

Management Board Meeting Minutes

Monday 9 July 2018, 10.30

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 meeting of 11 June 2018 were agreed with one minor correction.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Brief Updates

DR provided updates on (i) DCYA Annual Report (ii) GDPR training; (iii) formal designation of Data Protection Officer.

MS provided updates on (i) Commission on Mother and Baby Homes (Galway Co Council consultation report published; Collaborative Forum meeting end July) (ii) Adoption (Reeves/Donnelly case; Information & Tracing Bill) (iii) Scouting Ireland (iv) GAL consultation process (v) Youth Services Grant Scheme (Memo for Government), (vi) Oberstown (HR issues) (vii) suspended sentences and (viii) YAP AGM.

EF provided updates on (i) Section 3 proposals (awaiting response from DJE) (ii) Multi Agency Child Centres (iii) Operation Neolithic (awaiting obs from DJE on draft terms of reference) (iv) Educational Welfare (Private Members' Bill) (v) BOBF (vi) National Review Panel governance (proposals with Minister) (vii) Child Poverty and (viii) Action plan on HIQA report.

BMcN provided updates on (i) LEEF (ii) EY Quality (iii) EY Projects (Childcare Support Act and ICT) (iv) Early Years Strategy (bi-lateral meetings; IDG) (v) independent review of costs and (vi) EY Budget (overspend projections).

4. Analysis of Tusla Data on Children in Care

Michele Clarke and Sadhbh Whelan joined the meeting for this item. They had circulated in advance a paper on the use of administrative data for gaining insights into the effectiveness of services for children in care. The focus of the discussion was on a report on the demographic profile of children listed on the Child Protection Notification System (CPNS). MC and SW pointed to the main features of the research findings including the over-representation of traveller children, and black or black Irish children, on the CPNS. The analysis summarised the experience of those on the CPNS in relation to family life, interaction with child protection and welfare services, and children's experience of the CPNS.

The MB discussed the meaning and implications of the findings and considered the next steps that should be taken. The relevance of the findings to the recent HIQA report, and the importance of the National Child Care Information System in tracking and evaluating cases, was noted. It was agreed that:

- the findings should be shared and discussed with Tusla for comment and discussion;
- there was scope for specific discussion with the Tusla group of chairs of Child Protection Conferences regarding definitions, thresholds and practices in relation to the CPNS;
- the over-representation of traveller children should be brought to the attention of the Department of Justice and Equality; and
- further work could be done on the report in light of the discussions above, with a view to disseminating its findings in an appropriate way.

It was also suggested that the findings would usefully be presented and discussed at a meeting of the SMT.

The MB thanked MC and SW for their work and welcomed the quality of the analysis.

5. AOB

MB approved the Corporate risk register for lock down as of 9 July.

6. For Noting

The Internal Audit Committee Meeting minutes of 26 March 2018 were noted.

FL welcomed the progress made on PMDS goal setting, now at almost 91%. He asked MB members to ensure that their POs had satisfied themselves that all cases outstanding were justifiable, whether due to very recent arrival (in which case they should be completed as soon as possible) or due to long term leave.

8. Next Meeting

The next MB meeting was confirmed for Monday 16 July at 10:30.