



## Public Participation Network Feedback Form: Economic Development & Enterprise SPC Meeting



PPN Community Representative: **Louise Lovett**

Date: **02.02.2016**

### *Meeting Agenda*

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 8th December 2015.
2. Matters Arising from Minutes.
3. Local Economic Community Plan update - report to follow.
4. Update on Rural Development Programme.
5. Update on Regeneration Programme.
6. Longford Local Area Plan.
7. Update on Business Incentive Scheme.
8. Grants/Payments/Contributions to Voluntary and Communities Organisations - Development of policy and procedures - report attached.
19. Schedule of Meetings in 2016.
10. A.O.B.

**Present:** Seamus Butler, Pat O'Toole, Colm Murray, Peggy Nolan, Ray Hogan, Louise Lovett, Mona Considine, Pauric Loughrey, Fintan McGill

### **Apologies:**

### **Absent:**

**In Attendance:** Anne Lee, Barbara Heslin, Michael Nevin, Terry Rooney, Ciaran Murphy, Louise Kiernan, Janine Bartley

**Presentations: Yes / ~~No~~ (details if Yes) [See Item 3 below](#)**

Agenda item	Member	Discussion	Actions / Who
<p><b>Item 1</b> Confirmation of Minutes of Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 8th December 2015.</p>	<p>Seamus Butler</p>	<p>The Minutes of Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee held on the December 8<sup>th</sup> 015 were adopted, subject to the following amendment proposed by Ms Louise Lovett and seconded by Councillor Colm Murray-</p> <p>At the September 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, Councillor C. Murray had enquired if there was any way of supporting Tidy Towns committees financially.</p> <p>Louise Lovett suggested applying for some of the €30 million package recently announced to help revitalise rural communities worst hit by the recession. Referred to Colm Murray Chair of LCDC to follow up. Also agreed that elected members of Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee would meet separately to ensure allocation included in County Budgeting process</p> <p>The Government announced a €30m investment package for rural Ireland which will be channelled through the local authorities with oversight by the Local Community Development Committees.</p> <p>This had been omitted from the September minutes – unfortunately Longford did not receive any of this funding as it does not have Gateway Status - €1.5m each has been was allocated to Mullingar and Athlone</p>	
<p><b>Item 2</b> Matters Arising from Minutes.</p>	<p>Seamus Butler</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p><b>Item 3</b> Local Economic Community Plan update - report to follow</p>	<p>Michael Nevin Louise Kiernan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation – not circulated – Workshop on over 100 actions to be held next week for Economic SPC Members. LCDC members also attending workshop next week</li> <li>• Pauric Loughry indicated the need to prioritise actions</li> <li>• Peggy Nolan asked for and action to be included around engaging with the HSE in the Development of St. Joseph’s under Goal 6 of the LECP – job creation</li> <li>• Mona Considine to consider additional actions under Goal 8 re: Arts and Culture</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seamus Butler said it was important to include metrics and targets</li> </ul>	
<b>Item 4</b> Update on Rural Development Programme.	Michal Nevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently working through differences in relation to Heads of Agreement with LCRL</li> <li>• Hoped to have agreement and sight of strategy next week</li> <li>• Department have given a month's extension for submission to February 26<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• No other county yet in position to start considering projects and allocating grants</li> </ul>	
<b>Item 5</b> Update on Regeneration Programme.	Terry Rooney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LCOCO in discussions with NAMA re: vacant Shopping Centre</li> <li>• Connolly Barracks – Strategy for full site required – Major Master plan being prepared</li> <li>• REDS funding €180k secured for refurbishment of main building</li> <li>• Looking to European funding under Maps, Heritage Assets &amp; Public Spaces</li> </ul>	
<b>Item 6</b> Longford Local Area Plan.	Michal Nevin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Area Plan will be informed by Regeneration Plan</li> </ul>	
<b>Item 7</b> Update on Business Incentive Scheme	Terry Rooney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ten applications received – 5 approved, 3 pending – process takes 5 to 6 weeks.</li> <li>• Difficult to approve given displacement issues for existing retailers</li> <li>• Consider building in incentives around 'Change of Use'</li> </ul>	
<b>Item 8</b> Grants/Payments/Contributions to Voluntary and Communities Organisations - Development of policy and procedures - report attached	Seamus Butler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion around new COCO small grants applications process.</li> <li>• Agreed it must remain flexible for small amounts</li> <li>• Agreed that qualifying criteria should be tiered relative to amount of grant i.e. less than€500, €1,000, €5,000, €10,000</li> <li>• New process will apply to 2017 applications as grant process for 2016 is almost complete</li> <li>• Members to submit feedback to Ciaran Murphy prior to Easter</li> </ul>	
<b>Next Meeting</b> Schedule of Meetings in 2016		Tuesday April 19 <sup>th</sup> at 15:30	
<b>AOB</b>			