

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Local Community Development Committee

Meeting – 27th January 2023 at 10.30 am

Held by phone conference/in person. Attendance was verified by roll call.

Presiding:

Ms Suzanne Brady (SB) Environmental Sector

Present:

Ms Jackie Maguire (JM)	Chief Executive, Meath County Council
Cllr Yemi Adenuga (YA)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Cllr Elaine McGinty (EMcG)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Cllr Mike Bray (MB)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Mr Michael Ludlow (ML)	Meath Partnership
Ms Sharon Curran (SC)	Department of Social Protection
Mr Noel Maguire (NM)	Trade Union Sector
Mr Garret O'Brien (GOB)	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr Seamus McGee (SMcG)	Farming Sector
Ms Susuana Komolafe (SK)	Social Inclusion Sector
Ms Geraldine Hogarty (GH)	Youth Work Ireland Meath

Guest:

Monica Nelson (MN)	Meath Partnership
Aisling O'Donnell (AO'D)	Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator

Officials:

Ms Fiona Fallon (FF)	Chief Officer, Senior Executive Officer, Community Dept, MCC
Ms Angie Mitchell (AM)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Dep, MCC
Ms Alison Lynch (AL)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Dept, MCC

Apologies/Absent

Mr Joe English (JE)	Local Enterprise Office
Ms Sadie Ward McDermott (SWMcD)	Louth Meath Education Training Board
Ms Lorraine Flynn (LF)	Health Service Executive
Ms Shola Yahya (SY)	Social Inclusion Sector
Vacant	Chamber of Commerce
Vacant	Udaras na Gaeltachta
Vacant	Community Sector

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Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th December 2022</p> <p>The meeting commenced at 10.35 and SB welcomed all in attendance.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of ML and seconded by JM.</p>
2.	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>FF advised that there were no matters arising.</p>
3.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>FF confirmed that there was one item of correspondence that was circulated to the LCDC in relation to the Peatlands Climate Action Scheme.</p>
4.	<p>To receive and approve the SICAP End of year report 2022 and Annual Plan 2023</p> <p>FF advised that the SICAP subgroup Committee had met on 25th January to discuss the above and noted that all targets had been exceeded. There was unspent funding which the sub-group had recommended the request for funding carryover be approved together with approval of the annual plan 2023. She welcomed MN to the meeting and invited her to make a presentation.</p> <p>MN gave a report on the 2022 SICAP programme as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KPI1 had been overachieved for 2022 at 129%. 23 Grants had been provided to Local Community Groups in Meath mainly to purchase capacity building equipment and to hold capacity building events. The total grant amount was €27,14.79 and the total interventions figure was 330. - KPI2 had also been overachieved for 2022 at 187%. 513 individuals had been supported despite the high-level complexity of needs of those clients and therefore far more in-depth support was provided to those clients. <p>She stated that in response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis the following 5 pillars were identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Initial Assessment 2) Humanitarian Aid 3) Language Needs 4) Employment and Economic Welfare and 5) Community Integration <p>She added that service provision under each pillar is ongoing.</p> <p>She advised that Meath Partnership are seeking the approval of the LCDC to carryover the following amounts of</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • €19,920.48 (within the allowable 5% recommended by Pobal) from the CORE SICAP Budget, • €75,271.25 from the Ukrainian Fund Budget and • €9,664.85 from the Meath Wellness Hub Budget. <p>MN clearly explained the reason for the underspend on the Ukrainian Budget which was due to delays in the recruitment process during 2022 and she confirmed that two additional staff members will be recruited to the Ukrainian response team immediately if this underspend is approved. She also explained that the underspend in the Meath Wellness Hub was because of a staff member being approved for worksharing following maternity leave.</p> <p>She also made a presentation to the group on the various Goals within the 2023 Annual Plan and stated that the actions will remain the same under each heading. She advised that KPI1 is set at 45 and KPI2 is set at 275, with 17% for disadvantaged areas. She briefly discussed the outline of each goal in the Goal 1 & Goal 2 Categories which include 2 specific actions for Ukrainians and 1 new goal 2 action for 2023 focusing on the Meath Befriending Service. It was also noted that the increase in the SICAP budget would be used for increases for staff using similar posts in ETB for comparison.</p> <p>Following the presentation, a number of queries were raised by EMcG, SB, YA, MB & GOB all of which were responded to by MN & ML. The members of the Meath Partnership team were commended for their work to date.</p> <p>MN advised that if any members of the public wish to donate to the Ukrainian response, items could be purchased rather than donating money.</p> <p>The approval of the SICAP End of Year Report for 2022 and funding carryover was proposed by GOB and seconded by YA.</p> <p>The approval of the Annual Plan 2023 was proposed by JM and seconded by SC.</p>
5.	<p>To approve SICAP sub-contractors for 2023</p> <p>FF noted that a list of possible subcontracts for 2023 was collated and circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. She also advised that if any additional subcontractors are required for the SICAP programme they will be brought to the LCD C for approval.</p> <p>The approval of the SICAP subcontractors for 2023 was proposed by NM and seconded by JM.</p>
6.	<p>To receive an update on the preparation of the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)</p> <p>FF advised that the LECP Steering Committee held a meeting on 13th January 2023. The consultation process for the LECP had ended on 22nd December 2022 and it was noted that there had been good engagement throughout the County, the pop-up/pop in consultations had worked very well. FF confirmed that a number of themes had emerged following these consultations such as Heritage, Transportation & Connectivity. She advised that the wording of the high-level goals</p>

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	<p>may need to change slightly following the consultation process. It was noted that the 6th class reading standard was the test for the language used. The next meeting of the LECP Advisory Committee is scheduled for 10th February and full details of the public consultation report will be available and they will then look at developing actions for the implementation plan.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>To receive a progress report on the joint Louth Meath Migrant Integration Strategy</p> <p>FF advised that meeting of the Louth/Meath Migrant Integration Forum had taken place the previous week. She stated that all updates had been circulated to the LCDC committee in advance of this meeting. She confirmed that during 2022 a substantial high amount of work had been delivered on an ongoing basis by the various agencies involved in this process, however some agencies still had to submit progress on actions. She stated that it had been agreed to extend the strategy for an additional year given the delays due to covid. For 2023 the Forum had agreed to continue delivery of existing actions with a focus on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising & hosting the showcase event • Training for Elected Members in both Meath & Louth County Councils • Elections & Electoral Register – providing information on the upcoming local elections, and the electoral register and voting system <p>SB, ML and YA thanked FF for the detailed report and commended the forum on the work that had been carried out to date.</p> <p>FF welcomed an offer off assistance from YA on suggestions on how to ensure that the information relating to elections and the electoral register reaches all migrant groups.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>To receive and approve the HI Meath Implementation Plan</p> <p>AOD gave an update on the Healthy Ireland Fund Local Strategy 2023-2025 for Meath and gave a brief summary on the information relayed to the LCDC at their December meeting. She gave a briefing on the work completed since the December meeting as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-design ‘inspiration’ workshop • Preparation of the Meath County LECP Consultation Paper – Draft Statement and high level goals • Healthy Ireland Fund Local Strategy document, application forms and workplans completed • Engagement in preliminary discussions with potential partners

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	<p>She outlined the HIF 2023 Work plan on outcome indicator 1 “Positive Mental Health” including the projects outcomes and outputs, timeline for 2023 and she confirmed that the budget for this project is €37,500 plus any 2022 underspend. She also outlined the 2023 Work plan on outcome indicator 2 “Premature NCD Mortality” including the projects outcomes and outputs and timeline for 2023 and she confirmed that the budget for this project is €37,500 plus any 2022 underspend.</p> <p>NM and JM left the meeting at 11.26.</p> <p>AOD confirmed that the next step is to submit the application, local strategy and 2023 workplan to Pobal.</p> <p>SC and SMcG left the meeting at 11.27</p> <p>AOD responded to SB’s question regarding Social Farming and advised that she would circulate information on social farming to the committee members.</p> <p>SB thanked AOD for the presentation and for work she had carried out to date.</p> <p>The approval of the HI Meath Implementation Plan was proposed by ML and seconded by GH.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>To receive an update on the Public Participation Network (PPN)</p> <p>FF gave an update on the PPN and confirmed that following a tender process with the Department of Rural and Community Development, a Facilitator had been selected to support and guide the new Secretariat throughout 2023 which fulfils a key objective from last year’s Plenary.</p> <p>She advised that other objectives agreed by the Secretariat are 1) to provide Induction training to the new Secretariat and focus on capacity building for the PPN member groups and 2) to provide a training session in each MD around sustainable development and implementing SDGs into community work. She noted that this will be of particular interest to Tidy Town committees and confirmed that the Resource Worker is currently in the process of setting up training dates and locations.</p> <p>She confirmed that the PPN workers will engage with member groups over the coming weeks who’s work would see them fitting into the Environment Pillar and therefore the PPN hope to fill the remaining 2 Secretariat seats as soon as possible.</p> <p>She advised that Aoife from LAWPRO will give a presentation at the next Plenary meeting on opportunities for groups under LAWPRO’s Boyne Catchment Area Programme to receive training and grants and further develop the network.</p> <p>She further advised that following a call for representatives for the Meath Heritage Forum, 4 nominations were received and the Heritage Officer agreed that the PPN could have 2 reps on the Meath Heritage forum.</p>

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	510 groups are now registered with Meath PPN.
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>FF advised the LCDC members that the Department of Rural and Community Development had confirmed the EOI submitted to act as LAG for the next LEADER programme was deemed eligible. The next step in the process was the development of the Local Development Strategy. FF thanked ML and Colin Ludlow for their help in completing the form. ML noted that preparation of the new LDS would commence in coming weeks that LAG members would have expertise on the proposed themes which could contribute to the LDS. He advised that there would be a greater opportunity for collaboration with this LEADER programme and it would likely be October before funding would be available under the new programme.</p> <p>FF advised that the next LCDC Meeting will be held on Friday 24th February 2023.</p> <p>The meeting concluded at 11.45 a.m.</p>



Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: 28th March 2023