

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee at 10.00 am
on 31st May 2023 in County House, Lifford and by Web Conference**

Members	Clr Niamh Kennedy (Chair), Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, Maria Ferguson, Padraic Fingleton, Joe Boland, Andrew McNulty and Charlene Logue By Web Conference: Shauna McClenaghan, Siobhan McLaughlin, Clr Maire Therese Gallagher James O Donnell and Clr Martin McDermott
Apologies	John McLaughlin, Aengus Kennedy, Anne McHugh, Brenda Hegarty, Liam McElhinney, Paul Hannigan and Maire Ui Mhaolain
Chief Officer	Paddy Doherty
Attending	Ciaran Martin, Claire McCallan, Adrienne Kelly, Pamela Smullen, Clodagh Murray, 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 26th April 2023

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

On the proposal of Joe Boland, seconded by Andrew McNulty, the minutes of LCDC Meeting of 26th April 2023 were adopted with no matters arising.

2. Draft Minutes of Joint Meeting of Donegal LCDC with Economic Enterprise and Emergency Services apc on 17th May 2023

The minutes of the Joint Meeting of Donegal LCDC with Economic Enterprise and Emergency Service, as circulated with the agenda, were considered. On the proposal of Padraic Fingleton, seconded by Joe Boland, the minutes were adopted with no matters arising.

3. LEADER – Local Development Strategy Update

Ciaran Martin provided an update to members on the LEADER Local Development Strategy. He confirmed to members that Friel, Meeh and & Associates Constultants had been appointed to develop the new Local Development Strategy (LS). Ciaran advised that Public Consultation element of the process was ongoing with a series of Public Consultation Events taking place across the County in partnership with the Implementing

Partners, whom he thanked for facilitating them. He outlined the dates of the remaining Public Consultation events to members. Ciaran advised that an online survey option, which was open until 13th June, was also available.

Ciaran advised that there would also be focused meetings on each of the three elements of the LDS as follows:-

- Economic Development and Job Creation
- Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion
- Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption

He confirmed that a meeting with the PPN was scheduled for 12th June.

4. LECP Update

Claire McCallan provided members with an update on progress informing the delivery of the LECP up to Stage 2/Step 1 of the process as set out by the Guidelines and in relation to development of the DRAFT Vision and High Level goals. convening the first meeting of the Advisory Steering Group, the ongoing Public Consultation Events commencing on Monday May 22nd for nine nights to the 8th June

Claire reminded members of the membership of the Advisory Steering Group and advised that the first meeting had convened in person in the Letterkenny PSC on 8th May,

She confirmed that a 2nd Joint Meeting of the LCDC and Economic Enterprise and Emergency Services SPC would be held late July, convening in Joint Forum again every other month from September until Q1/2024 and the completion to Stage 4 including Stage 5/Step 1 Implementation Plans.

Claire provided initial feedback on the emerging themes raised at the Public Consultations to date, and confirmed that a themed meeting with Economic Sector stakeholders was scheduled for 1st June in the ATU, with a number of further themed workshops to follow. She advised that an online Survey on the LECP was also available for completion until the end of June.

Claire advised that it was intended to hold Municipal District Workshops for members of the Council in June with the thematic consultation completed by end of June/July

Maria Ferguson HSE welcomed the sectoral engagement and confirmed that the HSE would be happy to make people available to attend any sectoral engagement events.

On behalf of the LCDC, Cllr Niamh Kennedy, thanked Claire for the update.

5. Slainte Care

Ciaran Martin introduced Pamela Smullen and Clodagh Murray, Slaintecare Community Development Officers for the Gaeltacht and Inishowen areas respectively to the members present. He advised that they would present a brief background on Slainte Care and a short overview of their proposed plans for 2023 to support the Healthy communities agenda in their respective areas, with each area having an allocation of €75k for the year.

Pamela and Clodagh made a presentation to members advising that The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme is funded by the Department of Health. It is being piloted in 2 sites in Donegal - Northwest Gaeltacht and Inishowen 2022 – 2025. Two Local Development Officers allocated to each site, namely Pamela Smullen and Clodagh Murray respectively.

The Programme offers Donegal County Council an opportunity to work with partners and to pilot initiatives that focused on the social determinants of health – non-medical factors that affect how people live in their communities and to target specific health and wellbeing interventions to aim to reduce inequalities in areas that have higher levels of deprivation.

- Local development officers are involved in targeting and place-based approach working in partnership with staff internally, stakeholders, partners and at interagency level.
- Focus of projects to the most vulnerable and harder to reach communities

Pamela updated members on projects and achievements to date in the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme NW Gaeltacht as follows:-

Seed Funding projects €75,000 in areas of:

1. Healthy Living infrastructure: Enhancement of communities' infrastructure / improve accessibility for all / creating enabling environments and infrastructure for physical activity including walkway/greenway projects and amenity enhancements.
2. Food Insecurity / Food Equality: increasing awareness food insecurity, working collaboratively taking a county wide approach
3. Promoting community-based approaches health and wellbeing and programme investment: tackling rural isolation, promoting participation / community engagement and pilot of mental health programmes in conjunction with community partners.

Community Enhancement Programme €250,000

- Dungloe Foreshore Playground upgrade
- Enhancements Muckish Railway Walk
- Scioból na bhfear project, Tory Island

Clodagh outlined to members the initiatives, and thematic areas which were being supported to enhance health and wellbeing, in the augural year of 2022 of Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme Inishowen :

Neighbourhood Built Environment / Civic participation / Social cohesion / Healthy Living Infrastructure

- Community Enhancement Funding of €250,000 enabled upgrade works to 2 play parks (Carndonagh / Merville) & resurfacing of walking trail with provision of all terrain wheelchairs

2022 Seed Funding of €75,000

- Accessibility works to Inch Wildlife Reserve Trail which will support the walk to be designated as “Accessible Trail – Challenging Access”
- Pilot for “Woodlands for Wellbeing” (walking in nature / mindfulness)
- “Growing Wild” mental health pilot for children introducing horticulture

- Over 55 Hub / Fitness pilot – focusing on preventative measures and increasing activity levels
- Accessible sports equipment
- Golden Lunches

Access to Food / Food Insecurity / Food Equality

- Community Garden and Poly tunnels
- Development of [Donegal Food Response Network](#) website in conjunction with SHCP NW An Gaeltacht and Healthy Ireland
- IDP working with Portable kitchens – affording rural isolated to partake in Healthy Food Made Easy course
- Mapping Inishowen “all things food” – identify resources / gaps

Clodagh advised members that In Inishowen existing needs and subsequent inequalities had been identified as the impact of rural isolation, food inequality and capacity building to support behaviour change.

Members were advised that the next stage of delivery of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme in pilot sites runs 2023-2025, with seed funding of €75,000 per site for implementation of programme aims in 2023 – 2024.

Focus has been to develop / co-design projects with communities and key implementing partners working within communities - focusing on civic interventions to reach into target populations most effectively under key thematic areas.

Key themes have been drawn following on from projects in 2022, the expressions of interest feedback August 2022, the feedback from the survey completed at the Food Equality Forum in May 2023, as well as taking a ground up and place-based approach within the targeted communities.

In North-West Gaeltacht area – existing needs and subsequent inequalities had been identified as the impact of rural isolation, challenges with rural transport, food inequality and capacity building to support behaviour change.

Members were advised that the next stage of delivery of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme in pilot sites runs 2023-2025, with seed funding of €75,000 per site for implementation of programme aims in 2023 – 2024.

It was confirmed that the focus had been to develop/co-design projects with communities and key implementing partners working within communities - focusing on civic interventions to reach into target populations most effectively under key thematic areas.

Key themes had been selected following on from projects in 2022, the expressions of interest feedback August 2022, the feedback from the survey completed at the Food Equality Forum in May 2023, as well as taking a ground up and place-based approach within the targeted communities.

Pamela and Clodagh then set out the proposed projects for Seed Fund 2023-2024 detailing the implementing partners, anticipated target groups and communities, outcomes and budgetary estimations to members as follows:-

Sláintecare Healthy Communities – North-West Gaeltacht

Theme	Project	Organisation/Partners	Indicative Project Costs
Physical Activity Social & Civic Participation	Civic Dollars	Healthy Ireland / Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme / Playmatters CLG / Dungloe Active Retirement / Rosses Men's Shed / CDP na Rosann CTR	€5,000.00
Rural Transport / Rural Isolation	Swilly Mulroy Mobility Bus	Milford & District Resource Centre Mevagh Family Resource Centre Swilly Mulroy Community Health Forum	€6,458.00
Rural Isolation / Physical Activity / Social & Civic Participation	Pilot Health & Wellbeing programme rural men	Donegal Sports Partnership/ Irish Farmers Association/ community organisation	€10,000
Health and Wellbeing /Social & Civic Participation	Raised Bed / Planters Project	Donegal Local Development CLG / Day Centres Network / Donegal Community Garden Network / Mens Shed Network	€16,000
Food Equality / Education	Growing Healthy Communities Project	GIY - Grow Your Own / Schools / Community organisations	€32,542
Physical Literacy / Social participation	Active Play	Healthy Ireland / Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme /community-based organisations working with children	€5,000
Total			€75,000

Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme- Inishowen

Theme	Project	Organisation/Partners	Indicative Project Costs
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Physical activity / Social & Civic Participation	Civic Dollars	Healthy Ireland /Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme /Civic Dollars / icare / Buncrana youth group / The Exchange / Fort Dunree	€5,000
Rural Isolation / Physical Activity / Social & Civic Participation	Health & Wellbeing Programme Rural Men	Irish Farmers Association / Inishowen Development Partnership	€10,000
Food Equality	Growing Healthy Communities Project	Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme /GIY - Grow Your Own, Schools /Community organisations	€26,000
Rural Isolation / Social & Civic Participation	Men's shed	Clonmany Community Centre	€29,000
Physical Literacy / Social participation	Active Play	Healthy Ireland, Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme, community-based organisations working with children	€5,000
Total			€75,000

Maria Ferguson queried whether any of the initiatives being delivered were interacting with free supports available in these areas from HSE. Pamela confirmed that where appropriate to the project it was anticipated that there would be collaboration with the HSE and the Supports available would be utilised. Andrew McNulty and Shauna McClenaghan welcomed the programmes and the work done to date. Michael MacGiolla Easbuig confirmed that Udaras would also provide any support they could for the Projects.

On the proposal of Charlene Logue, seconded by Andrew McNulty, members approved that Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programmes and funding allocation for same for the Inishowen and Gaeltacht areas, as circulated with the Agenda.

6. SICAP 2024-2028

Paddy Doherty advised members that Correspondence has been received from Pobal in relation to agreeing targets for the delivery of SICAP 2024-2028. As part of this process the LCDC must select and approve Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Local Priority Target Groups (LPTG) for the 2024-2028 Programme.

Pobal have recommended that the LCDC delegate responsibility for selecting and approving the 2024 KPIs and LPTGs to the SICAP Sub Committee due to the confidentiality of the Tendering process.

On the proposal of Joe Boland, seconded by Andrew McNulty, Members agreed to delegate the selection of Key Performance Indicators and Local Priority Target Groups for

the 2024-2028 SICAP Programme to the SICAP Sub Committee with their recommendation to be brought before the LCDC at their next meeting for approval.

This concluded the business of the meeting.