Community Enhancement Programme
- Community Environment Action Fund
- Arts Council Funds
- Creative Ireland Funds
- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme
- Local Improvement Scheme
- Philanthropic Funds (good history of this also in the area)
- Community Foundation of Ireland

7   Appendices

7.1   Population Statistics

The combined population of the area is 15,229 (7,723 Female, 7,506 Male). Kinsale is the epicentre of the area however there is a large population living in the hinterland.
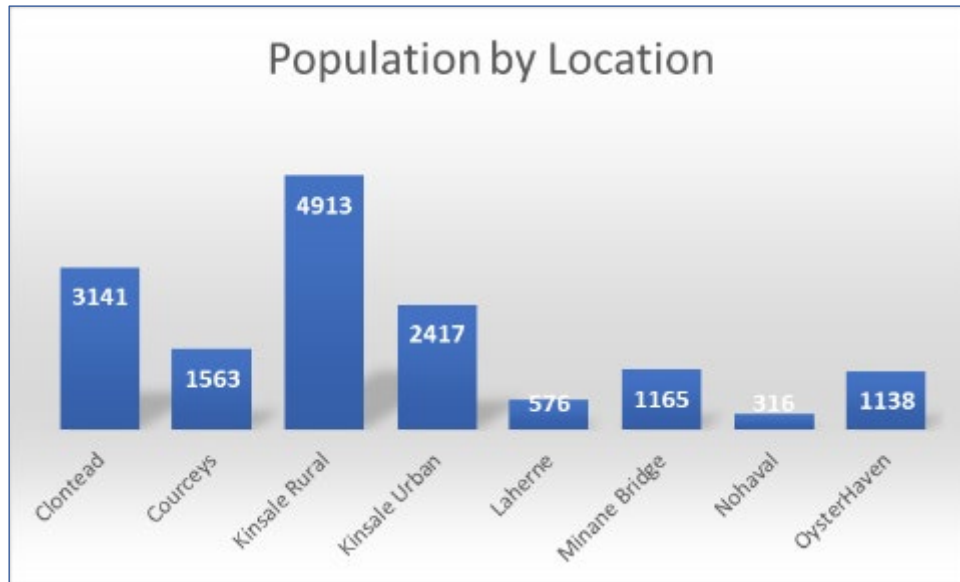
Figure 3: *Population by location. The above figures are indicative as modern boundaries redefine regions.*

The age profile depicts a notable decrease in the population in the late teens to 20s age group. Unlike other rural regions, this decrease is temporary, and the population bounces back in the 30s age group.
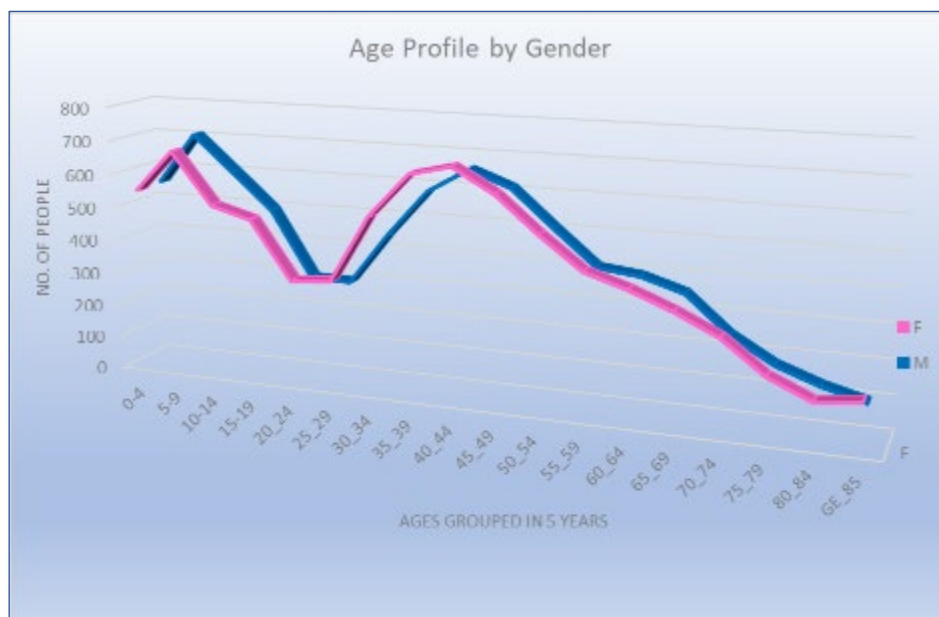
Figure 4: *Age Profile of the area. The graph may reflect the attraction the region holds for those raising young families.*

Over 80% of the population were born in Ireland. Outside of English and Irish, Polish is the most common language spoken followed closely by French (25% and 19% respectively).
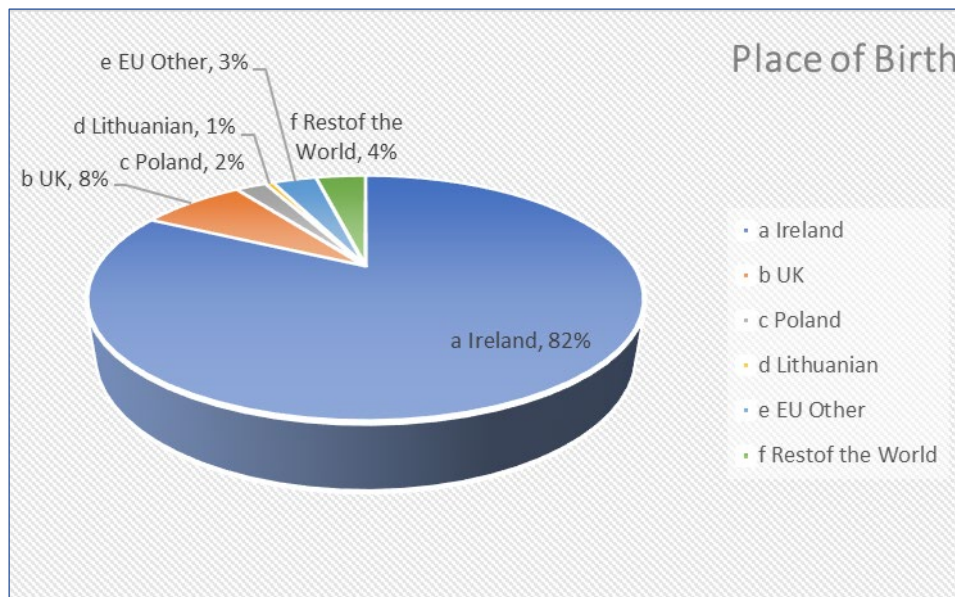
Figure 5: Diversity: over 80% of the population were born in Ireland.

The status of those who are of working age is represented in Figure 6.
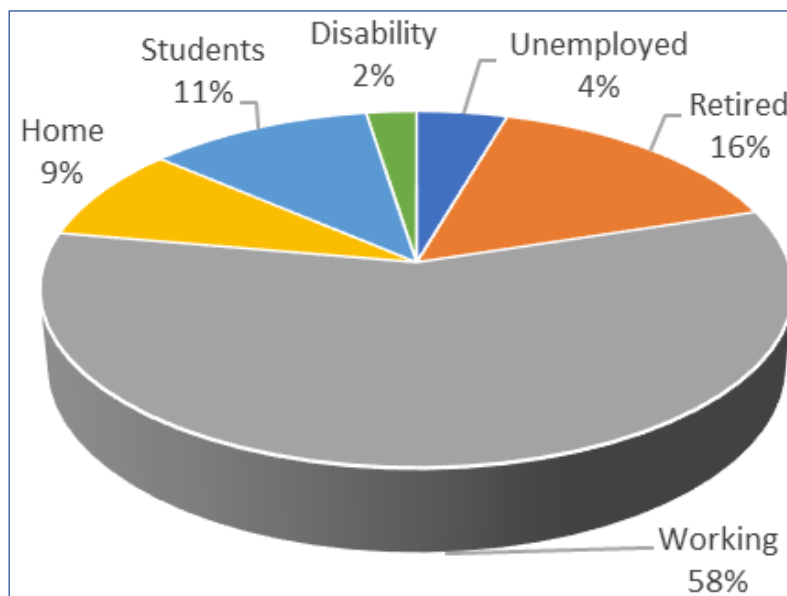
Figure 6: Status of those who are of working age.

The household status for the area compares favourably with the National average as indicated in Figure 7. The Age Dependency ratio is 63%.

Households by Professional Status	Kinsale Region	Column1	Republic of Ireland	Column2
A Employers and managers (# households)	923	18%	241,098	14%
B Higher professional (# households)	454	9%	112,965	7%
C Lower professional (# households)	594	12%	201,286	12%
D Non-manual (# households)	721	14%	310,587	18%
E Manual skilled (# households)	309	6%	149,543	9%
F Semi-skilled (# households)	460	9%	141,757	8%
G Unskilled (# households)	130	3%	63,222	4%
H Own account workers (# households)	365	7%	80,959	5%
I Farmers (# households)	416	8%	82,508	5%
J Agricultural workers (# households)	28	1%	9,453	1%
Z All others gainfully occupied and unknown (# households)	734	14%	308,911	18%
	5,134		1,702,289	

Figure 7: *Economic Status by Household*

Just under 50% of the houses were built since 2000 and over 60% of the houses are heated by oil. 595 people (5.8%) work from home while 1001 people use some form of public transport in their daily commute (9.8%). 34% of the students / workforce travel for longer than 30 minutes each day.

18% of families (496) are single parent families, this is further divided with the father being the single parent in 16% of all single parent families (78). The next graphic based on the youngest child in the family reflects a couple of points: (a) over 50% of families have a child under 10 years and (b) at the other end of the spectrum over 20% of families have only adult children living at home.
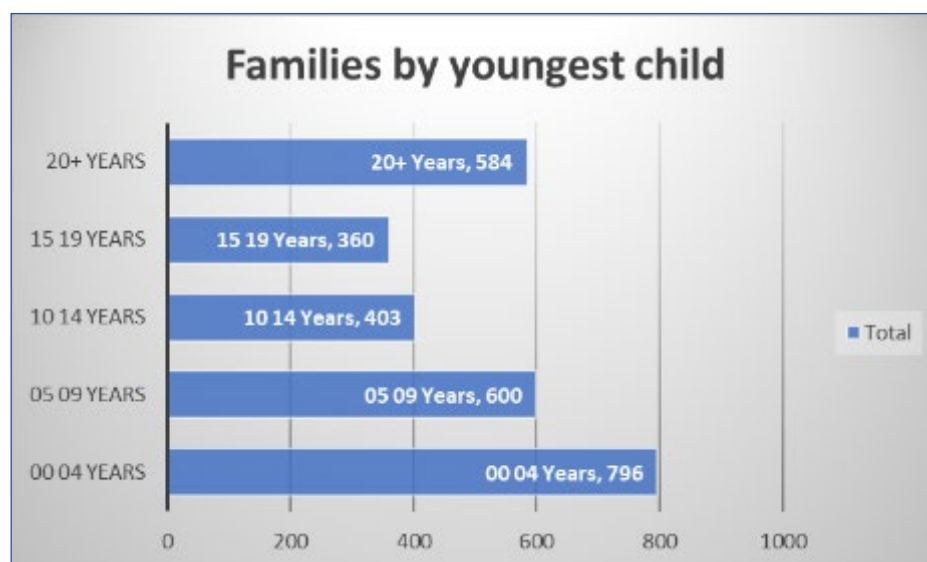
Figure 8: *Children in household: this graphic may indicate that many families have adult children living in the family home.*

Area Profile - Source Census 2016[10]	
Population	• 15,229 of which 7,723 are female and 7,506 are male. • The largest cohort are in the age group 5-9, 35-39 and 40-44. There is a significant drop in the late teens and 20s age group. • 12,174 (82%) residents are Irish by Nationality, the remainder are from a range of nationalities, ranging in order from UK (8%), Poland, Lithuania and other EU countries / rest of the World. • Just under 10% of the population are non-native English language speakers.
Family Units with Children	• 2,743 families, of which 21% contain adult only children still living with their family. • 18% of families are one parent families - 496 families, • 21% of households (1,117) consist of single people living alone.
Living with a Disability	• 11% of population (1,722) have a disability. • The area has 663 registered carers.
Unemployment Rate:	• Male 5%, female 4%
Age Dependency Ratio	• 63%
Commute to School / Work	• 3,398 (36%) - under 15 minutes • 3,234 (34%) - over 30 minutes

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[10] https://maps.pobal.ie/: POBAL, CSO-Settlement Kinsale 2016 Census, Publications: Frank Crowley PhD, MA, BA, Economic Lecturer (University College Cork)

Areas and Population

Electoral Division	Small Area Index	Population
Ballinadee	47015001	241
Ballinadee	47015002	290
Ballinspittle	47018001	286
Ballinspittle	47018002	184
Ballinspittle	47018003	189
Ballyfeard	47025001	374
Ballyfoyle	47026001	362
Ballymackean	47031001	198
Ballymackean	47031002	175
Ballymartle	47032001	338
Ballymartle	47032003	260
Ballymartle	47032004	345
Cullen	47120001	281
Cullen	47120002	214
Farranbrien	47150001	310
Farranbrien	47150002	230
Kilmonoge	47210001	377
Kilmonoge	47210002	263
Kilmonoge	47210003	248
Kilmonoge	47210004	441
Kilpatrick	47215001	263
Kinsale Rural	47221001	311
Kinsale Rural	47221002	228
Kinsale Rural	47221003	276
Kinsale Rural	47221004	179
Kinsale Rural	47221005	175
Kinsale Rural	47221007	222
Kinsale Rural	47221008	211
Kinsale Rural	47221009	144
Kinsale Rural	47221010	239

| Electoral Division	Small Area Index	Population
Kinsale Rural	47221011	218
Kinsale Rural	47221012	239
Kinsale Rural	47221013	434
Kinsale Rural	47221014	349
Kinsale Rural	47221015	191
Kinsale Rural	47221016	406
Kinsale Rural	47221017	297
Kinsale Rural	47221018	234
Kinsale Rural	47221019	309
Kinsale Rural	47221020	251
Kinsale Urban	47222001	309
Kinsale Urban	47222002	252
Kinsale Urban	47222003	159
Kinsale Urban	47222004	170
Kinsale Urban	47222005	232
Kinsale Urban	47222006	284
Kinsale Urban	47222007	196
Kinsale Urban	47222008	165
Kinsale Urban	47222009	195
Kinsale Urban	47222010	199
Kinsale Urban	47222011	75
Kinsale Urban	47222012	181
Kinure	47223001	356
Laherne	47234001	229
Laherne	47234002	347
Leighmoney	47236001	394
Leighmoney	47236002	388
Nohaval	47269001	316
TOTAL		**15229**

7.2 Affiliations

Community Affiliations of Participants	
The area has many active groups that need to be mapped and connected as outlined in our Big Idea.	
Age Friendly Kinsale	
Ballindee Community Hall https://www.facebook.com/2016hall/	
Clontead Parish Life Team	
Courcey's Integrated Rural Development Association	
Future Kinsale http://www.futurekinsale.ie/	
Heritage Group, St Catherine's Cultural Centre https://www.sccc.ie/	
Kinsale Athletic Football Club https://www.kinsaleafc.net/	
Kinsale History Society	
Kinsale Youth Café https://www.facebook.com/kinsaleyouthcommunitycafe	

Lusitania Museum Old head Signal Tower Heritage https://www.oldheadofkinsale.com/	
Kinsale Men's Shed https://www.facebook.com/kinsalemensshed/	
Kinsale Scouts	
Kinsale Tidy Towns https://www.kinsaletidytowns.ie	
Plastic Free Kinsale https://www.plasticfreekinsale.com/	
Tracton Arts and Community Centre https://www.tracton.org/	
Transition Town Kinsale http://www.transitiontownkinsale.org	

My Town, My Plan
SECAD Initiative (South East Cork Area Development)
Kinsale and Hinterland
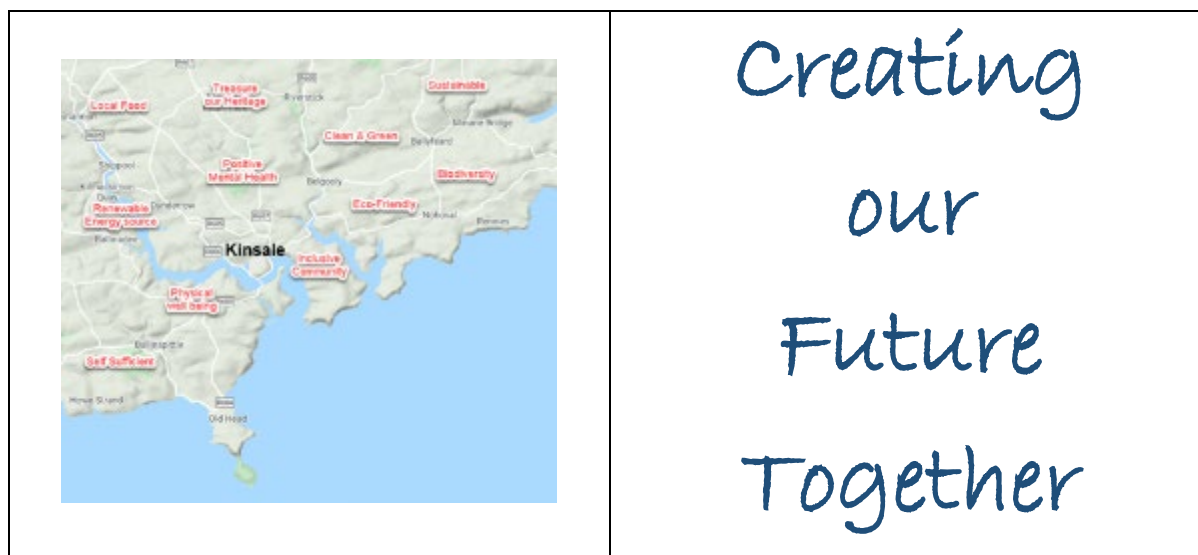
As part of the Government's development strategy for West Cork, SECAD has invited our local communities, including all the clubs, societies, community groups and associations, to come together, **to create a collective vision for our area** and to then plan for 2030 and beyond, while addressing current and future challenges.

Have your voice heard to ensure that Kinsale and hinterland will be known as a leading, caring, inclusive, eco-friendly, sustainable and resilient region where people will want, and can afford, to live and work.

Listed below are some priorities for consideration arising from preliminary open meetings facilitated by SECAD. In order to **extend the dialogue** that has started it would be helpful if you, as an individual, or group, rank these priorities, and add to this list. This is the early stage of a consultation process prior to an open community event to be held in 2020.

Míle Buíochas / With thanks
The My Town, My Plan Team
By the community for the community

Priorities to date – Please number 1-8

Investigate the formation of a local voluntary representative Partnership - creating open communication and consultation so that everyone has a voice - and acting as a liaison between the many organisations with common pursuits and objectives in our community.

☐

Support the physical and mental wellbeing of all.

☐

Explore how and where we will live in our communities.

☐

Local food production and new and more sustainable local agricultural enterprises

☐

Promote local biodiversity

☐

Improved transport infrastructure and access for all. Connect the hinterland communities - development of the Kinsale Greenway and Kinsale Blueway

☐

Renewable energy options

☐

Action to mitigate the effects of climate change in our area

☐

☐

☐

Further suggestions:

_____

_____

_____

7.4 Blueway-Greenway for Area: Initial Scoping for Walkways and Cycleways

We propose that Cork be the first county to open a complete coastal trail along its 1100 km of coastline: starting here!

- Development of a Coastal Walk Route from James Fort / Dock to Sandycove and on to Garretstown / Old Head in cooperation with landowners as was used for the Seven Heads and Sheep's Head ways. This would join up with Garrylucas to Garretstown Walk already in place.
- Charles Fort to James Fort is currently a well walked route.
- Charles Fort to Preghane Point, Hangman's Point and onto Ballymacus Strand and Ferry Point at Rathmore with landowner's co-operation. There is a heritage site (Wedge Tomb) at Ballymacus, known as The Prince's Bed.
- Extend Charles Fort / Preghane eastward toward Oysterhaven, Novohal Cove and Robert's Cove via an extension of the Belgooly estuary walkway to the town of Kinsale. Originally funded by West Cork Leader and the local community, the extension would enhance the 1.836 km corridor on the R600, which is home to a diverse ecological system and natural bird reserve.
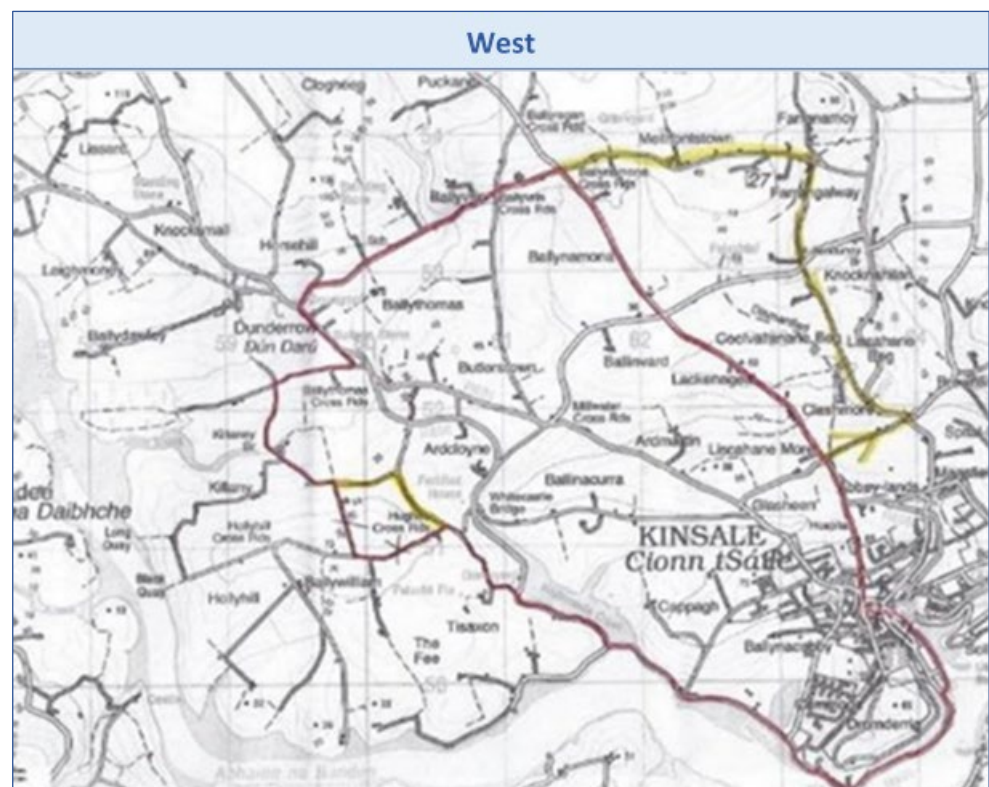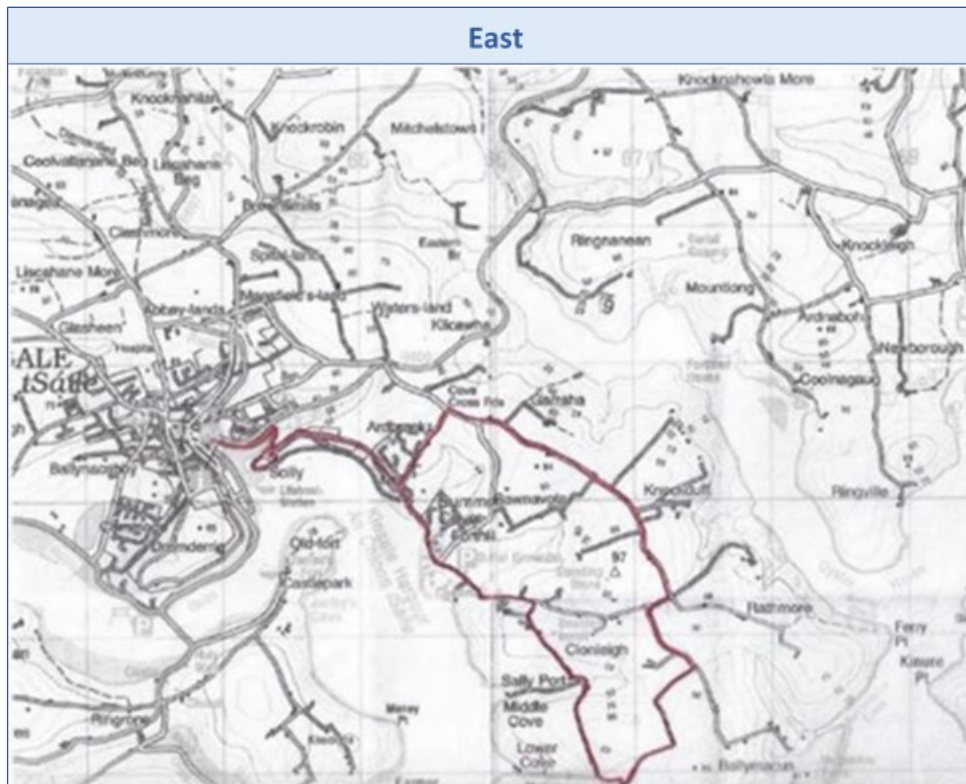
Walks adjacent to Bandon river e.g. at Shippool Castle, Shippool Wood and Dunderrow Forest. There is also the potential of a looped walk south of Dunderrow in the Ballywilliam area if it could be linked upstream at the Old Bridge, subject to co-operation of landowners. These would complement the walkways, which have already been earmarked along former railway lines in the area.

Connection points at

- Tracton Community & Arts Centre
- Belgooly Parish Hall
- Lusitania Tower
- Kinsale - Charles Fort / KAFC - town centre - possibilities at Commoge Marsh

Potential cycle routes are marked in red below with alternate options marked in yellow. There is also the potential of a Cycle route around the Battle of Kinsale sites.

East

West

North

South