

Management Board Meeting Minutes
(in person and by skype)
Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at 10.30 am

Attendance: Secretary General (Kevin McCarthy); Colm O’Conaill; Anne-Marie Brooks, Carol Baxter, Sheenagh Rooney, Lara Hynes and Dermot Ryan

Apologies from Laura McGarrigle.

Miriam Kenna reporting.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of meeting of 03 April 2023 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

DR said the FREV was referred to the Dáil following a Committee appearance on Wednesday 26th April. MB thanked all involved in this process.

3. Ukrainian Crisis and International Protection updates

SR gave brief update on the Ukraine BOTP situation at present including:

- BOTP accommodation availability is reasonable with the numbers steadily lower than expected. Most of the new arrivals are being offered self-catering accommodation. The situation is being kept under review.
- Issues around quality and governance of providers is a challenge being worked on.
- Progress is being made on sub-projects including Auxillion on invoice payments.
- Officials will attend a Cabinet Committee on Humanitarian Response to Ukraine next Thursday, 4th May.
- Progress on modular accommodation continues, legal and contractual issues are being worked on.
- Relocations from Skellig, Cahirciveen, are problematic. BOTPs are being relocated to allow room for IP, restoring the Skellig centre to intended IP use following the RFT process.
- There are likely to be more moves away from hotels that are on short term contracts, with a need for associated communications.

CB gave brief updates on International protection including:

- IP accommodation remains extremely problematic
- A significant series of legal cases are expected over the next couple of weeks. The courts have taken one case as a forerunner/lead hearing. The court expects significant progress by the department by the 12 May when it will rule on DCEDIY’s approach to unaccommodated international protection applicants.
- There is now a system in place for making vouchers, food, showers available to those who are not offered accommodation.

4. Organisational Development process – SMT follow-up

Following on from the facilitated session with Think people and the SMT, it was agreed to hold a virtual Town Hall on the 15th May to share the survey results with all staff and to give an update of the next steps in the organisational review.

Each Assistant Secretary will give a short description of the task area they will sponsor and there will be a general invitation for expressions of interest to join the task groups.

Progress reports from each task group will be provided at an in-person Town Hall proposed for July.

5. National Development Plan (NDP) Delivery Capability (2 Docs)

KMcC brought to the attention of the MB correspondence that had been received from DPER with regard to the National Development Plan (NDP) Delivery Capability in the form of a letter and accompanying template which was circulated to MB.

These relate to a review of capital delivery capacity in major departments and agencies to deliver on NDP priorities.

It was agreed to commission a piece of work to assess DCEDIY's capital delivery capacity and skills need and to take this forward as part of the Future Workforce Needs task area sponsored by SR as part of the organisational development process.

6. For noting

The papers circulated under this heading were noted by MB members.

CO'C noted that

- There is a Private Members Motion scheduled for 4 May 2023 regarding disability transport supports.
- the confidential Thalidomide Facilitation Process is underway;
- The Decision Support Service (DSS) was successfully launched on 26th April 2023

KMcC and CO'C met with the Ombudsman Ger Deering on 27 April 2023.

7. AOB

KMcC updated on the meeting with Taoiseach, Minister O'Gorman and the Minister's of State, which he also attended. [REDACTED]

CSMB met on 28 April 2023. KMcC will circulate papers to MB.

SR and CB will meet with Revenue Commissioners Wednesday 3rd May to discuss oversight issues.

8. Next Meeting

The next MB meeting will be Monday 15th May 2023.