



Dublin City Council
Local Community Development Committee
27th January 2021
Minutes of Online Business Meeting 9.30am-10.30am

PRESENT – PUBLIC SECTOR MEMBERS	ORGANISATION
Carolyn Moore	DCC Elected Representative
Colm O'Rourke	DCC Elected Representative
Blake Hodkinson	Director of Further Education and Training – CODETB
Greg Swift	Head Enterprise and Economic Development, Dublin City Council
PRESENT – PRIVATE SECTOR MEMBERS	ORGANISATION
Paul Rogers	ILDN – CEO of the Northside Partnership
Anne Fitzgerald	ILDN – CEO of the Ballyfermot & Chapelizod Partnership
Kelley Bermingham	Dublin City PPN, Community & Voluntary Pillar
Sandra Dillon	Dublin City PPN, Social Inclusion Pillar
Paula Galvin	Dublin City PPN, Environment Pillar
Michelle Murphy	Dublin City PPN, Social Inclusion Pillar
Sarah Miller	Social and Economic (Rediscovery Centre)
Deiric O'Broin	Social and Economic (NorDubCo)
Karen Smollen	Social and Economic (SIPTU)
APOLOGIES	ORGANISATION
Tara Deacy	DCC Elected Representative
Noeleen Reilly	DCC Elected Representative
Racheal Batten	DCC Elected Representative
Anne Talbot	Dublin City PPN, Community & Voluntary Pillar
Martina Queally	Chief Officer HSE South and South East
Brendan Kenny	Deputy Chief Executive Dublin City Council
ALSO PRESENT	ORGANISATION
Dáithí Downey	DCC
Elaine Hess	DCC
Brenda O'Reilly	DCC
Mary Hayes	DCC Housing and Community Services on behalf of Brendan Kenny

INTRODUCTION, WELCOME & UPDATE AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Councillor Carolyn Moore opened the meeting at 9.30 am and welcomed all members. She welcomed two new members (1) Paula Galvin, Director of McCutcheon Halley Chartered Planning Consultants (Dublin Office) as the new representative from the PPN's environmental pillar (2) Karen Smollen who has replaced Mr Darragh O'Connor representing SIPTU/Dublin Council of Trade Unions. Both members are looking forward to making meaningful contributions to the Committee. The LCDC now has a full compliment.

MINUTES

Minutes from the LCDC Meeting of the **25th November** 2020 were proposed by Councillor Carolyn Moore, seconded by Kelley Birmingham and agreed.

FUNDING UPDATE

Dáithí Downey (Chief Officer) gave a verbal update on the recent and pending funding opportunities that the LCDC are responsible for administering.

A) Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) Round 2

Dublin City Council LCDC has been allocated €478,005 under a second round of funding for the Community Enhancement Programme of grants focussed on capital and related expenditure for community and voluntary organisations and groups. The fund was advertised widely and an online application system developed that resulted in 240 confirmed applications. A sum of 30 per cent of the grant funds (equal to approximately €143K) is reserved for grants up to a value of €1,000. The balance of grant funding is payable for grants up to a value of €50K. Assessment of the applications is underway from mid-January 2021 and the LCDC CEP Sub-Committee will meet on 24th and 31st March respectively to finalise the short-list of grantees. The final distribution of payments to all grantees will be submitted for approval to the LCDC at its meeting on April 28th 2021.

B) Covid-19 Emergency Fund (2nd Round)

Dublin City Council has been allocated €117,246 under the second round of the COVID-19 Emergency Fund launched by the Department of Rural and Community Development. The LCDC admin team are working towards launching the fund at 9am Monday 1st February 2021. Applications are to be made online from Dublin City Council's website. More detailed guidelines and terms and conditions will also be available online to help groups when applying. Applications are aimed, in general, at not-for-profit community and voluntary groups in Dublin City. It is envisaged that 30 per cent of the funding will be ring-fenced for grants of €1,000 or less and a maximum grant value of €5,000 will apply. This second round of funding will provide grants to applicant groups under two categories:

- **Category One: adapt services and operations in response to the new COVID-19 reality in 2021.**
 - Examples of measures supported include adapting premises to allow for social distancing; offering on-line activities; providing social supports and friendly calls by phone etc.
 - Grants may also be provided to support groups (including those involved in the community call) with day-to-day running costs if needed.

- **Category Two: become more involved with the Government's 'Keep Well' campaign** (gov.ie/healthyireland)
 - Examples include grants aimed at supporting participation in the Keep Well campaign, in particular under the three themes of staying connected, switching off and being creative, and minding your mood.
 - Grants may also be provided to support groups for items that can include ICT annual licences, personal devices and tablets where it can be demonstrated that this will enable groups, services and facilities to stay connected with the wider community at this time.

The closing date for receipt of online applications is 17.00 on Friday, 26th February, 2021. LCDC members will be sent further information on the grant and the CO would appreciate if members could circulate this amongst staff, groups, networks and contacts etc. to ensure that as many groups as possible are aware of the funding. Information will also be issued to DCC area managers, Councillors, the Dublin City PPN, and the five SICAP Programme Implementers. Dublin City Council's communication section will also help promote this fund. It is envisaged that assessments will begin made in March 2021 and speedy payments will be made once approvals have been agreed. A report on expenditure under this funding will be made to the LCDC meeting in April 2021.

C) Healthy Ireland Programme Community Resilience Fund

One of the roles of the LCDC is to oversee the administration of the Healthy Ireland (HI) Programme. Síle McNulty, the Dublin City HI Coordinator gave a presentation to the committee at the last meeting on the HI programme. Sláintecare in the Department of Health, through the Healthy Ireland (HIF) has allocated funding for an initiative called "Community Resilience Fund". The activities funded under the Community Resilience Fund (CRF) will contribute to the overall Government 'Keep Well' plan for living with COVID-19. Dublin City Council has been allocated €107,560 and is required to activate and deliver on key actions under three themes, namely: 'Staying Connected', 'Switching Off & Being Creative', and 'Your County'. A key focus of the CRF is to strengthen and support the LCDC Healthy Ireland fund and also compliment the Covid-19 Emergency Funding (2nd Round). Projects and proposals that gives the opportunity to align with R2 Covid-19 are currently being actively sourced by DCC HI Coordinator working with DCC Community Development Officers. A case by case approach is being adopted when identifying projects that need funding assistance and that fit with the themes formally. Chief Officer would like to re- convene the LCDC Healthy Ireland Sub-Committee to consider and advise on proposals and the HI Coordinator will work towards securing a meeting so that a report on CRF expenditure can be brought back to the 28th April LCDC.

D) MAEDF (Mitigating Against Educational Disadvantage Fund)

At the end of 2021, the City of Dublin ETB got the opportunity to support community education providers in accessing the Mitigating Against Educational Disadvantage Fund (MAEDF) of €8 million, announced as part of Budget 2021. The purpose of the fund is to support community education provision targeted at adult learners, who have the highest level of need. It aims to increase the participation of disadvantaged learners, particularly those on literacy and basic skills programmes at NFQ levels 1 to 3. The fund has a strong focus on building the digital infrastructure of community education providers and increasing their capacity in delivering online learning. Funds are allocated by SOLAS to the City of Dublin ETB, who is responsible for the administration and management of funding within its region. Blake Hokinson (CDET) informed members that the Board got this funding at the last minute last year and they funded 69 groups. It was hoped that future rounds of

this funding would be announced in 2021 and the Board would link in more the LCDC as it would hope to have more notice of the fund the next time. Kelley Birmingham (PPN) had applied to the CDETB for this Fund and was very positive about it and fully encouraged groups to avail of it in the future.

DUBLIN CITY INTEGRATION STRATEGY UPDATE

Dáithí Downey (Chief Officer) gave a verbal update on the progress being made on the development of the new Dublin City Integration Strategy.

As outlined at the last LCDC meeting the current Dublin City Integration Strategy is being reviewed and a new one being prepared. Work streams have been developed and work stream A “**Activation and Collection**” has been activated. A liaison group for key information strategies/action plan, knowledge exchange etc. from external stakeholders has been established. An invite only External Stakeholder Webinar is planned for tomorrow the 28th January 2021 to be chaired by the Lord Mayor with social partners, NGOs’ etc. from European, national and local level. 66 attendees are confirmed. 5 experts in the field on Integration will present including Eurocities Migrant and Integration Policy director. Following this, internal DCC stakeholder consultation and review of the previous Integration strategy is planned for February 19th. Information is being collated for information papers on key issues discussion for framing the Integration Strategy. The importance of community development to the process is vital role here - “People don’t integrate into cities, they integrate into communities”. There is ongoing communication and development with migrant organisations and individuals to build relationships with DCC. Continued collaboration will take place with our European counterparts and the EU Commission on the development of the plan. A further update will be made at the February 24th LCDC meeting and it is hoped that the new strategy will be completed and available to be launched in May 2021.

SICAP UPDATE

The Chief Officer gave a verbal update on SICAP.

1. SICAP ESF financial claim update

As outlined at the last LCDC meeting, in November 2020, the CO, approved the SICAP ESF financial claim on behalf of the LCDC. This was an important task as it helped enable the DRCD to claim €40m of EU funds from the ESF PEIL programme for Ireland. In approving the financial declarations, the LCDC carried out the role of Beneficiary in the ESF cascade to provide assurance to the Intermediary Body (DRCD) and Managing Authority that the SICAP financial declarations submitted on eCohesion were accurate and supported by the necessary documentation to fully verify what is declared. The ESF MA carried out a preliminary check on all declarations uploaded on eCohesion and the supporting documentation provided by all the LCDCs across the country. It felt the documentary evidence submitted in general across the country did not provide the necessary verification. On the 16th December, the DRCD asked all LCDC COs as a matter of urgency to review the declaration and documents provided and to revert to the PI to request whatever additional documentation was required to verify the contents of the declaration in respect of each employee claimed for. This task was to be completed by 6th January 2021. This timeline was considered inappropriate and LCDC COs voiced frustration with the timescale and work involved and lack of guidance given. The Department followed up with more specific guidance and the DCC LCDC Admin team has been working with the PIs and the DRCD on resolving any problems. This is taking a great deal of time and effort due to the level of detail required but it is anticipated that the process will be completed in February 2021.

2. SICAP End of Year 2020 Review and Annual Plans 2021 Update

The CO informed the LCDC that the five SICAP Lots have prepared and submitted their annual plans for 2021 and documents associated with their end of year performance review 2020. After a preliminary review, the CO was happy to update the meeting that the targets for the two types of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) had been met if not exceeded in 2020 by the PIs, which was a great achievement given the profound impacts of COVID-19 on service delivery since March 2020. The targets for 2020 were to be repeated in 2021. The CO was happy to recommend preliminary approval of all 5 plans, subject to some minor clarifications being sought. This was noted. The CO pointed out that the LCDC is required to make a decision on the formal approval of the 2021 Annual Plans by 26th February 2021 and this would be formally done at the next LCDC meeting on the 24th February. The final approval of the PI's Annual Plans 2021 is subject to the outcome of the end of year (2020) review process, which is being completed. An update will be made at the next meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

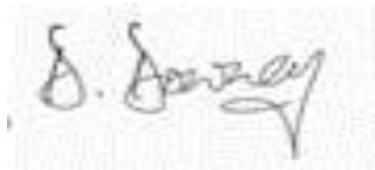
- February 24th



Signed: _____

Chairperson

Print Name: Councillor Carolyn Moore



Signed: _____

Chief Officer

Print Name: Dáithí Downey