

LCDC Community Progress Report and updates - April 2025

1. Community Integration Forum – Noeleen Osborne:

Community Integration Forum (CI Fo):

Waterford Council's Ukrainian Team working with arrivals to the Designated Accommodation Centre (DAC) has now concluded. The last resident departed on 11th March. The team were 100% successful in sourcing accommodation or assisting BOTPs to source accommodation. The team continues to support those in pledged accommodation and are still seeking pledge properties (vacant and shared) and can be contacted at 058/22059 or offerahome@waterfordcouncil.ie

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT):

For March the Local Authority Integration Team carried out 11 Engagements including 4 information sessions with 90 attendees. There were also 38 non-clinic queries. As of 16th March, there are 3,144 BOTPs (increase of 18) and as of 23rd March there are 633 IPAs in Waterford. Facebook engagement continued and the April newsletter has been sent to all interested parties.

In March the LAIT attended The Connecting Communities Roadshow in Lisduggan Shopping Centre

The team are collaborating with WWETB adult guidance service where outreach appointments with the guidance service are facilitated and arranged in the LAIT office for service users to attend. These appointments provide services users with direct access to the guidance counsellor where they will get support and information to access training, education and apprenticeships

Events and activities took place for stakeholders and service users during anti-racism month in March. This included hosting a competition within WCCC for the best photo of staff "Wearing Red to Work" during week of March 17th to 21st.

Public buildings were lit up in red in Waterford city on March 21st.

As part of anti-racism month, the team hosted an information session for stakeholders. This session was in partnership with The Irish Refugee Council (IRC). The core of the session included:

1. International Protection
2. Family Reunification

3. Rights & Entitlements for IPAs

4. Addressing disinformation

Following on from this session the IRC caseworkers held one to one appointments for IPAs that stakeholders had identified as being difficult/ complicated cases and were hosted in Johns Hall LAIT offices.

On the 20th of March the team hosted a well-attended talk from the Workplace Relations Commission for service users, providing information on rights and responsibilities in the workforce.

2. Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)– Ger Mulhall

Work is ongoing with Waterford Area Partnership (WAP), who continue to implement the SICAP Programme on behalf of the LCDC.

	Actual	Target	
KPI 1 (Groups)	12	79	15%
KPI 2 (Individuals)	192	949	20%

- WAP Staff are meeting with community organisations to agree actions for the coming year through SICAPs Annual Support Plan process
- Recruitment of a part-time Social Enterprise Development Worker for 2025
- Recruitment of a part-time worker to progress Sustainable Energy Communities with funding from SEAI/SEEA and SICAP to support local communities with energy transition and in response to the new Climate Action within SICAP
- Consultant engaged to undertake a feasibility study on proposed Dungarvan Community Centre
- 97% of supported individuals fall into local priority target groups

3. Local Economic and Community Plan – Orla Kelly:

The online LECP reporting system has now been finalised and tested and is currently being tailored by IS for each reporting partner, who will be contacted over the next couple of weeks, with a view to commencing online reporting. Wee will be contacting partners directly in the coming days and can assist with navigating the new online system. LCDC Members who are also implementing partners should starting to collect their data in preparation.

Approval for Members of the LECP Reporting Oversight Group will be sought at the next (April) LCDC meeting.

4. Community Grants Update – Claire Flavin

Community Grants

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024

Window 1 (€491,392)

One of the seven projects are now complete.

A further three interim claims were received from projects and were processed.

The remaining projects are proceeding.

Window 2 (€86,557)

A Letter of Offer will issue to the project approved under Window 2.

Window 3 (€786,625)

Seven applications were recommended for approval to the Department of Rural and Community Development for Window 3. We await approval by the Department.

Supporting Waterford Grants

The budget for the Waterford City and Council's Supporting Waterford Fund for 2025 is €240,338. The grant scheme was launched on 17th February and closed on 19th March. 319 applications were received (99 from Sports Clubs, 97 from Residents Groups and 123 from Community Groups) and have been assessed. The final Recommendation list will be circulated to Members and a Members Workshop will be take place in advance of the April Plenary meeting. After which formal notification will be sent to all applicants.

5. Reports from Sub-committees:

- a. Skills / training – Johnny Codd
Skills minutes to be circulated with LCDC minutes as an appendix.
- b. Healthy Waterford – Eoin Morrissey
No update until the May meeting.
- c. Sláintecare Healthy Communities – Ovi Matiut
No update until the May meeting.

