



Public Participation Network Feedback Form: County Longford Childcare Committee



PPN Community & Voluntary elected Representative: Kerrie Prendergast

Date of Meeting: December 13th 2021 @ 2.15pm

Meeting Agenda

1. Minutes
2. Governance
3. Co-Ordinators Report
4. COVID Helpline
5. Updates
6. Agency Update

In Attendance: Antonella Taaffe, Frank Horne, Kerrie Prendergast, Paula Mulry, Tony Kemple

Carrieann Belton, Maudie Kenny – Staff

Apologies: Melissa Eager, Brian Higgins, Clem Shevlin

Absent:

Presentations: Yes / No (details if Yes)

Agenda item	Member	Discussion	Actions / Who
<u>Item 1</u> Minutes & Matters Arising:	Carrieann	Minutes having been previously circulated, were taken as read. No matters arising	
Governance	Carrieann	KP reported that the Carmichael Chairs/Vice Chairs Network has received funding for training and this will be discussed at their next meeting in January 22. Governance is one of 16 pieces of training. There is a €100 cost to each organisation who avails of the training. KP will report back on outcome of the meeting. At a previous meeting BH spoke about a self - appraisal format for committee review. CB to follow up with him and look at how this would work for LCCC.	
Co-ordinators Report:	Carrieann	Report was previously circulated and taken as read.	
Covid Helpline	Carrieann	CB met with DCEDIY today. There was no indication that Helpline will be extended into 2022, however if it is requested a one year or 6 month (at least) contract will need to be agreed. The current situation with contract being extended by weeks creates difficulty with staffing and planning. LCCC will hand over the management of the Helpline to Roscommon if one year is not agreed. Public Health is not providing the support that providers require at weekends. No prioritizing of Early Years Sector. AT said that her service found no support through HSE.	
<u>Updates</u>	Carrieann	2 reports for Early years/School age have been launched. These are linked in Coordinators report and on our website. CCCs do supports with some agencies that work with families – CIC, Libraries etc. Staff meeting planned to discuss 2022 LIP/SOW to meet the unique needs of Co. Longford. Survey going to providers regarding capacity in services and it will be done nationally. Capital funding is required to increase places in counties. CCC to link with local Planning Office to ensure childcare is addressed in new estates. Press release has announced that students in L6/L7/L8 courses may work in childcare services to address staffing issued due to Covid 19 and providers can advertise temporary	

	AT	<p>vacancies on myccc.ie website through the CCCs. EWSS is available to end of December 21. Grants will be available to support ventilation measures in services.</p> <p>Transport is an issue for some families and they do not have access to services outside the town. This is continues to be highlighted to DCEDIY.</p> <p>Provider Update CCSP – There is a big difference between CCSP and NCS funding. There are still issues around children being absent and level of funding coming to provider. CCSP can continue for existing children but no new entrants allowed. There are changes coming for parents who previously got CCSP and now only NCS is available to them. System is not good as it benefits children who spend more time at the service. It is cheaper for the parent the longer the child stays in childcare. Current model is not suitable for providers. Currently they are depending on EWSS to remain open but once that ends there will be real difficulty for them.</p>	
<u>Agency Update</u>	TK PM	<p>LWETB – BH apologies. Report emailed and read to meeting.</p> <p>CE Scheme: Some modules are being decommissioned at the end of 2022. Level 5 students are being encouraged to do L6 as it is not known what changes will be forthcoming and they may not be able to access supports from ETB.</p> <p>DSP: – No changes at DSP. All CE participants have been extended until Feb 22 with a structured leaving date to follow. DSP is looking at the viability of the Schemes at an upcoming meeting. Childcare is on the agenda. DSP is no longer locally focused and decisions are not locally informed.</p> <p>Library: New Edgeworthstown branch is open and the feedback is very good. Covid has greatly impacted on activities, however they continue to make connections with local communities and childcare providers. Little Book Bags initiative has been extended which allows for further collaboration providers. PM is interested in interagency work which will support people in the community. Music Generation is being rolled out in Ballymahon and Granard.</p>	

	FH KP	Co. Council: Granard playground has been extended and it is hoped Edgeworthstown will be extended also. PPN; PPN Coordinator attended a soccer camp for children with autism. LCCC will support and promote in any way we can. Fr Sean Healy, Social Justice Ireland spoke about the current regulations and how hard it is getting for everyone. Suggestions for the use of Army Barracks in Longford were invited. PPN can post a notice in their newsletter for parents and childminders to connect with LCCC.	
<u>AOB</u>		A list of dates for meetings in 2022 was circulated. Carrie thanked the committee on behalf of the staff for the continued support during the past year.	