



**Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee  
Meeting held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 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. Stephanie Doheny, KCC  
Cllr. Mick McCarthy, KCC  
Cllr. Michael Doyle, KCC  
Martin Rochford, PPN – Environment  
Michael Walshe, PPN Community Pillar  
John Hurley, Chamber of Commerce  
Kevin Mahon, KLP  
Eileen Curtis, KCETB

**Online:** Julieanne Power, DEASP  
Olive Maher, FRC  
Derval Howley, HSE

**Also present:** Anne Marie Shortall, Chief Officer LCDC, Katherine Peacock,  
Cora Nolan, Kilkenny County Council.

**1. Administrative**

**Apologies:** Michael A Fitzgerald, Teagasc  
Mary Harding, PPN Social Inclusion  
Paul O' Rahilly, PPN Social Inclusion  
Cllr. Ger Frisby, KCC

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

**Minutes of LCDC meeting held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of July, 2024**

Proposed by John Hurley, Seconded by Cllr. Michael Doyle.

## **Membership**

Mary Mescal welcomed Kevin Mahon, new representative from KLP, in place of outgoing member Denis Drennan, Mary acknowledged and thanked Denis for his work and time served on the LCDC committee.

## **Any Conflicts of Interest**

None.

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

### **PPN Report**

Martin Rochford presented the PPN Report. (Report circulated to all members)

### **Standing Order Proposal from PPN**

Mary Mescal, Chair advised that at the July Meeting, Paul O' Rahilly PPN raised the matter on circulation of LCDC minutes and the timelines of same. It was advised that a proposal be submitted to the chair on this matter.

The amendment to the standing orders that was requested referred to the circulation of minutes of the LCDC meeting (referred to in Clause 7 and Clause 39) of Standing Orders. The request was to amend timelines of circulation of minutes as follows:-

#### **Clause 7**

All available documents associated with the work of the Committee shall be circulated by email at least 5 clear working days in advance of the meeting.

Amendment - Add ", except for the draft minutes of the previous meeting. Refer to Clause 39."

#### **Clause 39**

##### **Confirmation of Minutes and Record of Attendance**

Minutes of all LCDC meetings will be drawn up by the Chief Officer and circulated to the Committee not less than 5 working days in advance of the next Committee meeting. The minutes of LCDC meetings shall be kept electronically and placed on website.

##### **Proposed Amendment**

Replace "not less than 5 working days in advance of the next committee meeting" " with "no more than 10 working days after the last committee meeting".

Mary Mescal explained that the standing orders in place are in line with best practice.

Anne Marie Shortall advised the members that the minutes are not official minutes until formally agreed at the next meeting as is the practice with all statutory meetings. All relevant reports and presentations are available after the meeting and distributed to all members. It was acknowledged that the PPN members wish to report back on the meeting and suggested that notes can be taken at the meeting, on relevant template available from the PPN Officer.

Martin Rochford, representing the PPN and in the absence of Paul O' Rahilly requested that the minutes be circulated earlier. Mary Mescal, Chair advised that as it is a statutory meeting all minute's have to be signed off by the Chief Officer prior to circulation.

Lar Power Chief Executive, advised that he would not be in favour for standing orders being amended and if they were to be changed it would require a Proposer and Secunder and that a proposal could be put forward against a change. The counter proposal would take precedence.

Martin Rochford, PPN Rep, agreed to bring the discussion outlined above back to the PPN members.

### **Update on Social Prescribing.**

Derval Howley provided the update on social prescribing as follows:-

Kilkenny Leader Partnership advised the HSE that they wished to resign from the provision of their social prescribing service.

The HSE issued an EOI and a successful applicant was selected. A grant aid agreement has been prepared. It is intended to have the Grant Aid agreement completed by the end of October and recruitment will commence for a new social prescriber. The HSE also have a pilot social prescribing service with the Older Persons Services and Alone (1 of 9 in the county). This is called the Community Connector Project and is part of the Integrated Care Programme for Older People (ICPOP). Referrals are via the ICPOP team.

### **KTCM Pilot Project CDP – Mid Year Review**

Katherine Peacock provided an update on the KTCM Pilot Project (update circulated to all members).

### **Presentation on Kilkenny One Parent Families**

Juanita Dunphy, gave a presentation about Kilkenny One Parent Community (presentation circulated to all members)

Mary Mescal, Aileen McGrath, Derval Howley and Olive Maher complimented Juanita on a comprehensive and informative presentation and how it highlighted the value of collaboration of agencies working together.

### **Update on Immigrant Services.**

Martin Rafter gave a presentation on the immigrant services (presentation circulated to all members).

The presentation identified some gaps in the services as some immigrant services will no longer be provided at the end of this year.

The current service being provided by Therese Delahunty provides a dedicated offering of information and advocacy. Therese Delahunty will be retiring at the end of 2024 and this service will no longer be available.

Derval Howley advised from an HSE perspective they are facing deficits this year so would have a difficulty in securing additional funding towards providing a service. Derval will check if there is another way of supporting the service and will revert back to the LCDC members.

There were a number of queries from the LCDC members on statistics, employment figures and concern over the programme closing.

Anne Marie Shortall suggested a meeting with Martin Rafter, the LAIT Team along with Fiona Deegan to explore options, identify any gaps and report back to the LCDC members on the matter.

Mary Mescal thanked Martin Rafter for the presentation.

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

### **Additional Funding SICAP – New Arrivals.**

Katherine Peacock notified the committee that additional funding has been granted under the SICAP Programme of €13,989 for New Arrivals.

## **LCDC Networking Event**

Anne Marie Shortall advised the members of the LCDC Networking event that is being held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> of October, 2024 in Athlone. LCDC members are invited to attend the event. The event will include updates from:

- The Department of Rural and Community Development,
- The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth (DCEDIY),
- Director Designate of the National Office of Community Safety

There will also be presentations from DRCD and the LGMA relative to Community Connections Project, as well as from Sligo and Tipperary LCDC on the monitoring and implementation of their LECP.

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CHAIR

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DATE