

## **Management Board Meeting Minutes**

**(in person)**

**Tuesday 07 February 2023 at 10.30 am**

**Attendance:** Secretary General (Kevin McCarthy); Laura McGarrigle; Dermot Ryan; Anne-Marie Brooks; Colm O’Conaill; Sheenagh Rooney and Lara Hynes.

Apologies: Carol Baxter

Miriam Kenna reporting.

### **1. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of meeting of 23 January 2023 were agreed.

### **2. Matters Arising**

Nominees for the *2023 Principal Officer (PO) and SPS Talent Management Programmes* have been decided and successful candidates informed.

### **3. Ukrainian Crisis and International Protection updates**

SR gave brief updates on the situation at present including:

- Accommodation available for BOTPs for the next 10 days, situation is being closely monitored
- Work on new contracts continues
- New offer system for accommodation including tracker system is working well
- SOG and working groups are being attended

International protection:

- IP accommodation remains extremely problematic as numbers remain high
- Accommodation for single male applicants remains extremely difficult
- Numbers not offered accommodation following the pause on entry to Citywest are being monitored
- Issue of people with status remaining in IP accommodation remains a problem
- Incidents, protests and resistance to IP applicant accommodation remain in a small number of communities

### **4. DCEDIY organisation development - proposed culture survey**

Anna Visser and Nicola Ticknor joined the meeting for this item.

AV updated MB on the proposed approach, options available and objectives of the proposed staff survey, which MB had agreed to undertake as an initial step in a wider organisational development process. MB members provided initial feedback and were invited to provide further views.

It was agreed to also present for wider feedback at the next SMT meeting and to ‘road-test’ survey questions with a wider group of staff. It was also agreed to explore facilitated sessions with MB and SMT members on a possible accompanying Cultural Audit, with the use of an external facilitator.

MB thanked AV and NT for their work on the draft survey.

## **5. Update on Transfer of Functions**

Colm O Conaill provided MB with an update on the transfer of Specialist Community-Based Disability Services (SCBDS) from DoH to DCEDIY. A paper was circulated prior to the meeting.

He briefed on the main points of context for the transfer, acknowledging all the work that has been done on the ToF to get it to this stage. He outlined the risks and priorities including governance, organisational and financial issues.

## **6. DCEDIY Protected Disclosures Policy**

Andrew Patterson joined the meeting for this item. A paper was circulated prior to the meeting. He gave an update of the new Protected Disclosures Policy, outlining what had changed and what had stayed the same since the last policy review.

MB agreed that subject to one minor check, the policy and guidance document would be published on the Department's Intranet site.

## **7. National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023 - 2028**

Kate Leavy, Bridget Wilson and Denis Ryan joined the meeting for this item.

KL updated on progress on the development of the next National Policy Framework. As part of the next stage of developing the framework, units will now be asked to complete a template stating what they hope to achieve for children and young people by 2028, and high level actions to support each objective. Further engagement with individual units and with the inter-departmental reference groups is also planned. Key issues for further consideration will include governance and implementation arrangements, responsibility for policy in respect of the 18-24 year old age group and the need to reflect the prioritisation of child poverty as an all of Government challenge.

It was agreed to make a short presentation to POs at the next SMT meeting and to arrange an email communication outlining the template requirements for each business unit.

## **8. For noting**

The papers circulated under this heading were noted by MB members, including an update on ongoing efforts to support the community in Creeslough.

## **9. AOB**

MB congratulated the team that prepared for and attended Ireland's appearance before the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

LMcG gave a brief update on the Payments Scheme legislation which is now at report stage.

SMT will be on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

MB noted that the 2023 REV had been approved at select committee and they thanked all involved in its preparation.

The appointment of Ms Caoilfhionn Gallagher KC as Special Rapporteur on Child Protection has been announced and she will meet with the Minister and officials next week.

## **10. Next Meeting**

The next MB meeting was confirmed for 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.