

## **Department of Public Expenditure and Reform**

### **Management Board Meeting on Wednesday 8 April, 2020**

#### **Minutes**

##### **Attendance**

Minister Donohoe, Secretary General, Mr Downes, Ms O'Reilly, Mr Lowry, Dr Fallon Byrne, Ms Godkin, Mr Quinn, Mr Menton, Mr Cagney, Ms Coleman Mr Moloney, Mr Feeney, Mr Howlin, Ms Sweeney, Mr Brophy, Ms O'Connor, Ms Codd.

##### **1. Discussion with Minister of Key Policy Issues in contest of COVID 19**

Minister Donohoe attended the Management Board meeting to discuss divisional priorities arising to-date in respect of COVID 19. The divisional priorities were outlined as follows.

Mr Downes provided an update on the Expenditure Policy and Reporting Division including the overall expenditure response measures to date, Infrastructure, Construction sector and Project Ireland 2040, Health and Justice Vote issues and Appropriation Accounts.

Mr Moloney set out the priorities of the Labour Market and Enterprise Policy Division including the numbers now on the Live Register, the COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment and the Wage Subsidy Scheme. Housing and Local Government matters arising together with business supports and transport issues were also discussed.

Ms Coleman provided an update for the Expenditure Management, Structural Funds and Audit Division in relation to the State Examinations, Commercial State Bodies and EU Structural Funds.

Mr Menton addressed the priorities of the Public Service Pay and Pensions Division including pension abatement issues arising, health sector related COVID arrangements and other pay related queries.

Mr Cagney set out the priorities of the Civil Service Human Resources Division including the redeployment of staff to critical areas and guidance notes that have been compiled for both the Civil Service and Public Service.

Dr Fallon-Byrne provided an update for the Reform and Delivery Office including the provision of assistance to other areas of the Department, expanding the take up of Robotics Process Automation (RPA) to support the crisis and the new online Public Service Innovation and Collaboration Space to capture innovative responses to the Covid-19 crisis.

Mr Lowry addressed the priorities of the Office of Government Chief Information Officer including the ongoing work with the HSE on the App for contact tracing, digital solutions being

used in the current emergency and an update on the number of staff with remote working access.

Mr Quinn set out the priorities of the Office of Government Procurement who are leading on the provision of PPE to non-health essential services (Defence, Prisons, Gardaí, Direct Provision, etc.), Supply Chain issues, HSE Support and Construction Procurement matters arising were also outlined.

## **2. Internal Operational Issues in context of COVID 19**

### **Rolling Business Continuity Plan**

Mr Feeney updated the Board on the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform's Internal Rolling Business Continuity Plan for Response to the COVID-19 Emergency. This plan is being implemented by the relevant areas and will be updated on a weekly basis.

### **HR matters**

Ms O'Reilly updated on the latest position in respect of HR matters within the Department.

## **3. Any Other Business**

Next Meeting Wednesday, 15 April, 2020 at 11.00am