

Management Board Meeting Minutes Monday 23rd October 2023 @ 10.30am

Attendance: Secretary General (Kevin McCarthy), Anne-Marie Brooks, Sheenagh Rooney, Colm O’Conaill, David Delaney, Laura McGarrigle and Dermot Ryan.

Apologies from Lara Hynes and Carol Baxter

Miriam Kenna reporting.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of meeting of 09th October 2023 were agreed.

Matters Arising

MB members thanked all involved in the intensive talks on the Section 39 and Section 56 organisations pay dispute, which resulted in agreement being reached at the WRC. The relevant unions will now put this to a ballot of their members with a recommendation for acceptance.

2. Ukrainian Crisis and International Protection updates

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

- The accommodation situation remains very challenging as arrival numbers remain high.
- Contingency sites are being worked on for short term emergency accommodation
- [REDACTED]
- Key work continues on implementation plans, including related communications.

DD gave an update on the IP situation at present including:

- Arrivals remain high.
- Accommodation position remains extremely tight; while there is new accommodation due to come on stream in early November, there is risk in respect of single male accommodation availability in meantime.
- Contingency planning remains a priority on a number of fronts, including consideration of potential alternative approaches to meeting reception condition requirements and assessment of potential site options for higher standard emergency accommodation (pre-fab type accommodation).
- An Expressions of Interest is being prepared for the supply of accommodation of this nature.

3. IP draft strategy 2024 to 2026.

DD circulated a paper prior to the meeting and presented to MB on the item.

He outlined the main elements of a proposed strategy for addressing future IP accommodation challenges, taking account of changed circumstances since the publication of the White Paper, the need to progressively increase the supply of permanent standards based accommodation capacity and reduce reliance on emergency accommodation. DD outlined the vision, objectives and principles (Support, Accommodation, Integration and Fairness) of a proposed future model and invited MB feedback. MB welcomed, discussed and provided feedback on aspects of it. It was agreed that DD will brief the Minister and Advisers on the proposed approach with a view to taking their feedback and considering next steps.

4. Vote Update:

Aisling Roughan joined the meeting for this item. DR and AR gave MB an update on the 2023 Vote position following the initial supplementary estimate. DR said that further supplementary estimate requirements were now being assessed and further discussions would be held with relevant units.

DR also referred to the final 2024 budget outcome, follow-on 2025 costs associated with new developments, and DPENDR notice of requirements for sanction and reporting.

5. Organisational Development:

Kate Levey joined the meeting for a discussion on next steps in implementing the organisational development plan that was presented by MB to the all staff Town Hall on 17 October.

It was agreed to publish the MB Plan that was presented on 17 October on the Intranet, together with supporting documentation in the form of the SG's Opening Remarks, the presentations from each of the task groups and the task group actions (templates document).

MB members agreed to ongoing roles in the groups to be established to oversee the main programme areas of work. It was agreed that MB sub-groups would be convened for programme areas 2, 4 and 5 (people strategy; embedding project planning and strategic prioritisation; organisation of the future), and a cross divisional group would be established for area 3 (communications). The initial programme area (quick wins and facilities) will be overseen by full MB by way of a standing item and progress report updates at each meeting to end January.

6. For noting

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

7. AOB

Papers for CSMB meeting of 20th Oct will be circulated to MB.

Updated status of potential future closures/protests by some providers in the early years sector was noted.

The launch of a new HSE Roadmap to improve Children's Disability Services 2023-2026 will take place on Tuesday 24th October 2023.

Oral PQs will take place on Tuesday 7th November 2023.

Tuam Intervention: Work is progressing on ensuring implementation of the Administrative Scheme for collection of samples on an urgent basis. It has now been confirmed that, with support from FSI (Forensic Science Ireland), DCEDIY will carry out the collecting of samples, with Dan MacSweeney undertaking the outreach element of the Scheme.

Officials from DCEDIY will meet with Tusla to discuss the Corporate plan for 2024-2026 .

8. Next Meeting

The next MB meeting will be on Monday 6th November at 10.30am.