
From:
Sent:
To:
Subject: FW: DRCD review of LCDC's

Dear Chair and LCDC members,

At the September LCDC meeting, I referenced the launch of the Department's Five Year Strategy to support the community and voluntary sector in Ireland 2019-2024. One of the key actions in this Strategy is the implementation of the Department's review of the LCDCs which I briefed members on. Members requested a synopsis of the LCDC Review. I set out same hereunder:

Review of LCDCs by DRCD – July 2019

Purpose: Identify opportunities to strengthen LCDCs

Methodology: Survey taken of LCDC members nationally

Findings under 4 headings:

1. Governance & Structure:

- Membership split (public/private): majority favour the status quo
- More clarity needed on role of LCDC members
- More training required
- Contribution of HSE noteworthy
- Gender balance - challenging

2. Strategic effectiveness:

- LCDCs spend considerable time on programme administration and management; insufficient time for more strategic matters, including monitoring the Local Economic and Community Plan
- Greater support from DRCD required re LECP implementation / monitoring
- Full schedule of likely funding streams well in advance required

3. Participation and engagement:

- Gaps in membership, particularly from the Community & Voluntary sector

4. Admin support and development

- Most time taken up discussing Leader/SICAP
- Little time to consider more strategic issues

Key findings:

- Respondents positive about the developing role and progress of LCDCs
- Good progress in short period since LCDCs established
- Better communication between DRCD and LCDCs necessary
- More engagement between LCDCs and CYPSCs required

Recommendations and objectives:

- Secure cross Government commitment to LCDCs
- More effective communication of the LCDC role to relevant national and local stakeholders.
Programme of awareness to inform public re LCDCs

- Training and support programme for LCDC members and LA supporting staff including strategic planning, interagency working, governance
- Align timelines for various funding programmes

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