

Management Board Meeting

Monday 27th September, 2017 @ 10.30 a.m.

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

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes were of the 11 September 2017 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

Item 4: Guide for staff – Dealing with Child Welfare and Protection Concerns

FL has written to CEO of Tusla and awaiting a reply, regarding the need for clarity in relation to the centralised point of contact for receipt of child protection concerns.

3. Brief Updates

MS provided updates on (i) Adoption Information and Tracing Bill Adoption (compelling reasons), (ii) Adoption (Amendment) Bill 2016 (Commencement Order), (iii) Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes (Timescale, Tuam Site and Forensic Archaeologist Report), (iv) Oberstown (HIQA request for operational report, numbers in detention and capital spend), (v) Protected Disclosure received re Oberstown.

DR provided updates on (i) Estimates, including Tusla bid (ii) Miesian Plaza (iii) Internal Audit of Risk Management (iv) HR items (v) forthcoming HIQA reports and (vi) Oversight Agreement between DCYA and Tusla.

B McN provided updates on (i) Estimates (ii) September Measures (iii) Targeted Schemes (iv) New Staff (v) OCGIO, (vi) RFT's (vii) Joint Oireachtas committee (viii) AIM (ix) Schools Completion Programme, (x) Youth Capital Scheme and (x) Mapping of Youth Services

EF provided updates on (i) implementation of Children First (ii) finalisation of draft Performance Framework, (iii) GALs.

4. Guardians ad Litem – Submission on Executive Office

In view of time constraints this items was rescheduled for 2 October 2017.

5. Department's Governance Framework

A factual accuracy and update of the Department's Governance Framework has been completed, and a draft was circulated in advance. This was approved by MB subject to agreed amendments. The updated Governance Framework will now be made available on the Department's website. It was agreed that other elements of the framework, including a review of the MB's terms of reference, would be completed later.

6. Estimates Update

Ger Hughes joined the meeting. The latest position on the Estimates bid for 2018 was discussed. DR and GH gave a briefing on progress, and a range of options for different elements of the Vote were discussed. A further meeting with the Minister was planned for later in the day (27th Sept). FL thanked everyone involved for the work done to date.

7. For Noting

- (i) The Minister has formally signed off on an appointment to the Board of Tusla.
- (iii) Communications / Events Schedule
 - MK to check date of next Oral PQs (11 October may be changed due to Budget week).

8. AOB

BMcN advised that ISPC have indicated that would like to meet with Youth Affairs, Re: Funding.

DR referred to the training on underperformance and the disciplinary code. He noted that there were problems with attendance, and asked that staff be released for these and other courses.

EF briefed the MB on a meeting held between the Minister, the Ombudsman for Children and the Special Rapporteur for Child Protection regarding the 'Section 12' report prepared Dr. Geoffrey Shanon.

FL welcomed the Department's very strong participation in the Civil Service Employee Engagement Survey to date and asked MB members to encourage all staff to complete it.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 2 October 2017 at 10:30.