

Minutes – Secretariat meeting 19th January 2023

Present: Sarah C, Sarah F, Dermot, Elaine, Padraic, Mary, Monica, Theresa

Apologies: Tracy, Damon

Minutes and matters arising

adopted (proposed by Dermot, seconded by Elaine)

LCDC Reps

Discussion on the vote that took place at the extraordinary LCDC meeting in December. Unable to get LCDC reps together before finishing for Christmas but issue is still outstanding and needs to be urgently addressed. Discussion on the need to establish if reps ignored mandate from member groups and the need to remove them from their representative roles if so.

ACTION: LCDC reps to be invited to a meeting with Secretariat (Theresa & Mary both former LCDC reps) to determine what happened at extraordinary LCDC meeting

Reps political affiliation

Discussion on the issue of whether local area reps for a party can also be PPN reps and whether the handbook supersedes CVSP 2018. Political participation is encouraged and party membership is not prohibited but party rep roles in the community could lead to confusion on 'which hat' a PPN rep is wearing at forums and committees.

ACTION: Clarification to be sought from the Department

Reps training

Reps meeting needed to reiterate:

- Reps role and responsibility
- political conflict of interest (elections, canvassing, party reps etc.)
- representative mandate as per Handbook pg 23 *'Representatives are required to represent the views of their Linkage / Thematic Group as a whole, and not their own personal views'*

ACTION: mandatory training for all reps.

2023 Workplan

Following circulation for comment to PPN members the 2023 Workplan has been adopted.

ACTION: It will be presented to CCC at next week's meeting.

SLA & MOU

The SLA and MOU have both been agreed by the Secretariat.

ACTION: They will be presented to CCC at next week's meeting.

Finance report

Sarah F presented 2022 income and expenditure report and draft 2023 budget. Clare PPN CLG is not operating in a sustainable way. The €10k increase this year has just covered wages being placed on the correct point of the FORSA scales. This leaves nothing to meet inflation increases re: utilities, reps expenses, staff travel. Also, the remit of PPNs is increasing each year without the required investment. Lack of accessible public transport increases meeting costs. We can just about function

for 2023 but it puts the CLG in a precarious position from net year. PPNs are not allowed to fundraise. The LECP project does allow for administration costs.

ACTION: Bring the funding issue to the attention of CCC at next week's meeting. Keep pressure on Department re: PPN underfunding.

ACTION: Risk assessment needed for 2024 and beyond.

ACTION: To supplement staff costs and inflation Clare PPN must expand the CLG structure to apply for other funding eg. migrant integration

Upcoming consultations

LECP and LEADER consultations will have many overlapping questions. Many other consultations happening in 2023. Consultation must be streamlined. Discussion on the merits of doing a 'super-consultation' that can be used for various submissions this year.

ACTION: 'One consultation to rule them all'

Anti-Poverty Strategy

What's next (apart from project to enshrine socio-economic right in LECP)?

ACTION: Look for invite to bring it to EC Parliament for discussion at all party commission (they are interested in regional research)

Future Dates

Second Wednesday of the month agreed for Secretariat meetings.

ACTION: Doodlepoll for next plenary meeting

NEXT SECRETARIAT MEETING 8th February 2023 @6.30pm