

Minutes of Management Board Meeting held on 27th June 2016

Attendance: Secretary General (Fergal Lynch), Liz Canavan, Bernie McNally, Michelle Shannon and Dermot Ryan. Brenda Gargan reporting.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 20th June 2016 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

It was agreed to proceed with the proposed Town Hall meeting on 7 July, at a venue to be arranged.

3. Brief Updates

LC gave updates on: (i) Homelessness, (ii) NRP, (iii) Child Care Law Reporting Project, (iv) ABC [Risk Register], (v) QCBI, (vi) Goal Programme, (vii) BOBF, (viii) Children First, (ix) GAL, (x) Child Poverty Conference, (xi) Early Learning Initiative Conference, (xii) DEIS Process.

MS gave updates on: (i) Oberstown Detention School and (ii) Adoption Legislation

DR gave updates on: (i) After Care, (ii) C & AG Audit, (iii) Select Committee meeting scheduled for 29 June (iv) Tusla HR, (v) Miesian Plaza and (vi) Peer Review – National Child Care Information System and (vii) Minister's meeting with Tusla Board.

BM gave updates on: (i) Early Years Resources, (ii) Youth Employability Initiative, (iii) LGBT Strategy, (iv) Senior Officials Group on Social Policy, (v) Childminding Ireland, (vi) Community Service Closure, (vii) New National Planning Strategy, (viii) Obesity Strategy, and (ix) AP post in Research Unit.

4. Review of Adoption Policy

Dolores Moran and Noreen Leahy attended the meeting for this item. It was noted that there had been significant developments in the adoption area and that two substantial pieces of adoption legislation (the Information and Tracing Bill and the Adoption (Amendment) Bill) were in progress. It was also noted that a number of important factors were likely to have an impact on adoption policy in the coming years, including the Child and Family Relationship Act 2015, the review of the Child Care Act 1991, the intention to establish family courts, and the two Adoption Bills themselves. It was agreed that it would be wise to prioritise the two Bills, and to monitor closely the other developments above in the context of a future review of adoption policy. A short paper for the Minister would be prepared on this basis.

5. Estimates 2017

Paul Fay, Gordon Gaffney and Gerard Banville attended the meeting for this item and discussed issues relating to the preparation of an Estimates bid. An approach to completing an initial template for DPER on the 2017 Estimates was agreed. PF gave an update on the Select Oireachtas Committee Wednesday 29th June and the C & AG audit in DCYA.

6. For Noting

- (i) Submissions to Minister – correction – change ‘Dermot Ryan’ to ‘Liz Canavan’
- (ii) FOI Report- briefing to be placed now on DCYA website.
- (iii) Minister's Diary – Minister cannot attend MB meeting on Thursday 30th June.

7. AOB

The agenda for the Cabinet Committee on Social Policy Thursday 30th June was considered and DCYA attendance agreed.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 4th July at 10.30am.