



**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**Held on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2015**  
**In Marshal House, Dooradoyle Road, Limerick**

**Present:** Cllr. Cathal Crowe, Chairperson,  
Ms. Joan Aherne, Deputy Chairperson  
Cllr. Maria Byrne  
Mr. Michael Cregan  
Cllr. Michael Donegan  
Ms. Mary Flanagan  
Cllr. Liam Galvin  
Ms. Catherine (Kate) Harran De Parra  
Cllr. Michael Hillery  
Cllr. Mary Howard  
Cllr. Gabriel Keating  
Mr. Sean Kennedy  
Mr. Sean McMahon  
Cllr. Ann Norton  
Cllr. Richard O'Donoghue  
Mr. Donal O'hAiniféin  
Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon  
Cllr. Elena Secas  
Cllr. Lisa Marie Sheehy  
Ms. Mary Margaret Valance

**In attendance:** Mr. George O'Callaghan, Chief Executive  
Bernadette Cullen, Education Officer  
John O'Connor, Head of Corporate Affairs  
Shelagh Graham, Head of Human Resources  
Eamon Murphy, Head of Buildings and Procurement  
Ms. Aileen O'Sullivan, Corporate Affairs  
Ms. Joanne O'Brien, Corporate Affairs (Recording Secretary)

**Apologies:** Mr. Tony Brazil

**1. Condolences**

Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following;

- \* Mr. Declan Edwards (Head Office) on the death of his father, Larry.
- \* Mr. Mike Hennessy (Hazelwood College, Dromcollogher) on the death of his father, Jack.
- \* The family of the late Ms. Esther O'Donoghue, (former colleague in Colaiste Chiaráin).
- \* Mr. Denis O'Gorman (Ennistymon Vocational School) on the death of his father, Mickey O'Gorman.
- \* Ms. Betty Mullins (Youthreach, Shannon, Co. Clare) on the death of her mother Mrs. Lily Conroy.

- \* Mr. Rory Quinn (Head Office) on the death of his Grandmother,
- \* Ms. Debra McDonagh (Youthreach Hospital) on the death of her father-in-law,
- \* Mr & Mrs. Conor Fitzgerald, (Ennistymon Vocational School) on the death of his mother in Law Teresa.
- \* Ms. Irene Clancy (Adult Education Centre, Ennis) on the death of her, father, Michael.
- \* Mr. Seán Arthur (Limerick Education Centre) on the death of his father, Michael.

## **2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

Minutes of Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2014, were confirmed and signed on the proposal of Cllr. Liam Galvin, seconded by Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon.

## **3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Members expressed their disappointment in relation to recent strike days and sought clarification on a recent statement from the General Secretary of ETBI regarding same. The Chief Executive stated that the General Secretary was representing the view of ETBI and it was not a personal view. Cllr. Gabriel Keating agreed to raise the matter at next meeting of ETBI.

The Board discussed the matter of the site at Skagh for the proposed new school in Croom. The Head of Capital and Procurement made a presentation on the background to the issue and matters arising therefrom.

The Chief Executive informed Members that he would make arrangements for those Members of the Board wishing to view the existing accommodation in Colaiste Chiarain. This was welcomed.

On the proposal of Cllr. Ann Norton, the Board agreed to defer further discussion on Croom until after upcoming meeting with Council Officials.

Members discussed the frequency of meetings and the need for more regular meetings. Following discussion on same, and due to the nature of the limited powers of the Board, it was felt that this would be kept under review following training for Board Members.

## **4. Correspondence**

### **DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE**

CL 0073/2014                      Re: Work Stoppage by ASTI and TUI Members – 2 December, 2014.  
24<sup>th</sup> November, 2014              Noted.

CL 0074/2014                      Re: Payment of Tool Allowance to Craft Workers under the Parallel  
November, 2014                      Benchmarking Agreement for State Industrial Craft Workers.  
Noted.

CL 0001/2015                      Re: Combined Post-Graduate Diploma Programme of Continuing  
1<sup>st</sup> January, 2015                      Professional Development for Teachers involved in Learning Support and  
Special Education – 2015/2016.  
Noted.

CL 0002/2015                      Re: Graduate Certificate in the Education of Students with Autistic  
1st January, 2015                      Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) for teachers working with Students with

ASDs in Special Schools, Special Classes or as Resource Teachers in mainstream Primary and Post-Primary Schools – 2015/2016.  
Noted.

CL 0003/2015  
5<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 Re: Post-Graduate Certificate/Diploma Programme of Continuing Professional Development for Teachers working with Students with Special Educational Needs (Autistic Spectrum Disorders).  
Noted.

CL 0004/2015  
16<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 Re: Work Stoppage by ASTI and TUI Members on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015.  
Noted.

28<sup>th</sup> November 2014 Re: Additional Funding for SEN Classrooms at Desmond College, Newcastlewest.  
Noted.

5<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 Re: Additional Funding for Repairs to Internal Wall in Colaiste Iosaef, Kilmallock (Gym Wall).  
Welcomed.

11<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 Re: Extension of the term of Office of Boards of Management of schools (and other centres of education) operated by Education and Training Boards Ireland.  
Deferred to Item Number 6.

19<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 Re: Ordinary Non Pay – 2014.  
Noted.

#### **Lodgements:**

2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2014 €377,498 Re: Fourth Instalment of Current Funding 2014 Special Projects for Youth and Young Peoples Facilities and Service Funds.  
Noted.

#### **ETBI CORRESPONDENCE**

November, 2014 Re: ETBI Brief 36/2014 – Teachers Union Strike day – 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2014.  
Noted.

#### **OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

Fr: Ita Kavanagh  
LIT Governing Body  
17<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 Re: Resignation from Board of LIT Governing Body.  
Noted.

Fr: SOLAS  
17<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 Re: Trade of Pipefitting.  
Noted.

Fr: NALA (National Adult Literacy Agency) Re: Nalas 34<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled for Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin.  
Noted.

21<sup>st</sup> November,  
2014

Ó: Gaelscoileanna  
26 Samhain, 2014

Tag: Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Gaelscoileanna Teo. 2014.  
Notaithe.

Fr: Dept. of  
Communications,  
Energy and Natural  
Resources  
12<sup>th</sup> December,  
2014

Re: Energy Consumption in the Public Sector for 2014.  
Noted.

## **5. Chief Executive's Report**

### **Principals and Deputies Forum**

A key strategic aim is the support of the senior management team in schools. As part of this strategy, a meeting of Principals and Deputies took place on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> January, and each member of the Head Office Senior Management Team presented on current services. The session was an opportunity to identify current issues and potential supports for schools. Further sessions are planned.

### **Whole School Numeracy – Planning session for Numeracy Link**

A session for numeracy link teachers was facilitated by the EO, the Limerick Education Centre and Mr. Jerry McCarthy formally JCSP on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Four schools presented on their numeracy journey to date. A further session is planned in the Spring.

### **Whole School Evaluation – Management, Leadership and Learning**

St. Anne's Community College in Killaloe commenced their MLL in the week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The reporting inspector who is leading the evaluation is Orlaith O'Connor. The EO attended Board presentations on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January and Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January.

### **Board of Management Directive from Minister of Education and Skills**

The existing Boards of Management will cease on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. The 20km determination will create significant challenges in the establishment of Boards for schools and centres.

### **Youth Capital Funding 2014/2015**

Dr James Reilly TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, announced the availability of €5 million capital funding for small to medium capital grants to youth projects in disadvantaged communities in 2014.

The applications for type one were assessed in mid-November with recommendations to the DCYA. The total allocation to LCETB is € 29,500. Members noted the following successful projects;

St John's Partnership	Limerick	€13,134.00	Computer equipment, office furniture etc
Loobagh Area Youth Project	Limerick	€4,943.00	Office furniture and games consoles
Clare Youth Service	Clare	€11,423.00	Computer equipment, office furniture etc

**Youth Capital Scheme – Type Two** are now open and how to apply are on the Department of Children and Youth Affairs website at [www.dcy.gov.ie](http://www.dcy.gov.ie). The closing date for type two capital applications is 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015. Further information is available from Youth Officers. An ETB

nominee is required for the assessment of applications on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, at 2.00pm in LCETB Head Office. Ms. Mary Flanagan agreed to attend.

### **St. Nessian's & Salesians Amalgamation Process**

Significant progress towards the development of Thomond Community College continues to be made. Mr. Eamon Murphy Head of Procurement and Capital attended a meeting of the Steering group prior to Christmas to examine the infrastructural aspects of the process. A number of task groups with representatives of all stakeholders, students, parents and staff has been actively engaged in the development, through a uniform, curriculum and code of behaviour task groups.

The Minister for Education and Skills Ms. Jan O'Sullivan TD officially launched Thomond Community College on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January. The launch included the official unveiling of the school name, mission, crest, and uniform. The launch focused on two aspects of added value associated with the amalgamation; broader curriculum choices and a focus on the sciences. The occasion marked the commencement of the long-term plan to develop the school as a school for all over the next number of years. Cllr. Elena Secas, who attended the launch, congratulated all involved. The Board paid tribute to all involved.

### **Section 29 Appeal Hearing**

A Section 29 Appeal Hearing was held in Ennis on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December in relation to the appeal of a suspension in Ennis Community College. The report of the sub-committee was adopted by the Board.

### **Youth Guarantee**

Ireland is now recovering from the greatest financial and jobs crisis in its history. The crises had a particularly negative impact on young people. Between 2008 and 2013, the rate of youth unemployment across the EU increased from 16% to 24%. The Youth Guarantee supported by centre EU funding of €6bn, aims to ensure young people are supported to reengage with the labour market. Work is already underway with LCETB and other schools in the early identification and referral and engagement of early school leavers.

### **BT Young Scientist Competition**

Another very good year for Limerick and Clare ETB Schools in the BT Young Scientist Awards. Congratulations to all students and teachers on the standard and quality of the projects entered.

- Colaiste Ide & Josef won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the Intermediate Technology category
- Castletroy College had 2 projects this year and were highly commended in the Technology: Intermediate individual category.
- Ennis Community College/ Gaelcholáiste an Chláir had 2 entries this year.
- Gaelcholaiste Limerick had 3 entries and got a highly commended in the Biological and Ecological category
- Kildysart Community College had 2 entries and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the Physical, Chemical and Mathematical – (Junior Group)
- St. Nessian's won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the Senior Technology category
- Desmond College – had 10 entries this year and one project was highly commended and another won a display award.

<b>BT Young Scientist &amp; Technology Exhibition 2015</b>	
<b>Colaiste Ide agus Iosef, Abbeyfeale</b>	
<b>Students involved:</b>	Imogen Lyons, Laura White, Kayleigh Brosnan
<b>Year:</b>	TY
<b>Title of Project:</b>	An examination of the hazards associated with livestock gases and how these gases can be utilized to produce energy in the farmyard environment
<b>Category:</b>	Intermediate Group
<b>Award:</b>	3rd Prize
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Joanna Kennedy
<b>Castletroy College</b>	
<b>Student involved:</b>	Gareth Power
<b>Year:</b>	3rd Year
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Surfware - The Safe Web Browser
<b>Category:</b>	Technology: Intermediate individual
<b>Award:</b>	Highly Commended
<b>Student involved</b>	Tamara Mahdi
<b>Year:</b>	TY
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Sugar Tax: To Be or Not To Be
<b>Category:</b>	Social and Behavioural: Intermediate individual
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teachers involved:</b>	Ms. Linda Hannon
<b>Ennis Community College / Gaelcholáiste an Chláir</b>	
<b>Student involved:</b>	Muireann Long
<b>Year</b>	2ú bliain
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Staidéar an an mBeach Bealla agus an poilín
<b>Category:</b>	Junior Biological & Ecological Science
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Students involved:</b>	Oileán Ní Laighin / Síofra Ní Chonaill
<b>Year:</b>	2ú bliain
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Tionchar na féinphiceanna féinmheasa
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Martina McNamara

<b>Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh</b>	
<b>Student involved:</b>	Mr. Séamas Bulaeir
<b>Year:</b>	TY - Intermediate
<b>Title of Project :</b>	'An bhfuil an citira sprús an crann is fearr chun carbón a thógaint isteach?
<b>Category:</b>	Biological and Ecological
<b>Award:</b>	Highly Commended
<b>Teachers involved:</b>	Clodagh Ní Chróinín
<b>Student involved:</b>	Jack Ó Ceallacháin
<b>Year:</b>	Fifth Year - Senior
<b>Title of Project :</b>	'Calcalas le haghaidh réamh-mheas na haimsire'
<b>Category:</b>	Chemical, Physical & Mathematical Sciences
<b>Award:</b>	Display Award
<b>Teachers involved:</b>	Ciara Ní Dhrisceoil
<b>Student involved:</b>	Brian O' Riordáin, Daniel Enright and Ben Ryan
<b>Year:</b>	Transition Year – Intermediate
<b>Title of Project :</b>	'An Tí Chiceála Deiridh'
<b>Category:</b>	Technology
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teachers involved:</b>	Mr. Michael McCarthy
<b>Kildysart Community College</b>	
<b>Students involved:</b>	Emmett Mc Mahon, Diarmuid O' Donnell, Bianca Tully.
<b>Year:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Maths Application to help develop mathematical skills in multiplication and division and in the value of prime numbers
<b>Category:</b>	Physical, Chemical and Mathematical – (Junior Group)
<b>Award:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize Judges Comment – Interesting use of technology for Educational Purposes.
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Mr. Leo O'Donoghue

<b>St. Nesson's Community College</b>	
<b>Students involved:</b>	Jason Hannan, Jamie O'Connel, Jonathan Roche, Kevin Hanley
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Building in Microgravity: A Step Closer
<b>Category:</b>	Senior Technology
<b>Award:</b>	1st Place
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Mr. Gavin Doyle
<b>Desmond College, Newcastle West</b>	
<b>Students involved:</b>	Diarmuid Flynn, Jack Corkery
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Mooooove Over Mammy!!!
<b>Category:</b>	Junior Technology Group
<b>Award:</b>	Highly Commended
<b>Teachers involved:</b>	Ms. Aoife Culhane
<b>Student involved:</b>	Laoise Curtin, Emma Roche, Aoife Larkin
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Thats Music to my Ears!!
<b>Category:</b>	Junior Technology
<b>Award:</b>	Display Award
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Marie Corkery
<b>Students involved:</b>	Diarmuid Curtin, Conor Kennedy, Eamon Browne
<b>Title of Project :</b>	So this CAN heat us!
<b>Category:</b>	Intermediate Technology
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Marie Corkery
<b>Students involved:</b>	Jack O Connor, Cillian McMahon, Conor Reidy
<b>Title of Project :</b>	A Helping Hand
<b>Category:</b>	Intermediate Biological
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teachers involved:</b>	Ms. Marie Corkery
<b>Students involved:</b>	Claire Nolan, Siobhan Hurley
<b>Title of Project :</b>	So How Many Do You Think??
<b>Category:</b>	Junior Mathematical
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Marie Corkery
<b>Students involved:</b>	Liam Dowling, Conor Leahy
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Ladder Safety Attachment
<b>Category:</b>	Intermediate Technology
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Marie Corkery
<b>Students involved:</b>	Sean McElligot, Robert Meehan
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Palm Powered Controller
<b>Category:</b>	Intermediate Technology



<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Marie Corkery
<b>Students involved:</b>	Chris Scannell, Padraig Collins
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Colostrum and Calf Management
<b>Category:</b>	Senior Biological
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Aoife Culhane
<b>Students involved:</b>	Shane Lee, Eoghan McMahon
<b>Title of Project :</b>	An Innovative Device which Recycles and Purifies Water from Washing the Milking Machine and Transfers it to Troughs for Cattle Consumption
<b>Category:</b>	Senior Biological
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Marie Corkery
<b>Student involved:</b>	Alice Duffy
<b>Title of Project :</b>	Horizon Correction Glasses to prevent Motion Sickness
<b>Category:</b>	Individual Junior Technology
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Mr. Donal Enright
<b>Colaiste na Trócaire Rathkeale</b>	
<b>Students involved:</b>	Enda Walsh, Darragh Curtin, Kevin Noonan
<b>Year</b>	TY
<b>Title of Project :</b>	That's a wrap – A simple device to reduce the volume of waste silage wrap before recycling.
<b>Category:</b>	Biological & Ecological Science
<b>Award:</b>	None
<b>Teacher involved:</b>	Ms. Aoife Collins

The Chief Executive and Board Members paid tribute to all involved.

## **FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING DIVISION**

### **Hospitality Education & Training Centre**

The new Hospitality Education & Training Centre (HETC) was officially opened by Jan O'Sullivan, T.D., Minister for Education & Skills on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. The aim of the Centre is to address the shortfall in suitably qualified staff in the Irish Hospitality Industry.

Led by the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB), supported with funding received from Limerick City and County Council, the newly opened Centre is a partnership project involving SOLAS, the Department of Social Protection, Paul Partnership, Limerick Enterprise Development Partnership, LIT, Failte Ireland, Limerick College of Further Education and representatives from the Hospitality and Tourism sectors.

25 trainees enrolled for a pilot programme which was delivered between September and December, the outcome being 90% (22 trainees) securing jobs in the industry.

Currently, 45 trainees have enrolled for the January cohort across three skill areas – Culinary, Restaurant Service and Bar Skills.

### **Music Generation Limerick City**

Work Plan for MGLC:

- National Schools - working in 12 local national schools towards a major combined event in UL arena in the summer. Last term each school wrote a school anthem - a combined video of these will be released shortly.
- Secondary Schools - working in 5 secondary schools (1st years) towards a series of videos of original compositions with each group.
- Hubs - providing direct tuition to over 200 young people in 3 centres based in regeneration areas.
- Songwriting/Band Explosion - mentoring and songwriting programme has received praise from the Arts Council, Music Generation nationally, the National Concert Hall and the Irish Times. We are holding a series of gigs and events at LSAD, the Belltable and Dolans. Currently mentoring 15 young bands - over 60 teens.
- Community – providing (or setting up) impactful projects in Ceim ar Ceim (Moyross), St Canices, Youthreach, 5B and Limerick prison. Also working with Adapt, Children's Ark and the Alzheimers Society on forthcoming projects.
- Early Years - about to roll out an innovative early years programme that will reach every child within the age group across the City. This is being piloted at St. Lelias and Corpus Cristi.
- Music Gen Express - currently stationary, acting as a workshop space. It'll start moving again in March (for Patrick's Day).

### **Music Generation Clare**

Work Plan for MGC:

- Development of two instrument banks in Shannon and Kilrush in conjunction with Clare Library Service.
- Establish collection of early years music material for parents. This is to be made available through branch libraries and Clare Library Service.
- Establishment of two tuition centres in Shannon and Kilrush.
- Development of Minimasters Early Years Programme in partnership with Co Clare Childcare Committee.
- Extend the Escalation Singing Programme to 24 Primary Schools.
- Develop CPD for tutors.

## **SOLAS**

A new funding and reporting process has been developed by SOLAS, named FARR (Funding Allocation Request and Reporting). This system will enable reporting on all FET programmes using a single database. This system is the precursor to PLSS (Programme and Learner Support System) that will include a Course Database, a Calendar Database and a Learner Database.

## **Part-Time Programmes**

The part-time programmes under the FET Division include the Back to Education Initiative, Adult Literacy and Community Education Programmes. The Operational Guidelines for BTEI, Adult Literacy and Community Education requires us to ensure that there are specific policies in place at management level to promote a cohesive integrated service approach with regard to all part-time further and adult education programmes, as this will ensure a focus on strategic planning and avoid duplication. Cohesive integrated programmes of adult learning for geographical areas within the LCETB are being developed and build on the structures in place across the full ETB. In Clare, area planning is facilitated across five learning networks while in Limerick City, area planning is facilitated across three learning network areas. It is proposed to extend this approach and build on existing local expertise to strengthen and enhance two formal network areas in Co. Limerick.

## **Learner Fund**

The Learner Fund is an initiative of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA). The Learner Fund will provide funding to assist existing staff working directly with children in registered early years services to meet the mandatory minimum qualification requirements being introduced in September 2015.

From September 2015 all staff in early years services need to have full Level 5 qualifications, and all Preschool (ECCE) Room Leaders need a full Level 6 qualification. These minimum qualification requirements will mean that established services have approximately ten months from now to ensure that all staff will be appropriately qualified or have their training substantially completed.

The LCETB is one of the 'Approved' Training Providers approved to deliver courses that meet the requirement for the Learner Fund and are working in cooperation with POBAL and with both of the Childcare Committees in Limerick and Clare.

## **AONTAS Learner Festival 2015 and Star Awards**

Two LCETB Community Education Projects are on the AONTAS Star Awards 2015 shortlist.

**St. Saviour's Community Drama Group:** St. Saviours Community Drama Group is a vibrant community drama group based in Limerick close to the City centre. The group (20 members) was set up two years ago by St. Saviours Community Education Group, a local learner led voluntary group which co-ordinate community education in the area. The aim of the project is to provide a space for learners to explore their creative side through drama, and to encourage local people through their productions to be involved in their community. Members of the group are very vocal about how being part of the Drama group has increased their self-confidence and their sense of community. Many of them are now active members of the St. Saviours Community Education Committee.

**Kilrush Men's Shed Wind Turbine Project:** The Kilrush Men's Shed Group is a community group set up in 2012. Since its foundation the group has worked with LCETB who have supported the group in the form of tutor hours advice and support. The group has been highly successful in its projects and to date they have built a small sailboat, a fully functioning wind turbine, and a wind powered water pump. The group are currently at the beginning of a QQI Level 3 Cert. in Woodcraft run by LCETB where they are manufacturing furniture for a community house located on near-by Scattery Island.

### **Employer Engagement Strategy**

An Employer Engagement Strategy has been devised with three central tenets which will enhance engagement with employers through a number of processes:

- a) The establishment of a central information point for employers which will map all local available training provision in the region and provide access to FET education and skills acquisition programmes & apprenticeships.
- b) The establishment of a FET employer forum which will enable employers to articulate their needs re skills acquisition for their labour force. The forum will include engagement with local educational institutions and DSP to develop programmes in line with national labour market intelligence and local needs.
- c) The continued development of the Information & Guidance Service providing guidance for clients as they engage in the progression from training into employment.

### **FET Guidance Strategy**

The current AEIGS guidance team has been extended to include VTOS, PLCs and Youthreach. All those involved in guidance in the FET sector will be involved in designing the Guidance Strategy going forward. The AEIGS team will devise training for other colleagues re the current AEIGS database. All guidance interventions across FET with groups and individuals will eventually be recorded on a single database.

### **Youth Guarantee**

In responding to the implementation of the Youth Guarantee, the FET Division will offer a collaborative approach through a combination of programmes:

- a. Pre-development QQI Level 2 programme to reach 18-25 LTU - provided through LTI.
- b. Places made available in Youthreach and CTC for provision of QQI Level 3- 5 programmes.
- c. Places made available on training centre programmes, QQI Level 4, 5, and 6.
- d. Apprenticeships

The above combination offers a pathway from Level 2 through to apprenticeship and on to work. This would include places on innovative projects such as Hospitality or City & Guilds Forge work Level 2.

### **QQI External Advisory Panel**

An External Advisory Panel will visit LCETB on 27<sup>th</sup> January to conduct a feasibility study on the draft QA Guidelines for ETBs. The core purpose of this process is to engage directly with the

ETBs in evaluating the overall effectiveness of the draft QA Guidelines to ensure we establish a set of guidelines which provide both stability and a clear roadmap in relation to developing and building on quality of FET within the ETB sector.

### **The Bog Walk Project**

Sixmilebridge/Kilmurry Men's Shed (men's shed group which was formed last year under the guidance of the LCETB Clare Community Education Service) were approached by Elizabeth Brady from Kilkishen Community Development Association enquiring if the group would be interested in assisting in the development of what is more commonly known in the locality as "The Bog Walk".

The Men's Shed saw this as a unique opportunity to establish links and build partnerships with their neighbouring community in addition to learning/developing new skills. The two groups came together under the guidance of Gerry Ruane LCETB Community Ed tutor, to form a partnership and define a programme of work which would meet the joint needs of both the Men's Shed Group and the Kilkishen Community Development Group.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

Members noted the following staff appointments which were made since the last Board Meeting;

- One Specific Purpose Pro Rata Contracted Appointment
- Five Specific Purpose Contracted Appointments
- Panel of Special Needs Assistants created
- Six Posts of Responsibility Appointments

### **6. Finance Report**

Report on Income and Expenditure (copies circulated to members) was considered and adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Liam Galvin, seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Keating.

### **7. Boards of Management**

#### **ESTABLISHING BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT**

As previously notified, the Minister for Education and Skills has extended the tenure of the existing boards of management for schools and centres of education to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

Boards of management of schools and centres of education are to be established by the Board in accordance with Section 44 of the Education and Training Boards Act 2013.

The Minister has set out her position in relation to the composition of boards of management of schools and centres of education which is that, to the greatest extent possible, the members of such boards should be drawn from the community which the school or centre of education serves.

On the establishment of the new boards of management, it is the intention of the Department to undertake a survey to establish the distances from schools or centres of education from which the membership of the board is drawn and this will be used to inform future policy considerations.

The payment of travelling expenses to members of boards of management for attendance at meetings will be payable to a maximum of the appropriate rate applicable to a 20 km single journey by private car. Travel costs incurred by members travelling to meetings by bus or train will, where vouched, be reimbursed.

Subsistence allowances will not be payable for attendance at board of management meetings.

The reduction in the number of members on the LCETB Board will mean that the capacity of the Board to provide members for boards of management is limited and may require greater representation from the area in which the school or education centre is based. This is recognised in the ETB Act 2013, Section 44 (12) (c) which envisages a situation where a board of management may have no member from the LCETB Board.

Every decision and act of a board of management established in accordance with the provisions of Section 44 of the ETB Act 2013 will be subject to confirmation by the Board.

Members expressed their disappointment at recent regulations, particularly in relation to where a Board of Management may have no member from the LCETB.

The Chief Executive advised Members that listings for appointments to Boards would issue shortly and that it may prove useful to have a special meeting on this matter. This was agreed.

#### **8. AOB**

Following query on Kilmallock extension, Mr. Murphy, Buildings Officer, stated that this project was still on target. Mr. Murphy also clarified that funding for repair of the Gym Wall had been provided by the Department of Education and Skills.

The Chief Executive clarified that Canteen Suppliers are appointed following advertisement and a tendering process.


The Chief Executive advised Members that he had looked at costs involved in providing iPads, but should Members require same, that this could be revisited.

Ms. Shelagh Graham advised the Board that training is being organised for Members in relation to Selection Boards and paid tribute to existing Members of Selection/Interview Boards with regard to same.

Mr. Sean Kennedy paid tribute to all involved in the repair of the wall at Abbeyfeale Education Centre.

Date for next meeting to be advised. It was agreed to circulate a calendar of Meetings at the next Meeting of the Board.

(Signed) GEORGE O'CALLAGHAN,  
Chief Executive.

Signed:   
Chairman of meeting held on 19th March, 2015.