

**Minutes of Local Community and Development Committee Meeting held
Monday 16th February 2026 at 10.00 a.m. via teams**

Present:

Public Sector: Cllr. John Carroll, Chair (TCC), Sinéad Carr (Chief Executive TCC), Damien Ginty (TCC), Sylvia Hassett (HSE), Colin Cummins (ETB) Stephanie O'Callaghan (CYPSC), Anthony Fitzgerald (TCC), Colin Cummins (TETB) **(8)**

Private Sector: Michael Murray (NTDC), Elaine Baker (PPN), Isabel Cambie (STDC), Mike Geary (TUS), Mike Edwards, Vice Chair (PPN), Pat Carroll (Agricultural Pillar), Maedbh Gordon (PPN) **(7)**

Apologies: Cllr. Marie Murphy (TCC), Cllr. Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) (TCC), Derry O'Donnell (PPN), John O'Shaughnessy (Business Pillar), Mary Purcell (DSP).

In Attendance: Sheevaun Thompson (TCC), Cora Morrissey (TCC), Mairead Ryan (TCC), Áine Roche (TCC), Willie Morgan (TCC) Eoin Kaar (TCC), Catriona Crowe (TCC), Mary McLoughney (TCC), Fiona Crotty (TCC), Niamh Savage (TCC), Liz McGrath (TCC), Sandra Cunningham, (TCC)

<u>Pre-Meeting Requirements and Conflict of Interest</u>	
(a) Quorum	The Quorum was reached.
(b) Conflict of Interest	None
(c) Decision-Making Requirements to include LEADER Written Decisions	None
(d) Ethics Documents	All ethics documents are to be completed and returned.

1.

Approval of Draft Agenda

The Draft Agenda was agreed.

2.

Confirmation of Minutes of Tipperary LCDC Meeting dated the 19th of January 2026 & Matters Arising (Decision)

The minutes of the Tipperary LCDC meeting held on the 19th of January 2026 were agreed on the proposal of Mike Edwards and seconded by Pat Carroll.

Matters Arising

A LEADER funding application submitted by Newport Development Association for the purchase of a generator in Newport Community Centre, which had been deferred at the January meeting, was presented for decision. The Executive requested that the LCDC formally decide on the project.

- Sinéad Carr asked if the executive had an opinion on what way they would like to see the project be considered.
- Sheevaun Thompspon said Newport Community Centre is one of 32 centres identified by TCC as a Community Support Centre (CSC) to be fitted with a changeover switch for a portable generator to be deployed if an emergency event occurs. In the interest of fairness to other CRC's and from previous discussions, the proposed recommendation is to reject the application.
- Stephanie O'Callaghan said she agrees with a recommendation made by Derval Howley at the January LCDC meeting. That recommendation was to reject this project as there in National Policy and a national plan been rolled out.
- Damien Ginty concurred that this is national initiative. Tipperary County Council will have five (5) generators and can call on other Local Authorities for additional generators to be deployed to CRC's in Tipperary if needed.
- Elaine Baker agreed with the opinion of the committee but stressed that when the changeover switch is being installed in the 32 identified centres in Tipperary that they are installed to accept not just fossil fuel generators but other power sources such as batteries, etc.

Following consideration of the matter, the LCDC resolved to reject the application. This decision was proposed by Stephanie O' Callaghan and seconded by Elaine Baker.

3.

Presentations

3.1 Engage in Energy Project

Máirtín Ó'Méalóid, Ecovision General Manager gave a detailed presentation on the Engage in Energy Project, highlighting some of the case studies they faced.

- Fiona Crotty (who was also involved in this project) told the LCDC that better engagement was received on the doorsteps when TCC staff were not present.

- Cllr. John Carroll acknowledged the work carried out through the project and highlighted the importance of educating young people while they are in school.
- Colin Cummins thanked Máirtín for his engagement with the Social Inclusion group.
- Michael Murray complimented Fiona Crotty, Stephanie O’Callaghan, Máirtín and his colleague Mona for their incredible work with this project.
- Máirtín told the LCDC that they have regular meetings and they are constantly reviewing what they do to make improvements.

3.2 Community Grant Mapping Update

Mary McLoughney, (TCC) gave a detailed presentation on the Community Grant Mapping Project.

- Sinéad Carr acknowledged the work carried out to date. She also stressed the importance of using the tool, highlighting the need to be careful on interpreting the data as some areas may require higher level of support.

4. LEADER 2023-2027

4.1 NTDC CEO Report (Decision)

There was no change to North Tipperary Development Company Income and Expenditure Report.

4.2 STDC Projects & CEO Report (Decision)

- South Tipperary Development Company Income and Expenditure Report was noted.
- Isabel Cambie sought approval for a change request:

Project promoter	Project title	Change request	Implications
Rosegreen Development Association	IE30STP102369 – Rosegreen Community Centre Sustainability Project	Full approval following a grant of planning permission	No cost implications. The grant amount and total project cost remains the same. Recommended grant aid of €50,000 i.e. 75% of total project costs of €66,667.

This was proposed by Stephanie O’Callaghan and seconded by Maedbh Gordon.

- Isabel Cambie informed members that STDC hope to have a full-time Development Officer starting with them on Monday week (2nd March).

4.3 Budget Report (Decision)

Having no new projects for consideration there was no change to the Leader budget report.

Approval of the Monthly Income and Expenditure Report was proposed by Mike Edwards and seconded by Pat Carroll.

4.4 LEADER Targeted Call 2025 - Update

Michael Murray and Isabel Cambie updated the members on the LEADER Targeted Call 2025. Both STDC & NTDC have 3 projects each to the value €219,814 and €168,000 to bring forward. There is a County IEC meeting on the 3rd March in Cabragh Wetlands for evaluation of the projects.

4.5 Appointment of TCC rep to the Independent Evaluation Committee (IEC)

On behalf of TCC Damien Ginty proposed that Mary McLoughney represent TCC on the IEC following approval from the LCDC back in June 2025.

Damien Ginty acknowledged that checks and balances are carried out before projects are brought into Independent Evaluation Committee.

- Incl. good working relationship with TCC's / Enterprise Irelands Local Enterprise Office.

Damien also acknowledged that this would increase the Committee from 12 to 13 members, however:

- This proposal will enhance the work of the Committee.
- Will lead to greater information sharing.
- There is now a huge reservoir of information to hand with grant mapping GIS
- Criteria of funds constantly changing, e.g. recent LEP grant will no longer cover operational costs.

5.

SICAP

5.1 New Arrivals carry-forward NTDC

Approval was sought for NTDC to carry-over a sum of €20,136.14 from the New Arrivals 2025 budget. Sinéad Carr asked if the carry-over would have implications for the 2026 budget. Michael Murray explained the carry-over request is due to an extra allocation under New Arrivals awarded in June 2025. It will be used to pay for a part-time project worker.

This request was proposed by Stephanie O'Callaghan and seconded by Sinéad Carr.

5.2 End of year review updates

Sheevaun Thompson advised that the Social Inclusion Subgroup met on 30 January to review SICAP outcomes by both Programme Implementors (PIs) for 2025. All targets were met by NTDC and STDC in accordance with SICAP Guidelines and Pobal requirements. She thanked the subgroup for their valuable input into the process.

The end of year reviews were proposed by Maedhbh Gordon and seconded by Pat Carroll.

A series of subgroup meetings have taken place to help inform Annual Plans 2026. These will be presented to the LCDC at the March Meeting.

6.	<p>Smart Villages Update</p> <p>Isabel Cambie had no new update to what was shared at the January meeting.</p>
7.	<p>Quality of Life 7.1 <-> 7.5</p> <p>The reports provided on 'One Advance' were taken as read and no questions/queries were raised.</p> <p>7.6 The Power of People and Place</p> <p>Fiona Crotty gave an update on The Power of People and Place Project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project relates to action SCO1.2 in the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) to undertake a Community Capacity and Community Organisation audit to determine the sector's social capital and capacity gaps. • There are 1,756 groups registered with the PPN. The survey will exclude Graveyard Committees and Residents Associations. • Two TCC and one PPN staff members are conducting the survey with each group and providing them with an information pack. • The survey is a series of 240 questions which will gather information about the group, the building, activities and use of facilities, the circular economy, future planning, group management, etc. • The engagement provides each group the opportunity to showcase their group and facility. • Carrick-on-Suir MD is 95% and Thurles MD is 50% complete. <p>Maedhbh Gordon complemented the project. She said the decision to remove Operational Costs as eligible expenditure under the Local Enhancement Programme 2026 will affect groups. She said it is difficult to attract and maintain volunteers. Fiona Crotty replied that this matter can be discussed at the LCDC Sustainable Communities Subgroup.</p>
8.	<p>Children and Young Persons Services Committee Update</p> <p>Stephanie O' Callaghan updated the members on the Children and Young Persons Services Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tipperary CYPSC Open Call for funding will issue this week and remain open for 3 weeks closing Friday 13th March. Details issue to the CYPSC and its Outcome Subgroups. • Outcome 2 and 4 continue to work on the Analysis of impacting factors on Early School Leavers, those not in education, employment, training

supports - NEET's, young people engaged in Tusla Aftercare Support Service. The TETB have been very supportive with this work to date.

- International Protection Fund - CYPSC National office is not sure if we can agree to take this fund from the Department of Justice for 2026 due to agreement on process for the fund. We will know in coming weeks if we will be in a position to administer this fund for 2026.
- Mapping Youth Spaces through Outcome Subgroup 5, is ongoing and we are mapping at MD level using settlement hierarchy, mapping formal and informal spaces. Young people informed this in 2025 and we are now building on that and adding other space types. We will use this mapping to inform where a pilot intergenerational space would be most appropriate based on current availability of spaces. Comhairle na nÓg will be involved in this also. Piloting spaces is an LECP action.
- Child and Youth Participation Protocol - we will have a draft design in coming weeks. We expect to launch this later this year.
- Mental Health Services Directory - we are updated this directory which Suicide Resource Office created a number of years ago, and they have been updating with the Tipperary CYPSC team and members of Outcome Subgroup 1. We will disseminate once design is updated. Comhairle na nÓg will support a dissemination plan to young people.
- Tipperary Parent Hub - there will be further webinars for parents in 2026. The topics are selected based on parent requests, traffic on the website and information from findings of Planet Youth. The February webinar will be on the 23rd February and is on Executive Functioning for children and young people, Áine O'Dea is the presenter, Áine is an OT with specialty in Executive Functioning Skills . There will be another webinar in April on Preventing Drug and Alcohol Problems in Teenagers - What Parents Can Do. Professor Bobby Smyth will be presenter he is a Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist with specialty in adolescent addiction. www.tipperaryparenthub.ie

9.

Funding Updates

9.1 Local Enhancement Programme

Fiona Crotty gave an update on the local enhancement programme. The closing date has been extended to the 27th of February 2026.

- Maedbh Gordon queried if there was much feedback around the fact that groups can no longer apply for this funding to support their insurance/utility bills. Maedbh highlighted that without insurance many

of these groups cannot be active and that the LCDC need to be conscious that.

- Fiona Crotty said only some of the groups that have relied on the grant for those types of bills in the past have queried it.

10. Correspondence, Submissions and Consultation
10.1 National Community Safety Strategy - Survey

Áine Roche advised that a National Community Safety Strategy is being developed and members are invited to complete a survey on the Public Consultation.

11. A.O.B
None

12. Date of Next Meeting
It was agreed that the March monthly meeting would be moved from the originally planned date of Monday 16th March 2026 (in Person) to the following Monday (23rd March) at 2pm – via teams.

Signed:  **Date:** 23/3/2026
Clr. John Carroll
Chair,
Tipperary Local Community Development Committee

Signed:  **Date:** 23/3/2026
Damien Ginty
Chief Officer,
Tipperary Local Community Development Committee

