

Management Board Meeting Minutes

(Held by webex)

Monday 04 April 2022 at 10.30am

Attendance: Secretary General (Kevin McCarthy); Dermot Ryan; Carol Baxter; Laura McGarrigle; Lara Hynes; Anne-Marie Brooks and Sheenagh Rooney.

Miriam Kenna reporting.

MB welcomed Sheenagh Rooney who has been seconded from DRCD to support the Department's Ukraine crisis response.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of meeting of 21 March 2022 were agreed with minor changes.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising at this time.

3. Ukrainian Crisis response

MB gave a brief update on the situation at present:

- Accommodation procurement continues to be an acute priority and pressure. Local authorities are now being used to source emergency accommodation while Hotel and other accommodation continues to be sourced where possible.
- Pledged accommodation is being assessed. The assumptions on take up of pledges accommodation for the Ernst and Young modelling exercise for Dept of the Taoiseach are being revisited downwards based on initial experience. ..
- The Minister will attend the Cabinet Committee on Housing today.
- DCEDIY staff are continuing to feel the pressure, and MB is conscious of the health and wellbeing of staff at the centre of activity. Options to expand resources are being pursued and HR have asked other Departments to provide direct assistance in respect of identified requirements. Pobal staff have been made available and other options are being pursued to recruit more staff to work at City West to reduce reliance on internal volunteers.
- Improvements to the procedures at City west were noted and commended and DR said that a Business Process Improvement exercise is underway which will assist further.
- It was agreed that all PO's and AP's would be rostered in turn to supervise at City West to reduce reliance on existing volunteers.
- DR said that the area of data cleansing and case management system were being worked on.
- Tusla is dealing with Unaccompanied Minors

KMcC again thanked all those who have been working on and volunteering to help with the crisis. He also acknowledged the valuable role of wider staff in maintaining essential non-Ukraine activity and supporting their colleagues.

4. Governance and performance management of the HSE

Olive McGovern, Gordon Gaffney and Anthony Purcell joined the meeting for this item. DR introduced the item.

OMcG provided an overview of the key areas for the Department's governance and performance management of the HSE when the transfer of functions for disability services take place. She noted the challenges of joint governance and performance management spanning two departments and two different Ministers. There will be a Ministerial Agreements along with MOUs, operational agreements and tri-partied agreements in place to deal with this. These are being worked on at present.

GG outlined outstanding issues for agreement relating to the model of financial governance to be applied.

MB discussed and considered the presentation, acknowledging the complex issues involved. It was noted that satisfactory agreement on a number of key outstanding issues would be necessary to enable a transfer date of the 1st of May.

5. EU Child Guarantee National Action Plan

Albert O'Donohue and Michael Keenan joined the MB to present on the National Action Plan for the implementation of the EU Child Guarantee. Papers had been circulated prior to the meeting.

AO'D outlined the background, explaining that in 2019 the European Commission announced the creation of a European Child Guarantee with a view to ensuring that every child in Europe at risk of poverty or social exclusion has access to the most basic of rights like healthcare and education.

DCEDIY is the national coordinator tasked with supplying the Commission with an action plan for the implementation of the recommendation establishing the European Child Guarantee by 2030 in Ireland. DCEDIY will coordinate the actions across all government departments in particular the Departments of Social Protection, Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Education and Health.

It was noted that the plan will be child focused and will link strongly with the successor framework to Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures and its cross government and cross sectoral engagement.

MB thanked AO'D and his team for their work and agreed the draft Plan for submission to the Minister.

6. For noting

The papers circulated under this heading were noted, including the brief updates supplied by MB members and the Status update to MB in respect of Oversight Agreements and governance checklists between DCEDIY and aegis bodies.

AMB updated MB on a motion on Childcare for Private Members Business at Government tomorrow, Tuesday 5th April.

7. AOB

No AOB at this time.

8. Next Meeting

The next MB meeting was confirmed for Monday 25th April 2022.