



LCDC Annual Report 2017

Introduction.

LCDC's are required under Section 128B of the Local Government Act 2001 to prepare, adopt and submit an annual report to the local authority, no later than the 31st March each year, in respect of the performance of its functions in the previous calendar year. The annual report should be co-ordinated with the preparation of the local authority's annual report and include an outline of LCDC activities in the relevant period.

At a minimum the report should cover each of the LCDC functions, as outlined in the Act, but also other areas of activity such as development, review or implementation of community elements of the plan and contributing to the economic objectives of the Plan, both in its development and implementation.

Functions of the LCDC

The LCDC functions set out in the Act, are as follows:

- the preparation and adoption of an LECP,
- implementing the community elements of the LECP,
- reviewing the LECP and amending it or amending any element of it,
- monitoring, and reviewing the implementation of the plan on an ongoing basis,
- co-ordinate, manage and oversee the implementation of community development programmes that have been approved by the Council, agreed between the Committee and a public authority and to ensure that any plans or strategies are implemented in accordance with the community elements of the LECP,
- seeking to ensure effectiveness, consistency, co-ordination and avoid duplication between local and community development programmes,
- pursuing the co-ordination of all local community and coordination of programmes so as to optimise resources for the benefit of local communities and improve efficiency with which public funded local and community development resources are used,
- to consider and adopt a statement in respect of the economic elements of a draft plan and
- not later than 31st March each year adopt and submit to the Local Authority a report relating to the performance of its functions in the preceding calendar year.

Membership.

The membership of the LCDC is 20. The composition of the LCDC is such that it brings together the expertise and skills of people actively working with local development, community development and economic, cultural and environmental organisations and local authority members, officials and state agencies to implement a joined up, cross sectional approach to local and community development programmes.

Local Economic and Community Plan.

The LCDC monitors and reviews the implementation of the LECP on an ongoing basis and in doing so it considers the reports and advice from the LECP Advisory Group.

Specifically in 2017, the LCDC reviewed the six monthly monitoring reports in respect of the Community Actions for the period ending 31st December 2016 and for the six months ending 30th June 2017. It was noted from the 31st December report that 64 on-line reports were made by 20 out of 22 agencies, groups or departments. Of the prioritised list of actions only 2 groups did not report on their actions. It was noted from the 30th June report that all agencies/groups/departments had reported on their actions. The key achievements of the 18 months period of the LECP were also noted.

The LCDC engages with key stakeholders in the LECP and receives feedback with regards actions in the Community plan in 3 ways: through stakeholder presentations to the LCDC, through biannual LECP progress reports, which have been highlighted above, and through annual stakeholder engagement workshops.

The LCDC have heard presentations from 7 stakeholder agencies as part of a standing item on the LCDC agenda and have hosted 2 Stakeholder engagement workshops. The initial stakeholder engagement workshop held in 2017 involved 32 stakeholder organisations/groups/sections that are responsible for delivering actions within the community plan. The aim of the workshop was to:

- Identify priority actions for 2016-2017 to create a composite annual implementation plan
- Understand the role and responsibilities in leading out on actions
- Create an agreed approach to reporting to the LCDC on actions

The second annual Stakeholder workshop was held in December 2017 where stakeholder engagement was again high with over 30 in attendance. Denis Leamy, CEO of Pobal gave a key note address to stakeholders and LCDC members on “*The importance of stakeholder engagement in the delivery of integrated services- models, frameworks for the LECP*” which was well received. All stakeholders then were asked for their input into an evaluation of the first implementation plan, Identify priority actions for 2018 and create a composite annual implementation plan, and create an agreed approach to reporting to the LCDC on actions.

The workshop was deemed a huge success and something that stakeholders want to continue with, as part of the LECP process.

A copy of the six monthly progress reports for the period to 30th June 2017 will be made available through Kilkenny County Councils website. The report for the reporting period to 31st December 2017 will be available from March 2018.

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- the cofounded PPN & KLP community development courses
- the organisation by the PPN and KLP of a Volunteer expo in McDonagh Junction
- the provision of organisational support and €5,300 financial support to community groups for capacity building events during Yulefest 2017
- the PPN plenary meeting of 8th November at which information was provided on a wide range of initiatives with regards to Community Development, Rural and Town Development and Tourism, community involvement in Yulefest. The four Kilkenny County Council Municipal District Staff Officers were also introduced to the PPN members,
- that the membership stands at 245 groups across the county

Information Sharing

The provision and sharing of information to LCDC members is a standing item on the agenda of LCDC meetings. In 2017 information was provided on the following:

- The CLAR Programme,
- The Resettlement Programme
- Outdoor Recreation Grant Scheme,
- Africa Day Events,
- County Kilkenny Repair and Leasing Scheme,
- Community Based TV Scheme,
- Seniors Alert Scheme,
- St Canice Credit Union Community Fund
- New Public Libraries Strategy,
- LCDC Quality and Capacity Development Plan,
- Healthy Ireland Fund -
- Domestic Violence Needs Analysis – Tusla conducting a public consultation in Carlow and Kilkenny through a survey.
- Letter received from the Department concerning its proposed review of LCDC's.
- New Public Library Strategy 2018-2022 Public Consultation
- Irelands National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards 2017/2018- Call for submission of applications.

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Appendix 1.

LCDC Membership at 31st December 2017.

Name of Member	Nominating Body/Group
Fiona Deegan	Local Enterprise Office
Loretto O'Driscoll	Teagasc
Eileen Curtis	Education Training Board
Mary Barron	Dept of Social Protection
David Fitzgerald	Elected Representative
Andrew McGuinness	Elected Representative
Gerard Frisby	Elected Representative
Mary Hilda Cavanagh	Elected Representative
Elizabeth Dermody	Comm & Voluntary - Ossory Youth
Fergus Keane	Social Inclusion – St Patricks, Kells Rd.
Eileen Ryan	Social Inclusion - Older Peoples Forum
Anne Corr	Social Inclusion Disability – Health Services Executive
Sheila Donnelly	Family Resource Centres
Niall McManus	Kilkenny Cycling & Walking Campaign
John Bambrick	Irish Farmers Association
John Hurley	Chamber of Commerce
Denis Drennan	County Kilkenny Leader Partnership
Colette Byrne	CEO, Kilkenny County Council
Declan Gibbons	PPN Community Pillar – Community Radio
Derval Howley	Associate Member – HSE

Appendix 2

Community Facilities Grant Scheme

Community Group	Grant Awarded
Dragons Lair Martial Arts School	€2,100
MS Society of South East Region	€1,500
Kilkenny Recreation Sports Partnership	€2,100
Freebooters AFC	€2,100
Thomastown Community Centre	€1,500
Thomastown Men's Shed	€2,100
JJ Reddy Danesfort Run	€2,100
Stoneyford Football Club	€950
St. Canices Community Action CLG	€2,200
Thomastown Community Network	€1,600
The Drum Foroige	€2,000
Happe Tots	€1,600
St. Patricks Boxing Club	€2,200
Open Circle Arts	€1,400
Graignamanagh Festivals Committee	€1,900
Epilepsy Ireland	€900
Castlecomer Enterprise Group Ltd	€2,100
Paulstown Community Alert	€1,000
Paulstown Boxing Club	€2,100
Goresbridge Development Committee	€2,100
Muckalee Football Club	€2,100
Castlecomer Men's Shed	€750

Healthy Ireland Initiative Funding.

The LCDC was successful in securing €89,000 under Healthy Ireland funding in respect of 6 projects including the preparation of a strategic plan for the County and a Regional smoking cessation campaign as follows:

1. Development and implementation oversight of year HI plan for Kilkenny.	€20,000
2. Ageing with confidence workshops	€1,000
3. Positive campaign for non-smoking/tobacco free campaign and promotion (regional action)	€10,000
4. Physical activity, healthy eating, whole community and family approach, targeting those who experience health inequalities – Programme Pilot 6 areas in partnership the 4 FRC's in the county, the LEADER Partnership Company (Castlecomer) and the KTCM (Travellers)	€44,000
5. Develop the built environment to promote the importance of physical activity through signposting walks in the City Centre and on the River Nore walk to Bennettsbridge.	€11,000
6. LGBTI Peer Support Programme	€3,000
Total	€89,000

END.