

Tuairisc/Reporting Template for Galway City Community Network Representatives

Please complete and email to communications@gccn.ie at your earliest convenience, preferably one week after the meeting and no later than two weeks.



1. Cruinniú / Name of Meeting	Strategic Policy Committee for Economic, Community and Cultural Development.
2. Ionadaí LPCG (glacadóir - nótaí) / Name of GCCN Rep (note-taker)	Dominick Whelan
3. Dáta & Suite / Date & Location of Meeting:	Hybrid - In-person at Galway City Council and Online (MS Teams) 9th December 2022 - 2pm
4. I láthair / Attendance	<p>Present -----</p> <p>Council: Neil Mc Nelis - Chair & CLLR Donal Lyons - CLLR Noel Larkin - CLLR Eddie Hoare - CLLR Declan Mc Donnell - CLLR</p> <p>Sectors: Dominick Whelan - GCCN David Hickey - Galway Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Executive: Brian Barrett - Director of Services Gary Mc Mahon - Head of Economic, Community and Cultural Development Caitriona Morgan - Community Officer Ruairi Lehmann - Tourism Officer</p> <p>Theresa O'Donoghue - Officer Thomas Melley - Officer TJ Hughes - Officer Dermot Mahon - Officer</p> <p>Rebecca Jackson - GCCN LECP Pilot DAF Pobal project Breda Fox - Local Enterprise Office Valerie - Local Enterprise Office</p> <p>In Attendance: All Above</p> <p>Apologies: Fiona Neary - GCCN</p>

5. Príomhphointí pléite / Key Issues Discussed:

AGENDA

1. Confirmation of minutes of the, Economic, Community & Cultural Development SPC meeting held on Thursday 23 rd September 2022

2. Matters Arising

3. Leo Update and Presentation by Breda Fox

4. Presentation from Rebecca Jackson, GCCN on Dormant Accounts Funding – Engagement Project

5. Tourism Update – Tourism projects and convention Bureau update by Ruairi Lehmann

6. Community Department Update

7. Provisional date for SPC meeting 2023

8. A.O.B

Adoption of the minutes

Adopted - Eddie Hoare

Seconded - David Hickey

Matters Arising

- Query regarding the status of the branding development of Galway
- Query regarding the status update on Salthill Tourist Office
- Formation of Committee in relation to Disability Forum committee by DFI
- Galway 2020 agenda is proposed for 1st quarter in 2023

Response

- Regarding Tourist office an active tender is in process for spring 2023
- Branding will be dealt with in the tourism update
- There was a request for both universities to present an update and requests have been made to the Presidents of both ATU and University of Galway

Local Enterprise Update by Breda Fox

- Fully staffed in relation to core services in comparison to last year
- With a key focus on providing information and advice towards manufacturing and producing business
- Local food and craft fair was held last weekend with 50 stands
- 277 businesses supported in 2022
- 23 grant applications with average funding of €3800
- there was 977 applicants in 2021 programme
- 235 mentoring across the year and during shutdowns
- 307 trading vouchers issues
- (Presentation of metrics in presentation)
- 2023 Enterprise Ireland focuses on manufacturing, food processing and a pilot with companies that employ more than 10 people.

Questions

- Noel Larkin
 - People who are looking to start up and business for financial starts. Are banks looking for/ guarantees or is there any system to access initial start up
- Eddie Hoare
 - Are there any job insights and challenges on the 2022 data?
- Response
 - In Relation to startup finance banks will look at a track record in relation to capital loans. Microfinance Ireland (MFI) does not look for start-up capital but is capped at 25,000€ and is provided on a non guarantor basis.
 - MFI is supported of cash flow and loan applications
- In working with schools the aim is to develop a product for sale, advised for the Christmas period and a business report in the new year. A final is held in the new year and the development of business.
- The energy support scheme is accessed through ROS for rebate in comparison to 2021 bills.

LECP Pilot programme

- Introduction by Theresa O' Donoghue
 - Aim of the project to increase engagement of marginalised groups
 - Galway City Council (GCC) and GCCN are coordinating on the project
- Rebecca Jackson of GCCN Introduction
 - Beneficial experience in the lived experience
 - Community and collaboration process with the output of a positive outlook toolkit.
 - The target group is in relation to deaf community, young adults in disadvantaged areas, migrants, women and the travelling community.
 - At this stage is the planning and engagement phase
 - stakeholders are key to access to migrant groups
 - an example of linking in for trans and non binary group
 - Objective to make it engaging and reflect the lived experience for the project
 - Traveller community, trans, non binary, deaf people, direct provision after christmas
 - The groups were engaged in how they would like to be engaged. The design aids for access to information. On reflection pobal and how will they evolve in the LECP authors consideration
 - The contribution for the plan will reflect
 - equality and inclusion
 - health and wellbeing
 - culture
 - The cause and needs for each of these three groups.

Regarding access to cultural spaces in relation to factors that prevent engagement due to housing issues, the deaf community is in need of access to services.

- By using a triangulation model with values lab, the lived experience and re check the learning from the pilot and book of evidence.
- The lack of policy and plans at a local level, the civil society to identify key actions
- Pobal have questions towards the project;
 - Collaboration reflection with GCC
 - Respond to the barriers from the input from marginalised groups

Questions

- Are there any specific access to social spaces that are limiting
- Galway cultural hub and how can marginalised groups access
- The deaf community requires cultural events like arts festivals and there is a knock on effect of access. If you cannot be reflected in society in the wider experience it is not representative.
- How are initiatives can be improved by hidden barriers
- How can encouragement of communities increase participation?

- The council has policies to address this in relation.
- What has been spent to date
- An action would be to encourage more communication and look at detail and depth and exercise and look at how the council can improve and be a welcoming city.
- Always open to disabilities and work with the council

Response from Caitriona

- City Council and LCDC initiatives on funding are building on the work of the public sector duty.
- As it is a work in progress and concern. The outcomes should be assessed in the context of how to improve on outcomes.

What is the sample size

- Amacht LGBT+ are a sample size for one community
- Focus groups are being formed and already sampled from groups
- The key part is to ensure participation

Tourism Strategy - Update - Ruairi Lehmann

- Increase in airport capacity demand
- increase in energy and employment issues in the sector
- Current sustainability tourism index is 38
- Carbon emissions calculator is available on failte ireland
- DEDP- Destination Experience Development Plan for Gala Dinner Venue.
- Collaboration project with Galway Chamber for shop local
- Destination Towns outdoor museum project
- The appointment of a night time economy advisor is going forward
- blueway feasibility study is now open until January
- Public spaces fund
- Galway branding is going to tender in new year
- Salthill Park will begin consultation in 2023
- WAW - Wild Atlantic Way Signage is lapse in Galway City and failte ireland is looking to address this issue.
- New museum and historical signage is underway with the library of ireland and lawrence collection
- Access for all and Galway westend are in collaboration to make the area more friendly and accessible. The hope is to extend this project to other business associations.

Other projects

- Design Team appointed for new watersports hub
- Design team to be appointed for woodquay project

Short Term Letting register is planned to implemented and awaiting the planning office for direction of the process

Questions

- Eddie Hoare
 - Tourism Task Force chair
 - Timeline in relation to installation of the new electricity supply for events in eyre square
- Donal Lyons
 - Is Eyre Square the only access point
 - how can groups access the stages secured for the city
- Dominick Whelan
 - Could the non-for profit sector assist in further sustainable process for the sustainable index
 - Has the council considered working with Aalborg as twin city on the project

- Neil
 - Accommodation capacity issues and how can the bed stock will react
 - Are the city planners involved in the process of tourism projects
 - Can the eyre square booth sale multi vendors

- Response
 - VAT rate has mentioned by John Ryan is dependent on national policy
 - Power supply in Eyre Square is two thirds completed. Other power locations are being audited in the public realm for parks, festivals and what level of power required is to be determined
 - stages in process is ongoing and the booking with failte ireland and producers of festivals that will operate it.
 - In regards to GSDI Sustainability. Glasgow and Goteborg have a high return on investment and index and in relation to opportunities that are there, Niamh at the convention bureau is overseeing the operation.
 - Availability for example in relation to how Clare is operating is having a knock on effect on availability but it will be determined by the contractual rates.
 - 150,000€ was spent this year on Christmas lighting.

Commendation on Retirement of Breda Fox

- Breda Fox in retiring in 2023 and the SPC wish her well in to the future

Extension of SPC meeting by 15 minutes

- Proposed - Donal Lyons
- Seconded - Dominick Whelan

Community Report - Caitriona

- Report has been circulated
- National fund for community groups for energy costs
- There are three projects awarded funding from DRCD
 - COPE
 - Croi na Gaillimhe
 - Galway Ballybane Centre
- Qtr 2 presentation to the SPC on information fro Healthy Ireland Galway
- Capacity in relation to humanity support and centre and allocation of a team will meet with new refugees

Dates for SPC 2023

- Proposed - Donal Lyons
- Seconded - Dominick Whelan
- Alternate date approved from 3rd March to 10th March 2023

Work Plan for 2023

- proposed - Donal Lyons
- Seconded - Noel Larkin

AOB

None

Close of Meeting

- **Adjourned**

6. Gníomhaíochtaí / Action(s) required from GCCN:

Continued follow up on DFI disability Committee
(Continued Follow up on the proposal(s) for disability steering committee)

Follow up on Sustainability of Tourism policies with the community sector.

Follow up on LECP pilot and outcomes

7. Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile / Date of next meeting :

Friday 10th March 2023 at 2pm

8. Moltaí breise / Any Other Comments:

Dates for 2023 SPC

- 2pm Fri 10th March 2023
- 2pm Fri 12th May 2023
- 2pm Fri 22nd September 2023
- 2pm Fri 8th December 2023