

**Minutes of the Wexford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
meeting**

**Wednesday, 28th June at 11:30am
via MS Teams**

Attendance:

In the Chair:

Cllr. Aidan Browne - (Public Sector)

LCDC Members:

Cllr. Anthony Donoghue (Public Sector)
Mr. Tom Enright, Chief Executive (Public Sector)
Ms. Breege Cosgrave, Wexford County Council (Public Sector)
Ms. Derval Howley, HSE (Public Sector)
Ms. Aislinn Dunne, PPN Community & Voluntary
Mr. Jonathan King, PPN Social Inclusion
Mr. Brian Toomey, PPN Social Inclusion
Ms. Karin Dubsy, PPN Environmental
Mr. Jer O'Mahony, IFA
Ms. Mary Browne, Chamber of Commerce

Also in attendance:

Ms. Dymphna O'Connor, Chief Officer, Wexford County Council
Mr. Claude Clancy, Wexford County Council
Ms. Alice O'Gorman, Wexford County Council
Mr. Ronan Griffin, Wexford County Council
Mr. Niall Conway, KPMG
Mr. Evan Breedlove, KPMG

Apologies:

Cllr. Lisa McDonald (Public Sector)
Cllr. Leonard Kelly (Public Sector)
Ms. Patricia Delaney, Dept. of Social Protection (Public Sector)
Mr. Michael O'Brien, WWETB (Public Sector)
Mr. Brian Kehoe, WLD
Mr. John Carr, PPN Community & Voluntary
Ms. Sharon Kennedy, PPN Social Inclusion

Position Vacant:

Trade Union Representative

1. Check and verification of those attending remotely.

The Chairperson welcomed attendees and Claude Clancy confirmed that all could hear and be heard over MS Teams.

2. Local Economic and Community Plan Stage 3: Actions & Outcomes

The Chair handed over to Niall Conway from KPMG to briefly go over the High Level Goals and make a presentation on the draft actions and outcomes.

High Level Goals:

Karin Dubsy suggested the Climate & Biodiversity goal needs to be 'filed down' a little, and a piece about biodiversity protection could be added.

Goal: Continuous Lifelong Learning

Objective 1:

Derval Howley asked could health promotion be included in this objective, and can an action around early school leavers be considered.

Objective 2:

Derval asked could the Healthy Food Made Easy nutritional programme be referenced in this objective. Niall advised it could be included in the implementation plan.

Karin suggested that gardening education could be considered here.

Brian Toomey expressed a concern about use of the term 'disadvantaged' in this action and was concerned that it could result in exclusion. Niall acknowledged this, advised that the same feedback was received from the Advisory Steering Group the previous day and that same would be changed.

Goal: Towns, Villages & Rural Communities

Objective 1:

Karin asked about the term 'aim to reduce' and suggested it could be changed to simply 'reduce'. Niall advised that the objective was phrased as such to avoid overcommitting the Council to actions that it could not meet.

Objective 2:

Tom Enright suggested that the following could be added: "Work with relevant stakeholders to develop commercial property solutions such as high-quality office space and advanced factory units at strategic locations in order to attract new higher-order employment."

Objective 3:

Derval asked could the action "support the plan-based and community- led development of towns so that they are attractive places to live and work in" be modified to include the term healthy.

Karin asked could a further action relating to blue and green infrastructure be added and noted this would fit in with climate action funding.

Goal: Inclusion Equality & Diversity

Objective 1:
Ok

Objective 2:
Derval suggested that Healthy Childhood, Age Friendly initiatives and Community health promotion could be added to this objective.

Objective 3:
Derval noted that a Patient Engagement post was due to be created in the HSE which could lead the implementation of parts of the LECP in this area. She advised that she would forward details of this, as well as some further feedback, to Claude for transmission to KPMG.

Objective 4:
Ok

Goal: Climate & Biodiversity Action

Objective 1:
Ok.

Objective 2:
Karin asked could an action around education on blue carbon, such as marshes and sea grass, be included. She advised that Councils were due to get further powers regarding the management of the coastline under the National Maritime Plan, and this would fit in well with the expanded role.

Objective 3:
Ok.

Objective 4:
Ok.

Goal: Economic Strategy

Objective 1:
Karin asked could management of Natura 2000 sites be included in vocational employment.

Objective 2:
Ok.

Objective 3:

Karin advised she would add more around eco-tourism and associated education.

Claude noted that the Economic & Enterprise SPC was due to discuss the LECP tomorrow, and as such, there would likely be more in depth discussion of this goal from the SPC.

Goal: Tourism

Objective 1:

Brian noted that there was a need for training among hospitality staff as well as addition of further numbers. Breege Cosgrave noted that Failte Ireland provide some assistance in this respect.

Objective 2:

Tom suggested the following action be included: "Continue to work with relevant stakeholders to upgrade and develop strategic tourism destinations such as Hook Lighthouse, New Ross Norman Experience Centre, National Heritage Park and Enniscorthy Castle."

Objective 3:

Karin suggested that "on the ground" tour guides could be added in bio-diversity areas.

Tom suggested the following action be included: "Complete the New Ross to Waterford Greenway and develop a network of Greenways and Blueways throughout the county."

Objective 4:

Karin asked could bio-diversity be added to the point about landscape management.

Aidan thank Niall, and asked for the LECP to approve the Actions & Objectives on a broad basis, with feedback from today to be included.

Proposed: Brian Toomey

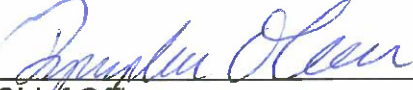
Seconded: Derval Howley

3. AOB


Claude noted that an addendum to extend the LEADER programme was submitted to the Department of Rural & Community Development on behalf of the LAG.

4. Date for Next Meeting

Claude noted that there would be a meeting before the end of July to facilitate the SICAP mid-year review.



Chief Officer



Cathaoirleach

Dated on the 26th day of July 2023.

