

Social Inclusion Measures Working Group
Meeting notes of 11th June, 2007
Held at Minella Hotel, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

Summary

1. Tipperary Rural Travellers Project Plan endorsed
2. Traveller Inter-Agency Plan endorsed

Present: Sinead Carr, Director of Service, George Hickey County Childcare Committee, Kathleen Prendergast, County Childcare Committee, Liam O'Brien FAS, Carmel McKenna Suir CDP, Bridget O'Keeffe Carrick-on-Suir Resource Centre, Margaret Casey, Tipperary Rural Travellers Project, Tracey Reddy, Tipperary Rural Travellers Project, Catherine Anderson, Dept of Ed. and Science, Margo Hayes Carrick-on-Suir RAPID, Eileen Condon VEC Adult Ed., Dan Fox Farming Pillar, Martin Maher, Co. Library, Declan Rice, Barrow Nore Suir LEADER, Hilda O'Neill, HSE, Julia Tarrant, DSFA, Phil Shanahan CCP, Antje Hogan, Co. Tipperary CIS, Ann Ryan C+E, Ruth Smith Tipperary Women's Network, Eileen Horgan, C+E, Jimmy Cass, Disability Groups Forum, Angela Joy Senior Community Development Worker HSE, Alan Price HSE.

Apologies: Phyllis Naughton, South Tipperary Disability Forum, Tina Kennedy, School Completion Project, Jarlath Fallon, Dept of Ed and Science, Billy Doyle, Clonmel Borough Council., Liam Kilbride, Cora Horgan, TRYS, John Devane, Tipperary LEADER, Breeda Corr, Pobal, Sean McSweeney,

Chairperson: Fionuala McGeever (Tipperary S.R. VEC)

Agenda items 1: The meeting report of the last meeting was adopted and the Agenda agreed (proposed Brigid O'Keeffe, seconded Ruth Smith). A vote of sympathy with Bridget O'Keeffe on a recent family bereavement was agreed. Alan Price HSE was thanked for his commitment to the SIM.

Matters arising: Breeda Corr noted that there would be a delay with regard to the summer programme funds.

2 Disability Plan presented by Jimmy Cass, Chair, Disability Groups Forum of the Community Forum (circulated). The meeting agreed that the plan would be considered for endorsement when some final work was completed and additional data added.

Performance indicators will also have to be considered. The request that each state agency rep. would read their sectoral plan was also made.

3 Cohesion:

There will be one unitary group in the county but the three groups were awaiting a response to a submission to the Dept. regarding the process.

4 New Plans:

Tipperary Rural Travellers Project Plan:(plan as circulated)

Additional points raised

- Need for a men's development worker in Cashel area
- Traveller children with very low educational expectations
- No Cashel schools approved under Deis.
- There was some good work being done by the VEC (barrel top wagon project) and the HSE (primary healthcare workers programme)

The meeting agreed that the issue of a men's development worker would be referred to the new social inclusion plan to be created for the new Cohesion Board, unless another method of providing same was found in the meanwhile.

The TRTP plan was proposed by Martin Maher and seconded by Claire Curley and endorsed

Traveller Inter-Agency Plan: (circulated)

This was presented by Claire Curley, Director of Service, South Tipperary County Council. Issues raised:

- CCC would input more data
- 15% of the literacy students of the VEC were from the traveller community
- We do not have a senior FAS training centre in South Tipperary
- Kathleen Prendergast would enquire re a boxing club
- Were there possibilities under Traveller economy (2.1.7)?
- There is a need for the Traveller Horse Project
- Key performance indicators are needed and a timespan

Plan proposed by Jimmy Cass and seconded by Eileen Condon.

5 National Anti-Poverty Plan for Social Inclusion (Report by Phil. Shanahan CCP, circulated) Issues raised:

- We need to ensure that the Social Inclusion plan for South Tipperary is within the NDP framework as set out now
- We need data and reports
- How do we influence at national level?
- Will the new Cohesion Board create another SIM in effect?
- We need to make links into NDP programmes
- All of our existing studies/research projects must fit into the lifecycle concept
- There is apparent confusion re the role of SIM and CDB vis a vis the new Cohesion board.
- We need to ensure that social inclusion funds are spent on the same
- We are awaiting consultants reports on both CDBs and SIMs.

6 Any other business:

SIM Chair: it was noted and agreed that while Fionuala McGeever would chair the next meeting, that the role of chair would then begin a rotation among SIM members.

Recent Migrant Networking Day: (report circulated)

Responses and issues:

- The VEC ESOL co-ordinator is working in this area
- Translators are both needed and need to be engaged
- There are difficulties in non-nationals getting loans
- The next networking meeting will be in September.

RAPID Reports: deferred until next meeting

Date of next meeting: Monday 3rd of September at 2.15pm in Minella Hotel, Clonmel.