

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Local Community Development Committee

Meeting – 23rd October, 2020 at 10.34am

Held by phone conference as a result of Covid-19. Attendance was verified by roll call.

Presiding:

Mr John Higgins (JH)	Community Sector
New Chair elected Ms Suzanne Brady (SBr)	Environmental Sector

Present:

Mr Barry Lynch (BL)	DOS, deputising for Chief Executive Meath County Council
Cllr Mike Bray (MB)	Councillor Meath County Council
Cllr Elaine McGinty (EMcG)	Councillor Meath County Council
Ms Pádraicín Bheilbigh (PB)	Údarás na Gaeltachta
Mr Paul Carroll (PC)	Dept of Employment Affairs & Social Protection
Ms Sadie Ward McDermott (SWMcD)	Louth Meath Education Training Board
Ms Dorothy Kerrigan (DK)	Health Service Executive
Mr Michael Ludlow (ML)	Meath Partnership
Mr Garret O'Brien (GoB)	Community Sector
Ms Susuana Komolafe (SK)	Social Inclusion
Ms Anna Melnik (AM)	Social Inclusion
Ms Donna Farrell (DF)	Chambers of Commerce
Mr Seamus McGee (SMcG)	Farming Sector
Mr Noel Maguire (NM)	Trade Union Sector

Officials:

Ms Fiona Fallon (FF)	Chief Officer, Senior Executive Officer, Community
Ms Áine Bird (AB)	Administrative Officer, Community Department MCC
Ms Karen Dalton (KD)	Staff Officer, Community Department MCC

Apologies/Absent

Cllr Yemi Adenuga (YA)	Councillor Meath County Council
Mr Joe English (JE)	Local Enterprise Office
Ms Geraldine Hogarty (GH)	Youth Work Ireland Meath

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Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th September, 2020</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of the 25th September, 2020 were proposed by Mr. Michael Ludlow and seconded by Mr. Seamus McGee.</p>
2.	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>No matters arising.</p>
3.	<p>Election of Chairperson</p> <p>EMcG and DF joined the meeting at 10.36am.</p> <p>JH advised that his 3 year term as Chairperson was now at an end. He thanked all LCDC members past and present for their support, he thanked FF and the team in Meath County Council including the Chief Executive and BL. He acknowledged the great work that has been achieved by the LCDC and noted that the LCDC and LDC work very well together and extended his thanks to ML and the staff of Meath Partnership.</p> <p>FF thanked JH for carrying out the role and his expertise over the last 3 years and acknowledged the achievements of the LCDC during that time, including two SICAP programmes, LEADER, Healthy Meath Strategy and the Joint Louth & Meath Migrant Strategy.</p> <p>FF invited the committee members to make nominations for the new Chairperson. SMcG nominated SB and BL seconded the nomination. As there were no further nominations SB was deemed elected as Chairperson.</p> <p>SB accepted the role and took over as Chairperson of the meeting. SB thanked JH for his work as Chairperson over the last 3 years.</p>
4.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>FF briefed the Committee on a number of items of correspondence which had circulated to the LCDC prior to the meeting and provided a brief outline of their contents. The correspondence items were as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. COVID-19 updates from ALONE dated 9th October ii. Email from ESF Managing Authority regarding consultation on the roadmap for a new initiative on ensuring basic services for all children in need in Europe iii. Update from the HSE Covid-19 Stakeholder Communications Support dated 16th October iv. Correspondence from the LGMA regarding the annual Volunteer Ireland Awards <p>NM joined the meeting at 10.40am.</p>

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<p>5.</p>	<p>To receive a recommendation from the SICAP sub-group and approve the KPI targets for SICAP annual plan 2021</p> <p>FF provided a brief update to the committee on the current status of the SICAP programme noting that the SICAP subgroup met on the 6th October, 2020. She noted that at the subgroup meeting a number of items were discussed specifically around the progress of the programme due to Covid-19. She advised that the staff had to adapt and change how they were interacting with clients. She noted that there was exceptional work carried out in very difficult circumstances and thanked ML and the SICAP team for their work. FF noted that given the exceptional circumstances the Department have made an allowance to reduce the targets for 2020. Following a review the recommendation is that the KPI for Goal 1 remains at 48 and noted that this is likely to be exceeded, for Goal 2 it is proposed that the KPI target is reduced from 290 to 203. FF noted that by making this change it will ensure that the programme is a success.</p> <p>The recommended amendment to SICAP KPI targets for 2020 was proposed by JH and seconded by SWMcD.</p> <p>FF advised that the Department are also asking LCDC's to submit the proposed targets for 2021. She noted that given Covid-19 is likely to be a factor in 2021 it is recommended to reduce the targets slightly to 45 for Goal 1 and 275 for Goal 2. FF advised that the LCDC also needs to confirm the emerging need for 2021 and noted the proposal is that it continues to be the homeless and those at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>The recommended SICAP KPI targets and emerging need for 2021 was proposed by NM and seconded by GOB.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>To receive an update on the PPN</p> <p>FF provided a brief update to the committee on the PPN;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The PPN is continuing to support member groups working to develop the participation and representation objectives of the network. ii. Meath PPN linked with Eirgrid to provide a webinar for PPN members on the Kildare Meath Grid Upgrade. iii. A review of the priorities for the Digital Strategy for the PPN was completed in light of Covid 19. <p>GOB noted that the last few months have been challenging in maintaining contact with the groups which is generally through the plenary and Municipal District meetings which cannot currently take place. He advised that the secretariat is investigating ways in which they can connect with groups and are looking at online options through Zoom and webinars. Work has also commenced to update the issues register. GOB noted that there are plans to hold webinars</p>

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	<p>on specific topics including reopening after Covid-19 restrictions. GOB advised that he hopes to have more of an update on these items and the next LCDC meeting.</p> <p>SB commented that the issues register is particularly helpful when working with such a wide variety of groups.</p> <p>MB asked for clarification on the webinar held with Eirgrid. FF agreed to circulate additional information on the webinar to the LCDC.</p> <p>PC noted that an additional 3000 Community Employment Scheme places were announced in the July stimulus package and enquired if the PPN could be used to promote it. GOB confirmed that it could. A short discussion took place on the Community Employment Scheme and the eligibility criteria. MB noted that there is a difficulty in Athboy and Fordstown in filling the places. PC advised that there is an active review taking place on the eligibility of the scheme. EMcG asked if eligibility of carers could be included in the review, PC confirmed that it is a group that has been discussed. NM enquired if there was any insight into the reason for the low take up. PC noted that there appears to be some reluctance of take up of positions in childcare and healthcare at the moment. ML provided an outline of how the places on the TUS and Jobpath programmes are filled. ML and PC agreed to discuss the issue regarding referrals identified outside of the LCDC meeting.</p>
7.	<p>AOB</p> <p>i. <u>Consideration of one additional application under the Covid-19 Emergency Fund:</u> FF gave a brief outline of the additional application received under the Covid19 Emergency Fund as detailed in the report circulated to the committee. The approval of the grant allocation as presented was proposed by NM and seconded by SWMcD.</p> <p>FF advised that the second call under this fund was launched on Tuesday 20th October, the closing date for receipt of applications is Thursday 12th November, 2020.</p> <p>ii. <u>Approval of the additional three new suppliers to the list of approved subcontractors for 2019/2020</u></p> <p>FF briefed the committee members on the three additional SICAP subcontractors as detailed in the report circulated to the committee prior to the meeting, confirming that they were appointed for the 2019 & 2020 SICAP Programme.</p> <p>The approval of the three additional subcontractors was proposed by ML and seconded by NM.</p>

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<p>iii.</p>	<p><u>Approval of SICAP Publicity Protocol Between Meath Partnership and Meath LCDC</u></p> <p>FF advised the committee members that under the SICAP Funding Agreement a Publicity Protocol must be in place between the Local Development Company and the LCDC. The document circulated to the committee members was developed by the LCDC and Meath Partnership.</p> <p>FF noted that the SICAP subgroup can ask to review the communication folder during the year.</p> <p>The approval of the SICAP Publicity Protocol was proposed by SWMcD and seconded by SK.</p>
<p>iv.</p>	<p><u>SICAP Case Study for 2020 - Meath Food Initiative</u></p> <p>FF advised that the Case Study was circulated for information. The SICAP Case Study for 2020 was drafted under the collaboration theme as approved by the LCDC and the project documented was the Meath Food Initiative.</p>
<p>Meeting concluded at 11.04am</p>	

Signed: *Suzanne Brady* Date: *27.11.2020*

Chairperson

