

**Minutes of the Waterford LCDC Meeting:
 Thursday December 10th 2020 meeting held via conference call at 11.00 a.m.**

Present:

Non Public Sector:

Public Sector

1. Gabriel Foley	PPN / Environment	1. Cllr. Damien Geoghegan (Chair)	Mayor Public Rep
2. Richard Grant	CEO – Waterford Area Partnership	2. Cllr. Adam Wyse	Elected representative
3. Jimmy Taaffe	CEO – WLP CLG	3. Julie Somers	CYPSC Coordinator
4. Heather Kiely	PPN/ Community & Voluntary	4. Michael O’Brien	Innovation & Development Manager, WWETB
5. Senan Cooke	PPN / Community & Voluntary	5. Richie Walsh	Head of LEO
6. Gerald Hurley	CEO Waterford City Chamber	6. Brendan Lawton	Reg. Mgr. Dept Social Protection
7. Maggie Flanagan	PPN / Community & Voluntary		
8. Catherine Quinlan	I.C.M.S.A.		
Apologies:		Apologies:	
1. Jenny Beresford	CEO Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber	1. Michael Walsh	CE, WC&CC
2. Breda Fell	PPN / Social Inclusion	2. Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan	Elected representative
		3. Derval Howley	Head of Service, Health & Wellbeing, HSE

Staff Present: D. Tuohy Chief Officer*, Ivan Grimes DoS, J. Codd A/SO, Susan Whelan SO, Colette O’Brien SO, E. Smyth ASO.

(* attendance in person)

Confirmation of Quorum:

1. Having reviewed the attendance record, Chief Officer D. Tuohy confirmed that a quorum was achieved. Non-public 8 & Public 6, total 14 members attending.

2. **Apologies:**

As detailed above were noted by the Committee

3. **Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC Meeting held on November 12th 2020**

Proposed: H. Kiely Seconded: J. Taaffe

Approved

4. **Matters arising:**

None

5. **HIF Round 3 Addendum – Approval**

Full Addendum to Grant Agreement between POBAL on behalf of the Department of Health and Waterford City & County Council uploaded on the extranet.

D. Tuohy confirmed that Waterford City & County Council received an additional allocation of €67,225 under the Community Resilience Fund to assist community and voluntary groups and organisations that are adapting their services and supports to communities affected by the Coronavirus pandemic and to be utilised under the following themes: Your County, Switching off/Being Creative and Staying Connected (Community Call). WCCC's allocation of €67,225 will be used to fund the following: initiatives under the creative theme; production of a "Keeping Well" brochure through Waterford Sports Partnership; a Photography Competition through the OPC; fridge magnets with key numbers for vulnerable/older people; Acorn Tablets for Nursing Homes which will include training in digital technology and promotion of the "Keep Well" message - WLR advertisements, Posters, etc. D. Tuohy confirmed that there was an extension given of 6 months under the current grant agreement because of Covid-19 for the Healthy Waterford Coordinator post and towards completing projects.

Proposed: G. Foley

Seconded: A. Wyse

Approved

6. **a. Report from SICAP Sub Committee**

R. Grant left the meeting.

I. Grimes gave an update to the members in relation to the operational issues within WAP and confirmed that D. Tuohy and himself met R. Grant recently regarding the draft plan for 2021 which will come before the January 2021 LCDC Meeting for approval. Audit issues are as before but WAP are working through same. It was noted that some members of the Board of Directors have resigned recently.

I. Grimes said that the subcommittee is satisfied that sufficient progress was being made by WAP on implementing the 2020 SICAP Programme and in addressing governance and financial issues and recommended that the November payment should be approved.

Approval of November payment to WAP.

Proposed: H. Kiely Seconded: M. Flanagan
Approved

R. Grant returned to the meeting.

7. Reports from subcommittees:

a. Skills/Training:

J. Somers issued the following update:

The terms of reference for this group are to look at co-ordination and integration between agencies and service provision around up-skilling and training, also to examine the potential use of RDP funding to respond to gaps, target disadvantage and improve social inclusion.

It was agreed there is a clear need for co-ordinated and integrated services for all skills and training projects.

The sub group identified four potential areas

- *Pre-development work with hard to reach young people*
- *Services and supports for the unemployed*
- *Supports for business*
- *One stop shop or all-inclusive user portal for training and supports available to the public*

To date the sub group has focused on the pre-development needs of 16 – 24 year olds, particularly those disengaged from services.

Agencies are open to looking at their own plans and funding streams to see what can be done to respond. It was identified that there is a continuum through which people travel and this is not necessarily linear. A variety of supports are required combining pre-development work, structured programmes, transition supports, ongoing supports and interagency linkage is crucial to enable links to further training, education and employment options that are available. The group also recognises the bespoke needs of certain individuals and tailored tutoring to be afforded to them.

Short term courses and interventions are unlikely to produce meaningful outcomes with young people who are hard to reach/experiencing disadvantage and marginalisation. Long term investment, training and progression paths are the key to achieving better outcomes for young people e.g. a sustainable 3 to 4 year programme as opposed to 10-week, 12-week initiatives. Longevity and sustainability is essential. Main goal is to remove young people from long term welfare dependence / unemployment/underemployment and into job paths.

The meetings considered whether there a requirement for new programmes or can current provision be re-imagined?

All agencies expressed support for the work, however, a number of agencies' brief is not fully aligned with pre-development work and they are open to getting involved when young people are further along, such as youth entrepreneurship. Integration of young people from other communities e.g. Roma, Travellers, Migrants etc needs to be considered.

Inter-agency approach with co-design and appropriate collaboration is essential, and it is acknowledged that Youth Service organisations are uniquely well placed to respond to young people who are disengaged from services.

Outcomes to date and Recommendations

- *Agencies expressed appreciation of the opportunity to link with colleagues and the possibilities it has created to explore possible collaborative actions*
- *Don, Pat and Jimmy to meet to look at possibilities around Leader Funding taking on board the learning's presented at the subcommittee by WSTCYS*
- *Pat and Richie to meet to discuss opportunities for developing links with SICAP to support hard to reach young people who have the capacity to engage in programmes, e.g. in Garda Youth Diversion Projects*
- *The Skills Sub Committee recommends that the LCDC highlight the needs identified at a national level within relevant Departments. This is in terms of pre-development work, employability programmes and employment opportunities for 16 – 24 year olds. The LCDC to ask for cross departmental action and propose linking with Waterford LCDC in developing a long term, mainstream funding line for this work based on evaluations of pre-development programmes and practitioner learning.*

b. Healthy Waterford:

D. Tuohy issued the update and acknowledged the extension of the Healthy Ireland Round 3 funding to the end of 2021 which was welcomed and also the extension for the Healthy Waterford Coordinator's post. Brianna Connaughton, Healthy Waterford Coordinator has joined the Community Response Forum group and is attending meetings regularly. Healthy Waterford Annual Plan 2021 currently at the planning stage and a review of 2020 is underway.

H. Kiely stated that the Sacred Heart FRC are developing a handbook, Healthy Ireland are coming on board and are providing some financial assistance. D. Tuohy suggested that Brianna Connaughton update the LCDC on the work of Healthy Waterford in the New Year. This was agreed.

8. Correspondence

- a. Message from Covid-19 Stakeholder Communications Support and updates circulated on the 19th November.
- b. Application Form/Guidelines/Information Note re: 2nd COVID-19 Emergency Fund circulated on the 9th December

11. AOB

2nd Covid-19 Emergency Fund

D. Tuohy confirmed that additional funding of €54,223 for the LCDC through Waterford City & County Council had been confirmed. This is being provided by the Government to support community and voluntary groups dealing with the impact of Covid-19.

C. O'Brien gave the following update regarding the funding which is available to all community & voluntary groups to deal with Covid-19 under the following:

(1) The fund will assist groups to **adapt their services and operations to fit the new COVID-19 reality**. Examples of measures supported could be adapting premises to allow for social distancing; offering on-line activities; providing social supports and friendly calls by phone etc.

(2) The fund is also aimed at helping **animate community groups to enable them to become more involved in the Government's 'Keep Well' campaign**. It will seek to assist their participation in the campaign, in particular with the three themes: **staying connected, switching off and being creative, and minding your mood**.

Application Form and Guidelines were received from the Department on the 9th December. The Department requires that all application processes be closed by end February 2021.

C. O'Brien made the following recommendations: Closing date 26th January and assessment group to meet the following week and their recommendations to go before the February LCDC Meeting. One application can only be submitted per group. Max allocation of €2,000 per group. The Department requests that 30% of funding is ring-fenced for grants of €1,000 or less - this is a guidance only and can be adjusted depending on the needs in each area. Proposed to allow the assessment group to decide percentage when reviewing applications. Running costs of C&V groups will not be allowable.

H. Kiely, J. Somers and D. Geoghegan volunteered to sit on the assessment group.

Proposed: D. Geoghegan
Approved

Seconded: S. Cooke

12. Date of next meeting: After 11.00am LAG meeting, Thursday January 14th by way of Zoom/Microsoft Teams

Meeting Closed

Signed:

Chairperson Waterford LCDC

Date: _____

