



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

Online via Microsoft Teams

Dé hAoine, 24ú Bealtaine 2024 @ 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams

Friday 24th May 2024 @ 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Cllr. Karey McHugh	Galway County Council (Chair)
Cllr Declan Geraghty	Galway County Council
Cllr David Collins	Galway County Council
Marian Spellman	Trade Union Representative
Paul Carey	Construction/Business Representative
Cllr Tim Broderick	Galway County Council
Cllr. Shane Curley	Galway County Council

Apologies:

Dan Dowling	Community Representative
Dave Hickey	Business Representative
Cllr. Gerry Finnerty	Galway County Council

Present:

Liam Hanrahan	Galway County Council
Jacqueline Carroll	Galway County Council
Kieran Coyne	Galway County Council
John Neary	Galway County Council
Maria Hall	Hub Planning

Cllr. McHugh welcomed all present and thanked Stephen McHugh for officiating in her absence while on maternity leave.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13th December, 2023 were proposed by Cllr Declan Geraghty and seconded by Paul Carey.

There were no matters arising.

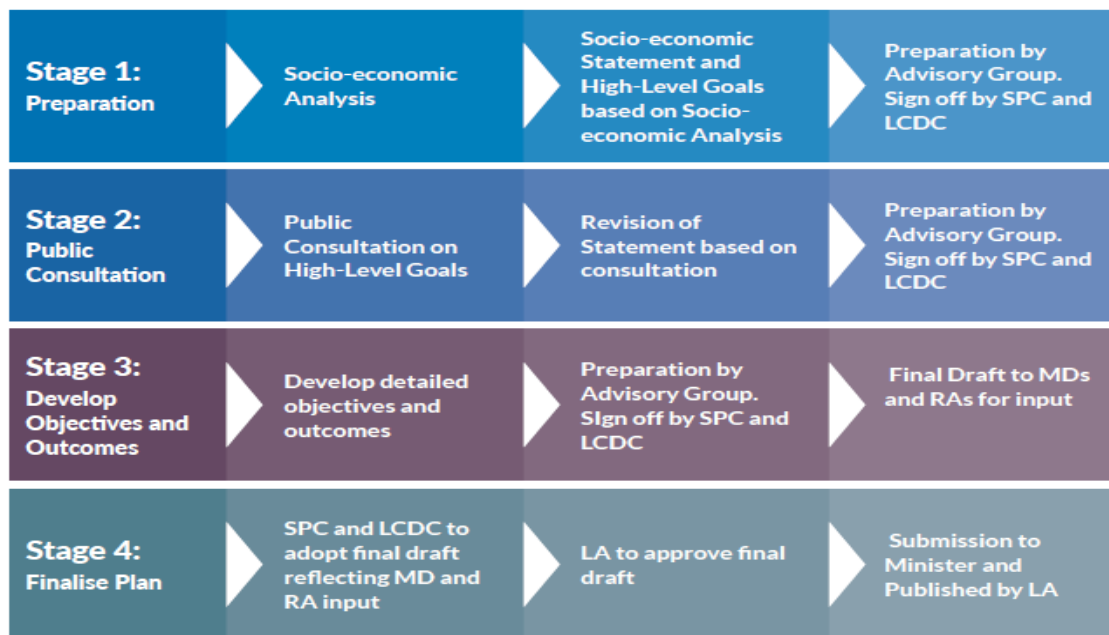
- **LECP – Maria Hall of Hub Planning to give an overview/update on the progress of the LECP.**

Cllr. McHugh welcomed Maria Hall to the meeting and asked her to update on the progress of LECP.

Kieran Coyne gave a brief overview of process involved in Hub planning winning contract and endorsed the LECP with high level goals.

Maria Hall proceeded to give an in-depth update on the progress of the LECP.

Ms Hall gave a brief overview of each of the stages.



Cllr. Mc Hugh thanked Maria for her in depth report with Q& A opened to the group.

Mr Geraghty thanked Maria Hall for the excellent presentation and queried why Health & Safety was a key goal as there are more important issues. He was disappointed to see areas not included as they were not near libraries, and it is important to reach out to these areas.

Maria Hall responded with the inclusion of Pop-up events to cover such areas.

Kieran Coyne said that not all libraries were available and therefore the on-street engagement for these areas was welcomed.

Maria Hall responded by saying that they will reach as many people in as many areas as possible by all modes of engagement.

Cllr. Tim Broderick raised a query in relation to Goal 1 whereby he highlighted the concerns of local people regarding the use of drugs in the community and regarding Goal 4 he highlighted that the lack of wastewater treatment plants would make it difficult to achieve this goal. Cllr Broderick queried if it would be difficult to deliver on Goal 4 in Northeast Galway.

Maria Hall responded by outlining that LECP is not a land use plan, and they are working to a predetermined set of guidelines. It is hoped to achieve the aspirations of the public at ground level which will be achieved through high level goals.

Cllr. McHugh spoke about the facilities in Tuam, the outlining areas and the importance of getting as many people engaged as possible and that the outlining areas are not forgotten.

Maria Hall responded by saying that they are holding a number of events both in person and online in all areas of the county with the hope to include as many as possible in the process. It is the express hope of Maria Hall that all involved in this SPC will assist in getting the word out to as many as possible in the various communities. There will be an update at a later date with the results of the consultation.

Liam Hanrahan responded on both Declan's & Tim's point and outlined that the LECP will be based on the set of guidelines outlined by the Department to which all LECPs are aligned.

Cllr. Broderick queried if Galway county could be municipal district specific as it is a county that is large and diverse and what is an issue in one part of the county may not be in another part and it is important to be innovative in looking at delivery.

Maria Hall responded by stating that results will be fed down to municipal district and aspirations across all districts will be very different. It will be important to look at the use of language to allow some flexibility.

- **Tourism Overview – John Neary Tourism Officer to give an overview/update on Tourism.**

John Neary gave an overview of current projects ongoing in Tourism department.

- Applications made by GCC to the Failte Ireland Just Transition Fund
- JTF Activator appointed
- Galway County Council tourism office working with the Wild Atlantic Way team in Failte Ireland on the implementation of the Destination Development Plan for Connemara and the Islands
- Galway County Council tourism office engaging with Failte Ireland Hidden Hartland team on the development of a new DEDP for East Galway.
- Due Diligence process underway on the transfer of ownership of Dunguaire Castle
- Destination Town project in Clifden nearing completion

- **A.O.B**

Cllr McHugh thanked all the members for their involvement in the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC and thanked them for all their work.

The meeting concluded