

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee
County House, Lifford, 2.00 pm on 20th February 2018**

Members	Clr Martin McDermott (Chair), Martin McBride, Clr Niamh Kennedy, Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, Jim Slevin, James O Donnell, Susan McCauley, Paul Hannigan, Anne McHugh, Peter Walker, Susan McLaughlin, Máire Uí Mhaoláin and Aengus Kennedy
Apologies	Seamus Neely and Micheal Mac Giolla Easbuig
Chief Officer	Paddy Doherty
Attending	Liam Ward, Eimear McDermott, Claire McCallan, Seamus Canning, Loretta McNicholas, Adrienne Kelly & Kathleen Browne

Welcome

Clr Martin McDermott, Chairperson, welcomed everyone and thanked the members present for attending the meeting.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 19th December 2017 were considered. The minutes were proposed by James O Donnell and seconded by Martin McBride.

2. Schedule of Meetings 2018

Members examined the proposed Schedule of LCDC Meetings for 2018 and agreed them as follows:-

Date	Meeting	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 20 th March 2018	LCDC/LAG	10 am	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 17 th April 2018	LCDC/LAG	2.30pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Monday, 14 th May 2018	LAG	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Monday, 11 th June 2018	LCDC/LAG	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Monday, 16 th July 2018	LAG	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Monday, 3 rd September 2018	LCDC/LAG	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Monday, 15 th October 2018	LAG	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters

Tuesday, 20th November 2018	LCDC/LAG	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 18th December 2018	LAG	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters

3. SICAP End of Year Report - Lot 33-1 Donegal Inishowen

Kathleen Browne reported to the members on the End of Year Report submitted by Inishowen Development Partnership for Lot 33-1 for 2017.

Members were informed that the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-1 (Inishowen) had been brought before the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee for consideration on 12th February. Following consideration of the Pobal Parallel review and presentation on the report by Shauna McClenaghan, IDP, the SICAP Sub Committee were satisfied to recommend approval of the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-1 Inishowen.

She confirmed that IDP had submitted the End of Year narrative report and that all sections of the report were satisfactorily completed. She further confirmed that IDP had achieved their KPI 1 and 2 targets and the majority of the Headline Indicator Targets for 2017 with a satisfactory rationale provided for the targets not achieved... Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2017.

On the proposal of Anne McHugh, seconded by Paul Hannigan, members approved the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-1 and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €49,765.00 for the period 1st March 2018 to 31st March 2018 be released to Inishowen Development Partnership.

4. SICAP End of Year Report - Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht

Kathleen Browne, reported to the members on the End of Year Report submitted by for Lot 33-2 for 2017.

Members were informed that the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht had been brought before the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee for consideration on 12th February. Following consideration of the Pobal Parallel review and presentation on the report by Padraic Fingleton, DLDC, the SICAP Sub Committee were satisfied to recommend approval of the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht.

She confirmed that DLDC had submitted the End of Year narrative report and that all sections of the report were satisfactorily completed. She further confirmed that IDP had achieved their KPI 1 and 2 targets and the majority of the Headline Indicator Targets for 2017 with a satisfactory rationale provided for the targets not achieved... Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2017.

On the proposal of Jim Slevin, seconded by Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, members approved the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-2 and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €29,415.97 for the period 1st March 2018 to 31st March 2018 be released to Donegal Local Development Company.

5. SICAP End of Year Report - Lot 33-3 Donegal

Kathleen Browne, reported to the members on the End of Year Report submitted by for Lot 33-3 for 2017.

Members were informed that the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-3 Donegal had been brought before the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee for consideration on 12th February. Following consideration of the Pobal Parallel review and presentation on the report by Padraic Fingleton, DLDC, the SICAP Sub Committee were satisfied to recommend approval of the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-3 Donegal.

She confirmed that DLDC had submitted the End of Year narrative report and that all sections of the report were satisfactorily completed. She further confirmed that IDP had achieved their KPI 1 and 2 targets and the majority of the Headline Indicator Targets for 2017 with a satisfactory rationale provided for the targets not achieved... Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2017.

On the proposal of Clr Niamh Kennedy, seconded by Susan McLaughlin, members approved the End of Year Report 2017 for Lot 33-3 and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €88,228.72 for the period 1st March 2018 to 31st March 2018 be released to Donegal Local Development Company.

6. SICAP End of Year Report 2017

Members considered the draft Donegal LCDC SICAP End of Year Report 2017 which was previously circulated and discussed content of same.

Following consideration of the report, on the proposal of Martin McBride, seconded by Anne McHugh, members approved the LCDC SICAP End of Year Report 2017.

7. SICAP Annual Plans

Members were advised that that the Annual Plans for 2018 for Lots 33-1, 33-2 and 33-3 had already been formally approved by the LCDC as part of the approval of the Tenders for SICAP 2018-2022. Inishowen Development Partnership were attending the meeting today and Donegal Local Development Company would attend the March Meeting to give members an overview of their 2018 Plans for each Lot.

Members were advised that SICAP 2018-2022 differs from the previous SICAP Programme in that the Programme being delivered and it's assessment is qualitative rather than quantitative. A recap of the Targets set and the Emerging Needs Target Group selected for each of the three Lots was given to members. Members were further advised that one of the stipulations of SICAP 2018-2022 is that the PIs must present a progress report and case study to the full LCDC on a quarterly basis. It was confirmed that LCDC would have a more active role in the monitoring of the work of the PIs for this SICAP Programme and the opinions and views of members on how best to do this were sought.

Members were further advised that in assessing the Tenders, the LCDC SICAP Tender Evaluation Committee recommended that the Donegal PPN have an involvement in delivering the Goal 1 actions that relate to engagement, representation and participation. They were informed that whilst this can only be a recommendation for 2018 Annual Plan it can be a requirement for future plans under this SICAP Programme. They were advised that

the Pls were advised of this recommendation at the SICAP Sub Committee Meeting on 12th February.

At this point, Ms Shauna McClenaghan, Inishowen Development Partnership, joined the meeting. Ms McClenaghan briefed the members on the overview of the SICAP Annual Plan 2018 for Lot 33-1 Donegal Inishowen. She outlined the Goal 1 and 2 programmes and supports planned for Lot 33-1 for 2018 and welcomed questions from the members present.

Clr McDermott queried whether any supports could be made available to smaller community Groups to assist them in completing and submitting applications for funding – particularly for LEADER funding. Shauna confirmed that support was available in this regard for Community Services Programme and other funding streams but not for LEADER applications. She advised that she would follow up on this request.

Clr McDermott thanked Shauna for her presentation and attendance at the meeting.

8. Donegal LCDC Annual Report 2017

Members considered the draft Donegal LCDC Annual Report 2017, which was circulated previously. The report sets out the background, key responsibilities and composition of the Donegal LCDC. It also detailed the key achievements of the Donegal LCDC in 2017 as follows:–

- Donegal LCDC established a sub group to develop a framework at its meeting on 7th February 2017 for the effective management and monitoring & evaluation of the LECP 2016 – 2022. This group comprises of:
 - Mr Peter Walker, Social Inclusion Manager, HSE, Community Service,
 - Ms Anne McHugh, Chief Executive, Donegal ETB,
 - Ms Susan McCauley, Cara House.
- The work of this subgroup is facilitated by the Research and Policy Unit, Donegal County Council. The subgroup met on a number of occasions to develop a proposed implementation framework, which was agreed by the LCDC on the 16th May, 2017. On the 19th December, 2017 the group presented the first monitoring and evaluation report to the LCDC, capturing key outputs, outcomes and impacts of the 80 different projects that are currently active through the LCDC process. Work will continue in 2018 on developing Phase 11 of the implementation framework.
- Donegal LCDC continued in it's role as the Local Action Group (LAG) for the implementation of the LEADER / RDP Local Development for 2014-2020. Donegal has been allocated a total of €12.9m under this programme which is being administered by the LCDC in conjunction with 4 local implementing bodies – Donegal Local Community Development Company, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán. A total of 64 projects were approved by the LAG in 2017 with LEADER funding in the sum of €2.1 million awarded.
- Two new funding schemes were announced by the Department of Rural and Community Development in 2017; The Community Facilities Scheme and RAPID (*Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development*), both of which had a budget allocation of €64,500. Under The Community Facilities Scheme a total of 89 groups received funding, and a further ten were funded under the RAPID scheme. Funding was distributed equally over the five municipal districts in the county.
- A successful joint application from Donegal LCDC as lead partner and the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee (CYPSC) was made to Pobal in 2017 for funding under the Healthy Ireland Initiative in the sum of €138,000. The primary aim of the fund is to support innovative, cross-sectoral, evidence-based projects and

initiatives that support the implementation of key national policies in areas such as obesity, smoking, alcohol, physical activity and sexual health.

- The LCDC PEACE IV Partnership has been established and is as a sub-committee of the Local Community Development Committee and has responsibility for leading the development and implementation of a two stage Peace IV Action Plan for County Donegal. This Plan will address a targeted and locally based response to the needs that have been identified in the PEACE IV Cooperation Programme 2014 – 2020.

The Donegal PEACE IV Action Plan has been given an indicative figure of €5.5 million to deliver a range of actions under the following 3 objectives:

- Children and Young People
- Shared Spaces & Services
- Building Positive Relations

A letter of offer in the amount of €4,047,626 dated 6th March 2017 was received on 9th March and has been signed and returned to SEUPB. As Donegal County Council, was given an indicative amount of funding of €5.5 million available under the Peace IV fund, a balance of €1.5 million remained unapproved.

Donegal County Council has now applied for this unapproved balance as part of a re-bid process which is due to conclude in February 2018.

During 2017 the Peace IV Partnership members availed of a number of training sessions which included training on the Peace IV programme, procurement training and eligibility of expenditure.

- Donegal LCDC continues to manage and oversee the implementation of the Social Inclusion, Community Activation Programme (SICAP). This three year programme, which has a budget of €5,430,095, is being delivered at local level by Donegal Local Community Development Company and Inishowen Development Partnership.

Mr Paddy Doherty advised the members that the LCDC were obliged to submit a report to the Members of Donegal County Council annually and sought the authority from the LCDC to submit the report, as circulated, to the March meeting of Donegal County Council for noting. On the proposal of Peter Walker, seconded by Aengus Kennedy, Members agreed to submit the Annual Report as presented.

9. EU Funding Update

Claire McCallan and Seamus Canning made a presentation to members on the three core areas of work of the EU Strategic and Policy Unit – Engagement, Funding and Policy. Members were advised on that the Unit collaborated and networked on a cross directorate, local, regional, national, European and international basis and members were advised of the groups and organisations that the unit worked with at each level.

Members were briefed on the various funding bodies and streams available. They were advised that there was currently a portfolio of 16 projects ranging from €35,000 to €15.4 million with a total project spend of €42 million, including the Briden Project in co-operation with LYIT. The timeline for these projects ranged from 2014 to 2020. Members were also updated on projects which were currently being assessed for funding e.g. the Riverine project.

Members were advised that the focus for future funding projects would be climate change, Energy, plastics (the marine) and the aging demographic.

Peter Walker stated that there was an opportunity for the LCDC to identify groups who could benefit from the future funding programmes, e.g. older peoples groups. Claire confirmed that it was important for all agencies and Council services to share information to develop

applications for funding. Aengus Kennedy advised that he was happy to see that funding would be available for Energy, Conservation and Marie Projects in the future.

Maire Uí Mhaoláin advised members of the funding programmes available for Island communities.

Liam Ward acknowledged the work on the Briden Project and the key partnership with LYIT. He confirmed that the LCDC would be updated regularly on EU Funding Programmes. Members thanked Claire and Seamus for their presentation.

10. LECP Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee

Loretta McNicholas updated members on the work of the LECP Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group. She confirmed that they were continuing to work to move the Project to Phase II. Members were advised that they would be updated on the progress regularly during the year.

11. Review of Indicators driving the Pobal HP Deprivation Index 2016

Loretta McNicholas made a presentation to members setting out how the Deprivation Index Score is achieved and giving members a breakdown of the factors used in the calculation of same.

She advised members of the position of each Municipal District in the ranking out of 137 Local Authorities in the state under the Deprivation Index as follows:-

Letterkenny	79 th position
Donegal	120 th position
Inishowen	131 st position
Stranorlar	134 th position
Glenties	136 th position

Loretta provided members with statistics for each Municipal District under the various factors, i.e.:

- Population Change
- Age Dependency Ratios
- Lone Parent Ratio
- Education Ratio
- Social Class
- Unemployment
- Housing Tenure

Loretta proposed to conduct a quality of life study to find out what it is like to live in County Donegal. This survey would be conducted in each Municipal District annually and could be used to inform the LCDC Actions and proportionate responses to the outcome of the survey. She advised members that she would be happy to work with any of the members of the LCDC to devise a plan for the survey.

Members expressed their thanks to Loretta for her presentation with Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher, Susan McCauley, Peter Walker, and Máire Uí Mhaoláin speaking in support of the proposed survey.

On the proposal of Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher, seconded by Martin McBride, members agreed that a quality of life survey be carried out.

12. Healthy Ireland Fund Initiative – Progress Report

Eimear McDermott updated on the Healthy Ireland Fund Initiative and a report on same had been circulated with the Agenda.

Paddy Doherty confirmed to members that it is likely that there will be further funding under this scheme in 2018 and 2019. In this regard it was proposed to set up a sub committee of the LCDC to monitor progress and review any issues that may arise on the ten actions over which funding had been distributed as follows:-

Action	Project Implementer	Budget
Be Happy, Be Healthy	Foróige (CYPSC led project)	€14,000
Breakout LGBT	Donegal Youth Service (CYPSC led project)	€14,000
Young Carers	Donegal Youth Service (CYPSC led project)	€6,000
Getting the Basics Right -Fundamental Movement Skills for Children	Donegal Sports Partnership (CYPSC led project)	€10,000
MEET-Tackling Childhood Obesity	Letterkenny Youth & Family Service (CYPSC led project)	€16,000
Community Action on Alcohol	Alcohol Forum	€12,000
Community Engagement	Lifford Clonleigh Resource Centre	€8,000
Intercultural Community Engagement Project (ICE)	Donegal Intercultural Platform	€5,000
Social Inclusion Intergenerational Project	Donegal County Council	€10,000
Inclusive Outdoor Exercise Area (Bernard Mc Glinchey Town Park)	Donegal County Council	€43,000
	Total	€138,000

Members were advised that two representatives of the LCDC were required for the Sub Committee. Representation would also be sought from CYPSC and the HSE. Following a short discussion, it was agreed that Terms of Reference for the Sub Committee would be drawn up and brought to the next meeting of the LCDC. Representation on the Sub Committee would also be agreed at that meeting.

13. Peace IV Update

Paddy Doherty updated members on the Donegal Action Plan. He confirmed that funding of €4 million had been confirmed and that all necessary clarifications had been submitted in relation to the rebid for the balance of €1.5 million up to the end of January. Paddy further advised that draft tender documents had been prepared and would be brought to the Peace Partnership Meeting in early March. It is hoped that confirmation of the securing of the balance of funding of €1.5 million would be issued shortly. Paddy confirmed that it was intended to go to tender on at least three projects, one for each remaining quarter, in 2018.

14. LCDC Review

Liam Ward advised members that the National Review of LCDCs was ongoing. He confirmed that consultation with Chairpersons/Vice Chairpersons and Chief

Executives/Directors of Service had taken place. The feedback from these consultations will inform the review. He also confirmed that a questionnaire had issued to all LCDC Members. He advised that there was another Steering Group Meeting scheduled for 23rd February and the report on the Review was expected to be finalised by the end of March. An update on the Review would be presented at the next LCDC Meeting.

Paddy Doherty confirmed that the issue of the timing of funding streams was raised at the Chief Executives meeting and it is expected that these schemes will be released earlier in 2018.

Clr Martin McDermott reported to members on the Chairpersons meeting. He advised that there was a need to examine how LCDCs are branded and promoted within our own County. He stated that the LCDC needed to be at the forefront of allocation of funding to groups through LEADER etc. He advised that submissions would be sought from each LCDC for the new Programme.

Clr McDermott advised that the performance of PPN Structure was also discussed. He stated that it has been suggested that the Chair of the LCDC should attend the PPN County Meetings and the LCDC should be an integral part of the PPN structure. Clr McDermott said that there had not been enough PPN Meetings at MD level. The staffing level allocated by the Department for PPN Coordinators was raised by Clr Marie Therese Gallagher.

Following a discussion, Members agreed to invite Charles Sweeney, Social Inclusion Officer and Mary Clyde, PPN Co-Coordinator, to make a presentation to the next LCDC Meeting on their work on the ground.

Finally Paul Hannigan stated that he feels that there is a poor understanding generally on the ground of the LCDC and their role, and that the bureaucratic structure in place needs to be simplified at a national level.

15. Public Sector Equality & Human Rights Policy Statement

Members considered a report, circulated with the Agenda, by Martin McBride, in relation to the development of an Equality and Human Rights Policy Statement by Donegal LCDC.

On the proposal of Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Martin McBride, it was agreed to develop an Equality and Human Rights Policy Statement. Liam Ward confirmed that this would be brought back to the members when drafted.

16. Compliance with Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interest Forms

Members were reminded that the return date for submission of completed Compliance with Code of Conduct and Declaration of Interest Forms was 22nd February 2018.

This concluded the business of the meeting.