

Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2014



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Community and Local Government

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Introduction

Background

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. The main purpose of the legislation is to reunite account holders/policy holders with their funds in credit institutions/insurance undertakings and in this regard, institutions/undertakings are required to take steps to identify and contact the owners of dormant accounts and unclaimed life assurance policies.

Dormant funds/unclaimed life assurance policies, which have not been reclaimed by the original account/policy holder or their beneficiaries, are transferred each year by the financial institution/insurance undertaking to the Dormant Accounts Fund which is managed by the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA). The transfer of monies takes place on the basis that the beneficial owner will have a guaranteed right of reclaim to their property in the future.

The legislation also provides for a scheme for the disbursement of funds that are unlikely to be reclaimed. In each year monies may be disbursed in accordance with Part 6 of the 2012 Act, from the Account, but only for the purposes of programmes or projects to assist:

1. the personal and social development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged;
2. the educational development of persons who are educationally disadvantaged or
3. persons with a disability (within the meaning of the Equal Status Act 2000).

Statutory Remit

Disbursement Scheme/Action Plan

A new Disbursement Scheme was approved by Government in December 2013 in accordance with the Dormant Accounts (Amendment) Act 2012. The 2012 Act also provides that, following consultation with the Minister for Education and Skills, the Minister for Health, the Minister for Social Protection, and such other persons (including Ministers of the Government) as the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government considers appropriate, the Minister may adopt an action plan, or decide not to adopt an action plan.

The Act further provides that as soon as practicable after an action plan has been adopted the Minister shall cause a copy of the plan to be laid before each House of the Oireachtas and, if a resolution annulling the plan is passed by either such House within the next 21 days on which that House sits after the plan is laid before it, the plan shall be annulled accordingly, but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under the plan, and arrange for the plan to be published in a form and manner that will enable members of the public to have access to it.

Preparation of the Action Plan for 2014

In preparing the Action Plan for 2014, the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government has undertaken a consultation process with relevant Government Departments and Pobal. In the following chapter this Action Plan provides descriptions of measures planned by the following Departments;

- Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government
- Department of Justice and Equality and the Irish Prison Service
- Department of Social Protection
- Department of Transport Tourism and Sport
- Department of Children and Youth Affairs
- Department of Education and Skills
- Department of Health

A summary table of the measures is shown in Appendix I.

Accounting Procedures

Under the 2012 Act, disbursements will continue to be made from the Dormant Accounts Fund through the Votes of relevant Departments and will be Exchequer neutral. The Act provides that the cost of engaging service providers (such as Pobal) to administer/deliver the Action Plan (which will include monitoring and evaluation and impact assessment) will be met from the Fund, while normal administration costs incurred by relevant Departments will be met from within existing budgets.

Action Plans for Departments

Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government

National Social Innovation Fund

The Forum on Philanthropy and Fundraising is a joint initiative between Government and the Philanthropic sector to develop philanthropy and charitable giving in Ireland. In its 2012 report the Forum set out ambitious plans to increase philanthropic giving from its current estimated level of approximately €500 million per annum to €800 million by 2016. The drivers for the increase in giving fall under four overarching themes: a national giving campaign, fiscal and infrastructure recommendations, fundraising capacity improvements and a social innovation fund.

In order to implement the proposals recommended in the Forum's Report, Social Innovation Fund Ireland was incorporated in July 2013. The Social Innovation Fund will provide growth capital to Ireland's best social innovations, investing in solutions to social problems in this country. Funding is already available at start-up and early stage for social innovations, and so there is a pipeline of social innovations that need capital to scale and grow. It is anticipated that this Fund will assist in addressing the growth capital gaps as well as gaps in technical and network supports and will assist with economic recovery and job creation.

Allocation under DAF

SIFI will receive a contribution of €250K current funding under the Dormant Accounts Fund through the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government for 2014 as a 50% contribution (with the other 50% of costs being met from philanthropic sources) to core costs and for making of a small number of initial grants in order to commence operations.

Social Enterprise

A number of Government Departments are engaged with the Social Enterprise sector and the State currently provides substantial funding to Social Enterprises through a range of programmes and schemes. The development of Social Enterprises will deliver on the Government's commitment to grow and develop a vibrant social enterprise sector, thereby creating local, sustainable jobs, particularly in the area of social service provision for disadvantaged communities.

Allocation under DAF

An allocation of up to €1m capital funding will be made available from the DAF to support the development of social enterprises that have the capacity to deliver local, sustainable jobs and which contribute to community gain in disadvantaged areas/for economically and socially disadvantaged persons.

Disadvantaged Youth Employment Initiatives/Entrepreneurship

Funding will be provided from the DAF to deliver supports for young people who are disadvantaged, or at risk of disadvantage, by helping them to participate and succeed in education or training and thereby improve their employability, reducing their longer term dependency on welfare.

A portion of this allocation will be set aside specifically for programmes and facilities aimed at vulnerable groups of young people and young people in disadvantaged areas that promote youth employment, employability and entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship among the 18-25 year old cohort.

Allocation under DAF

It is also proposed to provide up to a maximum of €500K from the DAF for this measure.

Framework for public participation in local government -the Public Participation Network (PPN)

Section 46 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserted a new section 127 into the 2001 Local Government Act which enables local authorities to take all appropriate steps to consult with and promote effective participation of local communities in local government. One of the principal implementing provisions will be the adoption by each local authority, in accordance with Regulations to be made under the Act and Guidelines issued by the Department, of a framework for public participation in local government, which will set out the mechanisms by which citizens and communities will be encouraged and supported to participate in the decision-making processes of the local authority. The adoption of the framework is a reserved function.

A Public Participation Network (PPN) will be developed in each local authority area (engaging in and within municipal districts and at the County/City level) to enable the public to take an active formal role in relevant policy making and oversight committees of the Local Authority.

Allocation under DAF

A maximum total funding of up to €400,000 will be provided from the Dormant Accounts Fund during 2014 to facilitate the implementation of the new PPN structures across the Local Government sector.

Community Partnership Media Campaign

The ConnectIreland job creation model was presented just over two years ago at the Global Irish Forum by Irish businessman Terry Clune, Founder and Chief Executive of the Taxback Group who subsequently founded and funded ConnectIreland. The purpose of ConnectIreland is to create jobs, through foreign direct investment, by identifying companies outside of Ireland who are considering expanding internationally, from leads generated by their connections to the 70m Irish Diaspora. ConnectIreland propose to launch an intensive focussed high profile awareness programme at local and national level. The main aims of the programme will be to

highlight the job creation efforts of the Local Authority and ConnectIreland community partnership program, to inform local communities how they can get involved in the programme and to encourage them to do so, to inform local communities of the financial rewards available through this Government-backed programme and to highlight local success stories.

Allocation under DAF

The media campaign will receive a contribution of €150,000 funding under the Dormant Accounts Fund through the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government for the first year of the Programme.

Department of Justice and Equality and the Irish Prison Service

Community Programmes Unit (CPU), Irish Youth Justice Service (IYJS) provides youth justice crime reduction / crime prevention programmes which are specifically targeted at young offenders and those at serious risk of offending. These programmes are generally located in areas of high unemployment and social disadvantage.

Establishment of Garda Projects in additional key locations

There are a number of key locations where there are no Garda Youth Diversion supports for young people coming to the attention of An Garda Síochána. In addition, the crime analysis also provides evidence of the need for greater supports in existing Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDP) locations. Funding from the DAF will allow the establish of new Garda Youth Diversion Projects in Kilmainham, Naas, Balbriggan, Mayfield in Cork, Blackrock, Carrigaline, Ashbourne, Raheny, Kinsale, and Rathkeale and will also provide additional supports to some existing projects which cannot meet the need in the areas that they service, such as Blanchardstown, Tipperary, Ennis, Ballymun, Limerick city, Cork city, Galway city and Coolock.

Funding Allocation

The allocation under DAF will be €1.7million for this measure.

Mentoring Programme

A significant number of young people are without a stable and supportive adult in the home. In some cases the only positive relationship the young person has with an adult is with the youth justice workers. CPU proposes to support the roll out of a mentoring programme to all projects nationally whereby suitable adults can be matched with project participants. The scheme will require local co-coordinators and trainers. There are a number of successful evidenced based programmes operated by community based organisations which provide significant 1 to 1 supports for young people and which are mainly delivered to young people arising from an appearance at court. The proposal is to provide mentoring at the early stage when young people first come to the attention of An Garda Síochána.

Funding Allocation

The allocation from DAF will be €1million for this measure.

Additional Intervention Training for Youth Justice Workers

Each participant in a GYDP is risk assessed through a licensed risk assessment tool currently in use across the projects. The tool, which is the Youth Level Service/Case Management Inventory –Screening Version (YLS/CMI – SV) is designed to identify each young person's individual risks and to enable the project to design interventions that provide the best possible outcome for the participant. The YLS/CMI –SV identifies a number of issues, which research has shown to be directly linked with increased risk of offending or reoffending. These include the young person's history of antisocial or criminal behaviour, negative peers, substance use, behaviour

problems, family problems such as poor parental supervision and problems with school engagement.

The fund would support the roll out of a suite of evidence based intervention supports for youth justice workers to address each of the risk categories.

Funding Allocation

The allocation from DAF will be €60,000 for this measure.

Emergency Support Services Training Proposal

A pilot emergency skills training was undertaken by Gurranbraher Garda Station in Cork through the local District Officer with some young people from the garda projects who had come to the attention of local Gardaí. The local emergency services undertook to train a number of these young people. The pilot yielded very positive behavioural and pro social results for the participants. IYJS in consultation with An Garda Síochána propose to explore the piloting of an initiative on a national basis in which the emergency services will undertake to train a number of young people from the garda projects. This will support education and training towards pathways to employment for these disadvantaged young people.

Funding Allocation

The allocation from the DAF is €50k for this measure.

Expansion of the Youth Work Initiative in the HSE Mid-West Area

The Limerick Regeneration Agency has provided funding for a specific Limerick City youth work team to work towards engaging hard to reach young people referred from their contacts with the National Education Welfare Board, the Young Persons Probation and the HSE. Dormant Accounts funding will allow for the expansion of the service within the existing infrastructure and reach more young people.

Funding Allocation

The DAF allocation is €400,000 for this measure.

Victims of trafficking and persons/groups at risk of human trafficking

The Anti-Human Trafficking Unit propose to invite community and voluntary groups to make applications for funding for projects that are innovative and additional to current measures addressing the needs of victims of human trafficking or persons vulnerable to human trafficking. Projects will be expected to address the personal and social development needs of this group. These projects will be expected to have a significant impact on the lives of the participants equipping them to overcome significant economic and educational disadvantage and allowing them to either access mainstream educational and training opportunities or obtain suitable employment depending on their individual circumstances.

Funding allocation

The allocation of funding for this measure under DAF will be €120,000.

Victims of Crime Office

The Victims of Crime Office administers funding to organisations working with victims of crime that is awarded by the Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime. The organisations funded are a mixture of volunteer-led and employee-led services and they provide services to more than 15,000 victims a year with a total of over 30,000 contacts made with these victims. In all 56 organisations are currently funded.

Helpline services to victims of crime

A confidential national helpline service providing information and support to victims of crime and people impacted by crime is currently being funded by the Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime. Volunteers are trained to understand the effects of crime and provide practical and emotional support to people struggling to cope and recover after being victimized and to navigate the criminal justice system. The Helpline also serves as a gateway for victims to the large number of face-to-face and specialised services available to crime victims in Ireland.

DAF funding will enable a campaign to be implemented in order to increase callers to the Helpline. The campaign will involve the design, printing and distribution of posters and informational leaflets specifically targeted to the elderly and young people. The production of a short video that highlights the impact of crime on vulnerable individuals and the community and the help that is available for victims of crime through Helpline. Designing a Helpline website that would more inviting and user-friendly, including making it more accessible to people with disabilities and seniors.

Funding allocation

The allocation of funding for this measure under DAF will be €50,000.

Services to victims at court

Specialist services to provide court accompaniment for victims of crime and / or their families or witnesses, regardless of the type of offence, are currently funded by the Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime. The service involves the provision of information on the court setting, including an opportunity to visit the court beforehand and learn about court procedures. Victims and their families are assisted during their time at court by trained volunteers who provide support during the trial process. They are given access to a secure private area away from the general public where they can feel safe.

The court accompaniment service currently sees volunteers travelling to the Central Criminal Court when it travels outside Dublin in the greater Leinster area (Kilkenny, Wexford, Kildare, Louth, and Wicklow). Some volunteers do travel to the courts outside of the Central Criminal Courts when requested, as the demand has grown for court accompaniment in these areas. The next step to ensuring that all vulnerable victims are supported at court is to recruit and train volunteers who could be permanently based in their local areas to provide a consistently high quality court accompaniment service.

Funding from the Dormant Accounts Fund will fund the recruitment and training of volunteers in order to increasing current capacity of the service in the Central Criminal Courts.

Funding allocation

The allocation of funding for this measure under DAF will be €50,000.

Community Based Health and First Aid in Irish Prisons

The Community Based Health and First Aid in Prisons Programme was piloted in Wheatfield Prison in 2009/10 and over the last four years extended to all the fourteen prisons in Ireland. It is a partnership programme operated by the Irish Red Cross, Irish Prisons Service and the Educational Training Board utilising existing prison teachers and nurses to teach the course and assisted by prison management. It is operated by IPS and IRC Programme Managers in liaison with the Care and Rehabilitation Directorate of the IPS. The programme, is targeted at prisoners with a view to engendering in them a sense of community responsibility, self-governance using the principles of Red Cross increasing self-esteem and empowering them to positively influence their own environment while in prison, in addition to being encouraged to take responsibility for their own health.

Funding allocation

The allocation of funding for this measure under DAF will be €189,275.

Supports services to immigrants to access employment

This funding measure is aimed at persons who are permitted to work in Ireland without the need for a work permit. These are EEA nationals and non-EEA nationals who have Immigration Stamp No 4. The latter will often be persons who have been through the asylum process and who have refugee status or have been allowed to remain in Ireland on some other basis.

The measure will assist persons in this category who are having difficulty accessing employment because of language needs, lack of training or social skills and it will increase the employment possibilities for the participants through provision of language training around the work place, social skills and cultural orientation training, mentoring support, training in CV preparation and interview skills and career guidance.

Funding allocation

The allocation of funding for this measure under DAF will be €166,666.

Department of Social Protection

The Department of Social Protection proposes the following measure under the theme of personal and social development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged for the Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2014.

Training for Carers

The provision of structured training programmes on relevant subjects for family carers legitimises and provides an opportunity for respite. In addition the development of support networks contributes to a reduction in social isolation experienced by Family Carers.

Funding will be allocated for projects which provide training, information, and related support services for Home Carers. This measure will provide funding for locally based training programmes and information provision/ support services for Home Carers. The purpose of this measure will be to up skill carers to provide the best care possible but also to reduce the risk of injury to the carer and to help them cope with the emotional and psychological aspects of their role. Funding will also be made available to provide for the dissemination of resource information for Carers and to provide supports to reduce the social isolation experienced.

Funding allocation

Up to €1million will be required from DAF towards projects which provide training, information, and related support services for Home Carers.

Department of Children and Youth Affairs

Big Brothers Big Sisters programme

Big Brothers Big Sisters is an internationally recognised youth mentoring programme that forms supportive friendships for young people inspiring them to brighter futures. Big Brothers Big Sisters nationally and internationally is proven through research to improve young people's wellbeing, improve their social support and relationships with others. BBBS is operated in Ireland by Foróige. The programme will target disadvantaged young people in need of one-to-one supports i.e. those experiencing economic difficulty, poor social skills. It will have two stands i.e. community based matches comprising an adult volunteer and a young person and school based matches which facilitate a friendship between a first year secondary student and an older student. DAF will provide funding to assist Foróige to continue to operate this programme in 2014 and to the end of 2015.

DAF allocation

The funding allocation from DAF for this measure is €775,000.

Youth Employability Initiative

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs, in consultation with the youth sector, has developed a 'Youth Employability Initiative' which involves the expansion of youth work initiatives that increase the employability of marginalised young people in the 15 to 24 age group. It aims to target the hardest to reach young people who are at risk of becoming NEET (i.e. not in employment, education or training) for intensive support to prevent unemployment and to enhance the 'soft' skills and competencies much sought after by employers and business.

DAF allocation

The funding allocation from DAF for this measure is €600,000.

Evidence based programmes targeted at children's experiences of poverty and poorer social outcomes

The Area Based Childhood (ABC) programme targets investment in evidence-informed interventions to improve the long-term outcomes for children and families living in areas of disadvantage. The ABC program aims to break "the cycle of child poverty within areas where it is most deeply entrenched and where children are most disadvantaged, through integrated and effective services and interventions".

The ABC initiative reflects the Programme for Government commitment to adopt an area-based approach to child poverty in co-operation with philanthropic partners, drawing upon best international practice and existing services, to break the cycle of

child poverty where it is most deeply entrenched. The Programme builds upon the Prevention and Early Intervention Programme (PEIP – 2006-2013) initiative. DAF will fund 12 additional projects under this measure during 2015-2016. This will allow for the implementation of a more extensive and deeper evidence-based infrastructure for children and young people, enhanced quality-based service provision for children and young people and increased transfer of learning and knowledge exchange on the design and delivery of effective interventions for children and young people and mainstreaming of innovative programmes and practices to more formalised education, health and social services settings.

DAF allocation

The funding allocation from DAF for this measure is €7million.

Information and support to contribute to the personal development of children in care

Priority Area - Children

Assistance for the development and provision of programmes and facilities for children and young people including regard for particular needs and difficulties of access for children and young people with special needs.

Development of a phone app for young people in state care

Background

There are approximately 6,500 children in state care. The vast majority of them are in foster care (92%) with around 400 teenagers in small residential centres. This government is strongly committed to Children's Rights, as evidenced by the Children's Rights Amendment in 2013. Following the publication of the Ryan Report and recommendations there is a strong commitment to ensure that children in care have information regarding rights and have access to advocates and channels for complaints. Teenagers in care have, in common with their peers, mobile phones and a capacity to access and use information provided on apps that far exceeds that of the many adults in their world: foster carers, residential carers, social workers, family members amongst others.

A phone app will be developed for older children in care providing clear information regarding (i) the role and function and contact details of the different organisations providing services in the area (ii) their rights and (iii) details of how to make a complaint. Information will be provided on the Child and Family Agency (which has the statutory responsibility for their care), Empowering People in Care (EPIC) and advocacy agency for children in care, the Ombudsman for Children (OCO) who may investigate a complaint not satisfactorily resolved by a school or Child and Family Agency, and the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) the organisation that inspects child protection services, foster care services and residential care homes.

DAF allocation

The funding allocation from DAF for this measure is €100,000.

Aftercare information packs for young persons

Approximately 450 children leave the care of the State on reaching 18 years of age. Many of these young adults continue to be supported by the Child and Family Agency. Such support is called aftercare. Research has shown that where a young care leaver has access to adequate information, outcomes in the future are improved.

A leaving and aftercare pack will be developed and provided to children leaving care. This pack will provide information to young people on the aftercare services by the Agency and how to navigate services such as education social welfare and health. The pack will be part of an overall communications strategy to improve the quantity and quality of information provide to young people preparing to leave care and aftercare

To communicate the content of the policy pack to young people and aid dissemination, it is proposed that the policy be presented in a number of different formats:

- A detailed, user-friendly version of the policy pack should be developed.
- The new pack should be branded distinctively so that it is visually appealing to young people. The branding style should be consistent across all formats. The branding should include a logo and tagline that are memorable and differentiate this policy from other HSE policies.
- To address literacy problems, a DVD and podcast should be available.
- A short flier outlining the main elements of the pack should be produced.
- A poster should be produced advertising the existence of the policy pack and the importance that young people find out more.
- Young people with experience of care/aftercare should be consulted in relation to all these presentational formats and their content.
- Some case examples of care leavers who have received an aftercare service should be included in the policy pack.
- All of the above formats can be used separately. However, they should also be placed together in one pack and distributed widely.
- The pack should also be available on-line on sites such as EPIC's, Focus Ireland's, the Spun-Out website, Face book etc. etc.
- The HSE website should provide a hyperlink to a site dedicated to aftercare services.

DAF allocation

The funding allocation from DAF for this measure is €30,000.

Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport

Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs

The aim of the Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs in disadvantaged areas is to bring local people together and provide a home for local clubs and sports organisations. They will be based in existing local facilities such as sports centres, community centres, club pavilions, the natural environment and schools. It is envisaged that the hubs will operate within the existing structures of the Local Sports Partnerships which operate under the remit of the Irish Sports Council. The hubs will provide information, support and advice on a wide range of sports and physical activities to make it easier for people in disadvantaged areas to get involved and engage in a more active and healthier lifestyle.

National Sport Education and Training Hub

In line with the Government's 'Pathways to Work' Policy the Sports Council is seeking to empower individuals at local and national level by providing a clear education pathway for those interested in working in sport development. In particular the Sports Council envisages an activation of jobseekers to promote greater levels of physical activity in disadvantaged areas and identified target groups e.g. people with a disability.

There are many education and training programmes within the sports and physical activity sector, ranging from coaching, leadership, instructors, walking leaders, trail building and maintenance and compliance such as Code of Ethics and Anti-Doping. The development of a centralised training and education hub will consolidate the work being carried out in this area currently in a disparate way across the country.

The Programme will follow a similar model to the highly successful and popular Organisational Capability Building¹ programme currently being led by the Irish Sports Council. The significant take up of this programme demonstrates the need for a co-ordinated approach to the provision of training services to the sporting community. Coaching Ireland currently leads on the development of coaching structures in Ireland. Local Sports Partnerships and National Governing Bodies currently deliver coaching and training at various levels. The programme will also incorporate successful elements of the previously piloted 'Goal to Work'² programme which was rolled out in disadvantaged areas across a number of Local Sports Partnerships and was successful in assisting unemployed people to gain employment as coaches, referees etc. It also contributed to a promotion of both physical and mental health amongst participants and in the community through the subsequent employment and volunteering work carried out by participants.

¹ http://www.irishsportscouncil.ie/Governing_Bodies/Organisational-Capability-Building/

² *Goal to Work – a specialised coaching course for jobseekers which aimed to provide participants with the tools to obtain employment in the area of sports development*

At the core of the Sport and Education Hub will be a technology driven tool which will enable co-ordination, centralised booking/registration etc. and will also, importantly, facilitate the development of e-learning modules to be implemented in conjunction with existing programmes. This will increase the accessibility of training and education programmes to all individuals, including those with a disability.

DAF allocation

The funding required for these measures is dependent on the development of the projects.

Department of Education and Skills

Inclusion of Children with Special Needs in Early Years Settings

Amongst the Colleges of Education, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, has been to the fore in developing a Special Purpose Award at Level 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications on inclusive early years education. The inclusion of young children with disabilities in pre-school settings is an integral part of the Government's policy on mainstreaming. This proposal would see the expansion of this course (or other similar courses) on an outreach basis to regional centres within the country and would also provide a subsidy for learners wishing to avail of the course thus including young children with disabilities in pre-school settings.

Funding Allocation

An allocation of €500,000 from the DAF is required for this measure.

Department of Health

Substance misuse/prevention: Development of Drug and Alcohol Awareness Campaigns

One of the key objectives of the National Drugs Strategy 2009-2016 is to promote throughout society a greater awareness, understanding and clarity of the dangers of drug misuse. Prevention of problem drug use, in a broad sense, seeks to prevent the taking of illegal drugs and the prevention of relapse where drug treatment has started.

The report of the Steering Group on a National Substance Misuse Strategy incorporates an integrated approach to substance misuse bringing together alcohol use and misuse and misuse of other substances. Action 1 of the Strategy aims to improve the coordination of prevention activities at both national and local levels. Action 2 seeks to further develop a co-ordinated approach to prevention and education interventions in relation to alcohol and drugs.

Funding will be provided from the Dormant Accounts Fund which will support a range of activities designed to tackle substance misuse among the general population and to promote healthier lifestyle choices among young people and other at risk groups. This will be achieved through implementing the strategies recommended in Action 28 of the National Drugs Strategy and Actions 1 and 2 of the National Substance Misuse Strategy. Drug and Alcohol Task Forces, who have a coordinating role at local level, have been identified as the appropriate structures through which the measure will be implemented.

Funding of €50,000 will be available to each Task Force equating to a total of €1.2million for 2015. Each Task Force would seek applications from local community and voluntary groups or other relevant bodies to undertake once off prevention initiatives in line with Action 28 of the National Drugs Strategy and Actions 1 and 2 of the National Substance Misuse Strategy. Grants to the value of €5,000 to €15,000 will be available under this measure. Task Forces are also eligible to seek funding for initiatives promoted directly by the Task Force

Funding Allocation

An allocation of €1.2million from the DAF is required for this measure.

Local area co-ordination initiatives

Local area co-ordination (LAC) originated in Australia is an innovative way to support individuals and families to build a 'good life' and to strengthen the capacity of communities to include disabled people, based on the principles of user control, empowerment and self-sufficiency. Funding will be provided for local area co-ordinators to work with service users in a defined geographical area.

Funding Allocation

An allocation of €600,000 from the DAF is required for this measure.

Advancing best practice in meeting HIQA Disability Standards

The Programme for Government committed to putting National Standards for Residential Services for People with Disabilities on a statutory footing, to ensure that the services could be inspected by HIQA. This commitment was fulfilled when two sets of regulations, one relating to care and support and the second relating to registration issues, were approved and signed by the Minister for Health, with the scheme commencing on 1st November 2013. The introduction of registration and inspection represents a significant advance in terms of delivering consistent and high quality services for people with disabilities in residential services. HIQA now has the power to inspect disability residential services and the settings in which they are provided. The purpose of the regulations is to safeguard and support the delivery of person-centred care to people with disabilities of any age who are receiving residential care services and ensure that their health, well-being and quality of life is promoted and protected. Compliance with the HIQA standards is a requirement under the Service Level Arrangements (SLA) between the HSE and voluntary service providers in the disability sector. This measure will support designated centres to meet and /or enhance HIQA standards by providing funding for minor capital works.

Funding Allocation

An allocation of €600,000 from the DAF is required for this measure.

Health-related supports to assist young people with disabilities and autism to make the transition from second level education to further education, training, employment

This measure will support the implementation of key health-related measures in the cross-sectoral Comprehensive Employment Strategy for people with disabilities which is currently being finalised. Evidence from other jurisdictions (based on research by the National Disability Authority) shows that employment prospects for young people with disabilities and autism are significantly improved if targeted action is taken during the school-going years to introduce children to the world of work, and to set the achievement of employment as a legitimate and viable goal for each child. The transition from school to further education and training is a key transition point which must be managed carefully so as to support young people to attend further training and to gain employment.

Funding will be provided for occupational guidance initiatives during the final years of second-level education to promote work sampling, provide career guidance advice, and support the preparation of students for mainstream training and employment.

Funding Allocation

An allocation of €400,000 from the DAF is required for this measure

Person-centred innovations in the delivery of non-centre based respite services

This measure will support person-centred innovations in the delivery of non-centre based respite services in the community through the development of the following types of respite solutions:

- short stays with host families;
- development of a circle of friends culture to encourage visiting in homes in the community;
- development of a caring circle whereby respite caring duties are swapped between families or bartered /exchanged for credits to the mutual benefit of the circle members;
- development of a volunteer buddy system to foster participation in the community to pursue personal interests or sport or community activities;
- attendance at evening classes whether for sport, hobbies or continuous learning; and
- development of specific initiatives for people with autism to encourage social participation in community, sport or leisure.

Funding Allocation

An allocation of €400,000 from the DAF is required for this measure.

Appendix I: Summary Table of Dormant Account Measures

The following table provides a summary of measures and maximum amount of moneys to be disbursed under the Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2014 under the relevant Government Department/Agency

Lead Department/Agency responsible for measure under the 2014 Dormant Action Plan	Maximum funding	Description
DECLG	€250,000	Social Innovation Fund 50% contribution (with the other 50% of costs being met from philanthropic sources) to core costs and for making of a small number of initial grants in order to commence operations (already approved by Minister Hogan, subject to formal approval of this Action Plan)
DECLG	€1,000,000	Social Enterprise development initiatives
DECLG	€500,000	Supports for vulnerable groups of young people, young people in disadvantaged areas and for youth work to promote youth employment, employability and entrepreneurship
DECLG	€400,000	To facilitate the implementation of the new PPN structures across the Local Government sector during 2014
DECLG	€150,000	Community Partnership Media Campaign
DJE	€1,700,000	Establishment of new Garda Youth Diversion Projects and the provision of additional supports for existing projects
DJE	€1,000,000	Establishment of Mentoring Programme
DJE	€60,000	Additional Intervention Training for Youth Justice Workers

Lead Department/Agency responsible for measure under the 2014 Dormant Action Plan	Maximum funding	Description
DJE	€50,000	Emergency Support Services Training towards pathways to employment for disadvantaged young people
DJE	€400,000	Expansion of services to enable this cross agency initiative to provide an additional services in the Limerick City and the Mid-west area to disadvantaged youths
DJE	€120,000	Measure to address the social, economic and educational disadvantages of victims of trafficking and persons/groups at risk of human trafficking
DJE	€50,000	Helpline Services for victims of crime
DJE	€50,000	Specialist services to victims attending court
Irish Prison Service	€189,275	Community Based Health and First Aid in Irish Prisons
DJE	€166,666	Supports services to immigrants to access employment
DSP	€1,000,000	Training and support services for home carers
DCYA	€775,000	Big Brothers Big Sisters Programme
DCYA	€600,000	Youth Employability Initiative
DCYA	€7,000,000	Evidence based programme targeted at children's experiences of poverty and poorer social outcomes

Lead Department/Agency responsible for measure under the 2014 Dormant Action Plan	Maximum funding	Description
DCYA	€100,000	Development of a phone app for young people in care
DCYA	€30,000	Aftercare information packs for young persons
DTTS	*	Community Sports Physical Activity Hubs
DTTS	*	National Sports Education and Training Hub
DES	€500,000	Inclusion of Children with Special Needs in Early Years Settings
DH	€1,200,000	Substance misuse/prevention – development of drug and alcohol awareness campaigns
DH	€600,000	Local area co-ordination initiatives
DH	€600,000	Advanced best practice in meeting HIQA Disability Standards
DH	€400,000	Health-related supports to assist young people with disabilities and autism to make the transition from second level education to further education, training and employment.
DH	€400,000	Person-centre innovations in the delivery of non-centre based respite services

*Data not available at present.