

Minutes of Meeting of Cavan Local Community Development Committee

Date: 29th October 2020

Time: 3.30pm

Location: Online via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Statutory

Cllr T.P. O'Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick (Elected Member), Mr Brendan Jennings (Director of Services, CCC), Ms Marcella Rudden (LEO), Mr John Kearney (CMETB).

Private Sector Interests

Mr Tírloch O'Brien (Environmental Interests), Mr Jim Maguire (Cavan County Local Development Company), Charlie Smyth (Social Inclusion Interests), Ms Bridget Boyle (Community & Voluntary Interests), Ms Ms Ada Vance (Women's Interests), Mr Seamus McGrath (Disability Interests), Ms. Catherine McCollum (Agricultural & Farming Interests),

Apologies:

Mr Tom Brady (Cavan Chamber), Ms Aisling Tobin (Youth Issues)

In attendance:

Mr John Donohoe (Chief Officer), Ms Angela Fitzpatrick (Cavan County Council), Mr Terry Hyland (CEO, Cavan County Local Development), Ms Ann Flynn (Cavan County Council)

The Chair (Mr Brendan Jennings) opened the meeting.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were proposed by Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Cllr. T.P. O'Reilly Marcella Rudden.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Conflicts of Interest

The Chair reminded members of their conflict of interest's responsibilities.

4. LECP Mid-Year Review

Chief Officer, John Donohoe thanked all the agencies leading actions for their updates and submissions for the LECP Mid-Year Review particularly in such a difficult and challenging year due to Covid19. He said the Mid-Year Review was circulated to everyone by email prior to the meeting and he welcomed any questions or comments from the members on the report.

5. SICAP Mid- Year Review

The Chair stated that the SICAP Mid-Year Review was circulated to all members prior to meeting by email and invited Mr Terry Hyland, CCLD to speak on the mid-year review process.

Terry informed the members that in light of the impact of Covid19, the SICAP mid-year review process was replaced by a mid-year check.

Terry stated that there was an over achievement on the key performance indicators (KPIs) in the first 6 months due to a busy first quarter with community development activity with groups. In respect of KPI 1, the annual target was 42, at mid-year the actual output was 29. He had expected 100% achievement by end of year but now with the Level 5 restrictions, this might not be achieved.

The actual achievement for the KPI 2 was 48% at mid-year stage with engagement with 251 individuals (target 520). There was a lot of varied activity in the first quarter before Covid lockdown. Supports were provided to individuals who were in need of assistance during the lockdown across the county, an example of this is the work with the food banks, which was very successful all over the County. Work was also undertaken with individuals who were referred from the Community Call helpline.

In respect of KPI 2 the target was 18%, actual was 9.81% at mid year stage. Supports were provided to individuals across the county who were in need of assistance during lockdown such as food and other provisions due to job losses.

Terry Hyland pointed out that the lockdown caused a lot of challenges, particularly as it was not possible to have face to face interaction which is needed in most cases, but particularly with hard to reach disadvantaged groups. Furthermore training couldn't take place, unemployment increased, lack of transport became a real issue and clients were unable to use public transport.

Terry stated that CCLD hopes to achieve the set annual targets but this is dependent on further lockdowns. He said the SICAP Development Team hopes to achieve between 80% to 100% on the target to work with individuals from disadvantaged areas and to achieve 95% -100% spend before year end.

In relation to how the LCDC and the Department can and have supported SICAP, Terry said the LCDC have always been very supportive of SICAP and he was delighted with the flexibility especially during the challenges of Covid19 from Pobal and DRCD. Terry Hyland pointed out that he hadn't anticipated a second lockdown, and these targets will have to be reviewed again. There will be challenges for LDC's in meeting their programme targets by year end due to the impact of Covid-19.

The Chief Officer, John Donohoe added that the mid-year check was discussed at the Pobal SICAP engagement meeting on 22nd October 2020 and Pobal has no issues to raise and were satisfied with progress to date on achieving targets.

There were no queries on the proposed recommendation of the approval of the SICAP mid -year review and the review was proposed for approval by Ms Mary Rose Smith and seconded by Cllr. T.P. O'Reilly

i) Agree Flexibility required for 2020 target

Terry explained that Pobal have requested that 2020 targets be reviewed taking into consideration the impact of Covid19 and the level of target achievement at the end of September 2020. Terry presented the SICAP Lot Summary report (as at 30th September 2020) which was circulated to all members by email prior to the meeting. Terry stated that the LDC achieved 90% of their targets under Goal 1, working with the community groups. Terry said they have awarded 8 SICAP grants with total value of €8,321 and 125 interventions have been completed and 3 social enterprises have

been supported within the first 8 months of the year. Under Goal 2, working with individuals, the LDC have engaged with 441 individuals out of 520, 85% target achieved. 89% are newly registered individuals.

Terry Hyland stated that based on the Lot Summary and mid-year review and the impact of a second lockdown, there is a possibility that the targets set out in the annual plan will not be achieved. He explained that the LDC require LCDC approval to reduce the annual targets. The LDC proposed a reduction in targets as follows:

KPI1 – (community groups) proposed reduction from 42 to 40 groups.

KPI 2 – (individuals) proposed reduction from 520 to 470 individuals.

The Chief Officer stated that this was also discussed at the Pobal SICAP Engagement meeting. Pobal and the Department have recognised the challenges nationally and in light of this have requested that targets be reviewed.

There were no queries on the proposed recommendation to agree flexibility for 2020 targets. Approval for the flexibility for 2020 target was proposed by Bridget Boyle and seconded by Cllr. Clifford Kelly.

ii) Agree achievable targets for 2021 that can be recommended to DRCD/Pobal.

Terry stated that the targets for 2021 need to be reduced as Covid19 will continue to impact on activity. Terry explained that the DEASP also have plans to set up a Local Employment Service in Cavan. This service will provide supports to the unemployed and therefore reduce the demand for unemployment supports provided by SICAP. As a result of this the LDC proposed the following targets for 2021:

KPI 1 (Community Groups) = 40 (42 in 2020: 5% reduction)

KPI 2 (Individuals) = 420 (520 in 2020: 19% reduction)

Approval for achievable targets for 2021 was proposed by Ada Vance and seconded by Cllr. T.P. O'Reilly.

iii) Agree an Emerging Needs Group (currently people experiencing domestic violence)

Terry stated that the issue of domestic violence was discussed at the SICAP monitoring subgroup meeting. He pointed out there has been an increase in domestic violence nationally since the lockdown in March. The SICAP team are actively working with The Cavan Centre to see if their facility can be used as temporary accommodation for women and children feeling domestic abuse. They are also working with the two FRC's, Tearmann and the Social Worker from the Council to see how this can be achieved. SICAP have made referrals to Tearmann during Covid19. They are also working with the 4C's providing information in multiple languages. Terry explained that given the level of activity in this area, the LDC would like to continue with domestic violence as the emerging needs category for 2021.

The Chief Officer said that the SICAP monitoring sub-committee agreed on the need to continue to focus on this through SICAP. It was the view of the sub-committee that work is needed in this area and that work should continue with the current emerging needs category for 2021. This was agreed on the proposal of Ms Mary Rose Smith and seconded by Ms Ada Vance.

6. Approval of Community Enhancement Programme Grants – Phase 2

The Chief Officer stated that an additional €5 million was allocated nationally under the Community Enhancement Programme Grants Scheme towards the maintenance, improvement and upkeep of community centres and community buildings or similar work.

Cavan County Council was allocated €120,000 and the deadline for these grant applications was 9th October 2020.

John presented the grant applications received with a recommendation arising from the internal assessment of same. Grants were presented under each of the Municipal districts, with a sub-total of € 40,000 awarded to each Municipal District.

There were no queries on the proposed recommendation of the Community Enhancement Community Grants – phase 2 for the Ballyjamesduff Municipal District. Approval was proposed by Cllr. TP O'Reilly and seconded by Ms Carmel Denning.

There were no queries on the proposed recommendation of the Community Enhancement Community Grants – phase 2 for the Cavan / Belturbet Municipal District. Approval was proposed by Ms Mary Rose and seconded by Ms Marcella Rudden.

There were no queries on the proposed recommendation of the Community Enhancement Community Grants – phase 2 for the Bailieborough / Cootehill Municipal District.

Under conflict of interests, Cllr. Clifford Kelly declared he has an association with one of the grant recipients. Approval was proposed by Cllr. Clifford Kelly and seconded by Ms Bridget Boyle.

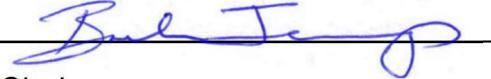
The Chief Officer stated that he would send out a copy of the list of CEP grants to all members by email.

7. AOB

Nothing issues raised.

Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 26th November 2020 at 3.30pm.

Signed: 
Chairman

Date: 26th November 2020