

# Area-based Community Development Planning

Kilfenora, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2018

- Action 1 under Objective 6 of the LEADER Local Development Strategy for County Clare:

*To build strong, effective, resilient and inclusive communities through capacity building, leadership and other training, area based planning and capital supports.*

- 50 geographic communities across the county over the lifetime of the LEADER strategy
- Kilfenora among the first set of 10 community-based planning exercises.

**CLARE LEADER**

- Over the next 12 months
- Kilfenora will be supported to prepare a three-year development plan:
  - *focused on the needs of the whole community*
  - *with a particular focus on voices least heard.*
- CLDC will provide a facilitator who will work alongside a local planning group and who will support the preparation of this plan for Kilfenora

**What does this mean for Kilfenora**

The eventual plan will be focused on:

- the development of your community as a whole (addressing, for example, social, economic, cultural and environmental issues)
- while also prioritising groups with the highest levels of need within the community

**Key Features of the Plan**

- *Community led:* A plan for Kilfenora by Kilfenora.
- *Evidence-informed:* The plan will be based on evidence of need. We will have to show LEADER that there is a basis for all activities prioritised in the plan.
- *Realistic:* The final plan submitted to LEADER should be both realistic and achievable.
  - Capacity to both deliver and sustain proposed actions after the plan has been developed.

## Key Features of the Plan

1. Establishing a core planning group
2. Consulting widely in community and identifying needs, interests, concerns that need to be addressed in the community plan
3. Examining information gathered so you can identify priority needs and select priority actions for inclusion in your emerging community plan – as well as identifying resources and supports needed
4. Preparation, agreement and finalisation of your community's plan for submission to Clare LEADER

## Key Phases

- An opportunity to plan for a cohesive, strong and vibrant Kilfenora
- An opportunity to think strategically about big (and not so big) concerns in the community
- Improved capacity in planning for the longer term
- Opportunity to access LEADER resources into the future

**What's in it for Kilfenora?**

- Establish a core planning group
- 8-10 people who will lead, drive, steward the planning process over the year...
  - *The engine for the planning process*

**Critical Next Step**

1. *Lead and manage the process* of developing an area-based Community Development Plan for Kilfenora by working collaboratively with i) the planning facilitator; and ii) the wider community of Kilfenora.
2. Over the course of 2018, participate in - and undertake on behalf of Kilfenora – a series of consultation and planning exercises that will:
  - Inform the Kilfenora community plan; and
  - Lead to the submission of an area plan to the Clare LEADER programme at the beginning of 2019.

**The role of the planning group**

- Consulting with the community and understanding what's needed in Kilfenora
- Examining and analysing information coming back from community residents
- Prioritising actions for inclusion in the plan
- Checking back with community members at every step of the planning process
- Submitting the plan to LEADER

## Key activities of the planning group

- People who are interested in the future development of their community and in making Kilfenora a great place to live.
- It needs people who are willing to put time and effort into **listening** to the interests and concerns of all residents in Kilfenora and into **imagining** new possibilities for the area

**Who is needed?**