

SPC 1 - Economic Development, Enterprise Support & Tourism
Meeting in County Hall on 15th December 2017 at 11am

Report

(4th meeting held year to date)

PPN Representative - Theresa Delahunty

Issues Discussed:

1. **Local Enterprise Update**
2. **Update Economic Actions of LECP**
3. **Abbey Creative Quarter**
4. **Tourism Update**

1. Update from Local Enterprise Office

The update on the Local Enterprise Plan 2017 was circulated by Fiona Deegan, Head of LEO. While some of the actions are ongoing many have been completed as already outlined in the last Report to PPN members (15/09/17). The 33 actions are on target for year end.

2. Update on Economic Actions of Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP)

Feed-back on the Economic Element of the LECP 2016-17 Action Plan which was presented at each quarterly meeting of the SPC has already been included in the reports to PPN members.

The nine Goals:

1. Supporting the Enterprise Economy
2. Facilitate Innovation & Entrepreneurship
3. Enhance the Visitor Experience
4. Provide for Enhanced Levels of Educational Attainment & Skills Development
5. Develop the Rural Economy
5. Improve Access & Communications infrastructure
7. Foster leadership & Local Capacity
8. Protect the Natural Cultural & Built Environment
9. Contribute to Regional Growth & International Potential

Total Actions 49

The end of year Summary Report outlined the status of the 9 goals and 49 actions. Of the forty nine actions commenced, nineteen or 39% have been completed in terms of reaching the identified milestones. The remaining 30 actions or (61% are work in progress)

A new action plan for 2018-2021 will now be prepared. It is expected that this plan will be presented to the SPC at their first meeting in 2018.

3. Update Abbey Quarter

Chief Executive Officer Kevin McCormack gave a presentation to the meeting.

The plans for Brewhouse and Mayfair buildings are being finalised. Some changes may be required to the Brewhouse to make the building more marketable.

A Branding Specialists has been appointed to help market the site.

2018 will see progression with marketing and promotion of the quarter.

Work is also progressing on a parking and energy strategy.

In order to strengthen the Business case for a University Campus, KCC has commissioned a piece of work by a Consultancy to help strengthen their case.

5. Tourism Update

The Analysis on business tourism potential undertaken by Kilkenny County Council, Failte Ireland, Kilkenny Leader Partnership, Kilkenny Tourism has been completed and an Action Plan agreed, details of which were provided in the Report of 15/09/17.

Future marketing will highlight the “One Kilkenny” brand through digital and other media. Spreading activities throughout the County, developing local resilience through engagement with PPN and local Communities is included in the actions, Business tourism will also be targeted.

The success of Town of Books Graiugemanagh, Medieval Mile, Reign of Terror, Food and Music Festivals, Butler Gallery, are just a few of the success stories.

Input and questions by PPN Representative


Multi-story car parking not conducive to maintaining the fabric of a medieval city

Should underground parking be further explored?

Desirability of providing more residential accommodation in the city in the light of development of Abbey Quarter.

Next SPC1 Meeting Friday 23rd March 2018.

Any Matter you wish to have raised at this meeting, please email to PPN at ppnkilkenny@kilkennycoco.ie

Signed  15th December 2017

Theresa Delahunty - PPN Representative

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