



Minutes of the Waterford LCDC Meeting
Thursday 13th November 2025, via Videoconference @ 10 a.m.

Present:

Non-Public Sector:

Public Sector

1. Gabriel Foley	PPN / Environment	1. Mayor Seamus Ryan (Chair)	Elected representative
2. Liam Quinn	CEO – Waterford Area Partnership	2. Cllr. Damien Geoghegan (Deputy Chair)	Elected Representative
3. Jenny Beresford	CEO Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber	3. Karina Daly	WWETB
4. Christine Rossi	CEO – WLP CLG	4. Kate Cassidy	HSE
5. Csilla Czelvikker	PPN / Community & Voluntary	5. Sean McKeown	CE, WC&CC
6. Sinead Kilcawley	PPN / Community & Voluntary	6. Cllr. Liam Brazil	Elected representative
7. Ian O’Brien	PPN / Community & Voluntary	7. Margaret Mary Collins	TUSLA
8. Mary Ray	Social Inclusion	Apologies:	
Apologies:		8. Kathryn Kiely	SETU
9. Ger Hurley	Waterford Chamber of Commerce	9. Gareth Evans	Head of LEO
10. Catherine Quinlan	I.C.M.S.A.		

Staff Present: Seamus DeFaoite D.O.S., Chief Officer S Breathnach Community S.E.O., O. Kelly A.O., S. Whelan S.O., J. Codd S.O., E Morrissey S.S.O, N. Osborne LAIT Coordinator, Y. Dam A.S.O., E. Smyth A.S.O.

Apologies: O. Matiut S.S.O., G. Mulhall S.O., C. Flavin S.O.

1.Total current Membership	19
2.Total attendees	15
3. Quorum % required (50% of 1 above)	Achieved – 79%

1. Confirmation of Quorum:

Having reviewed the attendance record, Chief Officer Sinéad Breathnach informed the Committee that a quorum had been achieved.

2. Apologies.

As per table above, apologies were noted.

3. Conflict of Interest

There was no conflict of interest.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of minutes of LCDC meeting on 9th October 2025 (on extranet)

Proposed: Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	Seconded by: Ian O'Brien
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved: Approved

5. Matters arising

No matters arising

6. Uploaded Community Progress Report for questions-

1. Community Integration Forum
2. SICAP
3. LECP
4. Community Grants
5. Reports from Sub-committees:
 1. Skills/Training
 2. Healthy Waterford
 3. Sláintecare Healthy Communities
 4. SICAP Sub Committee

No questions or comments were raised in relation to the Progress report which was circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

7. Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) reporting and monitoring update – Orla Kelly

Reporting partners have been requested to report progress on Quarter 1 to Quarter 3, 2025 period. Those who have yet to submit updates have been contacted, with a view to assist them in reporting and with the aim to have a complete report for circulation to the LCDC at the December meeting.

8. Well Waterford – Eoin Morrissey

In November, Healthy Waterford continued to respond to local needs and collaborated with community, voluntary groups, and other agencies. This month featured several high-profile initiatives and events focused on enhancing physical, mental, and economic wellbeing across the city and county.

- **Civic Dollars: Rewarding Wellbeing and Supporting Local Business:**

The Civic Dollars pilot was successfully launched in selected parks and green spaces. This innovative scheme rewards residents with digital currency for time spent in public areas supporting physical and mental wellbeing. Crucially, these dollars can be exchanged for rewards from a growing list of participating local businesses, providing multiple opportunities for residents to support the local economy.

- **Pathways to Nature Conference:**

Healthy Waterford attended the Pathways to Nature Conference at the SETU Arena. The conference explored the crucial role of nature in supporting health and wellbeing, helping to inform future strategies for using green and blue infrastructure to promote physical activity and mental restoration.

- **Conference and Men's Mental Health:**

Waterford GAA and Healthy Waterford hosted a Health and Wellbeing Conference (Healthy Clubs) in the SETU Arena this month, bringing together thought leaders and community stakeholders. Aoife Malone (our placement student) was MC for the Q&A section, gaining valuable experience. The event also included a segment promoting the conference on WLR.

- **Men's Mental Health Month:**

A key focus this month was on Men's Mental Health, highlighting the importance of targeted supports and resources for men in the community. Healthy Waterford worked with local organisations to promote resources that encourage men to engage with their health, wellbeing, and tackle issues like social isolation.

- **Community Engagement & Collaboration:**

The RESET Programme continued in the Southern Regional Assembly, led by Doug Dane and Linda Barry. Healthy Waterford also had a presence at the Age Well Expo in the Park Hotel Dungarvan. Planning for Playful Communities 2026 is advancing, and locations for Buddy Benches have been identified, with a launch planned in early 2026.

- **Funding:**

€75,000 has been secured for 2026, with any underspend being carried forward. Additionally, the Department of Health has committed to long-term funding for the Healthy Cities and Counties post across all 31 Local Authorities, including Waterford.

9. Local Sports and Physical Activity Plan – Ger Mulhall

The Community & Sport Department continues to progress the development of a Sports and Physical Activity Plan for Waterford, the purpose of which will be to increase participation in sport and physical activities across the county.

The appointed consultants, S3 Solutions, held four in-person public consultation events, in Kilmacthomas, Dungarvan, Waterford City and Tramore, at the beginning of October.

A number of online consultations were launched in early October and closed 7th November, surveys to allow all to feed into the consultation process.

A total of 607 responses were received as follows:

- From Residents – 423
- From Stakeholders – 82
- From Children & Young People – 102

The next step for the consultants will be to collate all feedback received and prepare a first draft of strategic themes and actions.

It is envisaged that a draft Sports and Physical Activity Plan will be presented to the elected members in Quarter 1, 2026.

10. Update from Family Support Project for Larchville/Lisduggan – Liam Quinn

There is no further update on the Lisduggan/Larchville project, as the Committee did not meet since the last LCDC meeting. To allow for greater resources to be diverted to the communities of Lisduggan and Larchville under the SICAP Programme, the SICAP Sub-Committee approved Buíon Phort Láirge's request to reduce the G1 KPI's for 2026.

11. SICAP

(a) Update from Buíon Phort Láirge (formerly WAP) – Liam Quinn KIP Group 1 – (Target 79, Actual 73, Percent 92%)

There are ongoing registration, support and interventions with local community organisations to meet KPIs. Current activities supported by SICAP include Community Growers, Men's Shed, Playful Communities and Ballybeg 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Dungarvan Community Centre Feasibility Study - Final Feasibility Study presented to stakeholders who engaged with the consultation process. The report was well received with attendees from community, service providers and Waterford City and County Council (Community and Economic Sections). SICAP has agreed to engage a consultant to work with the Steering Group on a 5-year Strategic Plan, as recommended in the study. Report has been disseminated to key officials, including Waterford City and County Council's CEO and Directors of Services, TDs and Dungarvan-Lismore Councillors.

A collaborative meeting was held with Waterford Council Climate Action Team to explore and initiate activities under Sustainable Energy Communities and SICAP. Issues discussed included Climate Action Week and challenges in supporting communities to access funding due to reimbursement criteria. Most local community groups do not have sufficient funds to proceed with approved funding

and to wait for reimbursement, which may lead to many marginalised groups not applying, strengthens disadvantage in our local communities.

Co-funding of a needs assessment with Waterford Council to identify key needs within Dungarvan's Traveller Community. Engaged in Working Sub-Group with consultants, which the TIG Committee will review at a meeting being held in September to discuss emerging issues.

SICAP Managers took part in Cork Learning Cities Shared Island Initiative, which focussed on Learning Neighbourhoods. The Waterford Learning Cities UNESCO programme was officially launched on October 16th by the Mayor.

KPI 2 (Individuals Target 949, Actual 1023, Percentage 108%) –

Second Intervention Pending - 99

Participating on a Course - 856

Soft Skills and Wellbeing Courses - 22%

New Registrations (Individuals) - 69%

% of Supported Individuals who fall into local priority target group(s) Actuals - 93%

12. Other Stakeholder Updates – Mr. Sean McKeown, C.E., Waterford City and County Council

Sean gave a comprehensive presentation in relation to economic development of Waterford City and County, which was well received by all members of the LCDC.

13. Correspondence:

- a. Invitation to Bright and Green Christmas Conference 26th & 27th November 2025.
- b. First National Social Enterprise Awards Press Release.
- c. Our Rural Future: Minister Calleary announces Ireland's Tidiest Town for 2025 Press Release.
- d. LCDC National and Local Communications Campaign confirm in-person and online LCDC training dates.
- e. Link to Online Waterford Migrant Integration Strategy Review 2021 -2024.

14. A.O.B.:

- Orla gave an overview of the recent LCDC Members Survey results. The response rate was disappointing, with only five responses received. Main points included a preference for more in-person meetings and so, it was proposed that all future meetings allow for a hybrid system, where Members can attend in-person or online. Sinead advised that the Council Chambers could be used, which would alternate between the City and Dungarvan, which should be able to cater for video conferencing from the new year.

Members also indicated they would like to partake in Study visits. The need for refresher training and representation from youth, elderly, traveler group and for sports was also raised.

- LCDC Members were advised that the Department will be rolling out an LCDC National and Local Communications Campaign, which will include both in-person and online training on the LCDC, Members roles and promoting awareness. All Members were advised they should attend and register themselves or contact Susie to book a place.

15. Date and venue of next meeting is Thursday 11th December 2025 in person, venue to be confirmed.

Signed:

Chairperson Waterford LCD

Date: _____