

<p style="text-align: center;">COMMUNITY, LEISURE & EMERGENCY SERVICES STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE</p>
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A meeting of the Community, Leisure & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee was held in Kilmallock Area Office, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, on Wednesday 2nd December, 2015 at 2.30p.m.

The following were in attendance: -

IN THE CHAIR: Cllr. F. Foley

PRESENT: Cllr. Michael Hourigan, Cllr. Michael Sheahan, Cllr. Marian Hurley, Cllr. William O' Donnell, Cllr. Gerald Mitchell, Cllr. Lisa Marie Sheehy, Cllr. Malachy McCreesh, Cllr. Michael Collins, Cllr. Seán Lynch, Cllr. Kevin Sheahan, Cllr. Brigid Teefy, Ms. M. Vaughan-Mullane, (Agriculture/Farming), Ms. Mary. Fitzgerald (Development/Construction)

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Ciara McMahon

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. P. Dowling, Director of Service
Mr. D. Brady, County Librarian
Mr. S. O' Connor, Senior Social Worker
Mr. D. McGuigan, Administrative Officer
Mr. D. Dullaghan, Senior Executive Librarian
Ms. J. Hayes, Archivist
Mr. M. Fitzpatrick, City of Culture
Ms. S. Deegan, City of Culture
Ms. M. Caulfield, Community Section
Ms. M. Spencer, Professional Limerick Arts Network
Mr. K. Bogue, Professional Limerick Arts Network
Ms. L. Kerins, Doras Luimní
Ms. P. Stapleton, Doras Luimní

The Chair agreed to take the presentations first while waiting for a quorum to be present.

Item 4: Presentation on 1916/2016 Commemoration Programme (Mr. Damien Brady).

Mr. Brady is the co-ordinator of the 1916/2016 celebrations. He did a presentation on what is planned for the year. There is a launch in Granary Library on Monday 7th December @ 6pm. The commemoration revolves around the theme of 7. 152 schools from Limerick were invited to write a new Proclamation and a new Irish Flag and a copy of the Proclamation will be delivered by two Army personnel to each school in Ireland.

The Chair thanked Mr. Brady for his presentation and acknowledged the work and commitment in his role and that there was no better person to take on this role. He is looking forward to an exciting year and felt it is a great occasion for the country.

Cllr. M. Hourigan queried how existing families will get involved. Mr. Brady informed the committee that Catriona Crowe is involved in a genealogy project where she is researching families at the moment and will be making contact with family members and inviting them to events. Matt Potter has also identified 15-16 other families that could be contacted.

Item 5: Presentation from Professional Limerick Arts Network and Limerick Arts and Cultural Exchange (Ms. Monica Spencer)

Ms. Spencer gave a short detailed presentation on the work of Arts groups in Limerick. PLAN is the body for individual artists in Limerick City and County. It currently has 60 members. LACE is a group set up for all arts and cultural practitioners, community groups. Irish Chamber Orchestra, Hunt Museum and Lime Tree Theatre would just be some of the groups that are registered in LACE. She informed the meeting that she would be happy to meet with Councillors or officials if they want more information.

The Chair thanked Ms. Spencer for her presentation and felt that Arts is well established in Limerick and that this group would give whatever support they can.

Ms. Jacqui Hayes thanked Ms. Spencer also for her presentation. As current Treasurer of LACE, she felt the real outcome from 2014 was the need for a stronger voice to inform policy on culture. She hoped that is what LACE will do in the future.

Cllr. K. Sheehan asked about the re-introduction of Limerick Lace and hoped that some of the arts groups would be able to get it back. Ms. Hayes replied that an exhibition will take place in LIT for new patterns on lace design and there are also collections in Limerick Museum.

Cllr. McCreesh thanked Ms. Spencer also and asked about funding. Ms. Spencer replied that the groups are self funding. LACE pillar groups aren't funded. Individuals try to get their own funding. It is hoped that the Councillors could help with funding.

Item 1: Adoption of Draft Minutes of Community Leisure & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee held on 16th September, 2015

Minutes of meeting of 16th September were proposed by Cllr. Mitchell and seconded by Cllr. Hurley.

Item 6: Presentation from Doras Luimní on Fair Work Standards Limerick Campaign (Ms. Patricia Stapleton & Ms. Leonie Kerins)

Ms. Stapleton is a Migrants Rights Officer based in Doras Luimní. She told the members of a new project in Limerick where workers can vote for the fairest employer in Limerick. This will be done by surveys carried out over the next six months. Many hotels in Limerick have joined the Fair Hotel Scheme such as George Boutique, Pery Hotel and South Court Hotel. SIPTU always hold their Limerick meetings in one of these hotels. She is looking for the committee's endorsement of the campaign.

The Chair thanked all involved in this very important work.

A discussion was had amongst the members regarding issues concerning employees with their employment rights, how to join unions and work permits. It was felt that this is important that people feel they can stand up for themselves and it would benefit employers and employees.

Some members had concerns that if employers didn't recognise unions would they be blacklisted. It was also felt that work place issues affect all works not just migrant workers.

Item 2: Update on Suicide Prevention Strategy (Mr Seamus O' Connor)

Mr O' Connor gave a brief update on the Suicide Prevention Strategy. A regional working group has been set up and is led by the HSE and Mr S O'Connor is a member of this group. The regional group will consider how the requirements of the National Suicide Strategy 2015-2020 will be delivered.

A discussion took place amongst the members regarding suicide and its impact on individuals and families. It was agreed that the proposed suicide subgroup should be established and that it could feed in to the Regional Working Group. Cllr Sheehy stated it was important that this committee would be proactive at local level and noted her name had not been included in the membership of the sub group in the previous minutes.

Information on the National Suicide Strategy was circulated to all members.

It was agreed that:

- the subgroup would feed into the Regional Working Group.
- Cllr. Sheehy is to be included as a member of the sub group.
- Suicide awareness training to be made available.

Item 3: Update on Rural Development Programme (Mr. Dara McGuigan)

Mr. McGuigan gave an update on the Leader Programme. LCDC had applied to be the LAG and has been successful in same. The Local Development Strategy was submitted on 22nd October to the Department. The Department asked for further information in early November and this was submitted on 22nd November. Local Development Strategy will be evaluated on 17th December.

Mr. O' Connor also informed the members that subject to the outcome of the 2016 budgetary process, provision had been made for Council to support the Rural Development Programme in the amount of €251,000.

Item 7: Any Other Business

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and for giving their time to all the speakers at the meeting.

Minutes Proposed By:

Minutes Seconded By:

Minutes Signed By Chair: _____

Date: _____