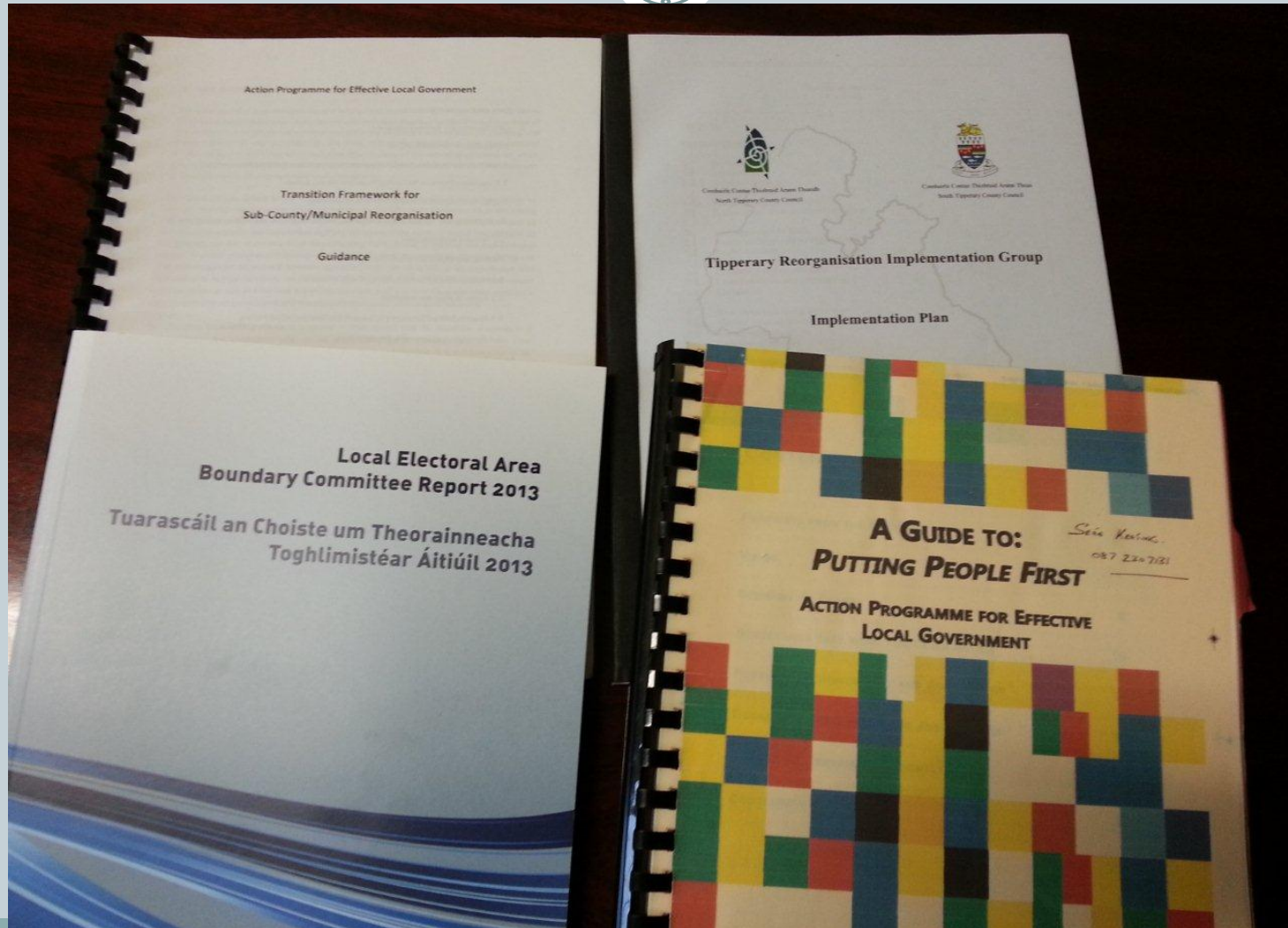


**PRESENTATION TO AILG MEMBERS  
JUNE 2014**

**OVERVIEW OF LOCAL COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES;  
LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY  
PLANS;  
SOCIAL INCLUSION COMMUNITY  
ACTIVATION PROGRAMME;  
PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION  
NETWORK &  
LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICES**

# Local Government Reform Documents



# New Tipperary County

Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee Report 2013

## County Tipperary



# LA Restructuring



- **Local Government landscape undergoing significant change –**
- **Affect every individual in the country and every organisation in every county**
- **Change happening in the context of other governance change**
  - ✦ **VEC – ETB**
  - ✦ **Regional authorities**
  - ✦ **FAS – Solas/ETB**
  - ✦ **Social Welfare & HSE function**
  - ✦ **Gardai**
  - ✦ **etc**
- **In context of Local Government – All counties are facing very significant change on a number of fronts**

# LA Restructuring



- **Key Changes are**
  - Regional Changes – new configuration of regions proposed and all counties having to adapt to this
  - Merger of some counties such as North and South Tipperary into one LA
  - Abolition of the town/Borough Councils and replacement with Municipal Districts/Borough Districts/metropolitan Districts
  - Reduction in no. of councillors throughout the state
  - Transfer of Water and Waste Water Services from Local Authorities to Irish Water
  - County Enterprise Offices merging with Business Support Unit in Local Authorities – Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
  - Alignment process of Local Government with Local Development Partnerships
  - Winding down of the County Development Boards and its “replacement” with LCDC structure
  - Community engagement to be given a stronger voice with new structures - PPN

# LA Restructuring



- **Presentation to touch on all of these and in particular:**
  - Alignment process of Local Government with Local Development Partnerships (LCDC)
  - Community engagement and establishment of the – PPN
  - Establishment of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
  - Far stronger role formally now given to local government in the area of community, social and economic development – it will be the new growth area for local government and the elected members

# Regional Changes



- **The Regional dynamic will be more influential and dynamic than heretofore**
- **The 9 regional authorities will be abolished**
- **A new configuration of regional structures/assemblies will be established (between 2 – 4?)**
- **These will have a very strong voice and say in the area of economic and physical planning**
  - These bodies will be responsible for drawing up a Regional Economic & Social Strategy (RESS)
  - Critical that elected members actively contribute to this as it could positively or negatively affect your county
  - Ensure your key strategic priorities for your county are encompassed within this document – it will frame and dictate key developments within your area (in the context of CDP & LECP)

# Alignment process



- Policy of Government is to place the democratically elected members at the **centre of a process** which will allow them to have a real say on how funds are expended in their county – ensuring appropriate oversight of that spend
- **This is achieved through aligning** functions of local development with local government
- Overtime, community spend in a Council area will be framed by this process (HSE community funding; TUSLA community funding; Transport community funding; local authority community funding, ETB community funding etc) – LDC funds are the first step in this process
- To oversee this “alignment”, a structure called a **Local Community Development Committee** is to be set up in each LA area (LCDC)
  - LCDC will be a committee of the LA but it will be independent of the LA in the performance of its duties.



# Alignment process Continued



- The establishment of the LCDC structure is now law. Therefore a draft structure of the LCDC will be brought before the full council where a resolution will be required for their establishment.
- If there is a delay with progressing the setting up of this structure - consequences
  - Access by citizens to funds and supports will be adversely affected if these structures are not set up as a priority
  - Critical that all are in place and operational by July of this year as supports and funding lines will be dependent upon its existence

# Alignment process Continued



- **LCDC structure will comprise a range of public and non public socio-economic partners drawn from the LA administrative area**
  - 51% community (9) & 49% (8) other.
  - Max number of members = 17
  - Of the 49%; minimum of 3 elected members, the Head of LEO and the Chief Executive of the LA (or their nominee) from the LA side
  - Remainder of 49% could be ETB; DSP; Teagasc; HSE etc
  - Community/Voluntary section resourced from PPN structure; other civil society groups (Business Pillar, Trade Unions, Farming pillar etc) & LDC
- **LCDC's key objective in year 1 is to prepare Community Elements of the Local Economic & Community Plan**
  - The elected members of the MD and the full council will have an opportunity to have an input into this plan and must sign off on same

# LECP Process



- **First responsibility will be to commence Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)**
  - Plan has to be **consistent** with core objectives of RESS and CDP
  - Plan must **integrate** economic, local and community elements
  - Plan will **facilitate** the emerging local development role of local Government – achieving better returns for the communities
- **Significant engagement with community (business & other) is intended**
  - Principal of broad scale consultation and the “bottom up principle “ of development is an underlying pillar of this structure
- **Plan will cover community, social and economic areas **BUT****
  - Community & Social areas will be “managed, developed and recommended for adoption” by the LCDC structure
  - The Economic element will be managed and developed and recommended for adoption by the SPC for Economic Development

# LECP - Process



- Preparation of the LECP will be a key immediate priority for the new Council & LCDC structure
- To be commenced July and completed within 6 – 8 months. It will have a 6 year lifespan with reviews built in
- It will be a shared but separate process for both the economic element and the community element (explained below)
  - Steering Group to be set up between Economic SPC and LCDC to oversee progress and ensure non duplication
  - Consultation exercise for both economic and community elements will be shared
  - Plan will be presented as a single document to full Council when being considered for adoption
  - Council will consider adoption of the Plan in the context of being consistent with the Core Strategy of the CDP and consistent with the RESS
- Process and outcome will provide a framework within which many other operational plans from other agencies and sectors will be required to be placed

# Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)



- **2<sup>nd</sup> Immediate Priority for the LCDC will be the “management of the SICAP**
  - Previously LCDP and now SICAP - operated by SI element of LDC (long term unemployed)
- **This programme will be the first to be transferred to the LCDC (July) with assistance from POBAL**
- **The LCDC will have oversight and monitoring of the effectiveness and otherwise of the SICAP programme**
  - it will be responsible for the oversight of same from July of 2014!! But LDC will continue to operate programme for 2014
- **The LCDC responsible for tendering out the new programme in 2015 and will decide to whom it is awarded**
  - Would expect the LDC to continue to operate this programme but it is open to public procurement process
  - Due diligence will have to be observed in the awarding of the contract
- **The SICAP will have to fall within the LECF priorities**
- **The RDP likely also to come under the oversight remit of the LCDC but final details yet to be clarified**

# LCDC Conclusion



- **The LCDC is a significant new venture for the LA**
- **Members will have a far stronger and more meaningful role than heretofore in local community development and local community development spend**
- **Critical that it works and works well – members must ensure it operates efficiently – otherwise it will be a poor reflection on local government and the elected member**
- **Potential to have a very significant positive impact**
- **Critical that it gets off the ground now**

# People's Participation Network - PPN



- **Community Consultation a significant part of LG Act 2014 (S 46)**
- **Government consider that the public should engage more actively in policy making and have an opportunity to have an input into those areas where LA have responsibilities**
- **New framework to be put in place for public engagement and participation – PPN**
- **PPN to be the main link through which the LA connects with the Community, environmental and SI sectors – but without prejudice to other consultation processes**

# Role of PPN



- To contribute to and inform the LA in its development of the county for all citizens
- Facilitate opportunities for networking, communication & information sharing
- Identify issues of collective concern and influence policy locally
- Actively support marginalised groups
- Strong expectation that all LA policy groups and processes engage actively and genuinely with the PPN (SPCs etc)



# Role of PPN



- All C&V groups to register to one database
- PPN to be organised at County level and MD level & will be supported by a secretariat
- Expectation that all engagement with communities in terms of plans, projects, programmes, grants, information etc will be through this structure
- The PPN will be the structure through which nominations are sought from the “community sector” to sit on SPCs and other structures/policy groups (LCDC; JPCs etc)
- PPNs will be a valuable connection with the communities and should be utilised in a positive way – here to stay!

# Economic & Enterprise Development Role



- LAs have always had an economic role – but not a formal one recognised at Department level & never measured
- Number of structures such as CEBs, LDCs, EI & IDA etc have had an active and formally recognised economic role but it was fragmented and only dealt with certain economic sectors of society
- EI and IDA will now work from a policy perspective at regional level through RESS – members will be involved with this structure and will be able influence accordingly
- At local government level, structures have been realigned and streamlined to reduce level of fragmentation for the user and provide a more efficient and effective service

# Economic & Enterprise Development Role



- For the first time, members of LAs will now have a far greater and more dynamic role in economic and enterprise development -this is seen as the key growth area of local government. To facilitate this
  - An SPC for Economic & Enterprise Development is being set up in all LAs to have oversight of all economic development and enterprise policy in the local authority area & develop appropriate economic policies which falls within their remit
  - The LECP will highlight the key economic policy areas that the LA and the various economic sectors working in the area must address
  - The enterprise elements of the RDP programme will be aligned with the local authority through the LCDC and the LECP
  - The County Enterprise Boards have now been merged with the economic units of the LA to form the new Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

# Local Enterprise Office (LEO)



- The LEO in all counties has been operational from 15/4/14 (31 in total)
- First stop shop for all enterprise information and supports
- An SLA drawn up between DJEI and LAs in terms of expected service delivery and this will determine outputs of the LEO
- LEO policy will be framed by the DJEI with oversight by the SPC for Economic & Enterprise Development.
- An Evaluation Committee has been set up and should be operable by Autumn at the latest – consists of categories of persons as categorised by the DJEI
- Note – CEB have now been wound down

# LEO Supports & Services



- **Services**

- Business information and advice
- Enterprise support and development
- Promotion of entrepreneurship
- Local enterprise and economic development

- **Financial Supports**

- Feasibility/innovation grants
- Priming grants
- Business expansion grants

# LEO Supports & Services



- **Other Supports**
  - One to one business support
  - Start your own business support
  - Business IT skills training and support
  - Export development
  - Management and company development
  - Mentoring
  - Trade shows/exhibitions grants
  - Website grants

# LEO Supports & Services



- The economic & enterprise development role offers a very significant opportunity to LAs to have a very real and effective impact on businesses. For the first time, LAs can be seen to support all businesses in terms of start up, sustainment and growth.
- The flexibility which is unique to local authorities will also allow it to support those services and businesses which were not previously supported by the CEB, EI or IDA. It is a unique opportunity for LAs to demonstrate that it is not just a regulatory body but one which can actively and positively support business.

# Conclusion



- Overall a very challenging time for Councils & Council Members
- Lot of change in all areas
- But opportunity to do things better and more effectively notwithstanding less resources and less funds
- Need to think in a different way – a new way of working.
- Need to focus on areas where we can have greatest influence
- Need to work with the structures to ensure we maximise value to the counties citizens



End



**Very Best of Luck to You All with  
Your New Terms of Office  
Any Questions?**