

**Minutes of Meeting of Roscommon Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) – held at 3pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025**  
**in Loughnaneane of Roscommon County Council and on MS Teams.**

**Members In Attendance – In Person**

Cllr. Larry Brennan, RCC  
Cllr. Dominic Connolly, RCC  
Cllr. Laurence Fallon, RCC  
Mr. Eamon Hannan, HSE  
Mr. Vincent Moran, Community & Voluntary PPN  
Mr. Ger Fallon, Community & Voluntary PPN  
Mr. Kevin Coyle, Environment PPN  
Mr. Pat Leonard, Farming

**Members on-line**

Ms. Carina Lennon, RLP  
Mr. Eoin Power, DSP  
Ms. Helen Hunt, Brothers of Charity

**Apologies:**

Mr. Shane Tiernan, Chair, RCC  
Ms. Louise Ward, RCC  
Mr. Donal Walsh, GRET  
Mr. Gabriel Trayors, Teagasc  
Ms. Martina Hourigan, Community PPN – Social Inclusion  
Mr. Kevin Conry, Community PPN – Social Inclusion  
Mr. John Bergin, Business  
Mr. Pat Compton, Trade Union

**Non members In attendance:**

Ms. Fiona Ní Chuinn, RCC – Chief Officer LCDC  
Mr. Chris Flynn, RCC – Director of Services  
Ms. Bridie McHugh RCC – Minute Taker  
Ms. Aisling Dunne, RCC – Healthy Ireland  
Ms. Sharon Shally, RCC – Social Inclusion  
Mr. Conor Feighan, RCC – Administrative Checker for LEADER Projects  
Mr. Tomás Beades, RLP  
Ms. Denise McDonnell, RLP  
Ms. Niamh Nolan, RLP

| Agenda Item                                                                                                                                    | Decisions Made/Actions to Be Taken                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | By Whom                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| <p>1. <b>To reaffirm quorum in accordance with LCDC rules</b></p> <p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting 25.02.26</b></p> <p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr. Laurence Fallon confirmed with Bridie that we had quorum to proceed with the meeting – 11 members in attendance.</li> <li>• Minutes of Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> February 2026 were agreed.</li> <li>• None</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Bridie McHugh – LCDC Meeting Administrator</p> <p><b>Proposed by:</b> Cllr. Domnick Connolly<br/><b>Seconded by:</b> Cllr. Larry Brennan</p> <p>Cllr. Laurence Fallon</p> |
| <p>2. <b>Correspondance Sent</b></p> <p>3. <b>Correspondance Inward</b></p> <p>(Slide 3)</p>                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circular 1 2026 - Public consultation on the CAP post-2027 regulations sent to members on 12.03.26 – This Circular was already referenced to by Tomás Beades in the LAG part of the meeting</li> <li>• LCSP – Survey emailed to members and non-members on 23.03.26</li> <li>• National Healthy Ireland framework is currently open for consultation – Survey emailed to members and non-members 13.04.26</li> <li>• At the last LCDC Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> February, questions were raised by members in relation to the Community Transport• What is the objective of the Community vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the criteria for people using the Community vehicle</li> <li>• How many cars does the service have and where are their locations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the booking system</li> <li>• How would people know about it</li> <li>• What is the capacity of the bus</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p>Fiona Ní Chuinn – Chief Officer LCDC</p>                                                                                                                                  |

• These questions were sent to Linda Devine – SiCAP Co-ordinator with LEADER for Roscommon who responded to as follows.

- Roscommon County Development Fund and Roscommon LEADER Partnership secured initial setup funding through the Community Recognition Fund, delivered by the Department of Rural and Community Development in partnership with Roscommon County Council.  
The ongoing delivery of the programme by Roscommon LEADER Partnership is supported through the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SiCAP), Tús, Rural Social Scheme and the continued involvement of key stakeholders, including Local Link, healthcare teams and education providers. The programme aims to provide accessible and dependable transport in a county where public transport options are limited.  
The initiative primarily targets individuals eligible under SiCAP—those living in disadvantaged areas - including older people, individuals with disabilities, people on low incomes and those without access to private or public transport.  
The service operates two 9-seater vehicles and one wheelchair-accessible vehicle, serving Ballaghaderreen and the wider county. Transport is provided through a booking and referral system via phone or email (086 1360155).  
Launched in Ballaghaderreen in 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023, awareness of the service is largely driven through local referral networks and community channels, including healthcare providers, education and training organisations and local development programmes. Word-of-mouth and engagement with Roscommon LEADER Partnership initiatives also contribute to uptake.  
In addition to transport, the service offers an often-overlooked benefit by connecting users with essential information about local supports, such as training opportunities, social prescribing, and Safe Link services. This helps individuals access resources that can improve their overall quality of life.

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|                                                     | <p>Since its launch, the Community Transport initiative has demonstrated a positive impact. It supports a wide range of users, including older people, families with young children attending medical appointments, and individuals pursuing education and training, significantly enhancing mobility and independence. Looking ahead, the programme aims to expand its services to further benefit these groups.</p> <p>Feedback from users highlights its importance. One participant noted that while Local Link serves some rural areas, gaps remain and timetables do not always meet local needs. Another emphasised its role in enabling access to education, stating that learners attending QQI Level 5 courses would not have been able to do so without the Community Transport Initiative, as existing national and rural transport options were not suitable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Community Car was highlighted as the SICAP Case Study in 2024 - <a href="https://www.rosleaderpartnership.ie/programmes-supports/the-social-inclusion-and-community-activation-programme/">https://www.rosleaderpartnership.ie/programmes-supports/the-social-inclusion-and-community-activation-programme/</a>. It was also nominated for a LAMA (Local Authority Members Association) Awards in 2024. A short video about the project was played from the above link.</li> <li>• Members thanked Fiona for seeing the clarification and advised that it assisted greatly in their understanding.</li> </ul> |                    |
| <p><b>4. Healthy Roscommon Update (Slide 5)</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eamon Hannan presented an update to the group.</li> <li>• He also wished to inform the group that the Community Resilience Toolkit received an award at the LAMA awards which took place on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at the Convention Centre, Dublin under Community wellbeing Initiatives. He also wished to remind the group that the Toolkit was presented to Jennifer Murnane O'Connor (Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy) in Carlow at the Healthy Cities and counties National network meeting.</li> <li>• Eamon informed them of the National Emergency Planning Group.</li> <li>• A question was asked as to how much the County knows about the toolkit. Aisling confirmed that there were 12 areas volunteered to participate in the County. There is a possibility that 9 more may be added to that number in the future. It was formally launched at the end of October 2025.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Eamon Hannan - HSE |

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| (Slide 6)<br>(Slide 7)                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laurence confirmed to the group that the rollout of the Toolkit training was suspended due to the issuing of guidelines from the Dept of Housing and Local Government on the requirements for a designated Community Support Centre for Emergency Response.</li> <li>• Aisling completed a Budget Review for 2025</li> <li>• Aisling completed a Project Status and Budget projection for 2026</li> <li>• Member of the Committee agreed that a lot of very effective work had been completed for small money</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Aisling Dunne – Healthy Roscommon    |
| 5. <b>LCDC Update</b><br>(Slides 8 & 9)      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiona provided an update in relation to               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) LCDC National Awareness Campaign</li> <li>(ii) Revision of the Guidelines for the Operation of Local Community Development Committees 2016</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fiona confirmed that once the revised guidelines have been received that that she will make them available to the Members at the next LCDC and highlight the differences in the Guidelines to the members</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Fiona Ní Chuinn – Chief Officer LCDC |
| 6. <b>Funding Update</b><br>(Slides 10 & 11) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fiona provided updates for noting on the following Funding Streams               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024</li> <li>○ Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025</li> <li>○ Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2026</li> <li>○ Amenity Grants. Fiona confirmed that there would be €75,00.00 for the 3 Municipal Districts (MD's)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Fiona Ní Chuinn – Chief Officer LCDC |
| 7. <b>AOB</b><br>(Slide 12)                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laurence sought to see if anyone had any AOB to discuss – No other business was raised by the Committee</li> <li>• Cllr Laurence Fallon wished to advise the Committee that Ms Louise Ward – Head of Local Enterprise Office (LEO) would be retiring from Roscommon County Council with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> May. He advised that Louise would be greatly missed and was someone who brought enormous energy to her role. He referenced that Louise was someone that you could always talk to and was synonymous with Local Enterprise. She is wished health and happiness in her retirement. He proposed that it would be fitting for the Committee to mark the occasion of her retirement with a presentation</li> </ul> | Cllr. Laurence Fallon                |

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|                      | <p>with a letter of thanks and a gift from the Committee. This was agreed by all. Fiona will arrange once details the presentation date has been confirmed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Pride of Place 2026</b><br/>Fiona made reference to the Competition that has just been launched. She advised that the purpose of the competition is to acknowledge the work being done every day by communities all over the island of Ireland. Communication of same have been placed in media print as well as social media. Fiona confirmed the following:<p><b>2026 Timeline</b></p><p><b>Application Deadline: Friday 1st May</b><br/>Complete Expression of Interest form and submit via email to <a href="mailto:prideofplace2026@roscommoncoco.ie">prideofplace2026@roscommoncoco.ie</a></p><p><b>Judging Period: Mid-June to Early September</b> Judges will visit entries during this time.</p><p><b>Awards Ceremony: Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b> The Convention Centre Dublin</p><p>She encouraged members to share with as many groups that they could and encourage groups that they believed should enter the competition. Bridie will email the brochure and link to the Committee. Any queries should be emailed to <a href="mailto:prideofplace2026@roscommoncoco.ie">prideofplace2026@roscommoncoco.ie</a></p><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Next LCDC Meeting Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm in the Loughnaneane Suite and MS Teams</li></ul></li></ul> |
| <p>Signed: _____</p> | <p>_____</p> <p>10/6/26</p> <p>Date</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p>Signed: _____</p> | <p>_____</p> <p>10/6/26</p> <p>Date</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|                      | <p>Chairperson</p> <p>Chief Officer</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |