

Minutes of Management Board Meeting held on 10th April, 2017

Attendance: Secretary General (Fergal Lynch), Michelle Shannon, Éimear Fisher, Bernie McNally and Dermot Ryan. Alan Savage reporting.

1. Minutes of Last Two Meetings

The minutes of the meeting of 3rd April, 2017 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

FL advised that the Civil Service Customer Satisfaction Survey has been communicated to staff. Other material from the Civil Service Management Board has been forwarded to MB members for information.

3. Brief Updates

DR gave updates on (i) Protected Disclosure Training, (ii) PAS Interviews for Head of Internal Audit, (iii) Tusla Performance Data, (iv) Miesian Plaza, and (v) NCCIS.

MS provided updates on (i) Adoption (Information and Tracing) Bill, (ii) Adoption (Amendment) Bill, (iii) Oberstown [Operational Review], and (iv) Commission of Investigation [Mother and Baby Homes].

BM provided updates on (i) Affordable Childcare Scheme, (ii) Early Years [Protected Disclosure], (iii) Youth Affairs [VFM], (iv) LGBT+ Youth Strategy, (v) Research, and (vi) Participation.

EF gave updates on (i) Guardian *ad litem*, (ii) National Review Panel, (iii) Psychological Services, and (vii) Centre for Effective Services Report to MB.

4. Preparedness for Children First Commencement

Marie Kennedy joined the meeting for this item. The MB reviewed progress in preparation for implementation and was advised of concerns about the level of preparedness by some key participants.

MK reported on the progress made in relation to (i) the Children First Inter-Departmental Group which met on 10 April, and (ii) Tusla which is preparing relevant documentation. The eTraining module was going well but more work was needed in a number of other areas.

- EF to arrange a bilateral with the relevant Assistant Secretary in DES with a view to improving the extent of progress in the education sector.

The DCYA Children First Oversight Group is progressing a 3-part guide for Principal Officers. One element involves a protocol relating to the actions to be taken when a report regarding child protection is made to a Unit in the Department. The Group hopes to finalise this protocol soon. It next meets on 28th April, after which MK will bring the finalised protocol formally to the MB for sign off.

5. Proposed Organisation Structure for Tusla

Papers were circulated in advance to MB members. DR asked MB members for any views on the proposals, suggesting that they focus on high level Tusla posts (Director and next level

down), and to consult with their Heads of Unit. These consultations will take place over the coming weeks, and it is hoped to have MB feedback by mid-May. HR Unit are happy to engage with Heads of Unit on the details.

6. Review of the Centre for Effective Services

This item will be discussed at the MB meeting of 24 April 2017.

7. For Noting

(iii) Communications - Press Release on the Affordable Childcare Scheme (first phase) to be added – to be issued Wednesday 12 April 2017.

8. AOB

Business Planning

HR Unit is working on dates for remaining divisional meetings.

Tusla Quarterly Meeting (10 April)

FL is arranging to meet with the Minister in advance of the quarterly meeting. Unallocated cases (raised by the Taoiseach's Advisor at the SOG) and recruitment issues to feature.

Cabinet Committee (10 April)

DR and BM will be attending with relevant POs.

Interdepartmental Committee [UN Convention Against Torture]

Ireland appears before the UN Committee on UNCAT on 27-28 July 2017. An interdepartmental committee is being established for this purpose, and will have its first meeting on 12 April 2017. CCGU will attend to scope out DCYA involvement.

Town Hall Meeting

It is hoped to have a meeting in early June (with Miesian Plaza/ Children First/Organisational Structure as potential topics). CCGU will check availability of the ballroom in the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Senior Management Team

A meeting is to be arranged for Friday 5th May, with the agenda to be agreed.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 24th April, 2017 at 10.30 a.m.