

**Minutes of
South Cork Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
Council Chamber, County Hall & Via Microsoft Teams**

Date: 23rd November 2023

Time: 10.00am.

Present:

Name	Organisation	Public / Private
Cllr. Michael Hegarty	Cork County Council	Public
Cllr. Seamus McGrath	Cork County Council	Public
Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen	Cork County Council	Public
Cllr. Marcia D'Alton	Cork County Council	Public
Mr. Michael Lynch	Divisional Manager South Cork	Public
Ms. Valerie Murphy	Avondu Blackwater Partnership CLG	Private
Mr. Ryan Howard	SECAD Partnership CLG	Private
Ms. Arran O'Driscoll	West Cork Development Partnership	Private
Ms. Ashley Amato	Cork Chamber	Private
Mr. Jimmy Hosford	IFA	Private
Ms. Mary O'Leary	Environmental Pillar	Private
Mr. Liam McCarthy	Cork County PPN	Private
Mr. Tom Howard	Cork County PPN	Private

Apologies:

Name	Organisation	Private / Public
Mr. Sean O'Sullivan	Head of Leo South Cork	Public
Mr. Donal O'Liathain	Údarás na Gaeltachta	Public
Mr. John Fitzgibbons	Cork ETB	Public
Ms. Leighann Kennedy	Dept of Social Protection	Public
Mr. Brian Williams	Youth Work Ireland	Private
Vacant	Civic Society	Private

Staff in Attendance:

Ms. Kay Keegan	Chief Officer	Cork County Council
Mr. Andrew Lewis	Project Accountant	Cork County Council
Mr. Jesse Dorrington	Senior Staff Officer	Cork County Council
Ms. Ita Kirwan	Staff Officer	Cork County Council

Quorum = 11 (50% of 19 rounded up + 1 = 11)

In attendance = 13 (5 Public : 8 Private)

Apologies = 6

Total membership = 19

Welcome and Introduction.

The Chair welcomed to the Committee, Mr. Michael Lynch, new Divisional Manger for South Cork. Also, Ita Kirwan new Staff Officer to the Community & Development Team. It was noted that a quorum was in place and the meeting commenced.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous LCDC Meeting of 26th October 2023.

The Minutes were adopted on the proposal of Tom Howard and seconded by Cllr Cathal Rasmussen.

Matters arising

None.

2. Community Support Fund 2022/2023 Reallocations.

The scheme was rolled out in April 2023 with a fund of €362,678 for Capital and Operational Costs. The closing date was 30th September 2023 initially, this was extended by a month to 31st October 2023. There were some underspends following the closing date. These were reallocated based on receipts received and with a focus on Community Groups. Those with lesser amounts, this is the maximum that could be allocated.

The following is what has been allocated:

COMMUNITY GROUP NAME	Amount Approved	Grant amount paid	MD	Grant Type	Capital Underspend	Operational Underspend	Recommended Group	MD	Recommended Amount for Capital Cost	Amount for Operational Cost
South										
Ringaskiddy Tidy Towns	€2,000.00	€1,045.00	Carrigaline	Capital	€955.00		109th Cork Ballinora Scout Group	Carrigaline	€134.00	
Sirius Arts Centre	€3,500.00	€3,492.00	Cobh	Capital	€8.00		55th Cork Carrigaline Scout Group	Carrigaline	€414.00	
Youghal Tidy	€2,500.00	€2,465.00	East	Operational		€35.00	Owenabue Men's	Carrigaline	€415.00	
Ballyvourney Tidy Towns	€2,050.00	€713.00	Macroon	Operational		€1,337.00	Cloyne District Community	East Cork		€35.00
Coiste Forbartha Reidh na nDoiri	€1,100.00	€379.00	Macroon	Operational		€721.00	Ballydaly Community Hall	Macroon		€282.00
	€11,150.00	€8,094.00	€3,056 to reallocate		€963.00	€2,093.00	Coachford Community House	Macroon		€282.00
							Croi na Loai	Macroon		€282.00
							Donoughmore Community Centre	Macroon		€282.00
							Inniscarra	Macroon		€282.00
							Archaeological Association	Macroon		€84.00
							Kilmurry Parish Hall	Macroon		€282.00
							Macroon Men's	Macroon		€282.00
									To reallocate = €963	To reallocate = €2,093

Liam McCarthy asked if there is any indication of funding for next year and Kay Keegan confirmed that there has been no information this regard yet.

Proposed by Liam McCarthy and seconded by Tom Howard.

3. Update on SICAP – Contracts for new programme

The current SICAP funding is ending in December 2023. Procurement for next year started over the summer. The Evaluation Team was made up of Declan Daly, Chair, Marian Salter, Derek O’Gorman and Angela Murphy. The team met on several occasions, in person and online. There were 7 Lots for Cork County with 1 Lot from South Cork so no competing bids. A negotiation element was introduced to the process this year. As the final score was over 70%, as per the criteria, no negotiation meeting was required.

- National Briefing session had been held online at the end of August 2023.
- Local Briefing sessions for the Evaluation team had been held in County Hall on 13th September.
- Tenders were opened and downloaded from eTenders on 8th September.
- Tender documentation received by Evaluation Team members on 13th September.
- There were 7 Lots for Cork County, 1 of these Lots for South Cork, one tender received in respect of each lot. Lot number 18-4 for the South & East Cork
- Meetings of the Evaluation Team were held on 13th, 25th and 28th September in person with other meetings held online.
- National Evaluation Template has been set by Pobal with a clear marking system of 7 criteria and 16 sub criteria.
- A joint evaluation was undertaken by all members of the Evaluation Team, and all decisions were reached by consensus.
- Ongoing clarification was given to the Evaluation Team by the Chief Officer and her staff.
- One tender was received in respect of each lot and each tender met all requirements.
- **Lot 18.4 - SECAD –South & East Cork.** – the marking criteria and the conversion which gave this Tenderer a total mark of 815 out of 1090.
- On 18th October 2023, the Chair of the Evaluation Team, Declan Daly, met with the SICAP Sub Committee comprising of Leighann Kennedy Dept Social Welfare and John Fitzgibbon CETB with the Chair of the South Cork LCDC also being briefed in advance. The Sub-Committee agreed with the recommendation of the Evaluation Team with SECAD being successful. Award Letters were issued last week and awaiting contracts.

The Chair acknowledged the work of the Evaluation Team and the SICAP Sub Committee, and congratulated SECAD.

Ryan Howard thanked LCDC for their support throughout the process and acknowledged how good it is to have continuity for the area. He did however wish to raise a concern with regards to the budget. The starting point for budgets was basically the same from the previous year, but for South Cork, this has been reduced by 10%. He acknowledged that this was because of reduction in population but stressed the importance of supporting people on the ground, particularly in outlying areas. Ryan wanted to raise the issue prior to signing the contract and is seeking support from South Cork LCDC to have the budget reinstated.

The Chair acknowledged the importance of reinstating the 10% and extended support from the South Cork LCDC members in the form of a letter to each of Cork’s three representatives, Minister Micheál Martin, Minister Michael McGrath and Minister Simon Coveney including Minister Heather Humphreys DRCD.

Kay Keegan acknowledged that budgets were based on size, population area & areas of deprivation and that the difference for Cork County was due to the boundary changes

The Chair put it to the committee for a letter and contact with the three Cork Ministers & Minister Humphreys. Proposed by Ryan Howard and seconded by Cllr Michael Hegarty.

4. LCDC meeting schedule for 2024

The LAG schedule will be dependent on the outcome of local elections and the LAG bidding process.

Proposed by Liam McCarthy and seconded by Tom Howard.

5. Any Other Business

None

6. Date of Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting is 14th December 2023.

Meeting Concluded

Signed:


CHAIRPERSON

Dated:

14/12/2023