

Sligo Local Community Development Committee
Tuesday 1st December 2015, 2.30pm, City Hall, Sligo

PRESENT

- Councillor Seamus Kilgannon, **Local Government Member, Sligo County Council**
- Councillor Sinead Maguire, **Local Government Member, Sligo County Council**
- Mr. Ciarán Hayes, **Local Government /CE, Sligo County Council**
- Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer, **State Agency, Department of Social Protection**
- Ms. Mary Brodie for Mr. Michael Burke, **State Agency, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB**
- Mr. Frank Morrison, **State Agency, Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE**
- Ms. June Murphy for Mr. Chris Gonley, **Local Development Sector, Sligo LEADER Partnership Co. Ltd**
- Mr. Hugh MacConville, **Trade Union Interests, Irish Congress of Trade Unions**
- Mr. Paul Keyes, **Business Interests, Sligo Chamber of Commerce**
- Mr. Sean Tempany, **Farming / Agriculture Interests, Farming / Agriculture Pillar**
- Mr. Gerard O'Connor, **Community AND Voluntary, PPN**

APOLOGIES

- Councillor Sean MacManus, **Local Government Member, Sligo County Council**
- Mr. John Reilly, **Local Government / LEO, Sligo County Council**
- Mr. Michael Kirby, **Environmental Interests, Environment Pillar (PPN)**
- Ms. Jackie Sweeney, **Community AND Voluntary, PPN**
- Ms. Bernadette Maughan, **Social Inclusion, PPN**
- Ms. Sharon Boles, **Social Inclusion, PPN**

IN ATTENDANCE

- Ms. Dorothy Clarke, **Chief Officer LCDC, Sligo County Council**
- Ms. Margaret McConnell, **Senior Executive Officer, Sligo County Council**
- Ms. Síofra Kilcullen, **Administrative Officer, Sligo County Council**
- Ms. Fiona Gilligan, **Staff Officer, Sligo County Council**
- Ms. Maria Collery, **A/Assistant Staff Officer, Sligo County Council**
- Ms. Geraldine Timlin, **Assistant Staff Officer, Sligo County Council**

Vote of sympathy:

Mr. Sean Tempany, A/Chair extended sympathy, on behalf of all members of the LCDC, to Councillor Sean MacManus on the death of his sister-in-law.

1. DECLARATIONS RE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Ms. June Murphy (Sligo Leader Partnership Company) declared an interest in SICAP and the Rural Development Programme.

Sligo Local Community Development Committee
Tuesday 1st December 2015, 2.30pm, City Hall, Sligo

2. MINUTES

Minutes of last meeting held on the 28th October 2015 were proposed by Mr Hugh MacConville and seconded by Mr. Paul Keyes.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Dorothy Clarke outlined the following correspondence;

a. DECLG Guidance Note to LCDCs (SICAP)

Performance measurement should also take into account the qualitative (as well as quantitative) aspects of the service delivery for SICAP, the intensity of the interventions and the nature of community development work.

In reviewing the end of year targets achieved the LCDC will be made aware of issues affecting under-performance and must be in a position to evidence same. To ensure a consistent approach it was set out in the guidance Notes that Programme Implementers are to be assessed against performance thresholds, e.g. Key Performance Indicator 1, under 40% - very poor performance; 40 – 55% relatively poor; 55 – 80% average; 80% plus – strong. Different thresholds apply to KPIs 1 and 2 with thresholds for KPI 2 set at a higher level.

Timeframe for submission of both 2015 End year review and 2016 Annual Plan has been amended and is now the 15th January 2016 with plans being reviewed, appraised and signed off on by LCDC by 19th February 2016.

b. Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 (September 2015)

Act is designed to provide information to the public about who is lobbying whom about what – it defines who is considered a lobbyist, who is considered a decision maker (designated person) and what matters are considered to be lobbying. Once an action meets all 3 criteria, then the lobbyist is obliged to register with the Standards in Public Office Commission (SIPO).

Public bodies (like LAs) are also obliged to identify designated persons (Councillors and Senior Officials) within their organisations and make this information available online.

This should be done for the Council as the public authority and does not need to be done for individual committees such as LCDCs and SPCs. There is an onus on the lobbyist to register; however there does not appear to be an onus on the LCDC to ensure that persons addressing or lobbying them are registered.

c. Feedback to approved EOI Applicants

Guidance from the DECLG outlining issues Local Action Groups (LAGs) should consider in the preparation and submission of the Local Development Strategy.

Sligo Local Community Development Committee
Tuesday 1st December 2015, 2.30pm, City Hall, Sligo

d. Closure of LEADER Programme 2007 - 2013

The LEADER Programme 2007 – 2013 closes on the 31st December '15. To ensure an orderly closure of the current Programme, proper preparation for the upcoming Commission audit in March 2016 and to facilitate transition to the implementation of the 2014 – 2020 Programme, the Department will provide some transitional funding (separate to the Preparatory Support) for the period January to March, or when the LDS process is finalised. No further funding is to be provided post March 2016.

5. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE DRAFT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME)

It was noted that the Rural Development Sub Committee met on the 11th November to discuss draft LDS following consultation process by Sligo LEADER Partnership Co.

It was agreed that a small number of areas be revised all of which were outlined including consideration to be given to prioritising the development needs of rural towns and villages and the procedure to be applied in approving projects.

Ms. June Murphy went through the financial plan (circulated to members of LCDC on 21st Oct) and the breakdown of the budget between the thematic areas - Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation (50%), Social Inclusion for Hard to Reach Communities (35%) and Rural Environment (15%).

There is an onus on Sligo County Council as Financial partner to undertake Article 28 checks. The required amount for Article 28 checks managed by the Council as financial partner will be provided for within the available amount for running costs and animation under the RDP 2014- 2020.

Sligo LEADER Partnership Company will deliver administration and animation of the RDP Programme to a maximum of 25% of budgets available (inclusive of Article 28 checks).

Councillor Seamus Kilgannon proposed that the draft Local Development Strategy be approved by the LCDC. This proposal was seconded by Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer.

The signing of the Declaration and Disclaimer (Appendix 3 of the LDS) was proposed by Mr. Hugh MacConville and seconded by Mr. Ciarán Hayes.

Draft LDS as approved by the LCDC is to be forwarded to the DECLG and Pobal for consideration by 3rd December 15.

6. TO CONSIDER AND AGREE:

- a. **The draft Local Economic and Community Plan dated 25 Nov 15 incorporating minor text amendments as part of the screening process**
- b. **The overall objectives and actions of the Plan incorporating the integrated economic and community elements**

(Draft Plan dated 25 Nov 15; Report of Director of Services dated 1st December 15 and copy Summary of Screening Amendments document circulated)

Sligo Local Community Development Committee
Tuesday 1st December 2015, 2.30pm, City Hall, Sligo

It was noted that feedback received following last meeting of the LCDC on the 28th October was incorporated into draft LECP dated 25th November (circulated by e-mail in advance of meeting). The plan has now been updated to reflect the minor changes suggested as part of the SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment) process and AA (Appropriate Assessment) process. The draft LECP must take account of the SEA Directive and Article 6 of the Habitats Directive and ensure compliance as appropriate.

The draft plan has been presented to Sligo Municipal District and is to go on the Agenda for the meeting of the Ballymote-Tubbercurry MD on 21st December. Both Municipal Districts have to adopt a statement in relation to both elements of the Plan. The draft LECP must also be forwarded to the Northern and Western Regional Assembly for a statement of support in relation to its consistency with any regional and spatial economic strategy, regional planning guidelines etc.

The final draft Plan together with supporting statements will be presented to the full Council for consideration and adoption in January 2016.

Agreement to the Plan incorporating minor amendments as part of the screening process, together with agreement to the overall objectives and actions of the Plan incorporating the integrated economic community and elements of the draft LECP was proposed by Mr. Paul Keyes and seconded by Mr. Hugh MacConville.

7. SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PROGRAMME (SICAP) UPDATE

Progress report dated 1st December 2015 was circulated to members and noted. Dates of LCDC meetings will be arranged to coincide with the amended dates for submission of SICAP 2015 end year review and 2016 Annual Plan.

8. PPN UPDATE

Report circulated to members and noted. Ms. Geraldine Timlin advised members of the draft agenda for the 3rd plenary meeting to be held on 2nd December.

Ms. Dorothy Clarke acknowledged work of PPN team. It was noted that Sligo PPN is (as per comments of Dr Sean Healy) known as one of the better PPNs in the country.

9. AOB

Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised the meeting of the potential for funding to be sourced from the International Fund for Ireland's Peace Impact Programme (PIP) for a project targeted at two disadvantaged areas in Sligo town, namely Ballytivnan and Caltragh. A proposal is currently being worked on by Sligo County Council in conjunction with the Development Officer from the International Fund for Ireland (IFI). A decision is to be made as to whether Sligo County Council or the LCDC will be the promoter or applicant for the project. The IFI are very interested in the LCDC Model (Public/Private structure) and may advise that the LCDC should be the Project Promoter in this instance. If the LCDC is agreed as the appropriate applicant Ms Clarke wished to inform the LCDC in advance of any application being made.

Sligo Local Community Development Committee
Tuesday 1st December 2015, 2.30pm, City Hall, Sligo

Councillor Seamus Kilgannon proposed that the LCDC if considered appropriate by the IFI submit an application for funding under PIP. This was seconded by Councillor Sinead Maguire.

A schedule for LCDC meetings for 2016 is to be drafted and circulated to members.

Meeting concluded at 3.40p.m.