

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT A MEETING OF THE
CORK EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD
ZOOM MEETING ONLINE
25TH JUNE 2020

ATTENDANCE

<i>Cllr. Karen Coakley</i>	<i>Ms. Maria McGrath</i>
<i>Cllr. Kay Dawson</i>	<i>Mr. Rob Bateman</i>
<i>Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy</i>	<i>Mr. Liam Ahern</i>
<i>Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan</i>	<i>Mrs. Mary Hegarty</i>
<i>Cllr. James Kennedy</i>	<i>Ms. Ann Piggott</i>
<i>Cllr. Mary Rose Desmond</i>	<i>Mr. Denis Kirby</i>
<i>Cllr. Colette Finn</i>	<i>Mr. Declan O'Leary</i>
<i>Mr. Patrick O'Dwyer</i>	

EXECUTIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

<i>Mr. Denis Leamy, CE</i>	<i>Ms. Sheila Quill, Director of OSD</i>
<i>Mr. John Fitzgibbons, Director of FET</i>	<i>Ms. Suzanne Mullins, Director of OSD</i>
<i>Mr. Pat McKelvey, Director of Schools</i>	<i>Ms. Clare Creedon (Minute Taker)</i>

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and advised that Mr. Enda McWeeney, Training Centre Manager and Ms. Ruth Griffin, Youth Services Manager would give brief presentations to the Board on the initiatives that are now underway in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Mr. Enda McWeeney advised members that the immediate response is to offer blended learning. He advised that the website has been altered for the coming months to include a section with regards to helping getting Cork Back to Work, which covers three specific areas, Seeking Employment, Youth and Young People under 25 years and Supporting Businesses.

The Chairman referred to setting up an Employer's Forum and asked if there would be any value in doing so? The CE stated that he believes there is a need for such a forum, and it could be aligned to Cork ETB services. Mr. McWeeney stated that while the Regional Skills Forum exists, he advised that the smaller SME's tend to be underrepresented on this forum. Cork ETB needs to focus on the voice of the smaller businesses.

Ms. Ruth Griffin advised members of the Youth Work response to Covid-19. One project in particular is the We Are Cork Summer Youth Challenge where some 30 challenges across music, arts, society, environment, sport and technology have been set. The challenge commenced on June 22nd with already nearly 200 young people registered. Ms. Griffin

advised that the main aim is to ensure that CETB remains visible and remains connected throughout the pandemic. Members thanked staff for their efforts and advised that there were some great initiatives being implemented by the Youth Work team.

Cllr. Kay Dawson stated that we are very much at the mercy of the Youth Worker and stated that some of the projects need to be re-evaluated. She noted that delivery on the ground is not always what has been outlined on paper. Ms. Griffin advised that a Youth Network is being introduced shortly. The Chairman stated that there are historical deficits of resources in certain areas, with peripheral regions suffering the worst. Ms. Griffin advised that profiling has been undertaken and there will be centralisation of services to a Bantry Hub. She advised that she will link with Bantry Youthreach to see what can be put in place.

APOLOGIES

- Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from Board Members, Cllr. Martin Coughlan, Ms. Maura Fitzgibbon.

CONDOLENCES

- † To Jeremy Coleman, Finance Department staff member, on the death of his father.
- † To Mary O’Mahony, Capital & Procurement Department staff member, on the death of her Grandson.

MINUTES

The Board, on the proposition of Mrs. Mary Hegarty, seconded by Mr. Denis Kirby, adopted the minutes of the previous ETB meeting held on **28th May 2020 (copies herewith)**.

RESERVED ITEMS

For Approval

- The Board, on the proposition of Mrs. Mary Hegarty, seconded by Mr. Declan O’Leary, approved the Cork ETB 2019 Annual Report 2019
- The Board, on the proposition of Mrs. Maria McGrath, seconded by Mrs. Mary Hegarty, approved the Chairman’s Comprehensive Report to the Minister for 2019.

Sealing of Documents

The Board, on the proposition of Cllr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Denis Kirby approved the sealing of the following:

- The lease between Cork ETB and the FMC Trust acting as Trustee for the Capuchin Order for the premises at Fr. Matthew Street, Cork, which houses Cork City Learning Support Services. The lease will run for five years from 01/06/2019 to 30/05/2024 at an annual rent of €27,500 per annum.

- The lease between Cork ETB and Macroom Environmental Industrial Park for Units 2 & 4 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2021 at a cost of €14,400 plus VAT per month, plus utilities.
- The lease between Cork ETB and Mahon Project Company Limited (Mahon CDP) for the use of the computer room for Adult and Community Education. The lease will run from 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2022 at an annual cost of €900 per annum.
- The lease between Cork ETB and Mahon Family Resource Centre for the use of rooms for Adult and Community Education. The lease will run from 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2022 at an annual cost of €1,200 per annum.

Approval to enter into a Lease or Licence

The Board, on the proposition of Cllr. James Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Declan O’Leary approved the following:

- Extension to the lease for Youthreach Ballincollig which expired in 2018 and has been rented on a rolling basis. The new term will be from 01/09/2018 to 31/08/2023 at an annual rent of €43,500 plus VAT. DES approval has been sought.
- Extension to the lease for Youthreach Macroom, pending works being undertaken by the landlord. The lease will run from 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2025 at an annual rent of €36,900. DES approval has been sought.
- Extension to the lease for the FET Access Programme run in St. Joseph’s Community Centre, Mayfield. The lease will run from 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2023 at an annual rent of €1,080.
- A new lease between Cork ETB and Mr. Jerry Kelleher for a premises at New Street, Macroom to house Adult Literacy, BTEI, Community Education & Guidance. The service is currently located in Grotto House, which is unsuitable for education provision. The term will be for a ten-year lease from 01/07/2020 to 31/06/2030 at an annual rent of €32,500 per annum. DES approval has been received.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

The Board, on the proposition of Mrs. Mary Hegarty, seconded by Mr. Patrick O’Dwyer, approved the Executive report, including the Finance and Capital reports.

Item 2: Leaving Certificate – Mr. Pat McKelvey advised that all Principals followed up with Cork ETB students to ensure they had registered with the DES on-line. Ms. Ann Piggott stated that the State Exam’s Commission should now be working on a contingency plan for next year. No-one has any idea of what the future will hold in terms of this virus so plans need to be developed.

Item 4: Planning for 2020-2021 Academic Year – The CE advised that there is immense work ongoing in the background. The DES has advised that there should be clarity in the next

number of days of what this planning will look like. Mr. McKelvey stated that the biggest unanswered question is in relation to the social distance measures needed.

Item 7: ICT – The CE advised that Cork ETB are working on a Digital Strategy with the Local Authorities and businesses throughout the summer period.

Item 15: - ESBS Finance Shared Services Project – Mr. Declan O’Leary asked for further information in relation to this. Ms. Sheila Quill advised that it was the DES who cancelled the procurement process. She advised there is a Steering Committee in place who will look into this. She advised that this will have implications for Cork ETB.

Item 17: - Capital Buildings Programme

- **Carrigtwohill Community College** – Ms. Quill advised that the appeal deadline was 22nd June 2020. Currently Cork ETB is unaware if there is a third-party appeal.
- **Mallow – Sports Facility Planning – Phase 1** – Ms. Quill advised she would have a further update for the September meeting. She stated that a very extensive RFI was received from Cork County Council and they are looking at this currently. Cllr. James Kennedy stated that this was very disappointing.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board, on the proposition of Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan, seconded by Mr. Denis Kirby, adopted the DES, ETBI, SOLAS and General Correspondence as presented (**copies herewith**).

MINUTES OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES CONFIRMATION
--

The Board, on the proposition of Mrs. Mary Hegarty, seconded by Mr. Patrick O’Dwyer, confirmed the documents as outlined in the list submitted by the CE (**copy herewith**).

AOB

- Ms. Ann Piggott asked if funding could be made available for students in either direct provision or underprivileged homes to enable them to purchase computers. Mr. Pat McKelvey advised that Cork ETB will target students in the school who are most in need with regards to ICT equipment. He also advised that work is on-going with Cork City Council with regards to meals etc for those families most in need. Mr. Declan O’Leary stated that some families may not wish to formally deal with these issues so perhaps the ETB could connect with the Youth Sector and work with them.
- Cllr. James Kennedy referred to CIT and asked what representation Cork ETB will have when the Munster Technology University is established. The CE advised that the nominations will be reduced to one nominee. However, the sector is very dissatisfied with this representation. It is critical that the link with the IT’s continues. Mrs. Mary Hegarty agreed with the CE that more representation is vital. The

Chairman advised that they are seeking an amendment to the legislation in terms of the representation.

- The Chairman referred to the Programme for Government for 2020 and stated that the plan to expand and prioritise the transfer of viable schools to Community National Schools was a positive move. He also stated that the Apprenticeship Action Plan and the acknowledgement that Apprenticeships need to be a much larger part of the education landscape in Ireland is long awaited positive news. Mr. Declan O’Leary noted that in relation to the Programme for Government there are concerns that the Department of Children may be disbanded, and this would be an awful move that would see the efforts over the past 25 years disregarded. The voice of children needs to be at the table.

DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on 24th September 2020. The venue will be confirmed nearer the time and will be dependent on Government guidelines in place at that time.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

SIGNED: _____
Chairman

DATE: _____