



***Minutes of Galway City Local Community Development Committee
Meeting held on 12th February 2020 in the Council Chamber, Galway City
Council at 3.00pm***

Present:

Mr. Terrence McDonough, Galway City Community Network
Mr. Tom Connell, Galway City Council
Cllr. Owen Hanley, Galway City Council
Cllr. Martina O Connor, Galway City Council
Mr. Declan Brassil, Galway City Partnership
Mr. James Coyne, Galway City Community Network
Mr. Niall Ó Brolcháin, Galway City Community Network
Ms. Elaine Harvey, Trade Union Pillar
Ms. Breda Fox, Local Enterprise Office
Ms. Anne O' Neill, Health Service Executive West
Ms. Eithne Ní Dhonnachadha, Galway and Roscommon ETB
Ms. Maria Molloy, Galway City Community Network
Ms. Antoinette Ryan, Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection

Apologies:

Ms. Margaret O'Riada, Galway City Community Network
Ms. Caroline Quirke, Galway City Council

In attendance:

Ms. Caitriona Morgan, Chief Officer, Galway City LCDC
Ms. Theresa Donohue, Galway City Council
Ms. Angela Breslin, Galway City Council
Mr. Niall Crowley, Value Labs

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Terrence McDonough, Chairperson welcomed all members to the meeting. He welcomed Mr. Niall Crowley from Value Labs noting that he will be presenting the draft implementation plan for the Galway City LECP 2020-2021 as circulated. The apologies for the meeting were noted as per above.

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the Galway City LCDC meeting held on 11th December 2019

Under Matters Arising, Mr. Niall Ó Brolcháin noted that a Climate Adaptation Strategy / Plan should be broader in order to encompass the whole community to ensure a climate resilient Galway City.

Ms. Caitriona Morgan, Chief Officer thanked the LCDC members who attended and participated in the recent Galway City LCDC event 'Enhancing Public Services - The Potential of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty' which was held in the Harbour Hotel on 31st January 2020. She noted that the feedback from the event was very positive, with a high attendance on the day. She further referred to the Galway City LCDC Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty Implementation Manual which was launched at the event, and circulated to all at the meeting.

The minutes of the Meeting held on 11th December 2019 were

Proposed: Cllr. Owen Hanley

Seconded: Cllr. Martina O'Connor

And agreed by the members present

3. Draft Implementation Plan for Galway City LECP 2020-2021

Ms. Theresa Donohue gave a verbal update on the work done on this item since the last meeting of Galway City LCDC. She advised that the final thematic workshop was held on 12th December 2019 with approximately 40 people attending. Thereafter Niall Crowley prepared a draft implementation plan which was circulated to the LCDC Social Inclusion Group for their workshop, which was held on 16th January 2020. As agreed an updated draft implementation plan was then circulated to the LECP Steering Group for their discussion and review at their meeting which was held on 28th January 2020, and following their approval the onward circulation to the LCDC in advance of this meeting.

Mr. Niall Crowley then presented the draft implementation plan for Galway City LECP 2020-2021, as circulated again speaking on the preparation, participative process from across the sectors, policy developments etc. before going through the detail on the 9 flagship initiatives and 10 seed initiatives as contained within. He also spoke on the implementation process as outlined.

A discussion took place around other groups and agencies committing to the plan and meeting with the various groups to feed into the plan. Niall Crowley noted that there had been very positive engagement and the next stage is to re-engage with the various groups and agencies as part of the implementation stage. Following some queries which were addressed the adoption of the implementation plan for Galway City LECP 2020-2021 was

Proposed: Mr. James Coyne

Seconded: Ms. Elaine Harvey

And agreed by the members present.

4. Approval of SICAP Annual Plan 2020 & SICAP Annual Progress Report 2019

Ms. Caitriona Morgan, Chief Officer outlined the process the LCDC is required to follow, in line with Pobal guidance, noting in particular their role in relation to reviewing and approving the SICAP Annual Plan 2020 and the SICAP Annual Progress Report 2019. She reminded the members on the SICAP budget for 2020, in line with the increase to €668,942. She referred to the guidance document and checklist from Pobal, as previously circulated noting the timeframe. She reminded members on the process that follows, in line with conflict of interest and also spoke about the inclusion of the video case study as part of the process.

Mr. Declan Brassil gave an overview of the SICAP Annual Progress Report 2019 as circulated. In particular he referenced the groups, many of which were new groups, programmes and beneficiaries who directly benefited from the programme in line with the outcomes and performance indicators. He spoke about the high level of success rate and the positive benefit and impact the programme had on many individuals, acknowledging the work and funding from the LCDC in this regard.

In relation to the SICAP Annual Plan 2020 he advised members that a continuity will continue in terms of programmes, staffing etc. as this was working very well in the areas that needed it most. In addition the collaborative approach will continue, noting in particular the support needed from the LCDC partner organisations in addition to others. He referred to a previous issue with regards notional costs as these are specifically disallowed under this programme, in addition to the apportionment policy noting that recommendations had been addressed and agreed with the Chief Officer and with the GRETB which were both welcomed.

The case study in video format, which was selected in line with a Goal 1 project to highlight work undertaken during 2019 with the 'Access for All' group was played for the members, showing very clearly the specific programme goal and target outcomes, in addition to highlighting the very important work of this group, lessons learned and what's next. The members commended the video as very effective, creating a greater awareness of what work the group is doing, in line with the issues faced. Ms. Caitriona Morgan noted that there was a link to the video and work of the group included in the draft LCDC Annual Report 2019 which would be circulated to all Elected Members once adopted by the LCDC.

At this stage the following members declared a Conflict of Interest, and left the meeting for the remainder of the item.

- Conflict of Interest: Mr. Declan Brassil and Ms. Elaine Harvey

Mr. Tom Connell, on behalf of the LCDC SICAP Sub-group gave a verbal report to the members present, following a meeting held on 29th January 2020 in line with the guidance issued by Pobal. He noted that in relation to the SICAP Annual Plan 2020, in particular the 5 sections that were reviewed and completed that all was in order with these. Overall the actions included were satisfactory and noted as a priority for the Galway City area with KPI targets as agreed to be achieved. It was further noted that the actions will support the priorities of the LECP noting that these will be reviewed again as part of the mid-year review in line with the implementation plan for the LECP. He advised that the completed checklist was submitted to Pobal as required, who in turn carried out their high-level review, to ensure compliance with the programme requirements in particular. The feedback received from Pobal was very positive, with no issues identified.

In relation to the SICAP Annual Progress Report 2019, in line with the Pobal review checklist all sections were reviewed, discussed and completed with some comments noted which were raised by the Chief Officer with Galway City Partnership and responded to satisfactorily. Again he advised that the completed checklist was submitted to Pobal as required, who in turn carried out their high-level review, to ensure compliance with the programme requirements in particular. The feedback received from Pobal was very positive, with no issues identified. Overall in line with the above he advised that it is the recommendation of the LCDC SICAP Sub-group that the SICAP Annual Plan 2020 and SICAP Annual Progress Report 2019 is approved by the LCDC.

The SICAP Annual Plan 2020 was approved as follows:

Proposed: Ms. Anne O'Neill

Seconded: Cllr. Martina O'Connor

And agreed by the members present.

The SICAP Annual Progress Report 2019 was approved as follows:

Proposed: Ms. Maria Molloy

Seconded: Ms. Eithne Ní Dhonnachadha

And agreed by the members present.

5. Galway City LCDC Annual Report 2019

Ms. Caitriona Morgan, Chief Officer presented to the members the outline of the draft LCDC Annual Report 2019, thanking those members for their inputs and feedback on same in advance of the meeting. She noted in particular the purpose of the annual report and the timeframe for its preparation, adoption and onward submission to Galway City Council, no later than 31st March each year in respect of the performance of its functions in the previous calendar year. Following some questions and comments from the members the draft Galway City LCDC Annual Report 2019 was adopted as follows:

Proposed: Ms. Elaine Harvey

Seconded: Mr. Niall O’Brolchain

And agreed by the members present.

6. Healthy Ireland Round 3 Funding & Programme of Work

Ms. Anne O’Neill gave an update to the LCDC members on behalf of the Healthy Galway City Steering Committee, as circulated. She advised that the Committee had met the previous week, noting in particular the number of training courses / programmes that had commenced in the community, in addition to a number more planned for delivery. She highlighted the number and range of community resource centres and organisations working with disadvantaged communities on confirmed activity programmes under Action 2. She further noted that further work was being done following the stakeholder communications workshop which was held on 15th January 2020 with good attendance and engagement by all. A number of members complimented the work being done under Healthy Galway and pointed out the importance of supporting and funding this work. Ms. Eithne Ní Dhonnachadha spoke on the Planet Youth initiative, currently being implemented through the Western Region Drugs & Alcohol Taskforce suggesting a presentation on this at a future meeting.

7. Any Other Business

Ms. Caitriona Morgan reminded members that the closing date for the Social Enterprise Development Fund is 6th March 2020. She also advised members that the Planet Youth Strategy and Implementation Framework was recently launched by President Michael D Higgins on 5th February 2020. She reminded members that the Galway City Joint Policing Committee was holding a Public Meeting in the Knocknacarra Community Centre on 25th February 2020 starting at 7.00pm.

Ms. Theresa Donohue reminded members about the nominations for the Mayors Awards, which was taking place on 21st April 2020 in the Galmont Hotel, noting that nominations can be submitted online this year. The closing date is Friday 6th March 2020 at 4.00pm.

Ms. Breda Fox advised members that Local Enterprise Week 2020 was taking place from 2nd to 6th March 2020 with a number and range of events, workshops taking place across the City and County.

Mr. Niall O’Brolchain noted that with the new government we need to be mindful of plans which may be effected by a new government.

Mr. Terrence McDonough advised members that the next meeting of the Galway City LCDC is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 8th April 2020 at 3.00pm.

The meeting concluded.