



MINUTES OF LIMERICK AND CLARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

COVID-19 - LCETB BOARD MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM

20th September, 2022

Present: Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Chairperson
Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy
Mr. Michael Cregan
Cllr. Michael Donegan
Ms. Elaina Fitzgerald
Cllr. Liam Galvin
Ms. Catherine Hehir
Cllr. Gabriel Keating
Cllr. Sarah Kiely
Cllr. Joe Killeen
Cllr. Paul Murphy
Cllr. Ann Norton
Mr. Sean McMahon
Mr. Mark O'Dea
Cllr. Elena Secas
Cllr. Brigid Teefy

In attendance: Mr. George O'Callaghan, Chief Executive
Ms. Shelagh Graham, Director of Organisation Support and Development
Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education and Training
Mr. Donncha O'Treasaigh, Director of Schools
Ms. Joanne O'Brien, Recording Secretary, Corporate Services

1. For Consideration; Apologies/Condolences

Apologies: Mr. Michael Guilfoyle
Mr. Donal O'hAinifein

A Vote of Sympathy was passed to the following:

- Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Chairperson, on the death of his brother, Mr. Jimmy O'Hanlon.
- Ms. Marie Cooney (Station Road) on the death of her mother, Ms. Ann Cooney.
- Ms. Mary Gleeson (College of Further Education and Training, Mulgrave Street) on the death of her father, Mr. Edward Gleeson.
- Ms. Josephine Dempsey (College of Further Education and Training, Raheen Campus) on the death of her father, Mr. John Joe Tubridy.

- Hanora Hartnett (College of Further Education and Training, Mulgrave Street) on the death of her father Mr. Thomas Hartnett.
- Mr. John O Sullivan (College of Further Education and Training, Raheen Campus) on the death of his mother, Ms. Mai O'Sullivan.
- Ms. Stacey Ryan (Ennistymon Vocational School), on the death of her father, Mr. Liam Ryan.
- Mr. Conor Fitzgerald (Ennistymon Vocational School), on the death of his mother, Ms Evelyn Fitzgerald.
- Ms. Breda Flynn (Marshal House), on the death of her father in law, Mr. James Flynn.
- Mr. John Collins (Capital and Procurement), on the death of his mother, Ms. Ellen (Nell) Collins.
- Mr. Barry Loughnane on the death of his wife, Bridget (Teacher, Colaiste na Trocaire, Rathkeale).
- Ms. Stephanie Murphy (Marshal House), on the death of her father, Mr. Noel Murphy.
- Ms. Mary O'Callaghan (Marshal House) on the death of her uncle, Mr. Dan O'Brien.
- Mr. Michael O'Connor (Thomond Community College) on the death of his father, Mr. Michael O'Connor.
- Mr. Frank Patterson (College of Further Education and Training, Mulgrave Street) on the death of his sister, Ms. Susan Boland.
- Mr. Joe Joyce (Caretaker, Mungret College) on the death of his sister, Ms. Clare Joyce.
- Mrs. Marianne O'Reilly on the death of her husband, Mr. Con O'Reilly (Applied Fire Systems).
- Ms. Shelia Arrigan and family on the death of Mr. Liam Arrigan, (former Principal, Colaiste na Trocaire).
- Ms. Ellen Bradley, Marshal House, on the death of her sister in law, Ms Mary White
- Ms. Mary Ryan Rose (College of Further Education and Training, Station Road) on the death of her sister, Ms. Margaret Ryan Rose.
- Ms. Breda Ryan (College of Further Education and Training, Cappamore Campus) on the death of her Nephew, Donnacha Ryan.
- Ms. Kate O'Dwyer (College of Further Education and Training, Raheen Campus) on the death of her father, Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer.
- Mr Sean O'Carroll, Raheen Training Centre, on the death of his aunt, Ms. Nora Hanrahan.

As a mark of respect and as per Standing Orders, the meeting was adjourned as a mark of respect to Cllr. Kieran O’Hanlon, on the recent death of his brother, Mr. Jimmy O’Hanlon.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interests

All Board Members confirmed no conflict of interest with any Agenda item.

3. For Adoption;

Minutes of Meeting of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, held on 21st June, 2022, were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Ann Norton, seconded by Cllr Gabriel Keating.

4. For Consideration; Matters arising from the Minutes

None.

5. Governance:

The CE welcomed back all schools and centres. He congratulated everyone on the excellent results across the region and advised there was no date for Junior Certificate results at present.

Members were advised that Training was planned for 15th November and Members were asked to keep the date free for online training at 3 pm and this would be followed directly by the November Board Meeting. The CE advised that Hybrid Meetings would be considered following the next meeting of the Board.

6. Correspondence

Department Correspondence

<u>CL 0028/2022</u> 19 April 2022	Re: 'Say Yes to Languages' – Language Sampler Module 2022/23.
<u>CL 0034/2022</u> 8 June 2022	Re: Cost Limits for Post-primary School Buildings.
<u>CL 0036/2022</u> 13 June 2022;	Re: Revision of Salaries and Annual Leave arrangements for School Secretaries employed in recognised primary and post primary schools.
<u>CL 0039/2022;</u> 13 June 2022	Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19): Updated Working Arrangements For Staff Other Than Teachers and Special Needs Assistants employed in Education and Training Boards.
<u>CL 0040/2022</u> 13 June 2022	Re: COVID-19: Working Arrangements for Certain Higher Risk employees of Recognised Primary and Post Primary schools in the Free Education Scheme and of ETBs, Employed Using Grant Funding for the 2022/23 school year.

<u>CL 0041/2022</u> 21 June 2022	Re: Revision of Working Hours in ETBs: Implementation of the Independent Hours Body Recommendations in relation to the Haddington Road Agreement Hours for ETB Employees other than Teachers, SNAs and Tutors.
<u>CL 0043/2022</u> 22 June 2022	Re: Allocation of Assistant Principal Posts 2022/2023.
<u>CL 0046/2022</u> 23 June 2022	Re: Home Tuition Grant Scheme 2022/2023 Special Education Component.
<u>CL 0048/2022</u> 11 August 2022	Re: Home Tuition – No School Place.
<u>CL 0049/2022</u> 11 August 2022	Re: Grant Scheme in respect of Maternity Related Absences.
<u>CL 0050/2022</u> 17 August 2022	Re: Parent’s Leave Scheme For Registered Teachers employed In Recognised Primary and Post-Primary Schools.
<u>CL 0051/2022</u> 17 August 2022	Re: Parent’s Leave Scheme for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post-Primary Schools.
<u>CL 0052/2022</u> 22 August, 2022	Re: Domestic Motor Travel Rates in the ETB Sector – Staff and Members.
<u>CL 0053/2022</u> 22 August 2022	Re: Domestic Subsistence Allowances in the ETB Sector – Staff and Members.
<u>CL0055/2022</u> 26 August 2022	Re: Exemptions from the study of Irish – post primary.
<u>CL 0056/2022</u> 26 August 2022	Re: School Self-evaluation: Next Steps September 2022 – June 2026.
<u>CL 0057/2022</u> 26 August 2022	Re: Arrangements for Inspectorate engagement with primary and special schools: September to December 2022.
<u>CL 0058/2022</u> 26 August 2022	Re: Arrangements for Inspectorate engagement with post-primary schools: September to December 2022.
<u>CL 0059/2022</u> 5 September, 2022	Re: Building Momentum - A New Public Service Agreement 2021-2022. Implementation of Sectoral Bargaining with effect from 1 February 2022 for post primary teachers – Payment of PME/HDip Allowance.

7. For Consideration; Chief Executive's Report Incorporating;

Schools & Youth Work

Responding to the needs of Ukrainian Families displaced by War

Regional Education and Language Teams (REALT)

Regional Education and Language Teams (REALT) are hosted by the regional education and training boards around Ireland and staffed by regionally based education support personnel.

The primary role of the REALT is to build on existing regional education support structures and the initial focus will be on assisting families in securing school places. REALT will also support schools in the area to meet the needs of these children as they emerge, to advise and support the Department of Education in developing new capacity where required, and to coordinate the provision of education services to schools and families across their defined area.

These teams ensure that clear, accessible information flows are in place between schools, local education support services and national support structures in relation to people arriving from Ukraine.

The REALTs initially focus on ensuring that children are assisted to find school places when they are ready to engage with the school system. The REALT Team support existing services and coordinate the following work areas:

- Assist families and schools with accessing information on school places for Ukrainian children and young people who have moved into the area.
- Assist families and schools with accessing information on the availability of School Transport Scheme services for Ukrainian children and young people who have moved into the area.
- Assist families and schools with accessing resources and supports for additional capacity, wellbeing, language and educational needs.
- Assist with work in the area of staff supply, including where required, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) tutors to address language needs of Ukrainian children, young people and their parents/guardians, through liaison with ESOL Coordinators in the ETBs.
- Align current school capacity with the placement of Ukrainian families, as much as possible.
- Identify additional capacity within their geographic areas to prepare for situations where demand may exceed available school capacity, and work with the Department and other organisations as necessary with a view to making this additional capacity available.
- Liaise with other local coordinating structures that may be established to coordinate the delivery of public services for Ukrainian families.

Structure

The REALTs are hosted and administratively supported within the ETBs. Each REALT consists of a network of other key agencies, including:

- Tusla Education Support Service (TESS)
- NEPS regional personnel
- NCSE regional personnel
- Management body local nominees
- and other key partners as appropriate

In addition, the REALTs will collaborate closely with people from a range of other services, depending on the needs of the children arriving in Ireland and the challenges faced by schools. These agencies and bodies may include:

- Teacher support services, including PDST and JCT
- Education Centre Network
- Local county councils/authorities

Limerick and Clare REALT

The Limerick and Clare REALT Team has been meeting weekly to address the enrolment of children requiring school places in Limerick and Clare.

The REALT Team is operating extremely well and is proving very successful in meeting the objectives which the Department of Education established to address this situation.

All children have been enrolled in schools at both primary and post-primary to date in Limerick and Clare.

ETBI Middle Leaders Summer School

The Schools Division of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board played a leading role in the organisation of a national Summer School hosted in University of Limerick called 'Supporting Middle Leaders: Nurturing leadership for a changing world'

The residential summer school was developed for API/APII and middle leader post holders.

The aims of the programme were:

- To support middle leaders in their professional leadership journey
- To support middle leaders in reflecting about themselves as leaders in educational settings
- To offer a deeper understanding of leadership in a school setting
- To promote discussion and debate about relevant areas of education in Ireland
- To provide opportunities for networking among middle leaders

A short video summarising the benefits of the event is available to view here -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZKnWhKaaH4>

The event was opened by Chief Executive of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, Mr. [George O'Callaghan](#) and featured speakers such as -

- Professor Niamh Hourigan
- Professor Patricia Mannix McNamara
- Dr. Harold Hislop
- Simon Baker

Additional information about the event is available here -

<https://events.etbi.ie/SummerSchoolMiddleLeaders#/?lang=en>

Such was the success of this summer school, ETBI has decided to make it an annual event in the University of Limerick.

Community National Schools

Enrolments in all of our Community National Schools continue to increase. The provision in Glenroe is proving to be extremely successful and popular in the local community to accommodate the growing pupil population in the area.

A Special Class has opened in Raheenwood Community National School. Mol an Óige Community National School has enrolled several children (all school grades) from Ukraine.

All principals attended an in-person meeting on 25 August 2022 in preparation for the reopening of all schools on 1 September 2022. Schools received the latest advice and updates in relation to relevant Department of Education Circulars and procedures as well as Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board policies.

Post Primary Schools

Reopening Schools

All principals and Deputy Principals attended an in-person meeting on 22 August 2022 in preparation for the reopening of all schools at the end of August. Both the Schools and OSD Divisions made inputs at the meeting to help prepare schools for the new academic year.

Newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board has confirmed the appointment of a new principal, and two deputy principals to two of its schools in Clare, as well as a new deputy principal in Castletroy College, Co. Limerick. The positions in Clare arose from vacancies, following the appointment of Ms. Orla Conway as principal of the new Community School in Ennistymon and the retirement of Mr. Conor Fitzgerald from Ennistymon Vocational School. Ms. Karen O' Neill was appointed as acting principal in Ennistymon Vocational School where she was teaching.

Ms. Orla Gavigan was appointed as Deputy Principal in Ennistymon Vocational School where she also taught previously.

In Limerick, Ms. Lisa Kiely has been appointed as Deputy Principal, Castletroy College, replacing Mr. James Collins.

Mr. Niall Murphy has been appointed as a second Deputy Principal in Ennis Community College. He has been working as a teacher of science and maths in the school.

Commenting on these appointments, George O'Callaghan, Chief Executive, said: "We sincerely thank Orla, Conor and James for their respective contributions to Ennistymon Vocational School and Castletroy College in their roles as Principal/Deputy Principal over many years and wish them every success in their new positions. We extend congratulations to our new Principals and Deputy Principals and wish them every possible success and happiness in their roles." All appointments will be effective from September 1st.

Mentoring

A mentoring programme for all newly appointed principals and deputy principals will commence on 20 September and will be facilitated by the Director of Schools and the Director of Organisation Support and Development. The programme provides for existing principals and deputy principals working closely with the newly appointed principals and deputy principals.

Leaving certificate Results

Students across Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools performed extremely well in the Leaving Certificate of 2022. Schools have reported that very high numbers of students have been successful in achieving their preferred courses. Congratulations to all students and staff who supported students through two years of challenging circumstances.

Admission Policies - in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act 2018

Admission Policies are in the final stages of being approved by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board for 1 October 2022. All schools are required to publish their Admissions Policies and Admissions Notices by 1 October 2022 in accordance with the [Education \(Admission to Schools\) Act, 2018](#). We are very proud to note the increased provision of Special Classes across our Community Colleges with the opening of a Special Class in Mungret College, Coláiste Iosaef, Kilmallock and the scheduled opening of a Special Class in Castletroy College in September 2023.

Newly Appointed Teachers Webinar

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board hosted a webinar for all newly appointed teachers who commenced in its schools since September 2021 or September 2022 at a special on-line meeting with the authority's Chief Executive, Mr. George O' Callaghan, Director of Schools, Mr. Donncha Ó Treasaigh, Director of Organisation Support and Development, Ms. Shelagh Graham and the School's Division Support Team on Wednesday evening, 12 September from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm. The purpose of this event was to provide an overview of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Schools Division and the support that is available to teachers across the ETB.

Supports for Schools

Schools will continue to be supported in the development of inclusive school practices for all including ongoing support of Special Education Needs Coordinators (SENCOs), Additional Education Needs Teams in schools, Student Support Teams, Transition Year Coordinators, Digital Leaders, Curriculum Leaders, Boards of Management, school leaders, teachers and Special Needs Assistants (SNAs). The Professional Development schedule (below) has been developed to support our schools in accordance with comprehensive feedback from teachers and school leaders.

Training and Supports for schools

Support seminars and training are planned for post-primary personnel in the following areas;

- Student Support Team Coordinators online meeting
- Online meeting of Special Education Needs Advisory Group
- Online meeting of Risk Register and Safeguarding Advisory Group
- Leading Inclusive Learning, Teaching and Assessment (LILTA) online meeting
- Transition Year Coordinators

The support and resources made available by the Department of Education have been made available to our schools on a central hub on the Schools Division Support site - www.lcetbdrive.ie.

This also includes resources that the Director of Schools and the Support Team have created and developed.

Seminar for Parents & Guardians on Sleep

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board organised a special webinar for parents/guardians of children who attend our schools on the very important topic of the importance of sleep and how we can ensure that our children benefit from a good sleep routine. Sleep plays a crucial role in helping us deal with the demands of life on every level. In this talk Tom Coleman will outline why Sleep is important and how it interacts with aspects of our physical, emotional, and mental health. He touches on everything from proven “calming responses”, to why dreaming is crucial for mental energy.

Local Creative Youth Partnership - Activity Report to Mid-September 2022

Programme Element	Location/Dates	Status	Participant Numbers
Summer Programmes Thomond Youth Theatre	July 4 – 8 Belltable Stage and Studio A week-long drama camp took place in Belltable with young people from Thomond Community College’s after school, youth theatre initiative. This project will resume in September/October	Summer phase complete. Work-in-progress to feature as part of Call & Response in October	6 Participants
Traveller Pride	July 18 – 22 Limerick Learning Hub, The Kabin Studio Cork and Abbeyfeale FET Centre Nine young Traveller boys who recorded a track ‘Succeed’ in Abbeyfeale’s FET Centre in February, returned to rehearse, record and perform their song for Traveller Pride Week in July at a special event in the Learning Hub, Kileely. Music Generation in the City and County supported this event.	Music Video to be release as part of Call & Response in September	9 Participants
West Limerick Murals	Limerick Youth Service carried out two mural projects in Askeaton and Rathkeale with our support	Complete	20 participants
Support for Ukrainian programmes	LCYP Tutors worked in Limerick City, Shannon and Ennis on programmes developed by partner organisations.	Complete	30 + participants

Early Years Programme	Bringing visibility to ELC work For the first time, the work done through the LCYP's Early years programme will be brought to the public through Call & Response.	To take place September/October	40 + participants
Call & Response Festival	Programme planning and delivery The Call & Response festival commences Friday, September 17 th , showcasing the work of the LCYP over the past year and celebrating the work of our young participants. Programme can be viewed here: LCYP-Call-and-Response-Festival-2022.pdf (lcetb.ie)		
Priority areas of activity now in planning For forthcoming months	Recruitment of new LCYP Tutors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interviews for a new tutor panel will take place in the coming week ● Kilkee Youth Theatre to recommence subject to sourcing new tutors ● Planning for Future Film Makers now in place late October/November 		

Youthwork

The Youth work team were delighted to visit and distribute UBU Your Place Your Space baseball hats to all projects in the region over the summer months. Pictures and more updates are available on Facebook.

Visit from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCSDIY) to Limerick and Clare ETB

Limerick and Clare ETB welcome Department Officials in September. This visit will show case the excellent work of the Youth Services, with a particular focus on the UBU projects. The department officials will visit projects in both Limerick and Clare

Capital Grant Scheme 2022:

The allocation under the Capital Grant Scheme was **€109.705**. A total of **15 UBU Your Place Your Space** organisations applied for funding. Following a further request to the Department, additional funding of €17,400 was received.

Unannounced Site Visits

Over the summer months, the youth work team visited UBU your Place your space projects across the region, the unannounced site visit process is an integral part of the funding scheme is to provide assurance to the ETB that projects are working in line with their Service Requirements.

Strategic Planning: Youth Work Plan

The Youth Work team have engaged in a strategic planning process to develop our next strategy 2023 – 2026. A series of stakeholder consultations have taken place and we are now finalising our plan.

Further Education and Training (FET)

College of FET, Hospitality Campus

- The Hospitality Campus has been nominated as the Centre of Excellence for Team Ireland training; two learners from the Hospitality Campus have secured places on the team after several months of heats, Megan Watkins and Kate Neilson;
- Eight learners will travel to represent Ireland this year in the Culinary World Cup, Expogast 2022, Villeroy & Boch in Luxembourg.
- Megan Watkins has been nominated for this year's Apprentice of the Year from the Commis Chef Apprenticeship Class. SOLAS has asked Megan to attend World Skills in the RDS in September to discuss her career.

College of FET, Ennis Campus

- Music Generation Clare are in the process of planning production for a show to celebrate Culture Night. The show, which is sold out, will be held on Friday 23rd September in St Columba's Church, Bindon St, Ennis. MGCE ensembles will perform on the night, including members from MGCE Harp Ensemble, the Junior Trad Group and the Irish Concertina Orchestra;
- Core Skills: Summer programme of events held in July for Ukrainian Refugees e.g. Regular English classes around the county, Baking Workshops for parents and children together, Outdoor exercise workshops, Art workshop, etc.;
- Summer programmes ran for Ukrainian groups in August e.g. Intensive English language - daily classes, Horticulture class and Conversational English;
- Article published on 20th July in Research and Practice in Adult Literacy (RaPAL) Journal 105, Spring 2022: Photo diary of an outdoor family learning activity - Traveller dads in Clare who learned how to kayak during Covid 19 restrictions: reflections and lessons learned. Mary Flanagan, Maria Lynch and Joe Garry (Edited by Colm Ross and Ann Davitt, Trinity College Dublin).

College of FET, Shannon Campus

- Specific Skills Training: The Garden Design course in Kilrush is proving popular with learners in Kilrush with results enhancing the poly-tunnel and garden areas;
- Traineeship: A high number of Ukrainians are residing in various locations across Clare. Courses are designed specifically for their needs. E.g. Traineeship on Nail and Beauty with additional English classes. This course is set to start in September;
- Apprenticeship: The emergency response to Plumbing and Electrical is ongoing with signs that the additional training is showing a reduction in waiting times for plumbing. Electrical, however remains high. New workshops will be coming on line in October for Electrical and in the new year for Refrigeration.

College of FET, Raheen Campus

- Commenced delivery of Retrofit Thermal Insulation Installation at NZEB-Retrofit Centre of Excellence, LEDP;
- New Solar Panel Installer Course developed for NZEB-Retrofit Centre of Excellence, LEDP;
- New Instructors recruited to deliver Construction Skills courses at both Moyross Youth Academy and Limerick City Build;
- Local Training Initiatives: Three learners from last year's ETB/FAI player development course have been offered a place for the Level 7 BA in Sports and Exercise FAI soccer course in Carlow IT. Another learner from a previous year who completed the ETB/FAI player development course was also offered a place on this course.

College of FET, Mulgrave Street Campus

- On August 25th teaching staff from both programmes (KRC Campus, Mulgrave St. Campus) returned to start the new academic year as a single integrated staff team focused on the delivery of full-time FET programmes at QQI levels 3, 4, 5 & 6 across both campuses. The integration of both FET provisions has been underway since January of 2022 and the new academic year gives management and staff the opportunity to further operationalise this integration across both campuses enhancing the development of the single college of FET;
- With the completion of the QQI certification process in July and the issuing of learner QQI results there was a significant sense of completion and satisfaction in ensuring the 2022 learner cohort got through the accreditation and certification process successfully. Over 6000 QQI modules were completed across over 800 learners in a year that brought many challenges due to Covid etc. A superb achievement by staff and management ensuring learners can now access the next step in their employment, education and training journeys.

College of FET, Cappamore Campus

- Graduation of City & Guilds Blacksmithing and Iron Craft Skills took place on 31st August 2022. On the same night Minister O'Donovan launched an Iron craft sculpture that is proudly displayed in the main building of Cappamore Campus;
- The first woman to graduate from Ireland's only City and Guilds-certified training course in blacksmithing and ironcraft skills was recently feted at this graduation ceremony. Mary Hallinan, who is from a farming background outside Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, completed the blacksmithing course at Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board's College of Further Education and Training (CFET), Cappamore Campus;
- Graduation of PEIL Healthcare Support took place in Woodlands Hotel, Adare on 25th August 2022;
- ESOL Classes: Horticulture and Cookery with English in Castleconnell and Cappamore Campus and four classes of ESOL in Kilfinane are taking place weekly.

College of FET, Kilmallock Road Campus

- On September 2nd approximately twenty adult learners received their Leaving Certificate results as a result of their participation in the KRC full-time Leaving Certificate programme. A transformative outcome for them, allowing them access now to employment and further and higher education opportunities.

College of FET, Watch House Cross Campus

- Learners received two distinctions and two merits at Leaving Certificate Applied;
- One learner has accepted the College of FET, LCFE Mulgrave Street Campus pre-nursing course. Another learner received an offer for the Bar tending course in HETC, Roxboro and has accepted. The pathways to apprenticeship construction course was offered to a learner who is starting in September and another learner is working full time in an office as an administrator in Shannon.

Limerick School of Music

- Limerick School of Music has expanded its outreach programmes in Our Lady Queen of Peace, CBS and Presentation Primary Schools offering String, Brass and Woodwind tuition to learners there who otherwise would not be able to access this high level of music tuition. Grants towards instrument purchase from the Music Capital Scheme (Music Network/Arts Council) have assisted with this;
- LSOM Alumni & Friends: With the 60th anniversary celebrations this year LSOM was delighted to announce the establishment of the new LSOM Alumni Association and LSOM Alumni and Friends

Scholarship Fund – Honorary Patrons renowned composers Patrick Cassidy and Bill Whelan (both past learners of Limerick School of Music);

- LSOM classes returned on 29th August for all learners. There are waiting lists of all courses and LSOM is delighted to be able to fill classes without difficulty and are working with Music Generation to see about meeting the huge demand for music tuition across the city and county;
- Three of the senior management in the school have taken on MicroCred Courses in UL in Management and Leadership as offered and supported by the LCETB PL&D section.

Outdoor Education & Training

- A number of Outdoor Education Pathway programmes delivered for youth provision. More will start in September;
- OETCs delivered FET Community Funded courses for Family Resource centres and intellectual disability services. The OETCS also participated in HER Outdoors and CARA GO ALL OUT participation events;

Support Services

Information, Recruitment & Guidance

- In Clare, almost 2000 clients have been met with similar pro-rata numbers in Limerick City and County. Numbers met are up on last year probably due to the easing back of Covid restrictions and the numbers of Ukrainians arriving into all 3 locations;
- A huge effort has been made to support the recently arrived Ukrainians including a dedicated e-mail, fetresponse@lcteb.ie, which is managed by the Information Officers, the 1800 70 70 77 Course Information Freephone line and the Guidance Hub in O'Connell Avenue Campus;
- IRGSS and Core Skills are the two programmes mainly involved with supporting the Ukrainians (Clare 2,815; Limerick 1,379, latest figures) along with work with local agencies such as Paul Partnership/SICAP, Clare Local Development Company/SICAP, City and County Library Services, Immigrant Support, Local Community Support Organisations, DEASP and IPAS;
- All other programmes are continuing restarting/re-opening post Covid and IRGSS have been involved in recruitment, open days, drop-in registrations, social media campaigns, etc as well as regular 1-1s and group sessions.

Enterprise Engagement

Skills to Advance

- Webinar Diploma in Software Development: The Enterprise Engagement team along with partners Code Institute hosted a live webinar to promote the upcoming Diploma in Software Development E-commerce applications for employees wishing to upskill and reskill to work in this area. The next course will start on October 3rd. Please click on the link: [Diploma in Software Development | College of FET](#);
- Pathways in the Engineering Sector – Operative – Technician – Engineer: The Enterprise Engagement team met with members of Explore Engineering Kostal, Rusal Aughinish, Johnson & Johnson, EI and Lufthansa to discuss and promote pathways for employees in the Engineering sector. The current major award Maintenance Skills Technology is providing a pathway for operatives within this sector to upskill to work as technicians. There are currently eight employees from EI Electronics, Johnson & Johnson;
- Hospitality Sector: The Enterprise Engagement team met with the management team at the Absolute Hotel and carried out a Training Needs Analysis. To date nine people have engaged on a Communications STA programme;

- Two employees have also joined the ILM Leadership & Management course;
- The EESS Team will do a presentation with the management teams of Analog and Lufthansa in September re: opportunities available in Further Education and Training with specific emphasis on Skills to Advance and Traineeship;
- EESS continues to be a representative on multiple SOLAS teams for the planning and implementation for a variety of environmental and sustainability programmes for Autumn 2022.

Professional Development

- **Quality Council:** in line with recommendations from recent QQI Inaugural Review of Quality Assurance, the FET Quality Council has broadened its membership to include representation from industry, higher education partner and also learner representation;
- **Pilot QA Agreement:** Memorandums of Agreement have been signed between Limerick and Clare ETB and the VSCCS schools in the region, namely St Joseph's Secondary School Spanish Point, Scoil Mhuire Ennistymon, Mary Immaculate Secondary School Lisdoonvarna, and Kilrush Community School. This Pilot QA agreement aligns the quality assurance of these schools under the quality assurance agreement between Limerick and Clare ETB and QQI, transferring their status from individual providers to Limerick and Clare ETB centre;
- **Curriculum Development:** Limerick and Clare ETB have developed a Level 6 Special Purpose Award in Customer Experience (Cx) which has been approved for validation by QQI appointed external panel. The panel commended the innovative nature of the programme development, the collaboration between Enterprise Engagement Support Service and Quality Assurance Support Services and engagement with local industry partners to develop a programme that will serve the needs of industry in this vocational area.

Technology Enhanced Learning Quality Assurance

- **Blended Learning Professional Development** secondment programme 2022-2023 commenced. This programme allowed Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board to become the first ETB to develop a dedicated blended learning design programme. It involves ten teaching staff designing high quality blended learning programmes which will position LCETB at the forefront of the development of blended and online provision nationally;
- A new draft policy on digital assessment has been developed (in collaboration with QASS), which includes a digital assessment roadmap for the next three years. These guidelines are accompanied by step-by-step training videos and extensive PD and staff support to ensure high quality safe digital assessment;
- Investment in state-of-the-art facilities continues including the development of a recording studio and dedicated online teaching rooms in Ennis Campus and the rollout of Interactive Panels in all FET Campuses.

7. For Adoption;

a. Finance Report

Adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Paul Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Keating.

b. Appointment to Audit & Risk Committee

Due to vacancy on the Audit and Risk Committee, Cllr. John Sheahan was appointed on the proposal of Cllr. Paul Murphy, seconded by Gabriel Keating.

8. For Approval:

- a. Ten Year Lease with a Five Year Break Out Clause.

Approved on the proposal of Cllr. Gabriel Keating, seconded by Mr. Mark O'Dea.

- b. Lease of Modular Unit, Limerick School of Music

Approved on the proposal of Mr. Mark O'Dea, seconded by Cllr. Paul Murphy.

8. AOB

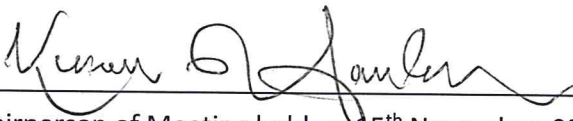
Mr. Sean McMahon queried supports available to CNS and the Director of Schools confirmed that mentoring training and training supports were available and advised of recent training that took place in August re same. Mr. McMahon welcomed this information.

Cllr. Elena Secas requested update on Monaleen National School and the CE advised that he would revert to Cllr. Secas on the matter.

Next Meeting: 15th November, 2022 at the earlier time of 3 p.m. to facilitate Board Training for all Members.

George O'Callaghan
Chief Executive.

Signed:


Chairperson of Meeting held on 15th November, 2022.