

Minutes of Meeting of Cavan Local Community Development Committee

Date: 27th February 2020

Time: 3.30pm

Location: Council Chamber

Present:

Statutory

Mr Brendan Jennings (Director of Services, CCC), Ms Carmel Denning (Dept of EA&SP), Cllr T.P. O'Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick (Elected Member), Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), John Kearney (CMETB), Marcella Rudden (LEO)

Private Sector Interests

Mr Fintan Mc Cabe (Environmental Interests), Mr Jim Maguire (Breffni Integrated Ltd.), Ms Ada Vance (Women's Interests), Mr Seamus McGrath (Disability Interests), Ms Olive Hannigan (Social Inclusion Interests), Ms Aisling Tobin (Youth Issues), Catherine McCollum (Agricultural & Farming Interests)

Apologies:

Statutory: Mary Rose Smith (HSE)

Private Sector Interests: Mr Tom Brady (Cavan Chamber), Ms Doris Galligan (C&V Interests)

In attendance:

Mr John Donohoe (Chief Officer), Ms Jane Crudden (Cavan County Council), Ms Angela Fitzpatrick (Cavan County Council), Mr Terry Hyland (CEO of Breffni Integrated),

The Chair (Mr Fintan McCabe) opened the meeting and read out the apologies.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were proposed by Ada Vance and seconded by Cllr Clifford Kelly.

2. Matters arising

- (i) The Chief Officer provided an update on the review of the LECP. He explained that the Department are setting up a steering group across government departments to issue guidance on the review and will write to the CCMA seeking a representative to the group. The Department's view was that this process would lead to a new LECP (as the current plan expires in 2021) rather than a review of the current LECP. They noted the complications that the Community Plan is only one element. There is also an Economic Plan and the interlinkages between the two parts needs to be examined.

In respect of the LCDC review itself, the Department will be focusing on training and capacity building for members in 2020 as well as publicity on the role and work of LCDCs, along with clarity on the linkages between the Economic and Community Plans.

- (ii) The Chief Officer provided information on a new Healthy Ireland Fund Portal – for noting and recording in the minutes. Over the course of 2020, Pobal will be rolling out updated and user-friendly Online Portals. This includes a new Portal for the Healthy Ireland Fund Round 3. It is intended to launch the new HIF Portal in April 2020. This new HIF Portal will replace the current portal and requires a new registration process.

Pobal have requested that we nominate a Primary Authorised User (PAU). The PAU role has specific access rights and responsibilities in relation to the Portal. Pobal recommends, as good governance, that the nomination of the PAU should be raised as an agenda item and recorded in the LCDC meeting minutes. It was agreed that Sinead Tormey would be the Primary Authorised User for Cavan, with Angela Fitzpatrick as the back-up or temporary PAU.

- (iii) Schedule of presentations to LCDC: A copy of an indicative schedule of presentations was circulated to members. The Chief Officer asked members to review and contact him with any comments/omissions.

3. Conflict of Interests

The Chair reminded members of their conflict of interest's responsibilities.

4. Peace IV/Peace Plus Update

Ms Jane Crudden, Peace Programme Manager, provided an update on the activity under Peace IV. She informed the Committee that Peace IV is approaching its completion date and a recent budget exercise identified a potential underspend at €60,000. With this in mind Jane explained she has submitted a modification request for a joint cross border trip to visit WW1 battlefields of Flanders and the Somme for the cross border groups from Cavan and Antrim Newtownabbey Borough Council as an extension to the programme and 2 residentials that have taken place previously. Jane requested LCDC approval subject to approval from SEUPB. Approval was proposed by Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Cllr T.P O'Reilly. Jane requested that this information is not shared outside this meeting until confirmation from SEUPB is received so as not to raise expectations.

If going ahead the proposed dates for the trip are the 29th March to 1st April 2020. In this regard, should the trip be approved it will run outside on the current 3 month extension period i.e end March 2020. Therefore, Jane explained she has submitted a proposal to SEUPB for an additional 3 month extension and if approved this will give Cavan County Council additional time to allocate underspend of approx. €35,000. Jane requested LCDC approval for Cavan County Council to reallocate the underspend if approval is granted from SEUPB. Approval was proposed by Cllr Clifford Kelly and Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick.

Peace Plus

Jane also provided information on Peace Plus which will run from mid 2021 to 2027. Consultation will be taking place up to the end of 2021. Jane informed the committee she has submitted the Peace Plus survey on Wednesday 26th February and will keep the LCDC updated on any further developments in relation to Peace Plus.

Cllr Clifford Kelly asked whether there was any indication at this stage on the amount of money that will be available under Peace Plus. Jane informed members that funding will be a combination of Peace and Interreg funding - the allocation is not known yet, however at minimum is expected to be the same amount as previous 2 programmes.

5. Presentation on Addiction Services for Young People in Cavan / Monaghan

The Chair welcomed Patricia Garland, Social Inclusion Manager with the HSE, Andy Ogle, Coordinator of the North East Regional Drug & Alcohol Taskforce and Cathal Grant Senior Manager for Prevention, Partnership and Family Support, TUSLA who were in attendance to provide a presentation on a new addiction service for young people in Cavan.

The presentation began with an overview of the Social Inclusion Office of the HSE, including it's governance and approach. An overview was provided of where the new service links into the national strategy and policy context. An oversight partnership group has been established to monitor the development of the Young Person Alcohol and Substance Misuse Project. This group includes the HSE Social Inclusion Section, HSE Primary Care, HSE Mental Health, CYPSC Cavan and Monaghan, TUSLA, and the North Eastern Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force (NERDTF). Following a submission by the NERDTF and the HSE funding for 3 years development has been approved. HSE is currently tendering for a Project Implementor – there will be two posts, a project manager and a clerical officer. The Service is based on a four tier model and will build onto existing youth service. The service will be for those aged between 12 years and 25 years of age. There will be training/up skilling of existing service providers. The HSE have committed to funding two new Specialist Treatment posts – this will be recurring funding. Andy, Patricia and Cathal welcomed questions from the LCDC.

The following points were outlined in questions and answers after the presentation:

- Existing adult services and Cavan Drug Awareness support those over 25 years. In instances where someone is transferring from the youth service to adult service, measures will be taken to ensure this is seamless.

- The service should be up and running within the 3 year period. Initially the project manager will need to research the current situation in the two counties and come back to the steering group on this but the service should start thereafter. While the funding is for 3 years to begin the HSE are currently looking at its sustainability after this period.
- Through links with the ETB and youth services such as Bounceback the oversight group are hearing about current issues. At this stage the oversight group has only had 4 meetings – they want the project leader to lead into service use and engagement with young people and services. Working with the CYPSC's and other agencies will also be key to getting information regarding young people. Work on the ground with YAP's has provided a good sense of issues. Research is needed on identifying pathways to services and how they intertwine with an aim to services can intervene as early as possible.
- Whether positions are full time or not depends on the Programme Implementor – whether tenders are received indicating that they can provide additional resources.
- The referral pathways should be seamless. At the moment there is no service. This service will help in dealing with such cases.
- HSE funding has been secured for 2 treatment posts, one nursing post and one counsellor post.
- The adult model and youth model are very different – for tackling youth addiction issues you need people on the ground. Adults present looking for help, young people don't. This project will help increase awareness on services available. It will also involve upskilling tier 2 sector to recognise an intervene earlier. If issues go beyond tier 1 and tier 2, there is tier 3. There will be a treatment service in place from the beginning of this service. Through the new service vulnerable cases will be referred into other agencies for support, such as TUSLA. There is a good network, part of this project is about upskilling to be able to deal with issues, possibly dealing with two strands at the same time – this will be clarified with referral pathways.
- It is not a GP led service so anyone can refer into the service.
- Essentially funding a process to look at screening and intervention training which can be provided as part of the process.

- Housing issues are being addressed through Homeless Action Teams and Housing First there are links however they will be researching what additional supports can be provided.

Mr John Kearney acknowledged that dealing with addiction is a significant challenge and heretofore the extent of the challenges have not been seen. It is important to confirm the need for services like these and to ensure sustainability. As an Education and Training provider he said his organisation witness concerns on the ground. He said the ETB are currently looking at international methods to tackling drugs and alcohol, with two staff attending a conference in Reykjavík on the 'Planet Youth' Icelandic prevention model to learn more about approached which can be taken. He said the ETB as an organisation are worried and other agencies are also worried about the impact of drugs and alcohol. In conclusion, Mr Kearney stated there is need for collective responses at a county level in dealing with this issue.

The Chair noted this as an important endorsement from the ETB. He said the presentation provided today is a fantastic to see agencies working together. He said by improving Tier 2 people including those working in education can try to prevent service users needing to access Tier 3 and Tier 4 services. He said the LCDC as a group will try to keep progressing work in this area and to ensure sustainability there is a need to continually focus on this work.

6. LECP End of Year Review 2019

The Chief Officer presented the review of the community actions for 2019 and noted some of the highlights from 2019. The report as presented was agreed by the members on the proposal of Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick and seconded by Cllr Clifford Kelly.

7. LECP Implementation Plan 2020

The Chair advised the members that this item would be taken at the March LCDC meeting.

8. SICAP End of Year Report 2019

A copy of the SICAP End of Year Report 2019 was circulated to all attendees.

Mr Terry Hyland, CEO, Cavan Local Development Company presented the key points showed that 520 individuals and 43 groups benefited in total from the programme. Both targets set for 2019 were met. 86% of the individuals and 42% of the groups were newly registered for supports in 2019. 26.15% of the individuals supported were from disadvantaged areas – this exceeded the target of 18%. The top two barriers encountered were transport and jobless households.

Ms Angela Fitzpatrick advised the members that the SICAP Sub Committee met on the 17th February and had reviewed the 2019 Annual Progress Report in detail. Following this meeting Pobal sent their high level review – Angela informed the members that the review stated that the 2019 annual plan was in line with guidance and provided a comprehensive overview of the level of support and types of interventions carried out with target groups. Pobal, however noted that in respect of data input on IRIS a number of actions have limited information in the end of year update including Life-Long Learning Opportunities and Preventative Supports for Young people while Action 2.5 Promoting better quality and sustainable employment does not have any end of year update.

Pobal also advised that the LDC need to review the client data listed under the dashboard views and update the IRIS records to complete the results for clients. It was included that all measures regarding publicity regarding the SICAP Programme had been adhered to. Finally, it was noted that in 2019 there was an underspend of €1,769.53 – as this is within the 5% programme rule it can be transferred to 2020.

Angela informed the group that the SICAP Monitoring Sub-Committee had recommended adoption of the review. In light of the items raised by Pobal which the LDC need to address Angela requested LCDC approval subject to measure being taken to correct same. This was agreed by the committee on the proposal of Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Cllr T.P O'Reilly.

9. SICAP Annual Plan 2020

Ms Fitzpatrick informed members that following the presentation of the SICAP Annual Plan 2020 at the November 2019 LCDC meeting, Cavan County Council and Pobal had reviewed the plan. The plan together with review feedback was discussed in detail at the SICAP Monitoring Sub-Committee meeting on the 17th February. Angela informed the members that the SICAP Sub-Committee had recommended the adoption of the plan. The SICAP Annual Plan 2020 was proposed by Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick and seconded by Ms Olive Hannigan.

10. LCDC Annual Report

A copy of the LCDC Annual Report was circulated to all members in advance of the meeting. The Chief Officer advised the members that under Section 128B of the Local Government Act, an annual report of the LCDC's activities must be presented to the elected members, no later than 31st March each year. He proceeded to outline some of the highlights from the report. The report was adopted on the proposal of Cllr Clifford Kelly, seconded by Ms Marcella Rudden.

11. AOB

Chief Officer informed the members that the election of a new vice-chair would be an item on the agenda for the March LCDC meeting.

Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Next meeting is on Thursday 26th March 2020 at 3.30pm in Killinkere Community Centre.

Signed: _____

Chairman

Date: _____