

Partnership in
Practice

Waterford City
Traveller
Integrated Plan
(2009-2012)

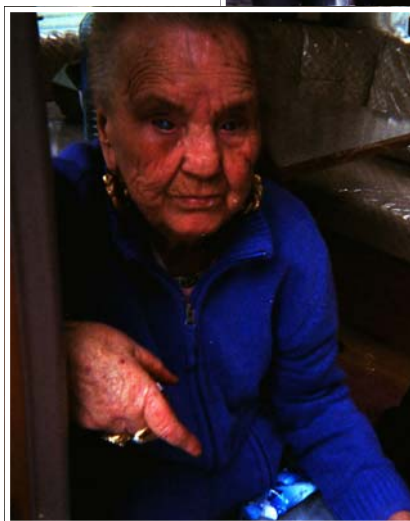


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Acknowledgements

Traveller Inter Agency Group members

Sub-Group members

Jason, Gary, Jerry, Alison, Mary, Sylvia and Shannon – young people who participated in the consultation process

Margaret and her family (Kilbarry)

Waterford Travellers' CDP

Niamh Walsh (Visiting Teacher for Travellers)

Súbla – the gang and Mark and Stephen

St. Paul's Community College

Presentation Secondary School

Introduction

Partnership Framework: From Strategy to Reality

This document is the outcome of a significant amount of review and consultation carried out by the Traveller Inter Agency Group in order to attempt to develop a strategy which could realistically respond to the myriad and complex needs of the Traveller community in Waterford City.

Participants agreed the following:

- Participants would have **real** conversations;
- Issues would be contextualised (i.e., facilitators would seek reasons for comments and challenges etc.);
- Participants would be realistic in their appraisals and would attempt to have realistic conversations clearly related to reasonable expectations of what could be achieved;
- Participants would be honest in their appraisals of actions and barriers.
- It is within the context of this partnership framework that the vision and guiding principles underpinning this strategy were developed and that consensus was reached around the broad aims, specific objectives and delivery focused actions which are contained in this document.

Implementation Timeframe and Proposed Outcomes

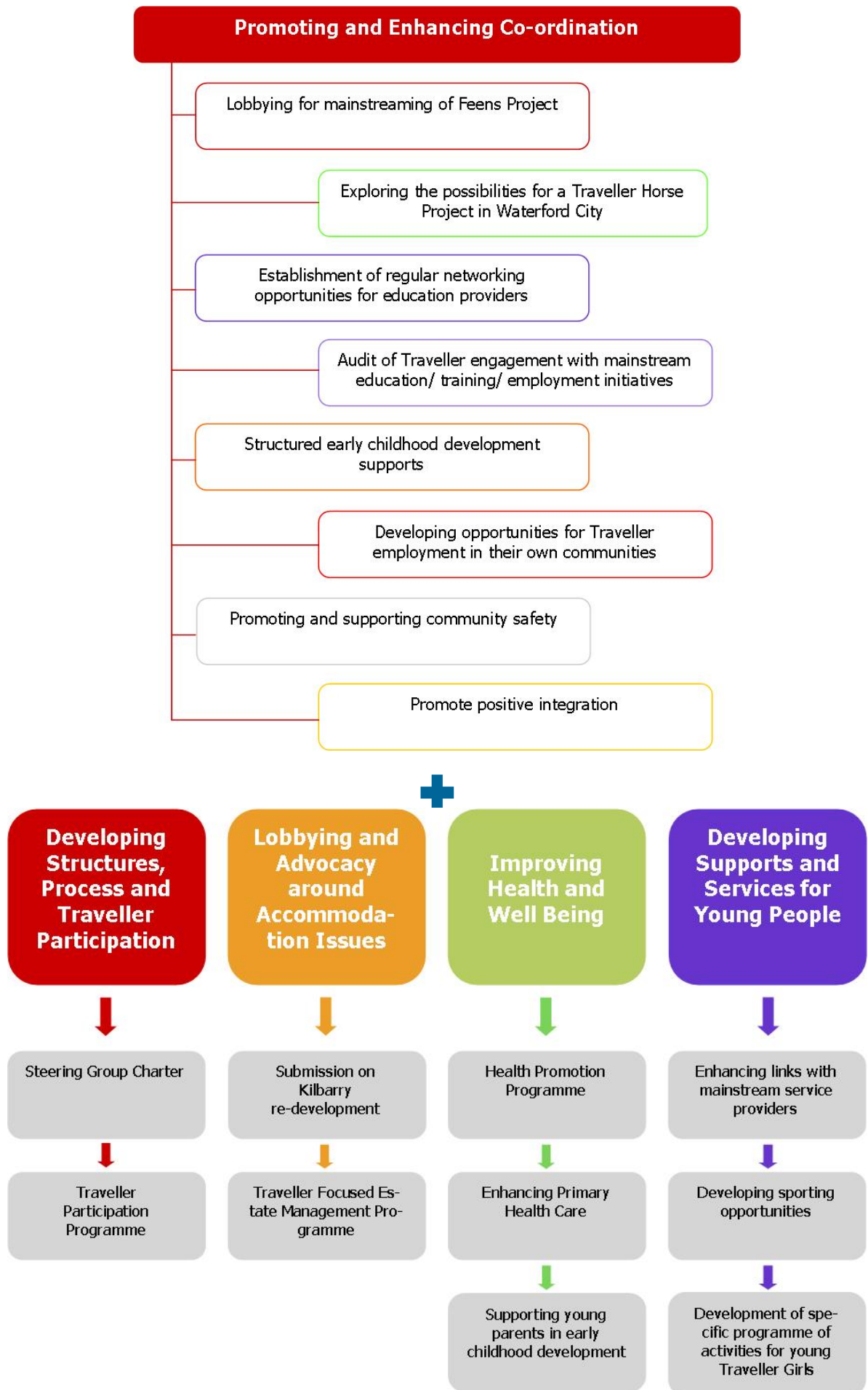
The implementation timeframes developed for the delivery of the specific objectives and actions outlined in this document have been designed to maintain the momentum established within the planning process. In essence, they are dependent upon the adoption of leadership and responsibility roles by all stakeholders in the interagency process. They are considered achievable within the significantly limited resource environment into which this strategy is emerging. None of the proposed deliverables within this strategy provide an easy solution, or quick fix, to the issues which they try to address. Rather, they provide opportunities for moving forward, for taking a series of steps which, when combined, should have a significant impact upon the quality of life of the Traveller community in Waterford City. The proposed outcomes put forward within this document should provide a baseline for the establishment of the successes and challenges faced in the development of this plan.

Embedding *Partnership in Practice*

The outcomes envisaged as a result of the implementation of this plan will require individual, community and corporate *buy-in*. This is the key challenge in the implementation of any strategy, that the stakeholders champion both the process and the actions and work together to realise the shared vision which this plan describes. Over the past number of years, relationships both within the Traveller community and between the community and statutory agencies and government departments have suffered as a result of what could be considered to be external factors over which key players within the Traveller Inter-Agency Group can have no control, or even, in some cases, influence.

Thus, attempting to address issues has become increasingly complex and challenging. Clearly, no one agency, individual, organisation or representative can solve all – or any – of the issues named within this document. While it may seem simplistic to attempt to develop a shared vision, and to move from there into actions built on the guiding principles developed for this plan, clearly, in attempting to do so,

the participants in the process so far have taken significant steps in practicing a partnership model which should, if managed well, facilitate improvements and real and meaningful engagement around the issues.



Action Area 1: Activities to Promote and Enhance Co-Ordination

These actions emerged as significant and requiring additional exploration within the context of the ongoing work of the Traveller Inter Agency Group (TIG) in their pursuit of initiatives that enhance co-ordination of services.

Objective 1 Enhance opportunities for the co-ordination of services which are responsive to the needs of the Traveller community in Waterford City

Action 1 Lobby and advocate for the mainstreaming of the Feens Project

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Traveller Inter Agency Group	All members of TIG		TIG

Action 2 Explore the possibilities for the development of a Traveller Horse Project

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford Area Partnership Board	Traveller Youth Project Feens Project Waterford Traveller CDP Men's Development Network City of Waterford VEC FÁS HSE DSFA	Already existing resources	TIG

Action 3 Establishment of regular networking opportunities between organisations engaged in the delivery of education (formal and informal) services to the Traveller community in Waterford City

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Department of Education & Science – Visiting Teacher for Travellers Service	Waterford City Childcare Committee Waterford City VEC City of Waterford VEC Primary & Secondary school reps NEWB St Brigids FRC WAP Pathways WSCP WTCDP WYTEC		TIG

Action 4 Audit of Traveller engagement with mainstream community facilities/ education/ training/ employment initiatives in Waterford City

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford City Council – Community & Enterprise Department	WCCF City of Waterford VEC FÁS WAP	Community & Enterprise staff time	TIG

Action 5 Development of structured early childhood developmental supports for Traveller families in Waterford City

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
St Brigid's Family Resource Centre/ Waterford City Childcare Committee	Waterford City Childcare Committee WTCDP		TIG

Action 6 Promoting the development of opportunities for employment of Travellers in pre-school/ playgroup provision within their own communities and in the mainstream childcare sector

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford City Childcare Committee	City of Waterford VEC FÁS		TIG

Action 7 Promoting and supporting community safety

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
TIG	All members of TIG		TIG

Action 8 Promoting positive integration

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
TIG	All members of TIG		TIG

Action Area 2: Structures, Processes and Participation

Objective 2 Establish an Traveller Inter Agency Group Charter

Action 1 Put in place a specific sub-group to develop and agree a charter that clearly identifies the membership of the group, purpose of the group, its processes for selection of chair, structure, scheduling, format and minuting of meetings and lays out specific roles, responsibilities, expectations and code of conduct for membership

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford City Council – Community & Enterprise Department	<i>Pro Tem</i> Chair Waterford City Council Waterford Travellers CDP Visiting Teacher for Travellers Traveller PHN	Community & Enterprise staff member to convene and facilitate the working group Venue for group to meet	<i>Pro Tem</i> Traveller Inter Agency Group

Action 2 Put in place a process (within the TIG sessions) which will facilitate information sharing on specific, Traveller focused work amongst steering group member organisations which will facilitate the prioritisation of areas within their own specific work programmes or resources which assist the delivery of the various objectives of the plan.

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
<i>Pro Tem</i> Chair	Waterford City Council – Community & Enterprise Department TIG Members	Already existing steering group support resources	<i>Pro Tem</i> TIG (and permanent TIG once finalised)

Objective 3 Provide support for the enhancement of Traveller Participation on the Traveller Inter-Agency Group

Action 1 Design, develop and deliver a specific Traveller Participation support programme which provides ongoing leadership support to Traveller representatives on the Traveller Inter Agency Group

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford Traveller CDP	DSFA FÁS St Brigid's FRC WAP	Budget for delivery of support programme (DSFA Family Support Programme and Activation Programme/ FÁS CE Scheme)	Quarterly Report to Steering Group

Action Area 3: Accommodation

Objective 4 Lobby and advocate in relation to Traveller specific accommodation issues in Waterford City

Action 1 Develop a formal submission to Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government on the issues relating to the proposed redevelopment of Kilbarry Halting Site

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Chair of TIG Waterford Travellers CDP	Waterford City Council St Brigid's FRC	Sub Group to develop submission – facilitated by Chair of TIG	TIG

Action 2 Establish a formal information sharing process for Traveller Inter-Agency Group through the presentation of a regular implementation report on the Waterford City Traveller Accommodation Plan

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford City Council – Housing Section	Traveller Community reps	Within context of TIG Agenda	Chair of TIG

Objective 5 Put in place a Traveller accommodation focused Estate Management Programme

Action 1 Establish a Waterford City Traveller Accommodation Estate Management Programme

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford City Council – Housing Section	Waterford Traveller CDP Traveller Community reps FÁS	Sub-group to develop submission for Community Employment Scheme Support for Traveller participation (linked to Objective 2, Action 1 – Structures, Processes and Participation)	TIG

Action Area 4: Health and Well-Being

Objective 6 Establish a structured, tailored health promotion programme for the Traveller community in Waterford city – to include specific predevelopment supports, information and awareness modules around mental health (men and women), men’s health, addictions and domestic violence

Action 1 Develop health promotion programme

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Health Services Executive	Waterford Traveller CDP City of Waterford VEC Feens Project Traveller Youth Project	Sub-group to develop programme	TIG

Action 2 Implement health promotion programme

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Health Services Executive – Health Promotion/ Traveller Health Unit	Traveller community reps Waterford Travellers CDP City of Waterford VEC Feens Project	Resources to support implementation – including staff time, community facilitators (graduates of Primary Health Care Training and JETS Programme) etc.,	TIG

Objective 7 Review and evaluate the current situation with regard to the Primary Health Care Programme

Action 1 Meet with relevant agencies to receive formal feedback on situation in relation to *ring fenced monies*

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
TIG Chair	Health Services Executive FÁS Waterford Travellers CDP	From already existing resources	TIG

Action 2 Present formal report on current situation

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
TIG Chair	Health Services Executive FÁS Waterford Travellers CDP	From already existing resources	TIG

Objective 8 Support young parents in enhancing early childhood development

Action 1 Establish a mother and toddler group for young Travellers in Waterford city

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Traveller Youth Project	Health Services Executive Waterford City Childcare Committee Waterford Travellers CDP City of Waterford VEC	Resources for: Venue Equipment Facilitator	TIG

Action Area 5: Young People

Objective 9 Enhance opportunities and encourage young Travellers to become more involved in existing youth services across the city

Action 1 Develop and enhance already existing links between Traveller Youth Project and other youth service providers in the city – including youth drama and arts groups

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Traveller Youth Project	Already existing youth service and support providers	Already existing resources	TIG

Action 2 Engage Waterford Sports Partnership in the development of enhanced opportunities for young Travellers to engage with already existing sports groups in Waterford city

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Waterford City Council – Community & Enterprise Department	Traveller Youth Project City of Waterford VEC Waterford City VEC Feens Project	Already existing resources	TIG

Objective 10 Enhance the development of Traveller focused youth services and supports

Action 1 Development of a specific programme of activities for young Traveller girls (under 16)

Lead Agency	Key Stakeholders	Resources Required	Monitoring
Traveller Youth Project	City of Waterford VEC Waterford Traveller CDP	Already existing resources	TIG

Objective	Action	Timeframe			Proposed Outcomes	Monitoring	Lead Agency
		Start Date	Completion Date	Review Period			
1	1	May 2009	December 2009	September 2009	Feens Project mainstreamed		TIG
	2	September 2009	June 2010		Proposal re Traveller Horse Project submitted to TIG	TIG	WAP
	3	September 2009	Ongoing		Education Network established		Visiting Teacher for Travellers
	4				Audit of Traveller engagement completed		Waterford City Council – C&E Dept
	5				Early childhood development supports in place		St Brigid’s FRC
	6				Travellers employed in preschools/ playgroups		Waterford City Childcare Committee
	7				Community safety supported and promoted		TIG
	8				Opportunities for positive integration identified		TIG
	2	1	May 2009	July 2009	Completed	Charter in place	TIG
2		July 2009	March 2012		Information sharing standing order	TIG	TIG Chair
3	1	May 2009		Quarterly	Support Programme implemented Consistent and ongoing Traveller participation in Steering Group	Quarterly report to TIG	WTCDP
4	1	October 2009			Submission agreed and forwarded to DoEHLG	TIG	TIG Chair WTCDP
5	1	September 2009	March 2012		Estate Management Programme established Improved engagement between residents and local authority	TIG	Waterford City Council – Housing Section
6	1	January 2010			Health Promotion Programme developed	TIG	HSE
	2	March 2010	June 2010		Health Promotion Programme implemented once each year	TIG	HSE – HPU/ THU

Objective	Action	Timeframe			Proposed Outcomes	Monitoring	Lead Agency
		Start Date	Completion Date	Review Period			
7	1	September 2009			Formal report on current situation agreed and discussions complete	TIG	TIG Chair
	2	January 2010			Formal report on current situation agreed and discussions complete	TIG	TIG Chair
8	1	June 2009	March 2012		Mother & Toddler Group established and ongoing	TIG	Traveller Youth Project
9	1	June 2009	March 2012		Links enhanced	TIG	Traveller Youth Project
	2	September 2009	March 2012		Relations established with Waterford Sports Partnership Increased participation by Travellers in mainstream sporting activities Enhanced Traveller specific sports opportunities	TIG	Waterford City Council – C&E Dept
10	1	June 2009	September 2009		Programme developed Traveller girls engaged	TIG	Traveller Youth Project