

Laois Local Community Development Committee
Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 26th January 2022
At 11:30am via Microsoft Teams

Members in attendance:

Public Sector representatives: Mr. Joe Thompson, Laois Offaly Education & Training Board (Chairperson)
Cllr. Conor Bergin, Cathaoirleach Laois County Council
Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Laois County Council
Mr. John Mulholland, CE Laois County Council
Ms. Honor Deevy, Laois Local Enterprise Office
Ms. Ann Sheerin, HSE

Private Sector representatives: Mr. Martin Crowley, Business Sector (Vice Chairperson)
Ms. Catherine Cowap, A/CEO Laois Partnership Company
Mr. Clive Davis, Youth Sector (Youth Work Ireland Laois)
Mr. Henry Burns, Farming Sector (I.F.A)
Mr. Nina Horan, Laois Public Participation Network
Ms. Joan Bolger, Laois Public Participation Network
Mr. Naeem Iqbal, Laois Public Participation Network

Apologies: Cllr. John King, Laois County Council
Mr. Colm Purcell, DEASP
Mr. John Oxley, Laois Public Participation Network
Mr. Ray Harte, Laois Public Participation Network

In Attendance: Ms. Carmel McNicholl, Chief Officer
Ms. Suzanne O'Connor, A/Senior Staff Officer, Laois County Council
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.

Mr. Joe Thompson, Chairperson, opened the meeting welcoming all present.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC meeting held on 15th December 2021.

The minutes were adopted following a proposal from *Mr. John Mulholland* seconded by *Mr. Martin Crowley*.

2. Matters Arising

Ms. Carmel McNicholl, Chief Officer informed members that an error was noted in the attendance record of the minutes of 15th December and this has been corrected.

3. Correspondence

Ms. Carmel McNicholl, Chief Office advised members that one item of correspondence was received, forming part of members meeting papers.

- *Email from Pobal received Thursday 16th December 2021 titled "Annual Performance Review 2021"*

Ms. Carmel McNicholl advised that correspondence referred to the SICAP Annual Performance Review and the steps involved in the process which would be discussed further under Agenda Item 4 – SICAP.

4. SICAP

SICAP Annual Performance Review 2021

Ms. Carmel McNicholl, Chief Officer informed member that the 2021 Annual Performance Review was underway with the LDC, Laois Partnership Company, scheduled to upload documents to IRIS by Monday 24th January. The purpose of the review is to allow the LCDC to assess the progress of the LDC for the year against what was set out in the SICAP annual plan and 2021 budget allocation. It provides a picture of the actual achievements in relation to the actions and targets set out in the SICAP annual plan and budget for each Lot. In addition, the APR identifies and reviews any issues that have arisen during the year and provides a mechanism for LDC's to report on and charge VAT costs to the programme.

SICAP 2022 Annual Plan

Ms. Carmel McNicholl, Chief Officer noted that a review of 2022 Annual Plan was undertaken by LCDC staff with comments on any issues communicated to Pobal in order to obtain feedback. A meeting of the SICAP subcommittee will be convened on Friday 4th February 2022 to review said feedback in order to finalise and approve 2022 annual plan prior to Monday 28th February deadline.

It was duly noted that the SICAP Annual Performance review for 2021 reporting period must be approved in advance of the 2022 Annual Plan. Both items be on the agenda of the February 2022 meeting.

5. AOB

Mr. Joe Thompson, LCDC Chairperson asked for a brief update on the progress of the LECP. In addition to the update given to members at the December meeting, Ms. Carmel McNicholl, Chief Officer, advised that while awaiting further Departmental guidance, staff are examining how the LECP process will roll out over the course of 2022. Ms. McNicholl added that this undertaking is a substantial piece of work, includes a public consultation process to ensure the plan is integrated and incorporates both economic and community elements, providing a framework for local development over the next six years. Updates will be furnished to members on an on-going basis as the plan progresses.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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SIGNED:

Mr. Joe Thompson
CHAIRPERSON – LAOIS LCDC

DATE: **Wednesday 23rd February 2022.**