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ANNUAL REPORT

Summary of the Achievements of Cumann na Daoine 2017

Cumann na Daoine (CnD) was established in 1997 and after a few homes, it is now located in its own community resource centre at Catherine Street, Youghal, Co. Cork. Cumann na Daoine was core funded under the national Community Development Programme until 2010 when the programme was transferred to the Local Development Company SECAD. From 2010 to 2015 Cumann na Daoine was run totally by volunteers who kept the resource centre open to the public on a full-time basis.

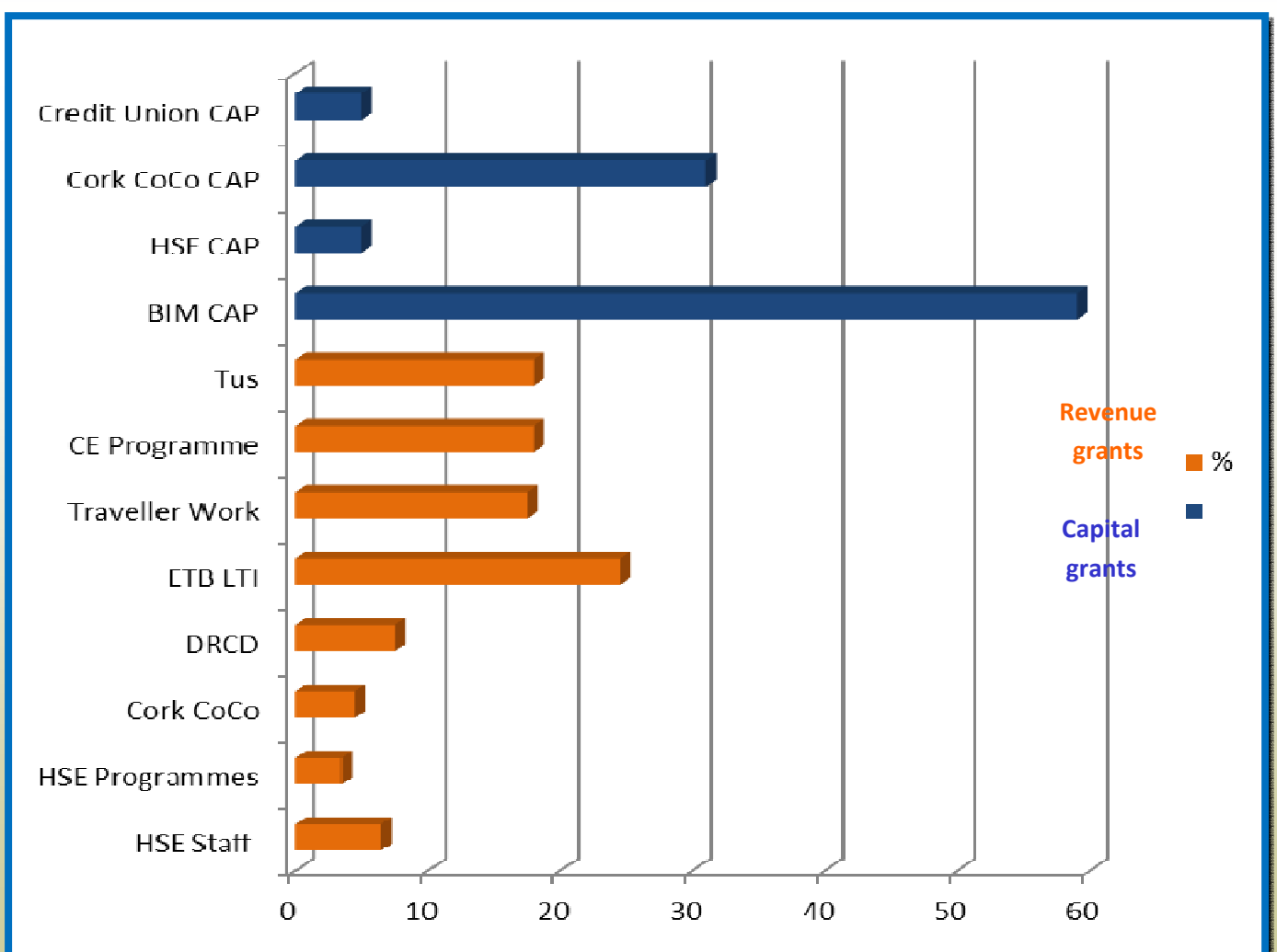
In 2016, thanks to a grant from Cork County Council and another from the HSE, Cumann na Daoine was in a position to recruit a part-time Development Manager. The Cumann na Daoine management committee decided on taking a two-fold approach to revitalising CnD by (a) recruiting a strategic development manager and (b) recruiting a local community development worker – this combination has proved highly successful and has been developed further in 2017.

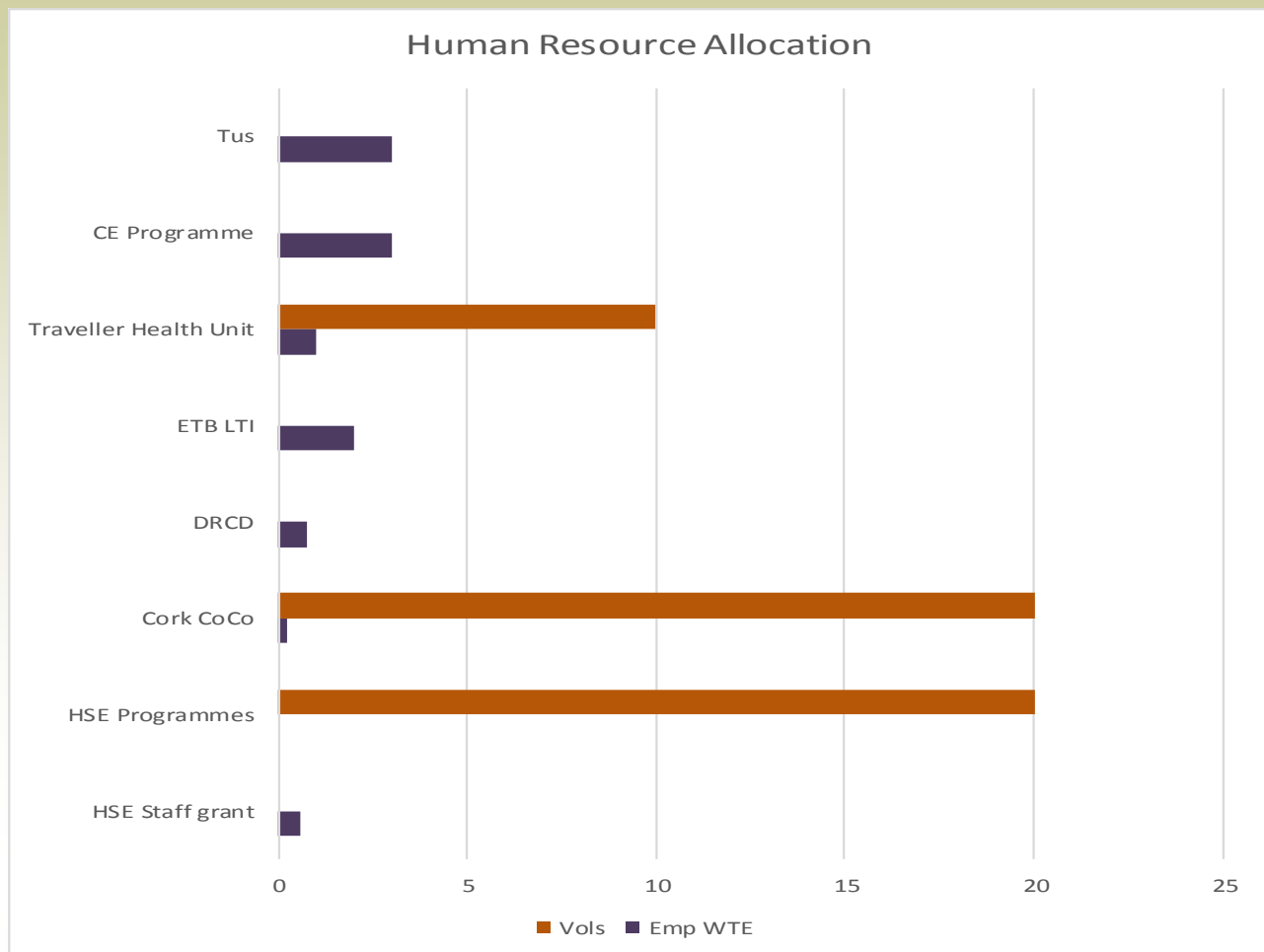
Over 2017, the following has been achieved:

- * Footfall into the building has been officially recorded and stands at approximately 25,000 per annum – a small increase on the previous year.
- * A strategic plan was developed and adopted by the management committee entitled 'CnD Vision 2020'. This has detailed development plans attached and an overview is given on page 12 and 13.
- * CnD secured an ETB Local Training Initiative in Culinary Skills – this is a 26 week programme delivered by tutors and staff to approximately 16 trainees. An application for 3 year programme is being prepared for 2018/19. See page 6 for more details.
- * CnD Local Community Development Worker has been very busy supporting local groups, getting an inter-agency Community Heritage initiative off the ground which will be operational for the next few years and there are plans for new intercultural and LGBT events. See page 5 for more details.
- * CnD has secured funding for a Traveller Development Worker and Project for East Cork for the next three years. CnD are currently recruiting for this post and hope to begin work in the Spring of 2018.
- * CnD with Barnardos has secured a family support project for Youghal. Work commenced in Youghal in October 2017. Barnardos in partnership with Cumann na Daoine, Youghal Family Health Project, Cork County Childcare Committee, Cork County Council and Foroige have applied for a Family Resource Centre for Youghal 2018 – 2020.
- * CnD secured capital funding to install a new commercial kitchen. The aim is to link this social enterprise called 'Class Catering' to our work with older people, St. Raphael's disability services and Men's Shed Allotments project. Cork County Council, Local Enterprise Office and Bord Iascaigh Mhara are supporting this development and we hope to deliver out elements of the East Cork 'Taste Cork' food strategy over the coming years.

- * We have applied for a community services programme (Pobal) to manage and run our social enterprise with a focus on East Cork.
- * CnD is striving to double its income through income generating activities and the building is scheduled to be at full capacity by March 2018.
- * CnD voluntary management committee is made up of 14 local residents with a variety of skills and backgrounds. The committee meets monthly and also supports the delivery of in-house training every two months. There are two sub-committees which meet fortnightly/monthly, i.e. staff liaison group and finance group.
- * Local Employers are very supportive of Cumann na Daoine, in particular, Supervalu, Lidl, Tesco, Youghal Credit Union and Youghal Chamber of Commerce. CnD hosted an employment workshop in September 2017 with local employers and social support services i.e. Dept of Social Protection, South & East Cork Area Development and Education & Training Board which was very successful. This interagency work will continue into 2018.
- * In addition, CnD has benefited from supported employment schemes i.e. having accounting and admin personnel for the past number of years and has placed 8 of those employees into employment.
- * Cumann na Daoine hosts many weekly activities that are open to the public, e.g. art classes, heritage, dancing, bowls, organise adult and community education programmes, e.g. community development, suicide prevention and facilitates for public sector services to offer services in Youghal, i.e. HSE, DSP, SE-CAD, ETB.

Overview of Cumann na Daoine Resources





Footfall is recorded every six months by the front office staff and reviewed annually.
In 2017 footfall was approximately 25,000.

We are continuously seeking a commitment to appropriate and longer term funding for the management of our resource centre and programmes.

Local Community Development Work

I joined the Cumann na Daoine team in September 2016 and was made very welcome by all the staff and volunteers. My role as Local Community Development Worker means I'm working closely with the Youghal Residents' Network, and the first piece of work was to make sure that the Afterschool Club was running smoothly and giving the support needed to local children. The Afterschool caters for children from 3rd class up, and supported by the new CE worker Geraldine Cronin, the Club was full all term, and thanks to an extra grant from the Child & Family Agency Tusla, I'll be helping the Club increase the number of places in 2018.

One of the exciting projects I'm working on is Living Memories – a Community Heritage Project that aims to preserve the history of residents from Youghal's four oldest estates – Sarsfield Terrace, Raheen Park, Dermot Hurley and Blackwater Heights. It's been a pleasure to meet local residents, and I met lots of them at the project's public engagement event in the Holy Family church in November, whenever we started the process of hearing stories of how people lived in these estates. The project will start to yield benefits in 2018, when residents agree how they'd like to preserve their histories – there are plenty of options and plenty of suggestions coming in, including storyboards for playgrounds, a CD of tales, and touring photograph exhibitions.

Part of that project brought me into contact with Youghal Community radio, an excellent resource which has supported Cumann na Daoine's work for some time. As well as being involved in Living Memories, the station has offered air time and information on other activities I've worked on.

One such event was the Intercultural Night held in November. The Culinary Skills students doing an LTI course here provided delicious cakes and many local people joined us, some bringing tasty treats from many countries, for a get-together that encouraged people to make new friends and explore different cultures.

The Residents' Network has been quiet for the past while, so in liaison with their Chair Mary Daly White, I'm helping the Network get stronger and more active. The County Council's Estate Management grant was increased this year so there'll be plenty to do over the coming months. Going round the houses with information leaflets has been a lovely way to get to know people and will help bring residents back on board to the estate Associations and the Network itself. Two Network meetings have been held, one of them being a Christmas celebration.

Taking part in Cumann na Daoine's Employment Seminar meant I got better understanding of employment needs in the town, along with information from organisations offering training and work experience. Other sessions I've taken part in – Domestic Violence consultation, Traveller Awareness training, Barnardo's Youth Consultation – have all helped me get a clearer picture of what supports people need and ways we may be able to achieve them.

Both the Men's and Women's groups have been given support in putting together their plans for 2018 – this means I can help source funding for their activities and plan campaigns to bring in new members. New initiatives for Older People were identified through the Community Foundation's Older Person's Fund event. Members of all groups came to the Intercultural night and each have a varied plan of activities for the coming year.

It's a pleasure to be involved with this proactive and responsive organisation, and to engage with the many organisations active in this space. Links with Barnardos, Adult Education services and others give me information to share and as I say, the welcome from all here has been mighty. I look forward to continuing the work in 2018! **Hayley Fox Roberts (MA)**

Local Training Initiative

Culinary and Employment Skills LTI

CETB Cork TC Local Training Initiative (LTI) with Cumann Na Daoine

Our Mission: To provide, support and coordinate education and training as a model of excellence. While providing a program that empowers people to help themselves and enhance their skills.

Our Values:

- To advocate equality and inclusion
- To provide a positive learning experience
- To promote skills training for employment and further education



Core Function: 2017 was an exciting year for the continued development of the Cumann Na Daoine LTI.

Run in partnership with the Cork Education & Training Board, the LTI has 14 participants enrolled and two full time staff, the programme has been up and running since September 2017. The initiative is designed to provide opportunities for marginalised learners aged between 21- 25 years who cannot participate in other training for social, personal or socio-geographic reasons. The LTI staff engage directly with the learners focusing on skills development for further education and employment through project based learning.

The programmes available are:

- Level 3 Culinary Skills
- Level 4 Employability Skills



These training programmes prioritise each learner's education and training as well as their well-being and personal development.

Local Relationships:

Linking in with local employers and community organisations has led to relationship building and saw the skills and talents of our learners come to the fore. All our learners have engaged with the local community in a voluntary capacity by meeting with local groups and supporting events. We took part in an Intercultural Evening, Tea Dance and the East Cork Music Project Coffee Morning. We also had a range of guest speakers including SECAD, the Department of Social Welfare, Samaritans and local business people . We are currently working with the East Cork Music Project and the Local Community Development Worker, Hayley Fox Roberts, on a networking event for East Cork Groups.

The Businesses in Youghal and the surrounding areas have been very receptive to our students and each student found a work placement that links directly with the course modules.



Our People:

The LTI team, Michelle Duffy (MSocSc) and Lynda Brophy (BSocSc) are highly qualified and dedicated with a broad range of skills that work well together for the overall running of the programme. Both Michelle and Lynda come from a Youth & Community Work background and have worked in a range of roles in mental health, training and education.

Barnardos Youghal Community Family Support Project

What does the Youghal Community Family Support Project do?

The project supports children, parents and carers to achieve their full potential.

We do this by:

- ◆ Working with you and your family to identify what your strengths are, and what you may need help with to make your family life better; this includes working in your home;
- ◆ Completing an assessment with you, and regularly reviewing our work together to make sure the plan is working for you and make any changes that may be needed;
- ◆ Working with any other agencies that are involved with your family to give you the best service possible;

Who do we work with?

Barnardos works in partnership with children, parents, TUSLA and other relevant services to provide the necessary opportunities for children to reach their potential. We prioritise working with parents who are concerned about their children's development.

We are located in Cumann Na Daoine, 3rd Floor, Catherine Street, Youghal.

Feel free to contact Val at 024-85331/ 086-7015250

Social Enterprise – Class Catering

This project was initiated in 2017 thanks to a capital grant from Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM), Cork County Council, Local Employment Office and the Health Service Executive. It is hoped to secure funding from Pobal in 2018 to employ a manager and a chef to run the 'Class Catering' business.



Class Catering will be able to serve up to 40 people in its new cafe/restaurant.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Active Facebook Page**
- **Website**
- **Job Noticeboard**
- **Weekly updates East Cork Journal**
- **Youghal News**
- **Radio slots at Community Radio Youghal**
- **Posters and display materials**

Activities:

- **Bowls**
- **Groups**
- **Bingo**
- **Health & Well-being**
- **Zumba**
- **Yoga**
- **Dance**
- **Choir**

Women's Group

Cumann na Daoine Women's Group has a thriving membership. The group meets weekly at the Centre and enjoys a range of activities, including exercise classes, bingo, craft workshops and a twice-yearly Tea Dance.

There's a strong sense of community within the group and great friendships have developed through being part of the activities.

Current members are mostly over 50 but they are actively seeking new members of all ages, with a special invitation to younger women. The group offers a warm welcome to new members and provides a supportive network, particularly for women needing company or who are new to the area. The group meets on Wednesdays from 3 – 5pm in Cumann na Daoine.

Courses – Longer Term

- ♦ **Human Rights Through Film**
- ♦ **Community Development Theory and Practice**

We also run in-house one day training sessions every couple of months which are open to all community workers in the area and include: Safe Talk, Child Protection, Traveller Culture and Awareness. LGBT awareness training is scheduled for March 2018.

Men's Shed

The Men's Shed group continue to meet on a weekly basis and from there they organise outings and activities. Early in 2017 the men agreed to a proposal to develop a new community garden, allotments and shed project which would be open to all. This original project aimed to collaborate with Links CoOp in St. Raphael's but unfortunately the required paperwork was not forthcoming. We are now proceeding in partnership with Cork County Council Municipal District, working closely with staff at the town council offices. We hope to report significant progress on this project during the first half of 2018.

Employment Workshops

Several agencies including Youghal Chamber of Commerce, DEASP, SECAD and the ETB along with Cumann na Daoine started exploring Employment Creation Initiatives in 2017.

A workshop with local employers was organised in September which was very successful. This workshop highlighted some of the training needs of employers in Youghal and also provided information about the types of support available to them. There is a weekly jobs Notice board in the drop in space at Cumann na Daoine open to the public.

Cork County Council, HSE and ETB are enthusiastic committed supporters of Cumann na Daoine and community development in Youghal.

East Cork Traveller Work

Unfortunately there has been a delay in commencing Traveller work in East Cork due mainly to delays in the recruitment process. A new recruitment drive commenced again in December with the aim of having a new worker in place by the end of February 2018. This worker will liaise with families in the East Cork area and initiate pilot projects with men and women. A new interagency steering committee has been set up to monitor and direct the work. We all look forward to engaging and having an active Traveller project at Cumann na Daoine.

Towards Occupation

Cumann na Daoine works in social inclusion, community development and education. We work with adults and groups in the community and we have been hosting the very successful 'Towards Occupation' Programme for over 5yrs.

Towards Occupation is designed to assist people who are in receipt of a social welfare payment to develop the skills and confidence to move into education, training, voluntary work, employment or in other directions.

Participants are supported to explore a range of new skills and set achievable goals whilst also focusing on confidence building, communication skills and increasing self-belief.

The Towards Occupation programme is tailored to meet the specific needs of the participants who input into the design and curriculum of the programme. There is one to one support, group work, goal setting, workshops, building skills, and confidence and progression routes for all participants

Towards Occupation Programme is a modular and flexible part time programme. It is funded by the Department of Social Protection through SECAD, and delivered by Cumann na Daoine for Youghal, Co Cork

The training is carried out in line with the course outline from SECAD which includes four pillars: **Tangible**, (Pottery, Art, Crafts etc), **Intangible**, (Life skills/Personal Development), **Career and Counselling**. Other elements such as Health, Nutrition and Social Media are also covered. Many of our participants have moved on to further education, starting their own business and employment.

Front Office:

The Front office is the first place you go when you come in from the street. It's where all staff meet at some stage every day, where they get their post and keys for their rooms. It is the main reception area for taking phone calls, making appointments and organising training schedules. It's where all room bookings are taken, where courses are booked and where everyone is introduced to the office equipment and how the office operates on a day to day basis. Its often the first place people come to inquire about doctor surgeries and the dentists in town. It's a place people come to when they are new in town to find out what's happening around town. Posters are handed in to be put up on the notice board or windows. Front office staff help to compile and print CV's for those that drop in. The Jobs & Information Notice boards are in the drop in centre, ground floor, Cumann na Daoine.

Accounts Administration:

My name is Virginia Sandoval (MIATI). I am a qualified Accounting Technician and have been working in Cumann Na Daoine for the past 3 years as the Financial Administrator. During my time here I have seen the company grow, not only from a development point of view, but financially. We have been able to adapt to the many obstacles that have been thrown at us. Through grants from Bord Iascaigh Mhara, HSE, Cork County Council, Cumann Na Daoine have Community Development workers and we have been able to upgrade our facilities, replace furniture and fixtures, upgrade our IT, and develop our company in line with today's standards. The company has grown immensely in the 3 years since I joined. It is a pleasure to work in a dynamic and multi-cultural environment. There is never a dull moment!

Other agencies also offer services from Cumann na Daoine such as:

SECAD Employment Services and Supports; DEASP Employment Services and HSE Mental Health Services and Counselling.

20 YEAR CELEBRATIONS!

2017 marked the 20th year of Cumann na Daoine's existence and this was celebrated in May 2017. From humble beginnings where members started meeting as a voluntary group at the Holy Family Church, to expanding and then meeting at the community centre for training with Community Consultants to then having their first home at 10 North Main St. and employing their first part-time worker (funded by SECAD).

Cumann na Daoine then went on to become part of the national Community Development Programme (CDP) which provided community projects with core funding to employ two and a half full time posts. Cumann na Daoine went from strength to strength with a Co-ordinator, Development worker and Administrator in place.

Cumann na Daoine went through a rocky phase from 2010 to 2014 with significant funding and staff cuts. However, in 2015 Cumann na Daoine, after much soul searching, restructuring and support from key agencies such as the HSE and Cork County Council, bounced back. Since 2016, Cumann na Daoine is almost at full capacity, delivering programmes all year round to approximately 25,000. The centre has had a make-over, new offices have been established and good governance is well bedded in. Daily programmes and activities at CND have been described earlier in the report.

Cumann na Daoine's success is due to the resilience of its core volunteer membership – those who give of significant time to the board, reception and to sub groups. Management is local, voluntary and committed – that combination steers the work, ensures key principles of community development are adhered to and explores new initiatives with others through developing good partnership and working arrangements.

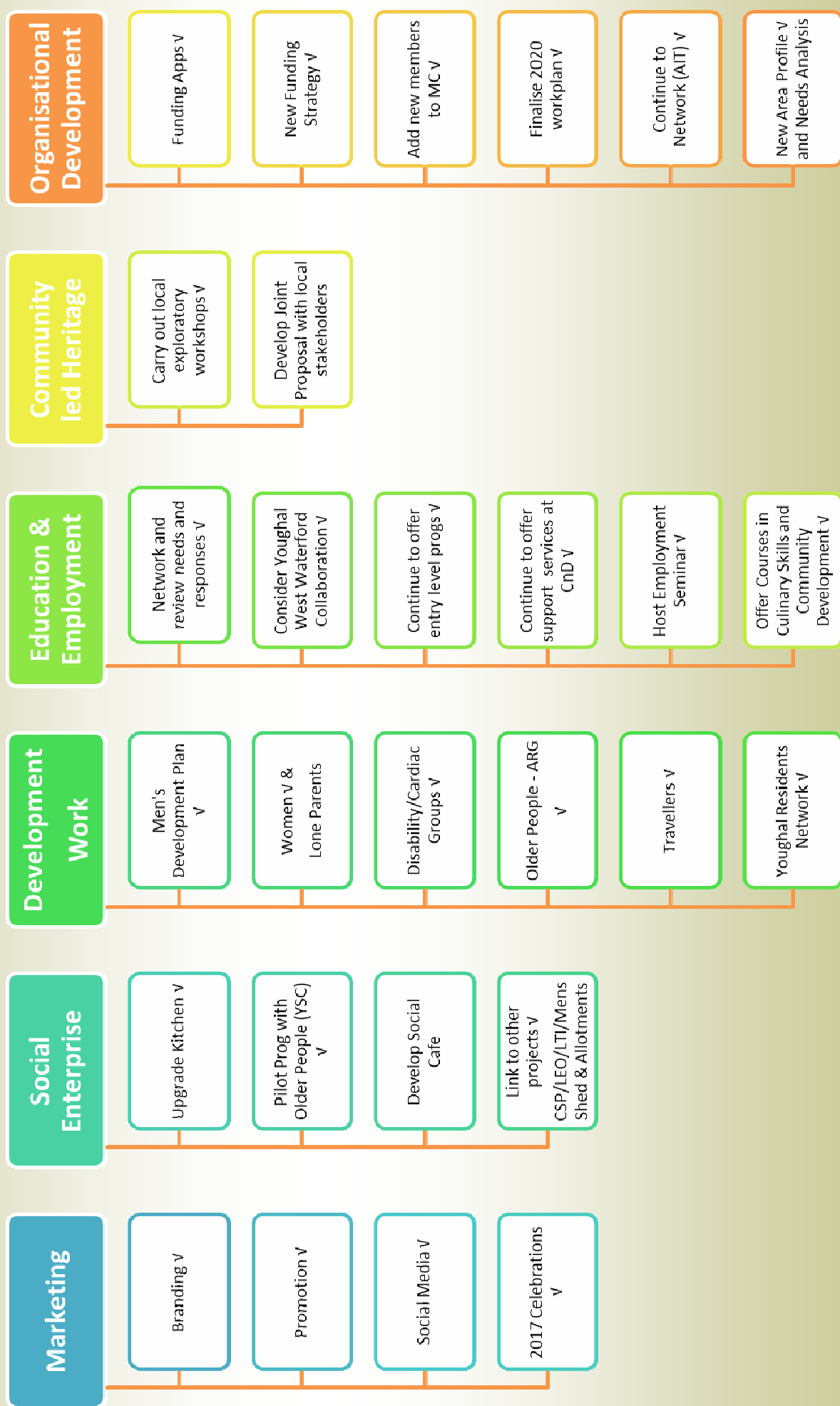
Sinēad Kane a great Ambassador for Youghal, along with Michael Twomey & Kieran McCarthy's lovely video clips ([www. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUoCMcP1IoA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUoCMcP1IoA)

*) of Cumann na Daoine were launched in 2017 to mark our 20 years. We celebrated in style, had fun and looked to the future. **We welcome all of you to join us in our activities, groups and steering Cumann na Daoine for the next twenty years. We are currently operating within our strategic plan 2017 – 2020. See also our priorities for***

**Cumann na Daoine is a community development project for and of the people of Youghal. We are committed to the promotion of equality, social justice and collective action for all.
Come Join Us!**



CnD: 2017 Strategic Development Plan. ✓ = work completed or being addressed/ongoing.



PRIORITIES FOR 2018

Social Enterprise

- Establish a social cafe and catering service at CnD
- Apply for a CSP to staff social the enterprise
- Develop an implementation plan with LEO, Cork CoCo, ETB, BIM and local organisations

Men's Shed & Allotments

- Reach agreement and obtain a lease for mens shed and allotments
- Develop an implementation plan with Links CoOp
- Link this project to all four men's groups in Youghal

Development Work

- Establish work with Travellers in East Cork
- Work with YRN, Men and Women
- LGBT new work to be explored
- Development of an FRC in Youghal

Community Heritage

- Interagency working to host public consultations with local residents with YRN taking the lead
- Agree a joint community heritage project proposal by all stakeholders including local residents
- Seek funding for same

Employment & Education

- Respond to Employment Workshop by exploring 2 new pilot initiatives
- Continue short feeder courses at CnD
- Continue LTI into full year accredited programme

New Area Profile & Needs Analysis

- New area profile and needs analysis to be completed based on CSO data 2016
- Distribute widely and table for further discussion at RAPID
- Encourage whole Town Response



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