

Appendix 4

Draft County Tipperary Local Economic & Community Plan

Public Consultation Phase – October 7th to November 3rd 2015

Written Submissions Received and Recommendations

November 2015

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Section 1: Schedule of Written Public Submissions Received

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2	Economic Development	Derek Blackweir, Limerick Institute of Technology, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.
3	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Sara Bourke, Aherlow, Co. Tipperary.
4	Economic Development	Pat Whelan, Tipperary Food Producers Network, 18 Staunton Row, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.
5	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Emily Harrington, South Tipperary Volunteer Centre, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.
6	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Corena Ward, Public Participation Network, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.
7	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Shane Winters, Tipperary Age Friendly County Programme
8	Community Development	Paul Fogarty, Puckane Community Centre, Puckane, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.
9	Community & Economic Development	Patrick Murphy, Carrick Beg Development Group, Ballyquin House, Carrick on Suir, Co Waterford.
10	Social Inclusion	P.J Cleere, Disability Federation of Ireland, DFI Support Officer, Tinryland, Carlow.
11	Community, Social Inclusion & Economic Development	Deirdre Cox,, Comhairle ne nOg - LA Coordinator, TCC
12	Community, Social Inclusion & Economic Development	Stephen Blair, Southern Regional Assembly, Assembly House, O' Connell St., Waterford.

Section 2: Summary of Written Submissions Received and Recommendations

Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
1	Economic Development	Brendan Lonergan on behalf of Tim Ryan, TIRD/Chamber of Commerce
Summary:	<p>It is an objective of this organisation to seek funding for the erection of a tensile canopy structure at Market Yard Tipperary Town. We have consulted with Tipperary County Council on the proposed project and it has largely been well received in principle. It is envisaged that such a structure would facilitate community events such as the Long Way To Tipperary Festival, The Pride Of Tipperary, Band Recitals, Fleadh Ceoil, a regular Farmers Market as well as quality artisan exhibitions.</p> <p>As Tipperary Town has no recognised central area of civic focus, we feel that this project would fill a much needed void and help generate further community events, right in the centre of the town and will much needed life and economic activity to the urban centre. We ask that this project be noted in the Local Economic and Community Plan.</p>	
Recommendation:	<p>The submission above relates to <u>Economic High Level Framework Priority 1</u>: To promote economic development opportunities throughout the county – this objective has a focus on the development of Town Centre Initiatives to foster and support economic activity in towns in the county. In addition, the submission above will be referred to the Cashel/Tipperary Municipal District for consideration.</p>	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
2	Community & Economic Development	Derek Blackweir, Limerick Institute of Technology
Summary:	<p>1. Development of a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) as part of the EU Covenant of Mayors initiative:</p> <p>Pg14 – 3.2 Relevant European, National, Regional and Local Policies</p> <p>In February 2015, as part of the SustainCo EU Project Tipperary County Council became a signatory to the Covenant of Mayors, a European initiative: ‘... involving local and regional authorities, voluntarily committing to increasing energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources on their territories. By their commitment, Covenant signatories aim to meet and exceed the European Union 20% CO2 reduction objective by 2020.’</p> <p>Signatory’s commit to developing a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP), outlining how the local authority will reduce its CO₂ by 2020. The SEAP is to detail the appropriate activities, measures, timeframes and assigned responsibilities necessary for the signatory to meet their commitment. By extension, this policy should be reflected in the appropriate Table of Actions as follows: <u>High Level Economic Priority 2</u>: To improve the sustainability of the County’s energy use</p> <p>Strategic Action: E2.4 Drafting of the SEAP, approval by the Members and submission to the Covenant of Mayors for approval.</p> <p>2. Thermal Recovery of Waste.</p> <p>The Southern Waste Region (SWR) comprising of 10 local authorities, of which Tipperary is one, has land area of approximately 29,589 km² and equates to about 42% of the total land area of the country. The Southern Region serves a population of 1,541,439. In 2012 the region generated 2.5 million tonnes of wastes (excluding agricultural waste). In 2013 over 300,000 tonnes of residual waste was exported consisting of Refuse Derived Fuels (RDF) and Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF). The export of waste results in the direct loss of revenue to the Irish economy and impacts on our ability to reach self-sufficiency. According to the Southern Region Waste Management Plan there is an estimated €30 million financial loss to the state from exporting residual wastes. The local authorities of the region support self-sufficiency and the development of indigenous infrastructure for the thermal recovery of residual municipal wastes (SRWMP 2015-2021, section 4.3, pg.</p>	

	<p>34). A number of key measures have been identified relating to thermal recovery of waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and develop higher quality waste treatment infrastructure including reprocessing, biological treatment, thermal recovery and pre-treatment facilities; • Grow the biological treatment sector, in particular composting and anaerobic digestion, by supporting the development of new facilities; • Support the development of thermal recovery in the region which meets the needs of the region and the State in reducing the export of residual wastes for treatment abroad. <p>The Development Unit of Limerick Institute of Technology commends the strategic actions outlined in Priority 2. of the draft LECP in supporting energy efficiency and growing the renewable energy enterprise sector. The Development Unit LIT, believes further strategic action could be included to reflect the County’s indigenous energy resource i.e. MSW and Agricultural waste. Municipal Solid Waste at the moment is a burden to the resources of the County. It should be considered as an asset to the county and the broader Southern Region. The Development Unit, LIT, believes Tipperary can capitalise on this resource by encouraging the use of thermal recovery using pyrolysis technology.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="400 801 1481 1128"> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 801 1481 846">Recommended Strategic Action</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 846 1481 913">- To promote and support the development of a Waste-to-Energy (WtE) SME sector in Tipperary.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 913 1481 981">- To encourage the development of a waste to energy economy in Tipperary through actions such as:</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 981 1481 1025">Supporting and encouraging research and development;</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 1025 1481 1093">Provision of education and training supports for farmers, enterprise officers and other stakeholders.</td> </tr> </table> <p>This strategic action would also feed in to Priority Action 1- to promote and enable appropriate economic development opportunities throughout the county.</p>		Recommended Strategic Action	- To promote and support the development of a Waste-to-Energy (WtE) SME sector in Tipperary.	- To encourage the development of a waste to energy economy in Tipperary through actions such as:	Supporting and encouraging research and development;	Provision of education and training supports for farmers, enterprise officers and other stakeholders.
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Supporting and encouraging research and development;							
Provision of education and training supports for farmers, enterprise officers and other stakeholders.							
Recommendation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This item is covered under Economic Action E.2.3 and KPI for this action to reflect same. 2. Actions relating to sustainable energy research, development, education and training to be added to Action 2.3. 						
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From					
3	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Sara Bourke, Aherlow					
Summary:	<p>Submission to LECP Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include the term wellbeing within the Conceptual Framework, as that is what PPNs are going to be looking at and what we have in the action. That will involve not only looking at the present situation, but also looking to the long term (this and future generations). • The tone of a paragraph in section 3.4.1 to be changed as gives the impression that community groups are the main problem in terms of delivering infrastructure. • “Volunteer led community groups are key actors in delivering services and infrastructure to their target groups. This has been supported by various national and county based grant schemes. However, this places significant challenges on volunteers and voluntary organisations in terms of governance structures, financial management, accountability etc. In order to ensure that any public funds are appropriately used, and to ensure such facilities are inclusive and used to their maximum capacity, it is important that communities are targeted and 						

	<p>supported in this area. The development of the PPN and the proposed extension of the Volunteer Centre to cover the whole county will assist in this regard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct numbers registered with the PPN , it 850 groups and add “As a new organisation, the PPN requires support to ensure that it can, in turn, support capacity building and information sharing in the community and voluntary sector in Tipperary” • High Priority 5 - Our key strategic priority should be to address long term jobless households irrespective of the gender • High Priority 13- Access to Lifelong Learning in both a formal and community context is also vital for wellbeing. • Please use wellbeing along with quality of life throughout the document. The PPN will be working on Wellbeing as part of its mandate, and it is important that this feeds directly into the objectives. • While the PPN is an important component of wellbeing, a real measurement will require engagement by all the stakeholders at the LCDC and beyond. Suggest LCDC is included as supporting partners. 	
Recommendation:	Additions, amendments and suggestions as recommended above to be made to the LECP Plan	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
4	Economic Development	Pat Whelan, Tipperary Food Producers Network
Summary:	<p>The artisan or speciality food sector in Ireland was valued at approximately €615 million in 2012, with on average 350 producers employing more than 3,000 people. Evidence suggests that the sector can have significant impact on local economies. The emergence of Ireland’s artisan food sector, supported by growing consumer demand for niche products and a strong entrepreneurial spirit, has produced an increase in small food companies.</p> <p>Tipperary Food Producers Network was established in 2008 - a group of Tipperary based artisan producers who recognised the potential in working together cohesively as a group to sustain, grow and develop their businesses. The objective of the Network is to represent, promote and showcase the best of Tipperary Food. There are currently 29 members of the Network located throughout the County of Tipperary. The members combined turnover is €22.5million euro per year and they currently directly employ circa 200 people in across a variety of food sectors.</p> <p>Through voluntary effort, the group has achieved significant progress in its seven years of existence;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a cohesive Network of 29 producers • Hosting of Long Table Dinner Initiative at County Level & National and international level since 2008. • The development of a Tipperary Food Strategy • Tipperary Food Connect Programme delivered in schools throughout the county. • Collaborative marketing initiatives through strategic partnerships. • Development of online presence through www.tipperaryfoodproducers.com and social media. • Developing the profile of the network through targeted media relationships. • Raising the profile of Tipperary as a food county at national level. 	

	<p>The purpose of this submission on behalf of Tipperary Food Producers Network is to seek support as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Ongoing development of the Tipperary Food Producers Network as a key vehicle to promote, showcase and market artisan food from Tipperary (b) Implementation of key Network strategic actions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Development of a Tipperary Food Brand (2) Development of a Tipperary Food Centre of Excellence (c) Promote greater linkage between Food, Tourism & Equine in the County (d) Recognize the value of artisan food sector in Tipperary and provide necessary agency supports to foster and grow this sector over the next six years on a county, national and international level, where appropriate, to the business scale (e) Provide infrastructural supports including workspace across the business life cycle i.e. test kitchen facilities, incubator space, larger food grade units (f) Develop a strategy around the development of Farmers Market in the County (g) Link with third level organizations to support innovation and research and development for the artisan sector (h) Foster a culture of cross pollination through collaboration with other existing networks in the Country 	
Recommendation:	<p>The LECP recognises the importance of the food sector, and specifically the artisan food sector, to the economy of Co. Tipperary. <u>Economic High Level Framework Priority 1: To promote and enable appropriate economic development opportunities throughout the county and specifically <u>Actions 1.5a and 1.6b</u> addresses the areas highlighted in the submission.</u></p>	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
5	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Emily Harrington, South Tipperary Volunteer Centre
Summary:	<p>South Tipperary Volunteer Centre welcomes the demonstrated commitment to supporting volunteering activity in the draft LECP document. As a support service to community groups and organisations, and a guidance service to individuals, the Volunteer Centre’s reach is considerable and the range of supports offered is vast. In consideration of the foregoing our submission covers what we feel are the key strategic actions that would benefit most from our involvement, and also where our expertise could be of most value.</p> <p><u>High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority #2</u> C&S 2.1d We believe there is a role for the South Tipperary Volunteer Centre as a ‘supporting partner’ under this strategic action item, particularly in the area of ‘sustaining volunteering activity’.</p> <p>C&S2.1e We are committed to pursuing resources to facilitate the expansion of our services to North Tipperary as this strategic action item is resource dependent. We are conscious of the comparative disadvantage of groups and individuals in North Tipperary in terms of accessing the Volunteer Centre and in the interim we continue to provide as much support to interested parties in that area as resources allow. We are awaiting the outcome of a submission to our core funder (Department of Environment, Community & Local Government).</p> <p>We believe the timeline of Q1 2016 to be ideal but also rather ambitious and would seek that the timeline be extended to Q2 2016.</p> <p>C&S2.1f The formulation of an effective all-County volunteer strategy is needed and will require significant consultation to ensure it is representative and workable.</p>	

	<p>We note the groups represented under the KPI item are the elderly, non-Irish nationals, disability sector and young people. We contend that the Travelling Community should be considered as a grouping in this context as they are significantly under-represented in volunteering in Tipperary and could benefit substantially from strategic volunteering initiatives.</p> <p>We believe the timeline of Q2 2016 may not allow for sufficient consultation and would seek that the timeline be extended to Q3 2016</p> <p><u>High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority #4</u></p> <p>Given the link between volunteering and employability we would welcome the opportunity to become a ‘supporting partner’ under this strategic action, particularly items 4.1e and 4.1f.</p> <p><u>High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority #5</u> C&S5.1b/c/d</p> <p>We welcome the commitment to increasing youth participation in volunteering and feel that our role as ‘supporting partner’ is appropriate. In view of the timelines given we will continue in the interim to work on improving youth access to volunteering through supporting organisations and young individuals.</p> <p><u>High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority #6</u> C&S6.1a</p> <p>We believe there may be a role for the South Tipperary Volunteer Centre as a ‘supporting partner’ on an all-County Traveller Inter-Agency Strategy Group.</p> <p>C&S6.1b</p> <p>We welcome the commitment to supporting the needs of non-Irish nationals and feel that our role as ‘supporting partner’ is appropriate. We would seek to be included as a ‘supporting partner’ in relation to the item on community language initiatives as we have experience in supporting similar volunteer-led initiatives.</p> <p>In view of the timelines given we will continue in the interim to work on improving access to volunteering for this grouping through education and support.</p> <p><u>High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority #10</u></p> <p>Although improving participation of the disabled in volunteering is addressed under item C&S2.1f, we feel there may be a role for South Tipperary Volunteer Centre as a ‘supporting partner’ under this strategic action.</p>	
Recommendation:	Volunteer Centres to be added as a supporting partner and timelines to be amended as suggested above.	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
6	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Corena Ward, Public Participation Network
Summary:	<p>Public Participation Network (PPN) Tipperary welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Local Economic and Community Plan for the County. We have been involved in the community consultation processes to date and are pleased to see this important plan coming to fruition. We believe that effective empowered communities and community groups are vital to the development of Tipperary and we look forward to playing our part in bringing the vision to fruition.</p> <p>We note the interest in developing a “quality of life” indicator. PPNs are mandated nationally to develop wellbeing statements in each Municipal District and the county as a whole. These statements will look at current Quality of Life, but also at what is required for the wellbeing of this and future generations. We suggest that the concept of</p>	

“wellbeing” which has been well modelled in Canada and Scotland be included in this section of the plan as complimentary to a “Quality of Life” indicator. It is a model which has the capacity to be used across the county from the smallest community to the Local Authority itself. We would be happy to assist in this process.

P13/14.-Suggest using “wellbeing” along with Quality of Life

P30-1.1 Please use **wellbeing** along with quality of life throughout the document. The PPN will be working on Wellbeing and a wellbeing statement as part of its mandate, and it is important that this feeds directly into the objectives. Given the importance of wellbeing to PPN we are happy to act as a Co-ordinating lead on this action.

P20 We suggest the following rephrasing - “Volunteer led community groups are key actors in delivering services and infrastructure to their target groups. This can be supported by various national and county based grant schemes. However, project management can place significant challenges on volunteers and voluntary organisations in terms of governance structures, financial management, accountability etc. In order to ensure that any public funds are appropriately used, and to ensure such facilities are inclusive and used to their maximum capacity, it is important that communities are targeted and supported in this area. The suitable resourced development of the PPN and the proposed extension of the Volunteer Centre to cover the whole county will assist in this regard.

P23 PPN now has 850 groups registered -: “As a developing organisation, the PPN requires support to ensure that it can, in turn, fulfil its potential to support capacity building and information sharing in the community and voluntary sector in Tipperary”

Involvement of PPN in Specific Actions

The PPN is a developing organisation with very limited resources at present. It is listed in a supportive capacity under many actions. The PPN can support all these actions in its current form via information sharing, facilitating consultations and nominating representatives to Boards and Committees. Towards the end of the plan, as the organisation matures, we may be able to play a more leading role in specific actions. See specific notes below -

- P311.3c: PPN’s role here would be via community led activity e.g. social economy
- 1.4a: The PPN is listed as the coordinating lead for this action. The PPN will not have the organisational capacity to coordinate this action in this timescale, we recommend you increase the timescale by another 6 months or change the PPN to a supporting partner role (again in relation to information sharing and representation).
- 1.5 Add PPN to supporting partners.
- P34 Suggested change: Evidence-based document on i) the number of active community groups; ii) the number of underactive community groups and iii) the number of areas with inactive or no community groups in the County by 2020 760 Registered groups active in the PPN Network by 2020 Transparent and accountable representation of social inclusion, environmental, community and voluntary groups on 20 decision making and advisory bodies Minimum of 1 member of a socially disadvantaged grouping to be an elected member of the LCDC or the SPC representing the PPN by 2020
- P35 -PPN has three equal activities – representation, information sharing and capacity building. All three need to be reflected.
- 2.1d This is one of the ongoing core activities of PPN and as such will be a continuous activity to meet evolving community needs.
- 2.1c Please use the term “capacity building” rather than education. Suggest ETB as collaborating partners in this action

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P38-General comment: In the following actions which focus on target groups PPN is mentioned as a collaborating partner. In some cases, apart from information sharing, in terms of actual actions PPN would not see itself as having a core role – although our some of our individual members may play an important part. In particular this applies to actions around employers, employment and unemployment. In this case, the main PPN involvement would be via social economy and community based programmes outreach programmes. • P40-Equally action 5.1a • P48 -The text alert groups target for the PPN need to be reworded, we need clarification if we are to be responsible for this action. • P49-8.2c The PPN has ‘Thematic Networks’ and ‘Activity Networks’ as opposed to ‘Forums’, can you please change the terminology in this action to reflect this, calling it an ‘Older Persons Network.’ In addition, we must make it clear that the PPN brings together organisations rather than individuals. • 8.2e Is the role of PPN here to support groups to access funds? • P53-10.1b A similar point to above, the PPN has linkage groups to specific committee OR Thematic/ Activity Networks. I suggest that this action is to establish an all county Disability Network • 10.1f Not sure of what role PPN can play here. • P57-Use of ‘active’ PPN Group 	
Recommendation:	The PPN has sought amendments to some data, additions and rephrasing as well as clarifications in relation to some of the actions. Amendments/additions and rephrasing as suggested with clarification provided in areas relating to the sections where this is required.	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
7	Community Development & Social Inclusion	Shane Winters, Tipperary Age Friendly County Programme.
Summary:	<p>The aim of the submission is for Tipperary County Council and the newly developed Tipperary Local Community Development Committee to consider the incorporation of age friendliness, in terms of both the Irish Age Friendly Programme and the Global Movement, as a cross-cutting theme in the upcoming Tipperary Local Economic and Community Plan.</p> <p>The Age Friendly Cities and Counties Programme (AFCCP) was developed in response to demographic change and the increasing number of older people living longer, healthier lives. The Age Friendly Cities and Counties Programme embraces the multi-faceted challenges and opportunities that ageing presents by providing structures and supports which enable Local Authorities to take the lead on changing thinking about ageing, and the way services are planned and delivered. The programme offers local authorities a way of complementing and supporting the realisation of the LECP by responding to the priorities and needs as identified by the local community through an extensive consultation process. This has generated a wealth of valuable information on service delivery, use of local resources and the creation of better social and cultural environments for all.</p> <p>The AFCC programme provides new approaches to citizen and community engagement through the establishment of Older Peoples Councils which play a role in both informing decision makers and in providing older people with a real and meaningful opportunity to influence the plans and policies of their local communities. The Age Friendly Programme’s interagency based approach provides a more coherent approach to the matching of</p>	

	resources to local priorities. Through the programme’s integrated approach, linking providers and delivery structures, value for money gains become attainable at local levels. The ethos underpinning local government reform and the creation of the LECs recognises that voluntary activity and active citizenship are both vital elements of flourishing communities. The Age Friendly Programme has shown that using the ‘whole-system approach’, with policy makers, service providers, civic leaders and Older Peoples Councils sitting at the same table, provides an effective mechanism for community enhancement. A collaborative approach involving LCDCs and Age Friendly Programme working together in a defined way would further maximise opportunities for enhanced citizen involvement at local level while also further facilitating the successful roll out of the LECP.	
Recommendation:	This is incorporated into <u>High Level Priority Social Inclusion & Community Framework Priority 8</u> : Develop an integrated response to the needs of the elderly population with a particular focus on those areas which are geographically isolated and where the concentration of 65+ is greatest.	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
8	Community Development	Paul Fogarty, Puckane Community Centre
Summary:	<p>It is proposed to establish PCC limited as a co-operative in order to construct and manage a large multipurpose community centre for the benefit of the community in Puckane, Dromineer, Ballycommon and the surrounding areas. PCC will communicate with, community groups, sporting organizations, church groups, and commercial companies and any other organization who wish to avail of the proposed resource.</p> <p>January 2015 a group came together and formed a friendly society, Puckane Community Centre LTD.</p> <p>The group acquired legal representation, employed a design team to prepare a planning application for a Sports Hall facility. The group also prepared a business plan which identified the vision for the project. Agreement was reached locally with Kildangan GAA to lease a site where this facility could be developed. This lease is currently been finalised with Croke Park /Munster Council. A local group from 30 years ago agreed to hand over their funds which were raised to fund a facility like the one proposed. This was a sum close to €60,000. Planning permission was granted for the project in September 2015. The group have a QS report which estimates the build at €352,000, so for budgeting purposes we are looking at €400,000. The group will be applying for funding from the new LEADER Programme, which is currently been prepared. This programme will be different from previous programmes as projects can be co funded by a number of organisations.</p>	
Recommendation:	Supports for Community Councils and Community Cooperatives such as Puckane Community Centre Limited will be provided through the actions under <u>High Level Community & Social Inclusion Framework Priority 1</u> which seeks to support and enable continuing improvement of access to services within the community for all citizens in a manner that is realistic, capable of being delivered and which utilizes the strengths of the existing communities. The priority also aims to improve the quality of life and well being for communities through supporting prioritized community infrastructural development such as the above and providing prioritized relevant support services	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
9	Community & Economic Development	Patrick Murphy, Carrickbeg, Development Group, Ballyquin House, Carrick on Suir, Co. Waterford
Summary:	The Carrick Beg Development Group would like to see the bog field developed as a riverside park/ in the area there is an old well which they would like to see cleaned and	

	<p>restored. Thin the area there are two old paths and navigational wall. A walk being developed would be a great asset as a recreational amity and of historic interest. In addition, the area has a number of tourism attractions such as Carrick Castle, Seskin Hill, forest walks etc.</p> <p>The submission included 12 photos (historical and aerial) as well as historical maps of the areas.</p>	
Recommendation;	<p>Supports for Community Councils and Development Associations such as Carrickbeg Development Association will be provided through the actions with the <u>High Level Social Inclusion & Community Priority 1</u> which seeks to support and enable continuing improvement of access to services within the community for all citizens in a manner that is realistic, capable of being delivered and which utilizes the strengths of the existing communities. The priority also aims to improve the quality of life and well being for communities through supporting prioritized community infrastructural development such park developments where appropriate and providing prioritized relevant support services. The submission will also be referred to Tipperary Tourism Company for consideration.</p>	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
10	Social Inclusion	PJ Cleere, Disability Federation Support Officer, Disability Federation of Ireland, Tinryland, Carlow
Summary	<p>People with Disabilities and the LECP:</p> <p>In the development of the 6 year Local Economic and Community Development Plans, (LECD) Local Government must ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with disabilities and organisation representing them must be automatically included as stakeholders in all aspects of the emerging strategies and actions. <p>All actions including people with disabilities should be linked to the recommendations of the relevant national / international strategy covering outcomes for people with disabilities. EG: The Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities 2015, The Implementation Plan for the National Disability Strategy, The UNCRPD, The National Housing Strategy for People with Disabilities etc. People with disabilities are generally not on the Live Register, and cannot participate on DSP activation programmes. Local employment or enterprise initiatives should take this into account by developing local approaches to unemployment among people with disabilities. DFI offers detailed statistical information on the status of people with disabilities in each county in Ireland</p>	
Recommendation:	<p>These concerns are addressed within the actions under <u>High Level Community & Social Inclusion Priority 10:</u></p> <p>Develop an integrated approach to supporting people of all ages with disabilities to access opportunities so that their quality of life is improved.</p>	
Sub No.	Relating To	Received From
11	Community, Social Inclusion & Economic Development	Comhairle na nOg
Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband: Young people were concerned about the cost and poor level of broadband coverage in County Tipperary, including poor signals in schools • Young People’s Facilities-Young people can become bored easily with the lack of 	

the facilities. Youth cafes should be available outside the main towns. Local Halls should be used to support youth projects. Youth clubs/facilities should be somewhere to relax and have pool tables, Itunes, playstation 4 etc. There is a need for more youth clubs including Macra na Feirme Groups. Counselling services for young people was highlighted as a need in Tipperary.

- **Sporting Facilities:** The lack of swimming pools in certain parts of Tipperary was highlighted. It was believed that existing sports facilities should be upgraded. More young people should be encouraged to become involved in sports. There is a need for an adventure centre which would facilitate young people in Tipperary and school tours.
- **Environment and Sustainable Development:** The young people showed a huge interest in their local environment and the following areas were highlighted for improvement; lakes, bins, parks. Stricter policing of littering particularly in heavily populated areas. More trees and plants/flowers should be planted. More graveyard spaces in local graveyards were requested. The issue of wind turbines needs to be properly investigated.
- **Tidy Towns** work was praised but a concern was raised that some of this work is being destroyed by vandalism.
- **Education:** The advantages/disadvantages of Ipad technology in schools should be investigated. A better quality of school facilities in general including heating systems.
- **Equality:** The lack of LGBT services for young people was highlighted. Gay/lesbian rights and sexual education should be highlighted.
- **Economic:** International investment (American companies) is required in Tipperary. There is a lack of banking infrastructure in Tipperary.
- **Infrastructure:** The road structure should be improved.
- **Retail:** Local shops and post offices are shutting down in rural areas. Shops should cater for young people in Tipperary for example designer clothes shops. Many young people currently travel to Dublin to buy clothes.
- **Addiction:** Concerns were raised about the level of heroin addiction and that syringes are sometimes found in public.
- **Food:** There was a demand for a better quality of food in schools. There should be a 5 day-healthy options in schools. Young people wanted healthy and cheap food available in cafe/restaurants etc.
- **Community:** The quality of life of people in the community was a concern to young people. Rural Isolation is a real issue in Tipperary.
- **Employment:** Young people find it very difficult to find employment either part-time during the school year or in particular during the summer when young people have more time. Young people lack experience in employment and therefore find it very difficult to get employment. It was felt that young people be able to get a job at 15.
- **Entertainment:** There is a need to get more young people in music, which might mitigate against anti-social behaviour. Support should be given to music societies that support modern music. An outdoor cinema would be a welcome addition in Tipperary.
- **Transport:** Young people find the lack of transport a big disadvantage in Tipperary. Rural transport schemes are seen as a facility for the older generation. Rural transport schemes should be more youth friendly.
- **Rural Crime:** The young people believed that the issue of rural crime is exacerbated by the lack of gardai and that Tipperary needs better policing. Parks should be locked at night.

Recommendation	<p>The above issues are addressed through <u>Community & Social Inclusion High Level Priority 5</u>: To maximise life opportunity and potential for young people and support and facilitate their contribution to the sustainable development of the county.</p> <p>Under <u>Community & Social Inclusion High Level Priority 6</u>: Reduce the marginalisation of specific target groups and communities – Travelling Community, Non Irish Nationals and Asylum Seekers, Lone parents, LGBTI, and people at risk of Homelessness: <u>Action 6.1d</u> seeks to establish a county forum for LGBTI. Issues are also addressed under <u>Economic High Level Framework Priority 1</u>: To promote economic development opportunities throughout the county and <u>High Level Economic Priority 3</u>: Identify, prioritise, and address the infrastructural deficits in the County which are restricting the ability to deliver appropriate economic development opportunities in all parts of the county.</p>
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Section 3: Submission received from the Southern Regional Assembly

The following is the submission received from the Southern Regional Assembly on the Draft Co. Tipperary Local Economic & Community Plan with regard to the plan's alignment with the DECLG Circular LG1/2015 AL 1/2015 – Guidelines on Local Economic and Community plans issued DECLG (21st January 2015) and Circular LG 06/2015 AL 04/2015 – Guidance Note on Local Economic and Community Plans issued DECLG (17th July, 2015).

The comprehensive nature of the Draft Co. Tipperary Local Economic & Community Plan was noted which has resulted in a well structured Plan with a strong evidence base which has a logical flow into High Level Priorities and Strategic Goals which appear well founded. In particular the SRA notes the Plan:

1. has a clear structure and articulation of High Level Priorities and Strategic Actions.
2. has regard to EU, National, Regional and Local policy frameworks. Two additional regional strategic policy documents which could contribute to the Draft LECP are the *Mid West Area Strategic Plan 2012 -2030* and the *Atlantic Gateways Initiative – Corridor Development Framework*.
3. includes a set of guiding principles which are drawn from the *Regional Planning Guidelines for South –East Region 2010 – 2022* and *Regional Planning Guidelines for Mid West Region 2010 – 2022* It is noted that the Draft LECP identifies deficits in infrastructure and actions required which include key regional infrastructure priorities identified in the RPGs for both areas. In terms of the requirement for the LECP to be consistent with the County Development Plan (CDP) it is evident High Level Goals and Strategic Actions related to objectives in the two CDPs for the county. Where possible, the link between High Level Priorities and Strategic Actions and the RPGs and CDPs should be clearly stated to highlight consistency of the LECP with this wider policy context.
4. draws upon the CEDRA Report and on the Regional Action Plan for Jobs for the Mid West and South East NUTS 111 areas. Identification and/or inclusion of specific actions from the RAPJs would assist in the implementation of actions at local level.
5. The Draft LECP is accompanied by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening and an Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening as required by the EU SEA and the Habitats Directive and Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the DECLG.
6. Includes an integrated and targeted approach to addressing social, community and economic issues. Strategic actions which can extend across the economic and community elements of the plan are strongly supported.
7. In addition to implementation and monitoring of the LECP at local level the SRA envisages that monitoring will also take place at regional level. The SRA looks forward to working with Tipperary County Council in developing structures to assist with same.

Recommendation:

2. Reference will be made to *Mid West Area Strategic Plan 2012 -2030* and the *Atlantic Gateways Initiative – Corridor Development Framework* as relevant in the LECP.
3. Appendix linking High Level Priorities and Strategic Actions to RPGs and CDPS to be included in the LECP.
4. Specific actions from the Draft Co. Tipperary LECP were channelled through the RAPJ development process. Relevant actions included in the RAPJ will be noted in the LECP.
6. LECP to be reviewed in terms of further integration of community and economic actions as appropriate.

Section 4: Municipal District Statements

Further to presentations by personnel from the Community & Economic Development Department, Tipperary County Council, on the Co. Tipperary Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) at Municipal Districts meetings in October 2015 members made the following statements on the LECP:

Clonmel Borough District

- Members appreciated the opportunity to input into the plan at the workshop held earlier in the year and considered a lot of the issues raised were included.
- There was general consensus that it was important to retain actions around broadband as it was considered a critical infrastructural requirement for the county. Mobile infrastructure was also critical and ought to be considered for inclusion.
- The retention of the N24 Bypass in the document was important given its critical strategic role in terms of connecting the county between Limerick and Waterford. Action around the retention of the Waterford/Limerick rail line was critical as it future proofed the area and offered alternative modes of transport. The deficiency of public transport infrastructure was noted.
- In the context of the consideration by members of the consistency of the integrated LECP with the core strategies of the County Development Plans and the Regional Planning Guidelines, members approved same for recommendation to the full Council.

Carrick on Suir Municipal District:

- The decline of rural villages and centres of towns is a particular concern for members.
- The provision of broadband is considered critical to the economic development towns such as Carrick-on-Suir. It was noted that Eircom is providing high speed broadband to Roscrea, Nenagh, Tipperary Town and Clonmel - the omission of Carrick-on-Suir was a concern.
- A request for a business incubation centre in Carrick-on-Suir was made.
- There needs to be a focus on the promotion of existing tourism products such as the Derrynaflan Trail.
- The emphasis on social inclusion in the LECP was welcomed and particularly the inclusion of vulnerable families as a target group for support.
- In the context of the consideration by members of the consistency of the integrated LECP with the core strategies of the County Development Plans and the Regional Planning Guidelines, members approved same for recommendation to the full Council.

Cashel/Tipperary Municipal District:

- The LECP was welcomed and complimented on the way it incorporates all aspects of development.
- The issue of Tipperary town acquiring sub-regional status was raised.
- Concern was raised as to when funding through the next LEADER Programme would be available.
- Appropriate mechanisms to deal with loss of industry/jobs in towns needs to be addressed.
- It was noted that all counties are engaged in developing LECPs and there will be similarities amongst these plans. It was recommended that a key focus should be on 3-4 achievable priorities and financial resources should be then be sought for same. It was important that there is a focus on measurable achievement under the LECP
- In the context of the consideration by members of the consistency of the integrated LECP with the core strategies of the County Development Plans and the Regional Planning Guidelines, members approved same for recommendation to the full Council.

Nenagh Municipal District

- The LECP was considered very comprehensive, particularly in light of the extensive brief.
- It was considered critical that rural decline is addressed.
- Co. Tipperary's tourism assets are considered important to the economic development e.g. Lough Derg, Ormond Way.
- The development of the North - South Tipperary road network is considered critical.
- It was recognised that local 3rd Level Colleges are a huge asset which can assist with developing business linkages between Nenagh, Thurles and Clonmel.
- The provision of high speed broadband and a high quality mobile phone network are essential infrastructural requirements.
- The community and voluntary sector are critical to all aspects of development. There needs to be an emphasis on developing volunteerism.
- The county needs to be ready to avail of opportunities that arise such as opportunities under the new Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy.
- In terms of Social inclusion capacity building for disconnected communities is vital.
- The continuation of Co. Tipperary's role in promoting renewable energy was recommended.
- Members have a role in supporting business development, particularly in the microenterprise sector.
- In the context of the consideration by members of the consistency of the integrated LECP with the core strategies of the County Development Plans and the Regional Planning Guidelines, members approved same for recommendation to the full Council.

Templmore/Thurles Municipal District:

- Members welcomed the LECP and considered a lot of the issues previously raised were included in the plan.
- In the context of the consideration by members of the consistency of the integrated LECP with the core strategies of the County Development Plans and the Regional Planning Guidelines, members approved same for recommendation to the full Council.