**Cavan Local Community Development Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting held on 24 November 2016 at 2pm in the Council Chamber**

**Present:** Tommy Ryan (Chief Executive), Cllr Paddy O’Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), John Kearney (Cavan Monaghan ETB), Marcella Rudden (Local Enterprise Office), Carmel Denning (DSP), Mary Rose Smith (HSE), Jim Reilly (Community & Voluntary Interests), Olive Hannigan (Social Inclusion Interests), Fintan McCabe (Environmental Interests), Seamus McGrath (Disability Interests), Ada Vance (Women’s Issues), Gerry McDonagh (Cootehill Chamber of Commerce).

**Apologies:** Catherine McCollum (Agricultural and Farming Interests), Cllr Paddy McDonald (Elected Member), Jim Maguire (Breffni Integrated Ltd.), Ashling Tobin (Youth Issues).

**In attendance:** Eoin Doyle (Cavan County Council), John Donohoe (Chief Officer), Emer Coveney (Cavan County Council), Marianne McDermott (Cavan County Council), Theresa Tierney (Cavan County Council), Brendan Reilly (Breffni Integrated Ltd.), David Dalton (Principal Officer), Paul Lemass (Assistant Secretary).

The Chair (Tommy Ryan) opened the meeting and read out the apologies.

Tommy Ryan welcomed the two new members to the LCDC, Jim Reilly (Community & Voluntary Interests) and Seamus McGrath (Disability Interests).

Tommy Ryan also welcomed the two officials from the Department, Paul Lemass (Assistant Secretary) and David Dalton (Principal Officer). They are currently touring the country observing LCDC meetings to see how they are working.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting**

Cllr Clifford Kelly proposed the minutes from the previous meeting and Fintan McCabe seconded them.

1. **Matters Arising**

A nomination was sought for a vacancy on the SICAP Monitoring Committee.John Kearney proposed Carmel Denning and Cllr Clifford Kelly seconded this.

A nomination was also sought for a vacancy on the Equality subgroup. As no nominations were made at the meeting, it was agreed that nominations could be made to the Chief Officer by email after the meeting.

**Election of Vice Chair to LCDC**

The Chief Officer informed the members that the position of vice chair was vacant following the resignation of Jerry Fitzpatrick and sought nominations for the position of vice chair. John Kearney and Fintan Mc Cabe were nominated and seconded. After discussions it was agreed to elect the vice chair by a secret written vote. Tommy Ryan agreed to abstain from voting to ensure that the majority voting was from the non statutory side.

After the secret ballot, the Chief Officer informed the members that Fintan McCabe was elected as the vice chair to the LCDC.

1. **Presentation from HSE Representative**

Mary Rose Smith gave a presentation from the HSE.

The HSE has recently undergone a process of restructuring. Cavan is now part of Community Health Organisation 1 which also includes Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Monaghan. The Chief Officer is John Hayes. There are 13 Primary Care Teams in Cavan and Cavan has done very well in terms of infrastructure for the primary care service. Cavan is neither a very affluent area nor a very disadvantaged area.

Every night 1500 beds are occupied for alcohol reasons nationally. The HSE is trying to develop a HEAL (Healthy Eating and Active Living) programme across every niche in Ireland. The launch of the Healthy Cities and Counties Programme is taking place next week. It is incumbent on all organisations to have a role in Healthy Ireland. The HSE has recently launched an obesity policy and action plan. Chronic diseases (such as heart disease, COPD, mental health) are continuing to rise.

Olive Hannigan complimented the interesting presentation. She queried whether anything is being done to address the drug problem in Cavan.

Mary Rose Smith spoke about the one addiction counsellor in Cavan Monaghan who spends most of her time in Cavan General Hospital. There is a huge deficit in resources. There is currently no under 18s drugs service. The counsellor currently sits on the Cavan Drug & Alcohol Forum. There is a huge need for further development and preventative work needs to be strengthened.

Cllr Paddy O’Reilly referred to the high rate of suicide in Cavan, which at 13.7% is higher than the national average of 11.3%.

Mary Rose Smith explained that in many cases where people took their own lives there was a high intake of alcohol. Suicide is higher in males over 40 years of age than younger males. Rurally isolated single males are also at higher risk.

Fintan McCabe complimented the presentation. He then referred to the lack of information hospitals can give to parents about a child with alcohol addiction.

Mary Rose Smith spoke about capacity and consent. If anyone is deemed to have capacity and is over 16, information is only disclosed to that person. The person has to agree if they want next of kin present. The new Capacity Bill which is going through now will have a huge impact on how information is shared.

John Kearney spoke about the very comprehensive presentation especially in relation to the two LECP actions and referred to a Jigsaw Project for youth mental health. This can benefit both schools and the community. Mary Rose Smith said that a Jigsaw project will be established in Cavan. John Kearney said that the ETB would be interested in assisting it.

1. **SICAP**

2017 Annual Plan

Brendan Reilly spoke about the draft 2017 SICAP plan. The budget will be €741,784. They are required to stay within the budgets, broken down as 25% administration and the remainder divided between the three goals. Direct costs relate to salary and travel. Non-salary costs are for programme costs. Pobal has identified more disadvantaged areas in Cavan, further west of Belturbet and Killeshandra.

Tommy Ryan spoke about the 2017 SICAP Programme which will be a continuation of education and development towards employment.

John Donohoe spoke about the SICAP Monitoring group meeting on the 16th November. The group went through the Pobal technical review at that meeting. All issues have now been addressed by Breffni Integrated. The draft plan was discussed by the group.

Goal 1 – Local Community Groups – Disability Network established in 2016. Recommendation – work to be continued in 2017. Training and capacity building to be provided.

Goal 2. Travellers as a target group. Low level of engagement nationally. Some are engaging but not disclosing ethnicity. SICAP will seek to establish a Travellers Network for all Traveller projects in Cavan. This idea was initially suggested by the Primary Healthcare Programme. Also provide support for the traveller men’s sheds. SICAP can provide training but not capital costs.

It was agreed that staff from Breffni Integrated Ltd. would attend some LCDC meetings. Presentations from staff were seen as a useful way for LCDC members to hear about work on the ground. It was agreed that if time permitted at the next meeting in Breffni Integrated staff would make a presentation on Goal 3 focusing on employment supports. Youth was also highlighted and can be covered in a later presentation.

Cllr Paddy O’Reilly enquired about supervised employment. Brendan Reilly said that a lot of their clients go on to self employment. Supported employment is provided under the Employability Scheme.

Carmel Denning spoke about the supports for employment under DSP. There are advisors available in Bridge Street, Cavan and Beckscourt, Bailieborough. The programme is rolled out from Monaghan. The Wage Subsidy Scheme is in place which can support costs to employers. There are a wide range of employers availing of this in Cavan.

Action: Carmel Denning to forward on details about this scheme.

Seamus McGrath said that employers should be made aware of the scheme.

Carmel Denning said that there was a networking event in September for jobs week informing employers about the various schemes. LEO also promote all of these schemes.

**Approval of 2017 plan**

Agreement was sought for the 2017 plan and this was agreed.

1. **Update on 2016 plan**

The next LCDC meeting will discuss the SICAP 2016 End of Year Review. The SICAP Monitoring Subgroup and the LCDC will need to review this before 17 February. Pobal will also provide feedback on the EOY review.

1. **LEADER Update**

Staff from Breffni Integrated held 5 public information evenings around the county with an attendance of 197. Cllr Paddy Reilly complimented the public meetings which were held around the county. The SLA has now been agreed with Breffni Integrated Ltd.

Action: A copy of the signed SLA will be distributed to all members.

Forty three expression of interest forms have been received to date, this volume is significantly ahead of the last programme. This highlights the success of the public meetings. Breffni Integrated will work with these groups to develop their expression of interest forms into applications. All EOIs will come before the LCDC for approval as the decision making power rests with the LCDC. Brendan Reilly asked for confidentiality regarding the groups who have submitted to date. This is a continuous process. There is no closing date for the expressions of interests.

Since August 2016 Cavan County Council are the financial partner to the programme. There is a need for training and capacity building for both the LCDC in their new role and the evaluation committee. Brendan Reilly is to look into something nationally in the ILDN. If nothing available there is a need to develop training locally.

Competitive/Targeted calls must account for 40% of projects approved in monetary terms annually and overall in the programme. If 40% is not reached a deduction will be made from the LAG allocation. This is a new requirement under the LEADER programme. There is €1.7m for projects in 2016/2017. The competitive calls proposal for 2017 is for €1m which is just over 40% under three themes;

1. Rural tourism
2. Provision of basic services targeted at hard to reach communities
3. Rural youth.

Cllr Paddy Reilly asked whether sports organisations could apply. Brendan Reilly explained that it depends whether the Sports Capital Programme is opened. This call is just for sports equipment.

John Donohoe referred to the different levels of grant available for private enterprise compared to community.

The advert for the competitive calls will be going into the Anglo Celt newspaper next week for two weeks. Breffni Integrated will advertise on their website. Cavan County Council and the PPN will also advertise. While the targeting calls are going on there are also rolling calls. Any EOIs received to date under these headings can be included in the targeted calls.

Fintan McCabe asked whether there would be sensitivity for animation and scope for feasibility.

Brendan Reilly explained that the actual application is a full form. Each group will be facilitated to complete this form. The applications will then be evaluated by the evaluation committee before coming to the LCDC for final approval.

The competitive calls proposal for 2017 was agreed unanimously by the LCDC.

John Donohoe spoke about the code of conduct and Declaration of Interests forms. These have now been tweaked for the LEADER Programme.

Action: Code of Conduct/Declaration of Interests forms to be completed by each member for the next LCDC meeting.

**LECP Update**

The national launch of LECPs took place in Tullamore on the 20th September. Cavan launched their LECP on the 23rd September with Minister Heather Humphreys.

Action: Annual report will be prepared and presented to the LCDC in the New Year.

Emer Coveney gave an update on the progress of various actions within the plan.

The National Convention of Older People’s Councils took place on the 3rd and 4th November with 150 delegates in attendance. It was a huge success. The Cavan Age Friendly Alliance is currently developing the new Age Friendly Strategy. A survey of the community facilities in the county has taken place and it is hoped that the draft report will be ready for early January. Martin Keeney, the new Children & Young People’s Services Committee [CYPSC] Co-ordinator, will be invited to present to the LCDC in the New Year. The new rural transport Local Link service in Cavan Town will be launched on the 9th December. The Joint Policing Committee will hold their public meeting on the 6th December at 7pm in the Hotel Kilmore and LCDC members are encouraged to attend. Funding has been secured to deliver a Strengthening Families Programme as an action of the Cavan Drug and Alcohol Forum. This will commence in Jan/Feb. A site co-ordinator is being recruited.

Olive Hannigan asked if the draft report of the community facilities could go out early to identify gaps for the community facilities competitive call under Leader.

1. **Peace Update**

The stage two application was submitted. SEUPB Steering Committee met on the 22nd November to make decisions. Cavan County Council is still waiting on a formal confirmation of the funding and Letter of Offer.

1. **LCDC Equality Group Report**

Two meetings have taken place to date. This group has a monitoring role in terms of the LECP. At the last meeting there was an input from the PPN. At the next meeting Thomas Maughan from the Traveller Interagency Group will give a presentation. Training to be provided to the group from Irish Human Rights Equality Commission. The group will meet quarterly.

1. **A.O.B.**

The LCDC conference took place in the Royal Kilmainham Hospital. There was a large turn out from the Department and the Community and Voluntary Sector.

Fintan requested a parking permit for meetings as they often go on longer than two hours.

Action: Parking permit to be sent out with the agenda for meetings.

The officials from Dept of Housing Paul Lemass and David Dalton gave their observations on the committee and the Cavan LECP. Paul Lemass would like the LCDC discussions to be linked in to driving the outcomes of the LECP plan. He agreed that equality proofing was an appropriate approach to take to the LECP. David Dalton said that the Department would undertake a full review of LCDC structures. They will organise consultation will LCDC members and all stakeholders. They will work with 6-8 ‘pathfinder’ LCDCs to get them to a high level of strategic thinking.

1. **Date and time of next meeting.**

It was proposed that meetings will take place each month except August and December in 2017. The evaluation committee can meet before each meeting. Proposed the third Thursday of each month.

Action: Circulate the dates for all of the meetings to all members. Dates can be agreed at the next meeting.

The next meeting to be held on the 26th January at 2pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman