



**Minutes of Meeting of
West Cork Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
Thursday 28th January 2016 at 2.30pm
Council Chamber, Kent St., Clonakilty, Co. Cork.**

PRESENT: Mr. Finbarr Harrington (Chairman)
Ms. Clodagh Henehan, Divisional Manager, Cork County Council
Cllr. Declan Hurley, Cork County Council
Cllr. Rachel McCarthy, Cork County Council
Cllr. Noel O' Donovan, Cork County Council
Mr. Kevin Curran, Head of LEO
Ms. Phoebe Bright, Environment Pillar
Ms. Máire Ní Shé, Udarás na Gaeltachta
Mr. Gavin Falk, Community & Voluntary Forum
Mr. Enda McWeeney, Cork ETB
Mr. Colm Leen, Cork Chamber
Mr. John Walsh, Comhar na nOileán Teo
Mr. John Kennedy, Youth (Foróige)

APOLOGIES: Mr. Richard Connell, IFA
Ms. Eileen O' Shea, Civic Society
Cllr. Pat Murphy, Cork County Council
Mr. Ryan Howard, SECAD
Mr. Ian Dempsey, WCDP
Ms. Maria Hurley, Department of Social Protection

IN ATTENDANCE:
LCDC Support Team
Mr. Niall Healy, LCDC Chief Officer, Cork County Council
Ms Fiona Hayes, Community & Enterprise Development Officer
Mr. Andrew Lewis, Cork County Council

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair, Mr. Harrington welcomed all to the meeting.

Item 1: Cork County Local Economic and Community Plan update

Mr. Pio Condon gave a presentation on the LECP progress to date, please see attached.
Discussion took place after the presentation and included the following issues;

- Public Consultations for 2nd phase will commence in late February, this is where further thoughts/submission on the plan will be sought and considered
- Aim of the plan is to remove barriers for individuals and agencies to achieving progress
- Family and home life a key consideration
- The Cork asset index was outlined
- The LECP is to influence the national framework and government policy
- Questions from the LCDC on population growth and the use of energy
- The allocation of strategic transportation
- Rural Decline-changes in structure of farming, retail changes with online shopping, decline in birth rates in rural areas
- Balance between urban and rural in Cork



- Quality of Life survey where 81% of people think Cork is the perfect size, need to build into the economic growth opportunities
- Examples of London transportation model
- How do we define 'Rural' in today's socio economic world
- Broadband and West Cork's business opportunities

It was noted that further work is required with respect to finalising the Draft LECP, and that it is expected that the document will be ready for consultation in the coming weeks.

Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes of meeting held 12th November 2015.

On the proposal of Mr. Enda Weeney and seconded by Mr. Gavin Falk the minutes of the LCDC meeting of meeting held 12th November 2015 were agreed and adopted by the meeting.

Item 3: Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Mr. John Walsh declared conflict of Interest for the next item on the agenda i.e. SICAP and left the meeting at 15:45. There was no WCDP representative in attendance.

Item 4: SICAP-Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme

Mr. Andrew Lewis attended the meeting to outline the approval process for the SICAP End of Year Review 2015 and the approval of the Annual Plans for 2016.

The SICAP programme includes 3 Lots for West Cork

- Lot 18-5 - West Cork Municipal District-delivered by West Cork Development Partnership
- Lot 18-6 - Bandon/Kinsale Municipal District - delivered by West Cork Development Partnership Ltd.
- Lot 18-7 - Inhabited Islands (7 no.) - delivered by Comhar na nOilean

The SICAP Sub Group of the West Cork LCDC met on the 27th January to look at the monitoring and evaluation of performance by each of the Programme Implementers for the year 2015, and to look ahead to 2016. This Sub Group consists of the following members;

1. Mr. Enda McWeeney (Chair of Sub Group)
2. Ms. Maria Hurley (gave apologies for today's meeting)
3. Mr. John Kennedy

The Sub Group received reports from Andrew Lewis on the performance of each contract based on data in the IRIS system, and narrative reports from the Programme Implementers. Representatives from each Programme Implementer were invited to the Sub Group meeting to discuss the position.

Mr. E. McWeeney provided a report which summarised the findings of the Sub Group meeting the previous day.

- Lot 18-7 Comhar na nOilean achieved strong performance in the two KPI Indicators and in most of the other 13 Headline Indicators which were measured in 2015. The Annual Plan proposed for 2016 was considered sufficient to achieve the Targets set for 2016.
- Lot 18-5 West Cork Development Partnership (WCDP) achieved 69% of the target set for KPI 1 and 100% for KPI 2. Of the remaining 13 Other Headline Indicators, 11 were not fully achieved, with 8 less than 50% achieved. Mr McWeeney advised that the Sub Group considered the performance for Lot 18-5 for 2015 to be poor, and the view that the



Programme Implementer will be required to address this for 2016. The Annual Plan proposed for 2016 was considered sufficient to achieve the Targets set for 2016 but the Sub Group recommended closer and more frequent monitoring of this contract in 2016.

- Lot 18-6 West Cork Development Partnership (WCDDP) achieved 119% of the target set for KPI 1 but 80% for KPI 2. Of the remaining 13 Other Headline Indicators, 7 were not fully achieved, with 5 less than 50% achieved. The Sub Group considered the performance for 2015 to be average overall with certain performance issues that need to be addressed by the Programme Implementer. The Annual Plan proposed for 2016 was considered sufficient to achieve the Targets set for 2016 but the Sub Group recommended closer and more frequent monitoring of this contract in 2016

A discussion on the performance relating to each of the three Lots ensued.

The relative performance of the three West Cork Lots, when compared to the rest of Cork County, was queried. It was confirmed by Andrew Lewis that Lot 18-5 was the worst performing of the 7 Cork Lots by a significant margin, with Lot 18-6 being the next worst performing contract.

It was clarified by Andrew Lewis that the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government had been contacted regarding the amendment to some 2016 targets at the request of the Programme Implementer and at the discretion of the LCDC.

It was noted that 2015 was the first year of the programme (with 2015 only being 9 months duration) and that there was a softened approach applied to 2015 which would not be the case for future years. Accordingly, the LCDC would be seeking 100% achievement of the targets for 2016.

The value for money ratio was raised by LCDC members with regard to outcomes and outputs from the SICAP programme, where 100% of the funding resulted in performance of only 69% of the target in one Lot. It was confirmed by Andrew Lewis that under the guidelines issued by the Department/Pobal, performance in Lot 18-5 was above the threshold where financial penalties might need to be considered by the LCDC, and therefore 100% funding applied.

In order for the items in the report to be approved, and to have a private majority present, the following members withdrew from the meeting at 16:10;

- Ms. Clodagh Henehan
- Ms. Máire Ní Shé
- Cllr. Rachael McCarthy

Mr. E. McWeeney recommended to the West Cork LCDC the approval of the End of Year Review 2015 and the Annual Plan 2016 for each of the 3 Lots. Cllr. Declan Hurley and Cllr. Noel O'Donovan stated that this should be with the caveat of a more robust monitoring regime for the poorer performing lots in 2016, so as to ensure that Key Performance Indicators would improve.

The approval on the Report on the SICAP 2015 End of Year Review was proposed by Mr. Kevin Curran and seconded by Phoebe Bright.

The approval of the SICAP Annual Plans for 2016 was proposed by Mr. Colm Leen and seconded by Mr. Kevin Curran.



All members that had departed the meeting re-joined at 16:20.

Item 5: Rural Development (LEADER) Programme 2014-2020

Mr. Niall Healy reported that a deadline for the extension of time for submitting the Local Development Strategy to the 29th February was approved by the Department.

The Chief Officer briefed the Committee in relation to progress achieved since the previous meeting with respect to the participative planning process and the development of the local development strategy. The matters arising from the subsequent consultation workshops in County Hall were also noted.

The Chairman thanked the Implementing Partners for their work to date. The Chief Officer reported that the preparation of the Plan was well advanced and that it is expected to present a draft of same to the West Cork LCDC at their next meeting to be held on the 11th February.

The composition of the LAG (Local Action Group) was discussed. The Chief Officer advised of the process undertaken and recommended the following nominees for appointment to the LAG:

1. Mr. Noel Condon
2. Mr. Michael Collins
3. Mr. Gavin Falk
4. Ms. Therese Barrett Bourke
5. Ms. Anne Finch

The following members withdrew at 16:25 to ensure a private majority;

- Mr. Kevin Curran
- Cllr. Noel O'Donovan

The approval of the list of nominees was proposed by Cllr. Declan Hurley and seconded by Mr. John Kennedy.

All members that had withdrawn rejoined the meeting at 16:27.

Cllr. Rachael McCarthy enquired as to the timeline for application and as to the consultants engaged in the preparation of the Local Development Strategy. The Chief Officer responded by outlining the approximate timeline and the support services employed.

Item 6: Correspondence

None.

Item 7: Any other business

The Chief Officer reported that the PPN representatives will be taking up their positions on the West Cork LCDC in March 2016.

Mr. Gavin Falk proposed an idea for the Cork County Council to have an award for members in the community that have ideas for projects.



Item 8: Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the LCDC would be scheduled for Thursday 11th February 2016 at 2:30pm in Clonakilty, Co. Cork.

Meeting Concluded

The Minutes were approved by the West Cork Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) on

(Date of meeting) _____

Signed: _____

Chairperson

Dated: _____

DRAFT