

## **Labour Employer Economic Forum**

The aim of the LEEF is to provide a space to discuss areas of shared concern affecting the economy, employment and the labour market on a thematic basis, such as competitiveness, sustainable job creation, labour market standards and equality and gender issues in the workplace.

### **Labour Employer Economic Forum – Early Years Sub-group**

#### **Terms of Reference**

1. The Forum is sponsored by the Minister for Finance, the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, and the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation as a formal structure for dialogue.
2. The Childcare Subgroup sponsored by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs will seek to develop a shared understanding and some level of consensus on key policies affecting employment and the workplace that have regard to the developing Early Years sector.
3. The subgroup is designed to give ICTU and IBEC an opportunity to engage formally on substantive Early Years issues and to collectively, where possible, develop positions\proposals.
4. Trade Unions through the Irish Congress of Trade Unions will be represented by a delegation of four.
5. Employers through IBEC will be represented by a delegation of four.
6. Other Government Departments will be invited to participate as appropriate.
7. The subgroup will be non-binding and consultative in nature.
8. The subgroup will meet to exchange views on economic and employment issues as they affect the Labour Market and which are of mutual concern.
9. The subgroup will have no role in the determination of wage levels or wage increases within the public or private sectors.

(The Forum and this subgroup may contribute to developments in the broader economic and industrial relations environment. The Workplace Relations Commission and the Labour Court will remain the dispute settling industrial relation institutions within a voluntary system of industrial relations.)