

Laois Local Community Development Committee
Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 14th December 2022
Laois County Council & via MS Teams at 11.30am



Members in attendance:

Public Sector representatives: Mr. Joe Thompson, Laois Offaly Education & Training Board (Chairperson)
Cllr. John King, Laois County Council
Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Laois County Council
Mr. John Mulholland, CE Laois County Council
Ms. Evelyn Reddin, Laois Local Enterprise Office
Ms. Paula Phelan, HSE

Private Sector representatives: Mr. Martin Crowley, Business Sector (Vice Chairperson)
Ms. Peter O'Neill, Laois Partnership Company
Mr. Nina Horan, Laois Public Participation Network
Mr. Naeem Iqbal, Laois Public Participation Network
Ms. Joan Bolger, Laois Public Participation Network

Apologies: Cllr. Conor Bergin, Laois County Council
Mr. Kevin Geoghegan, DSP
Mr. Clive Davis, Youth Sector (Youth Work Ireland Laois)
Mr. Henry Burns, Farming Sector (I.F.A)
Mr. Ray Harte, Laois Public Participation Network
Mr. John Oxley, Laois Public Participation Network

In Attendance: Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer
Ms. Suzanne O'Connor, A/Senior Staff Officer, Laois County Council
Ms. Rose Doolin, Assistant Staff Officer, Laois County Council
Ms. Jenny Collier, Laois Partnership Company

Ms. Suzanne O'Connor, Laois Co Co registered all members present on the meeting attendance sheet.

Mr. Joe Thompson, Chairperson, opened the meeting welcoming all present to the last meeting of 2022.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC meeting held on 30th November 2022.

The minutes were adopted following a proposal from **Cllr. John King** seconded by **Mr. Peter O'Neill**.

2. Matters Arising

None

3. Correspondence

None

4. SICAP & CEP Audit

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer advised members that the Local Government Audit Service have commenced their exchequer audit for SICAP and CEP 2021 on behalf of the Department.

Laois Partnership Company and Laois LCDC have been selected for audit. LGAS have been in contact with Laois LCDC with the audit having commenced on Tuesday 29th November. The IP's audit will commence week beginning 24th January 2023.

5. Healthy Laois

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer noted that on Thursday, the 24th November, a Consultation Workshop was held in the LOETB Centre of Excellence, O' Moore Park, Portlaoise. The workshop brought together a broad cross section of Laois Community Groups and agencies, in addition to Service Users, to help inform the new Healthy Laois 2023- 2025 Strategy. A series of round table consultations and feedback sessions were held, which were facilitated by Storm Powell and Jim O'Brien.

The workshop offered an opportunity for meaningful collaboration with groups and organisations and the focused discussions produced very good information and provided insight into the issues affecting the citizens of county Laois, with key actions and outcomes identified.

The Final Strategy is to be submitted to Healthy Ireland by 27th January 2023 and will be presented to the LCDC for approval at the January meeting

6. LEADER 2022-2027

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer advised members that as Chief Officer she has prepared an expression of interest application on behalf of Laois LCDC.

7. AOB

Proposed Meeting Dates for 2023

LCDC/LAG Proposed 2023 Meeting Dates
Wednesday 25 th January 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 22 nd February 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 29 th March 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 26 th April 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 31 st May 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 28 th June 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 26 th July 2023 @ 11.30am
No Meeting in August
Wednesday 27 th September 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 25 th October 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 29 th November 2023 @ 11.30am
Wednesday 13 th December 2023 @ 11.30am

The 2023 meeting dates were unanimously agreed by members being proposed by Ms. Joan Bolger and seconded by Mr. John Mulholland.

Committee Vacancies

Due to the resignation of Ms. Anne Sheerin, HSE and temporary replacement of Ms. Catherine Cowap, CEO Laois Partnership Company a number of positions are available on various sub-committees as follows:

- Healthy Ireland Sub Committee x 1 vacancy to be filled
- Community Enhancement Programme x 2 vacancies to be filled
- SICAP sub-committee x 2 vacancies to be filled

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer proceeded to undertake an election process to fill all vacancies.

Healthy Ireland Sub Committee Election/Nomination x 1

Nominee: Ms. Paula Phelan, HSE

Proposed: Ms. Joan Bolger

Seconded: Cllr. John King

CEP Sub Committee Election/Nomination x 2:

Nominee: Mr. Peter O'Neill, Laois Partnership Company

Proposed: Cllr. John King

Seconded: Mr. Martin Crowley

Nominee: Ms. Paula Phelan, HSE

Proposed: Cllr. Paschal McEvoy

Seconded: Ms. Evelyn Reddin

SICAP sub-committee election/nomination x 2

Nominee: Mr. Naeem Iqbal

Proposed: Cllr. Paschal McEvoy

Seconded: Cllr. John King

Nominee: Ms. Joan Bolger, PPN Rep

Proposed: Mr. John Mulholland

Seconded: Ms. Paula Phelan

Ukrainian Allocation under the 2023 SICAP Programme

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer advised members that on Monday 12th Dec the Dept of Rural and Community Development announced an additional €10 million in funding to continue the vital work in welcoming people

arriving from Ukraine. €9m of this will be allocated to LDCs with €1m withheld to address any contingencies as what

is a fluid situation continues to evolve.

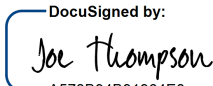
Key points

- A flat rate of €40,000 has been allocated to all SICAP Lot areas where there are Ukrainians, with an additional allocation based on the numbers of Ukrainians in the Lot.
- Similar to the 2022 Ukrainian allocation, eligible costs under the allocation will be activities that directly relate to the implementation of the SICAP supports to Ukrainians. Action costs relating to SICAP interventions can be divided across the two SICAP goals where required.
- Flexibility can be applied where practical to extend the delivery of Ukrainian budget funded supports to non-Ukrainian refugees.
- All 2023 Ukrainian spend must be reported in the same way as the 2022 Ukrainian budget, i.e. all costs relating to the Ukrainian budget must be tagged to the “Ukrainian allocation” field when submitting the 2023 mid and end of year reports.
- All funding must be spent within 2023, with no provision for carryover into 2024.
- Please notify your DC of any changes in your area with regard to settlement of Ukrainian Refugees (for example a large accommodation centre opens/ closes etc.) Pobal will review available statistics also on an ongoing basis.

Next Steps Annual Plan 2023

- Pobal will follow up with a separate communication to you confirming the 2023 Lot level allocation. The 2023 Budget amount on IRIS (to include both the SICAP and Ukrainian budgets 2023 combined) will be updated.
- Please now continue to update and finalise your Annual Plan 2023, and include actions, activities to support Ukrainians (as per the Annual Plan 2023 guidance previously issued). Pobal will be in contact shortly to advise of revised timelines for submission and approval.
- Where the Ukrainian budget 2023 will be used towards recruiting a Ukrainian Support Worker, please ensure the Staffing Sheet 2023 reflects this and only includes staffing costs pertaining to the 2023 budget (not any carryover from 2022).

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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SIGNED: _____
Mr. Joe Thompson
CHAIRPERSON – LAOIS LCDC

DATE: Wednesday 25th January 2023.