

**Miontuairiscí ó Chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil na Gaillimhe a tionóladh ar Dé Céadaoin 20ú Meitheamh 2018 (6.30 p.m. – 8.30p.m.)**

Minutes of Galway County Local Community Development Committee held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (6.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.)

**LCDC Members in Attendance:**

Tom Turley ( <i>Chairperson</i> )	Irish Farmers Association	Agriculture & Farming
Conor O'Dowd	Galway Chamber	Employers & Business
Seán Ó Coistealbha	Galway County PPN	Community & Voluntary
Dan Dowling ( <i>Vice-Chairperson</i> )	Galway County PPN	Community & Voluntary
Kathleen Aspel Mortimer	Galway County PPN	Social Inclusion
Martin Ward	Galway County PPN	Social Inclusion
Terry Keenan	FORUM Connemara Ltd	Local & Community Development
Cllr. Noel Thomas	Galway County Council	Elected Member
Cllr. Dermot Connolly	Galway County Council	Elected Member
Cllr. Jimmy McClearn	Galway County Council	Elected Member
Kevin Kelly	Galway County Council	Local Authority Official
Breda Fox	Galway County Council	Local Authority Official
Mícheál O hÉanaigh	Údarás na Gaeltachta	State Agency
Michael Keady	Health Service Executive	State Agency

**Apologies:**

Margaret Sheehan	Galway County PPN	Environment
Delia Colahan	Galway Rural Development Ltd	Local & Community Development
Donal Walsh	Education & Training Board	State Agency
Eoin Brown	Department of Social Protection	State Agency

**Staff in Attendance**

Alan Farrell (Chief Officer), Ann Mallaghan, Mary McGann, John Moore.

**1 Miontuairiscí ó chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil (LCDC) a tionóladh an 11ú Aibreán 2018**

Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018

T. Turley, Chairperson, welcomed all members to the meeting, noted the apologies received, and expressed his apologies for having to reschedule from the original meeting date of 13<sup>th</sup> June due to unforeseen issues arising for several attendees. He asked if there were any issues arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April and no issues were raised by the Members.

A Farrell, Chief Officer, advised that the Department had clarified that the quorum of a 19 member LCDC was 11. In addition, he advised that the Department had advised Chief Officers that the Guidelines for LECP review were expected in Quarter 3 of 2018, and that a Working Group was currently convened to examine whether to continue towards review of the existing LECP's or to create a link between the timelines of LECP's and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

On the **PROPOSAL** of J. McClearn, **SECONDED** by S. O'Coistealbha, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 11<sup>th</sup> April were **AGREED**.

## **2 An t-eolas is déanaí ar an bPlean Áitiúil Eacnamaíochta agus Pobail (LECP) - Torthaí** Update on Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) – Outcomes

A. Mallaghan gave an update on the achievement of outcomes under each Theme in the LECP and advised that the individual actions under each Theme would contribute to these macro-economic indicators / outcomes. She advised that they were selected on the basis of figures which would be readily available at county level, primarily from the National Census in addition to other Bi-Annual Reports.

T. Turley thanked A. Mallaghan for the presentation and said that the outcomes were mostly positive. T. Keenan stated that although the overall figure for population in towns and villages was positive, it may hide population decreases in certain areas. A. Mallaghan confirmed that it would be necessary to look at statistics for smaller areas to identify these trends. A. Farrell stated that more information would become available with the review of LECP actions, and all this information would be taken into consideration in deciding priorities for the LCDC. There was a general discussion regarding the unemployment figures, in relation to whether they included CE schemes, part-time working, training and apprenticeships. T. Turley suggested that Eoin Brown be requested to provide some clarity and analysis on unemployment figures at a future meeting of the LCDC.

## **3 Clár Feabhsaithe Pobail (CEP) 2018**

- a) **Suirbhé Custaiméara faoin Scéim Áiseanna Pobail agus RAPID 2017**
- b) **Tosaíochtaí a shonrú do CEP 2018 (*Cinneadh ag teastáil*)**

Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) 2018

- a) **Customer Survey of Community Facilities Scheme & RAPID 2017**
- b) **Assign Priorities for CEP 2018 (*Decision Required*)**

J. Moore gave a presentation on the survey undertaken by the Council in April/May 2018 into the CFS and RAPID funding Schemes in 2017, which showed that the small monetary amounts on CFS and the time limits for applying and drawdown were the main issues raised by applicants, however, they were very satisfied with the availability of grant aid for their grassroots community projects, and with the administrative process. The feedback was welcomed by the members, who acknowledged the benefits of the schemes and the significant work which had been put into the assessments at sub-committee level.

M. McGann gave an overview of the Community Enhancement Programme which replaces the RAPID and CFS funding schemes from 2018. She confirmed the allocation of €143,401 to County Galway and advised that the scheme was to provide funding to enhance facilities in disadvantaged areas, and highlighted the disadvantaged areas throughout Galway based on the 2016 Pobal HP Deprivation Index. The issues for decision by the Committee were as follows:

### Setting a maximum grant for medium-scale capital projects:

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the appropriate maximum grant amount and how this would impact on the availability of funds for smaller projects. It was agreed that a maximum amount of €15,000 would be applied, which would allow 5-6 projects of this type to proceed if they were of sufficient quality, and would allow a sizeable proportion of the funds to be retained for the small capital projects. It was agreed not to specify the allocations for small v medium capital grants at this stage, which would allow the LCDC Sub-Committee to alter the actual allocations across the

scale of projects when applications were received and assessed, and allow the flexibility to include a project above the maximum limit should a project of sufficient quality and scope be received.

Agreeing priority actions from LECP for medium-scale capital projects:

Following queries from the Members, M. McGann confirmed that the priority actions from Themes 2 & 4 would be applied only to the medium-scale grants, and that the small-scale grants would not be restricted and could satisfy any Theme of the LECP.

Agreeing Assessment Criteria for applications:

In response to a query from K. Kelly, M. McGann confirmed that the weighting for disadvantaged areas would ensure that beneficial projects in these areas would receive priority, however, it would not preclude beneficial projects in other areas of the county which would meet the needs of disadvantaged groups. A. Farrell said that the assessment criteria would allow a targeted approach to disadvantaged areas while making sure the projects themselves got a fair balance on target, impact and deliverability. It was also generally agreed that the assessment criteria would encourage membership of the PPN, and that it would not be appropriate or legal to enforce membership.

Agreeing timeframe for assessment:

M. McGann stated that the national deadline for receipt of applications was 30<sup>th</sup> July, and the aim was to issue offer letters by early September to allow applicants approximately a 2-month period to complete their projects and drawdown their grant, as any unspent funds had to be returned to the Department by year-end. It was agreed that the Sub-Committee for RAPID would become the CEP Sub-Committee and carry out the detailed analysis of the applications and approve them on behalf of the LCDC by end August/early September. These Sub-Committee Members comprise Dan Dowling, Delia Colohan, Kathleen Aspel Mortimer, Margaret Sheehan and Sean O'Coistealbha.

On the **PROPOSAL** of D. Connolly, **SECONDED** by S. O'Coistealbha, the Community Enhancement Programme 2018 details were **AGREED**.

**4 An t-eolas is déanaí maidir le cúrsaí oiliúna a reáchtáil ag GRETB**  
Update from GRETB on Training Courses (to be deferred to July meeting)

A Farrell confirmed that Donal Walsh had agreed to present this update, but as he was unable to attend the reconvened meeting, it was deferred to the July Meeting.

**5 An t-eolas is déanaí ar Tionscnamh Éire Fholláin 2018**  
Update on Healthy Ireland Fund 2018

A Mallaghan gave an overview of Healthy Ireland and outlined the proposal that was made to POBAL for funding under this project. She outlined the difficulties with the scheme including the tight deadlines and changes necessitated by a reduction in funding by 25% to €75,000. She confirmed that due to the tight timescale, there was a strong emphasis on roll-over of Round 1 projects and detailed the 5 Actions which were included in the Round 2 Funding Application to Pobal. She requested the formal support of the LCDC for the submission of the funding application under Strand 1 Round 2 for Healthy Ireland.

On the **PROPOSAL** of B. Fox, **SECONDED** by S. O'Coistealbha, the application for funding under Healthy Ireland was **AGREED**.

**6 Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile**  
Date for next meeting

The date and time for the next meeting of the LCDC was scheduled for Tuesday July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**7 Aon ghnó eile**  
Any other business

A Farrell gave an overview of the Outdoor Recreation Scheme including the 3 Measures in the scheme and the amounts that could be allocated to projects under each Measure.

*Don Dowling Vice Chairperson*

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T. Turley, Chairperson

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Ann Mallaghan*

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A. Mallaghan, A/Chief Officer

Date: 10 July 2018