

Management Board Meeting Minutes

Monday 2nd October, 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 of the meeting of 4th September, 2017 were agreed, subject to minor amendments.

2. Brief Updates

MS provided updates on (i) Adoption Information and Tracing Bill Adoption (compelling reasons) (ii) Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes (Forensic Archaeologist Report) and (iii) Adoption (Amendment) Bill 2016 (Commencement Order).

BMcN provided updates on (i) OCGIO (ii) Early Years Estimates (iii) September Measures (iv) Youth Services Grant Scheme (Internal Audit Report) and (v) Showcase on 'Youth Work Changes Lives'.

DR provided updates on (i) Protected Disclosure (ii) forthcoming HIQA reports (iii) Internal Audit of Risk Management and (iv) Miesian Plaza.

EF provided updates on (i) Children First Act 2015 (commencement and implementation) (ii) Psychological and Mental Health Services (iii) Appointment to BOBF Advisory Council and (iv) Tusla Performance Framework.

3. Guardians ad Litem – Submission on Executive Office

Lara Hynes joined the meeting for this item. She summarised her previously circulated submission on the case for establishing an Executive Office to provide a national GAL service as part of the draft legislation currently being prepared. There was a detailed discussion on alternative options, the case for and against each, and the estimated costs of different models. The MB agreed that, while no option was ideal, an Executive Office appeared to be the most advisable approach to propose to the Minister as interim measure. The agreement in principle of the Department of Justice would be sought to the GAL service being incorporated within the proposed Family Court system when this is established.

FL thanked LH and her team for their comprehensive work on this complex issue and said he would signal the matter to the Minister in advance of the submission going to her. They would then organise a meeting with her to seek approval of the proposed approach.

4. Estimates 2018

DR provided a short update on the latest position in relation to the Estimates bid.

5. For Noting

(i) Submissions to Minister

BMcN to check status on submission Re Board Appointment to Gaisce Council

(iii) Communications / Events Schedule

The launch of resource materials for the Children First Act was confirmed for that day. All MB members had been invited.

6. AOB

FL asked for a report on PMDS compliance from HR, for the MB agenda as soon as possible, and for MB to encourage all POs to pursue staff compliance.

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

FL gave a brief update on the CSMB monthly meeting.

ISPCC – FL to meet with the CEO in November

DR reminded MB of Risk Committee Meeting scheduled for 9 October at 9.30am

DR said that the recent request for OCO sanction of additional staffing had been processed quickly and approved.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 9 October 2017 at 10:30.