

**Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee Meeting
held on Friday 5th December 2025, held in the Council Chamber, County
Hall at 10.30a.m.**

In attendance: Mary Mescal, PPN (Chair)
Cllr. Mick McCarthy, KCC
Cllr. Ger Frisby, KCC
Kevin Mahon, KLP
Aileen McGrath, Local Enterprise Office
John Hurley, Chamber of Commerce
David Murphy, DEASP
Michael Walshe, PPN Community Pillar
Michael A Fitzgerald, Teagasc
Mary Harding, PPN Social Inclusion

Present: Anne Marie Shortall, Chief Officer LCDC, Katherine Peacock,
Kelley Murphy and Cora Nolan, Janette Boran Kilkenny County
Council, Nichola Keeshan and Seamus Nugent KRSP.

1. Administrative

Apologies: Martha Bolger, KCETB
Lar Power, Chief Executive (Chair)
Cllr. Stephanie Doheny
Angela Hayes, Teac Tom
Olive Maher, FRC
Cllr. Michael Doyle KCC
Martin Rochford, PPN – Environment
Paul O’ Rahilly, PPN Social Inclusion

Mary Mescal, Chair, thanked Katherine Peacock for all her work with Kilkenny LCDC and wished her well in her new role.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes of LCDC meeting held on Friday 24th September, 2025

Proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by Michael Walshe.

Matters Arising

None.

Any Conflicts of Interest

None.

**2. Oversight and implementation of the Local and Economic Community Plan
Janette Boran, Healthy Ireland Coordinator, delivered a presentation on the
Healthy Ireland Programme 2023–2026.**

Janette outlined the LECF Actions under Goal 7: Reducing inequalities and promoting health and well-being, and Goal 8: Decreasing the number of individuals experiencing deprivation, while supporting community development, climate justice, diversity, and social inclusion.

Janette presented on the following initiatives under Healthy Ireland:

- Not Around Us campaign, a prevention campaign for smoking and vaping that is led by young people and includes ongoing activities, outreach, and promotional efforts through schools and social media.
- Connecting Communities Roadshow in Ferrybank, a joining initiative with Waterford County Council that offered an opportunity to highlight available supports and services for Ferrybank residents and facilitated networking among community members.
- UCanACT Project summary.

Janette concluded her presentation with a video highlighting the Kilkenny One Parent Community Project.

Anne Marie thanked Janette for her very informative presentation.

Contributions were received from Michael Walshe, John Hurley, Kevin Mahon.

Seamus Nugent from KRSP presented to the LCDC members under Goal 7, focusing on reducing inequalities and promoting the importance of health and wellbeing. The presentation included details on the

KRSP programmes supported by Healthy Ireland funding for:

- Swimming lessons and summer swimming programmes for children with disabilities
- Summer programmes for adults with disabilities
- Adapted cycling programmes for adults
- Physical activity classes supported by the National Learning Network

Mary thanked Seamus for his very informative presentation outlining the valuable work and activities supported by KRSP.

3. Citizen Engagement and promotion of Social Inclusion

PPN Report

Michael Walshe presented the PPN Report.

4. AOB

Anne Marie Shortall announced the recent allocation of the Local Enhancement Grant (LEP 2026). Kilkenny County Council has been allocated €170,519 in funding by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht. This funding will support capital projects within the Local Enhancement Programme 2026, including necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, energy efficiency initiatives, equipment purchases, and related activities. The grant opportunity will be publicly advertised in January.

Additionally, funding under the CLAR 2025 programme was announced in November, with a total of €365,000 allocated for projects in Muckalee, Lisdowney, Coolagh, Hugginstown, Killanaspick, and Kilmoganny.

The CCFCS Grant is planned to be advertised early in Q1 of 2026.

5. Date for Meetings in 2026

Friday 30th January 2026

Friday 27th March 2026

Friday 29th May 2026

Friday 24th July 2026

Friday 25th September 2026

Friday 4th December 2026

Chair

Date