

Board Meeting
9:30 am Friday, 26 January 2024
L4.03, Brunel Building, Dublin 8.

Name	Title	Attendance
Board Members		
Pat Rabbitte	Chairperson	Present
Anne O’Gara	Deputy Chairperson	Present
Paul White	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Patricia Doherty	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Charles Watchorn	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Liam Irwin	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Avril McDermott	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Sean Holland	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Sean Quigley	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Susan Bowman	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Teresa McDonnell	Ordinary Board Member	Present
Board Office:		
Kay Keilthy	Board Secretary	Present
Emma Dodrill	Board Administrator	Present
In Attendance:		
Kate Duggan	I/Chief Executive Officer	In Part
Clare Murphy	I/National Director of Services & Integration	In Part
Rosarii Mannion	National Director People & Change	In Part
Anthony O’Leary	National Director Quality & Regulation	In Part
Pat Smyth	National Director Finance & Corporate Services	In Part
Fergus Ó Cuanacháin	Chief Information Officer	In Part
Pamela Benson	Head of Legal Services	In Part
Anita Comerford	Head of Strategy and Business Planning	In Part
External Attendees:		
Tarik Laher	Director at IPSOS B&A	In Part

Signed:

Pat Rabbitte

Date: 28 March 2024

1. Opening Remarks

- 1.1 The Chair noted the presence of a quorum and duly convened the meeting.

2. Apologies

- 2.1 None

3. Declarations of Interest

- 3.1 Board Member, P. White, declared a potential conflict interest in relation to item 18 on the agenda. In accordance with the Board's TOR's and Standing Orders the member will not be present at any deliberation or decision of the Board on the matter.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting (20/12/2023)

- 4.1 The Board approved the minutes of the Board meeting held on 20 December 2023. Proposed by C. Watchorn Seconded by S. Quigley and agreed by the Board.

5. Action Log / Matters Arising

- 5.1 The Board noted the Action Log as of 22 January 2024. The Board agreed to meet on Thursday 22 February 2024 at 2pm for a special purpose meeting as discussed at the last Board meeting.

6. Risk Management

- 6.1 The Board considered risk as comprehended in the reports submitted for consideration at the meeting.

7. Board Private Session

- 7.1 The Chair informed the Board that A. O'Gara had advised that she wished to step down as Deputy Chair of the Board as of 31 January 2024 but would be staying on as a nominee of the Department of Education as a member of the Board. A. McDermott was appointed Deputy Chair Designate as of 1 February 2024. The Chair thanked Ms O Gara for her work as Deputy Chair and welcomed the continuation of her membership of the Board.
- 7.2 The Chair brought to the attention of the Board that this was P. White's last Board meeting. Mr White is due complete his second term of office as a Board member on 2nd February 2024. The Chair, on behalf of the Board, thanked Mr White for his work and significant contribution as a Board member and member of the ODC over the last eight years.

8. ODC Chair Report on Committee Meeting of (18/01/2024)

- 8.1 The Chair of the ODC updated the Board on the work undertaken by the Committee at its meeting on 18 January 2024.
- 8.2 The ODC agreed to recommend to the Board the approval of an ICT partner in relation to ICT Infrastructure and the Cloud. This item will be considered under agenda item 18.
- 8.3 The Chair, on behalf of the ODC thanked P. White for his contribution to the work of the ODC.
- 8.4 The Board noted the ODC Chair's report.

9. CEO Report

The Chief Executive joined the meeting.

- 9.1 The Board noted the CEO's report as of January 2024.
- 9.2 The CEO updated the Board on Tusla's 10th Anniversary celebration event scheduled for 6 February 2024 in Dublin Castle.
- 9.3 The CEO informed the Board that a revised joint protocol with the HSE regarding disability services had been agreed. The Board welcomed the agreement of the joint protocol in line with children's needs.
- 9.4 The CEO brought to the attention of the Board that the Domestic, Sexual, and Gender Based Violence Agency (Cuan) was established on 1 January 2024. A transitional Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Justice, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Cuan and Tusla was finalised providing operations cover in the six-month period post establishment. The MOU will remain in effect until 1 July 2024, which is the date by which the Department of Justice anticipates the transition of DSGBV services to Cuan will be fully completed.

The Executive Team joined the meeting.

- 9.5 The CEO on behalf of the Executive thanked P. White for his support throughout his term of office both as a Board member and member of the ODC.
- 9.6 The Board noted the Minister for Education's 2024 Performance Statement. A. O'Gara will meet with the CEO and the Interim Director of Services and Integration to discuss next steps.
- 9.7 The Board identified areas of focus for the Special Purpose Meeting discussion in relation to Estates.

10. IPSOS B&A Pulse Survey Presentation

The Director at IPSOS B&A joined the meeting.

- 10.1 The Board discussed the Tusla employee pulse survey 2023 findings and noted the priority areas for improvement. The next stage in the process will include targeted focused group work.
- 10.2 The Board thanked the Director of IPSOS B & A and he left the meeting.

11. Childcare (Amendment Bill) 2023

The Head of Legal Services joined the meeting.

- 11.1 The Head of Legal Services presented on the Childcare (Amendment Bill) 2023 including context, key changes proposed, key areas of concern and next steps.
- 11.2 The Board welcomed the key changes to the Bill and offered to make representations to the Department in relation to remaining areas of concern.

The Head of Legal Services left the meeting.

12. Oversight Agreement

- 12.1 This Item was withdrawn.

13. Corporate Plan 2024 – 2026

The Head of Strategy and Business Planning joined the meeting.

- 13.1 The Board approved the adoption of the final version the Corporate Plan 2024 – 2026. Proposed by A. O'Gara; Seconded by A. McDermott and approved by the Board.

14. Business Plan 2024

- 14.1 The Board approved the final version of the Business Plan 2024. Proposed by L. Irwin, Seconded by S. Bowman and approved by the Board.

15. Business Plan / Corporate Plan Progress Report (Q4 2023)

- 15.1 The Board noted the Business Progress Report for Q4 2023.

The Head of Strategy and Business Planning left the meeting.

16. Financial Performance Note (December 2023)

- 16.1 The Board noted the Financial Performance Note at year end December 2023.

17. HR Employment Data Report

- 17.1 The Board noted the HR Employment Data Report and welcomed progress made.

18. Procurement Award of Contract for ICT Infrastructure and Cloud Partner

- 18.1 The Board approved the award of contract for the ICT Infrastructure and Cloud Partner as recommended by the ODC. Proposed by S. Bowman, Seconded by A. McDermott.

19. AOB

None.

End.