

Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee
(LCDCC) Meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 11.00am
Ennis Digital Hub (Hybrid)

In Attendance:

Mr. Paul Patton
Mr. Brian McManus
Cllr. Bill Slattery
Ms. Dóirín Graham
Ms. Emma Karren
Ms. Leonore O'Neill
Cllr. Rachel Hartigan
Mr. Stephen Walsh
Ms. Sheila Lynch
Ms. Bedelia Collins
Cllr. James Ryan

Organisation:

Education & Training Board (Vice Chairperson)
Youth Service
Elected Member
Clare Local Development Company
Environmental PPN Rep
Economic Development
Elected Member
Agriculture Sector (IFA)
Business Sector
HSE
Elected Member

Apologies Received

Mr. Joe Killeen
Mr. Mary O'Callaghan
Sgt. Catriona Holohan
Mr. Padraic McElwee
Ms. Bridgie Casey
Ms. Bernie O Gorman
Mr. Dermot Hayes
Ms. Ann Reynolds

Elected Member (Chair)
Age Friendly
Garda Síochána
Head of Enterprise
Social Inclusion Clare PPN
Community and Voluntary Rep Clare PPN
Social Inclusion Clare PPN
Rural Development (DOS)

LCDCC Support Staff

Ms. Bernadette Haugh
Ms. Catherine O'Hara
Mr. Frank Cullinan
Ms. Anita O'Loughlin

Chief Officer LCDCC
Rural Development
Rural Development
Rural Development

*Quorum reached

TOPIC 1: MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

Issue: The minutes of the meeting held on 09th April were approved. No issues arising.

Action: Proposer by Stephen Walsh
Seconded by Doírín Graham

TOPIC 2: Agency/LCDC Programme Presentation 1:

Issue: The Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP) coordinator Ashlene Reyburn updated the LCDC members in relation to the establishment of the LCSP and her role

Following the presentation, a discussion ensued where the following points were raised:

Stephen Walsh welcomed the establishment of the Local Community Safety partnership (LCSP) and said that the farming sector is very relevant to this and would have a huge role to play as one of the members of the partnership committee. Ashlene advised that there may be some flexibility around the establishment of the committee. The next stage will be the identification of priority members, which will be guided by the department.

Cllr. Bill Slattery questioned why it took so long to set up the LCSP following on from the conclusion of the Joint Policing committee (JPC) which he believed worked effectively. He added that the number of agencies and groups on the LCSP may create scenarios where issues will be passed from the Gardai to other agencies. He also enquired if standing orders will be in place for meetings of the committee

Ashlene advised that there will be standing orders for the committee meetings and noted that pilot committees were established in 3 counties prior to national rollout of the LCSP's, with successful buy in and outcomes to date. She added that a Strong chairperson will be required to direct the partnership. Training will be provided to the chair. It is anticipated there will be up to four meetings a year with additional meetings during year one, if required. The chair will have the authority to establish sub committees around specific thematic areas and with the subcommittees reporting back to the main committee. Timelines for establishing the partnership and guidelines are due from the department in the

near future. As the LCSP evolves, local partnerships will be able to provide feedback on what is and isn't working. The following was also noted:

- Cllr. Slattery requested that in time of emergency, that the LCSP has a specific meeting with one item on the agenda.
- Stephen Walsh noted that Killaloe area is under the operational control of Tipperary AGS and that this will need to be addressed in the operation of the LCSP for Clare.



LCSP - SEO
Presentation.pdf

Responsibility: LCDCC Staff to circulate presentation

TOPIC 3: LCDCC PROGRAMMES / FINANCE UPDATE

Issue 1: SICAP Annual Plan.

Frank Cullinan advised members that the Finance Sub Committee meet on the 6th of May to review the SICAP Annual Plan 2025 which was prepared by the program implementor (P I) - Clare Local Development Company. The members were provided with details of the oversight and monitoring process.

The subcommittee reviewed the proposed Plan, and it was recommended to approve the Plan in Principle on the IRIS reporting platform.

On the recommendation of the Finance Subcommittee, LCDCC endorsed the approval of the plan in principle on the reporting platform.

The subcommittee also recommended that as the program implementor the CLDC be invited to meet the Finance subcommittee to provide a more detailed breakdown on the process, so the members have a greater understanding of same, and also present to the full LCDCC on the Annual Plan for 2026.

Action: Proposer by Stephen Walsh
Seconded by Sheila Lynch

Issue 2: LCSP Funding Agreement

On the 6th May the LCDC Finance Sub Committee also considered two LCDC lead initiatives to be submitted to the Safety Partnership Fund.

Application 1 Funding award up to €73,500.00

An application made to purchase a number of **Property Marking Machines** and associated labels. The funding also includes the provision of training and signage for the property marking machines for County Clare. The machines would be made available to An Garda Síochána in conjunction with community groups, the farming and construction sectors in particular, and other agencies represented on the LCDC to ensure that assets funded under the LEP and other DRCD funded schemes are protected. This will hopefully reduce the opportunity for crime in communities.

Application 2 Funding Award up to €150,000.00

The second application is for **Crisis Response Community Resilience Project**. The funding will be used for hub identification across the county, fit out, support and supplies for same. The funding is also to support an information awareness campaign- including information brochures for all households in County Clare in preparation for local community resilience response to extreme adverse weather events and other major emergency events.

At the meeting, Cllr Joe Killeen also received support from the LCDC to submit a Notice of Motion (NOM) at the Clare Co Council May meeting requesting that the LCDC should be the lead agency leading out community response during major weather and other major incidents.

Chief Officer Bernadette Haugh, read out the correspondence in relation to the Notice of Motion by Cllr. Killeen and the response given by Ann Reynolds Director of Service for Rural & Community. She also advised members that regardless of funding that the LCDC will be pursuing this project and will look at other funding streams if necessary.

The finance subcommittee recommended that the applications be submitted on behalf of LCDC.

Action: Proposer by Stephen Walsh
Seconded by Bill Slattery

Issue 3: Healthy Clare Micro-Fund 2025

Finance sub-committee met on the 17th April to review the Healthy Clare Micro-Fund 2025 applications. Samantha Mc Carthy Healthy Clare Co- Ordinator gave a presentation to members on the process for the administration of this fund. The online portal opened for applications on the 14th February and closed on 1st March 2025. Healthy Clare Micro Fund Appraisal committee and Healthy Clare working group met in March to review the applications and make recommendations.

As per last year's fund there are two target groups

- 1) Healthy Weight - Decrease in the number of adults who are overweight or obese
- 2) Mental Health - Decrease in the no. of people showing negative mental health as per Mental Health Index-5

Micro Fund Budget for 2025 is €29,600.00

- Healthy Weight €10,000.00
- Mental Health €17,000.00
- Creative Ireland funding for Healthy Weight and Mental Health €2,500.00

65 applications were received with total value just over €100,037.68

Breakdown of Applications by MD:- Ennis 31

Killaloe 14

West Clare 14

Shannon 6

31 projects were recommended for funding

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • 6 under Creative Ireland Funding | totaling €2,720.00 |
| • 8 under Healthy Weight | totaling €10,280.00 |
| • 17 under Mental Health | totaling €17,000.00 |

13 Projects in Ennis MD

9 projects in in West Clare MD

7 projects in Killaloe MD

2 projects in Shannon MD

Projects are to be completed and funding drawdown by 31st October 2025.

The Funding subcommittee recommended approval of grants to be awarded on behalf of the LCDC.

Action: Proposer by Stephen Walsh, Seconded by Sheila Lynch

TOPIC 4: LCDC ANNUAL REPORT 2024

A draft copy of the LCDC Annual report was circulated by email on Monday, 15th April 2025, for LCDC members' consideration. Following on from feedback from the members the final 2024 Annual Report was submitted to the DRCD following the full Clare Council Meeting held on 12th May 2025 where the report was noted.

Responsibility: LCDC Staff to post LCDC report

TOPIC 5: LECP MONITORING & REPORTING

The Chair advised members that the Advisory Steering committee met on April 10th as part of the ongoing monitoring and review of the setting up of a reporting platform so progress under each of the 27 Strategic Actions on the LECP can be captured.

The Minutes of the Advisory Steering committee have been circulated to the LCDC members.

It was noted that the development of the reporting platform "have your say" to support the reporting by agencies on the LECP Strategic Actions has made significant progress. The Chair also acknowledged the engagement and support of lead agencies which has got us to this stage.

Catherine O'Hara informed members that the system is ready to "go live" for a month until 20th June 2025 to allow input from all agencies, following which it is anticipated that a report will be available the members to review at the September LCDC meeting.

Action: Proposer by Doírín Graham
Seconded by Paul Patton

Responsibility: Catherine O'Hara to remind agencies re deadlines.

TOPIC 6: AOB

The Chair informed members of an upcoming event - "The Dead House" which will be hosted in glór on the 5th June 2025, as part of Traveller Pride 2025.

Responsibility: LCDC staff to circulate Flyer re this event.

TOPIC 7: NEXT MEETING DATE

The next LCDC meeting will be held in person on 17th September 2025 at 11am.

Signed:

LCDC Chairman


Mr. Joe Killeen

Signed:

LCDC Chief Officer:


Ms. Bernadette Haugh

