



Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee Meeting held on Friday 17th February, 2023, Council Chamber,

County Hall Kilkenny at 10.30a.m.

In attendance: Declan Gibbons, PPN Community Pillar- Chair
Sean McKeown, A/ Chief Executive Officer
Cllr. Martin Brett
Cllr. Mick McCarthy
Angela Hayes Teac Tom,
John Hurley, Chamber of Commerce
Denis Drennan, Kilkenny Leader Partnership
Sheila Donnelly – FRC
Michael A Fitzgerald, IFA,
Paul O 'Rahilly – PPN Social Inclusion
Toluwani Akaehomen PPN.

Joined online: Julieanne Power, DEASP
Cllr. Mick McCarthy
Martin Rochford- PPN Environment Pillar
Cllr. Ger Frisby,
Derval Howley HSE
Cllr. Joe Lyons

Also present: Anne Marie Shortall, Katherine Peacock and Cora Nolan,
Kilkenny County Council.

Administrative

Welcome new member: The chair welcomed John Hurley to the LCDC representing the Chamber of Commerce. Anne Marie Shortall was also welcomed as the new Chief Officer of the LCDC in place of Annette Fitzpatrick. Declan thanked Annette for all her help with the LCDC since 2020.

Apologies: Eileen Curtis Education Training Board, Aileen McGrath, Local Enterprise Office.

Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 23rd September 2022

Proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by Sheila Donnelly.

Minutes of Joint Meeting of SPC 1 & LCDC held on 16th November, 2022.

Proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by Angela Hayes

Minutes of LCDC Meeting held on 2nd December, 2022

Proposed by Cllr. Martin Brett, Seconded by Sean McKeown.

Matters Arising

At the December meeting the agreed MOU with CKLP was circulated to all LCDC Members and a commitment was given to organise a consultation workshop, Declan Rice will be in contact to arrange with a minimum of 2 engagement workshops. Sean suggested that a sub group of the LCDC be set up to meet with KLP prior to Local Development Strategy being finalised.

Subcommittee to engage with KLP, proposed by Sean McKeown, Seconded by Cllr M. Brett. Sean advised the subcommittee will not include a representative from Kilkenny County Council as the executive already engage successfully.

The following agreed to sit on the subgroup, Declan Gibbons, Derval Howley, Angela Hayes and Cllr. Martin Brett.

Conflicts of interest

None.

1. Items for discussion and decision

Presentation – Martin Rafter SICAP Annual Plan 2023.

Martin Rafter gave a presentation on the SICAP Annual Plan for 2023 and went through the following for the LCDC: -

- The aims of the SICAP Programme
- A look back at 2022
- The emerging needs group for 2023 targeting disadvantaged 18-24-year olds.
- Goal 1 priorities for 2023 and the areas of work
- Goal 2 priorities for 2023
- Budget for 2023

There were a number of contributions following Martin's presentation Sheila Donnelly as a person working on the ground with communities complimented the great work under the SICAP programme especially Social Prescribing, and the work with the Ukrainian families linking in with other agencies including FRC's. Sean McKeown, challenging work with great results, Sean asked for an explanation on the budget and staff. John Hurley spoke from a business prospective and the potential to get people into employment. Businesses need to be aware of what schemes and supports are available.

The Chamber of Commerce hold regular chamber chats with one in March partnering up with ETB and SETU, could explore engagements with KLP to increase connectivity.

Derval also complimented the work under Social Prescribing with 11 new posts across the South East to link in with older people with a possibility of 2 posts in Kilkenny to align with Social Prescribing and a community liaison post.

Angela Hayes complimented the very positive work.

Martin replied to all queries and thanked the LCDC.

Declan thanked Martin for his presentation and Martin left the meeting.

Sign off on recommendation from SICAP subgroup re EYR 2022 and AP 2023.

Denis Drennan left the meeting

Sheila Donnelly gave a report to the LCDC: -

The LCDC subgroup met in January and reviewed the end of year 2022 SICAP programme. Pobal also carried out a high-level review.

The overall budget for the 2022 programme was €838,021.

The Local Development company has successfully exceeded both KPIs. KPI 1 working with groups has achieved 131% (Target 26, Actual achieved 34) and KPI 2 working with individuals achieved 116% (Target 468, Actual 545)

The KPI of 2 % of those living in disadvantages area has a target of 26% and has achieved 25.64% which accounts for 120 individuals of the caseload living in disadvantaged areas. This is slightly underachieved but has improved year on year.

The 2022 Annual Progress Report has been uploaded and is in line with the guidance issued. There is a strong emphasis on collaboration throughout the report in terms of the delivery of the Annual Plan. It clearly documents the needs facing all beneficiaries in 2022, with particular emphasis on the approach used by the LDC in addressing the needs of displaced Ukrainians.

2022 progress on actions supporting the National Priorities is also evident in the report.

The LDC outlined the various challenges with its implementation in 2022 such as the impact of the Ukrainian crisis on the programme and the need to reconfigure the team to respond.

There was a €42,231.38 2022 underspend the majority of which is Ukrainian funding, details have been provided as to how this money will be allocated mostly covering Ukrainian staffing costs.

The grants awarded in 2022 totalled €21,874 and all were within the threshold with no duplicates.

The Subgroup reviewed the SCIAP Case-study which provides detail on the community response to the closure of local shops in several villages throughout the county and the subsequent development of community shops, cafes & tea rooms. The subgroup felt the case study did highlighted the work being done on the ground but

lacked input from the actual communities especially Muckalee where the most recent shop is being developed; however, the LCD did say they had difficulty engaging the community in the case study process. Pobal commented that the case study demonstrates the positive effects of successful collaboration, in addition to the huge efforts from the committee volunteers. The case study is in line with guidance issued and overall was well presented.

The Subgroup met with the LCD – Martin Rafter and his team to discuss the programme and case study. Questions were posed and clarification sought; all queries were answered or followed up satisfactorily.

Both the Sub group and Pobal recommend the End of year plan is approved.

This was proposed by Sean McKeown and Seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett and agreed.

Sign off on Annual Plan 2023

Katherine Peacock went through the SICAP 2023 Annual Plan

Both the LCDC SICAP sub-group and Pobal undertook a review of the 2023 Sicap plan in January.

The total budget allocated to the SICAP programme 2023 is €946,362. This included at €175,000 allocation for the Ukrainian Crisis Response. With a carryover of €42,231.38 from 2022, the total SICAP budget available for 2023 is €988,593.38

There are 2 Goals in the plan.

Goal 1 has named 5 actions around working with groups with an annual target set at 26 groups and Goal 2 working with individuals has 7 actions and an annual target of working with 486 individuals. Engaging with people on a one to one basis living in disadvantaged areas is set at 26% of the overall target.

The most notable additions to the plan compared with 2022 are actions to support older isolated adults and actions under the identified 'emerging needs group' 2023 which is 'unemployed youth 18-25yrs'.

There are also new actions to support the Ukrainian response under both Goals 1 &2 and a separate Ukrainian Crisis Response plan has been developed.

All fields in the plan have been completed and name target areas that are classified as disadvantaged or very disadvantaged in the Pobal deprivation index; all actions are eligible under SICAP.

The plan is in line with the statement of priority 2022-2023; and the current LECP priorities however adjustments may have to be made to capture new priorities when the 2023-2028 -LECP is published.

The Sub-group met with LDC staff - Martin Rafter and the KLP SICAP development officers after they had reviewed the plan and posed any questions they had concerning the plan. Satisfactory responses were received and the subgroup agreed that they were happy to propose to the wider LCDC that the plan be approved.

This was proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by Julianne Power.

The case study for 2023 was discussed with KLP staff and it was proposed that the Ukrainian Crisis Response should be put forward to the LCDC for agreement as this year's case study.

Proposed by Angela Hayes and Seconded by Toluwani Akaehomen.

Sean queried if there is an action plan for Non - Ukrainians, Katherine confirmed no action plan for Non-Ukrainians.

Community Support Fund

Anne Marie Shortall updated on this fund

The Community Support Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas: -

With their non-pay running costs for example energy costs (electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges) or other non-pay operating costs for example rental/lease costs, insurance bills.

Groups will also be able to use the funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc.

1. Agree proposal with LCDC Committee at meeting on Friday 17th of February
2. Advertise from Wednesday 22nd of February
3. Closing date Friday 31st March at 12.00p.m.
4. Overall budget for Kilkenny is €290,749
 - At least 30% ringfenced for small grants
 - €2,907 ring fenced for women's sheds
 - €14,537 admin fee 5% on total allocation
5. Running costs dates 1st April 2022-March 2023

Proposal: -

Small grants 30% €1000 or under = €87,305

Medium Grants up to €5,000= €86,000

Large Grants up to €20,000 = €100,000

It was agreed that a meeting of the LDC will take place on Friday 21st of April, with one item on the Agenda to agree the Community Support Fund Grants.

Proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett.

LCDC Annual Report

The 2022 had been circulated to the committee with the Agenda and was taken as read. **Proposed by Sheila Donnelly, Seconded by Cllr. Ger Frisby.**

Healthy Ireland

Katherine Peacock gave the report

Under the application process for HIF 2023-2025, the Healthy Ireland 3-year strategy has been submitted for national approval setting out the Local Authority priorities under the Healthy Ireland Fund.

The 2 outcome areas chosen are

Physical Activity: Increase in the percentage of adults and children meeting physical activity guidelines

Perceived Health: Increase in percentage of persons assessing their health to be very good or good based on EU-SILC questions on self-perceived health

The target groups agreed are One-Parent Families, Disadvantaged Families, Disadvantage Areas, people living with a disability, and young adolescents

Lead Partner have been chosen for the two Outcome Indicators based on proposals made by agencies:

Outcome area 1 - Physical Activity Levels the partners are

1. Kilkenny Recreation & Sports Partnership: target people living with a disability
2. Foroige/ The DRUM and possibly another youth service Target young Adolescents -to be decided
3. Social Farming - Waterford LEADER Partnership CLG: target people living with a disability
4. Kilkenny County Council- Active Travel

Outcome area 2 - Self- Perceived Health the partners are:

1. Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement: Target Travellers
2. Fr. McGrath Family Resource Centre: Target One-Parent Families
3. Newpark Family Resource Centre: Newpark: Target Disadvantage Areas in Newpark and surrounding area
4. Social and Health Education Project (SHEP): Target workers supporting disadvantaged families & Communities/ Areas

The strategy was approved on behalf of the LCDC by the Healthy Ireland subcommittee in January (agreed at the Dec LCDC) Once the plan has been approved nationally the finer implementation detail will be agreed with the partners and a report will be produced for the LCDC.

Proposed by Paul O' Rahilly, Seconded by Julieanne Power.

Update of CDP Pilot Programme

Katherine Peacock gave the update

KTCM has been running as the CDP overseen by the LCDC for over a year now and became totally independent of KLP last week. They receive €125,000 from the Department through Pobal PA for 3 years, with an additional €25,000 support from KCC. Their 2023 plan has been submitted to Pobal for approval and is currently under review.

Their Local Training initiative supported and financed through the ETB has started and so far, there is one coordinator employed with 8 participants turning up on a regular basis. An assistant coordinator is being recruited this week and they will then be in a position to increase their participant numbers to 18. The Community Employment scheme has been approved but they are holding off on that until the LTI is established.

The project is engaging well with agencies and committees and locally have representation on the Kilkenny Traveller integration group, the Traveller accommodation committee and representation on the PPN. A number of subgroups have been formed through the KTIG one of which is with the ETB where a research piece will be undertaken to establish the literacy, educational and training needs of young travellers. A lot of resources are going into the younger age profile 14-18yrs as they are responding well to interventions, a youth council has been established where leadership training is being provided.

The project is still working from Bishops Birch Community centre and the most pressing need remains finding larger more suitable premises. This is an ongoing search by the project and KCC.

The LCDC will receive a formal progress presentation later in the year from the project.

A premises may have been found in Hebron, Katherine has enquired if dormant funding will be available.

LCDC KTCM Subgroup

It is a requirement under this programme to have a subgroup: Paul O' Rahilly, Declan Gibbons, Sean McKeown and Sheila Donnelly agreed to sit on the subgroup.

2. Oversight and Implementation of the community element of the Local Economic and Community Plan including Local and Community Development Coordination and oversight

LECP Update

Anne Marie Shortall gave an update on the LECP.

The high-level goals have been agreed and working on implementation plan. Joint meeting held on 10th February, the advisory group are meeting on the 3rd of March with a joint meeting of the SPC and LCDC taking place on the 13th of March to go through the actions in the implementation plan, a lot of engagement has taken place. It is proposed to bring the plan to the next LCDC meeting on the 24th of March and the Ordinary Meeting of Kilkenny County Council in May.

3. Citizen Engagement and Promotion of Social Inclusion

PPN Report and Update

Toluwani gave the PPN report.

4. Items for Information and Information Sharing

Upcoming LCDC Workshops on Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision making – 2nd March.

An email had been sent to all LCDC Members and the following had confirmed that they will attend, Toluwani, Cllr. Martin Brett and Martin Rochford, Katherine asked if anyone else would be interested in attending to let her know before the end of the day.

5. AOB

Quorum

A brief discussion took place on the difficulty in getting a quorum for meetings, Declan had sent an email to all members, Declan received 14 replies and the majority were for Friday morning, it was agreed that every second meeting would be held on line.

Dates of Meetings for 2023: -

Friday 24th March

Friday 19th May,

Friday 23rd June,

Friday 15th September,

Friday 24th November.