

Minutes of Management Board Meeting held on 3rd October 2016

Attendance: Secretary General (Fergal Lynch), Bernie McNally, Michelle Shannon and Dermot Ryan. Clare Rudden reporting.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 27th September 2016 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

FL updated the MB members on the Estimates process.

3. Brief Updates

DR gave updates on: (i) Tusla Capital, (ii) DCYA/Tusla Performance Meeting [6 Oct], (iii) HIQA Review [Fostering First Ireland], (iv) C&AG Audit, (v) Analysis of Data Protection Structures, (vi) Statement of Strategy, and (vii) HR Newsletter.

BM gave updates on: (i) Early Years Forum, (ii) Launch of Early Childhood Ireland Report, (iii) Breaking Point [Launch], (iv) Estimates Process, (v) Early Years Strategy, (vi) Public Accounts Committee [Pobal], (vii) Press Reporting on proposed Childcare Schemes, (viii) Children and Young People's Policy Consortium, (ix) Goal Funding [CES], and (x) LGBT Strategy.

MS gave updates on: (i) Commission of Investigation [Mother and Baby Homes], (ii) Adoption (Amendment) Bill, (iii) Adoption [Information and Tracing], (iv) Joint Oireachtas Committee, (v) Oberstown [Buildings], (vi) Request from Senator Reilly to meet Minister re Oberstown, (vii) Judicial Reviews, and (viii) ACJRD Annual Conference ['Cybercrime'].

FL gave updates on: (i) GAL, (ii) Children and Young Peoples Policy Consortium, (iii) HIQA Business Plan, and (iv) Children First Implementation.

4. DCYA PMDS Returns

Gerard Hughes attended the meeting for this item and presented on the note circulated in advance of the meeting which outlined the current status of PMDS returns for DCYA staff. It was noted that there has been a drop in the compliance rate in recent years and MB members were asked to encourage their staff to ensure their goal setting forms and mid-year reviews are completed for 2016. It was agreed that HR will provide a report on PMDS returns fortnightly to the MB. FL thanked HR for their work on this and also noted the comprehensive newsletter which was circulated by the Unit last week.

5. Finance – Forecast Out-turn

Paul Fay and Gerard Banville attended the meeting for this item. PF presented on the note circulated in advance of the meeting which outlined details of the 2016 forecast outturn for the Department, the details of which were submitted to DPER last week. It was noted that this is an assessment of the position at present and that the final figures may change before year end. Some underspend of the gross funding allocation for the Department's 2016 Vote is likely and the MB discussed options for managing this. The management of the 2016 Vote allocation to Tusla was also considered. PF and GB advised that they will update the script drafted by FL for the upcoming Joint Oireachtas Committee with up to date figures. FL thanked PF, GB and the Finance Unit for their work on the Estimates process to date.

6. For Noting

(iv) Government Memos – To be updated.

7. AOB

- FL met the Chair of the Audit Committee on 30 Sept. The vacancy for the Head of Internal Audit position will be discussed with HR.
- FL advised MB members to be ready to complete a Budget Package once the Estimates process has been completed.
- BM asked for a MB discussion on ABC to be scheduled before year end.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 10th October at 10.30a.m.