

## Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Local Community Development Committee

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday

1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 at 8.30am

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Therese Langan	Chief Executive Nominee
Mary Ruane	Chief Officer
Siobhan Fitzpatrick	Health Service Executive
Roisin Cronin	Local Enterprise Office
Cormac Shaw	Southside Partnership DLR
Ibrahim Al Kaddo	Public Participation Network
Sharon Perry	Public Participation Network
Kay Gleeson	Public Participation Network
Michael O' Brien	Public Participation Network
Cllr Lettie McCarthy	DLRCOCO Elected Representative
Cllr Kazi Ahmed	DLRCOCO Elected Representative
Cllr Kate Feeney	DLRCOCO Elected Representative (Chairperson)
Cllr Daniel Dunne	DLRCOCO Elected Representative
Alan Wyley	Southside Partnership DLR
Prof Joe Carthy	UCD
Dr. Josephine Browne	DLR Chamber
Lorna Kerin	Tusla (in advisory role)
<b>In Attendance:</b>	
Maria Kelly	DLRCC
Eoin Kelly	DLRCC
Bernie King	DLRCC
<b>Apologies:</b>	
Conor Hickey	Crosscare
Derek Elders	Dublin Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board

### Welcome and Introductions-Nominations & Replacements

Mary Ruane, Chief Officer, welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted there was a quorum at the meeting and noted two apologies.

### **Governance, Nominations & Replacements:**

Mary Ruane formally advised the LCDC of the nomination of Therese Langan, Director of Community and Cultural Development as the Chief Executive nominee for the LCDC; the LCDC noted the nomination and welcomed Therese to the Committee.

#### **Nomination to fill the Vacancy of Chairperson of the LCDC**

Mary Ruane reported that it is proposed for the LCDC to seek a nomination to fill the vacancy for Chairperson of the LCDC. Mary Ruane requested nominations for the role of Chairperson of the LCDC.

Cllr. Lettie McCarthy nominated Cllr. Kate Feeney for the role of Chairperson and Kay Gleeson seconded the nomination of Cllr. Kate Feeney as Chairperson of the LCDC. There was agreement to the nomination and Cllr Kate Feeney was deemed to be selected

Mary Ruane noted that the position of Vice Chairperson will be considered for filling when the LCDC has full membership in the autumn and this was agreed.

Mary Ruane noted that a number of members of the LCDC are retiring and their contribution to the LCDC will be acknowledged at the September meeting. Kay Gleeson and Michael O'Brien from the PPN and Alan Wyley (SSP) will all be stepping down. There is also a PPN vacancy to be filled arising from Tom Kivlehan's co-option as an Elected Member.

Therese Langan noted there will be an official farewell in September.

In the meantime, members including Cormac Shaw thanked the members stepping down for their hard work as volunteers on the LCDC, the length of time they have given of their own time and agreed they should be acknowledged in September.

Cllr Lettie McCarthy also thanked Michael O'Brien and Kay Gleeson for their hard work and commitment to the LCDC and for creating a richness in our society and they will be missed from the LCDC.

#### **LCDC Annual Report 2019**

Mary Ruane noted the LCDC Annual Report for 2019 was submitted to the March Council Meeting for noting.

### **Minutes and Matters Arising**

Mary Ruane noted there were three sets of minutes listed for consideration for agreement. This included minutes of meetings on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 which were deferred as there was no quorum at the last two meetings and there is a quorum at this meeting.

**Minutes from the LCDC Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019** were proposed by Kay Gleeson, seconded by Cormac Shaw and Agreed.

**Minutes from the LCDC Meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020** were proposed by Kay Gleeson, seconded by Cormac Shaw and Agreed.

**Minutes from the LCDC Meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020** were proposed by Cllr. Lettie McCarthy, seconded by Kay Gleeson and Agreed.

## **DLR Covid – 19 Response Update**

A copy of the presentation was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

LCDC Chairperson, Cllr Feeney thanked Therese Langan, Mary Ruane and the Community Team for all their hard work during the Covid crisis.

Therese Langan gave a presentation on DLRCC's Covid 19 Response outlining the setting up of the Stakeholder Forum, the Community Call helpline, social isolation calls, meals on wheels, the mobilisation of volunteers through the GAA, The Lions Club, Making Connections, Scouting Ireland and Serve the City.

Therese Langan confirmed where we are now with Covid in keeping with government guidelines and public health advice:

- Restrictions have now been lifted and some phasing accelerated.
- The number of calls to the helpline have decreased dramatically.
- People are being supported to help build their confidence in going out again.
- There is a cohort of seriously vulnerable people who will need ongoing assistance and DLR will be keeping in touch with these people.
- Library Services and Sports Partnership have organised a series of Eco walks with a psychotherapist to increase fitness and encourage older people to walk again.

It was acknowledged that the forum should continue to help the vulnerable during winter and severe weather situations.

Cllr. Feeney noted there is a huge opportunity to learn from the Stakeholder Forum model. Maybe it could be used effectively to help achieve other aims of the LCDC. There are a lot of goals around the elderly and vulnerable and this crisis shows they need our help.

## **COVID 19 Emergency Grant Fund**

Mary Ruane presented the Covid 19 Emergency Fund Report to the members and the report was NOTED. This report was circulated to the members before the meeting and included a full list of Covid grants awarded to date.

## **SICAP Update**

Cormac Shaw gave an update on SICAP. Below are the main points:

- The Annual Plan was agreed in January 2020.
- Due to Covid 19 the team moved to remote working and online delivery of services and support.
- Support was given to individuals and groups who were able to continue working on line. The Tús team was able to help with this.
- Support was given to families through the Resource Centres, helping parents with home schooling curriculum and providing activity packs.

- Through the IRIS system it was possible to connect with individuals on the database to see if they needed support. Many individuals were unemployed and needed help accessing Covid payments.
- Support was given to a number of small businesses regarding Covid payments.
- Support was provided to the community call.
- A directory of contacts and referrals available to help in the county and nationally was provided to DLRCC.
- Family Support for domestic violence and counselling was provided.
- Support for digital poverty needs was provided.
- Reporting requirements and getting signatures is very difficult due to restrictions. Work load will be captured in the non-case load.
- Funding – Southside Partnership were successful in receiving some Covid 19 Emergency Funding and also applied to the Government for funding to help reopen and get back to the office. HR and IT costs are high to reopen. The Department have given flexibility within the SICAP budget but no additional funding. 5% of the budget can be reallocated to Covid related issues.
- Work has commenced on the mid-year report which will be circulated after the 15<sup>th</sup> July.
- Targets can be addressed later in the year after Pobal has reviewed the national mid-year reports.

Cllr Feeney thanked Cormac Shaw for all his hard work during the crisis and his report.

Cllr Feeney noted that digital poverty and literacy is a problem that needs to be addressed. The crisis has shown the necessity of digital literacy and maybe as a committee the LCDC can do some work on it.

Lorna Kerin informed the members that CYPSC have developed a new site for young people [www.Letstalkdlr.ie](http://www.Letstalkdlr.ie). All of the services who provide mental health support to young people are on this website.

Cllr. Feeney thanked Professor Joe Carthy and UCD for the donation of laptops for the homeless.

Mary Ruane noted there are two vacancies on the LCDC's SICAP subgroup.

Ibrahim Al Kaddo offered to join the subgroup.

Cllr. Feeney suggested Mary Ruane should circulate information on the subgroup, time involved and the workload so members could consider if they were in a position to join the subgroup.

**Actions:**

- **Mary Ruane to circulate information on the SICAP subgroup, time involved and workload to the members for consideration.**
- **Members who are interested in joining the SICAP subgroup are to email Mary Ruane as soon as possible.**

## Healthy Ireland Round 3 Update

Mary Ruane presented the Healthy Ireland Report to the members. The report was circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Due to the impact of Covid 19 all actions and their budgets are being reviewed and this will be reported to Pobal for re-approval.

She advised that a further report will be brought to the committee in the Autumn regarding the Small Grants Scheme.

## PPN Update

Written report circulated to members prior the meeting. Report noted.

Kay Gleeson acknowledged Simone Sav and Colette Dowling for their hard work during the Crisis.

Cllr. Feeney noted the PPN's great work in highlighting the helplines during the Crisis and also reaching out to the resident's associations.

## DRCD CEP Grant 2020 Update

Mary Ruane presented the CEP report to the members. The report was circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The following items were discussed:

- **Item 1** - 30% to be ringfenced for smaller grants of up to €1,000 but will consider higher amounts at the discretion of the committee.
  
- **Item 2**- Upper grant limit proposed of €20,000.
  - Cormac Shaw noted the total funding available was circa €60,000 and to ensure a fair and even spread of funding in the County the upper limit should be reduced to approx. €10,000.
  - Cllr. Feeney suggested an upper limit of €12,500 to allow for capital projects.
  - €12,500 upper limit was agreed.
  - Michael O'Brien asked about the possibility of matched funding from groups.
  - Sharon Perry noted at present fundraising was not an option to raise match funding. There may be more applications as people are out of their premises for quite a while and work may need to be done to help community centres reopen.
  - Eoin Kelly noted match funding is not a requirement for CEP Grants.
  
- **Item 3** - Closing date for CEP Grant applications to be 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020
  - Eoin Kelly confirmed that the spend closing date would be the end of December 2020.
  - Lorna Kerin suggested a later deadline for applications as the spend deadline was December 2020

- Eoin Kelly explained that a September deadline was more realistic given the admin work involved and the Council's end of year pay run is at the beginning of December.
- **Action: Application Form and Guidelines to be issued as soon as possible to allow for groups to plan and submit applications. Application Forms will be on the online grants system.**

**Item 4-** Subcommittee to be established for assessing the applications and bring report to LCDC for decision

**Action:**

**Membership of the CEP subcommittee to be reviewed in September**

### **Leader and Rural Taskforce Update**

Mary Ruane presented the report to the members in the Towns and Villages Renewal Scheme 2020

Mary Ruane advised that notification of Towns and Villages have been circulated. She advised that details were discussed at the Rural Task Force and have been advertised on the DLRCC website.

Therese Langan confirmed DLR are looking at submitting applications for Towns & Villages funding on behalf of Sandyford and Stepside.

Mary Ruane noted that a Rural Task Force Meeting took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

Cormac Shaw noted he and Cllr McCarthy attended a LAG meeting last week.

Leader have been struggling to get environmental projects so quite a bit of the funding has been reallocated into economic and rural development. The funding is still going to rural areas.

DLR is a little behind as 8% falls into DLR and only 6.5-7% has been allocated to DLR. There are a few applications in the pipeline. It takes time to support these applications.

Cllr. McCarthy noted that some groups were unable to apply for Leader funding as their idea/activity is ~~not permitted in the DLR Development Plan for high amenity areas.~~

Cormac Shaw noted that in SDCC and Fingal, significant LEADER funding has been approved to improve Community Centres and maybe DLRCC should consider submitting an application for Glencullen Community Centre in the next round.

Cllr. Feeney noted DLRCC are reviewing the Development Plan at the moment and maybe we can look at ideas people have.

### **LECP Update**

Cormac Shaw noted the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020 deadline for updates may be tight for some organisations. A reasonable extension will be granted.

LECP Mid-Year Report will be brought to the September meeting.

### Future Update

CLlr Feeney proposed thematic workshops for future updates to allow time to discuss issues.

### AOB

Kay Gleeson thanked everyone on the Committee

Cormac Shaw acknowledged Tom Kilvehan and his work on the LCDC, SICAP committee, Rural Task Force and how much time he volunteered over the years.

Mary Ruane noted Tom Kilvehan has sent his best wishes to the Committee and the LCDC for the future.

### Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 (location to be confirmed)

Following meeting: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 (location to be confirmed)

Signed: Kate Feeney

Print Name: KATE FEENEY

Chairperson

Signed: M. Ruane

Print Name: M. RUANE

Chief Officer

