



## Minutes of Hybrid Meeting of Sligo Local Community Development Committee

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 at 9.30a.m.

Council Chamber, City Hall/ Community Virtual Meeting Room

<b>PRESENT</b>		
Councillor Dara Mulvey (present in Chamber)	<b>Local Government Member</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Councillor Tom Fox (present in Chamber)	<b>Local Government Member</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. John Reilly (by video)	<b>Local Government / LEO</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. John Kennedy (by video)	<b>State Agency</b>	<b>Dept. of Employment Affairs &amp; Social Protection</b>
Ms. Patricia Garland (by video)	<b>State Agency</b>	<b>Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE</b>
Mr. Peter Egan (by video)	<b>State Agency</b>	<b>Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB</b>
Mr. John Feerick (by video)	<b>Local Development Sector</b>	<b>Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG</b>
Mr. Aidan Doyle (present in Chamber)	<b>Business Interests</b>	<b>Sligo Chamber of Commerce</b>
Ms. Kathleen Henry (by phone)	<b>Farming / Agriculture Interests</b>	<b>Farming / Agriculture Pillar</b>
Mr. Pat Fallon (by video)	<b>Trade Union Interests</b>	<b>Irish Congress of Trade Unions</b>
Dr. Connie Nell (by video)	<b>Environmental Interests</b>	<b>Environment Pillar (PPN)</b>
Mr. Brendan Lynch (by video)	<b>Social Inclusion</b>	<b>PPN</b>
<b>APOLOGIES /ABSENT</b>		
Mr. Martin Lydon	<b>Local Government / CE</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. Pat Benson	<b>Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>PPN</b>

Ms. Jean Finnerty	<b>Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>PPN</b>
Ms. Noelle O’Gara	<b>Social Inclusion</b>	<b>PPN</b>
Councillor Joseph Queenan	<b>Local Government Member</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>		
Ms. Dorothy Clarke (Present in Chamber)	<b>LCDC Chief Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Margaret McConnell (Present in Chamber)	<b>Senior Executive Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Aisling Smyth (by video)	<b>Administrative Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Niamh Harkin (Present in Chamber)	<b>A/Senior Staff Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Fiona Gilligan (Present in Chamber)	<b>Staff Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Lisa Kelly (Present in Chamber)	<b>Clerical Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Marcella McGarry (by video)	<b>Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. June Murphy (by video)	<b>Programme Manager (SICAP)</b>	<b>County Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG</b>

Councillor Dara Mulvey opened the meeting and welcomed Members to this hybrid meeting of Sligo LCDC and thanked Mr. Jimmy O’Brien, A/Head of IT for his assistance in setting up equipment.

Ms. Margaret McConnell then briefed Members on arrangements in place for the LCDC/LAG meetings in accordance with guidelines around Covid 19 restrictions.

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No conflict of interest was declared.

### **2. MINUTES OF MEETING 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

Minutes of the meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were proposed by Councillor Tom Fox, seconded by Mr. Brendan Lynch and agreed.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

Mr. Brendan Lynch on behalf of the PPN representatives thanked the Chief Officer for circulating the summary report in relation to written submissions for the Sligo 2030 Plan, however, he reminded that

the PPN requested additional statistical data. Ms. Clarke advised that the statistical data would form part of the Socio-Economic Profile, to be provided once complete.

#### **4. UPDATE ON SLIGO 2030 ONE VOICE ONE VISION**

Report pertaining to the **update on Sligo 2030 Plan** was circulated in advance of the meeting.

Members were advised that work is ongoing on the draft Socio-Economic Profile with significant additions to the Profile and expansion on the Needs Analysis. KPMG-FA are going through all data to ensure that it is incorporated into the Socio-Economic Statement and high-level goals. It is hoped to have the final draft of this ready for consideration of the LCDC and other Committees by mid-late October.

#### **5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Councillor Dara Mulvey, Chairperson advised Members that as a number of members had expressed interest in the vacant role of Vice Chair prior to the meeting that an election take place, to be conducted via Survey Monkey, in order to give all Members an opportunity to vote, which was agreed. It was noted that the Department of Rural & Community Development had authorised the process of online election for roles such as this.

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised that LCDC support staff will commence the process by seeking nominations in the coming days. Nominees will then be asked to submit their bio/candidate statement with voting to open thereafter and results expected mid-October.

Members were in agreement to proposed online election as outlined.

#### **6. REVIEW OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE RDP SUBCOMMITTEE**

Members were advised of 2 vacancies on the Rural Development Programme (RDP) Subcommittee to replace Mr. Hugh MacConville and Mr. Michael Kirby. It was noted that there are 7 Members on this subcommittee. The role of the subcommittee is to consider aspects of the LEADER Programme including updates to the LAG on funding and budgets. Members were reminded that the Department are currently carrying out a review of the RDP 2014 – 2020.

Dr Connie Nell was proposed by Mr. Brendan Lynch, seconded by Councillor Tom Fox and agreed. Councillor Tom Fox was proposed by Councillor Dara Mulvey, seconded by Mr. Aidan Doyle and agreed.

#### **7. SICAP**

- a) Update on SICAP 2021**
- b) Verifications/Site visits (Virtual) – Q4; 2021**

- a) Report outlining the **update on SICAP 2021** was circulated in advance of the meeting. Members were advised that Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG are on track to meet the Annual targets under both Key Performance Indicators. It was noted that total budget spend is at 52% at the 31<sup>st</sup> August with most spend occurring in the final quarter. Ms. June Murphy then briefed Members on projects being delivered under both SICAP goals and advised of funding awarded under the Social Enterprise Regeneration Fund (SERP) which will enable SLPC to provide specialised mentoring in Strategic planning, Digital Innovation etc to Social Enterprises. It was noted that this is a collaboration project with Leitrim & Donegal Local Development Companies.
- b) In relation to **Verification/Site visits for Quarter 4**, Sligo LEADER Partnership will confirm projects in the coming weeks and forward details for circulation to the LCDC.

#### **8. UPDATE ON HEALTHY IRELAND PROGRAMME & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND**

Report circulated in advance of the meeting. Members were informed of progress under Sligo LCDC's Healthy Sligo Plan funded under Healthy Ireland Fund Round 3 and the Sligo Community Resilience Plan.

Members were advised that the Government have published the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025 in May 2021 which aims to build on the work and progress made to date and focus on the remaining years of the Healthy Ireland Framework from 2021-2025. Correspondence is awaited from the Department of Health and Pobal on Round 4 of the Healthy Ireland Fund.

#### **9. UPDATE ON PPN**

Report circulated in advance of the meeting. Members were advised of 5 new members elected to the PPN Secretariat. The first meeting of the new Secretariat took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> September and there will be a planning workshop in early October which will focus on the development of the PPN Strategic Plan.

It was noted that the proposal which Sligo PPN put to the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) for the development and roll out of an environmental / climate change awareness programme to be made available to all community groups has been well received and funding sourced by the DRCD to initiate the project.

In relation to the Sligo Environmental Action Academy project, Members were informed that most of the group and individual mentoring work is complete and Sligo Environmental Network is now moving to the next phase of working with Sligo PPN to develop the practical resource guides.

It was noted that the PPN and the National Roads Project Office hosted an information session in September to update the community sector on the N17 Knock to Collooney project.

#### **10. REPORT ON DORMANT ACCOUNTS FUNDED SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEME 2021**

Report circulated in advance of the meeting. Members were advised that previous rounds of this Grant scheme were administered by the local development companies, however the Minister has decided that it is to be rolled out through the LCDC network in 2021. The National allocation is €1 million with the allocation to County Sligo being €21,402.29 (based on a population-based methodology).

Members were informed that the application process will be handled locally, and a list of recommended projects will be compiled by each LCDC. This list will then be returned to the Department for approval by the Minister in line with Dormant Accounts Fund Legislation.

Closing date for applications is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021. It is proposed that the scheme be administered in a similar fashion to the Community Enhancement Programme.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) SICAP Mid Programme Review Guidance – Pobal’s email 26.7.21**
- b) Updating IRIS - 2021 Target Review Process – Pobal’s email 9.9.21**
- c) Covid-19 Partner Pack Update – Pobal’s email 15.9.21**

Correspondence as above was noted by Members. In relation to the **SICAP Mid Programme Review**, Members were advised that the programme has been extended for one year to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The DRCD and Pobal have advised of a mid-programme review to ascertain what has worked well in the delivery of SICAP and what challenges were experienced.

Members were informed that the annual engagement meeting with Pobal is scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

## **12. DATE FOR NEXT LCDC/LAG MEETING – THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

Members were advised that the date proposed for the next meeting of the LCDC/LAG is the 21<sup>st</sup> October however it is to be confirmed subject to requirements regarding the next presentation on the LECP/ Sligo 2030 process.

## **13. AOB**

Mr. Peter Egan informed Members that the MSLETB has recommenced training completely. Mr. Egan mentioned the Further Education and Training Course Hub (Fetchcourses.ie) and asked that people be signposted to the MSLETB Supports/Services.

Members were informed of funding of €10million nationally under the Mitigating against Educational Disadvantage Fund 2021, administered by Solas.

Members were also advised of a significant number of places on Post Leaving Cert (PLC) courses and recruitment and supports to apprenticeships (Apprenticeship Incentivisation Scheme for Employers).

It was confirmed that there are a number of training supports available for learners with disabilities or specific needs, however Mr. Egan advised that the MSLETB struggle with uptake on some courses as they may affect the participants welfare payments.

Mr. Egan offered to make a presentation to the LCDC at a future meeting which was welcomed.

Ms. Dorothy Clarke stated that this information would be relevant to the Education & Lifelong Learning Committee, advising that a presentation could be arranged, and noted the importance of upskilling and apprenticeships in the development of Sligo.

Meeting concluded at 10.20a.m.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_