



LOCAL COMMUNITY  
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

PPN Plenary – 29<sup>th</sup> November

Trish Carmody

Community Safety Co-ordinator



# Community Safety: The Policy Context

Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland (2018)	Community Safety Policy (2021)	Local Community Safety Partnership pilots (2021-2024)	Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024
<p>Community safety is not solely the responsibility of the An Garda Síochána and requires <b>multiagency cooperation</b> and policing being done in <b>partnership with communities</b></p>	<p>Community safety is the concept of people <b>being safe</b> and <b>feeling safe</b>.</p> <p>Improving community safety needs a <b>multi-sectoral approach</b>, strong inter-agency <b>collaboration</b> and <b>proactive dialogue</b> with the community</p>	<p>Dublin North Inner City, Longford and Waterford</p> <p>Independently evaluated</p> <p>Responsive to <b>local</b> needs</p> <p>Developed tailored <b>local community safety plans</b></p>	<p>Commenced 2 April 2025</p> <p>Statutory obligation to have regard to <b>harm prevention</b> and <b>cooperate with each other</b> to deliver safer communities</p> <p>Establishes infrastructure to support community safety</p>

- 36 Local Community Safety Partnerships will be established
- Operations governed by Regulations (SI 279/2025) and Guidance provided by the National Office for Community Safety
- Hosted by local authorities and not a sub structure of the LA. Will report directly to National office.
- LCSP is being facilitated by two WCC staff – Coordinator (Trish) and an Administrator (Lorraine).
- Collective responsibility - do not 'belong' to any one group or agency
- Min 6 meetings per year; a minimum of one public; and one closed for elected representatives from the area
- Statutory responsibilities include to develop and implement a three year local community safety plan

# THE 9 GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR LCSP'S

**1. A Whole-of-Government Approach**

**2. Collaboration and Partnership**

**3. Harm Prevention**

**4. Targeted Support for Disadvantaged Communities**

**5. A Participative Approach**

**6. Social Inclusion**

**7. Accountability**

**8. Evidence Based Approach**

**9. Respect/Recognition of Experience and Contribution of All Members**

# OBJECTIVES OF THE LCSP'S

- Prioritise community identified safety concerns

- Improve multi-agency responses to safety issues

- Increase public confidence in service providers

- Provide a forum for open discussion on community safety

- Conduct public consultations to gather community input

- Develop and implement a 3 year Community Safety Plan for Co. Wicklow

- Monitor progress & ensure the actions of the Safety Plan are carried out

- Coordinate early intervention and prevention initiatives to reduce harmful behaviour

# Community Safety Infrastructure

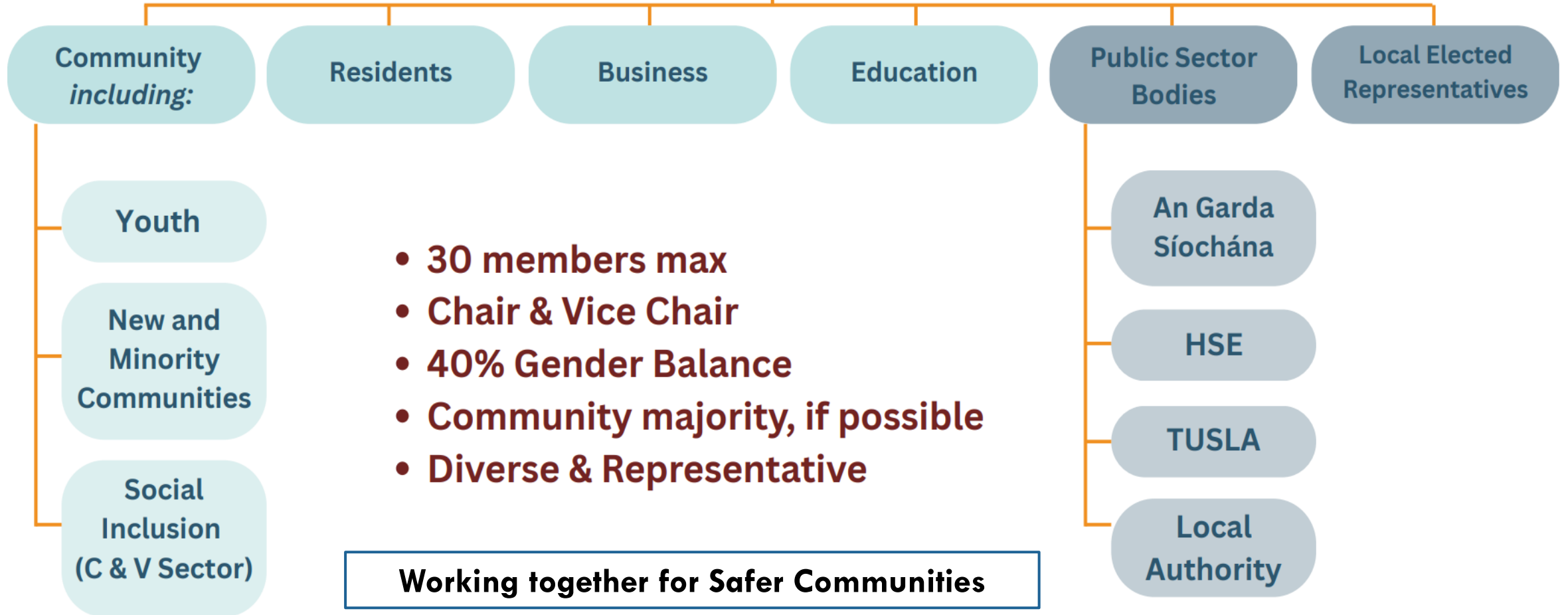


**Wicklow**

LOCAL COMMUNITY  
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP



# LCSP Membership



## Prescribed Members

<b>Cllr Pat Kennedy</b>	Arklow MD
<b>Cllr Avril Cronin</b>	Baltinglass MD
<b>Cllr Jason Mulhall</b>	Baltinglass MD
<b>Cllr Joe Behan</b>	Bray West MD
<b>Cllr Ned Whelan</b>	Bray East MD
<b>Cllr Tom Fortune</b>	Greystones MD
<b>Cllr Paul O'Brien</b>	Wicklow MD
<b>Michael Nicholson</b>	Wicklow County Council
<b>Berni Symth</b>	Tusla
<b>Lisa Robson</b>	HSE
<b>Superintendent John Fitzgerald</b>	An Garda Síochána
<b>Superintendent Rory Sheriff</b>	An Garda Síochána

**Wicklow LCSP – 26 Nominees sent  
to the Minister for Appointment**

## Non prescribed Members

<b>Anne-Maire McMorrow</b>	Bray Women's Refuge
<b>Aoibhinn McCloy</b>	Wicklow Travellers Group
<b>Ciara Perks</b>	PPN Wicklow MD
<b>Clare O'Connor</b>	PPN Bray MD
<b>Fintan Fanning</b>	Discretionary - Community Rep
<b>Fiona Creedon</b>	KWETB
<b>Fionnuala Curry</b>	CYPSC
<b>Mai Quaid</b>	Older People's Council
<b>Peter Nolan</b>	PPN Baltinglass MD
<b>Ruth Donnelly</b>	Chamber of Commerce
<b>Selena McKenzie</b>	IFA
<b>Sharon Carey</b>	Muintir Na Tíre
<b>Stephen Kearon</b>	PPN Arklow MD
<b>Yvonne O'Neill</b>	PPN Greystones MD
<b>Reserved</b>	Local Development Company - CWP
<b>Reserved</b>	Young Person

**2 Seats Reserved – 2 to be filled**

# Community Safety – an ongoing journey



# Pilot Schemes and Plans



# LCSP PILOTS

Three LCSP pilot programmes commenced in 2021, in Waterford, Longford and Dublin North Inner City

Each drafted a Community Safety Plan – all of which are available to view online.

An independent evaluation of the pilot schemes was carried out by the University of Limerick and The Centre for Effective Services (CES) in 2024.

The findings from the evaluation informed the national rollout and implementation of the LCSP model.

The evaluation concluded that the LCSP model fits well with the Government's vision for building stronger and safer communities and community safety as a whole of Government responsibility with the community voice/involvement as a core feature.

# THE CHAIRPERSON



**Learnings from the independent evaluation of the Safety Partnership pilots informs us that the role of the Chairperson, is central to the Partnership and that it is a significant high level volunteering role.**

**The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be elected from within the committee**

**They will lead the work of the Local Community Safety Partnership and the Community Safety Coordinator and administrator**

**Will drive forward the development and implementation of the community safety plan.**

**Will be responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of the Safety Partnership on all aspects of its role.**

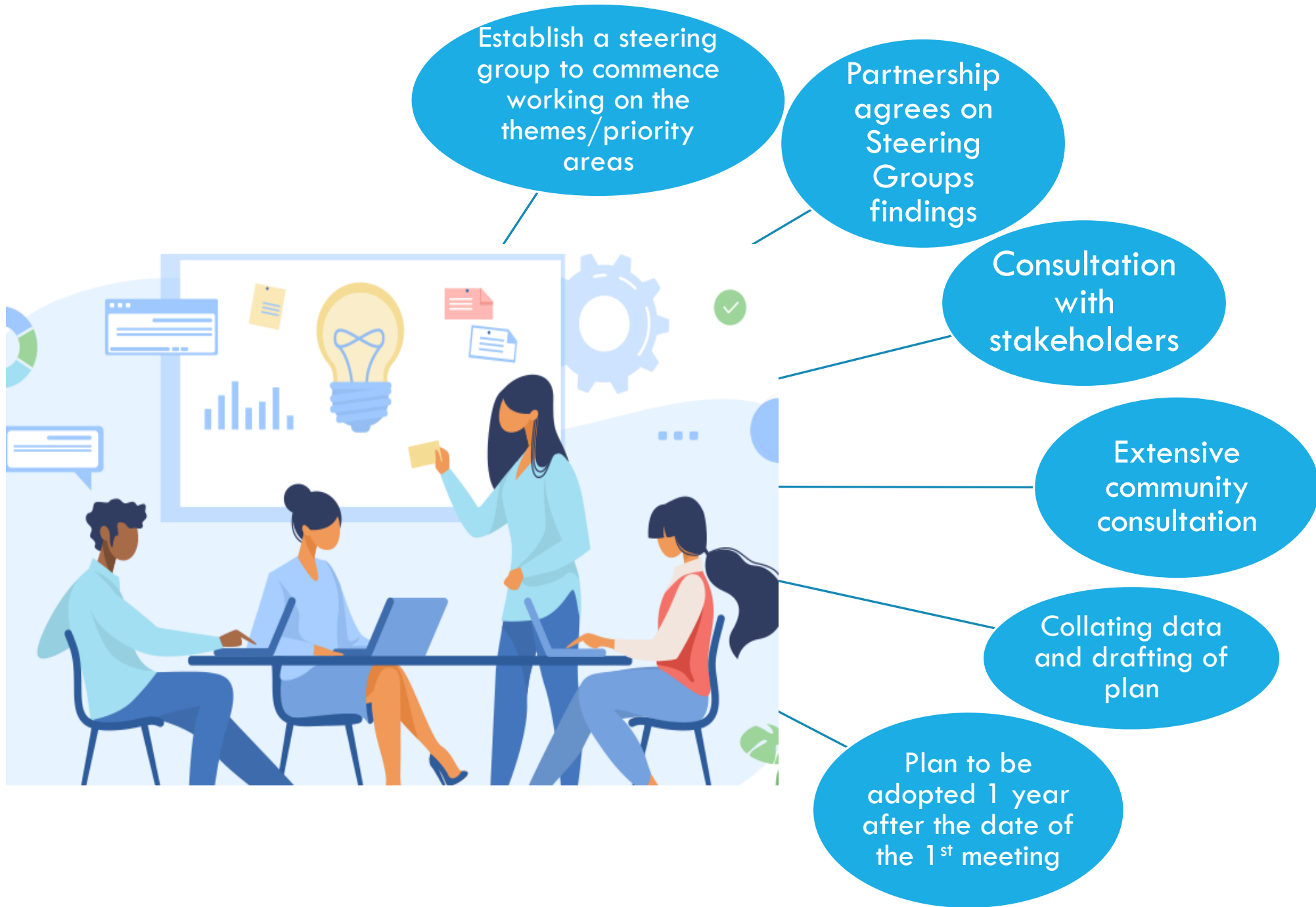


**Wicklow**

LOCAL COMMUNITY  
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP



# LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2026 – 2029



# Waterford

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION BY THE NUMBERS

**12** On-street pop-ups consultation sessions were held across the County in Cappoquin, Dungarvan, Kilmacthomas, Portlaw, Waterford City, Greenway, Tramore, and Dunmore East.



**560+** Online surveys

**80+** Paper surveys

**60+** Focus groups participants across 8 focus groups

**11,000+** people reached through social media campaign

## SURVEY RESPONDENTS (640+ Total)

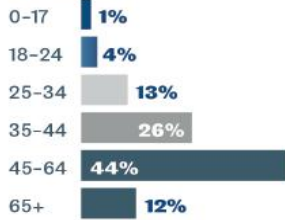
GENDER  
**67%** Female

**31%** Male

**2%** Nonbinary/  
Gender non-conforming



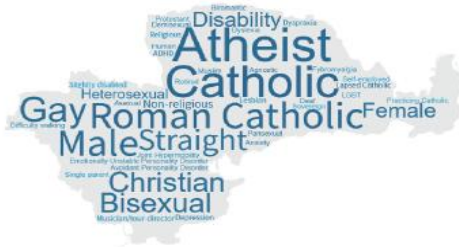
### AGE RANGE



### PRIMARY RELATIONSHIP TO WATERFORD



### SOME OF THE WAYS SURVEY PARTICIPANTS CHOOSE TO SELF IDENTIFY



The public consultation period took place from February 20th – March 21st 2022.

The public consultation consisted of:

- Online survey/questionnaire
- Facilitated focus groups (offline)
- Open Public Meetings in each Municipal district area

There were 335 responses in total to the online survey which include 296 individual responses and 39 responses from community groups/organisations/ businesses.

Facilitated sessions were held with 12 groups including:

Longford Comhairle na Nóg; Active Age Groups, Public Participation Network (workshop at each MD Plenary meeting), Roma Girls Youth Group, Direct Provision Centre, Open public meetings in Longford and Edgeworthstown Libraries( Longford & Ballymahon MD) and Moyne Latin School Community Centre (Granard MD) and Mens Sheds groups.

These garnered feedback from an additional 208 individuals.

# Longford

# LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

*“The community safety plan would be the bones of a thousand pages if we choose to look at every single issue that’s to be addressed under the term ‘safety’. So, I think we have to be focussed. And... [they] have to be achievable, realistic goals that we set”*

# PRIORITY AREAS

## AWARE & KNOWLEDGEABLE

1.1

To establish consistent communication methods to disseminate safety information

1.2

To improve public knowledge of safety resources

1.3

To increase risk awareness around substance misuse

1.4

To strengthen relationships between the community and statutory bodies

1.5

To promote and facilitate knowledge and skills

## PROTECTED & RESPECTED

2.1

To prevent and address harmful behaviour

2.2

To address root causes youth involvement in crime, anti-social and self-harm behaviour

2.3

To support those who have been victims of crime or harmful behaviour

2.4

To increase visible Garda presence

2.5

To improve response times to safety reports

## SUPPORTED & INVOLVED

3.1

To increase awareness of and access to community supports and services

3.2

To improve social integration and cohesion, especially for new communities

3.3

To increase the participation of the community in community safety efforts

3.4

To increase education, training and work opportunities for youth

## SAFE & SECURE

4.1

To facilitate active and passive surveillance of public areas

4.2

To improve road safety

4.3

To enhance the safety of public realm for all users across the County

4.4

To ensure adequate lighting in public areas

4.5

To decrease anti-social activities (such as fly-tipping and vandalism)

## OUTCOME 1: AWARE AND KNOWLEDGABLE

Priority Area	Actions	Lead agency
<b>1.1 Establish consistent communication methods to disseminate safety information</b>	Enhance public awareness of reporting public lighting issues. Investigate potential create App irt vacant homes.	<b>WLCSP</b>
	Support and Strengthen Community Alert	<b>AGS</b>
	Further develop the Waterford Local Community Safety Partnership website and social media platforms to promote safety awareness, information, advice and support in the County.	<b>N/A</b>
	Investigate the introduction of an An Garda Síochána text alert scheme or similar	<b>WLCSP/AGS</b>
	Commitment, as part of an intelligence led approach to policing and informed deployment, to the promotion of mechanisms to open two way channels of communication e.g. Garda Text Alert.	<b>Waterford Age Friendly Alliance/AGS</b>

## OUTCOME 4: SAFE & SECURE

Priority Area	Actions	Lead Agency
<b>4.1 Facilitate active and passive surveillance of public areas</b>	Review the legal operating context for deployment of cctv to address litigation concerns by local authorities and AGS	<b>DoJ/AGS</b>
	Interagency consultation to take place regarding the need for, and location of public realm CCTV	<b>Waterford Age Friendly Alliance/WLCSP</b>
	Investigate & Review potential for enhanced lighting and CCTV deployment across the City & County	<b>NTA/DoJ</b>



**Wicklow**

LOCAL COMMUNITY  
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

- **No operational funding for LCSP's announced yet by the Dept. However, an SLA is being agreed under budget 2026.**
- **We requested a €25,000 budget for 2026 from WCC to fund stakeholder and public consultations, advertising, possible facilitator etc which was approved at the WCC budget meeting on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov.**
- **LCSP to leverage other funding within LA's (Sláintecare, Healthy Ireland, Sports Partnership, SICAP, LEADER, dormant account fund etc)**
- **Also, leverage funding schemes within the HSE, TUSLA and AGS**
- **National office has made €10,000 available to each LCSP for start up costs i.e. printing of promotional materials, room hire, refreshments etc**
- **Dept of Justice is funding the salaries, travel and subsistence of Co-Ordinator and Administrator, which will be drawn down in two tranches each year.**
- **Main scheme will be Community Safety Fund**



# About the Community Safety Fund

The Community Safety Fund is an annual grant fund which allows for the proceeds of crime, seized by the Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB) and An Garda Síochána, to be directed back into communities, in order to fund innovative local projects aimed at building stronger, safer communities.

**2025 scheme** - €4.4 million was made available, with grants in the range of €20,000 - €150,000 - 42 successful applicants

## **Application criteria:**

- Once-off initiatives or short to medium term projects with a maximum duration of two years.
- Salaries allowable as part of a wider proposal
- Applications for capital funding costs; e.g. high value items (vehicles, fixed assets) and infrastructure/building schemes can be considered

**Note:** CCTV is not eligible. Vehicles will be funded only if it is an integral component of an application

Fund is administered by the National Office

Proposed overhaul in line with the National Strategy being developed in 2026, with new scheme possibly available in 2027.

The recommendation is that the focus should be on applications from LCSP's but individual organisations will still be able to apply.

# Applications made by the Pilot LCSP's:-

Waterford Local Community Safety Partnership (WLCSP)	Waterford Traveller Community Safety Educational Project	Waterford	<b>2025</b>	€132,183
--	--	-----------	-------------	----------

## 2024

Dublin North Inner City Community Safety Partnership (this application is being made by a consortium, comprising of DCC, Dublin Town, LCSP and Ana Liffey Drug Project, LCSP are the lead partner)	Wolfe Tone Square Local Community Safety Warden Scheme. LCSW scheme.	Dublin	€150,000
--	--	--------	----------

Longford Local Community Safety Partnership	Project Safer Horizons: Changing Perceptions and Empowering Communities in Longford	Longford	€112,057
---	---	----------	----------

Longford Local Community Safety Partnership	Sport for Change: Building Safer Communities in Longford	Longford	€88,673
---	--	----------	---------

Waterford Local Community Safety Partnership	Waterford SafeHubs Pilot	Waterford	€125,700
Waterford Local Community Safety Partnership	Getting Kilcohan back on Track	Waterford	€70,768

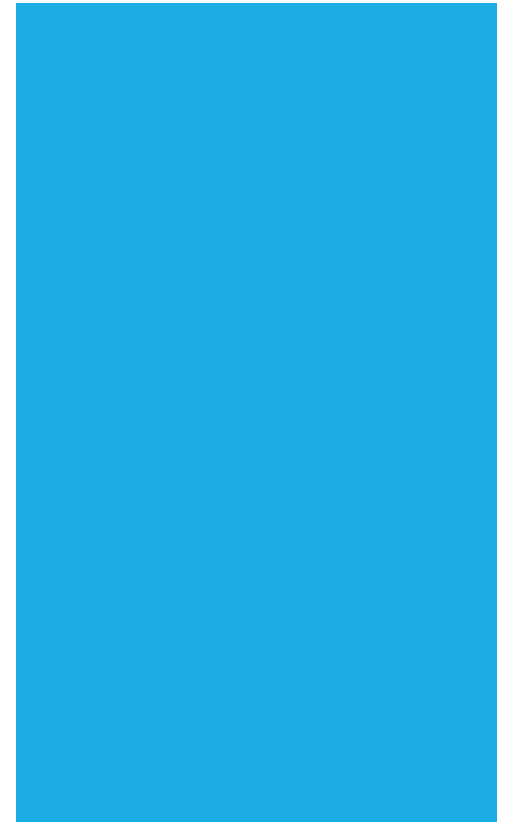
## 2023

Waterford Local Community Safety Partnership	Waterford Community Safety Wardens	Co. Waterford	€150,000
--	------------------------------------	---------------	----------



# National Strategy for Improving Community Safety 2026 - 2030

- Currently being drafted by the National office
- Strategy must be brought before Government by 1st April 2026 - – 1 year from the enactment of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024
- Series of Townhalls being held nationwide to inform the strategy
- Issues paper have been circulated
- The strategy will inform our Community Safety Plan



## **Important Points to Note:**

- 1) LCSP's are not a platform for reporting instances of crime to – still sits with AGS**
- 2) Evidence based discussions – no speculation – i.e. someone said/I heard**
- 3) No discussing individual cases or naming of individuals**
- 4) Non disclosure – agreed on by signing the code of conduct**
- 5) Everyone has an equal voice – ToR outline the time limits on speaking**
- 6) Accountable to National Office – report on work carried out/attendance at meetings etc.**



**Wicklow**



**LOCAL COMMUNITY  
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**