

**Laois Local Community Development Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2020**  
**At 5:00pm via Telephone Conferencing**



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**Members in attendance:**

**Public Sector representatives:**

Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Laois County Council (Chairperson)  
Cllr. John King, Laois County Council  
Cllr. Conor Bergin, Laois County Council  
Ms. Evelyn Reddin, Laois Local Enterprise Office  
Mr. Colm Purcell, DEASP  
Mr. Joe Thompson, Laois Offaly Education & Training Board (Vice Chairperson)

**Private Sector representatives:**

Ms. Catherine Cowap, A/CEO Laois Partnership Company  
Ms. Mary White, Laois Public Participation Network  
Mr. Robbie Quinn, Laois Public Participation Network  
Mr. PJ Campbell, Laois Public Participation Network  
Mr. Ray Harte, Laois Public Participation Network  
Mr. Kieran Finane, Business Sector

**Apologies:**

Mr. John Mulholland, CE Laois County Council  
Ms. Ann Sheerin, HSE  
Mr. Vincent Booth, Laois Public Participation Network  
Mr. Henry Burns, Farming Sector  
Mr. Clive Davis, Youth Sector

**In Attendance:**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer  
Ms. Carmel McNicholl, SEO Laois County Council  
Ms. Suzanne O'Connor, A/Senior Staff Officer  
Ms. Jenny Collier, Laois Partnership Company

Ms. Suzanne O'Connor, Laois Co Co took a roll call of all attendees and registered those present on the meeting attendance sheet.

Chairman Cllr. Paschal McEvoy opened the meeting and welcomed all members including new member Mr. Martin Crowley, Chambers Ireland Representative. Condolences were offered on behalf of LCDC members to Ray Harte on the passing of his brother Damien (RIP).

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020.**

The minutes were adopted following a proposal from *Cllr John King* which was seconded by *Mr. Joe Thompson*.

**2. Matters Arising**

None

**3. Correspondence**

None

**4. LCDC Membership**

Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Chairperson, welcomed Mr. Martin Crowley representing Laois Chambers to the committee. Mr. Crowley’s nomination was ratified by Elected Members on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October at the LA monthly meeting.

**5. SICAP**

**(A) 2020 Case Study – “Hope in a Time of Covid”**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer drew members attention to the IP’s case study which formed a part of the October LCDC meeting pack. This 2020 case study report was submitted to Pobal as instructed. Members congratulated Catherine Cowap and her team in Laois Partnership on the submission and were impressed with the content and testimonials contained within.

**(B) Revised SICAP Targets for 2020**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer informed members that 2020 SICAP targets were to be reviewed and revised on the recommendation of the LCDC. Targets registered on IRIS formed part of members meeting pack containing the following information:

KPI1 Target: 25	KPI2 Target: 442	%KPI2 Disadvantaged: 28%
KPI1 Achieved: 26	KPI2 Achieved: 288	%KPI2 Achieved: 15.56%
% Achieved: 104%	% Achieved: 65%	

Suggested Revised Targets for 2020:

	2020 Existing Annual Targets	2020 Proposed Annual Targets	Projected & Achievement of existing targets
<b>Goal 1</b>	25	28	+12%
<b>Goal 2</b>	442	300	-32%

**Rational for Change:**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer, advised members that the IP, Laois Partnership, had already met their KPI1 target for this year, and will continue to work with these groups as usual. Laois Partnership will have difficulty in reaching the KPI2 target given the constraints of covid-19. A reduction in the KPI2 target would be helpful due to the challenges of working through this unprecedented period.

The motion to revise 2020 targets was *proposed by Cllr. Paschal McEvoy and seconded by Ms. Mary White.*

**(C) Suggested KPI Targets 2021**

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer, also advised members that it was proposed to make the same carry forward the 2020 revised targets in 2021. These will therefore be the suggested KPI targets for 2021.

Suggested Revised Targets for 2021:

	2020 Target	Suggested 2021 Target	% Difference
KPI1	25	28	+12%
KPI2	442	300	-32%

Rational for Revision:

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer, advised members that it was recommended to carry forward the 2020 revised targets into 2021. Mr. Brennan noted that we now don't know when COVID will end and again the revised targets for 2021 will assist in these challenging times.

The revised targets for 2021 *was proposed by Mr. Joe Thompson and seconded by Cllr. John King.*

(D) Annual Planning Process 2021

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer, noted that timeliness for the 2021 Annual Planning Process has been extended to allow for Annual Plans to be submitted on **30<sup>th</sup> November**.

(E) Emerging Needs Group 2021

Mr. Donal Brennan, Chief Officer, advised an emerging needs group can be selected by the LCDC, as a group which the LCDC wishes to see particular engagement with. The Emerging Needs groups was identified as "Disadvantaged Families in need of extra support as a result of COVID".

Ms. Catherine Cowap, A/CEO Laois Partnership, noted that this will be a continuation of work which commenced in 2020 being carried forward in 2021. Laois Partnership delivered a variety of activity boxes, sports boxes, art boxes etc. It was also noted that children and families cannot be captured as a target on IRIS, however they can be entered as an output, which captures the number of adult males/females that are assisted, the number/gender breakdown of children and their age range. This will appear on the LOT Summary Report. This would be a way to capture work on the system and making it visible.

Mr. Joe Thompson, LOETB, asked what does "extra support" in the suggested emerging need refer to. Ms. Catherine Cowap noted that in addition to food parcel through the Hope for Laois project, children needed to be provided with homework packs in conjunction to teacher's emails etc. Packs were constructed and delivered to children in DEIS schools along with activity packs for children in disadvantaged areas throughout Laois. It is now envisaged to create packs for Christmas cookery i.e. ingredients packs with on-line zoom meeting where people can be in their own kitchen with an on-line tutor. Laois Partnership will continue to communicate with people over phone, skype and teams.

The Emerging Needs Groups identified as ""Disadvantaged Families in need of extra support as a result of COVID" and "Children and Families" to be captured as an output on IRIS *was proposed by Cllr. Paschal McEvoy and seconded by Cllr. John King.*

**6. Any Other Business**

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED:

  
CHAIRPERSON – LAOIS LCDC

DATE: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020.