

TIPPERARY SOUTH RIDING COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SECOND MEETING REPORT

Meeting held: 6.00pm., 03-04-2000
Members present: 25 (89% attendance)
Chair: Cllr. Brendan Griffin.

Summary:

1. Members agree principles to underpin the philosophy of the County Development Board
2. Experience of Inter-agency co-operation - Benefits and Concerns listed
3. Tipperary (South Riding) County Development Board agrees to participate fully in the processes leading to a Co Tipperary Citizens Information Plan
4. Revised list of members of the Tipperary (South Riding) County Development Board
5. Action items prior to the next meeting (June 12, 2000) listed
6. Rural Development Forum
7. Social Inclusion Review

1. Members agree principles to underpin the philosophy of the County Development Board

The main target for the April 2000 Tipperary (South Riding) County Development Board meeting was to agree a set of principles which will guide the working of the Board over the coming years. The principles include:

- ✓ **Principle of working for the common good of the county** - That members bring an openness and a willingness to be objective in working as a team towards the involvement of a broad vision for the development of the county.

- ✓ **Principle of members effectively representing the contribution of their sector** - That there are effective information channels between members of the Board and their constituencies. That awareness is raised of the issues relevant to the various members. That the work of the County Development Board is publicised.

- ✓ **Principle of member inclusion and equity** - That the process leaves no member behind and moves at a pace at which all members can contribute fully. That the strategy will reflect the input of all the sectoral interests around the table. That members respect the views of other members. That there is flexibility in respect of accommodating the needs of members and that confidentiality in relation to sensitive information is respected. That the voluntary and community sector is resourced to engage in the process.

- ✓ **Principle of value** - That the performance of each member's own organisation is improved as a result of working around the County Development Board table with other sectors. That the strategy benefits the population of South Tipperary in terms of a more cost effective and efficient delivery of quality services (public, community, private). That the time and commitment of the members results in clear added value.

- ✓ **Principle of efficiency** - That the Board will work efficiently in preparing an economic, social and cultural strategy for the county

- ✓ **Principle of clarity and brevity** - That the strategy is presented as a set of concise views and that it can be implemented by the sectors represented on the Board

- ✓ **Principle of targeting special needs** - That the strategy addresses the needs of the marginalised in the County and sets out a vision that supports the rights of residents to work, to health care and a place to live. A common feature of advanced countries is that substantial education resources are targeted to the bottom 50% in terms of school achievement.

2. Experience of Inter-agency co-operation - Benefits and Concerns listed

Members reviewed a case study of inter-agency co-operation (Clonmel Early Schools Leavers Initiative) and their own experience to identify the potential benefits and the concerns that must be addressed in the working of the County Development Board

Benefits of Inter agency co-operation (to be realised)	Concerns/challenges of Inter-agency co-operation (to be overcome)
<p>Encourages a holistic view of the development of a county</p>	<p>The value is not easily measured. It requires trust in a process which is not built easily.</p>
<p>A variety of perspectives and information sharing creates greater depth in analysing and addressing difficult issues</p>	<p>Existing culture of groups - there may resistance to change, especially if there is a tendency to go solo and a fear of failure.</p>
<p>Success is more likely as it encourages a strategic view re the deployment of resources and the avoidance of duplication. Success is dependent on a focused approach and good leadership.</p>	<p>There is a danger of no ownership of the issue, no result and considerable frustration. No focus heightens concerns about lack of relevance.</p>
<p>Huge potential for uniform and cohesive delivery of national and local policies because of the resources (human, physical and financial) that the members can bring</p>	<p>Time consuming and needs a champion within each group to ensure that the urgent does not always drive out the important.</p>
<p>Inclusive and allows access to resources for disadvantaged and provides an opportunity for openness and the sharing of resources.</p>	<p>There is a danger that all groups are not viewed equally. No group should be viewed as second class group. Resources are not always targeted at those most in need.</p>
<p>Strengthens the county's case for national and European resources.</p>	<p>The management and continuity of co-operative actions needs to be well planned.</p>
<p>Improves local democracy</p>	<p>Expectations can be set too high</p>

3. Tipperary (South Riding) County Development Board agrees to participate fully in the processes leading to a Co Tipperary Citizens Information Plan

Decision: Tipperary (South Riding) County Development Board agreed to participate fully in the processes leading to a Co Tipperary Citizens Information Plan.

The main issues arising from the review of the audit and consultation on public and other services were:

- ✓ A quick reference database on services (clients almost always need information urgently) could result in considerable time saving for all parties. The Database needs to facilitate answers to four questions: What services are available? Where are the services available? Who is the relevant contact person for each service? What date was the data last updated?
- ✓ A process which ensures regular updating of the data needs to be planned from the beginning. A website offers the best option of ensuring that information is easily updated. The website needs to be user friendly with easy access to information by sub-county area, by topic and by service provider. The www.nssb.ie site is an excellent data base (updated each day) on public services. Local information could be accommodated on the website.
- ✓ A growing number of public and community bodies have internet connections - public libraries, local schools, community offices and public agencies. Access to information by the marginalised needs to be planned via local area strategies. Availability of access to information in local areas (when established) needs to be promoted in the local media.
- ✓ A County Tipperary Citizens Information Service Steering Group has been established to promote access to the highest quality information in the context of a Countywide Citizens Information Service for County Tipperary. Membership of the Steering Group includes the Citizens Information Centres, the Joint Library Committee, the Local Authorities and the Health Boards.
- ✓ Tipperary (South Riding) County Development Board proposes to co-operate with the Steering Group in the processes leading to the design and implementation of a County Tipperary Citizens Information Plan.

4. Revised list of (28) Members of Tipperary (South Riding) County Development Board

Local Government Sector

- Cllr Jack Crowe
- Cllr Niall Dennehy
- Ned Gleeson
- Cllr Brendan Griffin
- Cllr Denis Landy
- Cllr Denis Leahy (Urban Councils Nominee)
- Cllr Susan Meagher
- Cllr Pat Norris (Chair)

Local Development Sector

- Tommy Cooke, Barrow Nore Suir Rural Development Ltd
- John Devane, Tipperary LEADER Group
- P J Dooley, Clonmel Community Partnership
- Toss Hayes, Tipperary (South Riding) County Enterprise Board
- Maureen McNamara, Tipperary (South Riding) County Enterprise Board
- Pierce O Loughlin, Waterford LEADER Partnership

State Agency Sector

- Len Bell, Enterprise Ireland
- Oliver Clancy, FAS
- Mick Cummins, Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs
- Mary Fitzgerald, Garda Siochana
- Pat Loftus, IDA Ireland
- Seamus Moore, South Eastern Health Board
- Mary O'Halloran, South East Tourism
- Donal O'Mullane, TEAGASC
- John Slattery, Tipperary (South Riding) Vocational Education Committee

Social Partner Sector

- Ricky Fitzgerald, Business Pillar
- Michael Hanly, Farming Pillar
- Pat Neill, Trade Union Pillar
- Bridget O'Keefe, Voluntary and Community Pillar (Disadvantage)
- Tim Shanahan, Voluntary and Community Pillar (Economic and Cultural)

5. Action items prior to the next meeting on June 12, 2000

- By Friday April 28, 2000 - all members to provide the Director of Community and Enterprise with (i) a list of current structures/membership and functions of committees; and (ii) proposed 'development plan periods' for your organisation (2000-2010).
- By the next meeting (June 12, 2000) – all members to prepare for the main discussion item on the agenda – An Economic Review of South Tipperary. Each member is asked to identify the three main economic issues that must be addressed in the county strategy and to give their opinion on the three main economic opportunities for the County during the 2000-2010 period.
- By May 12, 2000 – requests relating to specific issues for mention at the next County Development Board meeting. .

The main target to be achieved by the next meeting is that the Thematic and Area Sub-Structures to advance the County Strategy are agreed.

6. Rural Development Forum

Michael Hanly (Farming Pillar) chaired a Rural Development Forum which met prior to the County Development Board meeting on April 3. A large number of issues were listed by the Board members who attended the Forum meeting for future review. It was agreed that the issues would be further explored at Farming Pillar meetings, which would be expanded to accommodate the Forum participants. The Director of Community and Enterprise is to request the attendance of technical experts from County Development Board members to advance/resolve issues.

7. Social Inclusion Review

Oliver Clancy (FAS) will chair a Social Inclusion Review on June 12 (3.00 pm), prior to the next County Development Board meeting. The government has allocated IR£1.5 billion to Social Inclusion Measures in the 2000-2006 period and the meeting will review access by South Tipperary to these social inclusion resources. All Board members are welcome to attend (and/or send representatives to) the Social Inclusion Review.