

Minutes of Management Board Meeting held on 11th April 2016

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

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 4th April 2016 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

All matters arising were discussed as part of brief updates.

3. Brief Updates

MS gave updates on: (i) Commission of Investigation [Mother and Baby Homes], (ii) Birth Certificates for adopted persons [Correspondence from AAI], (iii) Case stated to High Court by AAI [Thailand Case], (iv) Adoption [Amendment] Bill, (v) Adoption [Information and Tracing] Bill, (vi) Children First Commencement Order and (vii) Oberstown [Staffing, Buildings and FL visit].

DR gave updates on: (i) HIQA Report, (ii) Tusla Private Residential Centres [Inspection Reports], (iii) Tusla [Monthly Review Meeting and Recruitment], (iv) Domestic Violence Service [Lifeline], (v) Civil Service Engagement Survey, (vi) DCYA Recruitment, (vii) Corporate Governance Framework [DPER feedback received] and, (viii) Appointment of Interim COO Tusla.

LC gave updates on: (i) Conference to launch the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child [Sofia], (ii) Young Ballymun, (iii) Disability, (iv) Homelessness [Issues relating to Children], (v) GAL, (vi) National Vetting Bureau Act [Commencement], and (vii) Report of the Child Rapporteur.

- Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child – LC will provide copy to FL.

FL gave updates on: (i) Meeting with Fred McBride, CEO of Tusla (ii) Internal Audit Committee membership – appointment of Mr Tim Willoughby, and (iii) Briefing material for incoming Minister.

4. Civil Service Engagement Survey

Gerard Hughes attended for this item and spoke on the papers circulated in advance of the meeting. The strategic value of the study was noted and the key positives, negatives, challenges and opportunities resulting from the study were discussed. The Department had a response rate of 55.9% which compares very favourably to the overall civil service rate of 39.3%. The MB considered the implications of the survey for the Department and agreed that the results should be communicated to all staff on 14 April, in line with other Departments. It was agreed that MB members will hold divisional discussions with feedback to the Management Board in the coming weeks. The PO Forum would also be asked to consider the results. FL will circulate an email to staff members regarding the survey on Thursday 14th April.

5. Internal Audit Committee's Annual Report

The report was finalised at the last meeting attended by the outgoing Chair Ken Slattery and was circulated in advance of the MB meeting to members for their information and comment. Issues

raised in the report were discussed, with input from MB members. FL advised he will draft a response to the new Chair of the Committee to clarify some of these issues.

6. AOB

DR circulated a note on DCYA recruitment for the information of MB members prior to the meeting. This was discussed and the MB members thanked HR for the good progress on recruitment to date. MB members advised that the recent Office Notices on staff changes are useful, and the necessity for staff to keep their profile in the Staff Directory up to date in light of recent moves was also noted. FL said he had met with a number of new appointees, and hoped to meet another group of personnel shortly.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 18th April at 10:30am.