



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Strategic Policy Committee

Economic Development & Enterprise
Tuesday 12th April 2022

Agenda Item 7: LECP Update

Local Economic and Community Plan Update

The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) sets out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic development and the local and community development of each local authority area, both by the local authority directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders.

The development of each LECP is informed by the overall vision for Local Government as set out in *Putting People First: Action Programme for Effective Local Government*, the need “to promote the well-being and quality of life of citizens and communities”. The plan is part of the overall process for national transformation set out in Project Ireland 2040, which includes the National Planning Framework (NPF) and the National Development Plan (NDP). It is also aligned with the City Development Plan, the City Corporate Plan and a suite of complementary economic and social plans, which will determine its direction of travel.

Dublin City Council developed the first LECP 2016 to 2021, where a series of actions were identified and implemented to further the objectives of the 12 High Level Goals, established through a public consultation process with input from a wide range of stakeholders. This plan has been reviewed using the 2016 census data, and the outcome of this process will inform the development of a new LECP. We are now working on developing the second iteration of the LECP in line with the requirements of the legislation, and as set out in the guidelines, to cover a six year period from 2023 to 2028.

LECP Guidelines

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) launched the LECP Guidelines on 11th November 2021. DRCD has oversight of the community elements of the LECP and work closely with each Local Authority and the LCDC's to support this function. DHLGH has responsibility for the economic elements of the LECP, and the Economic and Enterprise SPC's have a statutory role in the preparation of the LECP. The Local Government Reform Act 2014, requires that the Economic Elements of the LECP, be developed through the Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) for Economic Development and Enterprise.

The DRCD and DHLGH held an initial information session with over 340 attendees on 9th December 2022, all members of the SPC and LCDC were invited to attend this event. This information session provided an overview of the Guidelines, including key changes and the next steps in conducting a review of the existing plans and establishing an **Advisory Steering Group** to oversee the preparation of the new LECP's. Details of the presentations and a recording of the event are available on [gov.ie - Community Development \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie - Community Development (www.gov.ie)).

Establishment of Advisory Steering Group

Under Section 66C of the Local Government Reform Act, each Local Authority is required to have regard to the need to integrate the economic and community elements of the LECP. In order to ensure that the preparation of the plans is co-ordinated and that duplication of efforts, in terms of engagement with stakeholders is avoided or minimised, an Advisory Steering Group (ASG) will be established to assist in the preparation, drafting, adoption, implementation and monitoring of the LECP.

Following the last meeting of this SPC members were invited to express an interest in becoming a member of the Advisory Steering Group. The Advisory Steering group has been formed with members of this SPC and of the LCDC. Two workshops were held in March 2022 to address the making of the Dublin City Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2028, which is tasked with identifying and implementing actions to strengthen community and local economic development across the city.

LECP Framework Role

The specific role of the Advisory Steering Group will be to advise and assist on:-

- The development of the socio-economic statement setting out the High-Level Goals for the area;
- The arrangement and management of an inclusive consultation process for the development of the economic elements and the community elements of the framework LECP based on the High-Level Goals in the socio-economic statement, and the additional consultation identified for the community element;
- The particular areas of activity to be covered respectively by the economic elements and the community elements of the LECP, as well as areas of complementary and co-ordinated activity, taking account of the need to reduce duplication and unnecessary overlap and to maximise the use of available resources;
- The integration of both the economic and community elements into a single, coherent Framework LECP;
- Ensuring that, there is clarity as to where responsibility rests for leading/coordinating for each action detailed in the Implementation Plan;
- Ensuring the LECP is consistent with the relevant statutory City/County Development Plan; and
- Ensuring the LECP is consistent with any Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) or, as appropriate, National Planning Framework or other national policy that may apply.

Workshop 15th March

A hybrid workshop was held inviting members of the Advisory Steering Group and support staff to participate on 15th March 2022. The following attended in person and on line:

1. Cllr Claire O'Connor, Chair, Economic Development SPC
2. Cllr Caroline Moore, Chair, LCDC
3. Kelly Bermingham, Community Officer, Iveagh Trust and Saint Patrick's Cathedral
4. Anne Fitzgerald, CEO Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership
5. Evanne Kilmurray, CEO Inner City Enterprise
6. Deiric Ó Broin, Professor of Public Policy Practice, Dublin City University
7. Sarah Miller, CEO Rediscovery Centre, Ballymun
8. Anthony Flynn, DCC Executive Manager, Culture, Recreation and Economic Services

9. Elaine Hess, DCC Administrative Officer, Community and Social Development
10. Greg Swift, DCC Head of Economic Development and Enterprise and member of the LCDC
11. Mary MacSweeney, DCC Deputy Head Economic Development and Enterprise
12. Ross Curley, DCC Senior Economic Development Officer
13. Frank D'Arcy, DCC Executive Manager, Housing Department
14. Daithi Downey, DCC Chief Officer LCDC
15. Muskan Sahdev, DCC European Programme Support Office

Outcomes from the workshop were as follows:

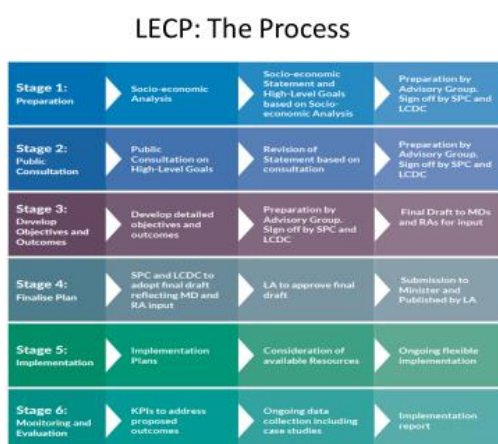
- Agreement on the overall process for the revision and development of a new LECP.
- Agreement of the Terms of Reference for the LECP Advisory Group.
- Exploration of the form of 'rapid evidence review' required to (a) review the LECP 2016-2022 and (b) help inform and shape the new high-level themes and goals required under the LECP 2023-2028
- Discussion on the need to harness and leverage the energy of the Advisory Group to enable them to feed into the process and bring their valued expertise to the development of the plan.
- Agreement to meet again on 27th April 2022

Literature relating to the background of the LECP, and the 2018 updated implementation plan, were circulated to the Advisory Group participants in advance of the introductory meeting so that they could refresh and familiarise themselves with key issues.

Next steps:

LECP Development Stages: There are 6 stages to the development and implementation of the LECP's. There is a statutory role for LAs, SPCs, LCDCs, Regional Assemblies and Municipal District Members. The **Advisory Steering Group** will set a schedule of meeting to discharge its work in shaping the LECP.

The process for the development of the LECPs will initially consist of four broad phases as set out below:



Mary Mac Sweeney

Deputy Head of Economic Development and Enterprise