

Kilkenny (IAP) Integrated Area Plan News Update

September 2007

The Kilkenny IAP monitoring Committee

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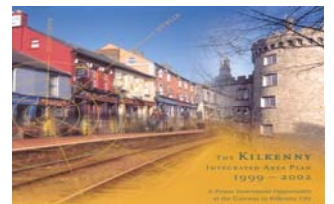
Welcome to the second edition of the Kilkenny IAP news. The objective of this

news letter is to keep the public updated on the progress on the Kilkenny Integrated Area plan.

The Kilkenny Local Authority establish a cross-sectoral Monitoring Committee whose role is now coming to an end. It has been the responsibility of this committee to monitor progress on the implementation of the IAP and to provide guidance on how delays or barriers to implementation can be eliminated. The Monitoring Committee are not responsible for planning issues though adopt an ongoing, pro-active role throughout the period of the IAP. The monitoring Committee consists of **nine** members from various representative sectors.

Yours sincerely,
John McGuinness TD
Minister of State

Trade and Commerce



For further details on the Integrated Area Plan development please refer to the Kilkenny Local Authorities website. *IAP 2006 annual report* www.rapidkilkenny.ie and

Also for further details on recreational amenities and community project developments please refer to the RAPID Kilkenny website.

www.rapidkilkenny.ie

In Brief

Youth Facility,

Kilkenny Local Authorities and the HSE are actively working together towards the development of a state of the art Youth facility located in the McDonagh Station

Community Gain

Please refer to "Community Space" article for an update on Community Gain.

The Role of the IAP Monitoring Committee

The purpose of the Monitoring Committee is to:

○ monitor progress in achieving the objectives of the IAP;

○ establish performance indicators in relation to meeting the objectives of the IAP and against which progress can be measured;

○ identify and deal with problems or barriers which may arise and which are causing delay in the implementation process;

○ address any change in circumstances since the preparation of the IAP; and

○ respond to any unforeseen opportunities



Message from the Chair : John McGuinness Minister of State, Trade and Commerce

During the year we engaged with a number of organisations who expressed a wish to be part of the Community Space project. The final decision regarding the organisations, which will be offered space in the centre, will be taken this year. The Integrated Area Plan Monitoring Committee will continue to ensure that there are tangible benefits for the local community. I look forward to continuing our work with all of the interested parties to achieve that goal. My sincere thanks to past and present

members of the monitoring committee, and the groups and agencies we work with, for their continued co-operation and help.

John McGuinness, TD Minister of State, Trade and Commerce



The IAP Annual Report

The Kilkenny IAP annual report is available on the Kilkenny County Council Website www.kilkennycoco.ie. The I.A.P. monitoring group have been active in promoting the concept of the plan and in working with the local community. The group represents a strong partnership between all of the state agencies, the local authority, community developers and commercial interests.



Update on the Development



The state of the art €250 million development will bring leading Irish and international retailers to the city and will employ over 500 people.

The shopping centre phase of the development will open in late October followed closely by the next phases including the beautifully restored Workhouse Square. Restaurants, performance spaces and leisure

facilities including a bowling alley will also form part of the development, together with high quality apartments and office space. Community space and starter units for small businesses are also being included.

1,100 new car parking spaces will also be provided.

In addition to main tenant Dunnes Stores, retailers will include Barratt Shoes, Carphone Warehouse, Champion Sports, Clarks Shoes, Costa Coffee, Dr & Herb, Fields Jewellers, Health Express, Next, Peter Mark, River Island, The Health Store, 3 Phones,

TK Maxx, Virgin, Mexx, The Bag Shop, Claire's Accessories and Zumo Juice Bar, among others. The overall Estate Managers for MacDonagh Junction are DNG Commercial. The MacDonagh Junction development is in keeping with the Integrated Area Plan for Kilkenny and the City and County Development Plan.

Donie Butler has been appointed as the General manager. Butler commented further: "The future for MacDonagh Junction and Kilkenny is bright. It has already provided employment for 600 workers during construction and this will follow through into 500 long term jobs in the years

I believe everyone can look forward to a fresh new experience when they visit the new city quarter which will have a great mix of amenity, open space and shopping facilities."

MacDonagh Junction will also provide a wider boost for economic activity as consumers come from outlying regions to visit Kilkenny's excellent shopping amenities."

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Members of the IAP monitoring committee on a recent visit to the McDonagh Station

Community Space

Submissions from interested parties in the area regarding the usage of the facility have been received from a number of organisations. A business plan is presently being developed to accommodate the interested groups. As part of the allocated space a youth facility is being developed. This project has received funding

from the Health Service Executive, the RAPID programme and Kilkenny Local Authorities. Michelle Shannon has been recruited as a Project Development manager and will be operating from the Kilkenny Local Authorities County Hall. Michelle's role will be to develop the Youth facility.