

**Minutes of the Wexford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
meeting**

**Tuesday, 23rd April 2024 10:00am
Block A Training Room & MS Teams**

Attendance:

In the Chair:

Cllr. Aidan Browne - (Public Sector)

LCDC Members:

Cllr. Lisa McDonald (Public Sector)
Mr. Eddie Taaffe, Interim Chief Executive (Public Sector)
Ms. Patricia Delaney, Dept. of Social Protection (Public Sector)
Mr. Michael O'Brien, WWETB (Public Sector)
Mr. Brian Kehoe, Wexford Local Development
Mr. John V Carr, PPN Community & Voluntary Pillar
Ms. Aislinn Dunne, PPN Community & Voluntary Pillar
Mr. Jonathan King, PPN Social Inclusion Pillar
Mr. Jer O'Mahoney, IFA
Mr. Seán Joyce, Wexford Council of Trade Unions

Also in attendance:

Ms. Carolyne Godkin – Director of Services
Ms. Dymphna O'Connor – Chief Officer
Ms. Caroline Creane – Wexford County Council
Ms. Tara Farrell – Wexford County Council
Mr. Ronan Griffin – Wexford County Council
Ms. Annette Dupuy – Healthy Counties Co-Ordinator
Ms. Stephanie Warner – Local Authority Integration Team

Apologies:

Cllr. Anthony Donoghue – (Public Sector)
Cllr. Mary Farrell – (Public Sector)
Ms. Breege Cosgrave (Public Sector)
Ms. Derval Howley, HSE (Public Sector)
Ms. Sharon Kennedy, PPN Social Inclusion Pillar
Ms. Karin Dubsky, PPN Environmental Pillar
Ms. Mary Browne, Chamber of Commerce

1. Check and verification of those attending by video conference

Ronan Griffin verified those present in person via MS Teams, noted apologies and the Chair confirmed a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes 21st March 2024

The minutes of the meeting of 21st March 2024 were adopted.

Proposed: John Carr

Seconded: Jer O'Mahony

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Correspondence

None.

5. Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

Dymphna O' Connor advised that the LECP was adopted by the Council at the April meeting and that progress on the LECP will be a standing item on the LCDC agenda going forward.

She further advised that Tara Farrell would be responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of the LECP, and that LECP training would be offered to LCDC members.

6. SICAP

Tara Farrell informed the LCDC of the targets for the assistance to be rendered to Local Priority Target Groups and New Arrivals under the 2024 – 2028 SICAP programme.

She advised that the SICAP sub-committee had met the previous day, and were recommending that the LCDC adopt the targets as outlined.

Approval of Local Priority Target Group Targets:

Proposed: Jonathan King

Seconded: John Carr

Approval of New Arrivals Targets:

Proposed: Jer O'Mahoney

Seconded: Seán Joyce

7. Presentation by the Local Authority Integration Team:

(Lisa McDonald entered the meeting)

Stephanie Warner gave a presentation on the work being undertaken by the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT).

Seán Joyce asked what employment supports are available for Ukrainian arrivals and IPAs who had received permission to work. He also asked if these groups were aware of their employment rights around pay and conditions, and if information sessions around this were available.

Stephanie Warner advised that they were directed to existing supports and advice around employment rights were given as part of general clinics. She advised that the LAIT would consider running employment specific clinics.

Brian Kehoe advised that WLD did one-on-one work around education, health and employment law on an 'unofficial' basis not recoded in the official SICAP figures. Patricia Delaney noted the DSP's full range of employment services were available to Ukrainians and IPAs who had permission to work with translation services available.

Michael O'Brien advised that English language courses available through the WWETB.

Aislinn Dunne advised that working with Ukrainians in her local community, she had noted that there were issues with getting GPs appointments, both with public transport links and difficulty with being understood when they attended the GP.

She advised that they had gotten around the language issue with a smartphone app and earpieces. Stephanie advised that the LAIT would be interested in the app.

8. Chief Officer's Report

Dymphna O'Connor presented the Chief Officer's Report.

The following items were noted:

- Meet Your Neighbour events can be arranged on request by contacting Annette Dupuy, Healthy Counties Co-ordinator
- The 2024 Community Recognition Fund was open for applications and same needed to be received by 24th May 2024.

- The Department of Rural & Community Development have not yet released the Press Release regarding the Local Enhancement Programme. Until such a time as they have, groups cannot be informed whether they were successful under the LEP.

9. AOB

Michael O'Brien advised that a Further Education and Training event was due to take place on the 9th of May, as circulated ahead of the meeting.

Dymphna O'Connor noted the MOU between WLD and the LCDC re: the LEADER Programme. Under the MOU, the 4 Councillors on the LCDC would join the WLD board, which would then act as the LAG for the LEADER 2023 – 2027 Programme.

Brian Kehoe advised that the first call for Community Projects had been released the previous Friday, and he would arrange for circulation of same to the LCDC. The call was for community based bio-diversity and outdoor recreation projects.

Dymphna O'Connor noted that this was anticipated to be the last meeting of the LCDC before the upcoming Local Election. She thanked the chair and all current and previous Council members on the LCDC and wished them luck in the Local Election.

10. Date for next meeting:

To be advised.



Chief Officer



Cathaoirleach

Dated on the 26th day of Sep. 2024.