

Developing Implementation Plan for Galway City LECP (2020-2021)

Update on Progress: 18th November 2019

As you may be aware work has commenced in Galway City on developing an implementation plan for 2020-2021 for the Galway City Local Economic and Community Plan 2015-2021. This will build on the progress made in its implementation over the past number of years. Galway City Council has commissioned Niall Crowley, independent expert to facilitate preparation of this implementation plan for the Galway City LECP 2020-2021.

The implementation plan will be organised around the five high level goals identified in the Galway City LECP 2015-2021. It will be framed by the values of creativity, equality and inclusiveness, innovation, wellbeing, and sustainability identified in a 2017 stakeholder workshop. It will set out actions that are already committed to and in progress by implementing partners/stakeholders. It will give priority to identifying flagship actions that offer added value and involve a collaborative approach.

The implementation plan will set out those established actions that are already committed to and in progress by implementing partners/stakeholders and will be continued over the coming period. It will pay priority attention to identifying additional actions, with agreed milestones and progress indicators that are characterised by added value and by a collaborative approach. In doing this, the implementation plan will be focused on a smaller set of actions than heretofore. The use of working groups to drive actions will be explored, alongside a championing by individual lead agencies. Added value means actions that involve new developments in the work being done by the implementing partners/stakeholders and can be characterised by new initiative or approaches. Collaboration means more than one implementing partners/stakeholder playing a role within the action and seeks to take advantage of the multi-agency, multi-sectoral setting for the LECP.

The implementation plan (2020-2021) will include the following key elements:

- An analysis of the policy context that gives direction to the activities identified, of the alignment requirements with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy of the Northern and Western Regional Assembly, and of the DRCD mid-term review of the LECP and any guidance issuing on foot of this and identification of the implications of these.
- The actions identified in the LECP that are already committed to and ongoing by implementing partners/stakeholders under each of the five high level goals.
- The priority added value collaborative actions agreed for implementation during 2020 to 2021 under each of the five high level goals.
- The leadership, partner organisations, working groups, milestones and progress indicators for the actions agreed.
- Monitoring and evaluation arrangements for the implementation plan.
- An equality and human rights impact assessment of the plan, conducted through the Social Inclusion Group of the LCDC, in compliance with the public sector equality and human rights duty and making use of the tools developed by the LCDC for this purpose.

Approach

The planning process will include:

- Individual interviews with the relevant personnel in implementing partners/stakeholders and in key civil society networks. These interviews commenced in Galway on Tuesday 29th October 2019 and on Friday 1st November 2019. For those who were unable to attend further interviews were organised by Niall Crowley.
- Planning workshops:
 - one needs assessment workshop for business and trade union organisations and their members took place on Wednesday 13th November 2019 in the offices of Galway Chamber from 10.30am to 12.30pm.
 - one needs assessment workshop for Galway City Community Network and its constituent organisations took place on Wednesday 13th November 2019 in the Westside Resource Centre from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. For those that were unable to attend at this needs assessment workshop an evening workshop will take place on Monday 25th November 2019 from 6.00pm to 8.30pm.
 - one theme-based workshops for all stakeholders addressing themes of equality, inclusiveness and wellbeing, taking place on Monday 25th November 2019 in the Harbour Hotel from 2.00pm to 4.30pm.
 - one theme-based workshops for all stakeholders addressing themes of creativity, innovation and sustainability, taking place on Thursday 12th December 2019 in the Harbour Hotel from 10.30am to 1.00pm.
- An equality and human rights impact assessment of the implementation plan at draft stage, done with the Social Inclusion sub-committee of the LCDC and based on the Galway City LCDC Equality and Human Rights Statement.
 - one impact assessment workshop with LCDC subcommittee – Date to be confirmed

Individual Interviews

The first step in developing the implementation plan was to conduct a series of individual interviews with key partners/stakeholders that play lead roles in implementation of the LECP actions. These interviews commenced in Galway on Tuesday 29th October 2019 and on Friday 1st November 2019 and discussed / addressed the following:

- Experience to-date in engagement with implementing LECP actions.
- Changes and challenges in the policy and service provision context for the partner/stakeholder that could inform future possibilities and plans.
- Perspectives on and possibilities for initiatives of added value or collaborative approaches for the next implementation plan.

Consultation Workshops

Consultation workshop for Business and Trade Union organisations and their members took place on Wednesday 13th November 2019 in the offices of Galway Chamber from 10.30am to 12.30pm. This needs assessment workshop aimed to explore the perspective of employers and trade unions on the key issues and needs to be addressed over the next two years of the LECP in Galway City. This will inform the development of the implementation plan 2020-2021.

This workshop explored and discussed:

- Experience to-date in engaging with planning, implementing, and monitoring LECP actions.
- Recent developments and ongoing issues in Galway City that are relevant to the high level goals of the LECP.
- Changes and challenges in public policy and programmes, and public sector service provision context that could shape future possibilities.
- Perspectives on and possibilities for initiatives of added value or collaborative approaches for the next implementation plan.

Consultation workshop for the Community and Voluntary Sector took place on Wednesday 13th November 2019 in the Westside Resource Centre from 2.00pm to 4.00 pm. This needs assessment workshop aimed to explore the current situation, experience and needs of communities of interest, place and identity and responses to these in order to inform the development of the implementation plan. The workshop explored:

- Experience to-date in engagement with planning, implementing, and monitoring LECP actions.
- Developments and ongoing issues of concern for communities of interest, place and identity that fall within the ambit of the LECP.
- Changes and challenges in the policy and service provision context that could inform future possibilities and plans.
- Perspectives on and possibilities for initiatives of added value or collaborative approaches for the next implementation plan.

For those that were unable to attend at this needs assessment workshop an evening workshop will take place on Monday 25th November 2019 from 6.00pm to 8.30pm.

Planning Workshops

The first planning workshop for all stakeholders will focus on equality, inclusiveness & wellbeing. It will explore actions that could be taken under the LECP high level goals to:

1. Ensure Galway City is an equal and inclusive city.
2. Promote the health and wellbeing of all people in Galway City.

This workshop is taking place on **Monday 25th November 2019 from 2.00pm to 4.30pm in the Harbour Hotel, New Dock St, Galway.**

The second planning workshop for all stakeholders will focus on creativity, innovation & sustainability. It will explore actions that could be taken under the LECP high level goals to:

1. Develop and promote Galway as a world-class, creative city region.
2. Develop and promote Galway as an innovative city.
3. Encourage a sustainable, resilient urban environment for Galway City that is the regional capital of the West.

This workshop is taking place on **Thursday 12th December 2019 from 10.30am to 1.00pm in the Harbour Hotel, New Dock St, Galway.**

The implementation plan 2020-2021 will include the following key elements:

- An analysis of the policy context that gives direction to the activities identified, of the alignment requirements with the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy of the Northern and Western Regional Assembly, and of the DRCD mid-term review of the LECP and any guidance issuing on foot of this and identification of the implications of these.
- The actions identified in the LECP that are already committed to and ongoing by implementing partners/stakeholders under each of the five high level goals.
- The priority added value collaborative actions agreed for implementation during 2020 to 2021 under each of the five high level goals.
- The leadership, partner organisations, working groups, milestones and progress indicators for the actions agreed.
- Monitoring and evaluation arrangements for the implementation plan.
- An equality and human rights impact assessment of the plan, conducted through the Social Inclusion Group of the LCDC, in compliance with the public sector equality and human rights duty and making use of the tools developed by the LCDC for this purpose.

Timeframe

The timeframe for developing the implementation plan is bounded by the target of having a draft plan ready for consideration by the LECP Advisory Steering Group, the Economic, Community, and Cultural Development SPC, and the LCDC at their January / February 2020 meetings.