



## **Minutes of Meeting of Sligo Local Community Development Committee**

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 at 9.30a.m., Council Chamber, City Hall, Sligo**

### **PRESENT**

|                                      |  |                                       |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Councillor Sinéad Maguire            | <b>Local Government Member</b>         | <b>Sligo County Council</b>           |
| Councillor Séamus Kilgannon          | <b>Local Government Member</b>         | <b>Sligo County Council</b>           |
| Councillor Chris MacManus            | <b>Local Government Member</b>         | <b>Sligo County Council</b>           |
| Mr. John Reilly                      | <b>Local Government / LEO</b>          | <b>Sligo County Council</b>           |
| Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer                   | <b>State Agency</b>                    | <b>Dept. Of Social Protection</b>     |
| Ms. Cathy Powell for Ms. Mary Brodie | <b>State Agency</b>                    | <b>Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB</b>       |
| Ms. Patricia Garland                 | <b>State Agency</b>                    | <b>Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE</b>   |
| Mr. Chris Gonley                     | <b>Local Development Sector</b>        | <b>Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG</b>   |
| Mr. Aidan Doyle                      | <b>Business Interests</b>              | <b>Sligo Chamber of Commerce</b>      |
| Mr. Hugh MacConville                 | <b>Trade Union Interests</b>           | <b>Irish Congress of Trade Unions</b> |
| Mr. Seán Tempany                     | <b>Farming / Agriculture Interests</b> | <b>Farming / Agriculture Pillar</b>   |
| Mr. Michael Kirby                    | <b>Environmental Interests</b>         | <b>Environment Pillar (PPN)</b>       |
| Ms. Bernadette Maughan               | <b>Social Inclusion</b>                | <b>PPN</b>                            |
| Mr. Gerard O'Connor                  | <b>Community &amp; Voluntary</b>       | <b>PPN</b>                            |
| Ms. Jackie Sweeney                   | <b>Community &amp; Voluntary</b>       | <b>PPN</b>                            |
| Ms. Sharon Boles                     | <b>Social Inclusion</b>                | <b>PPN</b>                            |

### **APOLOGIES**

|                  |                             |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mr. Ciarán Hayes | <b>Local Government /CE</b> | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |
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### **IN ATTENDANCE**

|                    |                           |                             |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ms. Dorothy Clarke | <b>Chief Officer LCDC</b> | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|

|  |                                  |                             |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ms. Margaret McConnell                     | <b>Senior Executive Officer</b>  | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |
| Mr. Jude Mannion                           | <b>A/Senior Staff Officer</b>    | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |
| Ms. Fiona Gilligan                         | <b>Staff Officer</b>             | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |
| Ms. Maria Collery                          | <b>A/Assistant Staff Officer</b> | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |
| Ms. Antoinette Carney                      | <b>A/Assistant Staff Officer</b> | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |
| Ms. Karen Comaskey                         | <b>Clerical Officer</b>          |                             |
| Mr. Martin McAndrew<br>For Peace IV Update | <b>Peace Manager</b>             | <b>Sligo County Council</b> |

*Mr. Shane Campbell, CEO, ICBAN – Presentation under LECP item*

*Ms. June Murphy, SLPCO – SICAP Update*

*Ms. Sharon Harte, IT Student on placement with Sligo County Childcare*

*Mr. Frank Moylan, Senior Planner – Update on National Planning Framework*

Councillor Sinéad Maguire welcomed Mr. Aidan Doyle to the LCDC, as the replacement for Mr. Des Faul as the Business Pillar Representative.

#### **1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Mr. Chris Gonley (County Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG) declared an interest in SICAP.

#### **2. MINUTES**

Minutes of last meeting held on the 7<sup>h</sup> December 2017 were proposed by Councillor Séamus Kilgannon seconded by Ms. Sharon Boles and agreed by all.

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

#### **4. LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN**

- a) **ICBAN Presentation by Mr. Shane Campbell, Chief Executive Office, ICBAN**
- b) **Update Report on Implementation of aspects of the LECP**
- c) **Brief Update on proposed Diaspora Strategy**
- d) **Brief Update on proposed Culture & Creative Strategy for Sligo**
- e) **Set date for meeting of the Advisory Steering Group**

LECP Update Report circulated to Members. Mr. Jude Mannion outlined the process of review of actions under Theme 3 'Health & Well-being' and the ongoing monitoring of the Plan. It was noted that while good progress was being made, some agencies are late in returning quarterly progress reports. Ms. Patricia Garland advised that responding to updates on a quarterly basis is proving burdensome given the number of departments within the HSE and pressure on resources. Ms. Dorothy Clarke acknowledged the workload involved for agencies but advised that each LCDC have an obligation to monitor their LECP implementation which will form part of its midterm review.

It was noted that there were options to be considered to ensure adequate monitoring and support to agencies and it was agreed to convene a meeting of the LECP Advisory Steering Group at which the matter can be considered further.

Councillor Maguire welcomed Mr. Shane Campbell, CEO, ICBAN who was in attendance to give a presentation on *'Ireland's National Broadband Plan: Delivering on the Promise'*.

He outlined that the goal of this National Plan is to bring broadband to rural areas so that everyone will have equality of access to information and service. Ireland's Plan has been described by the EU as the most ambitious Broadband Plan with a potential budget of €350million (State & Match funding). Almost €12million investment will be required for Sligo for the five year period to 2023. It was noted that the National Broadband Plan does not reference mobile broadband.

Mr. Campbell outlined the next steps for ICBAN, Councils and Stakeholders which include more engagement with Government on the monitoring of the National Broadband Plan, engaging with interest groups on mobile coverage obligation and consideration of Brexit related issues. Mr. Campbell mentioned the recent *'Bordering on Brexit'* report and advised that ICBAN are currently preparing a follow up report which will require more engagement from Sligo on the day to day impact of Brexit on everyday life.

Mr. Chris Gonley agreed that there is a need for cross-border work and advised that the lack of rural broadband is creating a barrier for people wanting to live and work in rural areas and for rural business. It was noted that the cost of high speed broadband while available is not always affordable.

Mr. Campbell acknowledged the concern that the Border region will be the most disproportionately affected by Brexit.

Ms. Dorothy Clarke thanked Mr. Campbell for his presentation which will be forwarded to Members after the meeting.

Mr. Campbell left the meeting.

#### ***Proposed Diaspora Strategy***

Report circulated to Members. Ms. Margaret McConnell briefed Members on update with this strategy. The Diaspora questionnaire is open on survey monkey for submissions until 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 for interested parties. It is hoped to have the strategy completed in June 2018. Councillor Sinéad Maguire encouraged Members to complete questionnaire and to distribute survey to a wider audience.

#### ***Proposed Culture & Creative Strategy for Sligo***

Report circulated to Members. Ms. Dorothy Clarke outlined this report. It is hoped to have the draft Plan ready for the April 2018 meeting of the Council. The draft version will also be presented to the LCDC for comment.

***Set date for meeting of the Advisory Steering Group***

Ms. Margaret McConnell is to agree a date with the Chair and circulate to the ASG.

**5. SICAP**

**i. SICAP 2017 – Approval of End-year Review**

Recommendation report of the SICAP Monitoring Committee was circulated to members. Ms. Margaret McConnell outlined this report and advised that the feedback from Pobal's review of the programme for 2017 was positive.

The SICAP Monitoring Committee reviewed 2017 end-year reports and made a recommendation that the LCDC approve the end-year review.

A Resolution that the Sligo LCDC approves the 2017 End Year Review for SICAP was proposed by Mr. Gerry O'Connor and seconded by Ms. Sharon Boles.

**ii. SICAP 2018 – Presentation of 2018 Annual Plan**

Report outlining the main points in relation to SICAP 2018 – 2022 was circulated to Members. Ms. Margaret McConnell went through this report and highlighted some of the changes in the new Programme.

Ms. June Murphy, County Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG (SLPC) gave a presentation to Members on the 2018 Annual Plan. Ms. Murphy advised that the changes introduced in the new Programme have been positive with Pobal taking on board feedback from consultations carried out in 2017. There is an increased focus on quality of work as opposed to quantitative with less emphasis on meeting targets. The new Programme appears to be more flexible with greater local autonomy. Ms. Murphy advised that SLPC is piloting the Rickter Scale model which is a self assessment tool used for every individual supported under SICAP.

Ms. Murphy advised that there are 20 actions in the 2018 Plan (5 actions under Goal 1 for Local Community Groups and 15 under Goal 2, Individuals).

It was noted that while there is a small budget available for actions, SLPC will continue to work collaboratively with other agencies in order to maximise funding available.

Ms. Murphy's presentation is to be circulated to Members.

Mr. Chris Gonley thanked all agencies supporting SLPC in the delivery of SICAP.

**6. UPDATE ON NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK/ REGIONAL SPATIAL AND ECONOMIC STRATEGY CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Mr. Frank Moylan joined the meeting to give an update on the National Planning Framework (NPF). Hard copies of Mr. Moylan's report were circulated to Members. Project Ireland 2040 was launched on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and is the overarching policy initiative made up of the NPF and the National Development Plan 2018 - 2027. The National Development Plan is a 10 year capital investment programme.

It was noted that the draft NPF which issued in November 2017 caused disappointment locally as Sligo was not mentioned; however Sligo is now designated as a regional growth centre in the final NPF document.

The NDP sets out the investment priorities that will underpin the implementation of the new NPF which could place Sligo at a disadvantage. Mr. Moylan advised that major decisions in relation to funding for Sligo will now be made at regional level.

A discussion followed on the importance of promoting Sligo and job creation with some Members highlighting the critical need for increased emphasis on the economic vision and plan for Sligo, and the input of the LCDC where possible. It was noted that a collaborative approach is needed with the Sligo Economic Forum leading out supported by Sligo County Council.

It was also noted that enhancing regional accessibility will be very important for growth of Sligo going forward and there is a need to continue lobbying the Regional Assembly to ensure Sligo's case is promoted.

Councillor Sinéad Maguire expressed appreciation to Mr. Moylan for his presentation regarding the NPF.

#### **7. PPN UPDATE**

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Margaret McConnell briefed Members on PPN update. The PPN is finalising a conference report following the successful holding of the inaugural National PPN conference in Sligo on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

#### **8. PEACE IV PROGRAMME UPDATE**

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Martin McAndrew briefed Members on programme update. The SEUPB has given approval to partner delivery with MSLETB and Tús Nua on 2 projects. The SEUPB has also agreed to an engagement rate of 10% from Protestant faith on all projects.

Councillor Sinéad Maguire thanked Mr. McAndrew for his report and acknowledged work on the Programme to date.

#### **9. ONGOING NATIONAL REVIEW OF LCDC**

- **Feedback from LCDC Review Workshop 31<sup>st</sup> Jan & 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2018**

Report circulated to Members. Ms. Margaret McConnell went through this report and advised Members of the ongoing general review of LCDCs at national level with the Department seeking comments/feedback from LCDC Members.

Ms. McConnell also briefed members of the review of membership of LCDCs every 3 years in accordance with the Guidelines for the Operation of LCDCs issued in December 2017. The Chief Officer should ensure rotation of representatives of community and voluntary interests, social inclusion interests, environmental interests, and other local community and social partner interests.

The Guidelines state that as a general rule there is no requirement to renew the public sector members, local authority members or local development company representatives.

A report on the review is being prepared by the Chief Officer for consideration of the Corporate Policy Group at its next meeting.

Ms. Sharon Boles queried recent request for Túsla to be represented on the LCDC and Ms. McConnell advised that this will be included as part of the review of membership. Ms. McConnell added that the inclusion of Túsla on the LCDC would mean that the overall membership would have to increase from 17 to 19 members to ensure a balance of statutory and non statutory.

Councillor Maguire encouraged members to give feedback to the Department on the general review.

#### **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Margaret McConnell outlined e-mail dated 15th February 2018 from the Department of Justice and Equality in relation to the upcoming **Irish Traveller Ethnicity Celebration**, which will be taking place in the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, on Thursday, 1 March.

Ms. Bernadette Maughan had to leave the LCDC meeting early but had advised Ms. McConnell that members of the STSG will be in attendance at this event on the 1<sup>st</sup> March.

#### **11. AOB**

Councillor Sinéad Maguire mentioned promotion of the work of the LCDC as discussed at a previous LAG meeting. Following on from this she, Mr. Chris Gonley and Ms. Margaret McConnell were interviewed by Mr. Niall Delaney, on Ocean FM on 13/2/18. Councillor Maguire proposed that the LCDC promote their work on a quarterly basis.

Ms. Sharon Boles advised that the feedback from this interview was very positive and that the work of the LCDC and PPN in particular was well publicised.

Podcast of this interview to be forwarded to the LCDC

Meeting concluded at 12.15pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Chairperson**