

Laois Local Community Development Committee
Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 27th July 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, Laois County Council
Cllr. John King, Laois County Council
Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Laois County Council
Ms. Ann Sheerin, HSE

Private Sector representatives: Ms. Catherine Cowap, CEO Laois Partnership Company
Mr. Henry Burns, Farming Sector (I.F.A)
Mr. Naeem Iqbal, Laois Public Participation Network
Mr. Nina Horan, Laois Public Participation Network
Mr. Ray Harte, Laois Public Participation Network
Mr. John Oxley, Laois Public Participation Network

Apologies: Mr. John Mulholland, CE Laois County Council
Ms. Honor Deevy, Laois Local Enterprise Office
Mr. Kevin Geoghegan, DSP
Mr. Martin Crowley, Business Sector (Vice Chairperson)
Mr. Clive Davis, Youth Sector (Youth Work Ireland Laois)
Ms. Joan Bolger, Laois Public Participation Network

In Attendance: Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer
Ms. Anne Marie Kirrane, A/Administrative Officer, Laois County Council
Mr. Stephen Ring, Clerical Officer, Laois County Council
Ms. Jenny Collier, Laois Partnership Company

Ms. Anne Marie Kirrane, 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 25th May 2022.

The minutes were adopted following a proposal from **Cllr John King** seconded by **Ms Catherine Cowap**.

2. Matters Arising

None

3. Correspondence

- (a) Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer referred to correspondence received via email on 21st June 2022 titled “Additional €5m for SICAP – Ukraine”. Ms Tynan noted the following key points:
- Each LDC/LCDC operating in areas where Ukrainian people have settled will be allocated baseline funding of €20,000 with the remaining funding distributed proportionally based on the most recent data re arrivals (CSO).
 - Eligible costs under the allocation will be activities that directly relate to the implementation of the SICAP supports to Ukrainians. This includes both salary and non-salary costs. Action costs relating to SICAP interventions can be divided across the two SICAP goals where required. Retrospective costs in 2022 linked directly to Ukrainian actions are eligible.

- (a) In addition, a further email received on the 23rd June advised that Laois will receive an allocation of €83,548 consisting of the baseline allocation of €20,000 and an additional allocation of €63,548.

Ms Tynan noted:

- The additional amount of €63,548 was based on the most recent Ukraine arrivals per CSO data.
- All funding should be ringfenced into one or two specific actions and associated administration costs per lot. (admin costs cannot exceed 25% of the total additional budget allocation)
- A new field will be added to IRIS so that the LDC can tag all costs relating to the Ukrainian allocation.

Criteria:

- A max of one new action should be added to the plan **under each goal** (laois have Goal 1 / Goal 2)
 - Additional actions do NOT require targets to be set for the remainder of the year.
 - Any actions that currently include activities focused on Ukrainians should not be charged as the additional funding needs to be ringfenced.
- Additional funding and actions to be negotiated between LCDC and LDC.
 - The LDC and LCDC must complete a change control notice which outline agreed changes, the rationale for the change and how the funding will be ringfenced.
 - When the request is agreed the annual plan will be updated on IRIS.

4. Healthy Ireland

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer advised members that the *Healthy Ireland Fund 2022-2025 Grant Agreement* was signed on the 9th June 2022, which includes an allocation of an indicative Budget of €160,000, summarised as follows:

BUDGET	
Item	€
HIF 1 st June – 31 st Dec 2022	40,000
HIF 2023	40,000
HIF 2024	40,000
HIF 2025	40,000
Total	160,000

The 2022 Budget allows for:

1. capacity building and planning for the application process for 2023-2025, which can include: training to upskill in relation to the new outcomes-based approach being rolled out or a facilitator to undertake a consultation with stakeholders, in relation to identifying health risks and priorities;
2. the delivery of any activities in the health and wellbeing space, that have been identified as a priority in 2022;
3. a contribution to community health and wellbeing initiatives in response to the arrival of Ukrainian refugees in Laois.

The final Annual allocation will be confirmed in Q4 of each year.

There will be an Application process later in 2022 relating to 2023-2025, where priority outcomes for 2023 to 2025 and intended interventions specific to Laois will be identified.

Further guidance in relation to the HIF 2023-2025 Application and appraisal process will issue in Q3 2022 and supports will be put in place to assist the local planning process for this.

Reporting for 2022 will be based on activities and outputs delivered under the current 7 HIF priority themes listed below, with an additional category for planning for HIF 2023-2025 and is due for submission on the 17th February 2023:

- ✓ Mental Health
- ✓ Nutrition
- ✓ Physical Activity
- ✓ Sexual Health
- ✓ Spaces and Places for Health and Wellbeing
- ✓ Tobacco and Alcohol

2022 Budget Spend Approvals

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer noted that the Healthy Ireland Sub Committee convened Friday 15th July to consider the HI Budget allocation spend across all actions as set out below and as recommended by the subcommittee.

Members commended that HI team, the HI subcommittee and relevant action partners on work undertaken in order to arrive at the spend allocation.

• Activating our Communities- LAOIS SPORTS PARTNESHIP	€7,000.00
• Healthy Communities, New Communities- LAOIS PARTNERSHIP	€4,500.00
• Swim Ability Park Activity- SPORTS & LEISURE SECTION	€7,000.00
• Positive Laois – YOUTH WORK IRELAND	€6,500.00
• Community Engagement- Leave a Light On	€6,000.00
• Community Engagement- Musical Memories	€2,500.00
• Community Engagement- C&V Awards	€ 500.00
• Midlands LGBT+	€2,000.00
• Healthy Laois Plan Workshop	€4,000.00
TOTAL	€40,000.00

The 2022 Healthy Ireland Round 4 spend was approved by members being proposed by ***Cllr Paschal McEvoy*** and seconded by ***Cllr John King***.

International Men's Health Week.

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer advised members that as part of International Men's Health Week, the Irish Men's Shed's Association launched a new Walkshop Resource for its members across Ireland. The Resource will be posted out to over 450 Men's Sheds in Ireland and will be available online. The new Resource was created in partnership with Men's Sheds, Mental Health Ireland and Get Walking Ireland. It aims to encourage Men to make the first steps back

TOWARD SHEDS, after a challenging 2 years of pandemic lockdowns, disruption and social isolation. Many Shed Members are offering to do Walk Swaps, to host other visiting Shed Members to their local area, to share their local knowledge and experience.

To celebrate this launch, Laois Men's Shed, led out by Laois Sport Partnership, using Fitsticks funded by Healthy Laois, arranged a 5km walk around Abbeyleix Bog on Tuesday, 14th June 2022 and was enjoyed by Shedders from Laois, Navan, Slane and Waterford.

5. SICAP

(a) SICAP Payment

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer sought members approval to issue payment to the IP, Laois Partnership Company in the amount of €173,715 representing payment of Q3 2022 with the drawdown of same being received from the Dept.

The Q3 2022 SICAP payment in the amount of €173,715 was *proposed by Ms Ann Sheerin, being seconded by Mr Ray Harte.*

(b) Mid-Year Review 2022

The continued funding of SICAP is subject to positive findings from a mid-year and annual performance review by the LCDC and the KPI targets being met. Two Financial and Monitoring (*Fin & Mon*) reports are submitted annually for each Annual Plan/Lot, at mid-year and end of year.

The SICAP mid-year review assesses the Local Development Company's (LDC) performance at the mid-point of the year. It is an opportunity for each Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) to take stock of the performance of their LDC in delivering SICAP in accordance with the 2022 Annual Plan, SICAP Programme Requirements and the Funding Agreement, prior to the end of year review. It is designed to serve as a catalyst for greater engagement between the LCDC and the LDC and to be a supportive process in the lead up to the end of year review.

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer noted that the SICAP subcommittee convened on Tuesday 28th June to undertake the Mid-Year review, with the completed Review Checklist being furnished to Pobal to undertake a parallel review with the Minutes of SICAP Subcommittee meeting and Completed Mid-Year Review Checklist forming part of members meeting papers.

Following the recommendation of the SICAP subcommittee and subsequent LCDC discussion the 2022 Mid-Year Review was unanimously welcomed by members being approved by *Cllr Paschal McEvoy* and seconded by *Cllr John King.*

(c) SICAP Mid-Year Vat Payment

Following the approval of the 2022 Mid-Year Review, Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer sought approval to issue payment to the IP, Laois Partnership Company in the amount of €3,253.46 representing Vat liability identified. Payment will only be furnished to the IP once funds are received from the Dept.

Payment in the amount of €3,253.46 to Laois Partnership Company was agreed by members being proposed by *Mr Henry Burns* and seconded by *Ms Ann Sheerin.*

(d) Additional funding €83,548 re Ukrainian crisis

Ms Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer updated the members on the additional allocation of €83,548 for the Ukrainian crisis and advised that eligible costs under the allocation, will be for activities that directly relate to the implementation of the SICAP supports to Ukrainians, which she advised includes both salary and non-salary costs. She also advised that Action costs relating to SICAP interventions, can be divided across the two SICAP goals where required and also advised that retrospective costs incurred in 2022 that are directly linked to Ukrainian actions are also eligible.

The revised 2022 Annual Plan was approved by Members and it was agreed to move to *LCDC Approved* on the IRIS system, proposed by **Mr Naeem Iqbal** and seconded by **Mr Ray Harte**.

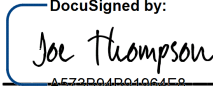
(e) United Nations Public Service Award

Finally, Ms Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer noted that the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) won a 2022 United Nations Public Service Award. The prestigious award, in the category of “Institutional resilience and innovative responses to the COVID-19 pandemic” sees international recognition for Ireland’s primary Social Inclusion programme.

6. AOB

Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Chief Officer updated members on the local response to the ongoing Ukrainian crisis noting that the last meeting of the Ukrainian Response Forum took place on-line on the 6th July 2022. Agencies continue to collaborate on the provision of supports. The next meeting of the forum is scheduled for 31st August 2022.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED: 
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Mr. Joe Thompson
CHAIRPERSON – LAOIS LCDC

DATE: Wednesday 28th September 2022.