

## Minutes of Meeting 3 of the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy Committee in 2020

Via Zoom, 18 November 2020 at 3.30pm

### Present:

Name	Organisation
Corína Butler	Fáilte Ireland
Fiona Butler	NTA
Jacqueline Healy	IHREC
Patrick McElligott	GOSHH
Paula Kelliher	DoD
Padraig McMahon	DAFM
Bill Foley	Gay Health Network
Gerald Harty	DETE
Meadhbh Costello	IBEC
Gillian Treacy	DOH
Paula Fagan	LGBT Ireland
Adam Shanley	HIV Ireland
Caroline Moran	DoD
David Dillion	DEASP
Aurelie Harel	OutWest
Mark Gately	DOT
Eileen Leahy	DCEDIY
Dairearca Ni Neil	DoH
Bernardine Quinn	Dundalk Outcomers
Kara McCann	IBEC
Gillian Collins	Defence Forces
Ailsa Spindler	Gay Project
Chris Noone	National LGBT Federation
Sara Philips	TENI
David Joyce	ICTU
Zbyszek Zakinski	RTE
Gerard Keown	DFAT
Stephen O'Hare	HIV Ireland
Joseph Doyle	HSE
Aaron O'Sullivan	DoJ Staff Network
Aisling Cusack	DCYA
Kate Moynihan	LINC
Cameron Keighron	AMACH! LGBT+
Eddie McGuinness	Dublin Pride
Michelle O'Connor	Tourism Ireland
Moninne Griffith	BeLonG To Youth Services
Eamonn Waters	DoH
Geraroid Browne	D/Finance
Eoin Wilson	DCEDIY
Janet Lacey	DCEDIY
Jane Ann Duffy	DCEDIY

**Secretariat:**

Name	Organisation
Deirdre Ni Neill	DCEDIY
Jennifer O'Farrell	DCEDIY
Sarah Mongey	DCEDIY
Alex Bassett	DCEDIY

**Apologies:**

Name	Organisation
George Robotham	Outhouse
David Carroll	Outhouse
Aoife Corr	Fáilte Ireland

**1. Intro**

Minister O'Gorman welcomed everyone to the third meeting of the LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy Committee.

**2. Agreement of agenda, Review of work programme, Minutes of previous meeting**

Apologies received and noted.

Minutes of July meeting were agreed.

**3. Thematic focus: Healthy pillar (Actions 14.1-20.1)**

Joe Doyle, HSE Social Inclusion Unit presented to the Committee and highlighted the following points:

- There was a need to establish an LGBTI+ Governance Group within the HSE.
- Requested that Committee Members provide content for both the Social Inclusion micro site [hesocialinclusion.ie](https://www.hsesocialinclusion.ie) and the LGBTI+ resource page on the HSE website.
- Requested that Committee Members engage with the HSE re Social Media activity and create a following relationship.

Committee members raised queries including:

- The piloting of home testing kits; the disparity of resources for LGBTI+ issues in the HSE and the coordination and pace of change; the effect of covid-19 on an already below par service re: the accessibility and availability of STI services and the effect that is having with HIV creep and on MH; the closure of Gay Men's Health Service; the disbandment of the ChemSex Working Group; transgender issues and the implementation of the report of the Steering Committee to develop an integrated service for those with gender identity issues, Chaired by Dr Ní Bhriain; and, whether the HSE has fully implemented the PS Duty.

Action: circulate HSE presentation

Action: JD will: take the issues raised back to the relevant areas within the HSE and provide a post meeting update to the Committee.

Action: add presentation by HSE specialists to the Work Plan.

#### **4. November traffic light scorecard.**

Update taken as read, no queries were raised by members on the updates provided by departments. The Department of Health and the Department of Foreign Affairs provided verbal updates to the Committee.

Paula, LGBT Ireland clarified that the Older Persons LGBTI+ Champions project is being headed by LGBT Ireland with funding from the Department of Health.

Action: The Minister requested that all updates be submitted in advance of the meetings.

Committee Members made the following suggestions:

- Format of the deep dives should include attendance by the relevant Department officials and every relevant action should be examined.
- To avoid misunderstanding as to how actions are progressing, more detailed reports from departments should be circulated in advance of each meeting.
- The timeline for the strategy implementation could be extended in light of delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Further discussions on the development of appropriate indicators for the strategy is required.

#### **5. Proposal for Working Groups**

Deirdre Ni Neill, Department of Children presented to members on a proposal to establish three Working Groups: **Communications**, **Toolkits** and **Research** to create a commonality of approach, allowing the Committee to dive more in-depth and create synergies between the different stakeholders.

Committee members suggested:

- Need for a sub-group to focus on LGBTI health.
- Toolkit Subgroup should become 'Training and Toolkit' subgroup – training is at the essence of so many of the actions.

Action: Secretariat will expand toolkit Working Group to include training.

Action: Follow up with HSE re: Health Working Group.

Action: Bring back a clear proposal to next meeting.

Action: Ask any members interested in partaking in one or more sub-committees to please email the secretariat.

## **6. AOB:**

- Members were informed that notice of decisions re LGBTI+ funding programme would be issued in the very near future.
- For many Committee Members, there is now a growing sense of what's working and what's not.

Action: Members to send suggestions on the structure of meetings and action owners ensure updates sent to secretariat in a timely way.

Action: Secretariat will be in touch with date for next meeting early in the new year.