

Meeting 18: Red Door Project, Dublin Road, Drogheda

Friday 19th May 2023

Members of the Policing Authority attended the meeting in an observational capacity

Presentation on activity in the Drogheda/Meath/North East Region given by Aidan McKenna, Regional Director, Enterprise Ireland North East Region. A new €145m ERDF fund – the Smart Regional Enterprise Innovation Scheme – is expected to launch end June. Projects should align with Regional Enterprise Plans (REPs) & Ireland’s Smart Specialisation Strategy around goals for digitalisation and green transformation for industry. Unlike previous fund will be an open call which will give opportunity to work with Enterprise Ireland team in advance of submission.

Family Support, Children, Young People and Education subgroup have identified some early intervention initiatives which have potential to be delivered/expanded upon in Drogheda. These include ‘Community Families’ and ‘Young Parent Support Programme’. Board will engage with relevant Government Departments and statutory agencies regarding same. Subgroup continue to review potential response to new early intervention action in Plan.

A request for support from Foróige’s Cable Project to secure resources for an early intervention worker was approved.

A request for endorsement of submission by LMETB to Department of Children Equality Disability Integration and Youth for a new UBU youth project in Drogheda via their Area Profile Needs Assessment and Service Requirement was considered and approved.

A Fixed Needle Exchange service opened on the 15th May in the Red Door Project supported by the HSE.

A tender will be issued during the summer by the HSE to host the position of Drug Related Intimidation and Violence Engagement lead in Drogheda. This is a pilot post based in Drogheda and serving the North East Region.

A number of posts in HSE Addiction Services, serving Louth Meath and covering Drogheda have been filled. These include 2 x outreach workers; 1 x social care lead, 1 x social care project worker. A specialist drug liaison midwife post for CHO8 has also been secured, Drogheda will be included in their remit.

Considerable progress has been made regarding the realignment of policing boundaries on the south of Drogheda.

A new small loans fund for microbusinesses in the Drogheda area, resourced by Louth and Meath County Councils and managed by Louth County Enterprise Fund was agreed. Information on the Drogheda Nurture Fund will be issued in the coming weeks.

Meath and Louth County Councils have partnered on a significant Crinniú na nÓg programme, resourced by Creative Ireland in response to the Drogheda Report. This Children’s Day of Creativity takes place on Saturday 10th June and Droichead Arts Centre are leading delivery on same. The full Louth and East Meath workshop trail is available to [view here](#).

Correspondence from the Department of Rural and Community Development regarding the allocation of €80,000 towards the securing of planning permission for the Moneymore Townland Community Hub was noted.