



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council



**Draft Minutes of the LCDC meeting on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020  
Teams Meeting**

**In attendance:**

Fergal Dennehy	Chairperson
Aaron O'Connell	Vice Chairperson
Joe Curtin	Cork City PPN
Fiona Finn	Cork City PPN
Cllr. Garrett Kelleher	Cork City Council
Catherine Kennedy	Cork City PPN
Cllr. Ger Keohane	Cork City Council
Paul McGuirk	LEO
Eddie Mullins	ICTU
Mick O'Connell	Cork City Partnership
Adrienne Rodgers	Chief Officer

**Also in attendance:** Tony Power, Rebecca Loughry, Ruth Lynch

**Apologies:** Denis Leamy, Priscilla Lynch, Nora O'Donovan, Siobhan Goulding

**1. Welcome**

The Chairperson welcomed the committee members and apologies were noted.

**2. Teleconference Etiquette**

**A Rodgers** outlined teleconference etiquette.

**a. LCDC Decision making Validity on Teleconferencing**

The LCDC agreed that any decisions made through online meetings would be valid per DRCD communication 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Proposed by G Kelleher, seconded by Joe Curtin and agreed by the LCDC.

**3. Minutes**

On the proposal of A O'Connell, seconded by G Kelleher the minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2020 were approved with no matters arising.

#### 4. For information:

##### a. **Cork City Council Community Response Forum update**

T Power gave an update on the Community Response Forum.

**A Rodgers** noted that some areas in the country had cut their helplines back to five days a week however Cork City Council are maintaining their helpline seven days a week from 9am to 5pm even though the caseloads have reduced to practically zero. The Food Distribution Group is continuing to work with food providers. They are linked in with over 250 families.

The Digital Divide Group are investigating the difficulties, challenges and demands being faced by communities. There have been some solutions progressed through education and other organisations. Cork City Council are working on a project to allow laptops to become available through our libraries. These can be loaned out to schools and schools can identify groups and or people who can avail of the laptops.

The Community page on the website has a new “Community Wellbeing” button. This has become a valuable tool for the community and has evolved throughout the crisis. The ETB have taken the lead on the Youth Response project which is chaired by Denis Leamy. There is now a huge focus on Youth and we are actively building a program around that.

**F Dennehy** commended the Community Section for all the positive work done throughout Covid-19.

##### b. **DRCD Community Emergency Fund update**

Three reports were circulated to the Committee. There has been €20k of the Emergency Funding allocated so far. The applications were approved by the SICAP subgroup. A further tranche of applications are currently being assessed and are almost ready for approval. This fund is targeted at the area teams in the 16 locations throughout the City. The HSE also have an input into the assessment process.

###### i. **LGBTI DRCD Funding €200K Nationally**

A report on dormant Accounts funding available for LGBTI+ groups was circulated. Cork Gay Project, Cork Sexual Health Centre and LINC have applied for this funding administered by the DRCD.

###### ii. **Community Enhancement Programme 2020**

This fund was announced on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020. There has been a significant reduction in funding on previous years. €70,666 is available this year for Cork City over 50% reduction on last year.

**R Loughry** outlined the process and priorities

- Strategic overview/value for money
- SICAP Subgroup plus interested members would adjudicate
- 50% allocated to RAPID ABC
- Potential for match funding
- Cross reference with other funding streams/avoid duplication
- Utilise the 16 Community Area teams linkages

The CEP will be advertised towards end of July so as not to clash with other funding streams currently live.

It was noted that an additional issue this year were community & voluntary groups trying to re-open and costs associated with Covid -19. Following discussion it was agreed that the LCDC would write to the DRCD outlining the need for funding for re-opening costs and funding towards PPE, Signage etc.

### **iii. Community Integration Fund**

Information was circulated on the launch of a community Integration Fund administered directly by the Department of Justice. This notice has been widely circulated through the PPN and relevant organisations.

### **c. SICAP Mid-Year Timeline**

As a result of COVID, the Mid-Year Review process will be replaced by a Mid-Year Check, which will be desk based and will require less reporting than the normal Mid-Year Review process completed in the past. The LDC must submit the Fin & Mon reports and upload associated documents on IRIS by Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. The reports will be reviewed and completed by Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> September. The process can be signed off by the Chief Officer and the LCDC agreed to the chief officer approving the review.

**M O'Connell** confirmed the LDC are back open for business from last Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020. Staff have been redeployed to a number of areas including Friendly Call, Meals on Wheels, the 16 area teams etc. They have been involved in schools with distributing books, organising graduations etc. The Partnership are also giving a lot of assistance to Start Up businesses.

**F Dennehy** acknowledged the great work being done by Friendly Call. It has been the highlight of Covid and connected a lot of vulnerable people in the community with this great service.

### **d. SICAP Pobal Annual Engagement**

The SICAP Pobal annual engagement will be held in September and a decision on tele-meeting or physical will be made closer to the time.

### **e. Public Participation Network Report**

The PPN report was circulated and Joe Curtin outlined details of report.

## **5. Strategic Items:**

### **a. Role of LCDC and Community Response Teams**

**A Rodgers** suggested that the LCDC may be the new 'home' for the Community Response Teams. They have formed a good base on the ground. The LCDC is best placed to take advantage of all the good relationships that have been formed and think about how they can be developed and maintained.

**F Dennehy** agreed and this will be reviewed over the next few months.

### **b. LECP Baseline analysis**

**T Power** briefed members on the upcoming review of the Cork City development Plan and how the baseline analysis will inform the LECP review process.

## 6. AOB

### a. Cork City Development Plan

An email has been circulated inviting the public to make submissions in relation to the review of the City Development Plan. The closing date for submissions is the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2020. T Power suggested that the LCDC should make a submission to the plan. The link is to be circulated to the members and Planning Policy should be asked to present at the next meeting.

### b. Letter to Minister re Nora and PPN Report on Cocooning.

Nora O'Donovan's letter was sent to the Minister for Health and the Minister for Community and Rural Development. A verbal acknowledgement was given but the cocooning rules relaxed soon afterwards.

### c. Black Lives Matter Webinar feedback

Organised by the Cork Migrant Centre, teenagers from direct provision and migrant origin related their experiences of Racism in Cork. The panel included the ombudsman for children and all public agencies were represented. Future webinars are being planned.

### d. Lord Mayor's Community Recognition event, acknowledgement/feedback

Four online events were held on four different nights, Civic awards, Cultural awards, Community & Voluntary recognition event and Youth awards. The online videos were very well received and acknowledged.

**F Dennehy** thanked the SICAP Committee for assessing and approving the Covid Emergency Grant.

**J Curtin** acknowledged the Community Response Teams, and how well they worked. He was part of the Gurrabraher team and commented on how great it was to work with everyone in all agencies who he wouldn't normally work with. Would like to work towards getting the youth voice heard on the new City Development Plan.

**F Dennehy** commented on how the Community Response Teams had made a real difference to real lives and he had seen this himself by being part of the Bishopstown team.

**G Keohane** acknowledged the impending completion of a project in Glanmire funded by the County Council pre boundary extension.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

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**Fergal Dennehy**  
Chairperson.

**23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2020**