

# Liatroim: Contae i Ríocht Athraithe

Profiling Poverty and Social Exclusion in Leitrim



Report 2008

# Leitrim: A County in Change

## Foreword by Chairperson of Leitrim SIMS Group

Leitrim Social Inclusion Measures Group is delighted to present such a comprehensive report on Leitrim, a county that is changing significantly. The work of the Social Inclusion Measures Group has been and continues to be to look at the way social inclusion services are delivered in Leitrim and to identify ways in which service delivery can be improved. In order to do this, the SIMS Group realised it was necessary to have a complete up to date picture of the county currently as the last time a similar profile had been completed was in 2002.

The agencies/organisations represented on the Leitrim Social Inclusion Measures Group are: An Garda Siochana, Community Development Projects, County Leitrim Partnership, the Department of Social and Family Affairs, the Department of Education and Science, FAS, the HSE West, the IFA, Leitrim Community and Voluntary Forum, Leitrim County Childcare, Leitrim County Council and the VEC. The SIMS Group has been effective by ensuring that agencies work closely together in the provision of services, which helps to avoid duplication and gaps in services.

I would like to thank the members of the SIMS Group for their work in helping the consultant Ann Irwin in preparing the document and in providing information for this profile and I would like to acknowledge the work of the Community and Enterprise Department of Leitrim County Council in completing this project. The County Development Board were presented with the results of this project and endorsed the final action plan as a way forward for tackling social exclusion.

This document should be a useful resource for agencies, community groups, schools and people wanting to know more about Leitrim. This document forms part of a two stage process – the second part being an Action Plan which was developed based on emerging data in this report and through focus groups carried out with specific groups in the county who gave their time to help inform the actions included in the Summary Report.

Joseph Gilhooly

Chairperson

Leitrim Social Inclusion Measures Group

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