

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee at 10.00 am  
on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 in County House, Lifford and by Web Conference**

<b>Members</b>	John McLaughlin, Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, Aengus Kennedy, Anne McHugh, Brenda Hegarty, Padraic Fingleton, Joe Boland, Andrew McNulty and James O Donnell By Web Conference: Clr Niamh Kennedy (Chair), Maire Ui Mhaolain and Clr Martin McDermott
<b>Apologies</b>	Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, Maria Ferguson, Shauna McClenaghan, Liam McElhinney, Paul Hannigan, Charlene Logue and Siobhan McLaughlin
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Paddy Doherty
<b>Attending</b>	Liam Ward, Ciaran Martin, Claire McCallan, Adrienne Kelly, Charlene Gillespie and Kathleen Browne

## Welcome

Clr Niamh Kennedy welcomed everyone and thanked the members present for participating in the meeting.

### 1. Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

The minutes of the previous LCDC Meeting, as circulated with the agenda, were considered.

On the proposal of Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, seconded by Joe Boland, the minutes of LCDC Meeting of 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023 were adopted with no matters arising.

### 2. LEADER – Local Development Strategy Update

Ciaran Martin provided an update to members on the LEADER Local Development Strategy. He confirmed to members that work was ongoing with Friel Meehan and Associate Consultants, who were appointed to develop the new Local Development Strategy, in advance of submission deadline of 14<sup>th</sup> July for the final plan.

He advised that Community Section were working with the Consultants to complete the consultation process with the following public engagements having taken place:

- Nine Public in person consultation events across the county in partnership with IPs (Tied the LDS events with new LECP and PEACEPLUS programme consultation and this proved very informative). These events were supplemented by a further three LDS only events hosted by DLDC.

- Online meeting with PPN held on 12<sup>th</sup> June
- Online Survey for the Community which closed for submissions on 13<sup>th</sup> June

Ciaran also confirmed that there would be focused meetings on each of the three themes of the LDS

1. Economic Development and Job creation in ATU
2. Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion
3. Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation (which would be held online on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023)

Ciaran confirmed to members that the findings of the Consultation were now being used to develop a draft LDS for consideration by the LCDC.

Members were advised that it was necessary to hold a special meeting of the LCDC to discuss the Draft LDS. It was agreed that the meeting would be held at 4pm on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 both in person and facilitated online.

### **3. LECP Update**

Claire McCallan provided members with an update on progress informing the delivery of the LECP. She confirmed that the joint public consultation process was now complete and advised members that attendance at the consultation events was varied over the 9 nights with very good engagement overall. Members would be provided with more informed detail of this when the consultation process is completed.

Claire advised that work had continued in partnership with colleagues through the development of the LDS. In relation to Theme 1 of the LDS a joint in-person meeting had been held in ATU Letterkenny that focused on Economic Development in relation to both the LECP and the LDS, followed up with a meeting with the PPN as earlier highlighted. Another joint meeting in relation to Theme 3 would be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, focusing on Sustainable development and climate change. A meeting with stakeholders in relation to the youth in the county would be a priority and additional meetings will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

Claire advised members that an online meeting with the LECP Advisory Steering Group (ASG) will be held to inform the next steps. The online survey is open for submission until the end of June.

Members were informed that the information which has been gathered to date through the engagement/consultation process is being reviewed and, as well as any information received from further workshops, will be collated and form part of a report outlining the key emerging themes emanating from the engagement with stakeholders for further conversation with the ASG and the LCDC in joint workshop with the Economic, Enterprise & Emergency Services SPC towards the end of July (provisional).

Claire confirmed that several targeted workshops, possibly up to 4, could be convened as part of the engagement process. These workshops will be informed by the key emerging themes arising from engagement with stakeholders. MD Workshops with Council Members will also be scheduled.

Claire advised members that to date the stakeholder engagement is confirming that the draft vision and high-level goals are on track with some refinements required.

Claire confirmed to members that Stage 1 of the review of LECP process is now complete, and as such the contract with People & Place Consultants is 90% complete. Stage two is ongoing and it is intended to move on to Stage 3 in August.

Claire acknowledged the time and input of LCDC Members to the review process and their valuable contributions since its commencement.

On behalf of the LCDC, Cllr Niamh Kennedy thanked Claire for the work to date and looked forward to completion of the process and the development of the new LECP.

#### **4. SICAP 2024-2028**

Paddy Doherty advised members that matters to be considered in relation to this item referred to the Tender for SICAP 2024-2028. Therefore, to ensure the integrity of the Tender Process any members of the LCDC who had a conflict of interest or a perceived conflict of interest in relation to the SICAP 2024-2028 Tender process were requested to leave the meeting for the duration of the consideration of this item. Padraic Fingleton and Maire Uí Mhaolain left the meeting at this point.

Members who have not completed the Declaration of Confidentiality circulated with the agenda were also requested to absent themselves from the meeting for the consideration of this item.

Kathleen Browne reiterated to members present that all information in relation to this matter be treated as highly confidential to ensure the integrity of the Tender process for the SICAP 2024-2028 Programme.

In this regard, members agreed to only record the decision in this matter in the Minutes of the meeting.

Members were reminded that the selection and approval of 2024 KPI 1 and 2 Targets and Local Priority Target Groups for the new SICAP Programme 2024-2028 were delegated to SICAP Sub Committee s agreed at the LCDC Meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> May. The SICAP Sub Committee met on 16<sup>th</sup> June and their recommendations were presented to members present for their approval.

On the proposal of Cllr Martin McDermott, seconded by James O'Donnell, the LCDC recommended approval of proposed KPI 1 and 2 Targets, Local Priority Target Groups and additional supporting selections for Lots 33-1, 33-2 and 33-3 for SICAP 2024-2028.

This concluded the business of the meeting.