

**Minutes of the Waterford LAG Meeting:
 Thursday 18th April 2019 in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Waterford at 11.00 a.m.**

Present: Non Public Sector: Public Sector

1. Gabriel Foley	PPN / Environment	1. Cllr. D. Doocey Chair	Mayor Public Rep
2. Jenny Beresford	CEO Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber	2. Cllr. Eddie Mulligan	Elected representative
3. Richie Grant	CEO – Waterford Area Partnership	3. Michael Walsh	CE, WC&CC
4. Jimmy Taaffe	CEO – WLP CLG	4. Liam Daly	Reg. Mgr. Dept Social Protection
5. Maggie Flanagan	PPN / Community & Voluntary	5. Kevin Lewis	CEO WWETB
6. Gerald Hurley	CEO Waterford City Chamber	6. Julie Somers	CYPSC Coordinator
7. Senan Cooke	PPN / Community & Voluntary	7. Richie Walsh	Head of LEO
Apologies:		Apologies:	
1. Catherine Quinlan	I.C.M.S.A.	1. Derval Howley	Head of Wellbeing HSE
2. Heather Kiely	PPN/ Community & Voluntary	2. Cllr. Tom Cronin	Elected representative
3. Niall O'Brien	PPN / Community & Voluntary		

Staff Present: D. Tuohy Chief Officer, Ivan Grimes DOS, J. Codd ASO, E Smyth ASO

1.Total current Membership	19
2.Total attendees	14
3. Quorum % required (50%)	Achieved – 74%
4. non-public/public ratio attendees % ratio non-public/public attendees	7 non-public : 7 public 50% non-public: 50% public

1. Richie Grant Was introduced as the new CEO of Waterford Area Partnership replacing Joe Stokes.
2. **Confirmation of Quorum:** Having reviewed the attendance record, Chief Officer D. Tuohy confirmed that a quorum was achieved. The Chair, Cllr. D. Doocey declared the meeting could commence. Non-public 7 & Public 7, total 14 members attending however it was agreed that in the case of decisions, one member from the Public Sector would abstain, namely L. Daly.
3. **Apologies**
As per table above. Apologies were noted.
4. **Conflict of Interest**
The Chief Officer reminded members that in accordance with Section 5.4 of the LEADER Operating Rules (v2.0) LAG members must complete an annual conflict of interest declaration and a register of interests declaration and these documents had been circulated. It was necessary that these documents were completed by members before participating in the meeting. It was confirmed that all such documents had been completed.

In relation to items on the agenda of the meeting, relevant documentation had been circulated and no conflicts of interest had been noted.

5. Confirmation of Minutes of LAG Meeting held on 21st February 2019:

Proposed: J Beresford	Seconded by: G Foley
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

6. **Matters arising:**

None
7. **Circulars (uploaded to April meeting section on Extranet site)**
 - (a) **Circular 04- 2019 - Clarification regarding distinction between animation and specific support for individual projects** Chief Officer D. Tuohy briefed the members.
 - (b) **Circular 05 – 2019 - Relates to site visits conducted by LAGs/IPs and requirements for the Article 48 Administrative checking process** Chief Officer D. Tuohy briefed the members.
 - (c) **LEADER Co-operation Project Operating Rules Version 2.0** Chief Officer D. Tuohy briefed the members. J Taaffe noted good progress was being made in relation to initiating co-operation projects in Waterford.

8. Expressions of Interest – Jimmy Taaffe informed that up to 18 projects could come before the committee at the July meeting. The uptake has been good.

9. Rural Development Programme Chief Officer D. Tuohy briefed the members regarding staff changes. J Codd is leaving Community to take the role of Article 48 Checking while Emma Smyth replaces J Codd in the Community Section.

The following projects are not yet ready for a decision as Article 48 checks must first be performed. Conditional approval is not possible under the guidelines. Both projects will be listed for decision at the next meeting in May 2019. Subject to LAG approval, letters of offer can issue after said meeting.

- (i) Camphire Int. Horse Trials and Country Fair 2019 – (108592)
- (v) Development of woodland walk and gardens Carriglea 11 (108650)

For approval

9.a (ii) Business Expansion 2018/2019 D.P.E. Ltd. (108619)

Project ID	31LDRWAT108619
Project Type:	S.A. 2.1 Capital Investment in existing & startup technology, graduate orientated rural businesses
Project Name:	Business Expansion 2018/2019
Promoters Name:	D.P.E. Ltd
Address:	Kilcooney, Ballinamult, Co. Waterford
Description:	The project involves the purchase of a twin turret, twin spindle, CNC Turning Centre. The machine will facilitate the creation of 2 highly skilled jobs in addition to the existing workforce, complement the existing product range, maximise the existing capacity of the business and introduce a 3 cycle shift pattern into the production process.
Theme:	L.O. 2 Rural Enterprise Development
Sub-theme:	S.A. 2.1 Capital Investment in existing & startup technology, graduate orientated rural businesses
Link to LDS	S.A. 2.1 High Light Engineering

Total Project Costs	The cost of this project is €270,549.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
Eligible Project Costs	The cost of this project is €270,549.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
Funding sought by promoter:	The cost of this project is €270,549.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible costs

	whichever is the lesser.		
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	A maximum of €135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser		
Details of private funding:	Cash/Money in account €135,549		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Synopsis of project:	The project involves the purchase of a twin turret, twin spindle, CNC Turning Centre. The machine will facilitate the creation of 2 highly skilled jobs in addition to the existing workforce, complement the existing product range, maximise the existing capacity of the business and introduce a 3 cycle shift pattern into the production process.		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report) Total Funding	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 49.898%
	Doosan CNC Machine	270,549	135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.
		270,549	135,000 @ 49.898%
Was an assessment completed?: Date: ____Yes_____	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the project assessment was completed on the 28th Jan 19 and following a review noted the following :- - The project fits the Co Waterford Local Community Development Plan Local Objective 2 for strategic & collaborative Investment in Rural Enterprise Development to foster Rural Job Creation in local villages. The promoters have the experience and capability to deliver the project successfully.		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the promoters followed public procurement guidelines Category 2 LEADER Specific Procurement guidelines as the applicant is seeking less than 50%		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the promoters followed public procurement guidelines Category 2 LEADER Specific Procurement guidelines as the applicant is seeking less than 50%		
Innovative Element of the project:	It was agreed that the project is innovative as it brings new technology to West Waterford that will benefit customers as it will		

	allow for the manufacture of high tolerance components. The Twin Spindle capability allows concentricity engineering tolerances that were not achievable by DEP or other firms in the region.
Consideration of Deadweight:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that without grant aid the project will not proceed.
Consideration of Displacement:	This project will not cause displacement as the nature of the promoters business is very specialised.
Economic justification for project:	Funding this project will allow DPE to create more employment, upskill existing staff and grow their customer base. The potential for export of components is further developed by adding this technology. It will also allow DEP to enter into the Aerospace, Automotive and Medical Device sector.
Average Score for Project:	After achieving an overall score of 86 out of 100, the Evaluation Committee agreed that they are happy to recommend this project for approval to the Board of Waterford LCDC.
% level of aid & ceiling:	Recommendation: A maximum of €135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser with the following condition:- ○ Close attention should be paid to the debtors.
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:- 1. Funding this project will allow DPE to create more employment, upskill existing staff and grow their customer base. 2. The project scored 86/100 Recommendation: A maximum of €135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser with the following condition:- 3. Close attention should be paid to the debtors

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
10	7	135,549	2017 - €63,875
+ 20+			
Contractors			

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Waterford Local Enterprise Office	28/01/2019	B. Kirby

Detail of Discussion:

- It was noted that the promoters are both qualified fitters and mechanical engineers with many years' experience between them. They were funded previously and did everything they set out to do. They willingly took advice given and have employed both technical and office staff improving the management structure of the company and introducing proper procedures.
- The Evaluation Committee noted that the promoters are very good operators and have done very well so far. They have created employment in a rural area and are currently employing 17 full time employees and another 15 on contract.
- The only concern raised is the level of debtors which is very high and should be monitored closely.
- The promoters have the match funding available for the project.
- The Evaluation Committee agreed that funding this project will help the promoters develop new revenue streams, create additional skills sets and further diversify the company's range of products and services thereby sustaining existing jobs and helping to create an additional 2 to 3 jobs.
- Committee is supportive of this project noting that it is a good use of Rural Development funds as it creates employment in a rural area.
- The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project with the following condition:-
 - o Close attention should be paid to the debtors.

Recommendation: A maximum of €135,000.00 or 49.898% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.

Amount Recommended: €135,000	49.898% of Eligible Project Funding:
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The LAG noted the report and recommendation of the Independent Evaluation Committee and indicated agreement with the recommendation to fund the project.

Proposed: G. Foley	Seconded by: J. Beresford
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

9. a (iii) Shot blaster and Cranes –Kenneally Steel (108638)

Project ID	31LDRWAT108638
Project Type:	S.A. 2.1 Capital Investment in existing & start up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses – High Light Engineering
Project Name:	Shot Blaster & Cranes
Promoters Name:	Kenneally Steel Ltd
Address:	Marston, Ballyduff Upper, Co. Waterford.
Description:	Kenneally Steel Ltd is carrying out the next phase of their development. There are a well-run and prudent Company. In order to further develop their business outside Munster and indeed outside Ireland into Holland they have to build a centre for shot blasting and coating their steel products. They have applied for planning permission for the new unit. The combined investment in the new facilities will be in the region of €700,000. Since LEADER first invested in this project, the company also now employs up to 30 Staff. This requires significant cash flow management to pay weekly wages, hence the need for further diversification and embedding in the pharma and food industries. While Kenneally Steel will fund the building works, the paint shop, visitor facilities, and the new vehicle, they have sought assistance in the purchase of the Shot Blaster(Sand Blaster), and the 3 Cranes to service it.
Theme:	L.O. 2 Rural Enterprise Development
Sub-theme:	S.A. 2.1 Capital Investment in existing & start up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses
Link to LDS	S.A. 2.1 Capital Investment in existing & start up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses – High Light Engineering

Total Project Costs	The cost of this project is €269,170.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €63,130.00 or 23.45% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
Eligible Project Costs	The cost of this project is €269,170.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €63,130.00 or 23.45% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
Funding sought by promoter:	The cost of this project is €269,170.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €63,130.00 or 23.45% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	A maximum of €43,067.20 or 16% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.

Details of private funding:	Cash/Money in account €206,040.50		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Synopsis of project:	While Kenneally Steel will fund the building works, the paint shop, visitor facilities, and the new vehicle, they have sought assistance in the purchase of the Shot Blaster(Sand Blaster), and the 3 Cranes to service it.		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 16 %
	Shot Blaster	184,720	29,555.20
	3 X Cranes	54,000	8,640
	Electrics	30450	4,872
Total Funding		269,170	43,067.20
Was an assessment completed?: Date: 28/01/2019	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the project assessment was completed on the 28th Jan 19 and following a review noted the following :- - The project fits the Co Waterford Local Development Strategy Local Objective 2 for strategic & collaborative Investment in Rural Enterprise Development to foster Rural Job Creation in local villages. The promoters have the experience and capability to deliver the project successfully.		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the promoters followed public procurement guidelines Category 2 LEADER Specific Procurement guidelines as the applicant is seeking less than 50%		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the promoters followed public procurement guidelines Category 2 LEADER Specific Procurement guidelines as the applicant is seeking less than 50%		
Innovative Element of the project:	It was agreed that the project is innovative as it improves efficiencies, reduces lead time to customer and streamline the process.		
Consideration of Deadweight:	The Evaluation Committee agreed to reduce grant aid to 16% to address deadweight.		
Consideration of Displacement:	This project will not cause displacement as the nature of the promoters business is very specialised.		
Economic justification for project:	This work is mainly done by hand which is time consuming manual process and is difficult work. Larger projects are out sourced so funding will allow employees to focus on less manual and more		

	value-add activities.
Average Score for Project:	After achieving an overall score of 87 out of 100, the Evaluation Committee agreed that they are happy to recommend this project for approval to the Board of Waterford LCDC.
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €43,067.20 or 16% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend this project with the following condition:- 4. The project scored 87/100 5. The project fits the Local Development Strategy for Enterprise Development. Recommendation: A maximum of €43,067.20 or 16% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser with the following condition:- - Funding rate reduced to 16%

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
3	25	€206,040.50	2017 - €136,869.75
	15 Contracted Workers as needed		

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Waterford Local Enterprise Office	23/01/2019	B. Kirby

Detail of Discussion: - It was advised that the promoters are very capable and have good structures in place. They have built a good business creating employment in a rural area. Funding this project will enable the promoters to create greater efficiencies, improve quality and be less labour intensive while improving safety. - The Evaluation Committee noted that the balance sheet is cash rich with net assets of €1.8m and that deadweight is an issue and must be considered carefully. Mr Jimmy Taaffe said that this project is just one of a number of areas of development and re-investment that the promoter is planning in 2019. He is going to build an additional workshop, upgrading the paint workshop, resurfacing and finishing the staff car park, etc. The total overall investment by the promoter will be in excess of €700k. - It was noted that the debtors are high at €1.3m including both trade and other debtors. A Committee Member said that the promoter would be owed money for steel from farmers
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waiting on grants.

- The Committee noted that the savings in the back account could cover the grant aid requested. Mr Jimmy Taaffe noted that while the promoter is doing really well he is prudent and aware that if he invests fully using his savings that he has no contingency plan in case of a down turn in the next year or two.
- The Evaluation Committee agreed that it is an excellent firm creating job opportunities in a very rural area with limited employment noting that they would like to support it but at a reduced rate to address any deadweight issues.
- It was outlined that the investment in proper professional staff in recent years by the promoter is very good and should be encouraged. It is hard to get small businesses to follow advice given and the promoter has taken everything on board employing an accountant and office staff.
- The Evaluation Committee agreed that overall the investment of grant aid is quite small noting that they would like to support at a lesser extent in recognition of the promoters willingness to follow advice by employing professional staff, to support existing jobs in a very rural area and to help create an additional three jobs. It was agreed to fund at 16%.

Recommendation: A maximum of €43,067.20 or 16% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser with the following condition:-

-Funding rate reduced to 16%

The LAG noted the report and recommendation of the Independent Evaluation Committee and indicated agreement with the recommendation to fund the project with conditions.

Proposed: G. Foley	Seconded by: M Flanagan
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

9. a (iv) Training on Water Conservation/recycling WLP (109201)

Project ID	31LDRWAT109201
Project Type:	L.O. 8 Promote awareness around water and water usage. S.A. 8.1 Protection and Sustainable uses of Water Resources
Project Name :	Training on Water Conservation and Water Recycling
Promoters Name:	Waterford LEADER Partnership Clg
Address:	Mayfield Rd., Lismore, Co. Waterford
Description:	The project involves the delivery of training to members of voluntary community organisations over 6 sessions in each location. The session will be held in Cappoquin and Tramore with up to 30 participants and 14 Groups

Theme:	L.O. 8 Promote awareness around water and water usage.		
Sub-theme :	S.A. 8.1 Protection and Sustainable uses of Water Resources		
Link to LDS	L.O. 8 Promote awareness around water and water usage.		
Total Project Costs	€11,080		
Eligible Project Costs	€11,080		
Funding sought by promoter:	The cost of this project is €11,080.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €11,080.00 or 100 % of eligible costs whichever is the lesser		
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend this project with the following condition:- - Each training module is to be evaluated and the contract reviewed if not actively engaging the participants. This shall be included in all training Letters of Offers going forward and will be closely monitored by the Project Officer. A maximum of €11,080.00 or 100% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser		
Details of private funding:	€0		
Voluntary Labour: YES/ NO (If yes provide detail)	None		
Synopsis of project:	The project involves the delivery of training to members of voluntary community organisations over 6 sessions in each location. The sessions will be held in Cappoquin and Tramore with up to 30 participants and 10 Groups.		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommended by the Evaluation Committee @ %
	Training	€10,600	€10,600@100%
	Room Rental	€ 480	€ 480@100%
Total Funding			€11,080@100%
Was an assessment completed?: Date: ___ Yes	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the project assessment was completed on the 29th Nov 2018 and following a review noted the following :-The project fits the Co Waterford Local Development Strategy Local Objective 8 to promote greater awareness around water and water		

	usage. The promoters have the experience and capability to deliver the project successfully.
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	WLP sought seven quotations and two replied
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	WLP sought seven quotations and two replied
Innovative Element of the project:	It was agreed that the project is innovative in that it will be part of a suite of activities to address climate change.
Consideration of Deadweight:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that deadweight is not an issue as without funding this project will not proceed.
Consideration of Displacement:	Displacement is not an issue as it is providing training to local volunteers throughout County Waterford.
Economic justification for project:	The project fits in with the Co Waterford LDS for the promotion of greater awareness around water and water usage through training and exemplar projects.
Average Score for Project:	After achieving an overall score of 81 out of 100, the Evaluation Committee agreed that they are happy to recommend this project for approval to the Board of Waterford LCDC.
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €11,080.00 or 100 % of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:- 1. This project fits in with the Co Waterford LDS for the promotion of greater awareness around water and water usage through training and exemplar projects. 2. The project scored 81/100 The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project with the following condition:- - Each training module is to be evaluated and the contract reviewed if not actively engaging the participants. This shall be included in all training Letters of Offers going forward and will be

	closely monitored by the Project Officer.
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Amount Recommended: A maximum of €11,080.00 or 100% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.	100% of Eligible Project Funding:
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Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
None	None	None	Yes-WLP has received LEADER Funding over a number of Programmes

Confirmation that agencies/ communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Bernadette Guest	18/01/2019	B Guest

Detail of Discussion: The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project:-

- Mr Jimmy Taaffe briefly outlined the project to the Evaluation Committee noting that seven tenders were sought but only two were received. One was received after the deadline of 5pm on Friday 23rd November 2018. The late entry was not scored following procurement rules. Mr Taaffe noted that he circulated both tenders received for consideration. The disallowed tender maybe more assessable and practical engaging the participants more. The person delivering the successful tender, while more than qualified, may be more academic rather than practical.
- The Evaluation Committee noted the concern and queried if the project could be tendered again? Mr Taaffe advised that this would delay the project by months.
- Not getting the tender in on time does not reflect well on the tenderer noted the Evaluation Committee
- The Evaluation Committee agreed that the late tender could not be considered and that the public procurement guidelines should be followed.
- It was agreed that the successful tendered has the skills and capability to deliver the programme but that it should be closely monitored to ensure that the delivery of each training module actively engages the participants.
- The possibility of making future funding conditional on attending all modules was also discussed but it was agreed that his would be very hard to do with volunteers.
- The best way forward is to ensure the participants vet the trainers. The evaluation forms to question if the training delivered in a practical format.

The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project with the following condition:-

- Each training module is to be evaluated and the contract reviewed if not actively engaging the participants.

This shall be included in all training Letters of Offers going forward and will be closely monitored by the Project Officer.

Amount Recommended: A maximum of €11,080.00 or 100% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.	100% of Eligible Project Funding:
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The LAG noted the report and recommendation of the Independent Evaluation Committee and indicated agreement with the recommendation to fund the project with conditions.

Proposed: J. Beresford	Seconded by: G. Hurley
Abstentions: L. Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

9.a (vi) Renovation of thatched cottage (108648)

Project ID	31LDRWAT108648
Project Type:	Capital
Project Name:	Renovation of thatched cottage & develop for cultural tourism
Promoters Name:	Enda Kirwan and Anne Marie Casey
Address:	Balleighteragh East, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford
Description:	The proposed project involves the full refurbishment of a protected structure circa 300 year old 4 bay single storey thatched cottage and an outbuilding immediately adjacent to the cottage. The restored cottage will provide much needed tourist accommodation in the area and a unique self catering accommodation experience. The thatched cottage is iconic of past times and gives an insight into a traditional rural lifestyle, preserving Ireland's culture and heritage.
Theme:	Rural Tourism
Sub-theme:	Culture & Heritage Product Development
Link to LDS	The project fits with the Rural Tourism local objective and Culture & Heritage Product Development Strategic Action 1.2

Total Project Costs	€135,575.50		
Eligible Project Costs	€67,787.75		
Funding sought by promoter:	€67,787.75		
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	€0		
Details of private funding:	In house funds		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Synopsis of project:	Funding sought to restore a circa 300 year old single storey thatched cottage and outbuilding for unique tourism accommodation that focuses on the visitor experience and character of the building		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 0%
	Construction Contract	€135,575.50	€0

Total Funding			
		€135,575.50	€0
Was an assessment completed?: Date: __14th January '19_____	Yes		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes, direct tendering was used to invite contractors and the lowest value tender used to select the winning contractor		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	Not applicable		
Innovative Element of the project:	The uniqueness of the traditional thatched cottage and the importance of its preservation in the local Irish landscape whilst providing visitor accommodation where alternative accommodation is limited		
Consideration of Deadweight:	The project will go ahead without grant aid as the promoter's are committed to the project and the preservation of this protected structure. The timeframe to complete will extend to facilitate self funding of the project.		
Consideration of Displacement:	No, this project is unique in that restoring it for self catering accommodation helps the lack of such facilities in the town		
Economic justification for project:	The proposed end product will also provide much needed self-catering accommodation and tourist experience in the area where facilities are limited.		
Average Score for Project:	0/100		
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €0 or 0 % of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser		
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	The Evaluation agreed to recommend to the Waterford LCDC not to fund this project as presented for the following reasons:- - Deadweight - The project does not fit the criteria set out in the LAG Business Plan for the relevant measure. A maximum of €0 or 0% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
2pt	2pt	€€67,787.75 in house funds	€0

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
LEO	16th Jan '19	Brid Kirby
Failte Ireland	11th Jan '19	Sarah Fitzpatrick

Detail of Discussion; The main points raised in the discussion of this project were:-

- Ms Claire Connors advised that the promoter Enda & Anne Kirwan, both engineers, purchased the building for €70,000. It is a protected structure under section 57 and does not require planning permission. The site is .5 of an acre but they also purchase a small strip to the side of the property as the boundary was right up against the wall of the structure.
- The proposed works were put out for tender and the quotations received were very keen.
- A Committee Member queried if the accommodation once completed must comply with Failte Ireland standards to qualify for grant aid? Mr Jimmy Taaffe confirmed that it would not but for the accommodation to be approved and promoted by Failte Ireland it would need to meet their standards.
- It was advised that the layout will not comply with Failte Ireland or general environmental health standards. The sitting room /dining and kitchen area is too small for the sleeping capacity. Having the only bathroom in the main bedroom that opens out to the living area is not acceptable. To possibly make it acceptable one of the bedrooms should be converted into a bathroom and a corridor between bathroom and living room constructed without impacting on the small living space.
- Ms Connors advised that the promoters are retaining the original footprint and layout of the building. It was noted that it is more of a museum piece than an accommodation place in that case and it is not suitable as accommodation for tourists.
- As the other two bedrooms do not have access to the bathroom it is only suitable as a one bedroom.
- Ms Connors advised that the promoter's intent to add on an additional two bedrooms in phase 11 of the project noting that they would need planning permission for that. The Committee agreed that the property does not have the living space for that. It was noted that they should not go for capacity but for quality.
- The Evaluation Committee agreed the projections are not realistic and noted that the planning costs are included in the expenditure for year one.
- A Committee Member noted that Phase 111 of the project the inclusion of Camping Pods at the rear of the cottage is not really practical as the site is not big enough.
- A big concern of the Evaluation Committee is that the promoters have the funding to complete the project without Rural Development funding. While they have the right to apply for funding should public funding be allocated where it is not needed? The promoters show that they sufficient funds available to fund the project themselves and state on the application form that

the project will proceed without funding. - Another concern is that even though the project is applying under the heritage measure it could be viewed as a b&b. - A discussion ensued and the Evaluation Committee stated the following concerns:- - o The layout of the property is not suitable as it has only one bathroom located in one of the bedrooms. - o The Projections are showing it as being highly profitable - o Deadweight is an issue. - o Is the programme about funding the restoration of buildings? Does it fit in with the Local Development Strategy? The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend not funding this project as it does not fit the Local Development Strategy and deadweight is an issue. Recommendation: A maximum of €0 or 0 % of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser	
Amount Recommended: €0	0 % of Eligible Project Funding: €0

The LAG noted the report and recommendation of the Independent Evaluation Committee and indicated agreement with the recommendation not to fund the project, primarily due to the issue around deadweight and on the basis that it would appear that it would be possible for this project to proceed without RDP funding. J. Taaffe confirmed that a new application could be made by the applicants.

Proposed: J. Somers	Seconded by: M. Flannagan
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	NOT APPROVED

9. a (vii) Waterford Camino E-biking (WCeB) (108652)

Project ID	31LDRWAT108652
Project Type:	Capital
Project Name:	Waterford Camino E-Biking
Promoters Name:	Waterford Camino E-Biking (WCeB)
Address:	8 Chestnut Dr, Viewmount Pk, Waterford
Description:	The unique selling point of this project is the ability to go to the client and cycle where they wish to go. This means there are endless 'start points' and unlimited places to visit and cycle. The capability to bring the E-bikes to the customer will ensure the project is a market leader in custom E-biking tours, with competent guides, who are themselves serious cycling enthusiasts. The project will have a secure storage facility at Dunphy's of Dunhill but will provide a meet and greet service to the client. It will be the first major supplier of quality trail/hybrid

	electric assist bikes in Ireland. The company aims to promote the attractions of Waterford and the South East Coast, utilising the new cycling routes.
Theme:	Rural Tourism
Sub-theme:	Activity Tourism
Link to LDS	Lo1 Rural Tourism and Strategic Action 1.1 Activity Tourism

Total Project Costs	€51,735		
Eligible Project Costs	€51,735		
Funding sought by promoter:	€17,273.30		
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	€0		
Details of private funding:	€57,000 Loan finance		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	Yes		
Synopsis of project:	Funding sought to purchase 15 electric hybrid/trail E-bike, box trailer and associated equipment including marketing support, signage and safety equipment		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 0%
	E bikes; purchase of up to 15	28,955	0
	Box trailers; purchase of up to 2 secure single or twin axle	10,578	
	Safety Equipment; 2 x first aid kits, 1 x mobile defibrillator	1,737	
	Marketing Website; commerce website, logo, marketing design	4,500	

	Print Branding; business cards, headed paper, fliers, maps, posters	565.68	
	Branded Products; display banners, water bottles, ponchos, hi vis vests	1,871	
	Digital Marketing; Facebook, Twitter	2,565	
	Signage; mobile x 4	963	
Total costs		€51,735	€0
Was an assessment completed?: Date: ____30th Jan '19____	Yes		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes, direct tendering used to invite suppliers and most economic advantageous tender process used to select chosen suppliers		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	Evidence was provided of the required number of suppliers invited to tender despite some companies not quoting		
Innovative Element of the project:	The unique selling point of this project is the ability to go to the client and cycle where they wish to go. This means there are endless 'start points' and unlimited places to visit and cycle		
Consideration of Deadweight:	The promoter would not be in a position to progress this project without grant support as it is dependent on funding to kick start the business.		
Consideration of Displacement:	This project will not compete or impact on any similar venture. While some existing bike hire companies hire E bikes, they do not provide a turn up and hire business. This project proposes a high end guided tour business.		
Economic justification for project:	There are a number of E-Bike rental providers in Ireland but none		

	are focusing on trail/hybrid E-bikes and this is where the gap in the market has been identified. Therefore it will compliment existing bike hire companies and form alliances.
Average Score for Project:	41/100
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €0 or 0% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	The Evaluation agreed to recommend to the Waterford LCDC not to fund this project as presented for the following reasons:- - The Committee did not consider the project viable. - Project did not score the required 65% to be recommended for approval. A maximum of €0 or 0% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
1ft & 2-4 seasonal	1Ft	€57,000 loan finance	€0

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
LEO	16th Jan '19	Brid Kirby
Failte Ireland	11th Jan '19	Sarah Fitzpatrick

Detail of Discussion: The main points raised in the discussion of this project were:- - Ms Claire Connors advised that the promoter Michael Garland has been involved with various organisations including Waterford & Tramore Chamber of Commerce and SOLAS. He also set up Waterford Business Group and is a consultant to a lot of businesses. He is an avid cyclist and very involved with Waterford Camino Tours a company set up by two friends of his in April 2017. They offer a package type operation whereby they will bring in people for cycling tours but will organise all travel, accommodation, etc. From his interact with this company and his experience with cycling he has identified a a gap in the market for hybrid trail e-bikes capable of tackling Waterford's tracks and trails and enables people to experience difficult terrain and hilly areas. - He is proposing to purchase 15 bikes that will be stored in Dunhill & Annestown in a lock up storage. It was noted that for the Dunhill storage he has a letter of undertaking for the use of the unit but there is no guarantee that the facility will not be withdrawn. - The promoter will develop a meet and greet package and will bring the bikes to the customer at an agreed starting point.

- The Committee noted that they were unsure about the number of tracks in Co Waterford. Ms Connors advised that the routes will be off greenway but mostly road routes as identified by Failte Ireland in their guide to cycle routes in Co Waterford. There are numerous ones between Dungarvan and West Waterford. Some areas like Knockanore are particularly hilly and these bikes will be ideal.
- A discussion ensued on the proposed name and if the Spanish Camino should be used. It was advised that St Declan's Way is officially linked to the Camino and that you will get your stamp if completed.
- The bikes are a mountain bike and the tyres can be changed to allow access to rougher terrain.
- The type of trailer being purchased for transporting the bikes was queried as others tend to use specialised trailers capable of storing each bike individually. It was noted that the bikes are fairly robust with slim fitting batteries.
- The varied background of the promoter was also discussed with it being noted that he is putting very little of his own funds into the project.
- The Evaluation Committee discussed the job creation proposed agreeing that it does not add up. The promoter will not run a business of the scale projected with 15 bikes while travelling all over the County delivering the bikes to potential customers. Often groups will be less than 15 and not all bikes will be hired out. Ms Connors advised that initially the project will create full time employment for the promoter.
- The Committee noted that ideally the promoter would have been better placed to work in partnership with one of the existing bike hire companies. Ms Connors advised that originally that was the intention but during the application process the promoter advised that he had secured the storage unit in Dunhill and was proceeding with the application himself.
- A discussion ensued on the application and the Evaluation Committee agreed the following:-
 - o It is not a well presented application
 - o The finances don't add up
 - o Promoter is taking out higher loans and reducing grant aid
 - o Project income is unrealistic with 15 bikes
 - o No provision in projections for paying for additional guides
 - o Financial projects don't include loan repayments
 - o Business plan is poor
 - o Logistics not feasible – delivering and collecting bikes all over County.

The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend not funding this project as presented as they did not consider the project viable.

Recommendation: A maximum of €0 or 0 % of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Amount Recommended: 0

0% of Eligible Project Funding:

The IEC report was considered. J Taaffe recommended that his project should not be approved as concerns around the viability of the business plan in a competitive market have been identified. G. Hurley indicated support for the project as it is a niche market. J Taaffe highlighted the risks attached if the project fails. R. Walsh also commented on lack of viability but suggested that the project could return with a stronger business plan. G Hurley and E Mulligan noted that the project passed the bank's stress tests which should be sufficient. M Walsh advised that the opinion of the IEC should be

upheld. J Taaffe recommended that the project decision be deferred and applicant could come back with a revised business plan for consideration by the IEC.

Proposed: M. Walsh	Seconded by: G. Hurley
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	Deferred

9. (b) Approval to amend costings - Dunhill Community Hall (103347) – report on extranet
Approval sought to amend the costings for architectural services to the Dunhill Community Hall project to account for a VAT correction

Proposed: G. Foley	Seconded by: M. Flanagan
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

10. (c) Approval to contract addendum - Comeragh Amenity Area (103399) – report on extranet.
Approval sought to have recent new addendum to contract amended to the revised and approved funding rate of 46.14973%.

Proposed: G. Foley	Seconded by: M. Flanagan
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

9. (d) Request for approvals to project extensions – report on extranet

Nire Cabins -2 months (Aug 19)
Tallow Phase 111-10 Months (Aug 19)
Waterford County Museum -1 Month (June 19)
Legacy Cider -12 Months (May 20)
Living History-6 Months (Dec 19)
Dunhill Community Hall 6months (June 19)
Blackwater Distillery 6 months (June 19)
Lefcadio Hearne Gardens 6 Months (Nov 19)
Mountain Rescue Phase 11 4 months (july 19)

Proposed: G. Foley	Seconded by: M. Flanagan
Abstentions: L Daly	Non-Public : Public revised – 7:6
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

9.(e)

J. Taaffe stepped out. Chief Officer D. Tuohy outlined two items for noting

- (i) RDP Returns, Income & Expenditure (WLP) November 2018 – February 2019
- (ii) RDP Financial Partner, October 2018 – February 2019 monthly claims

9.(f)

J Taaffe returned and outlined the report entitled “*Response to Evaluation Recommendations*” dated 10/04/19 for noting. This is the WLP response to LDS review and recommendations – report with actions and timeframes on extranet.

10. Report re Rural Coordination Sub-Group

Richie Walsh briefed the Committee on the work of the Rural Coordination LCDC Sub-Group. The role of the group is to ensure a cohesive approach to the planning and delivery of rural development programmes and projects in Waterford, to ensure alignment of priorities across the primary delivery agencies and to maximise funding in order to deliver rural development projects. Geographic areas of need have been determined and a number of priorities have been agreed.

Current Programmes

Town and Village Renewal (T&V)

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

FLAG

CLÁR

The full report will be made available on the members’ extranet.

11. Correspondence

One item of correspondence was received from Villierstown Community Development CLG informing the committee that the letter of offer for Project 31LDRWAT106582 Villierstown Enterprise Centre has been declined. The project will not proceed in the manner outlined in the initial application.

12. A.O.B.

None

13. Details of next meeting.

Date and Time: Thursday May 9th, Council Chamber, Dungarvan at 11.00a.m.

Meeting Closed

Signed:

Chairperson:

Chief Officer to the LAG

Date

Date