



## Information following Kildare LCDC/LAG meeting to Kildare PPN members

LCDC Meeting Date: 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Agenda Item	Information for dissemination to PPN members	Date for dissemination
<b>Youth Mental Health</b>	<p>Kildare LCDC and Children and Young People’s Services Committee have been working with the HSE to progress recommendations to increase Youth Mental Health provision in Kildare. Additional funding of €145,000 has been secured for In Sync Counselling Service to increase youth counselling across the county. This will provide for 3 additional posts and work to alleviate the 300 young people currently on their waiting list.</p> <p>The HSE have also secured four temporary psychology posts and are working to establish an additional CAHMS team for the county.</p>	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Community Call Helpline</b>	<p>As per the Department’s guidance, Kildare County Council ceased the operation of the Community Response Forum.</p> <p>Kildare County Council are continuing local arrangements and supports to assist the most vulnerable in the county.</p>	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Kildare Integration Strategy</b>	<p>The Kildare Integration Strategy was launched on 30th September by Minister Roderic O’ Gorman TD. This strategy is a key part of the SICAP plan 2020/2021.</p>	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Athy Creative Places</b>	<p>Eilish Langton, Creative Places Coordinator commenced work in Athy at the end of October. Creative Places Athy is being established following a successful application by KCC to the Arts Council. This initiative is an arts and community development process to create opportunities for people to become more engaged in their town and develop an increased community connection through making socially engaged art.</p>	<b>Immediately</b>

<b>Youth Project Celbridge</b>	The KWETB applied for funding for a new site in Celbridge for the 'UBU Your Place Your Space' Youth Funding Scheme for 2022-2023. It is anticipated that the outcome of the application will be announced shortly.	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Dormant Account LGBTI Funding</b>	In Sync were successful in their application for LGBTI funding to the DRCD and were recently awarded €22,635. This funding will be used to support their work with LGBTI young people across the county in 2022.	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Connected Hub – Osprey Business Centre</b>	The Osprey Business Centre have offered a facility to the LCDC to provide office space/facilities to disadvantaged organisations in the county for three years in their business centre, which is currently being developed. The SICAP subgroup will visit the facility to develop a proposal which will be presented to the LCDC.	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Local Enterprise Office</b>	A range of supports are available through Kildare Local Enterprise Office to support small businesses. For further information contact: <a href="http://www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare">www.localenterprise.ie/Kildare</a>	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme</b>	The designation of Athy as one of 19 Slaintecare Communities nationally, is a very positive development. Kildare County Council through the LCDC will employ a Local Development worker for Athy. This post which is a 3-year contract is currently advertised, with a closing date of 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2021 at 4.00 p.m.  €250,000 has also been allocated towards the upgrading of the Peoples Park in Athy.	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Healthy Ireland</b>	An extension has been granted for projects to complete their work until March 2022. Planning is underway at national level for Healthy Ireland Round 4.  Sector 3 Solutions are contracted to develop the Healthy Kildare Plan. Work has commenced on this, with consultations taking place in mid- December into January 2022.	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Local Economic and Community Plan Guidelines</b>	Guidelines on the next LECP were recently received. A national workshop is scheduled for the 9th of December to brief LCDCs and SPCs in relation to the plan. The LECP will be a significant focus for the LCDC in 2022.	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Social Enterprise Fund</b>	The Social Enterprise funding allocated for Kildare of €35,053.13 was advertised with an initial assessment carried out by the LCDC assessment group. Following from this a list of recommended projects was submitted to the Department in advance of the 29th October deadline. The Minister will make the final decision in relation to allocation of the funding.	<b>Immediately</b>

<b>Community Activities Fund</b>	The LCDC received draft guidelines and application forms for the Community Activities Funding from the DRCD last week. This funding is aimed at community/voluntary groups to support small scale capital costs and towards utility bills. Kildare LCDC have €296,027 to administer. The national deadline for receipt of applications is 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2022. The LCDC suggested consulting with PPN members in relation to funding priorities which will be considered prior to advertising the scheme in Kildare.	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Social Inclusion &amp; Community Activation Programme (SICAP)</b>	<p>SICAP is on course to reach its targets and spend the 2021 budget.</p> <p>LCDC members conducted the Mid Programme Review in October and agreed the priorities for the remaining two years of the SICAP programme. Young early school leavers/young people at risk of leaving school early were identified as an emerging needs target group.</p> <p>Pobal have requested that the SICAP Annual Plan 2022 is not reviewed until the budget is confirmed as additional resources of €4m were secured nationally for 2022. Clarity on the revised approval process and budget is expected to be received soon.</p>	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Connecting Ireland NTA Consultation</b>	<p>On October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the National Transport Authority (NTA) launched a public consultation to improve transport connections in rural areas - 'Connecting Ireland'</p> <p>Connecting Ireland seeks to make public transport for rural communities more useful for more people, and it will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving existing services.</li> <li>• Adding new services; and</li> <li>• Enhancing the current Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) network which meets the transport needs of people who live in remote locations.</li> </ul> <p>The NTA has undertaken a comprehensive analysis to better understand where rural bus service improvements are required with a view to introducing new and improved connections between villages and towns; and providing better access to public transport in rural areas.</p>	<b>Immediately</b>

	<p>An online survey is now opened to gather views of the public for proposed routes and services in each county. The survey as well as the maps for each county and more details on the consultation can be accessed on</p> <p><a href="https://www.nationaltransport.ie/consultations/connecting-ireland-consultation/">https://www.nationaltransport.ie/consultations/connecting-ireland-consultation/</a></p> <p><b>The closing date for submissions is Friday, 10 December 2021.</b> All residents of rural Ireland are encouraged to participate in this survey</p>	
<b>Kildare LEADER Programme</b>	<p>In July, the Department of Rural and Community Development announced EU support for the LEADER Programme through EURI funding. The full allocation for the Transitional LEADER Programme is €1,554.564 until the end of 2022. This funding will support rural communities and enterprises across the country to adapt in a post COVID-19 environment.</p> <p>County Kildare LEADER Partnership (CKLP) can be contacted for detailed information and support:</p> <p><a href="http://www.countykildarelp.ie">www.countykildarelp.ie</a> or telephone 045-895450</p>	<b>Immediately</b>
<b>Projects Approved by the LAG</b>	<p>Two Projects were approved by the LCDC/LAG on 24<sup>th</sup> November for LEADER grant aid totalling €254,451.06.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gray Farm Partnership were grant aided €54,451.06 towards a direct-sales fresh milk enterprise. The promoter plans to produce, pasteurise, and sell farm fresh milk directly to the customer.</li> <li>2. Castlestone Holiday Homes was grant aided €200,000 towards the development of existing stone buildings at Haynestown Farm into five self-catering holiday homes.</li> </ol> <p>Contracts are currently being finalised.</p>	<b>Immediately</b>

Signed and date:

*Marian Higgins*

26/11/2021 | 12:24 PM GMT

**Marian Higgins, LCDC Chief Officer.**