Management Board Meeting Minutes
Monday 13 November 2017, 10:30

Attendance: Secretary General (Fergal Lynch), Bernie McNally, Dermot Ryan, Éimear Fisher and Michelle Shannon. Miriam Kenna reporting.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 6 November, 2017 were agreed.

2. Matters Arising

No matters were arising.

3. Brief Updates

MS provided updates on (i) Oberstown (reviews and capital items) (ii) Judicial Reviews (iii) Bail Supervision (iv) Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017 (v) North South Meeting (vi) IYJS work with Irish Prison Service on treatment of 18 to 24 age group and (vi) Mother and Baby Homes (Interdepartmental Group).

DR provided updates on (i) Tusla (Meeting with Minister 13 Nov) (ii) *Preparation of Business Plan and Risk Management for 2018* (launch 14th Nov) (iii) General Data Protection Regulation and (iv) Miesian Plaza.

BMcN provided updates on (i) Early Years Forum (ii) C&AG Audit (iii) Pobal (Service Level Agreement) (iv) Early Years Capital Schemes (v) September Measures (vi) Schools Completion Programme (vii) AIM (viii) Staff Changes (ix) Participation Hub (x) Participation Strategy (xi) Universal Children's Day and (xii) LGBTi+.

EF provided updates on (i) Children First IDB (ii) Children First Act 2015 (Tusla Working Group Meeting) (iii) GAL (iv) Child Care Law Reporting Programme (v) ABC programme (vi) QCBI (vii) parenting support and (viii) PPFS conference, Kilkenny.

4. Agenda Items for Stategic and Operational Discussion

Due to time constraints this item was rescheduled for discussion at the next MB meeting.

5. Proposal for a Funded Research Programme as part of the Evidence into Policy Programme

Claire Finn and Kasey Treadwell-Shine (Research and Evaluation Unit) joined the meeting for this item. CF and KTS briefed the MB on the proposal including the rationale and benefits of a research partnership and the proposal to establish a Research Partnership between DCYA and ESRI. The MB agreed in principle that this proposal was worthwhile and should be pursued further, while noting that there were important issues in relation to procurement, building an alternative market capacity and timing of any payments. FL thanked Claire and Casey for their presentation.

6. Tusla Performance Statement 2018

Denis O'Sullivan and Sinead McEvoy Joined the meeting. A draft Performance Statement and supporting letter to be issued by the Minister were circulated in advance of the meeting The MB agreed that the draft could be submitted immediately to the Minister for her consideration, subject to some minor amendments. FL thanked Denis and Sinead and all those involved in preparing these documents.

7. For Noting

Arrangements for attendance and briefing in relation to the Joint Oireachtas Committee meeting of 22 November were noted. There would be separate sessions dealing with (1) Oberstown and (2) Affordable Childcare Scheme.

8. AOB

Michelle Shannon noted Una McEvoy's pending departure. She acknowledged the valuable contribution she has made to the Department, and the MB recorded its thanks for her substantial contribution to the work of the Department.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed for Monday 20 November 2017 at 10:30.