



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

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 9.30a.m.

Community Virtual Meeting Room

### PRESENT

Councillor Dara Mulvey <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Local Government Member</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Councillor Tom Fox <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Local Government Member</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. Tom Kilfeather <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Local Government /Deputy CE</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. John Reilly <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Local Government / LEO</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Patricia Garland <i>(by phone/video)</i>	<b>State Agency</b>	<b>Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE</b>
Mr. John Kennedy <i>(by video)</i>	<b>State Agency</b>	<b>Dept. of Employment Affairs &amp; Social Protection</b>
Mr. John Feerick <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Local Development Sector</b>	<b>Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG</b>
Mr. Hugh MacConville, <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Trade Union Interests</b>	<b>Irish Congress of Trade Unions</b>
Mr. Michael Kirby <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Environmental Interests</b>	<b>Environment Pillar (PPN)</b>
Dr. Jennifer Van Aswegen <i>(by phone)</i>	<b>Social Inclusion</b>	<b>PPN</b>
Ms. Elizabeth King <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Social Inclusion</b>	<b>PPN</b>
Mr. Gerry O'Connor <i>(by video)</i>	<b>Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>PPN</b>
Ms. Kathleen Henry <i>(by phone)</i>	<b>Farming / Agriculture Interests</b>	<b>Farming / Agriculture Pillar</b>

### APOLOGIES /ABSENT

Councillor Joseph Queenan	<b>Local Government Member</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. Ciarán Hayes	<b>Local Government / CE</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Mary Brodie	<b>State Agency</b>	<b>Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB</b>

Mr. Aidan Doyle	<b>Business Interests</b>	<b>Sligo Chamber of Commerce</b>
Ms. Mary Murphy	<b>Community &amp; Voluntary</b>	<b>PPN</b>

## **IN ATTENDANCE**

Ms. Dorothy Clarke	<b>LCDC Chief Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Margaret McConnell	<b>Senior Executive Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Aisling Smyth	<b>Administrative Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. Martin McAndrew	<b>Peace IV Manager</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Fiona Gilligan	<b>Staff Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Marcella McGarry	<b>Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. June Murphy	<b>Programme Manager</b>	<b>Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG</b>

Councillor Dara Mulvey welcomed Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Deputy Chief Executive, Sligo County Council who is replacing Mr. Ciarán Hayes, former CE on the LCDC following Mr. Hayes's retirement.

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST/NON DISCLOSURE**

Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised Members of an issue brought to her attention with regards grants approved at meetings of the LCDC/LAG, being uploaded to social media channels (Facebook & Twitter) in advance of formal correspondence issuing to successful applicants.

Ms. Clarke asked that Members refrain from posting notifications in respect of Grants until such time as letters of offer issue to Project Promoters under the LEADER Programme as all approvals are subject to Article 48 checks, which was noted by all.

### **2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 were proposed by Mr. Hugh MacConville seconded by Councillor Tom Fox and agreed.

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

In relation to the engagement of Consultants for *Sligo: One Voice, One Vision-Towards 2030*, Ms. Dorothy Clarke updated members on the process to date and advised of Request for Tenders process which closed on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Members will be further updated on progress at the February meeting of the LCDC.

#### 4. SICAP

- a) **Update on SICAP 2020 to date**
- b) **Annual targets agreed for 2021 (38 Groups; 366 Individuals) –Targets confirmed by Pobal on 20<sup>th</sup> November**
- c) **Draft Annual Plan for 2021**
- d) **Internal Audit report (SICAP 2018) – update on actions taken on Recommendations (For noting)**
- e) **Correspondence**
  - i. **Correspondence from Dept of Justice re: Passport Notice – letter emailed 9.12.20**
  - ii. **Consultation on new Adult Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Literacy Strategy – Pobal’s email 11.12.20**

a) Report on **SICAP 2020 Update** was circulated in advance of the meeting.

Ms. June Murphy briefed Members on this report which outlined work carried out to date on SICAP 2020. In relation to budget, Ms. Murphy advised of expenditure in the amount of €536,874 at the 10<sup>th</sup> December, representing 89% of the total budget for 2020 with invoices still being processed.

With regards SICAP Grants, Ms. Murphy advised of €8,332 approved under Round 2.

Under the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), Ms. Murphy advised of 45 Local Community Groups supported (Annual target KPI1- 45 groups) and 338 individuals supported (KPI 2 - Annual target of 366) at 10<sup>th</sup> December.

Ms. Murphy mentioned the success of the Live@3 online entertainment show for Older people experiencing social isolation during lockdown. A Christmas concert is to be streamed via Facebook on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Ms. Murphy acknowledged the support of Ms Marcella McGarry, HI Co-ordinator and advised of plans to continue collaboration with the Healthy Ireland programme in the delivery of older persons supports into 2021.

Mr. Hugh MacConville acknowledged the work of Mr. John Feerick, Ms. June Murphy and team throughout 2020 which has been a particularly challenging and busy year.

Councillor Dara Mulvey agreed with Mr. MacConville and thanked Sligo LEADER Partnership and the LCDC support team for their work during this time.

b) In relation to the **Annual targets agreed for 2021 (38 Groups; 366 Individuals),**

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised Members that approval to revised targets has been confirmed by Pobal on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020. This was noted by Members.

c) The **Draft Annual Plan for 2021**, was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting, Ms. Margaret McConnell advised that formal approval of the Plan will be on the Agenda for the February meeting.

Members were asked to revert with any comments/feedback on the draft Plan by 1pm on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

d) Report on **Internal Audit report on SICAP 2018 – update on actions taken on Recommendations** was circulated to LCDC Members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Margaret McConnell advised that the Update on

Actions report covers a joint response from Sligo LCDC support staff and Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG, issued to the Internal Auditor on 27<sup>th</sup> November to ensure all matters raised are addressed. This was noted by Members.

e) **Correspondence** listed under the SICAP item was circulated in advance of the meeting. Ms. Margaret McConnell outlined correspondence which was noted by Members.

## 5. UPDATE ON HEALTHY IRELAND PROGRAMME & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND

A report outlining the update on the Healthy Ireland Programme was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Aisling Smyth briefed Members on this report and advised of updates since the October meeting of the LCDC, which include ongoing liaison with Pobal and Project leads. In relation to the recent review of the Programme to consider how all projects could be delivered in a Covid environment, Ms. Smyth advised that approval of revisions was received from Pobal on 2nd November, 2020. This review included addition of two new projects - Muintir na Tire/Sligo Lend a hand “Digitally Connecting Individuals to Reduce Threats to Health and Wellbeing” and Sligo Arts Service Project “Take a Walk for Me”.

With regards the **Community Mental Health Small Grant Fund 2020**, Ms. Smyth advised that the fund opened for applications on the 6<sup>th</sup> October with 25No. Applications received by the 23rd October 2020 closing date. Applications were assessed by an Evaluation panel (Mr. Hugh MacConville, Ms. Patricia Garland and the CYPSC Coordinator Ms. Maeve Whittington) who met virtually to consider applications and make recommendations for funding of €30,000 in respect of 10 applications in accordance with published criteria. The recommendation of the Evaluation Panel was brought to the SICAP/Social Inclusion Sub Committee meeting of the 25<sup>th</sup> November for consideration where it was endorsed for recommendation to the LCDC for approval as set out below.

No	Agency/Group	Amount
1	Diversity Sligo	€5,000
2	West Sligo FRC	€5,000
3	Tubbercurry FRC	€2,210
4	Foróige Tubbercurry	€2,500
5	Sligo FRC	€3,160
6	Tubbercurry GAA	€3,000
7	Eastern Harps GAA	€2,230
8	Gateway Boxing Club	€3,950
9	Cranmore Community Co-op	€2,050
10	Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA	€900
	<b>Total</b>	<b>€30,000</b>

Endorsement of the Mental health grants recommended by the Social Inclusion & SICAP Monitoring Committee was proposed by Mr. Hugh MacConville and seconded by Councillor Dara Mulvey.

Members were advised of ongoing discussion with project leads in relation to the development of the Community Engagement element of the Sligo Healthy Ireland Plan which has a budget of €42,300.

Ms. Smyth then briefed Members on the **Keep Well national and local campaign** under the Government’s Plan for Living with COVID-19: Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021. This plan highlights the important role that individual and community resilience will play in contributing to our ongoing response to COVID-19.

Ms. Smyth also advised of an allocation of €67,225 for Sligo under the Community Resilience Fund, to activate and deliver on key actions under the themes of **“Your County” “Staying Connected” and “Switching off and being creative”**.

As part of the Governments “Keep Well” Campaign, and the Sligo COVID Response Forum’s Community Resilience Plan for the winter months, Members were requested to promote the Sligo Diaspora virtual Christmas tree initiative (funded under the Community Resilience Fund) which will provide an opportunity for connecting the Sligo community at home and abroad over the Christmas period.

Mr. Hugh MacConville and Councillor Dara Mulvey acknowledged the work of all involved with the Healthy Ireland programme.

## **6. UPDATE ON PPN**

Report circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Michael Kirby briefed Members on PPN activity since the October LCDC meeting and advised that the PPN have engaged a Consultant to work with the PPN team and the Secretariat on the completion of the wellbeing vision for the county.

Mr. Kirby advised that the PPN AGM took place virtually on the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020 with approx 60 people in attendance. Cathaoirleach Councillor Dara Mulvey officially opened the AGM and publicly acknowledged the contribution of the community sector across Covid-19.

One key issue raised at the AGM was the challenge of voluntary groups to avail of funding opportunities.

Mr. Kirby also advised of 2 public consultation/information events facilitated by the PPN for the EirGrid project on 19<sup>th</sup> November and the proposed N17 Knock-Collooney road development project on the 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Councillor Dara Mulvey acknowledged the work of the PPN and agreed that the attendance at the virtual AGM was very positive given the circumstances with Covid 19.

## **7. Update on Peace IV Programme**

Report circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Martin McAndrew briefed Members on this report and advised that the SEUPB has granted a three month extension to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 to enable completion of projects under Building Positive Relations and Shared Spaces & Services themes.

All five projects under the Building Positive Relations theme are now completed and the Cantilever, Project under Shared Spaces & Services theme is due for completion this month.

Mr. McAndrew advised that a video showcasing the projects, activities and achievements of the Peace IV Programme is being produced in lieu of a regular closing event which is not possible due to current Covid19 restrictions. The video features contributions from beneficiaries and stakeholders and will be finalised shortly and promoted via traditional and online media.

It was noted that the new Peace Programme, Peace Plus will combine PEACE and INTERREG funding from 2021 onwards with the SEUPB due to hold a public statutory consultation on the draft Programme in early 2021.

Councillor Dara Mulvey and Mr. Michael Kirby acknowledged the work of Mr. McAndrew and the Peace IV team in managing the delivery of the Programme.

**8. TO NOMINATE TWO MEMBERS OF SLIGO LCDC (ONE MALE; ONE FEMALE) FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MSLETB TO FILL ONE POSITION ON THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, SLIGO – MSLETB LETTER DATED 9.12.20**

A letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 from the MSLETB was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. In their letter, the MSLETB are seeking two nominations from Sligo LCDC to serve on the Governing Body of the Institute of Technology, Sligo. Mr. Ciarán Hayes had represented the LCDC on the Governing body of IT Sligo following a nomination process at the February 2020 meeting of the LCDC.

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised that following Mr. Hayes’s retirement, the MSLETB had advised that a new nomination process was required to nominate two members of the LCDC.

Mr. Hugh MacConville proposed Ms. Elizabeth King as the female nominee and Mr. John Feerick as the male nominee. This proposal was seconded by Mr. Michael Kirby.

Councillor Dara Mulvey proposed Dr. Jennifer Van Aswegen as the female nominee and Councillor Tom Fox as the male nominee. This proposal was seconded by Mr. Tom Kilfeather.

As there were two nominees for both male and female nominees, Members agreed to an open roll call.

Result of the roll call is tabulated below;

Members Name	Female		Male	
	Nominee 1 (Ms. King)	Nominee 2 (Dr. Van Aswegen)	Nominee 1 (Mr. Feerick)	Nominee 2 (Councillor Fox)
Councillor Dara Mulvey		✓		✓
Councillor Tom Fox		✓		✓
Mr. Tom Kilfeather		✓		✓
Mr. John Reilly	Abstained from Vote			✓
Ms. Patricia Garland	Abstained from Vote		Abstained from Vote	
Mr. John Kennedy		✓	✓	
Mr. John Feerick		✓	✓	
Mr. Hugh MacConville	✓		✓	
Mr. Michael Kirby	✓		✓	
Dr. Jennifer Van Aswegen		✓		✓
Ms. Elizabeth King	✓		✓	
Mr. Gerry O’Connor	✓		✓	
Ms. Kathleen Henry	Didn’t respond for roll call			
<b>Total votes</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>

*(Councillor Joe Queenan absent, Ms. Mary Brodie absent, Mr. Aidan Doyle absent, Ms. Mary Murphy absent)*

As a result of the roll call, Dr. Van Aswegen was put forward as the female nominee and Mr. John Feerick as the male nominee due to majority of votes received. Names of both nominees to be forwarded to the MSLETB for consideration.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Letter from Sligo County Council Meetings Administrator dated 6th October 2020 on the resolution agreed by Sligo County Council regarding Easkey Community Council
- b) DRCD Covid19 fund – Press release 7.12.20 in relation to additional funding of €1.7million

Ms. Margaret McConnell outlined correspondence as above which was noted by Members.

Members were advised that the letter in relation to **Easkey Community Council** applies to funding from Sligo County Council's own resources and it is a matter for the LCDC to decide on applications for funding under the LEADER Programme or other funding sources.

In relation to **additional funding under the DRCD Covid 19 fund**, Members were advised of a new funding allocation of €44,543 available for Sligo. This fund will open for applications early in 2021.

**10. DATE FOR NEXT LCDC/LAG MEETING – THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2021**

Members agreed to hold the next meetings of the LCDC/LAG on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

**11. PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF DATES FOR LCDC MEETINGS IN 2021**

A schedule of proposed dates for meetings in 2021 was circulated in advance of the meeting and noted by Members.

**12. AOB**

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised of the resignation of Ms. Mary Brodie , MSLETB representative on the LCDC. Ms. Brodie is being replaced on the Committee by Mr. Peter Egan.

Ms. McConnell also advised of the resignation of Ms. Mary Murphy, PPN representative (Community & Voluntary). The vacancy arising from Ms. Murphy's resignation will be filled in due course by election through the PPN.

The work of both members resigning was acknowledged by the Members.

Meeting concluded at 11.10a.m.

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

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