



Minutes of Meeting of Sligo Local Community Development Committee

Thursday 21st February 2019 at 9.30a.m., Chamber of Commerce, Quay Street, Sligo

PRESENT

Councillor Séamus Kilgannon	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Councillor Chris MacManus	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Mr. John Reilly	Local Government / LEO	Sligo County Council
Ms. Mary Brodie	State Agency	Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB
Ms. Patricia Garland	State Agency	Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE
Mr. Aidan Doyle	Business Interests	Sligo Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Hugh MacConville	Trade Union Interests	Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Mr. Chris Gonley	Local Development Sector	Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG
Mr. Seán Tempany	Farming / Agriculture Interests	Farming / Agriculture Pillar
Mr. Michael Kirby	Environmental Interests	Environment Pillar (PPN)
Ms. Jackie Sweeney	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Ms. Elizabeth King	Social Inclusion	PPN

APOLOGIES /ABSENT

Councillor Sinéad Maguire	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Mr. Ciarán Hayes	Local Government /CE	Sligo County Council
Ms. Mairin Haran	State Agency	Dept. Of Social Protection
Mr. Finbarr Filan	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Dr. Jennifer Van Aswegen	Social Inclusion	PPN

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Dorothy Clarke	LCDC Chief Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Aisling Smyth	Administrative Officer	Sligo County Council

Mr. Jude Mannion	A/Senior Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Fiona Gilligan	Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Mr. Daithi Gallagher	Atlantic Economic Corridor Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Anita Flynn	Assistant Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. June Murphy	Programme Manager	Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG
<i>Mr. Martin McAndrew For Peace IV Update</i>	Peace Manager	Sligo County Council

Mr. Seán Tempany, Vice Chairperson of the LCDC chaired the meeting.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr. Chris Gonley declared an interest in SICAP.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 13TH DECEMBER 2018

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 13th December 2018 were proposed by Mr. Michael Kirby seconded by Mr. Hugh MacConville and agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. UPDATE ON LECP IMPLEMENTATION:

- a) **Sligo Chamber of Commerce – Presentation by Mr. Aidan Doyle**
- b) **General Update on the Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP)**
- c) **Healthy Ireland**

a) Mr. Aidan Doyle, CEO of **Sligo Chamber of Commerce** welcomed Members to the Chamber and proceeded to give a presentation to the LCDC on the work of the Chamber. Sligo Chamber of Commerce is affiliated to the Chamber of Ireland and has over 275 members, some of which are based outside Sligo. Mr. Doyle advised that historically the Chamber was aligned to Retail but this has changed with members ranging from tech, engineering and pharma firms to media and legal companies with members set to deliver 830 jobs in 2019. The Chamber recently launched ‘*Life is Sligo*’ campaign and a short video was shown to the LCDC.

b)

Mr. Doyle’s presentation to be circulated to Members of the LCDC for information.

c) Report on the **General Update on the LECP** was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Jude Mannion outlined the report which gave examples of Actions in the Plan, under the theme of Social Inclusion, Equality & Poverty which are at different stages, i.e. complete, ongoing, under review. It was noted that in some cases, the Advisory Steering Group agreed that updates would be provided annually as opposed to quarterly, e.g. actions under the Local Enterprise Office (LEO).

Mr. Mannion also updated Members on the Community Enhancement Programme. All projects must link back to actions in the LECF. An event was held in City Hall on the 5th February for local community groups in the Sligo Municipal District who received funding under the CEP. Groups were given the opportunity to talk about their project at the event. A similar event is being organised for groups supported in the Ballymote-Tobercurry MD, date to be confirmed with Councillor Sinéad Maguire and notified to LCDC Members.

Ms. Dorothy Clarke thanked members who attended the Sligo MD event in February and asked that they attend the Ballymote-Tobercurry event if possible.

(c) Report on the **Healthy Ireland Fund** was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Jude Mannion briefed Members on update in respect of the 2018 – 2019 Scheme (Round 2). A video capturing many of the programmes funded is being compiled and will be shown at the LCDC meeting in April.

5. SICAP UPDATE

a) Approval to 2018 Annual Performance Review

- i. Annual Progress Report submitted by SLPC
- ii. Financial Reports
- iii. Pobal Feedback Report
- iv. Annual Performance Checklist – LCDC Admin team review
- v. Recommendation of the SI & SICAP Monitoring Committee

b) 2019 Plan – Final Approval of LCDC

a) Reports pertaining to the 2018 **Annual Performance Review** were circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised that the 2018 reports were considered by the Social Inclusion & SICAP Monitoring Committee at their meeting on the 13th February 2019.

On behalf of the SICAP Committee, Mr. Hugh MacConville briefed Members on the outcome of the 2018 annual performance review and advised that County Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG exceeded targets under the Key Performance Indicators with positive feedback from Pobal's parallel review of the programme.

Ms. June Murphy, SLPC, briefly outlined progress on SICAP to date in 2019 and circulated flyers on the *Kickstart* Programme and *Ways to Wellness*. Flyers to be circulated by email also. Ms. Murphy is to identify projects for verification/visit by LCDC during Quarter 1 with dates to be notified to Members in due course.

Mr. Chris Gonley thanked the SI & SICAP Committee and acknowledged the work of both LCDC support staff and staff of SLPC on the Programme. Mr Gonley also commented on how well the Healthy Ireland Programme had worked with SICAP. This had also been noted at a recent SICAP regional event held in Cavan on the 12th February.

A Resolution that the Sligo LCDC approves the 2018 Annual Performance Review for SICAP was proposed by Mr. Hugh MacConville and seconded by Mr. Aidan Doyle and agreed by all.

b) With regards the **SICAP Annual Plan 2019**, Mr. Chris Gonley's declaration of interest was noted. Ms. Dorothy Clarke reminded members that the draft plan had been circulated at the December 2018 meeting of the LCDC. Since then some changes had been incorporated into the plan at the request of the Social Inclusion & SICAP Committee in consultation with SLPC.

Final approval to the 2019 Annual Plan for SICAP was proposed by Mr. Hugh MacConville and seconded by Ms. Patricia Garland and agreed by all.

6. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LIFELONG LEARNING – LCDC TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL TO SET UP A FORUM

Report circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Dorothy Clarke introduced this item and advised that there are a number of agencies with a role in the broader remit of Education and Training. This had been highlighted during the development of the Local Economic and Community Plan and raised again by the Social Inclusion & SICAP Monitoring Committee at their meeting on the 13th February. The Committee had suggested that a forum be set up with representatives from the different agencies involved in Education & Training, e.g., MSLETB, Access Officers, IT Sligo and others. The Committee had asked that the matter be brought to the full LCDC for further consideration and discussion. It had been noted that while this is not an area that the LCDC are directly involved in, the Committee could facilitate a meeting with the relevant agencies.

Mr. Hugh MacConville advised that this had been highlighted while considering the 2019 plan for SICAP and noted that a key issue is the number of people who are at an educational disadvantage. It was further noted that with an increase in automation many jobs are now at risk.

Mr MacConville stated that the LCDC have the talent to address this issue and stressed the need for the Committee to take this opportunity for Sligo to become a centre for Life Long Learning.

Mr. Chris Gonley agreed with Mr. MacConville's comments and advised that the setting up of a collaborative forum will ensure more follow on and cross fertilisation between agencies.

Mr. Mary Brodie also welcomed the proposal to set up a forum and advised that while there are a number of agencies involved in education and training at all levels, there are still gaps in this area. Ms. Brodie mentioned the new Further Education & Training Strategy (FETS).

Councillor Séamus Kilgannon also agreed to the proposed forum and commented that during the recession, the focus had been on catering for unemployment where now the focus has shifted to assisting people to remain in employment.

All members were in agreement to the proposal to set up a forum with a remit of education and training. Ms. Dorothy Clarke is to work with Mr. MacConville and Ms. Brodie in relation to contacting agencies mentioned in the report and facilitating a meeting.

7. PPN UPDATE

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Michael Kirby briefed Members on update and advised that additional funding had been secured from the Department for staffing of the PPN. Re-registration of groups under Salesforce is ongoing with 260 groups now registered. Mr. Kirby advised that the Grants Information event which had been planned for January had to be cancelled due to bad weather. It is hoped that this event will be rescheduled for March. The PPN will host a training event for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on the 7th March which will be open to all member and other community groups. The event will be delivered by Irish Environmental Networks and Development Perspective and will be tailored to upcoming funding in Sligo to support groups to strengthen their applications.

It was noted that the PPN has developed partnerships with Sligo Comhairle na nÓg and Sligo Intercultural Forum to facilitate youth and migrant voice being heard at the decision making table. In relation to the rescheduling of the Grants Information event, Mr. Jude Mannion advised that some grant schemes will already have closed at that stage (closing dates in February for submission of applications). Mr. Mannion informed Members that clarity is awaited from the Department on dates other schemes will be rolled out.

Ms. Elizabeth King queried when the Healthy Ireland Programme will be announced and Mr. Mannion advised that this is expected in May/June.

Ms. June Murphy commented that the timeframe for the delivery of the Healthy Ireland Programme was raised at the SICAP event in Cavan as to date the programme has been rolled out over the winter months. Pobal advised that they may take this on board in future in order to allow projects to run over the summer period.

Ms. Patricia Garland stated that a joint application is required between the LCDC and CYPSC. Mr. Mannion advised that Ms. Sarah Wetherald is to meet with Ms. Maeve Whittington, Coordinator, CYPSC in relation to Healthy Ireland application.

8. PEACE IV PROGRAMME UPDATE

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Martin McAndrew briefed Members on programme update with regards implementation.

It was noted that the Sligo County Council social media channels are being used on a regular basis to promote Programme activities under Peace IV.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Skills to Advance Programme (SOLAS) –MSLETB email 5/2/19**
- b) **Audit arrangements for the SICAP 2018-2022 programme – DRCD letter to CE 8/2/19**
- c) **National Community Weekend 2019 - Application Process and LCDC**
- d) **Info on use of Logos for DRCD funded Rural Schemes (DRCD email 14/2/19)**
- e) **BREXIT and the Northwest -FREE event with Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney in the Aurivo Auditorium, IT Sligo.**

Correspondence as above was circulated in advance of the meeting.

a) In relation to the **Skills to Advance Programme**, Ms. Mary Brodie advised of this new fund announced by Solas. This new initiative is welcomed nationally and affords the MSLETB the opportunity to engage with those in employment by providing resources to the ETBs to engage with employers in order to identify their training needs. It was noted that the focus will be on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to support this sector in up skilling staff. Mr. Seán Bourke is the lead on this initiative.

Ms. Brodie confirmed that Labour Market schemes and employees of State agencies are not eligible for support under the Skills to Advance programme

b) With regards the **new Audit Arrangements for SICAP 2018 – 2022**, it was noted that that the audit role previously undertaken by Pobal, now rests with local authorities as joint contract holders.

c) Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised members of the **National Community Weekend 2019** which will run over the May bank holiday weekend. Allocation of €10,000 has been made available for each LCDC. Further detail to follow over the coming weeks.

d) The Department’s email of 14/2/19 in relation to **guidance on the use of Logos for DRCD funded Rural Schemes (DRCD** was noted by Members.

e) Members were reminded of the **BREXIT and the Northwest -FREE event with Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney in the Aurivo Auditorium, IT Sligo** which is to take place at 8pm on the 21st February. Councillor Sinéad Maguire has organised the event and all members are invited to attend.

10. DATES FOR NEXT LCDC/LAG MEETING – 18TH APRIL 2019

Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised members that the third Thursday of the month does not suit Mr. Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive due to a clash with another meeting.

Other dates suggested did not suit members present so it was agreed to leave the date for the April meeting at the 18th, however, regard is to be given to this request from the CE going forward.

11. AOB

Ms. Patricia Garland thanked the Local Authority for passing a resolution at their meeting in February that Sligo be a breastfeeding friendly county.

Mr. Hugh MacConville thanked the Mr. Aidan Doyle, CEO, and the staff of the Chamber of Commerce for hosting the meeting.

Meeting concluded at 11.10a.m.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____