



## **Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee Meeting held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2024, via Microsoft Teams at 10.30a.m.**

**In attendance:** Mary Mescal, PPN (Chair)  
Lar Power, Chief Executive  
Angela Hayes, Teac Tom  
Aileen McGrath, Local Enterprise Office  
Cllr. Mick McCarthy, KCC  
Cllr. Ger Frisby, KCC  
Martin Rochford, PPN – Environment  
Michael Walshe, PPN Community Pillar  
John Hurley, Chamber of Commerce  
Martha Bolger, KCETB  
Julieanne Power, DEASP  
Olive Maher, FRC  
Michael A Fitzgerald, Teagasc  
Mary Harding, PPN Social Inclusion  
Paul O’ Rahilly, PPN Social Inclusion

**Present:** Anne Marie Shortall, Chief Officer LCDCC, Katherine Peacock,  
Cora Nolan, Kilkenny County Council.

### **1. Administrative**

**Apologies:** Cllr. Stephanie Doheny, KCC  
Cllr. Michael Doyle, KCC  
Kevin Mahon, KLP

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**Minutes of LCDCC meeting held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of September, 2024**

Proposed by Angela Hayes, Seconded by John Hurley.

### **Matters Arising**

None

## **Membership**

Mary Mescal welcomed Martha Bolger , as the new representative from KCETB, in place of outgoing member Eileen Curtis, Mary expressed her gratitude to Eileen for her outstanding contributions and dedicated service on the LCDC committee.

## **Any Conflicts of Interest**

None.

## **2. Citizen Engagement and promotion of Social Inclusion**

### **PPN Report**

Michael Walshe presented the PPN Report. (Report circulated to all members)

## **3. Oversight and Implementation of the Local and Economic Community Plan Review of Implementation of Plan**

Anne Marie Shortall provided background information on the LECP plan for the benefit of new committee members. The plan is available on Kilkenny County Council website and hard copies can be provided.

In January 2025 it is proposed to survey all lead agents for each action as set out in the Implementation Plan. A further update will be requested on the status of the action.

As a new Implementation plan 2025 to 2026 is now due to be developed, lead agents will also now be asked to identify actions

1. They wish to carry forward from the existing plan to the new plan
2. Identify actions they feel should be now removed either as they are complete or it is not possible for them to advance as planned
3. Identify new actions to support the goals to be included in the new plan.

A joint meeting will be scheduled for Spring 2025 to present findings and gather feedback. Aileen McGrath confirmed that SPC 1 is agreeable to proceeding as outlined by Anne Marie.

Anne Marie noted that the process in preparing the LECP and the Implementation Plan has been highly engaging and collaborative and it is anticipated this will continue.

Julianne Power proposed, and Angela Hayes seconded, the motion to proceed as outlined, including the scheduling of a joint meeting in the Spring.

#### 4. Healthy Ireland Update

Janette Boran, delivered a presentation on Healthy Ireland (Presentation circulated to all members).

Mary Mescal thanked Janette for her very informative presentation. John Hurley indicated that the Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce are willing to support and engage in the “Not around Us” campaign and will contact Janette on this matter.

Olive Maher thanked Janette and shared insights on the successful cycling programme in Callan involving school children, and proposed potential swimming programmes for teenagers going forward

Angela Hayes highlighted the success of activities with the Traveller men.

Paul O’Rahilly mentioned that the standards being implemented are positively influencing other clubs in Kilkenny.

It was noted that an updated contract has been forwarded by Pobal to HR for the Healthy Ireland Coordinators position, which is effective until the end of the current programme, including all increments in line with public services agreement.

Janette sought the LCDC’s approval on two specific items discussed in her presentation:-

1. Approval for salary of one parent worker.  
Proposed by Paul O’ Rahilly, Seconded by Martin Rochford.
2. Sign off on the “Not around us” logo  
Proposed by Olive Maher, Seconded by Mary Harding.

#### **Presentation from Aoife Dowling - Health Needs Analysis Eastern Environs. (Presentation circulated to all members)**

Aoife Dowling, Research Consultant presented her findings on the Health Needs analysis carried out in the Eastern Environs.

The completed plan will be instrumental in developing activities for the upcoming Healthy Ireland Plan, agencies such as KCETB, KLP and others, as well as assisting in funding applications.

It was confirmed that all relevant graphs will be included in final report.

## **5. Items for Information and Information Sharing**

### **SICAP Programme Update**

Katherine Peacock provided the latest update on the SICAP Programme.

### **Local Enhancement Programme 2025**

**Anne Marie informed the members of the Local Enhancement Programme for 2025.**

The total Allocation for Kilkenny is €170,519 for the 2025 fund.

The LEP supports groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas to carry out necessary repairs, improvements or purchase of equipment, and also for operational costs such as rent or energy costs.

Guidelines are issued as to how the fund should be broken down with recommendations that

€146, 159 capital type funding to use towards necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, energy type projects and purchase of equipment.

And

€26,360 current funding that can be allocated to cover running costs and operational type costs such as rental/lease costs, utility bills and insurance costs.

Anne Marie advised that the scheme will be advertised in early January, and application form along with guidelines will be emailed to all members once available.

### **Update on Immigrant Services**

Anne Marie Shortall provided an update on Immigrant Services, following up on Martin Rafter's presentation at the previous LCDC Meeting. A subsequent meeting will be convened in January with the Local Authority Interagency Team (LAIT) to identify service gaps and overlaps.

**The next meeting will take place on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2025.**