

Miontuairiscí ó Chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil na Gaillimhe a tionóladh ar De Máirt, 9ú Iúil 2019, ag 6.30 p.m.

Minutes of Galway County Local Community Development Committee held on Tuesday, 9th July 2019, at 6.30 p.m.

Present:

Dan Dowling, PPN Community (Vice-Chairperson)	Community
Terry Keenan, FORUM Connemara Ltd	Community
Seán Ó Coistealbha, PPN Community	Community
Margaret Sheehan, PPN Environment	Community
Kathleen Aspel Mortimer, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Martin Ward, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Enda Conneely, Comhar na nOileán Teo	Community
Delia Colahan, Galway Rural Development	Community
Cllr. Noel Thomas, LA Member	Public
Cllr. Karey McHugh Farag, LA Member	Public
Cllr. Padraig Mac An Iomaire, LA Member	Public
Mícheál O hÉanaigh, Údarás na Gaeltachta	Public
Donal Walsh, GRETB	Public
Breda Fox, Head of Local Enterprise	Public

Apologies:

Tom Turley, IFA (Chairperson)	Community
Conor O'Dowd, Galway Chamber	Community
Eoin Brown, Department of Social Protection	Public
Michael Keady, HSE West	Public
Kevin Kelly, Interim Chief Executive	Public

Also in Attendance:

Alan Farrell, Chief Officer LCDC
 Mary McGann, Galway County Council.
 Aoibheann McCann, Galway Rural Development.

In the absence of T. Turley, Chairperson, the meeting was chaired by D. Dowling, Vice-Chairperson. At the outset, D. Dowling welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a special welcome to Cllr. Karey McHugh who was attending her first LCDC meeting.

1. Miontuairiscí ó chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil (LCDC) a tionóladh an 12ú Meitheamh 2019

Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 12th June 2019

D. Dowling asked if there were any items arising from the Minutes and T. Keenan stated that he wished to clarify that the LEADER Co-Operation Budget was €200,000 per project per LAG, with a total national allocation of €10m. In response to a query from S. O’Coistealbha regarding an update from Galway Rural Development on LEADER funding, D. Colohan stated that she was unable to attend the previous meeting but an update would be circulated to the Members in due course.

On the **PROPOSAL** of M. Sheahan, **SECONDED** by S. O’Coistealbha, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th June were **APPROVED**.

2. Coimhlint Leasa a Fhógairt

Declarations regarding Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Athbhreithniú Lártearma SICAP

Mid-Term Review of SICAP

A McCann, Galway Rural Development, outlined progress to date on the Annual Plan for 2019. She outlined that under Goal 1 – Local Community Groups (LCG’s), there were interventions with 99 LCG’s which represented 108% of the annual target. These Groups included Men’s Sheds, Childcare Groups, and other local organisations who benefitted from training such as Manual Handling, Child Protection, Social Media, AED/Defibrillator Training. GRD processed grants to 32 LCG’s totalling €38,721, in addition to facilitating other Groups by loaning IT Equipment for training purposes. She advised that a Needs Analysis was planned to take place in Portumna, Gort and Cleggan. In addition, 21 Social Enterprises were registered with the SICAP Provider and they availed of training such as Digital Training, Business Planning and FAR (First Aid Response), and GRD processed 5 grants totalling €6,034 for Social Enterprises. In relation to Goal 2 – Individuals, she outlined that full-time Outreach Clinics were in 5 locations where there was ongoing demand, and part-time clinics operated in other areas. Interventions were held with 681 individuals which represented 57% of the annual target. These involved areas such as Digital Learning, IT for Farmers, Community Education Programmes such as Cookery, Hairdressing, Upcycling, DIY, Sewing, which were run in partnership with other organisations. Life-long learning skills were the biggest spend area in individual grants with 24 grants processed totalling €10,029. Courses were delivered for specific target groups, such as a Study Skills Booklet and Homework/Breakfast Clubs for Young People, training in Interview Skills, SafePass, and circulation of a weekly Jobs Bulletin for those seeking employment. A McCann also advised the Members that Galway Rural Development had taken part in a trial of a national Distance Travelled Tool which was a more holistic approach to measuring outcomes.

Cllr. N. Thomas, Chair of the SICAP Sub-Committee thanked A. McCann for the presentation and confirmed the SICAP Sub-Committee had met on 2nd July and completed a detailed review of the Mid-Year Checklist, including financial and non-financial checks. In light of the fact that the KPI1 target had already been met at this stage of the year, and KPI2 was over 50% achieved, he stated that the Sub-Committee were very satisfied with the roll-out of the programme and believed GRD were doing a very good job.

M. Sheehan requested an emphasis on Biodiversity Training for Community Groups to reflect national policy and to assist Community Groups in moving towards the use of organic or natural pesticides. This was reiterated by N. Thomas who stated that the creation of a Pollinator Plan for an area can also save money in the long-term, and M. Ward suggested a focus on Beekeeping courses to encourage other pollinator-friendly measures. D. Colohan replied stating that quotations have been sought under LEADER for Biodiversity measures for communities and schools.

T. Keenan referred to the Maam Valley rural isolation consultation event and stressed the importance of collaborating with all local Groups and D. Colohan advised that this would be taken on board for future events, including ensuring that the HSE / Consultants had cognisance of same.

Cllr. K. McHugh Farag stated that it was great to see the breadth of work and collaboration within SICAP and welcomed the Disability Awareness Day and the DS Intervention Programme which was operated as a pilot project. S. O'Coistealbha stated that the DS Intervention was an excellent model to roll-out on a wider scale to promote employment and educational opportunities. B. Fox also complimented GRD on the range of services provided within the Programme.

D. Colohan acknowledged the work of the GRD staff, and the constructive feedback from both the Sub-Committee and LCDC. She also advised the Members that an Independent Audit had been carried out by staff of the County Council, and complimented them on their thorough and professional approach.

On the **PROPOSAL** of B. Fox, **SECONDED** by M. Ward, the Mid-Year Performance Review was **APPROVED**.

4. An Chár um Fheabhsú an Phobail 2019 – Ceadaithe

Community Enhancement Programme 2019 – Approvals

M. McGann outlined the allocations to Galway County LCDC for the Community Enhancement Programme 2019, namely €143,401 for general grants and €22,251 ring-fenced for Men's/Women's Sheds. She advised that the total amount sought in the applications received was over €1.1m, therefore, it was necessary to have a robust assessment process to ensure the best projects were put forward for funding, while having regard to relative disadvantage and geographical spread. As making the best use of available resources and achieving value for money in local programmes was one of the guiding principles for LCDC's, consultations took place with other public and private funding agencies as follows:

Public: HSE, GRET, Udaras na Gaeltachta
Private: GRD, FORUM.

In relation to small grants, she advised that 31 applications were proposed for funding under the allocation of €38,401, however, defibrillators were excluded from this category as the assessment process showed that there would be county-wide benefit in funding them on a planned basis under LEADER Co-Operation funding. She advised that 7 medium-scale grants of €15,000 each were approved to carry out projects such as renovation of community buildings and improving access to community facilities, and there was also an emphasis on providing match-funding to facilitate Groups in applying for larger-scale funding sources. She advised that a further 21 projects were placed on a back-up list in case of a further allocation by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Cllr. N. Thomas stated that it was a very difficult reduction to be achieved in the assessment process and stated that the provision of match-funding for LEADER projects was very valuable. In relation to future funding for defibrillators, he stated that priority should be given to areas which were registered as Community First Responders. B. Fox stated that it was best practice to have a back-up list and would avoid further administration if a second round of funding was received. D. Colohan acknowledged the amount of work which was involved in the assessment process.

On the **PROPOSAL** of N. Thomas, **SECONDED** by K. McHugh, the allocations under the Community Enhancement Programme 2019 were **APPROVED**.

5. Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile

Date for next meeting –

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 11th September 2019 at 10.30 a.m.

7. Aon ghnó eile

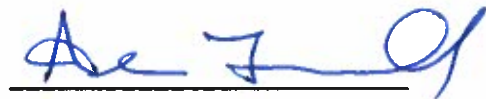
Any other business

A Mallaghan advised the Members that notification had been received of an allocation of €184,000 to Galway County LCDC for Healthy Ireland Round 3, which was a 2-year Programme which officially started on 1st July 2019. She advised that the deadline for submission of proposals to Pobal was 20th September 2019 and the Health & Wellbeing Sub-Committee would be meeting in September to agree proposals for submission.



T. Turley, Chairperson

Date: 11/9/19



A. Farrell, Chief Officer

Date: 11-09-2019