

Management Board Meeting Minutes Monday 20th November 2023 @ 10.30am

Attendance: Secretary General (Kevin McCarthy), Sheenagh Rooney, Colm O’Conaill, David Delaney, Carol Baxter, Laura McGarrigle and Dermot Ryan.

Apologies from Lara Hynes, Anne-Marie Brooks.

Stephen Burke reporting.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of meeting of 6th November 2023 will be provided at a later date.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Ukrainian Crisis and International Protection updates

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

- BOTP arrival numbers remain high
- Availability of larger sites provides contingency measures for short term accommodation.
- All vacant accommodation is being actively used.
- D/Taoiseach is co-ordinating inputs of a number of departments to an options paper to facilitate decision on proposed accommodation policy change.
- DCEDIY continues to liaise with Dept of Taoiseach in respect of timing of decision on policy change.

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

- Arrivals remain high and large number of beds required weekly.
- Sufficient family accommodation is available but the outlook for single males is now extremely tight.
- An Expression of Interest has issued to accommodation providers for larger scale converted properties/prefabricated buildings.
- A policy paper to examine potential alternative reception conditions under the regulations on accommodation and supports is being considered, which includes consideration of supports offered in other EU member states.
- Noted continuing community resistance to accommodating IPs in a number of locations.

4. Vote Update:

Gordon Gaffney, Aisling Roughan and Patricia Ballantine joined the meeting to give MB an update on the Supplementary Estimates and the REV.

GG outlined the Minister’s briefing requirements on any subhead overspends and underspends in advance of the Select Committee next week. A further Topical Issues brief is also being complied.

The MB discussed need to carefully monitor and manage spend to year-end across sub-heads in line with revised allocations, post Supplementary Estimates, with a view to maximising spend and not breaching allocations.

GG presented the REV timetable and advised Finance Unit are working with colleagues across the department on a number of items awaiting completion.

5. Quarterly EU Update

Bryan Patten joined the meeting for this item. A paper had been circulated prior to the meeting.

BP provided an update on priority EU and International activities relevant to DCEDIY, and the role of his unit in monitoring DCEIDY's capacity to meet EU & International responsibilities. The EU Commission are actively pursuing partial and delayed transpositions and DCEDIY has substantial EU files in negotiation.

Units have been providing updates on all EU & International work and EUIU have developed a profile of each division's international activities which will be incorporated in 2024 work planning. Divisions should consider International responsibilities in their workforce and business planning for next year.

Current EU items for DCEDIY range from items of gender equality, youth participation and child protection systems.

MB agreed to create an SMT Subgroup to support with EU Presidency Planning for 2026 and consider strategic planning for future EU involvement.

MB members provided feedback and support on the work of the unit.

6. Organisation Development

Kate Levey attended for this standing item. She circulated an updated project plan template for noting.

The Facilities unit quick win actions are currently moving forward, including consideration of privacy booths in Miesian Plaza and Montague Court. This has received positive feedback. It was noted that project plans for the remaining quick wins under programme 1 would now be finalised.

MB discussed the upcoming process of identifying departmental priorities to inform business planning for 2024 and agreed that the initial work of the project group for programme 4 should inform the immediate approach, including consideration of how to more effectively link workforce planning, divisional priorities and available resources.

7. For Noting:

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

8. AOB

CO'C updated on an upcoming Supreme Court case involving Tusla.



CB provided governance updates on Scouting Ireland.

Next Meeting

The next MB meeting will be on Monday 4th December at 10.30am, following the Risk Committee.