

***Minutes of Galway City Local Community Development Committee
Meeting held on 13th September 2023 at 5.00pm (Held virtually on MS Teams
platform)***

Present:

Ms. Elaine Harvey (Chairperson), Trade Union
Cllr. Alan Curran, Galway City Council
Cllr. Martina O'Connor, Galway City Council
Ms. Linda Sice Brogan, Galway City Partnership
Ms. Lorraine Lally, Galway City Community Network / PPN
Ms. Anne Marie Stokes, Galway City Community Network / PPN
Ms. Joanne Laffey, Galway City Community Network/ PPN
Ms. Valerie Kelly, Local Enterprise Office
Ms. Adrienne Lynam, Health Service Executive West
Mr. Dermot Mahon, LCDC Chief Officer, Galway City Council

Apologies:

Ms. Patricia Philbin, Interim Chief Executive, Galway City Council
Mr. James Coyne, Galway City Community Network/ PPN
Ms. Fiona McDonagh-Delaney, Galway City Community Network / PPN
Ms. Sinead Morgan, Galway & Roscommon ETB

In attendance:

Mr. Brian Barrett, Galway City Council
Ms. Theresa Donohue, Galway City Council
Mr. Liam Kitterick, Galway City Council
Mr. TJ Hughes, Galway City Council
Ms. Chelsea McConn Joyce, Galway City Council

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Elaine Harvey, Chairperson introduced and welcomed all members to the meeting and welcomed a new member to the committee – Ms. Adrienne Lynam from the HSE following the recent retirement of Ms. Anne O'Neill. Apologies were received from Ms. Patricia Philbin, Ms. Fiona McDonagh-Delaney, Ms. Sinead Morgan and Mr. James Coyne who is stepping down from the Committee. Ms. Harvey thanked James for his support to the Committee over the past number of years and wished him the very best for the future. A replacement will be sought for Mr. Coyne as a GCCN representative.

2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Galway City LCDC meeting held on 19th July 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2023 were:

Proposed: Cllr. Martina O' Connor

Seconded: Ms. Valerie Kelly

And agreed by all members.

3. Galway City Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

I. Draft Framework Plan 2024 – 2029

Ms. Harvey welcomed Mr. Dermot Mahon to provide an overview and outline of the content of the draft LECP Framework Plan 2024 - 2029. Mr. Mahon noted that two draft documents were circulated in advance of the meeting, the Framework Plan 2024 – 2029 and Implementation Plan 2024 - 2025.

Mr. Mahon introduced the Framework Plan and explained the background of the LECP and the role of the LCDC to adopt the 'community' element and for the Economic Development SPC to adopt the 'economic' element. Once the documents receive approval, they will be brought forward to the Council meeting in January 2024 for full Council consideration and adoption. Mr. Mahon advised how each of the sections were devised in line with the national guidelines and that the public consultation raised a number of issues on which objectives and actions were included.

Mr. Mahon concluded his update and handed back to the Chair who then opened it up for discussion. Ms. Harvey added that it is a very comprehensive document overall. Mr. Mahon noted that this is currently the first draft, and the final draft will be presented in December subject to any amendments. He also advised that members have until the end of September to raise any issues or provide any additional information that needs to be added to the draft.

Ms. Harvey noted that there was not any mention of the Civil Society panel in the document and they could be used as an indicator in the future. Mr. Brian Barrett advised that the Civil Society Panel would be referenced on page 13 under Community Engagement plan. Ms. Lorraine Lally asked if the stakeholders were engaged with. Mr. Mahon responded that there was good engagement with stakeholders including a general public consultation and more specific consultation as part of the Engagement Project managed by the GCCN.

The draft Framework Plan was approved by the members.

Proposed: Ms. Linda Sice Brogan

Seconded: Ms. Anne Marie Stokes

And agreed by all.

II. Draft Implementation Plan 2024 – 2025

Mr. Mahon introduced and went through the draft Implementation Plan noting the various sections. He outlined the agreed high-level goals with each goal having a number of objectives and actions. The Plan includes 5 High Level Goal with 17 objectives and 61 actions. Evidence will be provided to ensure that outcomes are achieved. He advised that c.60 actions were considered appropriate for delivery over a 2-year period.

Ms. Harvey added that the document was very well put together and written. Cllr Martina O'Connor noted that its going in the right direction and added that some of the actions such as those referencing Youth were in the last plan. Mr. Mahon responded that not all actions were completed and have been carried forward to this Plan. Ms. Harvey also added the issue of vacant homes needs to be included as well as an action for the Civil Society panel. Mr. Mahon noted these issues and stated that c.21 actions relate back to community engagement project and are found throughout the document.

Ms. Harvey advised including a paragraph noting that the public consultation made an impact. Mr. Barrett added that the print design company has been informed to capture this and illustrate that consultation resulted in inclusion of actions in the Plan.

Ms. Lorraine Lally stated her disappointed that waste management and other areas are not included in the document and different Departments of Galway City Council need to deal with the actions. Mr. Mahon advised that a significant number of actions are included of which two thirds can be related to issues arising from the public consultation process and advised members to send in any additional actions they wish to be considered and included in the Plan. Mr. Barrett advised that funding streams are required to be in place to deliver on the actions proposed. Ms. Harvey enquired where do the areas that don't have funding are to be captured and it was noted that additional funding may become available over the coming years to address issues not included in the first Implementation Plan and can be considered in future Plans.

Mr. Mahon advised that the draft Implementation Plan is c.90% complete with some further amendments and additions pending. He advised that approval of the draft Plan would be considered at the December meeting of the LCDC.

It was agreed that members would submit any additional issues or actions for inclusion in the Plan by the end of the month and that the final draft would be considered at the December meeting.

4. Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP 2024+)

Mr. Liam Kitterick provided a brief update on the SICAP tender process underway. He noted that the tender was published on e-Tenders on the 17th July with date for submissions by 8th September. There was a clarification period of 4 weeks from 17th July to 11th August 2023 for interested tenderer queries.

He added that we are currently at the next stage of the process which is the initial tender evaluation process. This process must be completed before 22nd September 2023. He noted that one tender was received by via e-Tenders. An Evaluation Committee has been established to evaluate the tender consisting of Mr. Dermot Mahon – Chief Officer LCDC, Cllr Martina O Connor – Vice Chair LCDC, Mr. Liam Kitterick LCDC Support Staff and Mr. James Murphy Procurement Officer GCC in a non-voting role and as Chair of the Evaluation Committee. Ms. Theresa Donohue LCDC Support Staff is in a back-up role for the Evaluation Committee if required.

Mr. Kitterick outlined the next steps in the process in line with the tender schedule and noted that tender award would be completed in December 2023.

5. Any Other Business

The date for the next meeting of the LCDC was agreed for Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 3:00pm in the Council Chamber and online.

The meeting then concluded.