

## **Minutes of Management Board Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 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 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were agreed.

### **2. Matters Arising**

All matters arising were discussed as part of brief updates.

### **3. Brief Updates**

**MS** gave updates on: (i) Adoption (Amendment) Bill, (ii) Adoption [Information and Tracing], (iii) Commission of Investigation [Mother and Baby Homes], (iv) Minister meeting CRA in Oberstown [21 Sept], (v) Oberstown [Security Issues and Visit from French Ministry of Justice], (vi) Judicial Reviews, (vii) Request from Senator Reilly to meet Minister re Oberstown, (viii) Joint Oireachtas Committee, (ix) Youth Justice Staffing, and (x) Criminal Justice Strategic Committee [Update].

**DR** gave updates on: (i) Board Vacancies Tusla, (ii) Minister's Visit to Crannog Nua, (iii) Children First Guidance, (iv) Alternative Care Strategy, (v) HIQA Report on Foster Care Services, (vi) Special Care Staffing, (vii) DCYA Staffing, (viii) Garda Vetting, (ix) Learning and Development, (x) New Discipline Code [Training], (xi) Audit Committee [Discussion on Risk], (xii) Estimates Discussions, (xiii) Health and Safety Audit, and (xiv) Work Pressures [Support Services].

- Audit Committee [Discussion on Risk] – FL will speak to the Chair of the Audit Committee re this.

**BM** gave updates on: (i) Early Years Forum, (ii) Launch of Early Childhood Ireland Report, (iii) Early Years Strategy, (iv) School Age Childcare Report, (v) Staffing Early Years, (vi) Single Affordable Childcare Scheme, (vii) Poverty Truth Commission, (viii) RFT for Children and Young People's Participation Support Services, (ix) Mental Health [DoH], (x) Law Reform Commission Report, (xi) Youth Services [Ballyfermot and Roscommon], (xii) Evaluation Post [Research], (xiii) Statistician Post, (xiv) BOBF Indicator Set [Presentation to Consortium], and (xv) Early Years Survey [Work by Research Unit].

- Youth Services [Ballyfermot and Roscommon]– BM will send to FL.

**FL** gave updates on: (i) Vacant Assistant Secretary Post, (ii) 'Mary' Case, (iii) Weekly Meetings to be held with POs [Children and Family Policy Division], (iv) New PO in Children and Family Policy and Legislation Unit, and (v) Child Welfare and Protection Strategy [Tusla Session on 26 Sept].

### **4. Commission of Investigation – Second Interim Report**

James Gibbs attended the meeting for this item and gave an update on the Second Interim Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes which was submitted to the Minister on 16 September. He detailed the main content of the report including (i) the exclusion of certain categories from the Residential Institutions Redress Scheme, (ii) the exclusion of certain homes from the remit of the Commission, and (iii) the false registration of births. It was

noted that some of these issues extend beyond the remit of this Department. JG advised that a meeting was held last week with representatives from the Department of Health, the Attorney General's Office, and the Department of Education. These Departments were asked to draft written views on the Report. It is intended that a Memorandum for Government will be drafted bringing proposals for a formal response from Government to the report.

**5. For Noting**

- (ii) FOI – DR will follow up with Finance and Support Services re outstanding requests.
- (iv) Government Memos – To be updated.

**6. AOB**

- The current status of the draft Statement of Strategy was discussed. FL asked MB members to remind their POs to respond to CCGU.
- The format of the upcoming Joint Oireachtas Committee was discussed. FL advised he will talk to the Minister regarding this.
- PMDS returns for staff will be reviewed at the next MB meeting and FL asked DR to organise an update from HR on this. FL asked CR to organise PMDS review meetings for the MB in the coming weeks.

**7. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 10.30a.m.