

Castletown

Smart Community Plan.

Part 3 of 4

Business & Employment



A Plan by the Community
for the Community



1. Introduction

Welcome to the **Castletown Smart Business and Economy Plan** June 2019. This plan has been compiled by the **Castletown** community for the **Castletown** community. The plan comes at the end of a twelve month process of working to strengthen the community management capabilities in **Castletown**.

Benefits of a Local Plan

- ✓ Better local collaboration
- ✓ Encourages greater volunteerism
- ✓ Provides direction to local development
- ✓ Creates a unified voice and action team
- ✓ Helps identify & understand problems
- ✓ Improves access to outside supports



Clare Local Development Company

The Wider Project: The project has been funded by Clare Local Development Company and facilitated by a company called eTownz. The project is part of a wider project in Clare where forty communities across the county have been undertaking similar exercises. As many nearby communities are undertaking similar projects and developing local action teams, it creates collaboration opportunities for neighbouring communities.

The Four-Part Plan: This document is one of four parts of a community plan for **Castletown**. These represent four top tiers of community planning: Economy, Wellbeing, Environment and Management.



Castletown may wish to develop more detailed plans for specific areas within one of the four parts, such as a specific Tourism plan under the Economy heading, or a specific Energy plan under the Environment heading.

Town Teams: The importance to local development of collaboration between local people, clubs, businesses and service providers cannot be understated. eTownz suggests **Castletown** creates teams for each of the four top tiers: **Economy, Wellbeing, Environment and Management**.



> How Did We Get Here?

The Castletown Smart Business and Economy Plan has been compiled over 12 months from community feedback. eTownz liaised with a small group of dedicated local volunteers to organise and gather the information in this report.

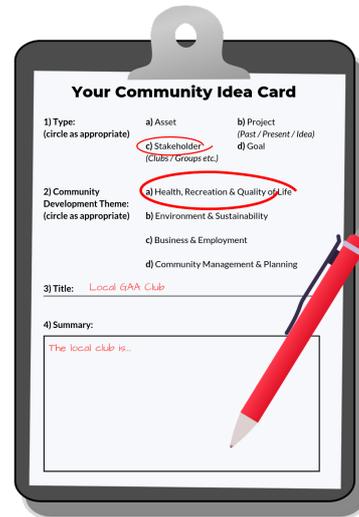


> Plan Structure

This is a 'smart' community plan. It draws on information from different sources and can be updated at any time through the eTownz online dashboard- [Click Here](#) . This allows different sections of the community to engage with an ongoing planning process

The plan was compiled by creating a 'model' of **Castletown**. The information is logged to a database as 'Record Logs'.

Each record log is assigned both a "Log Type" and a "Log Theme". This provides the framework for the community plan. This modular plan is compiled using the eTownz Dashboard, allowing the plan to be easily updated by the **Castletown** team in the future, adding new project ideas and challenges.



Your Community Idea Card

1) Type: (circle as appropriate)

a) Asset
b) Project (Past / Present / Ideal)
c) Stakeholder (Clubs / Groups etc.)
d) Goal

2) Community Development Theme: (circle as appropriate)

a) Health, Recreation & Quality of Life
b) Environment & Sustainability
c) Business & Employment
d) Community Management & Planning

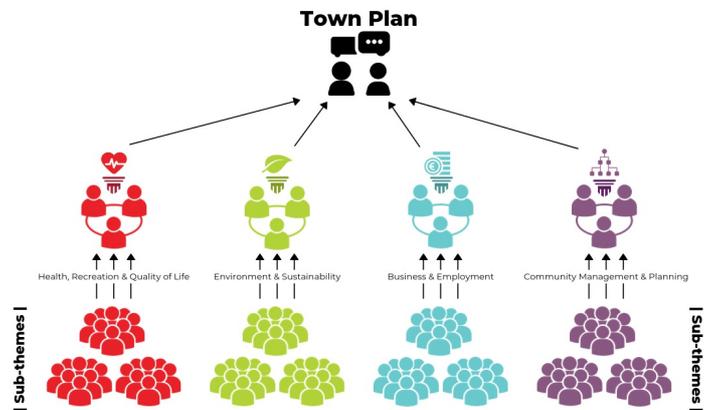
3) Title: *Local GAA Club*

4) Summary:

The local club is...

> What Next?

The plan hopes to assist **Castletown** locals with creating a series of community development teams. Each team will cover one of the four top tiers; **Economy, Wellbeing, Environment or Management**. Teams should be composed of representatives from local clubs, businesses and service providers, as well as interested people from **Castletown** . Teams will set their own agendas for how often they would like to meet, what projects to undertake and so on.



> So What Can You Do?

If you have an interest in local issues in Castletown , there are a number of ways you can get involved:

- **Share:** Read and share this report with others
- **Survey:** Complete the surveys or register your club/organisation
- **Contribute:** Contribute your ideas on any record by clicking on the log record title or visiting the eTownz dashboard
- **Join a team:** Register for a team online or attend a meeting to get involved in the **Castletown** plan.



2. Executive Summary

This document represents a local economic plan for Castletown. The plan is the results of a year-long planning process where people from across the community were invited to contribute their ideas. There is a major shift in rural economies and rural business make up over the past 20 years in Ireland and across Europe. This is particularly true for the more report regions. The focus for the future will be to focus on the business assets that are in the community and seek to initiate projects which can both support and grow the local economy in a sustainable manner. This project was facilitated by eTownz and the key recommendations we would identify were: There are excellent opportunities for businesses in the localities we noted there were lots of synergies and partnerships between some of the business in the community and we are confident there is potential for additional business opportunities if local businesses were to formally meet periodically. The meet up can be informal but a clear simple agenda set for the meeting. The meeting can also be used for networking, building partnership opportunities and allow more established business to provide support to startups.

Business, Employment & Economy Town Team

The first step in developing economic initiatives in the community is to create & support a team of relevant people and organisations that can help coordinate activities and facilitate change. The economy team can be small or large and decide its own format and may take on projects or simply meet occasionally to help coordinate groups with common interests. A good starting point would be formally contacting local business owners and inviting them to a meeting with the goal of forming a team to champion local business development. The team can agree on a format that suits its members including the frequency to meet any initial goals. The team may wish to start with small achievable goals. Priorities might include creation of a local business directory and liaising with other town teams to develop services to support local needs. One focus might be networking and the passing of business referrals. This will provide tangible benefits to business owners, providing value and encouraging support for the team. Building a local economy team helps coordinate cross-community initiatives, helps liaising with service providers, and helps the community understand and take advantage of local economic opportunities.

Local Business Collaboration & Packages Network

A key area that the town economy team may want to focus on is the collaboration between local businesses. A local business network could invite local businesses to work together to form packages. This can take many forms: a local builder, plumber and electrician working together to offer home renovation services or a local restaurant, tour operator and B&B offering a holiday package. By combining their services, local businesses could collectively market their services and develop new business opportunities. When two businesses collaborate they each benefit from new opportunities. The economy team could coordinate combined promotional activities such as: Meeting to share leads and opportunities. Organizing a local business showcase and invite everyone in the community. Encouraging complementary businesses to create packages of their services (e.g. tourism package or construction related package) Encourage industry to develop partnerships to targeted larger tenders. This project focuses on local business collaboration as a route to business growth but once active can also serve to support new businesses in the area.

Develop Flexible Economy Plan

Work practices are changing quickly. Freelancing and working from home allows greater work/life balance. Allowing work to be more flexible, working around people such as friends & families, can open up previously untapped economic opportunities. In the past 10 years, there has been significant growth in the number of people both setting up small home-based business and working for an employer from home. The economy team may wish to develop opportunities and services related to the resilient economy. Bringing together people with an interest, supporting low cost projects and flexible work practices can bring economic benefits to the community. The community could begin by creating or joining a regional chapter of the "Grow Remote" initiative (See <https://growremote.ie/>) or promoting the uptake of Airbnb by locals. The team may want to invite local pubs, restaurants and community centers to help facilitate flexible work by providing facilities like hot desks, conference or meeting rooms, free wifi and parcel collection delivery depots. Flexible work can allow locals to earn additional income, improve the quality of life for busy people and encourage new people to settle in the community.

Unique Local Tourism Plan

Clare is one of the top five most visited counties in Ireland and tourism is a valued component to the local economy. The economy team may want to explore specific tourism opportunities in the community, for example in the area of wellbeing or wildlife breaks. The team could work with local businesses to develop a tourism plan and publish the offerings through local media, brochures, signs and other marketing channels.

3. Summary of Community Stats

In this section we provide a summary of key statistics related to the community based primarily on 2016 Census data. In the appendices we provide further detail via charts and below this table are direct links to the data visualisations.

4. Stakeholders

Good local plans should strive to help all stakeholders within a community, especially the most vulnerable.

Sometimes, plans tend to focus on the most obvious stakeholders, such as local hotels, but forget about the small business owner working from home; they acknowledge the local football team, but ignore the local bridge club.

By building a register of the various local stakeholders, we aim for the Castletown Smart Community Plan to be inclusive and relevant to the needs of people and organisations throughout Castletown. The image across provides a breakdown of relevant stakeholders types.



TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Local Store - 8599	A local convenience and grocery store. T2: Local Enterprises T3: Retail / Services	Business	0	0
Public House - 8600	The local publicans play a very important part in the town's economic and social life. T2: Local Enterprises T3: Tourism / Hospitality	Business	0	0
Undertaker - 8601	A local undertaker that can offer services in the event of a community members passing. T2: Local Enterprises T3: Other Business	Business	0	0
Mechanic/panel beater - 8602	A local mechanic/panel beater who offers an invaluable service to the community. T2: Local Enterprises T3: Other Business	Business	0	0
Phelan's Agricultural Mechanic - 8603	A mechanic who serves and maintain local agricultural machinery. T2: Local Enterprises T3: Retail / Services	Business	0	0
Energy consultancy firm - 8604	A local consultancy firm that specialises in offering energy efficiency supports to business and other organisations. T2: Local Enterprises T3: Other Business	Business	0	0
Auctioneer/real estate - 8611	PJ Delaney Actionerr. Tel no. 057 8732 301 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0
Slieve Bloom Bouncing Castles & Marquee Hire - 8612	Bouncing Castle and Marquee hire Tel no. 087 2289241 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Tourism / Hospitality	Business	0	0
Quarry - 8613	Carrol's Quarry Tel no. 057 8732707 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Construction / Trades	Business	0	0
Coolraine Concrete - 8615	Coolrain Concrete. Building services. 057 87 35206 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Construction / Trades	Business	0	0

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Manor Stone - 8616	Manor Stone. Building service provider 057 8734174 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Construction / Trades	Business	0	0
Kevin Dollard Builders - 8617	Kevin Dollard Builders Ltd. Construction company. 087 2598158 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Construction / Trades	Business	0	0
James Morre Civil Engineer - 8618	James Moore Civil Engineering & Groundworks , Building 087 2592084 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Construction / Trades	Business	0	0
Level Hire - 8619	Level Hire- Mini Diggers, Dumpers etc Ph.no. 086 8128413 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Other Business , Construction / Trades	Business	0	0
Taxi service - 8620	Declan Keenan Hackney 087 2922300 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0
Cab service - 8621	Willie Dunne Cabs Ph no. 087 9091431 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0
Driving School - 8622	Geraldine's Driving School Ph no. 087 6613916 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Other Business	Business	0	0
Robert Delaney Electrical - 8623	Electrical Services Robert Delaney Electrical 087 6626066 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Retail / Services	Business	0	0
Guilfoyle Funeral Directors - 8624	Guilfoyle Funeral Directors Undertakers Ph no. 057 8732368 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0
baber - 8625	De Barbers, Mountrath & Portlaoise Ph no. 057 8681188 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0
The cutting edge - 8626	The Cutting Edge - hairdresser -057 8732957 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0
Simply Beautiful - 8627	Simply Beautiful Hairdresser 057 8756176 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Other Business	Business	0	0
Leinster Woodcraft - 8628	Leinster Woodcraft, Mountrath 057 8732127/087 2343773 T2: Employment, Local Enterprises T3: Construction / Trades	Business	0	0
Auto Dealership - 8629	Cuddagh Motors 057 8741749/087 9791491 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Other Business	Business	0	0
Larry Dunne Autobody - 8630	Larry Dunne Autobody Auto-repair company 087 7618477 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0
Ken Cahill Motors - 8631	Ken Cahill Motors, Motor dealership Mountrath 087 2383549 T2: Local Enterprises T3: Professional Services	Business	0	0

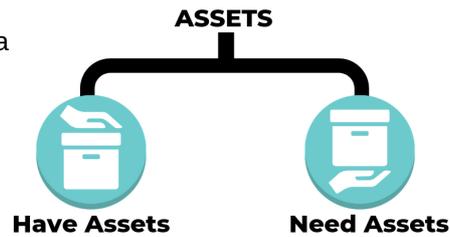
TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Delaney's Ballaghmore - 8632	Delaney's of Ballaghmore Motor dealers 0505 21023 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i>	Business	0	0
BMac Agri - 8633	BMac Agri, Mountrath Agricultural Machinery 057 87 32220/085 1577877 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Agri / Food</i>	Business	0	0
Tyre Service - 8634	Cahill's Tyre Service Repair and retail of tyres 087 6202666/087 2256302 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Other Business</i>	Business	0	0
Conroy's Pharmacy - 8635	Conroy's Pharmacy, Mountrath Medicine dispensery 057 8732177 T2: <i>Physical & Mental Wellbeing, Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Other Business</i>	Business	0	0
Hoban Heating and Plumbing - 8636	Hooban Heating & Plumbing Plumbers. 087 6827675/087 9115011 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Professional Services</i>	Business	0	0
O Connor Plumbing and Heating service - 8637	Brian O' Connor Heating & Plumbing 087 7757743 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Other Business</i>	Business	0	0
Castletown Inn - 8638	The Castletown Inn 057 8732564 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Evening / Night Economy</i>	Business	0	0
SHS - 8639	SHS Renewables Renewable Energy service provider 087 9692338 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Other Business</i>	Business	0	0
Phelan's Shop - 8640	Phelan's Shop Castletown. Long-established convenience store T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Retail / Services</i>	Business	0	0
Sandra's Playschool - 8641	Sandra's Playschool Pre-school education 087 6802173 T2: <i>Education & Skills</i> T3: <i>Youth Education & Skills</i>	Business	0	0
Stepping Stones Pre-School - 8642	Stepping Stones Pe-School Pre-school and creche 087 976 1233 T2: <i>Education & Skills</i>	Business	0	0
Breen's Steel Shed - 8643	Breen Steel Sheds Steel Shed supplier 087 9444098 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Other Business</i>	Business	0	0
Costcutter Mountrath - 8644	A convenience store, that supplies a variety of products and services to the local community 057 87 41784 T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i>	Business	0	0
Half-door festival organising committee - 8564	A group who plan and organise the yearly music and dancing festival in the town. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Group/Club	0	0

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Mountrath Amalgamated Cep Company Ltd. - 5874	<p>To establish, manage, run and provide employment services for the local community and to undertake, provide and carry out any service or contract of works deemed necessary or advantageous in promoting the objects of the Company.</p> <p>T2: <i>Employment</i> T3: <i>Work Local</i></p>	Group/Club	0	0
Tegasc - 5975	<p>Teagasc is the state agency providing research, advisory and education in agriculture, horticulture, food and rural development in Ireland.</p> <p>T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Agri / Food</i></p>	Group/Club	0	0
Mountrath Community School - 8558	<p>This school is located within the parish bounds and it attracts students from a large catchment area. MCS is an amalgamation of the Brigidine Secondary School, Mountrath with the Patrician Brothers, Ballyfin and St Aengus Vocational School Mountrath. It opened in 2009.</p> <p>T2: <i>Education & Skills</i> T3: <i>Youth Education & Skills</i></p>	Public Service	0	0
Paddock National School - 8559	<p>Officially founded in 1887 as a one teacher school, Paddock N.S. is a thriving, Catholic, primary school at the foothills of the Slieve Bloom mountains. It now has 3 classroom teachers with a Special Education teacher. There is a welcoming and homely atmosphere here with a strong emphasis on the holistic development of the child.</p> <p>T2: <i>Education & Skills</i> T3: <i>Youth Education & Skills, Special Needs Education</i></p>	Public Service	0	0
Castletown N.S - 5872	<p>Castletown Primary School is a co-educational Roman Catholic primary school established in 2002. Up until amalgamation in 2002 the boys in our catchment area attended Scoil na Mainistreach while the girls attended Castletown Girls National School. An extension was built onto the existing Castletown Girls National School in order to accommodate the larger numbers. The original girls school was built in 1966 and three extensions have been added since, one completed in 2006, one in 2010 and another in 2013. In 2002 the enrollment was 78 and the current enrollment is 155.</p> <p>T2: <i>Education & Skills</i> T3: <i>Youth Education & Skills</i></p>	Public Service	0	0
Rushall National School - 5962	<p>Rushall NS is a rural two teacher school situated in the Pike-of-Rushall about a mile from the village of Castletown in Co. Laois. The school has an enrolment of 26 pupils, 9 girls and 17 boys. At Rushall NS we aim to provide a happy, positive and secure learning environment where each child can develop socially, academically and spiritually at their own pace. Our ethos reflects and respects the values and traditions of the community in which it is situated.</p> <p>T2: <i>Education & Skills</i> T3: <i>Youth Education & Skills, Special Needs Education</i></p>	Public Service	0	0
Leader development program - 5964	<p>Laois Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) in partnership with Laois Partnership Company has responsibility to deliver the Rural Development (LEADER) Programme in County Laois. The new Rural Development (LEADER) Programme promotes social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas.</p> <p>T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Professional Services</i></p>	Public Service	0	0
Laois Tourism - 5965	<p>This agency is part of Laois County Council and seeks to promote a collaborative approach to tourism that enables Castletown to harness the potential of its built and natural heritage to</p> <p>T2: <i>Employment, Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i></p>	Public Service	0	0

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Laois Partnership Company - 5971	<p>The Rural Development Programme; Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) DSP Job Club; Community Employment Schemes; Tus Programme; Rural Social Scheme; Services to the Elderly Programme(LSTEP); National Childcare Schemes; Back to Education initiative. The Company's catchment area is the whole of Laois</p> <p>T2: <i>Employment</i> T3: <i>Job Seekers</i></p>	Public Service	0	0
Community Employment Scheme - 6142	<p>Ascheme that provides employment to locals. They work on a variety of projects that benefit the community.</p> <p>T2: <i>Employment, Education & Skills</i></p>	Public Service	0	0

5. Assets

Identifying, understanding and appreciating the assets within a community is an important part of any community plan. This plan takes elements from a popular approach to community planning called Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). ABCD works on the premise that positive and effective community plans are built by leveraging existing assets within a community. Therefore, it is important to properly log all relevant assets in this category.



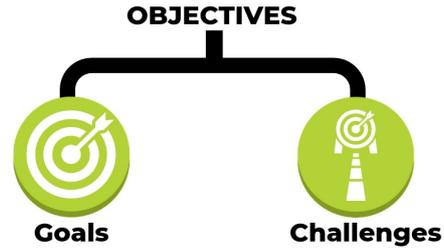
TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Tiny Tots creche - 8573	A creche that provides early years education to local pre-school children. T2: <i>Education & Skills</i> T3: <i>Youth Education & Skills, Special Needs Education</i>	Have	0	0
Mountrath Golf Clubhouse - 8606	Following its completion and official opening in 2007, Mountrath Golf club is proud to have at last a clubhouse that complements our excellent golf course. The clubhouse with its modern amenities is designed to blend in with its surroundings. The coziness and ambiance of the bar and the dining area are well appreciated by visitors and members alike. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality, Evening / Night Economy</i>	Have	0	0
Gash Gardens - 4960	"An amazing oasis packed with interesting and unusual plants to lure and inspire both the keen plants person and the garden novice". This is a privately owned space. It attracts visitors from all over Ireland and helps to boost visitor numbers to the town. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Have	0	0
'Half-Door' traditional Music and Dance Festival - 4971	Traditional music & dance festival (half door club). This takes place over the May Bank Holiday weekend. There are numerous performances by local groups. Musicians from all over Ireland perform at the festival. There are many Ceilli bands and traditional dance performances. During the two day festival there are also classes in Irish traditional music and dancing. The festival has been going strong for 25 years. It takes place in the Community Centre and in venues throughout the village. T2: <i>Employment, Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Have	0	0
Retirement home- Miguel House - 5978	There is a retirement and nursing home on the grounds of Miguel House. This is a significant employer in the area and important for the local economy. T2: <i>Employment</i> T3: <i>Work Local</i>	Have	0	0
Located near Portlaoise - 6091	The town is located near Portlaoise which now has a large entrprise park and a range of services and social amenities.	Have	0	0
Located near Ancient East - 6096	Castletown is located near many heritage sites. Under the Ireland's Ancient East Programme, signage has been installed at the following sites: Emo Court, the Rock of Dunamaise, Heywood Gardens, Timahoe Round Tower and Abbeyleix Heritage House. It is the aim of Laois County Council to facilitate and encourage signage atfurther sites of importance including Donaghmore Workhouse and Agricultural Museum, Aghaboe Abbey, Killeshin Romanesque Church and others.	Have	0	0

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Grove Restaurant/Bar Mountrath Golf Club - 6144	A bar/restaurant . It caters for parties and celebrations. Related Organisation: <i>Mountrath Golf Club</i> T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality, Evening / Night Economy</i>	Have	0	0
Slieve Bloom Way - 6148	Castletown is located near the magnificent Slieve Bloom Mountains. Slieve Blooms are in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands for breathtaking scenery, outdoor activity breaks, hill walking, eco trails & a wealth of heritage attractions. T2: <i>Employment, Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Have	0	0
Sewage System - 5977	The sewage system is inadequate and during periods of heavy rain, sewage had been seen in the street. Laois County Council have no plans to repair this key piece of infrastructure. This is having a negative impact on development in the town.	Need	0	0
Gym - 6156	The school needs a gym for PE Classes Related Organisation: <i>Castletown National School</i> T2: <i>Sports & Recreation</i> T3: <i>Sport & Physical Activities</i>	Need	0	0

6. Objectives

Defining local goals and challenges can often be the most difficult component of a community plan, but it is vital nonetheless.

Of course, different stakeholders within the community may wish to prioritise different goals. As such, defining clear goals is a necessary step in selecting projects and preparing a tailored action plan.



The table below provides a themed breakdown of local objectives, which are divided Goals & Challenges.

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Dev. Business Opportunites related to Retirement / Nursing Home Services - 4974	Develop and explore business opportunities related to the provision of services to people who are retired, people living in local nursing homes and people visiting people in the nursing home. To start with organise a meeting with the local nursing home and ask them what types of additional services would they like to see provided locally and how might they be delivered. e.g. Hairdresser may be needed but would need to call to relevant people as opposed to they visiting the hairdresser. What other services are needed?	Goal	0	0
Diversifying the economy - 6103	There is a need for more manufacturing and service employment in the area	Goal	0	0

7. Projects

Projects are the actions that stakeholders take to improve their community. Local projects can range from things like coaching a youth team to building a hall or organising a clean-up. While sometimes overlooked, it's important to appreciate the projects that have recently been undertaken or that are currently underway in the area, as this helps place the capabilities for future projects in context.



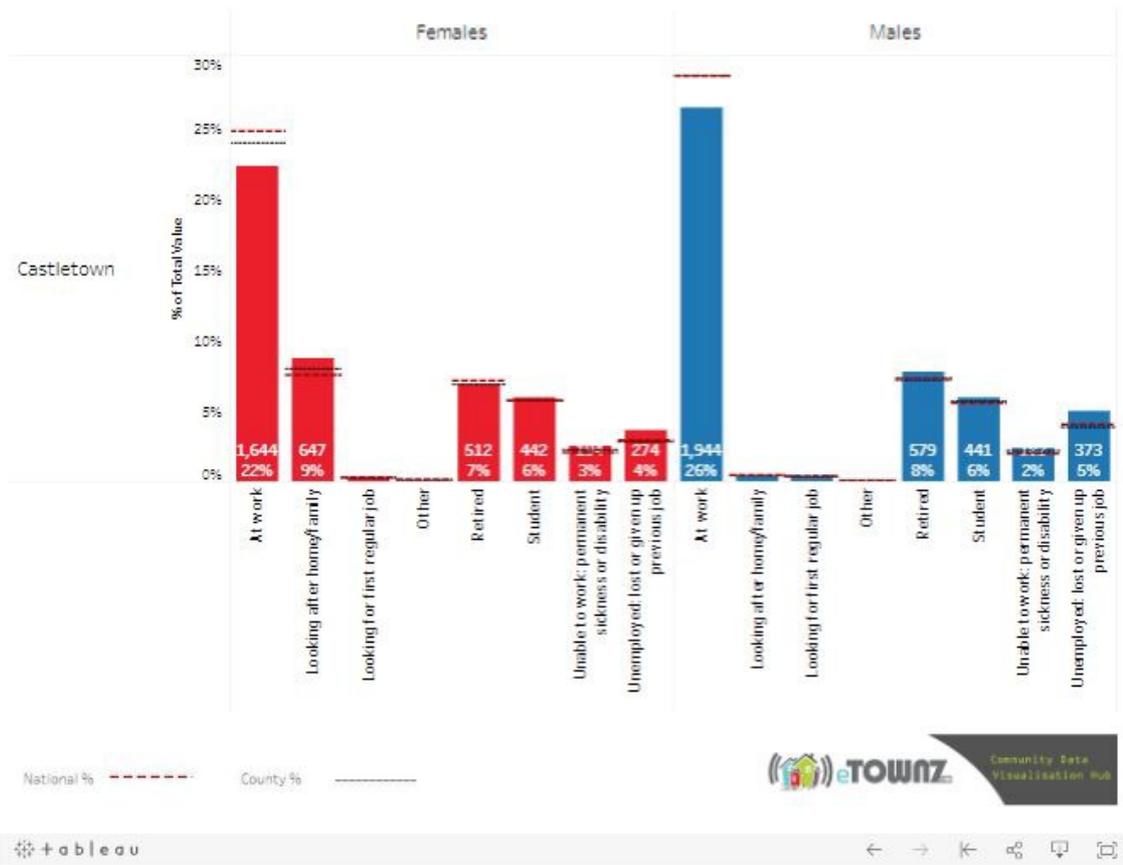
TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Develop river as a fishing destination - 8563	New facilities on the river could boost the number of anglers who visit the area. This could be promoted by the local tourist authorities. T2: <i>Employment, Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Idea	0	0
Picnic Tables - 8565	A number of picnic tables could be installed in the village and along the river. This could improve not only the streetscape but boost tourist numbers. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Idea	0	0
Slieve Bloom biking trail - 8582	A project to explore how the town can benefit from the Slieve Bloom biking trail. It is one of the entrance points for the trail and it is believed that it will increase footfall in the town. This could boost the number of visitors to the town, not just in the summer but all year around. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Idea	0	0
Digital Hub - 8589	A hub that would allow local people to work digitally. This could also help to attract new people to the area. A digital hub would also be of great benefit to local entrprenuers. T2: <i>Employment</i> T3: <i>Entrepreneurship</i>	Idea	0	0
Develop angling tourism - 8610	A plan to draw more anglers to the area. The river is well-stocked and pollution free and needs to be better promoted. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Idea	0	0
Develop River - 4961	The river needs to be developed. It could become a destination for eco-tourism. The river is pollution free and has stocks of fish. It is possible to see salmon leaping on the river. The banks offer great walks. Moreover, if amenities were constructed, for water sports, this could really boost the tourism sector in the area. T2: <i>Employment, Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Idea	0	0
Lack of shops and cafes - 4970	No cafe and a lack of shops. The area, as a result, is very quiet. People tend to socialise and shop outside the locality. So the goal is to increase the number of shops and cafes in the area to boost the economy.	Idea	0	0

TITLE	SUMMARY	TYPE	Number Follows	Number Comments
Community run Coffee shop - 4975	There is a need for local community run Coffee shop in the village. This could be an important social outlet for many. T2: <i>Education & Skills, Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Social Enterprise</i>	Idea	0	0
Create Pet Farm to draw visitors - 4983	Would be a great draw to the area if probably planned. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Tourism / Hospitality</i>	Idea	0	0
Business services from community center - 8588	The community center could be used to provide business services and training to local firms and entrepreneurs. T2: <i>Local Enterprises</i> T3: <i>Other Business</i>	Past / Present	0	0
Castletown Community Planning Workshop - 5958	Groups working together at a workshop to further collaboration and develop a community plan. T2: <i>Planning & Management</i> T3: <i>Planning, Management & Governance</i>	Past / Present	0	0
Residential developments - 6092	The local council is committed to building in the centre of towns and villages in the Laois area. This will help to develop the town.	Past / Present	0	0
Extension to care home Miguel House - 5976	De La Salle Order to build a two-storey extension to Miguel House to provide residential care accommodation to the south of the existing home. There will be a will be a range of short, long term and specialist geriatric healthcare services, including various therapies and support activities for residents suffering from dementia or Alzheimer's.	Planned	0	0

8. Appendices

Principal Economic Status and Sex

Population aged 15+ years by principal economic status and sex Comparison



Trendlines:

- > The red dotted line represents the national average for this parameter
- > The black continuous line represents the county average

Census '16

https://public.tableau.com/profile/pat.kennedy#!/vizhome/Economy_20/Populationaged15yearsbyPrincipalEconomicStatusandSex?Ename=Castletown