** **

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee**

**Held by web conference 10.00 am on 15th Septmeber 2020**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members** | Clr Martin McDermott (Chair), John McLaughlin, Clr Niamh Kennedy, Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, Michael Tunney, Paul Hannigan, Anne McAteer, Anne McHugh, Shauna McClenaghan, Padraic Fingleton, Charlene Logue, Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, Kathleen Bonner, James O Donnell, Aengus Kennedy and Seamus Bonner |
| **Apologies** | Liam Ward, Joe Boland, Liam McElhinney & Siobhan McLaughlin |
| **Chief Officer** | Paddy Doherty |
| **Attending** | Seamus Canning, Adrienne Kelly and Kathleen Browne |

**Welcome**

Clr Martin McDermott, Chairperson, welcomed everyone and thanked the members present for participating in the meeting. At the outset of the meeting, Clr McDermott welcomed John McLaughlin, Acting Chief Executive to his first LCDC Meeting.

Clr McDermott, on behalf of the LCDC, also congratulated Clr Gallagher on the birth of her baby and Charlie McConalogue, TD, on his appointment as Minister for Agriculture.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 21st July 2020 were considered with no matters arising.

On the proposal of Padraic Fingleton, seconded by Kathleen Bonner, the minutes were adopted.

1. **Election of Chairperson of Donegal LCDC**

Paddy Doherty, Chief Officer, advised members of the guidelines regarding the tenure of the Chairperson of Donegal LCDC. He confirmed that the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson could hold the post for a maximum of three years. As Clr McDermott had held the position for the maximum period it was now necessary to elect a new Chairperson.

Paddy paid tribute to Clr McDermott for his work as Chairperson of the LCDC during his time in the position. Clr McDermott thanked Paddy and all of the Staff in the Community Development Section for their work. He expressed the hope that the new Chairperson would continue to highlight the need to amend the LEADER application process to ensure that smaller groups applying for funding under €20,000 do not have to go through the same process as groups applying for larger amounts.

Clr Niamh Kennedy was proposed for the role of Chairperson of the LCDC by Kathleen Bonner and seconded by Anne McAteer. No other nominees were proposed. Clr Kennedy was deemed elected to position of Chairperson of Donegal LCDC.

Clr Kennedy thanked members and confirmed that she would seek to have the application process for LEADER funding amended. She thanked all the members, implementing partners and staff of Community Development for all the work that is being done. She also acknowledged the work of Clr McDermott as Chairperson.

1. **Election of Vice Chairperson of LCDC**

Further to update provided, Paddy Doherty advised that the position of Vice Chairperson of the LCDC must also be filled. Clr Martin McDermott was proposed by Clr Niamh Kennedy and seconded by James O Donnell. No other nominees were proposed. Clr McDermott was deemed to be elected to the position of Vice Chairperson of Donegal LCDC.

1. **SICAP Mid Year Check – Lot 33-1**

Seamus Canning reminded members that it was agreed that in light of the challenges experienced by both LCDCs and LDCs due to the COVID 19 Crisis the Mid-Year Review process was be replaced by a Mid-Year Check, which was a desk based exercise.

He confirmed that the Mid Year Check was now complete and has been signed off, as required, by Paddy Doherty, Chief Officer.

Seamus provided an update on the Mid Year Check for Lot 33-1 to members as follows:-

Targets

The overall progress for Lot 33-1 in 2020 was good despite the COVID Emergency with only a target for KPI1 being achieved and the Mid Year Target for KPI 2 being exceeded.

Overall, all targets exceeded the 40% requirement with 40% of the KPI1 Target and 61% of the KPI2 Target being achieved. IDP have provided a detailed account of the impact of COVID 19 lockdown on delivery of their programme and the actions taken to deal with same. They have confirmed that they expect to achieve all targets by year end.

37% of the target for KPI2 from disadvantaged areas for Lot 33-1 for 2020 has been achieved at mid year.

Financial Requirements

The Financial Report submitted was examined and the budget management by Inishowen Development Partnership is in line with programme guidelines. The admin costs reported were 11.50% of the overall budget and the total spend is 42.21% of the total administration budget. Non Salary Costs for Goal 1 and 2 are significantly below target with three of the four Goal actions recording a spend of less than 15% for Goal 1 and 6 of the 7 Goal 2 actions recording a spend of less than 10%. IDP have provided a detailed rationale for the under expenditure. They have confirmed that significant investment in technology and expertise was required to change how they delivered their programmes and confirmed that they are on track for full spend at year end.

No grants were awarded by IDP and all payments are up to date and included on the IRIS System

Verification checks on expenditure and VAT were carried out by Donegal County Council and no issues of concern were identified.

Pobal Parallel Review

The Pobal parallel review was satisfactory with no issues arising. Pobal recommend that the LCDC and LDC liaise regularly until year end in relation to possible underspends or required budget adjustments due to the COVID pandemic.

Overall Assessment

IDP have submitted a very detailed Mid Year Update clearly setting out their progress prior to the COVID 19 pandemic, the impact of the COVID 19 Pandemic on the delivery of the SICAP Programme in Lot 33-1 and the actions they have taken to deliver the Programme and support the individuals and community groups in their area throughout. Through adjustments to their work practices they have managed to continue to deliver a quality service to the area and deliver the SICAP Programme. A clear plan of action has not been set out by IDP for the remainder of the year but this is understandable in such fluid circumstances. Based on how well they have dealt with the issues arising to date the Chief Officer is happy to accept their assurances that all expenditure and actions are on target for full expenditure and achievement of targets by year end.

Seamus confirmed that IDP have been requested to provide updates to members on SICAP Budget expenditure at the LCDC meetings to year end. Shauna McClenaghan, IDP confirmed to members that they had carried out a review of all actions and that the did not anticipate an underspend at year end. She confirmed that any changes or budget adjustments would be within the SICAP Goals.

Members noted the SICAP Mid Year Check for Lot 33-1

1. **SICAP Mid Year Check – Lot 33-2**

Seamus Canning provided an update on the Mid Year Check for Lot 33-2 to members as follows:-

Targets

The overall progress for Lot 33-2 in 2020 was very good despite the COVID Emergency. The Mid Year Targets for both KPI1 and KPI 2 being significantly exceeded with 81% of KPI1 and 78% of KPI 2 targets being achieved by mid year.

The KPI2 Target for disadvantaged areas was also exceeded at 54.77% achieved against a target of 44%

Financial Requirements

The Financial Report submitted was examined and the budget management by Donegal Local Development CLG is in line with programme guidelines. The admin costs reported were 8.27% of the total budget and the total spend is slightly below expected at 42.43% of the total Administration Budget. Non Salary Costs for Goal 1 and 2 are significantly below target with no expenditure recorded under 4 out of 5 Goal 1 actins and no expenditure recorded under 4 of the 6 Goal 2 actions. There is a very small expenditure recorded under Action 2.4.

Donegal LCDC approved the reallocation of Goal 1 Action Budget for COVID 19 Social Enterprise grants and, as detailed in the narrative report, almost 60% of the budget for Non Salary Costs for Goal 1 has been committee to this. It should be noted that whilst all the grants are allocated, none of them have been drawn down yet and are therefore not reflected in the mid year spend.

DLDC have provided a detailed rationale for under expenditure. The Mid Year Update indicates expenditure on setting up remote working for staff will be charged against the action budgets and they have flagged a potential under spend in the Goal 2 Action Budget. They have indicated that they are hoping to identify new supports for clients which will ensure full spend at year end.

All payments are up to date and included on the IRIS System

Verification checks on expenditure and VAT were carried out by Donegal County Council and no issues of concern were identified.

Pobal Parallel Review

The Pobal parallel review was satisfactory with any queries which arose addressed by DLDC. Pobal recommend that the LCDC and LDC liaise regularly until year end in relation to possible underspends or required budget adjustments due to the COVID pandemic.

Overall Assessment

DLDC have submitted a very detailed Mid Year Update clearly setting out their progress prior to the COVID 19 pandemic, the impact of the COVID 19 Pandemic on the delivery of the SICAP Programme in Lot 33-2 and the actions they have taken to deliver the Programme and support the individuals and community groups in their area throughout. Through adjustments to their work practices they have managed to continue to deliver a quality service to the area and deliver the SICAP Programme. A clear plan of action has not been set out by DLDC for the remainder of the year but this is understandable in such fluid circumstances. Based on how well they have dealt with the issues arising to date, the Chief Officer is happy to accept their assurances that Actions targets will be achieved by year end and to note their commitment to identify new supports for clients which will result in full expenditure by year end.

Seamus confirmed that DLDC had been requested to provide updates to members on SICAP Budget expenditure at the LCDC meetings to year end. Padraic Fingleton confirmed that DLDC were currently reviewing the SICAP Programme Delivery and Budgets and confirmed that a full update would be presented at the next LCDC Meeting. Padraic advised that a large amount of SICAP spend was directed into the COVID Response. He confirmed to members that an underspend of the Lot 33-2 SICAP Budget was expected but assured members that it would be within the 5% limit set down.

Members noted the SICAP Mid Year Check for Lot 33-2

1. **SICAP Mid Year Check – Lot 33-3**

Seamus Canning provided an update on the Mid Year Check for Lot 33-2 to members as follows:-

Targets

The overall progress for Lot 33-3 in 2020 was very good despite the COVID Emergency. The Mid Year Targets for both KPI1 and KPI 2 being significantly exceeded with 69% of KPI1 and 65% of KPI 2 targets being achieved by mid year.

The KPI2 Target for disadvantaged areas is on target at 23.13% against the annual target of 28%

Financial Requirements

The Financial Report submitted was examined and the budget management by Donegal Local Development CLG is in line with programme guidelines. The admin costs reported were 10.82% of the total budget and the total spend is slightly below expected at 46.36% of the total Administration Budget. Non Salary Costs for Goal 1 and 2 are all significantly below target with very low expenditure recorded under 4 out of 5 Goal 1 actions and low or no expenditure recorded on all 6 of Goal 2 actions.

Donegal LCDC approved reallocation of Goal 1 Action Budget for COVID 19 Social Enterprise Grants and as, detailed in the narrative report 56% of the budget for Non Salary Costs for Goal 1 has been committed to this. It should be noted that whilst all grants are allocated not all of them have been drawn down yet and therefore not reflected in the mid year spend.

DLDC have provided a detailed rationale for under expenditure. The Mid Year Update indicates expenditure on setting up remote working for staff will be charged against the action budgets and they have flagged a potential under spend in the Goal 2 Action Budget. They have indicated that they are hoping to identify new supports for clients which will ensure full spend at year end.

All payments are up to date and included on the IRIS System

Verification checks on expenditure and VAT were carried out by Donegal County Council and no issues of concern were identified.

Pobal Parallel Review

The Pobal parallel review was satisfactory with any queries which arose addressed by DLDC. Pobal recommend that the LCDC and LDC liaise regularly until year end in relation to possible underspends or required budget adjustments due to the COVID pandemic.

Overall Assessment

DLDC have submitted a very detailed Mid Year Update clearly setting out their progress prior to the COVID 19 pandemic, the impact of the COVID 19 Pandemic on the delivery of the SICAP Programme in Lot 33-3 and the actions they have taken to deliver the Programme and support the individuals and community groups in their area throughout. Through adjustments to their work practices they have managed to continue to deliver a quality service to the area and deliver the SICAP Programme. A clear plan of action has not been set out by DLDC for the remainder of the year but this is understandable in such fluid circumstances. Based on how well they have dealt with the issues arising to date, the Chief Officer is happy to accept their assurances that Actions targets will be achieved by year end and to note their commitment to identify new supports for clients which will result in full expenditure by year end.

Seamus confirmed that DLDC had been requested to provide updates to members on SICAP Budget expenditure at the LCDC meetings to year end. Padraic Fingleton confirmed that DLDC were currently reviewing the SICAP Programme Delivery and Budgets and confirmed that a full update would be presented at the next LCDC Meeting. Padraic advised that a large amount of SICAP spend was directed into the COVID Response. He confirmed to members that an underspend of the Lot 33-2 SICAP Budget was expected but assured members that it would be within the 5% limit set down.

Members noted the SICAP Mid Year Check for Lot 33-

1. **SICAP – Request for Budget Adjustment for Lot 33-2 and 33-3**

Seamus Canning advised members that following on from the request from DLDC to the LCDC Committee in April 2020 to reallocate part of the SICAP Action budget 2020 to a COVID 19 – Community Response Fund, DLDC had provided an update on this funding and a request for an additional budget adjustment for consideration of members.

On receipt of members approval of to reallocate part of the SICAP Goal 1 Action Budget 2020, DLDC immediately issued an open call for applications to the COVID 19 – Community Response Fund.

They received a significant number of applications which resulted in the funding being over-subscribed. All application received were valid and eligible under the Funding guidelines and the need was evident.

On carrying out a further review of their Action budget they established that they had sufficient Action budget to approve all applications received for the COVID 19 – Community Response Fund whilst also successfully delivering any planned initiatives in their SICAP Annual Plan 2020 for Lots 33-2 and 33-3 which are permitted under the current government restriction.

DLDC advised that in real terms it is becoming increasingly unlikely, that SICAP staff, partners or groups - will be in a position to action any of the planned activities for which budget(s) have been allocated in the existing annual plan in 2020.

As the community & voluntary organisations were in urgent need of this financial support in order to deliver services in response to COVID 19, they felt it was imperative that groups received support from DLDC under the SICAP Programme to do so where possible.

The approved reallocation of SICAP Action budget as per April 2020 request was as follows:

·       Lot 33-2 – Donegal Gaeltacht - €8,500

·       Lot 33-3 – Central Donegal - €25,00

Donegal Local Development CLG were now requesting an additional budget adjustment with a total re-allocation of SICAP Goal 1 Action budget 2020 to the COVID 19 – Community Response Fund as follows:

·       Lot 33-2 – Donegal Gaeltacht - €10,678.46

·       Lot 33-3 – Central Donegal - €33,037.00

On the proposal of Martin McDermott, seconded by Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, members approved the additional amendment to the SICAP Goal 1 Action Budget as set out above

1. **SICAP Case Study – Lot 33-2**

Seamus Canning advised members that at the LCDC Meeting on 16th June members agreed the theme for the SICAP Case Studies 2020 for Lots 33-1, 33-2 and 33-3 as follows:-

Case Study Lot 33-1 2020 –

Theme: Social Enterprise Supports

Case Study Title: Growing the Social Economy in Inishowen

Case Study Lot 33-2 2020 –

Theme : Collaboration

Case Study Title:: ‘Tacú le Gaoth Dobhair’ COVID 19 Response Initiative

Case Study Lot 33-3 2020 –

Theme : Goal 1 or Goal 2 Projects

Case Study Title:  ‘Are You Connected’. Concentrating on Goal 2 - Individual Client Caseloads.

Seamus advised that a request has been received from DLDC to change the theme of the SICAP Case Study for Lot 33-2 to Engagement Strategies with SICAP Target Groups/Communities.

DLDC advised that as they progress work on the case study it has become evident that the focus of the case study is primarily on reaching the most disadvantaged members of the community throughout the COVID Pandemic.

It was confirmed that the requested theme change was in keeping with the guidelines for SICAP Case Studies 2020.

On the proposal of Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Anne McHugh members agree to change the Case Study theme for Lot 33-2 from Collaboration to Engagement Strategies with SICAP Target Groups/Communities

1. **Community Enhancement Programme 2020 – Community Centres and Community Buildings**

Seamus Canning advised members that the Department of Rural and Community Affairs have launched the Community Enhancement Programme - 2020 fund for Community Centres and Buildings under the July stimulus package, with a national allocation of €5 million The funding will be provided under the Community Enhancement Programme, and is in addition to €2 million provided under that programme earlier this year.

The Community Enhancement Programme 2020 Fund Community Centres and Buildings, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, will provide grant funding in 2020 towards enhancing the facilities available to communities.

Donegal Local Community Development Committee have been granted a fund of €234,073 for this project.

Details of the scheme have now been received from the Department as follows:-

* As with previous Community Enhancement Programmes, the LCDC are the decision makers on the successful applications for funding. If they so wish they can consult with the Municipal Districts.
* Funding is being made available under the Government’s July stimulus package, and is targeted at measures that stimulate local economies, while enhancing facilities in disadvantaged area as identified in the LECP. .
* Capital expenditure on adaptations or equipment needed as a result of COVID-19 may be eligible, depending on the work being completed.
* 30% of the funding should be directed towards small scale capital grants of €1,000 or less.
* The closing date for receipt of applications must be set at no later than 31st October 2020 and all monies must be expended by 31st March 2021.

Members noted the scheme and considered the approval of the following amendments.

Amendment of Regulations

Seamus advised that the Regulations issued by the Department for Community Enhancement Programme – 2020 Fund for Community Halls & Buildings stated that it was not necessary for a group/organisation to be registered for Tax in order to apply for funding. However, for Revenue purposes Donegal County Council required groups to supply a Tax Registration/PPS Number before they can receive payment.

Members were further advised that as unsuccessful applications from first round of Community Enhancement Programme are being included for evaluation for this second round of funding it was proposed that expenditure from the date of the launch of the CEP 2020 (22nd June 2020) can be claimed under CEP 2020 Fund for Community Centres & Buildings Grant awarded.

Members were advised that at their meeting on 9th September, the LCDC Grant Evaluation Sub Committee noted the Community Enhancement Programme 2020 fund for Community Centres and Community Buildings and recommend that the LCDC amend the guidelines to adhere to the payment guidelines set down by Donegal County Council.

On the proposal of Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Clr Martin McDermott, members agreed to amend the guidelines to adhere to the payment guidelines set down by Donegal County Council and to permit expenditure from 22nd June 2020 to be claimed under the fund.

Closing date

Members were advised that the guidelines state that the Closing date for Community Enhancement Programme 2020 can be set by the LCDC with a date no later than 31st October 2020.

Seamus advised that at their meeting on 9th September, the LCDC Grant Evaluation Sub Committee recommended that the LCDC agree to set the deadline for receipt of applications to the Community Enhancement Programme 2020 Fund for Community Centres & Buildings for 3pm on Thursday, 1st October 2020.

On the proposal of Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Clr Martin McDermott, members agreed to set the deadline for receipt of applications to the Community Enhancement Programme 2020 Fund for Community Centres & Buildings for 3pm on Thursday, 1st October 2020.

Expenditure of the Fund

Members were advised that previous similar funding streams were divided equally between each MD. This would result in €62,260.94 being available for each MD. 30% of these monies should be reserved for small scale capital grants.

Seamus Canning confirmed that at their meeting on 9th September, the LCDC Grant Evaluation Sub Committee recommend to the LCDC that monies be divided between equally between each of the 5 MDs.

On the proposal of Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Clr Martin McDermott, members agreed that monies for the Programme be divided between equally between each of the 5 MDs.

1. **Community Enhancement Programme 2020 – Award of Grants**

Seamus Canning advised members that Donegal LCDC received a fund of €77,231.72 for the Community Enhancement Programme. The Programme Guidelines indicated that the LCDC should award small and large grants to Community Groups with 30% of monies allocated to be awarded as small grants. The LCDC agreed at the meeting on 21st July 2020 that these monies should be divided equally between each Municipal District. It was further agreed that priority would be given to applications for Covid related costs/projects.

Seamus confirmed that 162 applications were received. The Municipal District breakdown of applications was as follows:-

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Municipal District** | **Large Apps** | **Small Apps** | **Total** |
| Donegal | 21 | 12 | 33 |
| Glenties | 22 | 14 | 36 |
| Inishowen | 13 | 11 | 24 |
| Letterkenny | 25 | 12 | 37 |
| Stranorlar | 13 | 18 | 31 |
| National |  | 1 | 1 |

Seamus confirmed that monies must be drawdown by the successful groups by 31st December 2020.

Seamus advised that as previously advised, a second allocation of funding under the Community Enhancement Programme in the sum of €234,073 for allocation by Donegal LCDC was announced in advance of the assessment of the first round of Community Enhancement Programme funding 2020.

Members were informed that the LCDC Grant Evaluation Sub Committee met on 9th September to consider all applications. A scoring scheme for applications was agreed as follows:-

**Large Grant (up to €5,000)**

Need 25

Community Impact 50

Target Groups 50

Sustainability 50

Alignment to LECP 25

Small Grant

Members were advised that a large number of small grant applications were received. In recognition of the urgency for groups to access funding to assist them to meet the costs of reopening, the Sub Committee agreed that all valid small grant applications for COVID related costs received under CEP Round 1 be awarded grant in the sum applied for with one grant only per group being awarded. This will result in a total of €48,622.26 (62.95%) of the monies from Round 1 being allocated as small grants and the balance of the monies being awarded in large grants.

The overall percentage of small grant awards will be balanced out to 30% of the total allocation in funding for the Community Enhancement Programme to Donegal LCDC in the evaluation of the next round of grant applications.

The breakdown per MD of awards for the two Community Enhancement Programme Grant Processes for 2020 would be as follows:-

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Large Grants (€43,582.66)** | | **Small Grants (€18,678.28)** | |
|  | **CEP 1** | **CEP 2** | **CEP1** | **CEP2** |
| Donegal MD | €7,713.14 | €35,869.52 | €7,733.00 | €10,945.28 |
| Glenties MD | €7,845.78 | €35,736.88 | €7,600.56 | €11,077.72 |
| Inishowen MD | €7,508.18 | €36,074.48 | €7,938.16 | €10,740.12 |
| Letterkenny MD | €5,000.00 | €38,582.66 | €9,865.33 | €8,812.95 |
| Stranorlar MD | 0 | €43,582.66 | €14,485.76 | €4,192.52 |

Large Grants

Members were advised that due to the high volume of grant applications received, the Grant Evaluation Sub Committee agreed to only evaluate the valid COVID related large grant applications for this round of funding.

The Sub Committee recommend that all unsuccessful valid applications should be rolled over for consideration in the Round 2 Community Enhancement Programme.

The Sub Committee proposed grant awards per MD as follows:-

**Donegal MD**

Large Grants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/2/D | Donegal Family Resource Centre | €5,000.00 |
| CEP20/16/D | Aislann Chill Chartha | €2,713.34 |

Small Grants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/6/D | Mountcharles Community Development | €1,0000 |
| CEP20/7/D | Killybegs Mens Shed | €819.00 |
| CEP20/8/D | Bluestack Centre & Hostel | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/18/D | Dunkineely Community Ltd | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/19/D | Cosite Forbartha na Carraige | €845.00 |
| CEP20/21/D | Cosite Forbartha Ceantar Mhin an Aoire | €412.00 |
| CEP20/28/D | Pobail Pairtiocht Iar Dheisceart Dhun na nGall | €819.00 |
| CEP20/32/D | Co Donegal Railway Restoration CLG | €838.00 |
| CEP20/33/D | Lar Chomhairle Paroiste Ghleann Cholm Cille | €1,000.00 |

**Glenties MD**

Large Grants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/3/G | An tSean Bheairic | €3,145.78 |
| CEP20/34/G | Larionad Acmhainni Nadurtha Cuideachta faoi Theorainn Rathaiochta (LAN CTR) | €4,700.00 |

Small Grants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/1/G | Rosses Womens Shed/Sciobol Ban na Rosann | €603.00 |
| CEP20/5/G | Downstrands Family Resource Centre | 1,000.00 |
| CEP20/7/G | Paisti Cois Mara | €665.91 |
| CEP20/10/G | Club Oige Chriost Ri | €655.15 |
| CEP20/11/G | Ardara Sheltered Housing Association CLG | €676.50 |
| CEP20/17/G | St Columbas Community Centre | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/28/G | Glenties Market Hall Committee | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/30/G | St Connells Museum/Heritage Centre | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/37/G | Sciobal na mBan/Upstyles Gweedore | €1,000.00 |

**Inishowen MD**

Large Grant

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/15/I | Inishowen Children's Autism Related Education | €2,508.18 |
| CEP20/22/I | Sliabh Sneacht Centre Co Ltd | €5,000.00 |

Small Grant

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/3/I | Carrowmenagh Community Centre Ltd | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/8/I | Barrack Hill Town Park Community Food Project | €800.00 |
| CEP20/11/I | Tullyarvan Mill | €545.30 |
| CEP20/18/I | Glengad Community Association | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/19/I | Mens Shed Carn | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/20/I | Inishowen Rivers Trust | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/21/I | Inishowen Community Media Network | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/23/L | Newtowncunningham Housing Association | €592.86 |
| CEP20/24/I | Culdaff Football Club | €1,000.00 |

**Letterkenny MD**

Large Grants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/22/L | Donegal Women's Centre | €5,000.00 |

Small Grants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/3/L | Congress Resource Centre for Unemployed | €967.33 |
| CEP20/4/L | Foroige Kilmacrennan | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/9/L | Kerrykeel Tidy Towns | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/10/L | Old School Kerrykeel Community Centre | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/11/L | Letterkenny Youth & Family Services | €998.00 |
| CEP20/13/L | Kilmacrennan Men's Shed | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/21/L | Fanad Naionra | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/24/L | Letterkenny CDP | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/29/L | Letterkenny Community Centre CLG | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/37/L | Letterkenny Mens Shed | €900.00 |

The unallocated amount of €581.01 will be brought forward for allocation with second round awards.

**Stranorlar MD**

Large Grants

As all but €960.58 of the €15,446.34 budget for Stranorlar is allocated in small grants no large grant to be awarded in this round of Community Enhancement Programme. €960.58 will be brought forward for allocation with second round awards.

Small Grants

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CEP20/2/S | Balor Developmental Community Arts Group | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/3/S | Lifford Clonleigh Resource Centre | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/5/S | Cappry Residents Group | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/7/S | Planet Youth | €555.49 |
| CEP20/8/S | Finn Valley Guild ICA | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/11/S | Butt Drama Circle Co Ltd | €990.27 |
| CEP20/12/S | The Base Enterprise Centre/BASICC | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/13/S | Ballybofey & Stranorlar Chamber of Commerce | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/17/S | Donegal Mountain Rescue Team | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/20/S | Convoy Community & Environmental Committee | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/23/S | Lifford Celtic Youths | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/24/S | Lifford Association Tourism Commerce Heritage | €940.00 |
| CEP20/26/S | Drumkeen Youth Club | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/29/S | Twin Towns ABC | €1,000.00 |
| CEP20/31/S | Cloghan Childcare Centre/Curam Leanai an Chlochan | €1,000.00 |

On the proposal of Charlene Logue, seconded by Clr Martin McDermott, Members of the LCDC approved the award of grants under the Community Enhancement Programme 2020 to these groups.

1. **PPN Update**

Mary Clyde, PPN Co-Ordinator, joined the meeting and provided the following update to members

Insurance Survey

Mary advised members that Donegal PPN were currently conducting a survey of the 611 groups who are members of the PPN to capture information on Insurance for Community Groups. The survey was seeking the following information from members -Insurance cost, nature of cover, name of Insurance provider and cost increases over the past 3-5 years.

She confirmed that results of this survey would be published in the next few weeks.

PPN ‘Back to Business Packs’

Members were informed that following on from their very informative ‘Back to Business for Community Groups’ Zoom Training in July, the PPN secretariat had decided to compile a comprehensive Pack for Groups on all the necessary Plans, Statements and Templates needed.

* Covid-19 Response Plan (suitable for a smaller community group or community centre setting)
* Back to Work Safely Protocol (suitable for staff, volunteers and any visitors.) (Can be used for training staff /volunteers as well.)
* Staff/Volunteer training record template
* Client Declaration Form (for community centre meeting room hires)
* Visitor Checklist Form
* Suspected Case Policy & Procedure
* Covid-19 Safety Statement
* Risk Assessment template
* Contact Tracing Log Sheet
* Back to Work Form (HSA version)
* The pack will also contain all the HSA templates

These packs will be available in the coming weeks.

PPN Training

Mary advised members that Donegal PPN conducted a Training Needs Analysis in July 2020 with the Groups who were PPN Members. They are currently developing a Training Programme to commence in October to try and best meet the needs of the member groups and the wider Community.

Clr Niamh Kennedy congratulated Mary on the work and welcomed the Insurance Survey. Padraic Fingleton and Shauna McCleanaghan requested that contact be made with the LDCs in relation to the ‘back to business’ packs to ensure a co-ordinated approach to the supports being offered to groups is taken and to avoid duplication of services.

Clr Maire Therese Gallagher raised the issue of community music groups such as marching bands who required support and assistance but were not members of the PPN. She requested that an outreach programme be conducted for these groups.

In relation to the Insurance Survey, Clr Gallagher called for the LCDC to come up with a proposal, when the findings of the survey are returned, to move this issue forward. Clr Gallagher queried whether additional Event Insurance costs incurred by groups was included in the survey. Mary confirmed that this information would be captured in question re cover.

Padraic Fingleton advised that DLDC was working to set up workshops to support community festivals and assist them in finding an alternative for 2021. He advised that an information day, hosted by Donegal Volunteer Centre, was being held.

1. **Healthy Ireland Fund Round 3 Update**

Seamus Canning advised members that Round 3 of the Healthy Ireland Fund (HIF) has been approved by the Department of Health. The aim of this funding is to support local and national organisations to deliver actions that will improve health and wellbeing in line with Healthy Ireland, A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025. The grant period for Round 3 will run from 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2021.

An opportunity was provided to all Partner Organisations to amend or to re-profile their approved programmes and budgets under the Programme of Works to enable them to deliver their services to their target groups in the context of the COVID-19 restrictions. The information was submitted to Pobal by way of a Change Request Template with corresponding Budget Change Template and is currently under review for approval.

The interim financial and progress reports for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 have been circulated to all Partner Organisations for populating. The purpose of this report is to reflect the progress and expenditure to date in relation to the overall Programme of Works.

Healthy Ireland – Community Mental Health Small Grants Scheme

Seamus advised members that applications for the Community Mental Health Small Grants Scheme were invited in February 2020 with an initial closing date of 27/3/20. Under the terms of the scheme, small grants of between €2,000 and €5,000 are to be allocated to local community, voluntary and sporting organisations to deliver actions or projects which are in line with the Mental Health Theme of Healthy Ireland Round 3. As a result of the COVID-19 restrictions, the closing date for receipt of applications was extended to 1/5/20.

Letters of Offer were issued to thirteen successful applicants under the Community Mental Health Small Grants Scheme following their approval by the Donegal LCDC on 21st July 2020.

1. **Review of LECP**

Clr Maire Therese Gallagher queried when the review of the LECP would take place. Paddy Doherty advised that guidance from the Department in relation to the review was awaited and action would be taken on this matter in line with guidance received.

Michael Tunney stated that the guidelines would be a template for the LECP but called on the LCDC to look at the review strategically to ensure that social enterprise is supported as well as examining the challenges facing community groups. A discussion on the matter took place with members supporting Michael Tunney’s suggestion. Clr Kennedy and Clr McDermott suggested that Economic Development and the Regeneration Team be involved in the review also.

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

Clr Niamh Kennedy confirmed that the next meeting was scheduled for 20th October 2020 at 10.00 am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.