

Guidelines for Public Participation Network for the 2021 Election of Members to the Tipperary Local Community Development Committee

Section 49A of the Local Government Act 2001 provides for the establishment of LCDCs in all local authority administrative areas “for the purposes of developing, coordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development”. In this regard, each LCDC will bring together local authority members and officials, State agencies and people actively working with local development, community development, and economic, cultural and environmental organisations to implement a joined-up, cross-sectoral approach to local and community development programming.

LCDCs therefore draw on the expertise and experience of public and private actors within the relevant local authority area to provide effective and efficient services to citizens and communities, and particularly those most in need of those services.

As provided for in the Act, Tipperary LCDC has

- Primary responsibility for co-ordinating, planning and overseeing local and community development funding, whether spent by local authorities or on behalf of the State by other local development bodies,
- Brings a more joined-up approach to the implementation of local and community development programmes and interventions, pursuing an integrated approach to local community-based services across providers and delivery structures,
- Drives meaningful citizen and community engagement in the scoping, planning, delivery and evaluation of local and community development programmes,
- Pursues a more cost efficient administration of local and community development programmes and delivery structures, the matching of resources to priorities and better value-for-money in the management and delivery of programmes,
- Focuses on learning and feedback, enhancing the links between service delivery and policy development, and
- Pursues opportunities for additional funding for the area, whether Exchequer, EU, private or other sources.

Composition of the LCDC

The LCDCs comprises of both public and private sector socio-economic partners drawn from the relevant local authority administrative area. The LCDC has a tightly defined membership consisting of 19 members. This allows for a range for opinions and perspectives to be represented by key local interests, while being sufficiently tight to ensure the focused and effective operation of the LCDC.

On the LCDC, there are nine public sector members and 10 private sector (PPN, Business/Agricultural Pillar and Local Development Company) members, as set out below.

Public sector members include the local authority members, local authority officials and State Agencies

Private sector interests are drawn from—

- Community and voluntary interests (PPN nominates) x2
- Social inclusion interests (PPN nominates)x2
- Environmental interests-(PPN nominates) x2
- Local Development Companies (North Tipperary LEADER Partnership and South Tipperary Development Company) x2
- Farming/agriculture interests and Business interests x2

Role of the PPN Representatives on the LCDC

- LCDC members will be expected to have an interest in, knowledge of and experience of social inclusion, environmental sustainability or community and voluntary development matters- depending on which seat they are nominated for.
- The PPN members will represent the PPN as a whole organisation and all decisions taken and views represented will be for the betterment of the Community and Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental sectors within Tipperary.
- PPN members should have the ability to engage across thematic areas (in addition to their own Pillar/Area or Geographic area)
- Non-confidential information from the meetings to be communicated to the PPN Linkage group. A 'statement of outcome' will be prepared after each meeting to facilitate that process.
- PPN representatives will be expected to attend 11 meetings of the LCDC (monthly except August). Meeting commences at 10.00am on the 3rd Monday of each month and take 1-3 hours. Meetings will be held by Zoom or at a meeting space.
- PPN representatives will also sit on and participate in one of the LCDC subgroups (Social Inclusion, Sustainable Communities or Finance and Audit) - meetings of these groups take place 4-6 times per year. However, projects visits, tender evaluations or workings group meeting will also take place.
- Representatives must sign the following documentation to participate in and be involved in decision at meetings.
 - Form A – Tipperary Local Community Development Committee-Local Government Act 2001 - Part 15 Annual Declaration
 - Tipperary Local Community Development Committee Conflict of Interest Declaration RDP LEADER Programme 2014-2020
 - Register in interests.
- Conflict of interest in relation to projects lists must be declared prior to meeting where appropriate (projects list will be circulated before the meetings)
- Documents and correspondence must be read before attendance at LCDC meeting and subgroups meetings.
- Active participation at the LCDC meeting, subgroups meetings, workshops and other events will be expected.
- Participation as a PPN representative will take up to an estimated 8-10 hours per month (depending on the role of the representatives)
- There is no remuneration for the position, however, travel expenses will be met by Tipperary County Council
- If the PPN representative is unable to attend a meeting, they must notify their alternate and arrange for the alternate to attend.
- All new members to the LCDC will be met by a member of the LCDC team & the PPN coordinator for an induction process.