

Building an Age Friendly Society in Ireland

National Work Programme for the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012

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1. Foreword by Minister Kathleen Lynch TD, Minister with responsibility for Disability, Older People, Equality and Mental Health

As Minister of State at the Department of Health with responsibility for Older People, I am delighted that 2012 has been designated as European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations. The Year is set against the backdrop of a European-wide campaign during which the EU intends to focus many of its programmes and policies on the issues of active ageing, and put in place a framework in which new initiatives and partnerships supporting active ageing at all levels can be encouraged and publicised in Member States. It is encouraging for all of us working for and concerned with the welfare of older people to know that ageing is high on the European agenda, especially at this time of significant demographic change when it is so important for the benefits of active ageing to be highlighted and promoted. I am also heartened that the importance of promoting solidarity and cooperation between generations, to create better opportunities so that older people can play their part in the labour market, to combat poverty and social exclusion, and to foster volunteering and active participation in society is being recognised in this European Year.

I consider the Year in Ireland to be a key opportunity to build on the work already begun in relation to developing a National Positive Ageing Strategy to meet the challenges and explore the bounties of demographic ageing. We have an important opportunity to focus on the need for an active ageing culture in Ireland, based on the ideal of 'a society for all ages'. We will do this by promoting solidarity and cooperation between generations; by enhancing opportunities for older people to play their part in the labour market; by promoting healthy, active lifestyles; by fostering volunteering and the fullest possible participation in pursuit of a truly 'age-friendly' Ireland in the future.

With the support of all stakeholders, Ireland intends that the ripple effects of 2012 will endure long after the Year has concluded, and that its legacy will be its contribution to ensuring that Ireland is a good country in which to grow older in the Years ahead.

I encourage stakeholders at all levels to grasp the wonderful opportunity which this European Year presents to celebrate positive and active ageing, and to foster and promote opportunities for people as they age to participate to the fullest extent possible in society, and I look forward to participating in many of the events and initiatives planned for 2012.

2. Active Ageing – Why it matters to Ireland

Throughout the developed world, people are living longer and the proportion of populations comprised of older people is increasing. While Ireland has a significantly younger profile than most of the rest of Europe, demographic projections point to significantly greater numbers of older people living in Ireland in the years ahead. A century ago, average life-expectancy was in the region of fifty years, but today, average life-expectancy for men in Ireland is 76.8 and for women is 81.6. With this increased life expectancy, people who retire from the workforce can now look forward to more post-retirement years than any previous generation of retirees. The implications for any society in which the average citizen will live longer, the average age of the population will rise, and the average number of years spent in retirement will increase, are considerable from a health and welfare resourcing perspective.

However, to see the demographic challenge only in terms of health and welfare resourcing considerations is to overlook the enormous contribution which older people can and do make to the communities in which they live as workers, mentors, caregivers, child-minders, volunteers etc. In Ireland, many older people remain in the workforce after reaching 'retirement age' and many further contribute by taking care of children or other dependent family members, or by volunteering in their local communities. The Irish Government sees it as important therefore, particularly in light of 2012 being designated as the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, that any planning should focus on the positive opportunities provided by large numbers of healthy and active older Irish people and should take account of the significant contributions that these people continue to make to the societies in which they live, whether in paid employment or as volunteers.

With its own demographic antenna already well heightened, Ireland welcomes the focus on active ageing at European level presented by this European Year. It believes that the year will help facilitate the creation of an active ageing culture in Ireland and across Europe based on a society for all ages, promoting active ageing by encouraging Member States to do more to mobilise the potential of their rapidly growing older populations.

Maintaining autonomy and independence in later life is a key goal for both individuals and policy makers but ageing is not just an individualised phenomenon and it does not start at a particular time in later life. Ageing takes place in a family, community, workplace and society context. Discussing ageing with a life cycle perspective recognises that 'older people' are not one homogeneous group. Individual desires, preferences and needs change over the life course and must be recognised as such.

While we are faced with an ageing population, we must ensure that everything possible is done to reduce potential tensions between generations. Activities, policies and initiatives should meet the needs of all generations and be targeted towards connecting generations. We must do more than just acknowledge the two-way giving and receiving process between generations but build on it. Younger and older people have much to offer each other, not just in terms of transfers of obvious economic value. In that regard, exchange of skills is of vital importance. The skills that older people have developed throughout their lives, including life skills, can be of immense value for younger people, while at the same time younger people's enthusiasm in embracing new technologies, for example, and their capacity to impart that knowledge to older people, offers great opportunities for developing solidarity between the generations.

Particularly at this time, in adapting to the challenges of an ageing population, it is important to realise that all members of society have a role to play in promoting solidarity between generations, in combating discrimination against older persons, and in building a future of dignity, security and opportunity for people of all ages.

3. How the Irish Government Supports Active Ageing

Like many other Governments across Europe, Ireland is responding to population ageing by making policy interventions that support and enable people to live healthily and independently and to be active participants in their communities as they grow older. While it is beyond the scope of this document to detail all relevant policies and services, more recently the Irish Government made a commitment to prepare a National Positive Ageing Strategy to 'better recognise the position of older people in Irish society'. The Strategy, which will be underpinned by the UN Principles for Older Persons, and which defines active

ageing in accordance with Walker's Seven Principles of Active Ageing as set out at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, is well progressed in its development, and will be published during the 2012 European Year.

4. Mobilising Stakeholders

Background

Ireland has a strong voluntary and community sector, and many of the people who give so generously of their time working within this sector are older people themselves. Ireland can also boast considerable expertise among the many NGOs working with and for older people. The invaluable work carried out within these sectors is supported and encouraged by the Irish Government, which recognises the need for a joined-up partnership approach in the provision of services to older people within the statutory, voluntary/community and NGO sectors.

While responsibility for co-ordinating the European Year falls to the statutory authorities, the organisers recognise that it is this joined-up partnership approach, and the involvement of a broad range of relevant stakeholders, that will be key to achieving the objectives of the Year and also ensuring that the Year is a process in building a society for all generations.

European Commission Conference, 29th April 2011

The work of mobilising stakeholders for the European Year in Ireland began at an early stage with a number of key NGO organisations attending the European Commission conference, *Towards the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations (2012)*, held in Brussels in April 2011. Great enthusiasm and firm commitments to positive action during the European Year were expressed by the Irish stakeholders who attended the conference.

Information Seminar on the European Year in Ireland

With a view to harnessing and further building on this enthusiasm, and with the support of the Irish stakeholders who attended the European Conference, the Irish organisers of the European Year held a half day information seminar on 23rd June 2011 in Dublin. The purpose of the seminar was to provide background information on the Year to stakeholders from the statutory, business, community and voluntary sectors not present at the April conference. The seminar provided an opportunity for Ireland to outline its plans for achieving the objectives for the Year, as well as providing a forum for the exchange of information, ideas, experiences and recommendations related to the Year.

Ms Kathleen Lynch TD, Ireland's Minister with responsibility for Older People, Equality, Disability and Mental Health gave the opening address, and expressed her keen interest in the challenges ahead to ensure Ireland meets the needs of the growing numbers of older people in the population. The seminar also saw a number of presentations from key NGO organisations within the ageing sector. These presentations provided an excellent insight into the work of the NGO sector in enhancing the lives of the older population in Ireland. The business community was also represented on the day, and a presentation was made by Intel Ireland Ltd on innovations and inspirations for the European Year. AGE Platform Europe, which is leading the EY2012 Coalition, were also contributors to the programme, and addressed the issue of mobilising stakeholders for the Year in their presentation.

The seminar was attended by approximately 40 people, and the organisers were heartened by the interest expressed by those who attended, and the indication of their willingness to be involved in the 2012 Year.

National Steering Group

The Year presents an ideal opportunity to celebrate ageing and to encourage people of all ages to think positively about growing older by valuing the contributions of all members of society, irrespective of age. We want to raise awareness of all relevant issues and the best ways of dealing with them, and to encourage all policymakers and stakeholders to take action to meet the challenges ahead.

We recognise the considerable scope that exists for engaging in partnership arrangements, particularly with the NGO sector and other relevant stakeholders, and to build on and enhance the existing considerable work which is already undertaken at all levels of Irish society to promote active ageing

The work of forging these partnerships has been ongoing on an informal basis over the last few months, and has recently taken a more formal footing with the establishment of the National Steering Group for the Year which met for the first time on 10th November. This Steering Group draws together a range of key stakeholders who are willing to work in partnership arrangements, both with each other, and with the organisers of the Year in Ireland to identify existing activities, to suggest alternative ways of doing things and to develop new ideas within the constraints of limited resources. Indeed, a number of the Steering Group members have already pledged commitments to achieving the aims of the Year, and it is expected that more commitments are in the pipeline.

The membership of the National Steering Group can be found at Appendix 2 of this document. The Group is chaired by the National Coordinator and secretarial support is provided by the Office for Older People in the Department of Health.

In addition to the National Steering Group, in order to develop a more concerted effort to advance a number of particularly relevant themes a number of Thematic Working Groups have been established. These groups will consider how best to advance the individual themes over the course of the Year, will try to identify existing activities, knowledge bases, experts, etc to consider the usefulness of and if necessary to suggest events such as seminars, awareness raising exercises etc. to identify any particular suggestions can be developed to advance the theme. The work of these groups will help to broaden the knowledge and involvement of a wider range of stakeholders than just those on the National Steering group.

5. The Irish National Work Programme

As mentioned previously, it is acknowledged that a range of activities which are directly relevant to active ageing and which fit within the objectives of the Year as provided in the official decision already occur in Ireland, whether organised and run by Government Departments or by state agencies, NGOs, voluntary and community organisations etc. It is particularly recognised that invaluable work is carried on within the voluntary and community sector and within the many NGO organisations working with and for older people in Ireland.

It is felt that the best way of organising, coordinating and running the Year in Ireland, particularly given the current economic challenges and limited financial resources available, is to build on the range of activities which are directly relevant to active ageing which already exist and which are run by NGOs, Government Departments, State agencies and voluntary and community organisations etc.

The opportunity also exists to build on the work carried on during European Year of Volunteering 2011 to ensure that the contribution of older volunteers is recognised, to encourage more older people to volunteer and to appreciate the value that volunteering has on building solidarity between generations. We will continue to give this a priority, for example, by considering that the National Day of Volunteering might highlight intergenerational volunteering, or the Ireland Involved Awards might include a special category to reflect, or in some way, highlight the Year.

Appendix 1 to this document contains a list of activities, events and initiatives currently identified for the European Year 2012. It should be noted that this is an indicative list and many of the activities are in the planning stage. As the Year progresses and awareness builds, and as plans are firmed up, it is hoped and expected that the list will grow. We are aware that a broad range of other relevant activities and initiatives take place every year across the breadth and width of the country at both a regional and local level. Unfortunately due to resource and time constraints, it is not possible to identify all such activities and initiatives for inclusion in this work programme. It is hoped, however, that public awareness about the Year will result in some of these activities/initiatives finding their way into the expanding EYAA 2012 calendar of events. It is worth noting that a number of NGOs have indicated that they wish to associate all their current activities and events with the year through ensuring that the Year branding and logos is used as part of their respective campaigns. Also included in Appendix 1 are a number of ongoing initiatives which are not date specific but which form the backdrop to the Year in Ireland.

A process has also commenced to encourage relevant interested stakeholders to use other opportunities to publicise the Year. For example, discussions are underway that the cover theme for *Health Matters*, a magazine made available to every employee of the Health Service Executive (HSE, national health service) will be about the Year and maintaining the vitality of older people, enhancing their involvement in society and removing barriers between generations. The HSE will also encourage the addition of the logo to email signatures. The HSE is also exploring an idea to approach the Department of Education to show an elder abuse awareness raising DVD to transition year students which highlights the important role to be played by younger people in recognising elder abuse.

It is intended that the website for the Year in Ireland, www.activeageing.ie, will include details of as many activities and initiatives as can be identified. The website will serve as a source of information for sharing news about the Year in Ireland and will invite participation from all relevant stakeholders. The details indicated in Appendix 1 must therefore be considered as a starting point. With the support and involvement of an increasing range of stakeholders, the work programme will evolve over time.

Appendix I Calendar of Events, Initiatives and Ongoing Activities

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location	Description	Organiser(s)		
9 Feb 2012	Opening Event	Dublin	European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012 in Ireland will be officially launched by the President of Ireland at a conference in Dublin Castle	National Steering Group		
Throughout Feb 2012	'Picture House'	Dublin	Dublin International Film Festival screenings in care settings for older people	Jameson Dublin International Film Festival & Age & Opportunity		
Feb 2012 (tbc)	Publication of research review of active or positive ageing indicator sets in use in other countries	Dublin	To inform the development of a National Positive Ageing Strategy, the Health Research Board (HRB) has conducted a review of active or positive ageing indicator sets in use in other countries, required to inform the development and finalisation of such indicators for use in an Irish context. This event will launch this piece of research.	Health Research Board Department of Health		
21 Feb 2012	EngAGE Debate		EngAGE Debate 'An Aisling for our Age'	Age & Opportunity		
1 March 2012	Third Age celebration and Seminar	European Commission Representation in Dublin	Is Youth Wasted On the Young? (working title)	Third Age Foundation		
3 March 2012	Intergenerational Fun Run	St Mary's, Raheny	Intergenerational Fun Run	Third Age Foundation		
8 March 2012	Launch of 50th branch of Fáilte Isteach	City Hall, Dublin	Fáilte Isteach is a community project with older volunteers welcoming new migrants through conversational English classes. Failte Isteach	Third Age Foundation		

			utilises the skills, talents and expertise of older	
			volunteers and harnesses their desire to	
			contribute positively to society.	
22 Mar 2012	GRIDO Diversity Consultation	Dublin Castle	The Garda Racial, Intercultural & Diversity Office	An Garda Síochána
	Day		Diversity Consultation Day will explore the way	
			Irish society has changed over recent years. The	
			objective of the day is to meet directly and	
			engage with, the representative organisations,	
			personnel and leaders of a wide spectrum of	
			communities within Ireland. The attendees will be	
			given an opportunity to discuss issues affecting	
			their communities and through the use of focus	
			groups, help shape and influence Garda policy,	
			strategy and procedures relating to diverse	
			matters.	
7 Apr 2012 (tbc)	World Health Day	Dublin	The Department of Health will launch three	Department of Health
			research project findings which will be produced	
			from the results of the first wave of the Irish	
			Longitudinal Study on Ageing data.	
17 April 2012	Active Retirement Ireland			Active Retirement Ireland
	Trade & Tourism Show			
19 April 2012	Changing Generations:	Dublin	The rapid rate of social change in the past twenty	Social Policy and Ageing Research
	Intergenerational Solidarity		to thirty years has had a significant impact on	Centre (SPARC), Trinity College
	Research Project		intergenerational solidarity in Irish society. Family	Dublin and the Irish Centre for
			structures have changed and will change further.	Social Gerontology at NUI Galway
			There has been significant change in	
			intergenerational relations with concerns that	
			young people have less respect for older people.	
			The Social Policy and Ageing Research Centre	
			(SPARC), Trinity College Dublin and the Irish	
			Centre for Social Gerontology at NUI Galway are	
			collaborating on a research project to explore	
			intergenerational solidarity and justice in Ireland -	
			how people of different generations in Ireland live	

30 Apr 2012 (tbc)	Workshop/Seminar – Building Solidarity between Generations to combat ageism and age discrimination	Galway	together, help each other and depend on one another in their daily lives, and how they perceive the social policies that support individuals at different stages of the life course. Understanding how people think about and practice intergenerational solidarity at individual and societal levels will instigate a new national dialogue on intergenerational justice in Ireland. Conference to be held in Dublin (venue to be confirmed) All members of society have contributions to make and needs to be met and while the nature of the contributions and needs may change over the life-course, the giving and receiving of resources between generations are crucial to promoting economic and social stability and to combating negative and ageist attitudes. This workshop will take stock of existing initiatives relating to solidarity between generations and explore new and innovative ways of promoting harmony between generations.	National Steering Group
April 2012	Publication of Research	NUI Galway	Publication of 'Volunteering in the Third Age' Research commissioned by Third Age and conducted by NUI Galway	Third Age Foundation
April 2012	Launch of Third Age's 16th Senior Help Line Centre in Kilkenny		The Senior Help Line was established to provide a listening service for older people who are lonely and isolated. The lines are operated on a voluntary basis by older people.	Third Age Foundation
May 2012 (tbc)	Dublin City Ageing Forum	Mansion House, Dublin	The Lord Mayor of Dublin will host a forum to promote and celebrate Dublin City Council activities related to ageing. The event will include the relaunch of the Passport for Leisure and the	Dublin City Council

			inauguration of a Lord Mayor's Cup to be played for by bowling clubs.	
May 2012 (tbc)	Entitlements for Older People	Nationwide	The Citizens Information Board will publish a booklet "Entitlements for over sixties", a comprehensive, 200+ page guide to social and public services for older people which will be distributed through Citizens Information Centres and other outlets.	Citizens Information Board
Throughout May 2012	Bealtaine	Nationwide	Bealtaine is a national festival celebrating creativity in older age; events take place all over Ireland during the month of May	Age & Opportunity
8 – 10 May 2012	Creating the New Old – Bealtaine conference	Dublin	Creating the New Old is a major global conference which will bring together specialists in health, culture, arts, science, education, gerontology, social policy and tourism. Creating a New Old will showcase international best practice, innovation and opportunities relating to ageing from the arts and culture sectors.	Age & Opportunity
9 May 2012	Europe Day	European Commission Representation Dublin	Theme suggestion – tbc	European Commission Representation
May 2012 (tbc)	Workshop - Digital Inclusion	Cork (tbc)	A workshop to explore the increasing reliance on technology and the obstacles and opportunities this presents to older people	
23 May 2012	Coordinated Regional Active Retirement Ireland events	Nationwide	A variety of different events in local Active Retirement groups	Active Retirement Ireland
Mid/late May 2012 (tbc)	Say No to Ageism Week	Various	The week provides an opportunity to remind us of the consequences of ageism in service provision and encourages us to renew our commitment to combating ageism in society. This year's campaign under the theme 'I Say No To Ageism' will again target ageist and discriminatory attitudes by	Equality Authority/ HSE/ Department of Health

			service providers towards older people	
June (tbc)	Inaugural Go for Life National Senior Games		Go for Life promote greater participation by older people in sport and physical activity. It is run in partnership with the Health Service Executive (HSE) Health Promotion Units and the Local Sports Partnerships (LSP).	Age & Opportunity
June (tbc)	The Knitting Bus Project exhibition of work by participating primary schools throughout Ireland with school fundraisers for Third Age.	Throughout Ireland	The Third Age Knitting Bus Project aims to promote happy and meaningful contact between the generations and to raise awareness of Third Age. It builds on Third Age's long established Trauma Teddy Knitting initiative, where older people teach primary school children to knit.	Third Age Foundation
14 Jun 2012	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day		Conference to highlight World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.	Health Service Executive National Centre for the Protection of Older People Department of Health
Sept (tbc)	National conference on Third Age National Advocacy Programme for volunteer advocates		The Advocacy Programme for Older People in Residential Care has trained over 250 volunteers to become advocates for older people through a recognised and accredited training programme. These volunteers represent over 2,000 residents in over 97 nursing homes throughout the country.	Third Age Foundation
28 Sep – 6 Oct 2012	Positive Ageing Week	Nationwide	This is the 10th year of this celebration of positive ageing centring on 1 October as UN International Day of Older Persons. It takes the form of a week of national events and over 1000 regional events and activities all over the country including 15 Positive Ageing towns. It involves many groups of older people as well as other voluntary, statutory and private bodies plus an increasing number of intergenerational activities and events.	Age Action Ireland

28 Sep – 6 Oct 2012	Silver Surfers Awards	Dublin	National Awards for older people who have excelled using IT in different categories including a category for people over 90 years.	Age Action Ireland
Oct 2012 (tbc)	'ARA Go On'	Western Region	This festival will offer Active Retirement Associations from across the Western Region the opportunity to partake in a range of leisure and cultural events.	Active Retirement Ireland
Oct 2012 (tbc)	Third Age Dublin Fun Run	Malahide Castle, Dublin		Third Age Foundation
Oct 2012 (tbc)	Intergenerational Golf Classic	Kildare		Third Age Foundation
Oct 2012 (tbc)	Two ageing experiences	ТВС	A cross-border conference to explore synergies between the ageing experience in the north and south of Ireland	Department of Health/National Steering Group
1 Oct 2012	UN International Day of Older Persons			
2 Nov 2012	Samhain Night		A night of performance on the darker sides of ageing. Samhain was traditionally a time of preparing for the difficulties of winter, of making hard choices and facing up to the hard end of the year. Samhain is an event that looks at some of the unpalatable truths that people face. It is a space created for looking at some of the harder topics that need to be discussed if we are to accept our own ageing.	Age & Opportunity
Nov 2012 (tbc)	Golden Years festival	Waterford	The 'Golden Years' Festival will comprise a range of exciting events for older people in and around Waterford, including singing contests and cabarets; art competitions; indoor bowls; and the popular 'Golden Years' Festival Ball.	Active Retirement Ireland
Nov 2012 (tbc)	End of Phase 1 of WeDo (Well Being and Dignity of Older		WeDO is a project to develop a lasting and growing partnership of organisations at all levels	Third Age Foundation

	People) and publication of Strategy		to promote the wellbeing and dignity of vulnerable and disabled older people and prevent elder abuse at all levels and in all settings through the promotion of quality long-term care.	
Nov 2012 (tbc)	Announcement of the Irish Sports Council Go for Life Small Grant Scheme		One of the main elements of the Go for Life Programme is the National Grant Scheme for Sport and Physical Activity for Older People. Money is allocated to local groups seeking to provide increased opportunities for older people to participate in sport and physical activity.	Irish Sports Council / Age & Opportunity
Nov 2012 (tbc)	Workshop	ТВС	The employment situation for older people.	tbc
Dec 2012 (tbc)	Publication on intergenerational solidarity events during 2012			Active Retirement Ireland, Age & Opportunity, Third Age Foundation
Dec 2012	Closing conference	Dublin	A celebration of Active Ageing – A legacy for future generations. A conference to highlight the valuable contribution older people make to society and to ensure awareness that promoting active ageing enables older people to continue working, to stay healthy longer and to continue to contribute to society in so many ways	National Steering Group

Initiatives and ongoing activities

Commitment	Organisation	Objective
The National Positive Ageing Strategy will be completed and published in 2012	All of Government, Department of Health and Cross Departmental Group	The Programme for Government published in March 2011 has committed to completing and implementing the National Positive Ageing Strategy so that older people are recognised, supported and enabled to live independent full lives. The Strategy will set the strategic direction for future policies, programmes and services for older people in Ireland and will set out a common framework for the development of operational plans by Government Departments which will set out each Department's objectives relating to older people.
Age Friendly Counties	Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and local authorities	Work will continue to progress the Age Friendly County Initiative and to encourage more local authorities to commence the process of
The Irish Sports Council will continue to support the Go for Life programme in 2012 and all elements of the programme will be rolled out again including the National Grant scheme.	Irish Sports Council	The Scheme promotes opportunities for older people to participate in sport and physical activity. Go For Life encourages greater participation by older people in sports and physical activities at a time in life when regular exercise is hugely beneficial. Participation in sport and physical activity is proven to improve quality of life and health for all ages but older people particularly benefit from leading an active lifestyle. Go for Life will continue their promotional campaigns in conjunction with Age & Opportunity and these will be leveraged to promote positive messages in the media and general public around ageing and older people.
Care and Repair programme	Age Action Ireland	Age Action will continue to run the <u>Care and Repair programme</u> which provides a range of practical repair and care services for older and vulnerable people.

Commitment	Organisation	Objective
By the end of the 2012, Logon Learn will aim to expand the programme by a further 50%	Intel, Microsoft and An Post	IT or computer literacy is often an issue for older people who may not have had the opportunity to learn how to use a computer or discover the Internet. Log On, Learn is an easy and friendly way to learn how to use computers. Log On, Learn is a programme designed to 'buddy up' a participating transition-year student with an older person from their local community to share skills with each other.
Zozzy TV	HSE	The HSE's elder abuse awareness campaign will include showing videos at major outdoor venues in Dublin city centre. (Zozzy TV is a facility for showing short videos on large public screens at St. Stephen's Green Shopping Centre and on Henry Street.)
Getting Started Programme	Age Action Ireland	As part of the fight against digital exclusion, Age Action's <u>Getting Started</u> programme aims to provide help with computing, Skype and mobile phones through trained volunteers working 1 to1 or in small groups and will serve at least over 4,600 older people with partners DCU in Dublin, NUI Galway and Limerick Community Connection in 2012.

Appendix 2 National Steering Group Membership

Membership list

Active Retirement Ireland

Age Action Ireland

Age and Opportunity

AGE Platform Europe

Ageing Well Network

Citizens Information Board

Cluid Housing Association

Department of Health

Department of Social Protection

Disability Federation of Ireland

ICTU Retired Workers Committee

Older and Bolder

Older Women's Network

Pavee Point

The Equality Authority

The European Commission Representation in Ireland

The Irish Association of Older People

The Irish Senior Citizens Parliament

The Irish Sports Council

The National Youth Council of Ireland

Third Age Ireland

Volunteer Ireland

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