



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

Dormant Accounts Fund Action Plan 2024



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accounts fund

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1. Section 1: Introduction and Overview

1.1 Introduction

The 2024 Dormant Accounts Fund Action Plan outlines measures and funding across 11 Departments. It approves funding of €47.6 million which will fund 52 measures across these Departments, in line with the relevant legislation and as detailed below. This Action Plan reflects the funding made available through the estimates process.

The Dormant Accounts Act 2001, together with the Unclaimed Life Assurance Policies Act 2003 and the Dormant Accounts (Amendment) Acts 2005-2012, provide a framework for the administration of unclaimed accounts in credit institutions (i.e. banks, building societies and An Post) and unclaimed life assurance policies in insurance undertakings.

An account in a credit institution is considered dormant when no customer-initiated transactions have taken place for 15 years. Life assurance policies with a specified term are considered dormant 5 years after the end of that term. If attempts to contact account or policy holders are unsuccessful, the money is transferred to the Dormant Accounts Fund (which is managed by the National Treasury Management Agency). However, the ownership rights of account or policy holders, or their heirs, are not affected by the transfer to the Fund and the money can be reclaimed at any time, along with interest.

The main purpose of the legislation is to put in place the necessary legal structures to transfer dormant accounts or policies into the Dormant Accounts Fund and to allow for the account or policy holders or their representatives to claim this money at a later date. However, the legislation also introduced a scheme which would allow money in the Dormant Accounts Fund to be used by Government to fund programmes or projects which would assist:

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

The legislation dictates that Government may only use Dormant Accounts funding for the above purposes.

To administer this funding process the legislation governing Dormant Accounts also established an administrative framework, overseen by a single Minister, within which Departments could apply for funding from the Dormant Accounts Fund to fund measures which would assist the above target groups. Since July 2017 the Minister for Rural and Community Development has responsibility for this function. Minister Heather Humphreys has delegated this function to Minister of State Joe O'Brien.

1.2 Ministerial Responsibilities

Under the Dormant Accounts legislation, the Minister is required to:

- Prepare an Action Plan, at least once a year, to give effect to a Disbursement Scheme. Action Plans contain details of programmes and projects to be funded under the Disbursement Scheme. They set out the maximum amount proposed for disbursement in relation to each programme or project during the period to which the Action Plan relates;
- Where a programme or project specified in an Action Plan is under the remit of Minister, he/she may invite applications for disbursements from the Dormant Accounts Fund; and
- The Minister is also required to prepare, no later than 30 June each year, an annual report to the Government on the operation of disbursements during the preceding year.

The Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2024 has been prepared in line with the Disbursement Scheme currently in place.

1.3 Accounting Procedures

The legislation governing the Dormant Accounts Fund sets out how money is to be disbursed from the fund to Departments which have completed an approved measure. Measures approved for funding in any Action Plan must, in the first instance, be funded from the Vote of the Department or agency concerned. The expenditure incurred in implementing an approved measure is then reimbursed from the Dormant Accounts Fund, rendering the measure Exchequer neutral. As such, measures which are approved for funding in this and any other Action Plans still require the relevant Department to ensure that a voted allocation is available within their budget as part of the annual estimates process. In instances where measures have been approved under the Action Plan but the necessary voted expenditure within the parent Department is ultimately not available, the funding allocated to the measure from the Dormant Accounts Fund will be decommitted and returned to the fund. However, the approach to this Action Plan, which was finalised after Budget 2024, greatly reduces this risk by ensuring greater funding certainty.

The majority of measures approved in this Action Plan will progress in 2024, subject to the voted expenditure of each Department allowing for the measure to progress as planned. It is also important to note that measures approved in an annual action plan may progress over a number of years and the allocations provided for can be disbursed from the fund over that period.

In formulating and implementing measures to be funded from the Dormant Accounts Fund, Departments must ensure that measures are administered in line with Government accounting procedures, including the Public Spending Code. Each Department is

accountable for the administration of their own programmes and schemes in the same way as for any other voted expenditure.

The Dormant Accounts legislation also provides that the cost of engaging service providers (such as Pobal) to administer or deliver measures under the Action Plan (which includes monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment) can be met from the Fund. Such costs must be met from within the maximum allocation provided for a given measure. However, administration costs incurred by relevant Departments must be met from within existing Departmental budgets and not from Dormant Accounts funding.

Finally, it is important to note that the funding allocations provided for in Action Plans are maximum allocations, and administrative procedures have been put in place to manage instances where the cost of the measure proves to be less than the maximum allocation. Where expenditure incurred for any programme or scheme is less than the approved maximum allocation the excess is to be decommitted and returned to the Dormant Accounts Fund to enable the funding of other schemes. Similarly if schemes do not progress at all, due to unforeseen circumstances, the allocation must be decommitted when this becomes apparent to the relevant Department. This decommitment process is managed on an ongoing basis, in particular during the preparation of annual reports.

1.4 Preparation of the Dormant Accounts Fund Action Plan 2024

Preparation of the Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2024 commenced in May 2023, with relevant Ministers/Departments requested to identify potential projects or programmes within their Department's remit, aimed at addressing economic and social disadvantage, educational disadvantage, and supporting persons with a disability.

The Dormant Accounts legislation stipulates that measures nominated for Dormant Accounts funding under the Action Plan must be put forward by Ministers. The legislation does not allow funding proposals to be put forward directly by other stakeholders. However, Departments can, and do, develop and/or implement proposed measures in conjunction with other stakeholders. This can include processes to provide funding to other bodies to progress measures approved in the Action Plan.

A provisional Dormant Account Fund Action Plan was completed and approved by Minister O'Brien in August 2024. Departments were then informed of their approved measures to ensure inclusion in the estimate process. This final Action Plan reflects the funding made available through the estimates process.

1.5 Structure of the DAF Action Plan 2024

Section 1 has provided a brief introduction and overview of the legislative basis and operation of the Dormant Accounts Fund.

Section 2 sets out the measures approved for funding under the DAF Action Plan 2024. These will be implemented in 2024 and over subsequent years. A brief description of each approved measure is provided, along with the responsible Department and the expected expenditure profile for the measure concerned. The measures approved for funding in this DAF Action Plan 2024 are in the following Departments:

- Department of Rural and Community Development
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
- Department of Justice
- Department of Social Protection
- Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
- Department of Education
- Department of Defence
- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
- Department of Further and Higher Education, Research and Innovation and Science
- Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
- Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

2 Section 2: DAF Action Plan 2024 – Measures approved for funding

This section details the measures which are approved for funding under the DAF Action Plan 2024. It provides a brief description of each approved measures, the responsible Department, and the expected expenditure profile for the measure concerned. Where possible a focus on the specific outcomes/impacts is provided in the description of the measure. However, it must be noted that many of these measures are new and innovative interventions which will evolve as they are developed and implemented.

In total, allocations of €47.6 million have been approved for 52 measures to be implemented across 11 Government Departments in 2024. It is envisaged that many of these measures will seek further funding in future action plans.

2.1 Department of Rural and Community Development

2.1.1 Social Enterprise Measure

A new National Social Enterprise Policy is expected in late 2023 to replace the current policy published in July 2019. The three main objectives of the current policy are Building Awareness of Social Enterprise; Growing and Strengthening Social Enterprise; and Achieving Better Policy Alignment. The new Policy may include additional objectives, however the broad focus of the DAF funding will remain the same.

This measure will build on the past social enterprise measures by providing direct supports for capacity building, particularly in relation to enterprise development. The programmes to be delivered under this measure will assist in the creation of sustainable jobs with a particular focus on social enterprises supporting travellers, migrants, ex-offenders and other marginalised groups, improving the quality and delivery of services for disadvantaged communities, and increasing the capacity of social enterprises to generate funded income.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Social Enterprise	€2,000,000	Expenditure of €2,000,000 in 2024

2.1.2 Seniors Alert Scheme

The Seniors Alert Scheme enables older persons (65 years +) of limited means to continue to live securely in their homes with confidence, independence and peace of mind by providing them with a free personal monitored alarm. The Scheme was relaunched in November 2017, and in addition to the provision of the alarm, it also now provides the first year monitoring free, and revised qualifying criteria. Interest in the Scheme since relaunch has been phenomenal, from 7,300 approvals in 2016 to 19,100 approvals in 2019. While installations dipped during COVID19, indications are that demand has returned to 2019

levels from 2023 onwards.

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

The development of new technology is being considered under the new scheme for 2024, to address measures contained in the Programme for Government.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Seniors Alert Scheme	€2,700,000	Expenditure of €2,700,000 in 2024

2.1.3 Targeted Social Inclusion Measure

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

The measure includes:

- Carrickmines Steering Group, €31,530 - Key recommendations from the 'Report on meeting the continuing needs of the surviving members of families directly impacted by the Carrickmines fire of 10th October 2015' highlights the day to day monitoring and care for survivors. The Carrickmines Steering Committee identified the necessity for the appointment of a part-time family support worker to Bray Traveller groups to assist them in servicing the day to day family needs.
- Cumann na Daoine, Youghal, Co Cork, €82,200 - Cumann na Daoine support the main community development and social inclusion project in Youghal, a town which has high levels of deprivation in certain small population areas. The funding provided by the Dormant Accounts Fund allow the project to plan into the future, including addressing some of the more long-term complex issues facing the town.
- Funding to support LGBTI Community Groups to provide community services, €150,000 - Under this measure, €150,000 will help provide services to LGBTI organisations nationwide targeting marginalised people experiencing exclusion on account of their LGBTI identities. Research shows that LGBTI individuals living in small towns or rural areas can be very isolated that is brought about by a combination of factors including LGBTI identities and difficulty coming out, age, lack of LGBTI friendly spaces, geographical gaps in community supports. There is a need

for 'safe'/LGBTI friendly spaces that don't centre on alcohol. It is accepted that it is not possible to have physical centres in every rural location and so many of the community groups are keen to do outreach work.

Funding will be administered by the LCDCs and will be available to organisations locally for the provision of services that will include:

- extending drop-in hours, developing information and guidance tools, holding additional community events.
- Delivering LGBTI awareness/sensitivity training in healthcare settings, businesses, schools etc.
- Providing outreach support.
- Providing sporting/physical activity programmes to promote inclusion, community participation, health and wellbeing.
- Tallaght Community Outreach Centres €52,000 - Tallaght Community Outreach Centres provide supports for 3 outreach centres in Tallaght (Glenshane Resource Centre, Flexible Training Centre in Brookfield and Mountain Park Centre) operated by South Dublin County Partnership (SDCP), who operate a total of 19 service centres across South Dublin in areas of high disadvantage.
- Windtown, School Transport initiative €40,000 Windtown is an area of high disadvantage with DEIS feeder school 4.7km (google maps) away. The Department of Transport identify that the distance must be 4.8km or more to avail of the school transport scheme. Consistently, Windtown Students were experiencing difficulty with retention, attendance and punctuality. Navan SCP were aware of the causal factors for the students, which related to lack of transport, walking a distance of 4.7km, 55min, lack of adequate nutrition and motivation to get themselves out to school. The service has and continues to break the cycle of educational disadvantage and provides young people with advantage in their lives.
- Cherry Orchard Equine Centre €123,200 has a number of projects planned with funding provided as follows:
 - Community Training Centre - on-site early school leaver training programmes .
 - Youth Services - delivering programmes and activities for more than 20 years.
 - Youth Diversion Project - Garda Youth Diversion Project provides a diverse mix of services and interventions.
 - Youth Employment - the organisation aims to provide more supports to youths who are seeking to engage in the labour market.

- Equestrian Centre - delivering accredited and non-accredited equine training.
- Networking and development - aim is to identify relevant partners, whose mission is aligned to, and to work in pursuit of shared objectives. Collaborative working, and the sharing of resources between local organisations, is key to getting the best outcomes for the young people and their families in Cherry Orchard.
- Inner City Enterprise (ICE) €50,000 - The Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards scheme was established by the Inner City Enterprise (ICE) and Dublin City Council with the support of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Dublin City in 2015. It provides small flexible financial support to kick-start the creation and development of social enterprises in Dublin City. The programme and competition aims to celebrate and increase awareness of the important contribution made by social enterprise in addressing societal challenges and building communities and in creating employment and strengthening the sustainability of social enterprises.
- Meath Wellness Hub, €139,740 - The Meath Wellness Hub project commenced in 2020 with initial funding provided by DRCD. It will be a centre for mental health support and recovery providing a range of services to clients, and their families, with self-experience of mental ill health. The aim of the Hub is to create an accessible and integrated service working within deprived communities to provide individuals, families and groups with timely, appropriate, cost-effective, local support and care. The Hub will work collaboratively with the community, voluntary groups, the Health Service Executive and other statutory organisations with the aim of providing a recovery oriented service to people experiencing mental health difficulties.
- Youghal Blue & Green Community Network , €60,000 - Cumann na Daoine established the Youghal “Blue and Green” Community Network in 2021 to focus on climate change and the environment and supporting community projects to “go green”. The Network is committed to climate action and transition using a bottom up approach, ensuring inclusion and sustainability as it relates to local people’s lives. The funding will provide towards the recruitment of two Community Development Workers to support the Youghal “Blue and Green” Community Network. These workers will further develop the network and strengthen the work with local residents experiencing social exclusion.
- Rathkeale Together, €150,000. This Funding agreement is in respect of the Departments contribution towards a Project Officer and ancillary costs in Rathkeale, Co Limerick, to continue the pre-social cohesion project which commenced in 2013 and is administered by West Limerick Resources. Rathkeale is unique in Ireland in that approximately 80% of the population are from the Traveller community. The aims of the project is to develop momentum towards community cohesion and to enable and develop community leaders who have a shared vision for community reconciliation, mediation and community cohesion and to engage with Statutory

Agencies and Limerick City & County Council, raising greater awareness of the need for social cohesion and how more participatory approaches will facilitate it.

- Traveller Social Enterprise Capacity Building Support Measure, €150,000 - Following a call for new CSP organisations, applications were invited from organisations under two strands: Strand 1- Organisations operating in the circular economy which are owned and led by traveller organisations and/or provide employment primarily to members of the traveller community and Strand 2 - Demonstrate their proposal meets one or more of the CSP strategic objectives and the horizontal principles of the programme. Under Strand 1, there were fourteen (14) concept notes received. Upon analysis and review of these applications two were considered to be eligible for stage two, eight were considered eligible with potential and two were found to be ineligible. A process will be put in place to provide support to the eight organisations that were considered to have potential and ensure they have the necessary skills to complete the application stage in 2024. As Travellers are a target group for SICAP and Traveller Social Enterprises have proven very effective in the past supporting Travellers into the labour market, the funding under this measure will be used to support capacity building efforts and potentially provide some seed capital funding, in order to ensure that they develop the skill set necessary to progress their social enterprise proposal and submit an application for CSP funding.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Targeted Social Inclusion	€1,028,670	Expenditure of €1,028,670 in 2024

2.1.4 Promotion of Library Membership to Disadvantaged Groups

The new Public Library Strategy 2023-2027 contains a strategic actions for a ‘national public libraries open day in every year of the strategy, where libraries can showcase what they offer.’ Libraries provide a free service to the whole community and disadvantaged, marginalised and socially excluded people can benefit immeasurably from using any of the 330 public libraries nationwide. The libraries offer free access to over 4,156 international magazines, a catalogue of 7,000+ online newspapers and magazines from over 120 countries. They also offer courses in 110 different languages for speakers of 30+ languages and a further 600 online courses covering a wide range of topics from technical to mental wellbeing.

They also provide free Wi-Fi and internet access on PCs. There are so many opportunities for disadvantaged, marginalised and socially excluded people to benefit from engagement with the public library service to improve their life opportunities and this Open Day will help to achieve this by increasing awareness of and showcasing the range of services provided by libraries. The Measure will enable resources to be made available to each library authority in order to promote the public library offer to disadvantaged and marginalised groups.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Promotion of Libraries	€150,000	Expenditure of €150,000 in 2024

An additional measure “Digital Equity and Social Inclusion in Public Libraries” will also be implemented in 2024 utilising previously approved allocations that were not spent. Public Libraries Digital Equity and Social Inclusion Programme (Capacity Development) €400,000 - The new Public Library Strategy 2023-2027 commits to ‘improving life opportunities for all by providing access, free of charge, to information, ideas, collections, and study and community space’ and ‘expanding a disability friendly approach to services’. This measure will support digital inclusion through the provision of modern equipment and furniture in public libraries for people with a disability. This will include height-adjustable desks, height adjustable seating, wheelchair-accessible shelving and large PC monitors which are mounted on adjustable arms. It will also include assistive devices that will enable the visually impaired to use library resources. Libraries are now evolving into community hubs and they must be in a position to provide, through a “service by design” approach, supports and suitable areas for those within our communities with additional needs, including those with disabilities.

2.1.5 Rethink Ireland

Rethink Ireland provides cash grants and business support to charities and social enterprises working in Irish communities across the country. Launched in 2013, Rethink Ireland (previously Social Innovation Fund Ireland) is an organisation set-up by the Irish government to stimulate philanthropy and aid the development of social innovation in Ireland. They work with companies, families, individuals and foundations who understand new thinking in Ireland is needed. The money donated to Rethink Ireland is matched by the Irish Government from the Dormant Accounts Fund. Their mission is to support the best social innovations so that they can grow and maximise their impact across Ireland. Their vision is a more just, equal and sustainable Ireland because of social innovation.

Rethink Ireland define social innovation as the successful delivery of new approaches to meet social needs more effectively and sustainably than those currently available. Just as innovation is necessary for economic growth, they believe innovation is critical to societal and environmental progress. They work to build the social innovation sector here in Ireland.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Rethink Ireland	€5,000,000	Expenditure of €5,000,000 in 2024

2.2 Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

2.2.1 Housing First – Transitioning people who have been long-term homeless into supported tenancies

This measure is intended to continue the roll out the National Implementation Plan for Housing First. A new National Implementation Plan was published in December 2021 and provides for 1,319 tenancies covering the period 2022 to 2026.

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

The implementation of the Plan is a joint initiative of the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, the Department of Health, the Health Service Executive, the prison service and local authorities. The main outcome will be to provide individuals with acute support needs who have been rough sleeping or long time users of emergency accommodation with a home and the ongoing supports they need to stay in that home.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Housing First	€3,000,000	Expenditure of €3,000,000 in 2024

2.2.2 Traveller Accommodation – (1) tenancy capacity building and sustainment, (2) community building and mediation services and (3) Play area facilities in Traveller-specific accommodation

These measures are intended to provide training and support to assist Travellers in tenancy sustainment and development of their community in Traveller-specific group housing schemes and Traveller Halting sites. It is also intended the projects will help raise awareness and acceptance of Traveller culture to enable development of accommodation. The measures will also seek resolutions where conflict arise. Finally the introduction of play areas in Traveller-specific accommodation will improve the environment in which children are living.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Traveller Accommodation	€620,000	Expenditure of €620,000 in 2024

2.3 Department of Justice

2.3.1 Drogheda Implementation Plan Year 3

The Drogheda Implementation Board comprehensively addresses the ongoing challenges and needs experienced by communities in Drogheda resulting from the activities of organised crime gangs, through identifying opportunities to connect, support and strengthen services in the area. It is the core driver and implementer of change associated with the implementation of targeted recommendations in the Drogheda Scoping Report. The Department of Justice is seeking to extend the lifetime of the Implementation Board and the Implementation Plan for 12 months. This will allow remaining actions in the Plan to be progressed as well as ensuring continuity between the Implementation Board and the launch of the new Louth Local Community Safety Partnership in 2024. The extension will prevent a loss of momentum and will facilitate the natural continuation of important programmes of work which will transition to the new Partnership.

The Implementation Board and Plan align with the Dormant Accounts Fund objective of assisting projects designed to counter educational, economic and social disadvantage. The primary purpose of the Implementation Plan will be to address and counter particular aspects of the disadvantageous local conditions in Drogheda, where criminality exploits socio-economically disadvantaged communities. This measure will also address barriers to benefiting from education.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Drogheda Implementation Plan Year 3	€207,987	Expenditure of €207,987 in 2024

2.3.2 Youth and Community Justice Services

This measure supports a number of initiatives designed to enhance and build on previous initiatives funded under DAF. Funding of the various elements of the application will support the implementation of the Government's Youth Justice Strategy, adopted in April 2021. The Strategy emphasises the connection between socio-economic disadvantage and the potential for negative outcomes for young people, especially to those vulnerable to involvement in criminal activity. These include those with disability issues arising from neuro-diversity or mental health challenges. The new Strategy includes a range of actions to strengthen front-line service delivery to encourage young people (and their families) in making pro-social life choices.

Funding Projects as follows:

- **Youth Diversion Projects (YDPs) service development.** The Department of Justice funds Youth Diversion Projects (YDPs) which engage with young people at risk of or involved in criminal and/or anti-social behaviour and offer support and opportunities to engage in

education and employment. The network of 106 YDPs currently service specific geographical catchment areas throughout the State, with four new YDPs opening in early 2024. These are generally located in areas of social disadvantage and marginalisation, with high volumes of youth crime and significant early school leaving and inter-generational unemployment.

- **Candle Community Trust, Candle Community Trust** is a community-based youth organisation dedicated to addressing the complex and often unique needs of young people involved with the justice system. Candle adopts a flexible, responsive, and trauma-focused approach when engaging with young people in the Ballyfermot/Cherry Orchard area. The organisation has developed a practice framework that incorporates educational and vocational training, therapeutic services, outreach support, home liaison, and mentoring. Their approach is rooted in a well-developed understanding of trauma, empowerment, and restorative justice, and represents a guiding stand and within the area of youth justice practices. Candle’s programs and practices align with, and support, both the Youth Justice Strategy and the vision of the Irish Probation Service.

-**Joint Commissioning**, the Department of Justice has developed a measure for a collaborative approach to the joint commissioning of relevant services, to explore ways of giving effect to the no wrong door principle as articulated in the Youth Justice Strategy. This proposal and underlying concept is that all relevant statutory bodies will come together with local partners to identify those young people presenting with the most complex needs across the criminal justice, youth and family service, mental health and other services, and – based on a local needs assessment - to identify gaps in priority services needed and will agree with local service providers how to meet these needs in a coordinated and integrated way. This will be based on the “no wrong door” principle, which aims to emphasise a child-centred wrap-around service. Six areas have been identified to trial the proposed joint commissioning approach. The preliminary work will be completed by end-2023 and will be fully operational by 2024.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Youth and Community Justice Services	€4,159,534	Expenditure of €4,159,734 in 2024

2.3.3 Awareness Campaigns on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence and Victim Rights

The Third National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence (TNS-DSGBV) explicitly recognizes the importance of awareness raising and includes actions requiring a number of national awareness campaigns on various DSGBV related topics such as:

- A campaign to raise public awareness of DSGBV
- A campaign to provide victims of DSGBV information on the pathways to safety

- A campaign on the harm caused by Intimate Image Abuse
- A campaign on the topic of sexual consent.

The commitment made by DOJ in launching these campaigns, with the support of the DAF has seen an unprecedented amount of resources being utilised to prevent such violence from happening and to provide victims with information on pathways to safety and supports available to them.

Each of the TNS-DSGBV campaigns will:

- Support the work of organisations that support victims of DSGBV at a local level
- Reach people within marginalised communities throughout Ireland.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Awareness Campaigns on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence and Victim Rights	€1,132,963	Expenditure of €1,132,963 in 2024

2.3.4 Community Organisations – Criminal Justice Sector

There are 58 Community Based Organisation currently funded by the Probation Service to develop and deliver services to offenders in their communities. The Community organisations support the work of the Probation Service in working with persons who are under supervision by the Probation Service or at risk of becoming involved in crime. The Community Organisations provide a range of services to offenders in local communities, including training and education, offender management programmes, residential accommodation, and drug and alcohol treatment programmes.

It is recognised that many offenders come from difficult backgrounds and have complex needs such as alcohol or drug problems, educational and literacy skills, and social skills. These people require a broad range of supports and assistance in the community if they are to make better choices and change their behaviour.

The services developed and delivered by these Community Organisations enhance the work of the Probation Service in challenging offending behaviour and supporting change. They are a very important step in the re-integration of an offender back into their local community.

The Probation Service will continue to provide funding to these organisations for the delivery of services.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Community Organisations – Criminal Justice Sector	€166,389	Expenditure of €166,389 in 2024

2.3.5 Community Organisations – YPP Project Expenditure

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

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

The activities and interventions provided by the YPP projects contribute to a number of national strategies including:

- National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016
- Tackling Youth Crime 2014 – 2018
- Youth Justice Strategy 2021-2027

The focus of the National Children and Young People’s Policy Framework is that investing in young people to reach their potential towards reducing inequality within society and to break cycles of intergenerational disadvantage. This will support the Youth Justice Strategy 2021-2027 in its intention to Identify and support at an early stage those young people at risk of becoming involved in offending, including serious and prolific offending by the on-going development of this community project.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
YPP Project Expenditure	€62,396	Expenditure of €62,396 in 2024

2.3.6 Measures to support paths to employment for people with past criminal convictions

The Probation Service, working closely with the Irish Prison Service and the Department of Justice, has sought to address systemic barriers to employment for those with previous criminal convictions and provide effective supports and interventions to facilitate employment, and the attendant stability this provides, to assist the journey from offending to desistance. In previous years this work has been carried out through a number of actions

under the A New Way Forward and Working to Change strategies respectively. As work continues on the development of a new strategy in this regard, to follow on from the Working to Change strategy funding will be utilised to support initiatives that specifically target the cohort of marginalised individuals with criminal convictions who are making efforts to fully reintegrate into society post-conviction.

- Engaging those with lived experience to provide insight in public fora on rehabilitation and reintegration needs and successes. Identifying and engaging key voices to produce innovative content across multiple inclusive mediums and in public fora to ensure the lived experience of those who have come into contact with the criminal justice system and have previous criminal convictions can be understood. This may place particular focus on marginalisation and issues relating to mental health and addiction, which are a dominant feature for many of this cohort.

- Development of a public campaign promoting those with criminal convictions as a pool of talent for employment opportunities to target employers. The formation of a public messaging strategy targeting employers to promote the benefits of hiring people with criminal convictions. This campaign will be evidence-based and place a strong emphasis on the unique positives of hiring this cohort and the supports available to assist in this process. This will increase understanding amongst employers and improve the likelihood of the target cohort being considered for employment opportunities across a range of industries.

- Development of guidance support document for employers seeking to hire individuals with criminal convictions. The preparation of an expert, up-to-date guidance manual for those considering employing people with convictions to assist in the decision making process. This will be the first of its kind in the State, and will provide detailed information regarding key matters, such as the structured vetting process, the disclosure process, spent convictions, and messaging around safety. A reference text, this will require preparation from experts in the area in an easy-to-access format for daily use by employers across all industries.

- Commissioning independent research report on link between employment and desistance. Developing a further evidence base to underline the relationship between employment and desistance, and to examine the specific qualities of employment, including the most appropriate industries or roles, which lead to the highest rates of desistance and increase public safety. This will require academic and practical expertise.

- Employer Engagement Programme. Developing a programme to provide increased assistance to employers to support the recruitment and employment of persons with a criminal conviction. Their support on the employer/SE by supporting them through the process of recruiting someone with a criminal record, and maintaining the person in the employment.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Measures to support paths to employment for people with past criminal convictions	€915,141	Expenditure of €915,141 in 2024

2.3.7 Cherry Orchard Implementation Board (COIB) Year 2

This initiative was announced by the Minister for Justice in November 2022 and brings together all of the relevant agencies including Dublin City Council, An Garda Síochána, City Of Dublin Education & Training Board, Túsla, the HSE, Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership, St. Ultans School, the Probation Service and a business representative to develop a plan to tackle the many issues faced by the community of Cherry Orchard in a coordinated and strategic way. It will also form part of a cross-government initiative to best examine the issue of local area disadvantage and how best to intensify the interventions, where necessary, already underway. The Board aims to build on the many successful community-based initiatives already working in the area and to develop an action plan with recommendations.

The COIB aligns with the Dormant Accounts Fund objectives. The primary purpose of the COIB will be to address and counter particular aspects of the disadvantageous local conditions in Cherry Orchard which has led to a surge in anti-social behaviour and violence.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Cherry Orchard Implementation Board (COIB) Year 2	€166,389	Expenditure of €166,389 in 2024

2.3.8 Consent programme for the Further Education & Training sector

A programme to boost the impact of a national campaign on raising awareness of the importance of consent by enabling it to continue to support the Further Education & Training sector by developing a staff training programme on promoting positive, active consent and receiving disclosures of sexual violence, and reach people within marginalised communities throughout Ireland through FET consent initiatives.

Active* Consent began a partnership with Education & Training Boards Ireland in 2022 to incorporate consent promotion in programmes offered by Further Education & Training and Youthreach centres. This initiative is supported by the Department of Justice and DFHERIS. It is a unique initiative in a sector integrated into local communities throughout Ireland, with the potential to reach Post-Leaving Certificate, apprenticeship and Youthreach learners with consent education and information on how to seek support.

This project is also an opportunity to adapt the Active* Consent programme to the diversity in learning styles and cultural backgrounds seen in the sector. We have begun by applying

the socio-ecological approach toward devising a toolkit that will support culture change, with actions including:

- Conducting interviews and focus groups with learners and staff.
- Training for staff to enable them to deliver consent programming to learners.
- Preparing staff with skills for receiving disclosures through the First Point of Contact training (FPOC) offered with Galway Rape Crisis Centre.
- Delivering our professional development Level 9 module, Consent, Sexual Violence and Harassment: Practitioner Skills & Practice, so that staff members can take a lead on championing consent education in their centres.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Consent programme for the Further Education & Training sector	€189,000	Expenditure of €189,000 in 2024

2.3.9 Community Based Health in Justice

We have a number of strategies put in place which will fund a range of supports as follows:

- Engages the disadvantaged in prison including Travellers, low literacy, people with addictions and mental health issues.
- Prison to Community component targets ‘at risk’ groups of offenders under probation supervision through ex-prisoner peer support.
- Partnering organisations like Irish Red Cross, Probation Service and the ETB to support ‘at risk’ persons.
- Works collaboratively for people with partner organisations within the justice system.
- Encouraging Traveller community representation amongst inmate volunteer groups in prisons.
- Includes Traveller Communities in CBH workshops for in the wider community fostering the inclusion of Traveller peer educators after release.
- Improve community health and safety in all Irish Prisons through peer educator training.
- Expands programme work to include CBH training in Oberstown youth place of detention.

- Provides CBH training to family members of inmate volunteers receiving the same training in three prisons.
- Expands the prison to community strand, engaging new probation service users.
- Creates innovative community learning on the risks of drug-misuse and harm caused in collaboration with MQI and the HSE.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Community Based Health in Justice	€385,909	Expenditure of €385,909 in 2024

2.3.10 Tovertafel projecting interactive light games by helping people in prison with dementia and autism

The Tovertafel or 'magic table' is a box on the ceiling or can be portable. It projects light animation onto a table surface and by interacting with your hands or any other tools (depending on mobility issues), the sensors then interact with your movements creating the games".

"Magic tables" consist of a series of interactive light games specially designed to help those with dementia to be more active socially, cognitively and physically. Feedback identifies that it definitely lifts the user's well-being. It is a great reminiscence tool especially the music box. The users sing songs from their childhood. It gets all the memories going.

This measure will provide these devices in three prison locations and will have the strongest direct impact on disadvantaged individuals in custody, to improve mental wellbeing, ignite conversation and positive interactions in a fun and easy to operate/manage way. When people are released from prisons, they will be familiar with the devices and it may be something that will bring them into their library in their community, so that they can play the games and interact by using the familiar "magic table".

The use of "magic tables" has a proven track-record of achievement and will be especially important in assisting the Irish Prison Service to provide library programmes which reflect the services and activities currently available in public libraries, using digital technology in a fun and interactive way that is therapeutic for people with disabilities.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Tovertafel projecting interactive light games helping people with dementia and autism.	€38,745	Expenditure of €38,745 in 2024

2.4 Department of Social Protection

2.4.1 Family Carer Measure - Supporting Family Carers including Young Carers, & Former Carers to access employment and/or training and education supports

The primary purpose of this measure will be to support Family Carers including Young Carers, & former carers, to access employment and/or training and education supports in order to improve their current and future employment outcomes. This will include a focus on improving the future employment prospects of young carers through schools/educational settings-related initiatives. The programme will also seek to raise awareness and support employers to provide employment opportunities and supports for Carers.

Programme specification and a Delivery Agreement will be worked on with Pobal with a view to having a Call for Applications to be announced by the Minister for Social Protection in early 2024. Pobal will then assess applications and provide outcome of that process to the Department. It is anticipated that funding will be drawn down and contracts will be in place with the successful projects circa middle of next year with a view to having project activity commencing early July 2024. This will coincide with the end of the carers employment and training focussed measure currently underway utilising Dormant Accounts Funding.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Family Carer Measure - Supporting Family Carers including Young Carers, & Former Carers to access employment and/or training and education supports	€2,500,000	Expenditure of €2,500,000 in 2024

2.5 Department Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

2.5.1 Care Support for Vulnerable in Society

This measure will fund a range of supports for vulnerable children and youths. Indicative amounts for each area are set out below:

- **Barnahus** - €300,000 - This measure seeks to support the ongoing development of national implementation of the Barnahus model of service, to deliver improved interagency management of child sexual abuse cases between An Garda Síochána, Tusla, the HSE and Children's Health Ireland.

The Icelandic 'Barnahus' model is a child-friendly, interdisciplinary and multiagency model of service for children who have been sexually abused. It is generally accepted that there are serious and long term consequences for those that experience child sexual abuse, and the full implementation of this model in Ireland seeks to diminish undue delays in accessing the justice system for these children.

The project is currently under development by an Inter Departmental Group comprising representatives from the DCEDIY, Department of Justice and Department of Health, Tusla, HSE, An Garda Síochána and Children's Health Ireland. A Barnahus National Agency Steering Committee is in place, which co-ordinates and oversees development and implementation of a National Barnahus service. One centre is fully open Galway, servicing the West of Ireland. Planning and development for the delivery of remaining national services is under way in the East (based in Dublin), and South (based in Cork) to deliver national coverage of services.

- **Educational Champions** – Education and Training Bursary Scheme for Care Experienced Young People (2023-2024) - €200,000. The scheme is aimed at providing funding for these young people to access education and training and to support their career development. The scheme was developed to support young people who are not in receipt of other state funding for education and training and who would be unable to engage in same without the benefit of this additional funding.

The bursary is intended for young people who wish to engage in courses that are not supported by SUSI or when up-skilling courses have additional unexpected costs such as course materials. While there are very strong supports for formal 3rd level courses, this scheme addresses the need for supports for other, often shorter courses which are part of the incremental steps for young people building their future careers. In such instances, the bursary is of real practical benefit and improves access to educational and training opportunities.

- **Aftercare Supports for Disadvantaged Care Leavers** - €564,810, this measure will fund a range of supports for vulnerable children and youths. Indicative amounts for each area are set out below:

- Access to driving lessons for young people in care / Aftercare - €79,430. This project will fund driving lessons to be purchased for care leavers engaged in the

Aftercare Service, aged 17-23 years. Care leavers are a vulnerable group of young people who require additional support in relation to developing life skills to improve their future outcomes, particularly in relation to education/employment.

The aim is to provide an opportunity for young people to gain access to more educational programmes such as courses that require travel for practice placements, block release and apprenticeships and also opportunities to work part-time without relying on public transport or private taxis.

- Christmas party and summer barbecue for care leavers - €5000.

The objective of this project is to support isolated care leavers in the Dublin North Central area who may have nobody over the Christmas period and to provide a social outlet for them to meet other young people and have some form of celebration.

- Purchase laptops for care leavers to support their education/training progression - €39,000. A large proportion of care leavers are engaged in 3rd level and Post Leaving Certificate courses, where access to electronic lap-tops is a requirement. This measure therefore aims to ensure care leavers have access to the appropriate equipment while progressing through their chosen course.

- "Mover and Shaker" packs for care leavers who are moving to independent living for the first time - €5,000. Currently care leavers are entitled to a once-off Tusla Aftercare Grant, which is designed to support care leavers with the expenses associated with moving out of care and towards independent living. There are circumstances however where care leavers may require additional support when making this transition to independent living. This measure will allow for the purchase of travel bags incorporating a "mover and shaker" pack of items to compliment the start-up allowance.

- Include Youth Give & Take Programme - €324,500. This pilot project will seek to target the most vulnerable of the children in care and care leavers within a specified area, and to provide a level of wrap around supports to compliment the current supports offered by the Aftercare Service. By engaging with Include Youth and utilising their Give and Take model, this pilot project aims to achieve the strongest direct impact on children in care and leaving care

- The right Place and Space - €7,500. To provide training by an Occupational Therapist/Psychologist to the Tusla Aftercare staff team in a specified area. The aim of this project is to inform and enhance an understanding of the diagnosis' in relation to the young person's experience of the world and how Tusla staff might support them in their transition to adulthood.

- Sailing Programme for Young People - €16,100. A sailing programme for young people with a target age of 18-23 who are engaging with Tusla Aftercare Services. It is intended that the programme will be broken into 4 parts, including:

- Pre- Programme Induction.
- Foundation Programme.
- Live-a-board voyage for 1 night /2 days.
- Progression programme where there will be scope for 4 care leavers to progress to become NGB qualified in power boating, keelboat sailing and yacht sailing.

- Clinical Psychologist for Aftercare Team - €76,280. This project will provide a dedicated full time psychology supports for young people in the Tusla Aftercare Dublin North Central (DNC) area. The psychologist will be part of the DNC Therapy Hub managed/supervised by a Principal Psychologist.

- Aftercare drop in centre set up - €12,000 - To set up and kit out a drop-in centre for Aftercare young people. The purpose of the drop-in centre would be to provide the young people with a safe space to meet up and access staff support and advice. The hope would be to help support young people to build up and promote independent living skills. We are being provided with a space to run the drop-in service. The financial request is to set up the drop-in to purchases soft furnishings, equipment, coffee machine, pool table etc to create a welcoming space for clients to enjoy the space and support their engagement with support services.

- **Therapeutic and health advocate for disadvantaged care leavers - €85,000.**
The provision of an advocate for a pilot group of care leavers with a mild intellectual disability to assist them and their social workers in their interactions with the healthcare and therapeutic care system. Many care leavers leave care with stable accommodation and enrolled in education or training. For some, additional support may be needed as the transition to life after care. The aftercare workers in Tusla who work directly with these vulnerable care leavers have identified key areas of need for these care leavers, including successfully managing health-related issues and concerns. This project provides a support person or advocate, who is allocated to this cohort to work to identify pathways to care for each of the participating care leavers.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Care Support for Vulnerable in Society	€1,149,810	Expenditure of €1,149,810 in 2024

2.5.2 Oberstown Detention Campus Training Initiatives

Oberstown Children Detention Campus provides safe secure care and education to Young People referred by the courts. Oberstown falls under the aegis of the Children Detention Schools.

The principal objective of Oberstown is to provide appropriate educational training programmes that facilitate children's training needs having regard to their health, safety, welfare and interests designed to promote rehabilitation, maximise therapeutic outcomes, growth development and enhance individual needs through the application of intellectual stimulation involving direct experience.

This will fund a range of supports, with indicative amounts for each as below.

- **Career Guidance and Employment Support for Children Detained in Oberstown Children Detention Campus (€257,500)** – 2023 was the final year of a 3-year pilot phased action-research project to develop a new career guidance platform for the young people in Oberstown Detention Centre run by CareersPortal.ie. As part of the Oberstown placement planning process the Campus asks external agencies/service providers who are working with or have worked with the young person in their community to engage with Oberstown to support meeting the needs of the young person. As discharge approaches, a comprehensive report on the young person's progress and involvement in the Steps+ pilot, customised within the Steps+ platform, is circulated to the young person's key worker and unit manager. The project lead discusses the engagement of the young person in relation to viable educational options in their community on discharge exploring their best fit with the educational and career options. This process of drawing on the engagement and one- to-one support through Steps+ showed that the platform has great potential to support the Care, Education, Health, Offending Behaviour and Preparation for Leaving (CEHOP) process. The next phase of STEPS+ platform is further development of the apps for young people, increased awareness and training of young people advocates of the STEPS+ programme. The development will include additional apps, on line resource book and how to videos.

Development of progress indicators, progress through STEPS+ from level 1 to level 3. Additional features of Certificates of Achievements for each level to showcase the young person's engagement, progress and a link to the Placement Planning Process in the Case Management System for Oberstown. Development of My Documents and Certificate's a centralised information management system where the young person can store their records for easy access and for sharing with potential employers.

The next phase of the project is to have educational support for young people, to facilitate access to quality education through partnerships with stakeholders in the community or with other agencies.

- Substance misuse programme for young people - €50,000.** The substance misuse program aims to address the issue of substance abuse within the young people in Oberstown by providing prevention, intervention, treatment and support services to individuals affected by substance misuse. The project will focus on raising awareness, providing education and implementing strategies to reduce substance abuse and promote healthy lifestyles. Oberstown’s objectives will be to raise awareness about risks and consequences of substance misuse, provide education and prevention programs to promote healthy choices and prevent substance abuse. Identify and intervene early with individuals at risk of substance misuse. Offer comprehensive treatment services to individuals struggling with substance addiction. Provide ongoing support and aftercare to individuals in recovery and collaborate with community stakeholders to establish a coordinated and sustainable approach to addressing substance misuse.
- Young People Family Support Services Travellers - €110,000.** The project will be specifically tailored to meet the unique needs of the traveling community in Oberstown. We recognise the challenges faced by travelling families and believe that implementing this project will contribute significantly to their wellbeing and overall quality of life. Our project aims to provide assistance, resources and support to the families of young people resident in Oberstown who lead nomadic or transient lifestyles. By offering a range of culturally sensitive services, we aim to enhance parenting skills, promote family cohesion and ensure the holistic development of the young people who are residing in Oberstown within their travelling community. The primary objectives of our project will be to have a link team who will undertake the following:
 - Create a safe and inclusive space where traveling families can access support services without fear of discrimination or stigma Enhance parenting skills through culturally relevant workshops, training programs and resources.
 - Provide counselling and mental health support tailored to the unique challenges faced by the traveling community.
 - Foster community connections and provide networking opportunities to reduce social isolation and build a sense of belonging.
 - Empower travelling families to advocate for their rights and navigate legal systems effectively.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Oberstown Detention Campus Training Initiatives	€417,500	Expenditure of €417,500 in 2024

2.5.3 Traveller and/or Roma Community Initiatives

This measure will support a range of initiatives aimed at supporting the Traveller and Roma communities. The indicative amounts for each initiative is set out below.

- **Measure to address Conflict and Mental Health issues in the Traveller community (€250,000)** – This measure seeks to secure continued funding to the Traveller Counselling Service, the Traveller Mediation Service and Exchange House Ireland who are working in collaboration to address the issues of conflict and mental health in the Traveller Community and provide essential family supports. The broad aim of this initiative is to address the trauma caused by inter family violence within the Traveller community, and to provide direct supports for families trying to move away from violence.
 - **Traveller and Roma Community Education post supports to address participation, retention and progression through the education system (€650,000)** – This enables the continuation, and expansion, of a scheme to employ dedicated Education Community Development Workers (ECDW's) in a number of areas throughout the country 6 areas throughout the country. The objective of the scheme is to:
 - Support Traveller and Roma children and families and address issues impacting on the attendance, participation and progression of Traveller and Roma children through the education system.
 - Further build engagement and relationships between education providers, children, families and communities.
 - Seek to achieve overall parity of education outcomes with the settled community.
 - Enable the employment of additional ECDWs and support the rollout of the programme on a wider basis.
- **Measure to address gender inequality issues faced by minority women, including Traveller women (€50,000)** – This measure seeks to secure continued funding to the National Traveller Women's Forum (NTWF) in order to progress the empowerment of minority women, including Traveller women, in leadership positions in Ireland.
- **Tusla NTRIS Employment Support Scheme - (€60,000)** This Scheme has been established for students from the Traveller and Roma communities who are undertaking academic courses which meet the requirement for employment in social work and social care with Tusla. The successful applicants of the Scheme are required to complete work placements with Tusla for a minimum of 30 working days between June and September in each academic year of their course. A maximum of €5,000, excluding travel and subsistence, is paid to Tusla Scheme recipients for these work placements. Under the Scheme, applicants are offered employment with Tusla in social care or social work upon successful graduation.
- **Traveller and Roma Foster Care Project** - Previously part of the What Works Initiative (€220,112) the overall objective of the project is to increase the number of

Traveller and Roma foster carers available to provide a culturally appropriate foster care placement for children from the Traveller and Roma communities. The aim is to recruit a pool of general foster carers for Traveller and Roma children and to encourage social workers to look at relative care when children from either community is taken into care. The project has improved awareness of the fostering role amongst these communities and will deliver public information sessions and conduct enquiry visits from anyone interested in pursuing fostering. The plan is Roll out the project nationally.

- **Tusla national programme of work in partnership with Traveller organisation - €350,000.** Tusla through this forum includes participation and working in partnership with Traveller organisations Pavee Point, Irish Traveller Movement, National Traveller Women's Forum, Exchange House Ireland. A programme of work has commenced and will implement three strands:
 - To plan a national work programme for regional and local implementation to promote awareness, access, and participation in Tusla services.
 - To support Traveller child and youth participation in Tusla services to give children and young people a voice in decision-making on issues that affect their lives for participation in service planning and delivery in collaboration with Traveller organisations and initiatives working with Traveller children and young people
 - To support learning and development needs for Tusla staff practice in the context of Traveller culture and a child's rights-based approach to support the planning and delivery of services.
- **Family placement finding pilot for the Travelling Community - €220,112.** This pilot will be established with the aim of increasing the availability of relative care placements (formal and informal) for children and young people from the Travelling Community who are at risk of coming into care or of placement breakdown.

The project will take referrals in relation to children who are identified as being at risk of coming into care or a placement breakdown who are from the travelling community. A project worker will be assigned to work alongside the child's social worker to explore the family and friend network with the aim of identifying any prospective carers within their network.

This project would enhance the capacity to provide culturally appropriate placements to children from the Irish Travelling Community. It would also increase the potential for children to remain within their extended family and locality.

- **Roma Adult Education and Training Project - €300,000.** The Roma Education Programme is delivered by Cairde with the aim of supporting Roma inclusion in Irish society by coordinating online classes in ESOL, literacy, computer skills, and other

general topics. The programme brings together a group of Roma in a culturally appropriate environment to build their everyday reading, writing, numeracy, and digital skills. This initiative aims to empower participants in their interactions with employers, health services, and statutory bodies in general, as set out below:

- Sustaining current attendance and learning progression, with the ultimate aim of securing employment. The majority of the participants in the programme are female, and have little to no education. Additionally, many of the participants are single mothers, face literacy problems, and are living in insecure accommodation (either overcrowded private rented, or homeless). These obstacles mean that it can take a significant amount of time to progress in the classes towards the ultimate outcome of securing employment.

- Maintaining current participant numbers. At this point in the programme, a strong structure for onboarding and supporting new participants in the programme has been established. This includes providing relevant equipment, helping to access social services including PPS numbers, medical cards, bank accounts and Revenue, and assisting with other advocacy needs (e.g. housing).

- Working towards securing QQI accreditation.

- **Support services for victims of domestic abuse in the Traveller Community -** €90,000. Exchange House Ireland (EHI) is a national Traveller service which provides frontline services to the Traveller community including social work, family support and mental health services. A significant number of the women and children that access their services experience domestic abuse. Research undertaken by the Women’s Health Council has highlighted that Traveller women are 30 times more likely to experience domestic violence than women in the settled community. This measure seeks to establish supports services, within EHI, for victims of domestic abuse in a way that is culturally sensitive to the Traveller Community.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Traveller and/or Roma Community Initiatives	€2,190,224	Expenditure of €2,190,224 in 2024

2.5.4 Youth and/or Family Initiatives

This measure will support a range of initiatives aimed at supporting better outcomes for children and young people, with the indicative amounts for each initiative again set out below:

- **What Works (€908,704)** – What Works aims to take a coordinated approach to enhance capacity, knowledge and quality, primarily in prevention and early intervention for children, young people and their families. What Works builds on the 5 National Outcomes first devised in Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2014-2020. The initiative spans and strengthens the system connections for children, youth and family services supporting improved outcomes. The initiative will ensure that key groups working with children, young people and families know what works, how it works and will provide an evidence supported approach to apply to this work. It maximises the impact of prevention and early intervention measures by supporting research, innovation, learning and development, projects and programmes in collaboration with our voluntary and statutory partners. At the core of the initiative is a desire to foster persistent curiosity amongst those working to improve the lives of children and young people.

One of the current projects is the Traveller Parenting Support Pilot project which has proved successful to date. This project aims to increase levels of trust and engagement between the Traveller community and Tusla, along with other agencies. It also seeks to increase cultural awareness and understanding amongst Tusla and key service partners in terms of challenges experienced by Traveller parents in accessing support services.

- **Youth Employability Initiative – Skills Summary Initiative (€100,000)** – The Skills Summary tool provides a framework to better recognise the value and learning young people achieve by participation in youth work, volunteering and other non-formal educational activities.

The priorities for 2024 will be to expand the roll-out of the tool to new cohorts of young people and youth organisations particularly those who are socially and economically disadvantaged. The tool will support young people in gaining awareness, confidence and language around their transferable life skills gained through youth work and volunteering.

A key focus for 2024 will be on further engagement of young people with disabilities and organisations working with young people with a disability who would benefit from the use of the tool due to its online aspect and ease of accessibility

Another priority for 2024 will be further engagement with potential employers to demonstrate the value of the tool in showcasing the life skills gained by young people through non-formal education and volunteering which are transferable and relevant in employment settings.

The online tool will be further developed as a measuring tool for capturing creativity skills and for showcasing the creativity skills acquired by young people.

- **Online Safety Programme (€140,000)** – Foróige will ensure that Connect Safely is the flagship online safety programme for all youth organisations in the youth sector. The programme will support emerging digital youth initiatives in relation to Safeguarding and Protection of young people online.

The programme will continue to have a national impact and is available to young people with a focus on disadvantaged individuals and communities. Trained facilitators compete the programme with young people in a ‘fun, relaxed environment’, making it easier to engage young people who are ‘harder to reach’ in the sector. All resources from the programme are provided by the facilitators e.g. manual activities to support inclusion and participation and the programme provides all young people an opportunity to participate and promotes inclusion. The Connect Safely programme will engage with disability services and organisations to ensure access for young people. In general, young people are more vulnerable online, however research shows that young people with disabilities in particular are profoundly affected. Connect Safely will ensure that barriers are removed for young people as well as enabling communication, improving social skills and combating isolation.

- **Youth Sector Equality and Inclusion Support Initiative (€67,514)** - The focus of this programme is to address the economic and social disadvantage of minority ethnic young people furthest from mainstream: Travellers, Roma, young people in direct provision and emergency accommodation and young people experiencing racism. During 2024 the following actions will be prioritised:

 - Ensuring that the voice of Traveller and Roma young people is heard to inform policy and practice especially in youth settings.
 - Undertake a campaign with youth workers, developing a response to racism in the community
 - Issue guidance on developing a community response to racism by drawing on the established Racial Justice Champions network and linking with regional structures.
 - Develop a training and resource response for youth workers to address the emergence of far-right messaging to young people both within and externally to youth organisations.
 - Direct engagement with youth organisations funded under the UBU Your Place Your Space funding scheme to engage with minority ethnic young people who are exposed to racism and exclusion.
 - Ongoing development of the current linkages between youth work organisations and young people in the International Protection System particularly where there are currently localised gaps in the engagement with the International Protection System.
- **Family Support Services Counselling Programme for Children and Young People (€1,500,000)** – This measure in 2024 will be allocated to some of the 224 community and voluntary organisations, which are existing service providers under Tusla’s FSS Counselling funding, to increase counselling/psychotherapy/therapeutic services and other therapy types (play, drama, art and creative therapy, bereavement support)to

children and young people experiencing social/economic disadvantage in communities around Ireland. In the aftermath of the covid pandemic these services are reporting a large increase in families seeking support for children and young people. Waiting lists to access these services have significantly increased and the complexity of the issues children and young people are presenting with has also increased.

Organisations will be required to identify the number of additional children/adolescents supported to access these services with the funding, the number of additional hours service provided, the reduction in waiting list time over the period and implement an outcome measurement to identify the outcomes and impact of the funding for children and young people.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Youth and/or Family Initiatives	€2,716,218	Expenditure of €2,716,218 in 2024

2.5.5 Initiatives to support Babies and/or Young people

Valuing Early Learning and Care – A Documentary - €90,000. This action is a new and innovative documentary that will start a national conversation on the value of early learning and care. It will show real life Irish examples of excellent practice by early years educators that will build trust and engagement of the public on the unfolding developments in early education in Ireland. It will include engaging and accessible information on the impact on all children, including children with disabilities, in attending early learning and care services. A key audience in the production of the documentary will be parents throughout Ireland.

The documentary will also focus on the necessity to work to include our marginalised children including Traveller and Roma families and refugee and asylum seekers in early education with the aim of increasing their participation rates.

Part of the intention of the documentary will be to recognise the work of the early years educators and the growing professionalism of the sector and it will portray role of the early years educator as an exciting and rewarding career. The documentary will be of the highest quality and will be pitched in advance to be shown in a prime time viewing slot on RTE. Children’s participation will of course be sought.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Valuing Early Learning and Care	€90,000	Expenditure of €90,000 in 2024

2.5.6 Disability Awareness Initiative

Day Service and School Travel Training Pilot - €171,120. The HSE provides specialist disability services, including Day Services and Rehabilitative Training, to people with disabilities who require such services, and people with intellectual disabilities would form the majority of service users who are supported by these services. While day service funding does not include transport, some transport supports are provided by the HSE or funded agencies on a discretionary basis, and a variety of transport solutions are pursued in different CHO areas. These include:

- travel training to enable public transport to be used, where appropriate
- local transport such as Local Link, private bus transport and taxis, and some service providers provide transport where capacity exists.

In general, day service users are in receipt of disability allowance and are automatically entitled to the Free Travel Pass. However, most school leavers have limited experience of using public transport in advance of the transition to day service.

The In School Travel Training project would support young people who will be transitioning into disability day services to undertake travel training in their final year in school. An increasing proportion of young people are coming into disability day services from mainstream schools and may not have had the same life skills training that students in special schools would have benefitted from, including travel training.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Disability Awareness Initiative	€171,120	Expenditure of €171,120 in 2024

2.6 Department of Education

2.6.1 Special Educational Needs learners transitions Pilot

DAF funding of €500,000 for this pilot was previously approved for funding. This funding will continue supporting the transition of post of post-primary level students with special education needs in the 10 participating schools to training, further education and employment.

As part of this measure the Department of Education will continue to partner with Walkinstown Association for People with an Intellectual Disability (WALK), an NGO experienced in this area, who is currently engaging with and delivering their existing Peer Ability programme in 10 schools based in Louth, Dublin, Westmeath, Cavan, and Cork

The programme is designed to support young people over a period of five years, both in-school and post transition to mainstream opportunities.

Each partner school facilitates a WALK careers and employment facilitator (*one per school*) to engage with students and their parents and collaborate with teachers in complementary activities such as mini-companies, work experiences and transition planning.

The partnership operates as an ‘open collaboration’ with on-going communication between the school staff and WALK project staff in support of the students. Formal meetings are held in line with the Memorandum of Understanding (*signed by each of the participating schools*) which outlines terms of the partnership. The project is primarily focused on the student’s career aspirations and dreams, facilitates them in experiencing the world of work in the open labour market and sustains transitions to mainstream post-school pathways to employment.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
SEN learners transitions Pilot	€500,000	Expenditure of €500,000 in 2024

2.6.2 Foróige Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) Programme

The Foróige Programme aims to engage young people (10-18 year olds) who are experiencing adversity and disadvantage to develop core skills in business and enterprise by providing them with opportunities to develop and apply entrepreneurial skills in both a school and non-school environment.

A ‘NFTE Mentoring Pilot Programme’ and a ‘Social Enterprise’ module have been developed to offer more opportunities and enable better connectivity to employers and educators improving employability, training and further educational prospects for young people in disadvantaged communities across Ireland.

The programme will primarily target 15 to 18 year olds in DEIS Schools but will also be available to schools that wish to engage young people from 10 upwards, and young people attending further education and training. The programme also supports young people from the Traveller and Roma community, young people with special needs including young people with ASD who engage very positively in the programme. It will also provide opportunities for young people looking to continue their business through the NFTE Alumni Programme.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Foróige Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE) Programme	€300,000	Expenditure of €300,000 in 2024

2.6.3 Growing Youth Participation and Innovation in Irish Communities, a project by Young Social Innovators

Young Social Innovators (YSI) is a not-for-profit education body which promotes civic and social innovation amongst young people in Ireland via schools.

Tomar Trust will match funding up to the value of €720,000 over the 2023-25 period, provided the project receives DAF funding via the Department of Education..

“Growing Youth Participation and Innovation in Irish Communities” is a scaling project which aims to bring YSI programmes to 50% of second level schools in Ireland by 2025 and in so doing, increase youth participation in civic and social innovation in Ireland to 15,000 per annum by 2025. By embedding social innovation at this scale through Irish students, it will have a population effect embedding knowledge and social capital across communities. Through extended funding, a new generation of volunteers, leaders and innovators will be fostered, creating wider systemic change and transformative change.

Within the Balanced Regional Development content, the 2020 Programme for Government includes the commitment to support the work of Young Social Innovators ‘to assist young people in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath in Ireland, to address issues facing their communities and the country as a whole, and to harness their energy, skills and talent and to expand access to social innovation programmes to all post primary schools’.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
<i>Young Social Innovators</i>	€180,000	Expenditure of €180,000 in 2024

2.6.4 Time To Count

Time to Count aims to support the Department of Education National Strategy on Literacy and Numeracy. Managed and operated by Business in the Community Ireland, it is an employee engagement opportunity for business volunteers to provide numeracy support to 8-9 year old children in local disadvantaged primary schools through the medium of specially chosen numeracy games and activities. The objectives of the programme are to:

- To build children's confidence around numbers
- To foster children's enjoyment of numbers
- To reinforce children's conceptual understanding of numbers
- To support the development of children's flexibility & perseverance in maths problem solving.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
<i>Time To Count</i>	€20,000	Expenditure of €20,000 in 2024

2.6.5 Dublin Cemeteries Trust, 'Experience Glasnevin' Transportation

Funding will cover the cost of transport for a cohort of disadvantaged students to travel to Experience Glasnevin on a national basis. Funding is intended to remove the educational barrier posed by transportation costs for schools particularly those with socially and economically disadvantaged students travelling to Experience Glasnevin.

Geographical distances can pose an obstacle to schools wishing to avail of the learning opportunities within the Centre. This is a barrier for DEIS schools in both urban and rural areas. The funding will cover the transport cost of up to 50 schools, across the country. Through participation students are enabled to view events from the past through multiple viewpoints, encouraging skill development and supporting the teaching and learning of history.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Dublin Cemeteries Trust 'Experience Glasnevin'	€20,000	Expenditure of €20,000 in 2024

2.6.6 The Big Idea

The application is for a 14 week creative education TY programme provided free to Youthreach, LCA and DEIS schools, students and parents, empowering disadvantaged students with the knowledge and confidence they need to think big and take on the immediate challenges they face. The aim of this measure is to support students from marginalised backgrounds to develop a deeper understanding of the issues that are affecting them through applied creative thinking; allowing them to build the resilience to identify areas of opportunity and propose practical and grounded solutions.

With the aim of reducing the gap between industry and education, the programme matches industry professionals to mentor student teams, who then provide feedback and advice.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
The Big Idea	€200,000	Expenditure of €200,000 in 2024

2.6.7 Munster Technical University GoalMine TY Programme

Munster Technical University (MTU) GoalMine provides a 3-day living lab bootcamp for TY second level students in DEIS schools across the Kerry Region using a design-driven innovation process to stimulate and ignite the innate problem solving, critical thinking, and innovative mind-set of the participants through applied entrepreneurial and creative learning practice.

GoalMine has developed into two distinct programmes – one as a summer camps which targets a slightly younger demographic and a second transition year/school based programme which targets an older one. In 2021, 165 transition year students and 8 teachers participated in GoalMine. In 2022, the GoalMine Summer Camps were delivered to 90 students. For the 2024 programme, GoalMine will focus on encouraging a goal focused mind set in students of DEIS schools to equip them with the life skills to succeed after school.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
MTU GoalMine TY Programme	€70,000	Expenditure of €70,000 in 2024

2.6.8 CDETB Migrant Integration

The Migrant Integration Project (MIP) provides additional education supports, after-school and summer time activities to unaccompanied minors and other young migrants aged 12 to 18 who are Beginner English learners and come from disadvantaged education backgrounds. The programme's main intervention is the Migrant Access Programme (MAP) with core modules of English (as an additional language), maths, basic IT, and life skills. The programme runs from September to the end of July with ongoing intake and progression. Learners progress to mainstream post-primary provision or Further or Adult Education Provision.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
CDETB Migrant Integration	€120,000	Expenditure of €120,000 in 2024

2.6.9 Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Co-ordinators supporting Traveller and Roma Students

This measure will provide for Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinator posts for identified non-DEIS post primary schools with large numbers of Traveller and Roma students. The aim of the initiative is to provide supports to increase and improve attendance, progression and retention among Traveller and Roma students in non-DEIS schools with high numbers of Traveller and Roma pupils enrolled. The initiative is one of a

number of targeted initiatives in recent years to focus on the attendance, participation and retention of Traveller and Roma pupils in the education system.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Co-ordinators	€790,000	Expenditure of €790,000 in 2024

2.6.10 School Completion Programme for children seeking international protection

The objective of the scheme is to enable children seeking international protection to have access to the full range of school enrichment opportunities afforded by whole school communities. Additionally, this scheme will provide supplementary and targeted supports to further enhance the resilience of children seeking international protection and promote school readiness. The dual focus of this scheme is that of equity and integration. This project will seek to collect qualitative and quantitative data as appropriate to support the measurement of the tangible benefits of the intervention, and inform future policy development in this area.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
School Completion Programme	€200,000	Expenditure of €200,000 in 2024

2.6.11 Project to support students at risk of educational disadvantage in a number of Non-DEIS post primary schools in the North East region

The DEIS programme provides additional supports for those schools identified with high concentrations of students at risk of educational disadvantage. However, it is recognised that there are students at risk of educational disadvantage in all schools. There are instances where children attend a DEIS primary school and then transition to a non-DEIS post-primary school. After consultation with a number of second level schools in the northeast region, Tusla Education Support Services (TESS) has identified a selection of post-primary schools that are not in the DEIS programme but who have a cohort of students who are experiencing educational and economic disadvantage.

The schools have noted an increase in the requirement to support students at risk of educational disadvantage, due to the impact of the increased cost of living, particularly for social welfare dependent families and low-income working households. DAF funding will contribute to the provision of supports to this selection of schools, to address the economic and educational disadvantage experienced by students identified as *at risk* of educational disadvantage in these schools.

This project will seek to collect qualitative and quantitative data as appropriate to support the measurement of the tangible benefits of the intervention. This initiative may be used to inform ongoing policy reviews and development aimed at ensuring that all schools are adequately supported to meet the needs of their students at risk of educational disadvantage.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Project to address economic and educational disadvantage being experienced by a cohort of 2 nd level students in a number of Non - DEIS Schools in the North East region	€146,760	Expenditure of €146,760 in 2024

2.6.12 Update, Reproduce and launch School Avoidance Packs for all schools

School avoidance causes high levels of distress for families and can be very difficult for schools to manage. Early recognition and interventions that are planned and coordinated by schools, are essential to support a prompt resolution. Good communication between the school, families and professionals is key. Where the problem persists or becomes complex, schools often seek the advice and support of outside agencies, which can be a lengthy process. Since Covid 19, the relevant agencies involved in the production of the booklet (*TUSLA, CAMHS, NEPS etc.*) have noted an increase in the numbers of young people being referred to services showing signs of school avoidance behaviour.

The packs aim to provide parents and schools with guidance and strategies to address the issue in a timely manner and to avoid the behaviour becoming embedded resulting in Early School Leaving for the students involved.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Update, Reproduce and launch School Avoidance Packs for all schools	€14,000	Expenditure of €14,000 in 2024

2.6.13 Provision of interim transport support for children experiencing homelessness

The objective of this initiative is to provide short-term funding to ensure the continued access for children experiencing homelessness to their school of origin. The initial move to emergency homeless accommodation or subsequent short-term moves can result in children being unable to access their school. The temporary nature of their accommodation also mitigates against selecting the location of an alternative school placement.

The objective would be to support families to access alternative public transport during this period until their accommodation situation becomes more stable. This initiative would provide a stop gap until there is more clarity around return to their area of origin or a move to another area and a new school place being sought.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Provision of interim transport support for children experiencing homelessness	€20,000	Expenditure of €20,000 in 2024

2.6.14 Enhancing educational outcomes for children and Young People from the Traveller and Roma communities by removing barriers to have a positive impact on attendance, participation and retention in 2 areas (Balbriggan/Skerries and Cavan/Monaghan)

The object of the scheme is to reduce the barriers to education and services experienced by children and young people from the Traveller and Roma Community. This will be achieved by the creation of a specific educational development programme in two regions, as follows:

In the Balbriggan and Skerries area, the educational development programme will focus on addressing access/transport issues, transitions, educational supports, including out of school supports and wider community engagement.

In Cavan and Monaghan, the aim is also to target educational disadvantage among children and young people from the Traveller and Roma communities. This will be achieved by providing a range of community and school level initiatives, including homework clubs, extracurricular activities, community networks, traveller promotional events and wellbeing supports

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Enhancing educational outcomes for children and Young People from the Traveller and Roma communities	€180,000	Expenditure of €180,000 in 2024

2.6.15 Strengthening School Transitions and Attendance for Children and Young People addressing concerns highlighted in ‘Drogheda: Creating a Bridge to a Better Future, Community Safety and Wellbeing in Drogheda’

The objective of the scheme is to strengthen school related transitions for children and young people in the Drogheda area. The scheme would be part of the on-going process of addressing concerns related to children and young people highlighted in the scoping report “*Drogheda: Creating a Bridge to a Better Future, Community Safety and Wellbeing in Drogheda*” published by the Minister for Justice in March 2021.

This measure will look to strengthen school transitions, improve attendance and address concerns raised in the scoping report through the provision of targeted supports. These will include extracurricular activities, daily school supports, the development and delivery of wellness programmes as well as measures to address conflict and the resulting high levels of suspension and expulsions.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Strengthening School Transitions and Attendance for Children and Young People	€107,000	Expenditure of €107,000 in 2024

2.6.16 School enrichment project supporting children moving from DEIS primary schools to non-DEIS post primary schools

The objective of the scheme is to enable children moving from DEIS primaries to non-DEIS post primaries to make a sustainable supported transition and minimise the risk of poor attendance, participation and retention at school. This cohort has been identified as experiencing difficulty participating to their fullest ability in the non-DEIS post primary setting and are overrepresented in attendance referrals. The project will involve an integrated approach involving collaboration between Tusla staff members in identifying, targeting and meeting the needs of young people in this cohort.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
School enrichment project	€50,000	Expenditure of €50,000 in 2024

2.6.17 Bespoke webinars with themes around diversity, inclusion and equality, focussing on LGBTI+ students and Traveller and Roma children and young people

Throughout recently submitted retention plans an identified is how to ensure School Completion Programmes (SCP) responds to young people who identify as LGBTI+. SCP staff are seeking to have their own awareness raised so that they can be meaningful allies to these young people. It is hoped to work with BeLong To youth services with the possibility of creating a webinar for all SCP staff.

Secondly, many SCP staff work with a significant number of Roma and Traveller Children and Young People. To ensure SCP staff are operating in the most inclusive manner, Tusla Education Support Service hope to engage with Pavee point or the Irish Traveller network to create a webinar to ensure that the culture of these children and young people is shared with SCP staff.

By ensuring collaboration with representative groups it is hoped that the webinars will offer

meaningful engagement. Both webinars will be a general introduction. SCP staff will be encouraged to then make local and regional links themselves.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Bespoke webinars	€20,000	Expenditure of €20,000 in 2024

2.7 Department of Defence

2.7.1 Upgrading of Civil Defence Vehicle and Boat Fleets

The Department of Defence measure under Strategy 2 of the 2023-2025 Dormant Accounts Disbursement Scheme to upgrade its existing vehicle and boat fleet, which will strengthen capacity to respond to emergency and non-emergency events.

The ongoing provision of appropriate Civil Defence vehicles is essential in enabling an efficient response to national, regional and local emergency and non-emergency events, as they arise. While such events can affect the general public at any time, their impact can be more severe on the socially and economically disadvantaged, especially the vulnerable and isolated.

These volunteers are supported by a fleet of Civil Defence Vehicles including four-wheel drive jeeps, vans, ambulances and minibuses.

Ukrainian displaced persons related tasks undertaken by Civil Defence volunteers included;

- Setting up and assisting with management of Emergency Rest Centres
- Providing tentage for Emergency Rest Centre sites
- Transporting displaced persons from Emergency Rest Centres to pledged accommodation
- Transporting displaced persons to medical appointments and school registrations
- Collecting medications from pharmacies on behalf of displaced persons

COVID-19 related tasks undertaken by Civil Defence volunteers included;

- Providing administrative and first aid assistance at HSE Vaccination Centres
- Providing administrative assistance to the Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- Transporting persons to and from hospital appointments

- Transporting persons to and from testing centres and vaccination centres
- Sorting and delivering COVID-19 test kits to test centres
- Providing assistance to vulnerable persons within communities by delivering food, medications and collecting their pensions.

We also will use some of this funding to replace some of our boats. Civil Defence has a fleet of 102 boats. These are generally small inflatable boats and rigid inflatable boats. They are deployed regularly to assist with missing person searches on inland waterways such as rivers, canals and lakes. They are also used on inshore waterways such as estuaries. Many of these boats are coming to the end of their service and need replacing.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Upgrading of Civil Defence Vehicle and Boat Fleets	€400,000	Expenditure of €400,000 in 2024

2.7.2 Dormant Accounts funding to Veterans Associations

This measure will assist the Organisation of National Ex-Service Personnel (ONE) and the Irish United Nations Veterans Association (IUNVA) with specific special projects.

To date, ONE has nominated the provision of a Veterans Support Centre (VSC) and residential home in Cobh, Co. Cork and drew down €210,000 in this regard. The building was officially opened by the Minister for Defence in October 2021. Additional refurbishment was undertaken in 2022 in ONE’s residential homes in Athlone, Cobh and Letterkenny. A Programme for Government commitment is to assist ONE in its plans to establish a network of VSCs nationwide. The VSC aims to prevent homelessness through early intervention and to actively address loneliness. VSCs are available to all veterans to seek support and advice, not just to ONE members.

IUNVA’s nominated special projects have to date included the organisation’s new National Museum, which was officially opened by the Secretary General of the Department of Defence in September 2021, and the development of IT infrastructure at its various posts around the country. IUNVA has nominated the development of a new national training centre at its HQ in Dublin and the development of its post in Cavan to house four retired members of the Defence Forces. IUNVA is liaising with the Department of Defence in this regard.

The following areas to be funded are:

- Development of additional ONE homes in recognition of homeless veterans
- Ongoing capital projects/upgrades in ONE’s current homes

- Development of additional ONE Veteran Support Centres
- Upgrades to IUNVA headquarters in Arbour Hill, Dublin 7
- Purchase of IT equipment for educational training offered by IUNVA in conjunction with the City of Dublin Training Educational Board

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Dormant Accounts funding to Veterans Associations	€200,000	Expenditure of €200,000 in 2024

2.7.3 Sail Training Ireland

Sail Training Ireland is a charity which was established in 2011 to fill the void left following the end of the former State run Asgard sail training programme. The State scheme was disbanded following the sinking of the Asgard in 2008. President Michael D. Higgins is Patron of Sail Training Ireland.

Sail training is more about personal and social development, rather than just simply learning to sail. It involves bringing a group of professional crew, youth leaders and trainees from different backgrounds on a sailing voyage. The voyage generally lasts for between 5-15 days on a vessel that may have from 10-50 people on board. This creates a challenging and dynamic experience. Activities include keeping watch, scrubbing decks, climbing masts, cooking meals and setting the sails. It is adventurous and requires teamwork and motivation. Trainees are sure to learn new skills. No previous experience is required and various physical abilities are catered for.

The challenges that arise from life at sea encourage and support trainees to push their comfort zones creating a valuable opportunity for developing positive attitudes, behaviours and understanding as well as both soft and hard skills. It inspires self-confidence and personal responsibility, interpersonal skills and respect, teamwork and independence. It promotes an acceptance of others, whatever their social or cultural backgrounds, and develops a willingness to take on challenges in life.

It is now planned to continue this funding in 2024. Again a Performance Delivery Agreement will be put in place with payment of the funding linked to the provision of a sail training experience of at least 5 days duration for an additional 50 young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Sail Training Ireland	€50,000	Expenditure of €50,000 in 2024

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

2.8.1 Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs

Community Sports & Physical Activity Hubs (CSPA) are a collective of progressive sports clubs and other local organisations that work together to improve the sport and physical activity offering in their local community. Each hub has unique characteristics but all work in accordance with certain principles:

- The need to grow participation
- To engage with local communities
- To promote community leadership
- To offer a range of sporting opportunities and to bring all appropriate (key) partners/groups/people together.

The hubs provide information, support and advice on a wide range of sports and physical activities to make it easier for people in the disadvantaged areas concerned to get involved and be engaged in a more active and healthier lifestyle. Accordingly, the core objective of this measure is to:

- focus on disadvantaged areas
- bring local people together
- provide a home for local clubs and sports organisations in order to generate a positive local impact on sustainable sports participation and community integration and sports organisations in order to generate a positive local impact on sustainable sports participation and community integration.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs	€ 1,842,500	Expenditure of € 1,842,500 in 2024

2.8.2 National Sport Education and Training Hub

This measure will target individuals at both a local and national level by providing a clear education pathway for those interested in working or volunteering in sport. In 2024 Sport Ireland plan to deliver a range of innovative programmes and projects. Activities planned in this area include:

- Volunteer Supports Programme, which will focus on the delivery of actions outlined in the Volunteer for Sport Policy and will also support programmes and projects which focus on

assisting unemployed people gain employment and supports for building capacity for community clubs to grow volunteer numbers

- Youth Leadership programmes addressing the drop off of young people from physical activity. It will also include a range of innovative training and capacity building initiatives.

Projects are designed and aligned to the requirements of the National Sports Policy and National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP). In 2021 Sport Ireland published its Participation Plan 2021-2024, which has a particular focus on key target groups with lower participation rates including people from socio-economic disadvantage and people with a disability. These targeted aims are closely aligned with the requirements of the NSP and NPAP, and are supported by investment through this measure.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
National Sport Education and Training Hub	€1,877,500	Expenditure of €1,877,500 in 2024

2.8.3 Sports measures for disadvantaged communities to support the National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP)

The National Sports Policy (NSP), launched in 2018, includes actions across a range of sectors to promote increased levels of participation in sport and physical activity. The overarching target of the NPAP, launched in 2016, is to increase the proportion of the population, across each life stage, undertaking regular physical activity and thereby generating health, economic and social benefits. There is a particular and compelling requirement to significantly step up efforts to pursue this target amongst disadvantaged communities and people with a disability on the basis of lower levels of sports participation amongst those who are unemployed, those on lower incomes and those with no third level education etc. The NSP emphasises this requirement, which can best be addressed by the deployment of Dormant Accounts funding under this measure that enables Sport Ireland to deliver a range of targeted programmes for persons who are economically, educationally or socially disadvantaged, or persons with disability. This emphasis on the disadvantaged and those with a disability is also to feature heavily in the successor NPAP2 that is currently being developed and earmarked to be launched in early 2024.

Funding will respond to various NSP and existing NPAP Actions, including Action 2 of the NPAP, which relates to a national physical activity promotion campaign. Funding will also go towards sports inclusion disability projects for capital support to reduce barriers to sport for people with a disability through minor infrastructure development and the provision of equipment.

In recent years Sport Ireland have developed a number of policy documents including Women in Sport Policy, Sport and Physical Activity in the Outdoors Policy, and Policy on Participation in Sport by People with Disabilities, and most recently a Diversity & Inclusion in

Sport Policy. All Sport Ireland policies, as well as the Sport Ireland Participation Plan set out the framework for what Sport Ireland aim to achieve in the area of Participation for key target groups such as people from socio-economic disadvantage and people with a disability.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Sports measures for disadvantaged communities to support NPAP	€6,780,000	Expenditure of €6,780,000 in 2024

2.9 Department of Further & Higher Education, Research & Innovation & Science

2.9.1 Traveller Apprenticeship Incentivisation Programme

The Action Plan for Apprenticeship 2021-2025 promotes general access, diversity and inclusion in apprenticeship by offering targeted supports to encourage participation from under-represented groups such as Travellers. One of the Plan’s main objectives is “apprenticeship for all”, whereby the apprenticeship population better represents the national population.

To advance this, one of the new governing structures, the National Apprenticeship Alliance has established an Access & Inclusion (A&I) sub-committee. Targets and interventions for specific under-represented groups will be developed through the subcommittee to ensure that their voice is incorporated as an integral part of the apprenticeship system.

In addition to target group representation, the A&I subcommittee includes representation linked with second level education, community education, youth justice programmes, broader FET provision, and higher education.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Traveller Apprenticeship Incentivisation Programme	€550,000	Expenditure of €550,000 in 2024

2.9.2 Student Accommodation Bursary for Traveller and Roma Communities

DFHERIS is committed to addressing supply of affordable student accommodation for priority group students, in line with policy commitments set out in the National Access Plan (NAP). The NAP aims to support inclusion and diversity in the student body, address the wider struggles and challenges for students, and deliver sustainable progress. It recognises the needs of vulnerable learners, the most marginalised and those with special and additional needs. The plan targets and supports students who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, students with disabilities and students from the Irish Traveller community.

The number of students accessing higher education who are members of the Irish Traveller community remains disappointingly low. Less than 1% (33) of new entrants in the 2020/21 academic year were from the Traveller community. Only 119 students enrolled in HEIs were Irish Travellers.

The proposed bursary aims to increase access and remove accommodation as a barrier to higher education for the Traveller and Roma Community.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Student Accommodation Bursary for Traveller and Roma Communities	€600,000	Expenditure of €600,000 in 2024

3.0 Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

3.0.1 Balance for Better Business

The ‘Balance for Better Business’ initiative is an independent business-led Review Group established by the Government to improve gender balance in senior business leadership in Ireland. The Review Group is assisted in its work by an Advisory Group, which is representative of a wider cross section of business organisations and other interested parties.

The initiative arose from actions in the National Strategy for Women and Girls to increase women in leadership positions, as part of the overall objectives of the Strategy to promote gender equality across society. Increasing women in senior positions is an important aspect of promoting gender equality throughout society. The funding will be used to support coordination of Balance for Better Business activities, including supporting the employment of a consultant to lead the initiative and funding for conferences, meetings, and the production and launch of annual reports.

Since launch in 2018, Balance for Better Business has proved effective by helping drive a step change in the representation of women on corporate boards, with direct and demonstrable impact for women who are currently disadvantaged and underrepresented at senior levels in Irish business.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Balance for Better Business	€201,250	Expenditure of €201,250 in 2024

3.1 Department of Environment, Climate and Communications

3.1.1 Go Fishing

This new measure involves delivering angling taster sessions and classes by community, not for profit organisations. It builds upon previous measures operated by Inland Fisheries Ireland and meets the objectives of its Novice Angler Strategy. It will make angling more accessible to a wider audience and break down the barriers that exist to those from disadvantaged backgrounds from enjoying this wonderful recreational activity.

In addition to learning about angling, participants will also learn about environmental stewardship and understand local biodiversity, the need to protect vulnerable habitats and be aware of the threats posed by invasive species. To reach as wide an audience as possible resources and information will be available online with a strong focus on accessibility. A study to measure the impacts among the target groups is envisaged to inform future initiatives.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Go Fishing	€250,000	Expenditure of €250,000 in 2024

3.1.2 Targeted anglers with a disability or restricted mobility measure

This new measure involves creating and updating angling information and facilities with a focus on anglers with a disability or restricted mobility (universal access). IFI will work with other competent authorities to source and build upon the collateral already available to these outdoor users which will incorporate a digital aspect.

This will allow individual anglers and their clubs or organisations to source accurate information readily about where to fish in a safe and enjoyable manner online and in an accessible manner. From involvement in previous funded measures these angling stakeholders require enhanced onsite facilities utilising a novel approach in an environmentally sensitive manner.

Measure	Allocation from Dormant Accounts Fund	Expenditure Profile
Targeted anglers with a disability or restricted mobility measure	€250,000	Expenditure of €250,000 in 2024

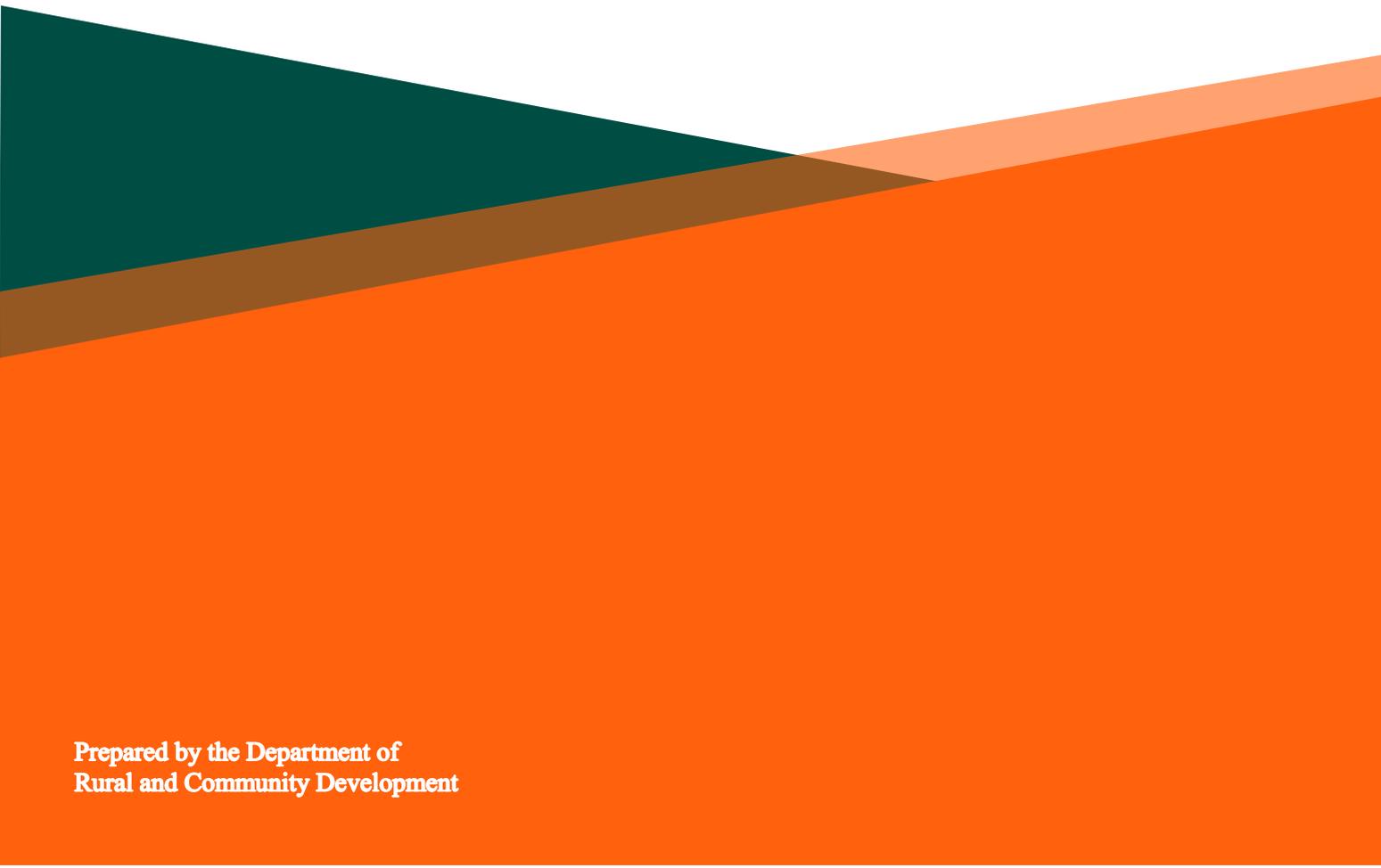
Appendix I: Summary Table of Action Plan 2024 Measures

The following table provides a summary of measures and allocated funding under the Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2024 to each relevant Government Department.

Lead Department/Agency	No.	Description	Max Allocation
Department of Rural & Community Development	1	Social Enterprise Measure	2,000,000
	2	Senior Alerts Scheme	2,700,000
	3	Targeted Social Inclusion	1,028,670
	4	Libraries Promotion Disadvantaged Groups	150,000
	5	Rethink Ireland	5,500,000
Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government	6	Housing First	3,000,000
	7	Traveller Accommodation	620,000
Department of Justice	8	Drogheda Implementation Plan Year 3	207,987
	9	Youth and Community Justice Services	4,159,734
	10	Awareness campaigns on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence and Victims Rights	1,132,963
	11	Community Organisations – Criminal Justice Sector	166,389
	12	Community Organisations – YPP Project Expenditure	62,396
	13	Measures to support paths to employment for people with past criminal convictions	915,141
	14	Cherry Orchard Implementation Board (COIB) Year 2	166,389
	15	Consent programme for the Further Education & Training sector	189,000
	16	Community Based Health in Justice	385,909
	17	Tovertafel projecting interactive light games by helping people in prison with dementia and autism	38,745
Department of Social Protection	18	Family Carer Measure - Supporting Family Carers including Young Carers, & Former Carers to access employment and/or training and education supports	2,500,000
	19	Care Support for Vulnerable in Society	1,149,810
	20	Oberstown Detention Campus Training Initiatives	417,500

Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	21	Traveller and/or Roma Community Initiatives	2,190,224
	22	Youth and/or Family Initiatives	2,716,218
	23	Babies and/or Young Children	90,000
	24	Disability Awareness Initiative	171,120
Department of Education	25	SEN learners transitions Pilot	500,000
	26	Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)	300,000
	27	Young Social Innovators	180,000
	28	Time To Count numeracy support for children	20,000
	29	Glasnevin Trust Transportations	20,000
	30	The Big Idea TY Programme	200,000
	31	Munster Technical University GoalMine TY Programme	70,000
	32	CDET B Migrant Integration	120,000
	33	Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Co-ordinators	790,000
	34	School Completion Programme for children seeking international protection	200,000
	35	Project to address economic and educational disadvantage being experienced by a cohort of 2 nd level students in 4 Non - DEIS Schools in *North East region	146,760
	36	Update, Reproduce and launch School Avoidance Packs for all schools	14,000
	37	Provision of interim transport support for children experiencing homelessness	20,000
	38	Enhancing educational outcomes for children and Young People from the Traveller and Roma communities	180,000
	39	Strengthening School Transitions and Attendance for Children and Young People	107,000
	40	School enrichment project supporting children in school transition	50,000
	41	Bespoke webinars for LGBTI+	20,000
Department of Defence	42	Upgrading of the Civil Defence Fleet of Vehicles	400,000

	43	Dormant Accounts funding to Veterans Associations	200,000
	44	Sail Training Ireland	50,000
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	45	Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs	1,842,500
	46	National Sport Education and Training Hub	1,877,500
	47	Sports Measures for Disadvantaged Communities to Support the National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP)	6,780,000
Department of Further and Higher Education, Research and Innovation and Science	48	Traveller Apprenticeship Incentivisation Programme	550,000
	49	Student Accommodation Bursary for Traveller and Roma Communities	600,000
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment	50	Balance for Better Business	201,250
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications	51	Go fishing	250,000
	52	Targeted anglers with a disability or restricted mobility measure	250,000
TOTAL:			€47,597,205



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