** **

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee**

**County House, Lifford, 2.00 pm on 16th July 2019**

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| **Members** | Clr Martin McDermott (Chair), Seamus Neely, Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, Clr Niamh Kennedy, Paul Hannigan, Anne McHugh, Susan McLaughlin, David Alcorn, Andrew Ward, Padraic Fingleton, Susan McCauley, Liam McElhinney, Aengus Kennedy, Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, Anne McAteer, Padraic Fingleton and James O Donnell |
| **Apologies** | Siobhan McLaughlin and Michael Tunney |
| **Chief Officer** |  |
| **Attending** | Liam Ward, Eileen Burgess, Seamus Canning, Adrienne Kelly, Kathleen Browne and Charlene Gillespie |

**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 18th June 2019 were considered and proposed by David Alcorn, seconded by James O Donnell, with no matters arising.

1. **Community Enhancement Programme 2019 – Men’s & Women’s Sheds**

Kathleen Browne informed members that, as previously advised additional ring fenced funding of €0.5m was allocated nationally to the Community Enhancement Programme for small capital grants for Men’s and Women’s Sheds. Correspondence has now been received confirming that Donegal LCDC have been allocated €28,796 for this Programme.

The Funding allocated is based on the number of Men’s Sheds affiliated to the Irish Men’s Shed’s Association in each area, the same method as the 2018 fund.

Men’s Sheds who are registered with the Irish Men’s Sheds Association are eligible to apply to the Programme. The Department have set out the criteria for eligibility for Women’s Sheds, as there is no equivalent national affiliation for them, and the application form contains a set of questions for Women’s Shed to complete to address these.

This criteria is as follows:-

* There must be an appropriate organisational structure to the Shed.
* The number of members of the group should be considered. If there are very few members then this should be considered along with their level of activity when deciding on eligibility.
* The group should demonstrate that their ethos consistent with the ethos of the Men’s Shed movement. Information on this is available on: <http://menssheds.ie/about-us/>
* If the Women’s group are affiliated with another parent association (which means they are not really a Shed), then they should not be eligible for this fund.

The funding is to be drawn down from each Local Authority by the Sheds by 31 December 2019.

Applications from Men’s Sheds for small grants to the main Community Enhancement Programme 2019 which were unsuccessful will automatically be included for consideration under this Scheme.

On the proposal of Clr Kennedy, seconded by James O Donnell, members agreed to

Note the Community Enhancement Programme.- Men’s and Women’s Sheds and to approve the amendment of the Application Form to address the requirement of Donegal County that groups to supply a Tax Registration/PPS Number before they can receive payment to meet Revenue regulations.

To set a closing date of 5pm on Thursday, 29th August be set for receipt of applications for this Programme.

To divide the funding equally between each eligible application received from an affiliated Men’s Sheds and Women’s Sheds who meet the criteria set down by the Department. They further agreed that one grant per eligible group be paid.

1. **Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme – Actions Showcase by DLDC**

Margaret Larkin and Louise Brogan joined the meeting and made another presentation in the ongoing programme of Showcase Presentations detailing the actions in the SICAP Annual Plans for Lots 33-2 and 33-3. Margaret Larkin gave a presentation on Actions 1.1 Engagle and Action 1.2 Participation. Louise Brogan gave a presentation on Actions 2.1 and 2.2 Lifelong learning.

Members thanked Margaret and Louise for attending and for the detailed and informative presentations.

1. **Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme – Annual Case Study DLDC**

Kathleen advised members that the Local Development Companies are required to submit the 2019 Case Studies by 4th October 2019.

The three core themes for Case Studies are:-

1.    Engagement Strategies with SICAP Target Groups/Communities

2.    Collaboration

3.    Goal One or Two Projects

Each LCDC and LDC must mutually agree one theme for each Lot for the annual Case Study.

On the proposal of Liam McElhinney, seconded by Paul Hannigan the LCDC agreed that Collaboration be selected as the theme for SICAP Annual Case Studies for Lots 33-1, 33-2 and 33-3.

1. **SICAP Mid Year Review Lot 33-1 Donegal Inishowen**

Kathleen Browne advised the members that the Mid Year Review of Lot 33-1 Inishowen had been completed. A report was circulated to all members outlining the process undertaken, any areas of concern as well as the recommendations of the Sub Committee.

Members were advised the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee had considered the the Mid Year Report 2019 for Lot 33-1 submitted by Shauna McCleanaghan, IDP and the Pobal Parallel Review at their meeting on 4th July.

She confirmed that IDP had achieved and exceed their KPI 1 and 2 Mid Year targets. Rationale provided by IDP in relation to over achievement of targets under a number of actions of their Annual Plan was accepted by the Sub Committee Members. Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements. No issues arose with the Lot Level Performance and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2019. The Pobal Parallel review was favourable and any issues raised had been addressed by IDP.

On the proposal of Clr Niamh Kennedy, seconded by Anne McAteer, members approved the Mid Term Review 2019 for Lot 33-1 and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €149,294.90 for the period 1st July 2019 to 30th September 2019 be released to Inishowen Development Partnership.

1. **SICAP Mid Year Review Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht**

Kathleen Browne advised the members that the Mid Year Review of Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht had been completed. A report was circulated to all members outlining the process undertaken, any areas of concern as well as the recommendations of the Sub Committee.

Members were advised the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee had considered the Mid Year Report 2019 for Lot 33-2 and the Pobal Parallel Review at their meeting on 4th July.

She confirmed that DLDC had achieved and exceed their KPI 1 and 2 Mid Year targets. Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements. No issues arose with the Lot Level Performance and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2019. The Pobal Parallel review was favourable however a number of queries were raised. As no personnel from DLDC were available to attend the SICAP Sub Committee Meeting on 4th July a detailed response/rationale to any issues raised in the Pobal Parallel Review was submitted. Members of the SICAP Sub Committee had considered this response and were happy to accept same.

On the proposal of Andrew Ward, seconded by James O Donnell, members approved the Mid Term Review 2019 for Lot 33-2 and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €87,604.54 for the period 1st July 2019 to 30th September 2019 be released to Donegal Local Development Company.

1. **SICAP - Mid Year Review Lot 33-3**

Kathleen Browne advised the members that the Mid Year Review of Lot 33-3 Donegal had been completed. A report was circulated to all members outlining the process undertaken, any areas of concern as well as the recommendations of the Sub Committee.

Members were advised the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee had considered the the Mid Year Report 2019 for Lot 33-3 and the Pobal Parallel Review at their meeting on 4th July.

She confirmed that DLDC had achieved and exceed their KPI 1 and 2 Mid Year targets. Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements. No issues arose with the Lot Level Performance and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2019. The Pobal Parallel review was favourable however a number of queries were raised. As no personnel from DLDC were available to attend the SICAP Sub Committee Meeting on 4th July a detailed response/rationale to any issues raised in the Pobal Parallel Review was submitted. Members of the SICAP Sub Committee had considered this response and were happy to accept same.

On the proposal of Clr Niamh Kennedy, seconded by Susan McLaughlin, members approved the Mid Term Review 2019 for Lot 33-3 and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €262,863.56 for the period 1st July 2019 to 30th September 2019 be released to Donegal Local Development Company.

1. **Healthy Ireland Update**

Seamus Canning updated the members on the current status of the Healthy Ireland Fund applications as follows:-

The Department of Health has approved a third round of funding for the Healthy Ireland Fund (HIF). 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.

**What is new for HIF for Round 3?**

* Up to two years funding will be allocated to each LCDC/CYPSC.
* A completed Programme of Work must be submitted to Pobal by email between Monday 1st July and Friday 20th September 2019.
* Each action must be aligned to one of the six thematic areas i.e. Physical Activity, Mental Health, Nutrition, Sexual Health, Tobacco and Alcohol, Spaces and Places for Health and Wellbeing.
* The minimum budget for each action is €7,500 and the maximum number of actions that can be delivered is five (5) for a single submission or ten (10) for a joint submission.
* Grantees must have written agreements in place with each delivery partner for each action.
* Grantees can only distribute funding to one partner per action.

**The specific objectives for Round 3 of the Healthy Ireland Fund are:**

1. To raise awareness of, and support for, Healthy Ireland through the funding of community-based and national health promotion activities.
2. To facilitate and resource cross-sectoral and partnership approaches that promote health and well-being.
3. To resource the development and implementation of locally-led, cross-sectoral strategies promoting health and wellbeing.
4. To add value to existing health promotion initiatives through the provision of Healthy Ireland resources.
5. To support and implement actions which will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the most disadvantaged groups and areas and those experiencing significant health inequalities.

**Target Groups**

Actions supported by HIF with a focus on supporting the health and wellbeing of the population in general are eligible. However, the following are the priority target groups for this round of funding:

• Disadvantaged communities

• Disadvantaged men and women

• Disadvantaged families, including one parent families

• Children and young people

• People with disabilities, including people mental health issues

• Unemployed young people and adults

• Traveller and Roma communities

• New communities, asylum seekers and refugees

• LGBTI

• Homeless people

• Older people

• People with chronic health conditions

**Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator**

Each LCDC is required to employ a Healthy County Co-ordinator for the duration of the grant.

The role of the Healthy County Co-ordinator must focus on the following key areas:

* Engagement with internal local authority and external stakeholders to ensure that the Healthy Ireland agenda is taken into consideration in the planning, design and implementation of local programmes/initiatives;
* Lead the implementation of Healthy Ireland County/City strategies;
* Co-ordinate and have oversight of the approved Programme of Work for Round 3 in the catchment area, including co-ordination, liaison with action partners;
* Supporting overall financial/non-financial monitoring and reporting to Pobal in a timely manner;
* Engage with partners and ensure they are aware of their reporting requirements;
* Liaison with the relevant CYPSC Co-ordinator to ensure overall coherence of all HIF funded actions in the county.

**Grant**

Up to €280,000 is available for the two year programme for a joint LCDC / CYPSC application. This consists of €155,000 in Year 1 and €125,000 in Year 2.

1. **AOB**

**Arrival of Asylum Seekers to County**

Pauric Fingleton queried if any member had received information in relation to the Asylum Seekers who had been placed in accommodation in Rathmullan. None of the members representing state bodies had received any information or communication in relation to their arrival.

**SICAP Distance Travelled Tool**

Kathleen Browne updated members on the progress in the development of a Distance Travelled Tool by the Department of Rural & Community Development and Pobal. She advised that this tool will measure the successes accrued in areas relating to soft outcomes for SICAP Clients and will be a useful mechanism for the LCDC to measure the ‘qualitative’ element of SICAP delivery.

It is hoped that the tool will be rolled out nationally in 2020.

**LEADER Funding**

Clr Martin McDermott advised members that it was important to encourage as many groups as possible to apply for the available LEADER Funding available before the end of the year to ensure that monies allocated to the County are spent and to leave the County in a good position to avail of any additional funds that become available.

**End of term for PPN Representatives**

Clr Martin McDermott advised those present that 3 PPN representatives on the LCDC had served the maximum term of three years. He thanked Susan McCauley, Susan McLaughlin and Martin McBride for the work and time they had given the LCDC over the term of their membership and for their service.

1. **Next Meeting**

Members were advised that the next meeting of the LCDC would be held at 2pm on 17th September 2019.

This concluded the business of the meeting.