Dublin City Local Community Development Committee

L.C.D.C.

Dublin City Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 04 December 2014 at 3pm in the Housing Conference Room, Block 2, Floor 2, Civic Offices

**Members in attendance:**

**Public sector representatives:**

1. Cllr Daithí Doolan
2. Cllr Éilis Ryan
3. Brendan Kenny
4. Martina Queally

**Private Sector representatives:**

1. Marion Kelly, Dublin City Community Forum
2. Godfrey Chimbganda, Dublin City Community Forum
3. Maria Tyrell, Larkin Unemployed Centre
4. Marian Vickers, Manager, Northside Partnership
5. Darragh O’Connor, Trade Union (SIPTU)
6. David Brennan, Dublin City Business Association
7. Claire Wheeler, Environmental Pillar
8. Mel MacGiobúin, City Drugs Task Forces

**Item 1 Apologies:**

Cllr Claire Byrne; Cllr Rebecca Moynihan; Cllr Ray McAdam; Cllr Paul McAuliffe; Greg Swift; Mary Mooney; Ciaran Reid; Siân Muldowney; Cllr Tina Mac Veigh

Also in attendance: Bernie Doherty, Chief Officer

Martin McDonagh, DCC

Helen O’Leary, DCC

**Item 2 Conflict of Interest**

None declared

**Item 3 SICAP funding for Dublin City**

The Chair, Cllr Doolan, thanked members for meeting at short notice. He requested that the meeting would address the response by Minister Kelly to the letter sent to him re SICAP funding for Dublin City by the Chief Officer on behalf of the LCDC and discuss any further action that the committee might take.

The Chair advised that the discussion should address the global Dublin City figure rather than funding for individual Lots so as not to prejudice the on-going SICAP tendering process.

The Chief Officer, Bernie Doherty, up-dated members on the funding situation for Dublin City as follows. LCDP funding for Q1 2015 for the City will be €1,486,011, a reduction of 6.5% across the City. The SICAP funding for Dublin City from April to December 2015 will amount to €4,025,367. Taken together this represents a reduction for the City of €845,889 or 13.3% overall.

Members expressed disappointment at the response from the Minister as being vague and referring to the inner city rather than the citywide issue of overall reduction in funding.

It was agreed that the cut to the LCDP budget for Q1 2015 was beyond the remit of the LCDC but that it was unexpected and that it had created uncertainty and an uneven playing field in the middle of the SICAP tendering process.

Members outlined how the cuts to SICAP for April to December 2015 would have serious implications for community development and that redundancies in the sector were now a very real prospect. It was acknowledged that it was the responsibility of the LCDC to manage the funding allocated by the Department but that it would be useful for the Resource Allocation Model and the data behind it to be made public in order to understand it in full.

The LCDC expressed concern that the reduction in funding to Dublin City was undermining and making the work of the LCDC very difficult at the beginning of a process to which members had committed themselves. Members referred to cuts across the country as harsh and of concern but at the same time the cuts to Dublin City were disproportionate and unfair.

**Actions agreed:**

1. Invite Clodagh McDonnell, Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government to the next meeting of the LCDC to explain the Department’s rationale for Dublin City’s funding allocation. The date of the next meeting will be established according to her availability.
2. Draft and send letter to Minister Kelly outlining disappointment at his response and requesting that reduction in funding to Dublin City be examined by the Department. The letter should include a series of questions on funding to the former Dublin Inner City Partnership and what parts of that funding were left in place and to CDPs in the inner city.
3. A copy of the letter to Minister Kelly should be sent to Minister Burton as Minister for Social Protection and as Tánaiste.
4. A copy of the letter should be sent to all Dublin TDs along with a request to raise the issue in the Dáil.

Cllr Daithí Doolan Bernie Doherty

Chair Chief Officer

Date: Date: