# LCDC Annual Report 2022



#### Background

Putting People First – An Action Programme for Effective Local Government envisaged a range of reforms including an enhanced role for local government in community development. This enhanced role was provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which included a requirement to establish Local Community Development Committees (LCDC) in each local authority area. Donegal LCDC was established in June 2014 in accordance guidelines outlined by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. LCDC's replaced the County Development Board structure and aim to enhance the strategic planning and coordination of local and community development activity.

#### **Key Responsibilities**

LCDC's have been given a number of key responsibilities which include to:

- Prepare the community element of 6 year local economic and community plan (LECP).
- Co-ordinate all community development programmes in the local authority area such as the management and overseeing of the Local Community Development Programme, the Rural Development Programme (LEADER) and the Social Inclusion, Community Activation Programme (SICAP).
- Ensure effectiveness, consistency, co-ordination and avoid duplication of public funded programmes.
- Implement or arrange for the implementation of the community elements of the LECP and to review the community elements of the Plan at least once within its lifetime.
- Consider and adopt a statement for consideration of the Council in respect of the economic elements of a draft of the LECP.
- Administration of Community Activities Programme
- Administration of Healthy Ireland Programme
- Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme
- Prepare an annual report of the performance of its functions.

#### Composition

LCDC's are required to comprise both public and private sector members, including local authority members and officials, State agencies and private sector local and community development representatives to work in partnership to achieve its objectives. Donegal County Council provide administrative support to the LCDC and Paddy Doherty is the Chief Officer of the Committee. Donegal LCDC is made up of 19 representatives as follows:

#### Donegal LCDC Membership at end 2022

Name	Sector	Organisation
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy Chairperson	Local Authority, Councillor	Donegal County Council
Cllr. Martin McDermott, Vice Chairperson	Local Authority, Councillor	Donegal County Council
Brenda Hegarty	Local Authority Official, Local Enterprise Office	Donegal County Council
John McLaughlin	Local Authority Official, Chief Executive	Donegal County Council
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher	Local Authority, Councillor	Donegal County Council
Paul Hannigan	State Agencies	ATU
Anne McAteer	State Agencies	Health Service Executive
Michael Mac Giolla Easbuig	State Agencies	Udárás na Gaeltachta
Anne McHugh	State Agencies	Education Training Board
Shauna McClenaghan	Local Development Company	Inishowen Development Partnership
Padraic Fingleton	Local Development Company	Donegal Local Development Company
Joe Boland	Social Inclusion Interest	PPN
Charlene Logue	Community Voluntary Interest	PPN
Andrew McNulty	Community Voluntary Interest	PPN
Aengus Kennedy	Environmental Interest	PPN
Siobhan McLaughlin	Social Inclusion Interest	PPN
Liam McElhinney	Trade Union	ICTU
James O'Donnell	Farming & Agriculture	Famers Rep
Maire Ui Mhaoilain	Islands interest	Comhar na nOilean

## **Meetings**

Donegal LCDC met ten times in 2022 consisting of nine LCDC Meetings and ten LAG Meetings. Minutes of the LCDC meetings are available on the community section of Donegal County Council's website. Meetings are held in accordance with Standing Orders established by the Committee. Meetings continued to be held by Web Conference until the September Meeting when blended meetings (in person and by web conference) commenced. Meeting dates for 2022 were also outlined on the website.

## **Key Achievements**

Donegal LCDC has had a very busy and productive year as we emerged from the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic and dealt with the challenges faced by the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis. The LCDC commenced blended meetings in the final quarter of 2022.

To date, the Committee has in accordance with requirements:

# 1. Review of the Local Economic & Community Plan

The new guidelines on the development of Local Economic and Community Plans (LECP) launched mid November 2021. The guidelines provide an outline of the process to be carried out in order to develop a fully integrated LECP at a local level. While the guidelines provide the basic framework for the LECP, they also recognise that each Local Authority area is different and will require different interventions to support their development. In this context, the guidelines aim to support a more flexible approach to LECP development and implementation.

Under section 66C of the Local Government Reform Act each Local Authority is required to have regard to the need to integrate the economic and community elements of the LECP. In order to ensure that the preparation of the economic and community elements of the LECP are co-ordinated, and duplication (both in terms of effort and engagement with stakeholders) is avoided, it is recommended that each Local Authority establish an Advisory Steering Group to assist in the preparation, drafting, adoption, implementation and monitoring of the LECP. This group has been put in place.

Consultants have been appointed to complete Stage 1 of the LECP Process which includes a review of the previous LECP and preparation of a Socio-economic Statement and High Level Goals based on the Socio-economic analysis. The LECP will be progressed during 2023 with a view to adoption before year end.

# 2. LEADER Programme 2014 – 2022

Donegal LCDC delivers the LEADER element of the Rural Development Programme. The LCDC also acts as the Local Action Group (LAG) working in partnership with Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner, and with our four implementing partners, Donegal Local Development Company, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán.

Donegal LCDC, in its role as the LAG approved the full allocation of LEADER funding awarded to the county for the 2014-2020 programme to projects recommended by the Evaluation Committees of the local Implementing Partners. The total allocation to Donegal for the 2014 - 2020 programme was €13,413,875. Project funding of €10,063,586 was received with €3,228,467 for administration and animation of the programme by our Implementing Partners. 231 projects in Donegal were approved by the Donegal LAG for the programme in period 2014-2020.

In March 2021 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, T.D. announced details of the €70 million Transitional LEADER Programme. €45 million funding for the Transitional LEADER Programme which came into effect from 1st April 2021 and €20 million for the EURI (European Union Recovery Instrument) Programme which came into effect from 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021 following approval by the EU Commission.

The Transitional Programme ran from April to December 2022 with Donegal LAG being allocated a total fund of €3,815,464 broken down as follows;

- Transitional Project Budget €1,981,106
- Transitional Administration Budget €660,369
- EURI Projects Budget €880,492
- EURI Administration Budget €293,497

Donegal LCDC, in its role as the LAG approved the full allocation of both Transitional & EURI Programme funds by the end of December 2022 with a total of 62 projects being approved, 13 of which were approved under the EURI Programme.



Atlantic Luxury Cruises





Dungloe River Walkway

## LEADER Food and Co-operation Projects

The Department announced the closure of the LEADER Food Initiative on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021. LAGs and Implementing Partners had the opportunity to apply to the Department for funding to develop projects under the Food Initiative where there was €15million available nationally.

Donegal LCDC approved a total 6 LEADER Food Initiative Projects with a total value of €452,632.99.

The Department announced the closure of the LEADER Co-operation measure on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022. LAGs and Implementing Partners had the opportunity to apply to the Department for funding to develop projects in cooperation with partners in other parts of Ireland or across the EU under the LEADER Cooperation heading where there was €13million nationally.

Donegal LCDC approved 18 Projects (7 of which were preparatory co-operation projects and the remaining 11 being full co-operation projects) under the Co-operation measure, with a total value of €927,378.09.

## Announcement of new LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027

In October 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, T.D. announced details of the new €180 million LEADER Programme for 2023 – 2027 with €10.4 million being allocated to Donegal.

Donegal LCDC agreed to submit an Expression of Interest to act as the Local Action Group (LAG) working in partnership with Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner, and with our four implementing partners, Donegal Local Development Company, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán.

On 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023, the Department confirmed Donegal's Expression of Interest as being eligible to proceed to the next stage which will see us develop our LEADER strategies which must be submitted no later than 14<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

# 3. Community Activities Programme

Donegal Local Community Development Committee received a fund of €318,923 for the Community Activities Programme from the Department of Community & Rural Development.

The Community Activities Fund was designed to support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas as follows:

- With their non-pay running costs such as utility bills (electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges) or other non-pay operating costs for e.g. rental/lease costs, insurance bills.
- Groups will also be able to use the funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment for e.g. such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc.

Operating/Running Costs from 1st July 2021 to 30th June 2022 were eligible for funding under this scheme

The Donegal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) administered the Programme in the county on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development. The application process opened on 3<sup>rd</sup> January with applications being received until closing date of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

42% percent of the funding was awarded as 225 small grants of €500-€1,000 with the balance being awarded as 25 large grants of €5,000 - €10,000 to Community Groups throughout the County.



Letterkenny Community Garden – funded through Community Activities Programme



Carrigans Tidy Towns - Works funded through Community Activities Programme

# 4. Healthy Ireland – Healthy Donegal

The Healthy Ireland Round 3 Programme with an approved budget of  $\in$ 374,100 was completed on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. The programme resulted in a partnership comprised of Donegal LCDC, CYPSC, the HSE, project partners, relevant agencies and local communities. The establishment of this collaboration in 2019 laid the foundations for a strong alliance, conducive to delivering the Programme of Work consisting of:

- 10 Actions
- 2 Community Mental Health Fund Actions
- Community Mental Health Small Grants Scheme
- Community Engagement Fund

Healthy Donegal throughout the programme identified and, where possible, took collective action on issues that are important to Donegal, with benefits rippling down to individuals and communities at a local level. As we navigated the path of the Covid19 Pandemic, the issue of health and wellbeing was brought to the forefront of all our lives like never before. Donegal LCDC helped to create and sustain a healthy place for our community in Donegal through the development and implementation of this Healthy Ireland programme and beyond.

# Healthy Ireland Action 4 - Young Carers Recognition Project

Donegal Youth Service's Young Carers project supported young people who take on extra caring responsibilities at home, which often impacts other areas of their lives, like school work, time spent with friends, extra-curricular activities and hobbies. The aim of the Young Carers' Project was to identify, engage and support young carers through engagement with service providers who work directly with families that have young carers in the family home. Part of the Donegal Youth Service Young Carers' Project seen young carers attend a Residential in Carlingford to help reduce feelings of social isolation and stress associated with being a young carer and offer support to empower them and their families to make healthier lifestyle choices.



Pictured are some of the Young Carers at their Residential in Carlingford.

# Visit from Frank Feighan, Minister of State with Responsibility for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy

In May, Minister Frank Feighan visited some of the projects funded under the Healthy Ireland programme. We received a very warm welcome from the Bluestack Special Needs Foundation and Donegal Dragons who received Healthy Ireland funding for their Brain Food for Good Mood project and The Bay project respectively.

Also present were Jack Murray (then) Mayor of Donegal, Cllr Niamh Kennedy Independent, Chair of Donegal LCDC, Councillor Barry Sweeny, Chair of Donegal MD.



# Older Persons Council – Moving On Project

Donegal Older Persons Council highlighted concerns that a lot of older people were nervous about rejoining their local communities following long periods of isolating at home due to Covid19 restrictions. Three community groups under the umbrella of the Donegal OPC hosted a series of events designed to encourage older people to re-engage in activities they would have enjoyed previously.

Pictured are Lettermacaward Active Retirement showcasing a video film entitled "Memory Lane" with over 250 photographs relevant to the community dating back over the past 50 years and Cara House participants attending a trip to Iosas Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Muff.



## URBACT Playful Paradigm

The URBACT Playful Paradigm transfer network is based on the use of "games" for promoting social inclusion, healthy lifestyles and energy awareness, place-making and economic prosperity. It promotes the incorporation of game-style elements into everyday or non-game environments and encourages stakeholders to organise multi-generational events that promote health and well-being. Healthy Donegal under Round 3 of the Healthy Ireland Fund supported the development of Donegal Town as the pilot town involved in this project as a means to improving social inclusion, health and wellbeing.

Pictured are stakeholders of the URBACT Local Group with some of the play equipment that was used as part of the play events and continues to be made available on a Countywide basis for other events.



## Young Adult Wellness Group

Donegal Youth Service, Youth Information Centre facilitated a weekly group for young people aged 16-25 years wherein it became clear that grief is something experienced by all, whether it is through the death of a loved one or a beloved family pet but there was little information, designed for young people with guidance and support. Following fantastic

research from Donegal Youth Centre volunteers, the development of such an information leaflet for all young people evolved.

The official launch of Donegal Youth Service grief support information leaflet 'Understanding Grief' took place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 having been postponed several times due to Covid19 restrictions.



## Move to Improve 100km Staff Walking Challenge

In keeping with Healthy Ireland's Let's Get Set campaign, Donegal County Council Chief Executive, Mr. John McLaughlin announced the winners of the Move to Improve 100km Staff Walking Challenge on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

Over the four-week Challenge, twenty-three teams collectively walked approximately 4,500km with staff feedback saying that the fun competitive event created an ideal environment to courage staff to get out and get moving!



## Social Media

A major benefit of social media promotion is the ability to reach and extend our audience. Alongside the webpage, Healthy Donegal is promoted by way of Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and YouTube – all of which have links to the national Healthy Ireland accounts and continually promote and include all key messages and campaigns in relation to Covid19 and other national Dept of Health campaigns.

Throughout the Healthy Ireland Round 3 Programme, Healthy Donegal continued to grow a strong social media following of approximately 4000 accounts, with Healthy Donegal social media posts having a regular viral reach of close to 1 million people.

# Feedback from Pobal

## **Healthy Ireland Fund**

"There is evidence of great partnership and positive interagency work happening in County Donegal. It is evident that you have fully implemented the actions and have achieved success within the Round. You were creative and adaptive, and you have been very proactive in making changes to the programme to gain the best use of the funding and deliver your actions fully.

# 5. PEACE IV

During 2022, the €5.5million PEACE IV Action Plan for Donegal under the PEACE IV Programme has continued to deliver on agreed outputs. The Action Plan has continued to build on the positive work done in Donegal, the border region and Northern Ireland over the last two decades through the delivery of projects, interventions and initiatives that play an important role in reinforcing progress towards a more peaceful and cohesive society.

The PEACE IV Programme focuses on a range of areas where it wants to make significant and lasting changes including Children and Young People; Shared Spaces and Services; and Building Positive Relations.

In Donegal, 30 projects Countywide have been delivered with over 5000 participants engaging in a variety of Projects and Programmes across these three thematic areas. Nine projects have been supported under the Children and Young People theme, with an emphasis on projects focusing on fostering good relations, citizenship, youth training, leadership, conflict mediation and personal development through a range of interventions such as sport, drama and culture.

Eleven projects Countywide have been supported under the Building Positive Relations theme at local level and they have promoted and celebrated cultural diversity where people can live, learn and socialise together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance. A range of interventions have been delivered under the this theme including restorative practices, events linked to the decade of commemorations that explore history in a sensitive manner and build mutual understanding; sport, arts, culture (including Irish and Ulster Scots language) and cross border media project, and 8 small grants were awarded to projects which supported communities to promote positive relations and provide much needed interventions

10 projects Countywide have been supported with a budget of €2m allocated to the theme of Shared Spaces and Services with the objective being to create more cohesive society through an increased provision of shared spaces and services which have the potential to have a transformative effect on local areas. These projects include a large multi-use sports pitch, a sensory garden, 3 playgrounds, an old Abbey and support to 3 community halls including 2 Orange Halls and a shared space in Convoy. This year saw the completion of the Sensory Garden Buncrana, 2 Community Playgrounds in Rossnowlagh and Killea. The Shared Spaces Peace IV programme will continue to run into mid 2023.



Killea Playground Opening



Rossnowlagh Playground



ICare, Buncrana

# 6. Donegal County Council PEACEPLUS Partnership Programme 2022 to 2027

PEACEPLUS is a new European Union funding programme designed to support peace and prosperity across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland, building upon the work of the previous PEACE and INTERREG Programmes.

The overall objective of the PEACEPLUS Programme is to build Peace and Prosperity and ensure that the Programme will leave a lasting and tangible legacy across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland. The Programme's strategy is to continue to take the opportunities and address the needs arising from the peace process in order to boost economic growth, and stimulate social and economic regeneration and secondly, to promote social inclusion, particularly for those at the margins of economic and social life.

As part of the PEACE PLUS Programme there is a requirement to establish a PEACE PLUS Partnership in each Local Authority Area. Donegal County Councill established a PEACEPLUS Partnership as a sub-structure of the Local Community Development Committee a. The principal role of this Committee is to oversee the design and implementation of a co-designed process in the County which will be used to inform the development of an overarching PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

The formulation of the co-designed Action Plan for Donegal will enable and empower local community partnerships, to select and deliver priority projects on a cross-community basis which will result in shared and inclusive local services, facilities and spaces and will make a significant and lasting contribution to peace and reconciliation.

Three thematic strands have been selected upon which to design the content of the PEACEPLUS Action Plans. These are:

- Local Community Regeneration and Transformation
- Thriving and Peaceful Communities
- Building Respect for All Cultural Identities

Under Theme 1 Investment Area 1.1 Co-designed Local Community PEACEPLUS Action Plans have been allocated €110m, Donegal County Council has been awarded an indicative allocation of €7,635,396. The PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan provides the scope to incorporate projects which will span across a range of different sectors and activities including:

- Youth development Programmes
- Health and wellbeing
- Community regeneration Projects
- Redevelopment and reimaging of existing community facilities for shared usage
- Initiatives to building positive relations
- Social innovation/ enterprise initiatives
- Education and skills development Programmes.

PEACEPLUS Action Plans will be implemented through a model based proactive local community engagement and collaboration Process. Actions within the localised plans will span the range of social, environmental and economic interventions. These programmes will also increase social inclusion and promote civil leadership and make a significant and lasting contribution to peace and reconciliation. Donegal's PEACEPLUS Partnership will provide oversight regarding final project selection and delivery of areas / themes to be included in Donegal's the co-design PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

The Local Community Development Committee established a PEACEPLUS Partnership of 28 members from the following sectors within Donegal as detailed below:

Elected Members (Pillar 1) (6)	Statutory Bodies (Pillar 2) (5)
<ul> <li>5 elected members with 1 from each Municipal District</li> <li>Chief Executive or his nominee</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Údarás na Gaeltachta</li> <li>Health Service Executive</li> <li>An Garda Síochána</li> <li>Tusla</li> <li>Donegal Education &amp; Training Board</li> </ul>
Social Partners (7)	Social Partners (Pillar 4) PPN (10)
<ul> <li>Inishowen Development Partnership</li> <li>Donegal Local Development CLG</li> <li>Irish Business &amp; Employers Confederation</li> <li>Farming community</li> <li>Trade Unions</li> <li>Environment</li> <li>Comhar na nOileán (Islands)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Minority Ethnic</li> <li>Older People</li> <li>Youth</li> <li>Traveller</li> <li>Women</li> <li>LGBTQI</li> <li>Minority Faith (3)</li> <li>Disability</li> </ul>



PeacePlus Partnership

# 7. Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme

Donegal LCDC continues to manage and oversee the implementation of the Social Inclusion, Community Activation Programme (SICAP). 2022 was the fifth year of the five year SICAP programme. The Department of Rural and Community Development had confirmed that the Programme would be extended for a further 12 months to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The SICAP Programme had a budget of €2,008,917 per year across the lifetime of the programme, however a budget increase was allocated in 2022 bringing the total budget for the three SICAP Lots in Donegal to €2,266,823.00 for 2022.

Two Local Community Development Companies deliver the SICAP Programme on behalf of the Donegal LCDC across the three Lots in Co Donegal as follows:-

Lot 33-1 Donegal Inishowen Inishowen Development Partnership Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht Donegal Local Development CLG Lot 33-3 Donegal Donegal Local Development CLG

Donegal LCDC will continue to work to ensure the implementation of these plans and programmes at a local level and to ensure the effective co-ordination of funding programmes for the benefit of local communities in the county.

The SICAP Programme was extended to include delivery of supports to Ukrainian Refugees in 2022 with additional budget allocation of  $\in$  222,933 to the Programme Implementers for provision of supports for 2022.



SICAP – Paticipants in the Fit2Work Employment Support Programme with Bluestacks Special Needs Foundation



Donegal Food Response Network – supported by SICAP Programme

# 8. Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

Minister of State for Public Health, Wellbeing and National Drugs Strategy, Frank Feighan T.D. visited Gaoth Dobhair and Buncrana on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 to launch the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Initiative. Introduced nationally in 2021, Sláintecare Healthy Communities is a cross-Government initiative to deliver increased health and wellbeing services to 19 community areas across Ireland.

Minister Feighan was welcomed to the events by the Cathaoirleach of Glenties Municipal District Cllr Anthony Molloy and Leas Cathaoirleach of Inishowen Municipal District Cllr Rena Donaghey and Deputy Chief Executive of Donegal County Council, Liam Ward along with Chief Officer HSE Dermot Monaghan and Cara O' Neill, HSE Head of Service, Health and Wellbeing. Also in attendance at the event was Cllr Gerry McMonagle, Chairperson of HSE Regional Health Forum West.



Seated from left Cllr Anthony Molloy, Cathaoirleach of Glenties Municipal District, Minister Frank Feighan, T.D. Minister of State for Public Health & Wellbeing and Cllr Gerry McMonagle, Chairperson of HSE Regional Health Forum West. Back from left are Liam Ward, Deputy CE Donegal County Council, Pamela Smullen, SHCP Local Development Officer NW Gaeltacht, Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cathaoirleach LCDC, Maire Uí Chomhaill, Ionad Naomh Padraig, Cara O'Neill, Head of Service Health and Wellbeing HSE CHO1, Dermot Monaghan, Chief Officer HSE CHO1, & Annmaire Crosse, HSE Sláintecare Healthy Communities Coordinator.

The launch of the Donegal Sláintecare Healthy Communities is the successful culmination of close collaboration between the Department of Health, Donegal County Council, HSE CHO1 and local partners Inishowen Development Company, (IDP), Ionad Naomh Padraig Family Resource Centre, Finn Valley Family Resource Centre and Donegal Local Development Company (DLDC).

At the launch Minister Feighan stated "Sláintecare Healthy Communities is a collective programme where we all work together to ensure that our communities in greatest need are supported to live longer, healthier lives. The health services cannot make these changes happen alone. To make real and lasting change we need to work together to create

communities where people can thrive. Our local community partners know better than anyone else what challenges this community faces and the strengths with it. They have the relationships and trust of the community and will be a key to the success of this programme as they are already imbedded into your community."

Dermot Monaghan described how the HSE long–term investment of €520,000 annually will provide for the establishment and delivery of a variety of different programmes in the area as part of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities programme

Liam Ward, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Service for Community & Planning with Donegal County Council confirmed that the local authority is undertaking 6 capital projects with funding received from the Department of Health under the Slaintecare Healthy Communities Enhancement Works Programme with a total value of €498,814.00 The projects which were agreed by the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) are divided between the two Slaintecare sites – Gaeltacht and Inishowen.

The enhancement funding in the Gaeltacht area, is currently being used to redevelop a playground facility in Dungloe, to enhance the Muckish Greenway project, and to help deliver Scioból na bhfear, Men's Shed on Tory Island. The Inishowen programme area will see the upgrade of the Barrack Hill Town Park, Carndonagh, the Moville playground and the resurfacing of the Tip O' Neill walking trail outside Buncrana. The acquisition of a special lightweight wheelchair which will be located at the Sliabh Sneacht Centre Drumfries to allow those with mobility issues to enjoy the trial.



Clodagh Murray, SHCP Local Development Officer, Inishowen, Dermot Monaghan, Chief Officer, HSE CHO1 Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cathaoirleach LCDC, Liam Ward, Deputy Chief Executive, Donegal County Council, Annmarie Crosse, HSE Slaintecare Healthy Communities Co-ordinator. Front: Shauna McClenaghan, Joint CEO Inishowen Development Partnership, Cara O'Neill, HSE Head of Service, Health and Wellbeing, Frank Feighan T.D., Minister of State for Public Health, Wellbeing and Cllr Rena Donaghey, Leas Cathaoirleach, Inishowen Municipal District.

Seed Funding of €75,000 for each of the pilot areas has been made available to support the delivery of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme in 2022. The Local

Development Officers have engaged with the communities within the programme areas and where appropriate, engaged with local development companies, local NGOs and other groups who are active within the communities to work to address the wider determinants of health to identify how the seed funding may be best used in relation to the delivery of the programme.

The seed funding is used for initiatives, projects or research in the programme areas that the LDO & Local Authority identify from community engagement. Initiatives and projects must include some form of evaluation to measure their effectiveness.

Paddy Doherty Chief Officer Donegal Local Community Development Committee