

Clare PPN Secretariat Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 1st June, 2022

Via Zoom

Present:

Damon Matthew Wyse Au

Elaine D'Alton

Fionnuala Collins

Mary O'Donoghue

Monica McKenna

Sarah Clancy

Sarah Ferrigan

Tracy Watson

William Hederman

Apologies

Dermot Hayes

Padraic Hayes

Cornelia Wahli

Agenda:

1. Finance and work report
2. Update on Audit etc
3. Update on Anti Poverty Strategy work
4. LECP- update on that grant etc
5. Annual Report
6. Update on resettlement process for Ukrainians
7. Summer work plan

8. Rescheduling Plenary (In person?)
9. AOB.

1. Finance and work report

- Sarah Ferrigan got the Annual Report submitted. Thanks to Elaine for help.

Other recent/current work:

- Working with Ukrainian response group

- Quare Clare

Had a meeting this week. Mostly agencies around the table, as opposed to members of LGBTQ+ community. There is work ongoing to develop a website. Clare Pride is booked for 24th September

LGBTQ+ youth and social supports urgently needed in Clare. We need to push for that to be provided.

- Attended Cliffs of Moher strategy consultation.

- IHREC funding details – We have received €7,160. Have spent €9,348. Have to spend more before can draw down more.

2. Update on Audit etc

Auditors from DCRD visited in May as arranged. Some questions about our work arrangements (two staff working four days; one working two days). We have prior agreement of the Dept & Clare Co Council for that.

They wanted more information on certain payments. They were happy with things once they were explained.

Action: Sarah Clancy will write to DCRD about payments. To explain that our financial policy allows for small purchases not being passed by Secretariat.

Agreed that in future, purchases over €200 will be discussed & minuted at Secretariat meetings.

3. Update on Anti Poverty Strategy work

Focus Group sessions have gone very well. Clare Leader Forum session very informative. Young Traveller women group very eye-opening.

Upcoming sessions with Clare Co Councillors on 13th June and a public session at Shannon FRC on 16th June.

Discussion about focus group with residents of Direct Provision centres. We did advertise in Lisdoonvarna with no response. People in DP have been consulted a lot & are fatigued. What's in it for them? Agreed it's very important that DP residents not left out of the strategy. Agreed to look at doing an online session with DP residents.

4. LECP- update on that grant etc

Funding opportunity around marginalised groups and getting economic and social rights into the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP). Clare Co Council persuaded Clare PPN that we should apply for Clare to be a pilot project. Proofing LECP against discrimination on the grounds of economic status. Clare PPN wrote the application and did follow-up

work. €40,000 has been granted to the Council. Pobal came back saying the timeline does not work for the grant, for complicated reasons due to the Council/LECP timing being different from grant timeline. Pdraig McCormack at the Council is dealing with Pobal on this issue – we will find out soon whether the grant will go ahead.

5. Annual tax audit

Should we retain the same auditors? – Cuddihy & Co.

Monica proposed. Damon seconded. Agreed.

6. Update on resettlement process for Ukrainians

Clare PPN has been very involved. There are many agencies and many volunteers. 50 or 60 Ukrainian people getting involved in Ennis. Two buses daily from residences to Mna ag Gaire.

Rethink Ireland funding discussed – If another group wants to apply, Clare PPN is happy to support.

7. Summer work plan

- ‘Making Relatives’ tour – Native American water protectors group. If Futureproof Clare can host, we will support them. If they can’t, we could host.

8. Rescheduling Plenary (in person?)

Agreed to hold Plenary. In person. Provisionally Wednesday 29th June, 7:30pm. Will seek to have at the Junction if possible.

Preceded by short secretariat meeting, provisionally at 6pm.

Agreed it's important for Secretariat to discuss sometime soon after Plenary to digest and follow up.

9. AOB.

- Agreed to send a gift to Cornelia.
- Agreed to send a card to Theresa O'Donohoe whose mother has died.
- Tracy updated on surveys on seagrass beds on Clare coast, including at Quilty, rare and special cases. Quilty area is a protected area. Tracy is liaising with Coastwatch Ireland about possible actions to protect seagrass. Hoping to link up with FLAG West /Oonagh O'Dwyer. Sarah C to put Tracy in touch with Oonagh.

ENDS