



**Minutes of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board
held in the College of Further Education & Training Hospitality Campus**

23rd May, 2023

Present: Cllr. Kieran O’Hanlon, Chairperson
Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy
Mr. Michael Cregan
Cllr. Michael Donegan
Mr. Michael Guilfoyle
Ms. Catherine Hehir
Cllr. Gabriel Keating
Cllr. Sarah Kiely
Mr. Donal ÓhAiniféin
Cllr. Joe Killeen
Cllr. Elena Secas
Cllr. Brigid Teefy

In attendance: Mr. George O’Callaghan, Chief Executive
Ms. Shelagh Graham, Director of Organisation Support and Development
Mr. Donncha O’Tresaigh, Director of Schools
Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education and Training
Mr. Denis O’Brien, Head of Corporate Services & IT
Ms. Joanne O’Brien, Recording Secretary, Corporate Services
Ms. Caroline Hayes, Corporate Services

1. For Consideration; Apologies/Condolences

Apologies: Ms. Elaina Fitzgerald
Cllr. Liam Galvin
Ms. Sheila Hickey
Mr. Sean McMahan
Cllr. Ann Norton
Cllr. Paul Murphy
Mr. Mark O’Dea
Ms. Marian Petty
Cllr. John Sheahan

A Vote of Sympathy was passed to the following:

- Ms. Yvonne Shortt (Castletroy College) on the death of her father, Mr. Michael Ryan.
- Mr. Joe Shortt (Castletroy College) on the death of his father in law, Mr. Michael Ryan.

- Mr. Stephen O'Mahoney (College of Further Education and Training, Abbeyfeale) on the death of his mother, Ms. Diana O'Mahony.
- Mr. James Galvin (Colaiste Chiarain, Croom) on the death of his uncle, Mr. Pat Galvin.
- Ms. Marie Corkery (Desmond College, Newcastle West) on the death of her mother-in-law, Ms. Josephine (Josie) Ruane.
- Ms. Dara McMahon (College of Further Education and Training, Croom Campus) on the death of her brother, Mr. Jonathan Mahon.
- The Family of Killian O'Sullivan-Buckley-O'Brien (Student, Colaiste Ide agus Iosef, Abbeyfeale).
- Mr. Declan Edwards (Marshal House) on the death of his uncle, Mr. Francis Kilgallen.
- Ms. Maeve McNamara, (College of Further Education and Training, O'Connell Avenue Campus), on the death of her mother, Ms Molly O'Connor
- Ms. Daire Mulhern (Ennis Adult Education Centre Clonroad) on the death of her farther, Mr. Tom Mulhern
- Ms. Margaret Lynch (Ennis Adult Education Centre Clonroad) on the death of her brother in law, Mr. Denis Lynch.
- Ms. Susan Gleeson (Limerick College of Further Education, Mulgrave Street) on the death of her brother, Mr. Jerry Horgan.
- Ms. Trish McGinnis (Desmond College, Newcastle West) on the death of her mother-in-law, Ms. Kathleen Bryson.
- The Family of the late Mr. Flan O'Neill (Former City of Limerick Board Member).
- Ms. Emma Maher (College of Further Education and Training, O'Connell Ave Campus), on the death of her father Mr Joe Maher.
- Ms. Caroline M O'Brien (Marshal House) on the death of her father-in-law, Mr. Benny O'Brien.
- Ms Moira Maher (Colaiste Chiarain Croom) on the death of her father, Mr Joe Maher.
- The Family of the late Mr. Eddie Creighton (Former County Limerick Employee, Committee Member and Member of Limerick County Council).

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 28th March, 2023, were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Gabriel Keating, seconded by Ms. Catherine Hehir.

4. For Consideration; Matters arising from the Minutes

None.

5. Governance:

- a) Risk Management
No matter raised.

6. Correspondence

Department Correspondence

CL 0018/2023

27 April 2023

Re: Special Needs Assistant Allocation 2023/24.

CL 0019/2023

29 March 2023

Re: Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate Examination in 2025.

CL 0020/2023

30 March 2023

Re: Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate Examination in 2025.

CL 0021/2023

11 April 2023

Re: Say Yes to Languages – Primary languages sampler module.

CL 0022/2023

25 April 2023

Re: Standardised Testing 2023.

CL 0023/2023

3 May 2023

Re: Scheme for the Award of Incremental Credit to Post Primary Teachers who have prior service as a Youthreach Resource Person or a Youthreach Co- Ordinator.

CL 0025/2023

10 May 2023

Re: Circular 0025/2023 - Voluntary Search and Rescue Leave for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.

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

Schools and Youth Work

Community National Schools

Support for our Community National Schools continues to be provided by the Schools Division with the assistance of Mr. Ciarán Crowe (former principal in Patrickswell National School).

Care Aware Crew Project - An Exploration of Students' Experience

The Care Aware Crew Project is a collaboration between Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, the Junior Health Science Academy, the University of Limerick, University Hospital Limerick, HSE (Health Service Executive) Midwest Community Healthcare and several locally based educationalists.

Principals and Classroom Teachers in six Limerick schools have agreed to participate in a second pilot to test out the value and efficacy of the programme that the Care Aware Crew Project Team has put together. The programme consists of five downloadable lessons (MP4 format) - each about a different aspect of First Aid - which have been prepared by locally based medical professionals following consultation with the teachers and pupils who will be participating in the programme. The lessons are intended for use with pupils in 3rd Class and/or 4th Class. Worksheets and other materials to enhance teaching and learning experiences will be supplied to teachers by the Project Team.

The Care Aware Crew Project Team will carry out research into teachers' and pupils' experiences of the Care Aware Crew Project (to find out what worked well and what pupils learned, and so forth). By gaining a greater understanding of students' and teachers' experiences of the Care Aware Crew programme, we hope to identify its strengths and weaknesses and to inform future development of the programme.

Post Primary Schools

Desmond College Takes Home Top Prize at BD STEM Stars Awards

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools shone brightly at the recent BD Stem Stars 2023 awards with Desmond College, Newcastle West taking home first prize at this year's awards programme at BD's world-class Research Centre Ireland in Castletroy, Limerick. Mary Immaculate Secondary School in Lisdoonvarna took home second place, while another proud Limerick and Clare ETB community college, Coláiste Chiaráin, Croom came in third place.

Now in its fourth year, the BD STEM Stars Award, which is supported by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, is the biggest such awards programme in the region and is open to all secondary schools in the Mid-West.

The awards are an initiative from BD Research Centre Ireland that aims to promote participation in STEM subjects and demonstrate how they can be applied to solving real-life health issues.

The competition was launched in November, with schools submitting their final entries to BD last month. 15 secondary schools from Clare, Limerick and Tipperary were welcomed to the Research Centre by Senior R&D Director and site lead Seán Wall and his team. The finals brought plenty of colour and excitement to the research centre and there was no shortage of innovation across the day as the competing schools presented their individual projects and were given tours of the state-of-the-art research centre. Speaking at the event, Mr Wall said that the standard of innovation amongst the participating schools was hugely encouraging for STEM related sectors.

"The seeds sown to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects in the Mid-West over recent years are bearing fruit judging by the 2023 BD STEM Stars Awards," he said. "The awards are a source of immense pride across the BD network here in Ireland and beyond and the first-hand experience I got today confirmed for me why that is. Primarily, it is a wonderful initiative and effort by the team here at RCI (Research Center Ireland) to stage this competition in partnership with Limerick and Clare ETB as there is no small amount of work involved in coordinating a programme like this with schools across the region. What was equally noticeable was the spirit of collaboration between our team and the schools, which was so positive to see." He continued: "But above all, it was the passion, the excitement, and the innovation that the students and their teachers brought to the event that stood out and it reaffirms why it has become such an important event, not just for BD but for STEM in our region."

Mr Wall's comments came after Desmond College students Madison Saracoglu and Emma Greaney teamed up to create their 'Rehabilitation Nation' device for rehabilitating shoulder injuries earning them the coveted BD STEM Stars trophy for first place, as well as a €10,000 fund that goes towards STEM-related facilities at their school.

The judging panel, however, had its work cut out with extraordinarily little separating the winners and runners-up. Second place and a €6,000 cheque went to Mary Immaculate Secondary School in Lisdoonvarna for a project based on exploring if neural networks can aid hearing-impaired people to lipread, while third place and a €4,000 prize went to Coláiste Chiaráin, Croom for their 'Portanos' project. Mr Wall also pledged BD's continued leadership in the region and internationally in the promotion of STEM through the awards programme, and the bursary and scholarship programme run by BD, one of the world's leading med-tech companies for students at the nearby University of Limerick.

RCI is a state-of-the-art facility adjacent to the University of Limerick campus that develops innovative technologies to improve biomedical discovery, clinical diagnosis of disease, and the delivery of care for patients and healthcare workers. It currently employs 370 experts in software development, software testing, systems engineering, mechanical and electronic engineering, project management, quality and biosciences including immunology. The diverse, collaborative team brings together people from 27 countries working in multidisciplinary teams to solve problems and advance the world of health. To learn more about the BD STEM Stars programme and participants, visit <https://emea.jobs.bd.com/bd-stem-stars>

Two All-Ireland Basketball Wins for Mungret Community College

Two girls' basketball teams from Mungret Community College won the All-Ireland Schools League Junior 'B' Girls and the All-Ireland Minor 'B' on 2 and 3 May 2023. They defeated Carraigaline CS 45-17 and Mount Anville 44-29 at the National Basketball Arena. Congratulations to all involved.

REALT (Regional Education and Language Team) – Supporting Ukrainian Children in Limerick and Clare

Weekly meetings of the REALT Team continue each Friday morning at 9.00 am.

A recent in-person meeting of the REALT Team that has been working since March 2022 took place in Marshal House. This provided the Chief Executive, Mr. George O' Callaghan with an opportunity to thank all nominees to the Team for their continued and valued support and engagement in enrolling Ukrainian children in Limerick and Clare schools.

The Chief Executive welcomed Aisling Wheeler REALT ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Support Officer and Deirdre Honan REALT Coordinator who are taking over from Matt Power and John Fitzgibbon. Both Matt and John were acknowledged and thanked for all the work they have done over the past twelve months in assisting the growing numbers of Ukrainian refugees in Clare and Limerick. The Chief Executive acknowledged the notable example of how the agencies and groups have worked so well together within the region under this Department of Education initiative.

The Department of Education can confirm that as of 31 March, 15,282 Ukrainian pupils have been enrolled in schools across Ireland. Out of that figure, 9,877 of these pupils have been accommodated in primary schools while 5,405 pupils have enrolled in post-primary schools.

Current data indicates an enrolment rate of 90% among Ukrainian children aged 5-18.

The breakdown per county and sector is detailed in the table below with comparative tables showing the increase in students enrolled from January 2023 to March 2023.

January 2023		
County	Primary	Post-Primary
Clare	570	332
Limerick	284	178

March 2023		
County	Primary	Post-Primary
Clare	595	347
Limerick	328	206

Information for parents in Ukrainian and Russian on accessing school places is available on www.lcetb.ie

Webinar Explores Implications of AI (Artificial Intelligence) Technology for Education

Technology like ChatGPT has become a major talking point worldwide. So, the recent online seminar organised by Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI) in conjunction with the University of Limerick and significantly supported by Limerick and Clare ETB was a timely exploration of the subject.

Over 500 Education and Training Board principals, deputy principals and teachers were in attendance for the online event, as well as members from the 16 ETBs (Education and Training Board) throughout Ireland. The aim of the online seminar was to discuss the implications of ChatGPT for both educators and learners and to explore how schools and colleges can be supported as they navigate its potential for integration into education.

According to the Chairperson of ETBI's Digital Strategy Group and Director of Schools at Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, Donncha O'Treasaigh, the online seminar was designed to "actively engage with our schools and colleges to raise their awareness about this new technology." It also set out to future-proof schools by "equipping them with expert knowledge and advice from guest speakers who add to the important conversation around AI in schools."

ETBI General Secretary Paddy Lavelle agreed that it was "important for school leaders and teachers to be prepared, so they can explore the potential of this exciting new technology and safely negotiate its possible challenges."

Many educators believe this can be achieved by developing a code of behaviour in schools and colleges around the use of AI, which has caused concern in education sectors, with ChatGPT able to generate text and images in response to prompts even if it is not accurate or original content.

The recent ChatGPT online seminar was delivered in collaboration with the University of Limerick and featured guest speakers like UL (University of Limerick) Professor Stephen Kinsella, Associate Professor of Economics, who described the modern technology as like the introduction of Google and spoke of plans to embrace the technology and work with it. JJ Collins, a lecturer in the

Department of Computer Science and Information Systems, discussed the many benefits and capabilities of the technology; while Vivienne Hogan, Principal, of Limerick and Clare ETB's Thomond Community College, spoke about the many practical issues and challenges posed in schools by the modern technology. Other themes explored during the online seminar included how this AI has the potential to be a powerful learning tool for personalised learning, integration in education, instant feedback techniques, the misuse of the technology, and plagiarism.

Another concern is that the integrity of student learning and assessment could be under threat and as a result, the State Examinations Commission is also exploring the possible risks of this latest technology and how these can be addressed.

Paul Fields, Director of Schools (Post-Primary) with ETBI, also spoke during the online seminar, thanking the panel for their valuable input and acknowledging the impact the technology will have on students, teachers, and leaders in education.

Professional Development Schedule for Schools

The following professional development opportunities were facilitated by the Schools' Division since Easter:

19 April: School Planning to meet the needs of EAL (English as an Additional Language) (English as an Additional Language) Learners - PDST (Professional Development Service for Teachers): 16 attendees
25 April: Special Class Coordinators/School Management Seminar with NCSE (National Council for Special Education): 14 attendees Deirdre Bourke Input Autism - Best Practice Guidelines in Action with Deirdre Bourke [NCSE]
03 May: SST Coordinators meeting: 16 attendees
04 May: Seminar: Reviewing Codes of Behaviour: 15 attendees
04 May: TY (Transition Year) Co-ordinators Cluster: 16 attendees
09 May: Managing Conflict for Assistant Principals

Our schools were also facilitated to attend the following ETBI presentations

- Chat GPT Webinar - ETBI & UL (University of Limerick)
- Ethos Presentation ETBI

Schools continue to be supported at senior management, teacher, and student level on an individual basis with school visits, telephone and email support where required.

There was an opening of an Art Exhibition from Fainleog, Rathkeale in Rathkeale library. There was an exhibition of over 40 pieces of work.

8/9 May: schools will be a facilitated to attend an Orienteering Event. This year our Orienteering event celebrates the ETBI May Day for Sustainability with an emphasis on Sustainable Development Goal number 15 Life on Land.

Staffing Allocation & Appeal

The Staffing Allocation for schools is almost finalised with on-going deliberations with the Department of Education.

Assistant Principal Seminars

The Schools' Division held the third of its three-part series of seminars for Community College Assistant Principals on 9 May 2023 from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm.

Ms. Eukaria O' Grady (principal of Killaloe Community College), Ms. Yvonne Walsh (Deputy Principal of Ennis Community College/Gaelcholáiste an Chláir) and Mr. Donncha Ó Treasaigh (Director of Schools) hosted the event.

The purpose of these seminars is to stimulate and support participants to interrogate what Middle Leadership means and asks of them, underpinned by theory and applied practice. The series supports participants to enhance both their competence and confidence in responding to changes in schools.

These seminars involve networking via Break-Out Rooms for half of the session and will cover.

- Culture, Trust & Successful Teams
- Managing Change
- Effective Communication
- Having the Difficult Conversation
- Reflective Practice

Parent/Guardian Webinar

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board's Schools Division was delighted to organise a special Webinar for parents/guardians of children in Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools with Dr. Maureen Griffin on Monday, 24 April at 8.00 pm via Zoom. The event was extremely well attended with over 460 registered for the evening. A forensic psychologist, Dr. Griffin provided very helpful information and advice to parents and guardians on the risks of the internet and social media. Dr. Griffin specialises in online offending and recognises the need for education/training for children and those responsible for their care and protection.

Youth Work

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board officially launched its Youth Work Plan 2023 - 2026 at Glór Ennis on Wednesday 19th April. The plan aims to ensure the ETB succeeds in its responsibilities to support the provision, coordination, administration, and assessment of youth work services in the Limerick and Clare region. Ms. Aoimhe McNamara, who was supported by Clare Youth Service as a teenager and returned to do a work placement there as part of her social care degree, spoke enthusiastically at the launch about the 2023-2026 plan. "Youth work really does change with the times, because young people have unique needs at different moments in time. This new plan is really going to help programmes and projects that are already in place by expanding them and making sure that more young people have access to them and have a voice." Overall, the youth work plan launch was a very lively fun event and offered the opportunity for great networking.

Local Creative Youth Partnership

The Launch of the national Creative Youth Plan 2023-2027 took place in the National Gallery in Dublin on March 28th and was officiated by Ministers Norma Foley, Catherine Martin and Roderic O'Gorman. A specially commissioned video for the launch featured two young people from our own LCYP's Future Film Makers programme and one young person from Kilkee Youth Theatre.

This following are some examples of ongoing work:

Outside World, Exhibition by Students from Coláiste na Trócaire, Fainleog campus

Rathkeale Library is currently running an exhibition of work from Coláiste na Trócaire's Fainleog campus who opened their visual art exhibition Outside World. Over the past six months, the students have been working with Julianne Hennelly from the Local Creative Youth Partnership and Gina O'Connor from LCETB's Support Team, creating images inspired by the changing seasons with some students working with tutor, Peter Cregan to create dog kennels. The exhibition was officially launched by artist Thomas McCarthy who enthralled all gathered with his storytelling. The exhibition continues until mid-May.

Kilkee Youth Theatre

Following two terms of workshops in Cultúrlann Sweeney, Kilkee Youth Theatre performed their end of year show to a packed house on Saturday, April 29th. The 16 members highlighted the work they had created with tutors Jessica Curtin and Emma Troy. Kilkee Youth Theatre resumes in September.

Further Education and Training Division (FET)

College of FET, Hospitality Campus

- Shannon Region Junior Chef of The Year took place on Wednesday 26th April;
- College of FET, Hospitality Campus has organised the first National Junior Chef of the Year 2023; sponsored by Limerick Rotary taking place the 16th May at TUS;
- 10 Learners have gone on placement to Malaga in Spain for a month.

Outdoor Education & Training

- Full programme of school Outdoor Education and Training programmes;
- OETC Kilfinane hosted another successful Camp Abilities programme with NCBI over Easter. Camp Abilities is a week-long personal development camp for children who are blind or vision impaired;
- Outdoor Education programme in the Burren for Dóchas don Óige (Probation Service).

College of FET, Kilmallock Road Campus

- Youthreach KRC are through to the National Youthreach Boys Soccer Tournament. National Finals to be held in Mullingar 11th May 2023;
- Staff preparations underway at Youthreach KRC for the roll out in September of QQI, Level 3, with meetings held with the QA office. CPD day and venue organised. LCA 1 & 2 Task Examinations in the various subjects are being completed.

College of FET, Shannon Campus

SST: As the expansion of delivery of online courses continues, a new course is developed and will commence in May on 'IT Support Technician with CompTia and Pitman';

- Recruitment taking place for an approved Driving Instructor course for which there is a demand nationwide for people qualified in this area;
- In June/July F-Gas compliance training off-site to companies nationwide will begin.

Traineeship: There is an increased demand for the Traineeship on Robot Process Automation. This demand is coming from the HSE and Department of Social Protection. This has resulted in additional courses added to the calendar.

Apprenticeship: A full schedule of Craft Phase 2 Apprenticeship is now scheduled for 2023. Emergency provision still applies to Plumbing and Electrical courses. Indications are that the demand for Aircraft Apprentices will increase for the October intake up to 70 and that this demand will further increase in 2024 up to 90.

FET Pathways from School: To date five two-week taster courses were provided for TY students from Ennistymon School with very positive results. Learners who attended the courses have indicated that the courses have helped them choose a career path and source work experience for the Summer months. 100 learners are registered on the Barista Training, which is run in conjunction with the Hospitality Campus.

College of FET, Croom Campus

- Horsemanship Level 5 learners received British Horse Society Bronze Award Certificates on March 21st at Clonshire Equestrian Centre;
- Healthcare learners organised and hosted a Tea Dance for local Age Action participants on March 28th;
- Animal Magic visited Croom Campus showcasing small and exotic animals and lecture re their care on March 9th;
- Croom Campus hosted three events as part of the celebration of learning at Limerick Lifelong Learning Festival: Dog Grooming Demo, Imaginarium of Learning about Animals and Introduction to Animal Science;
- Munster Technological University visited Croom Campus on 22nd March with information regarding progression to animal science courses.

College of FET, Abbeyfeale Campus

- The Amber Flag committee submitted their application to Pieta House recently after organising activities throughout the campus promoting positive mental health and wellbeing;
- Course applications continue to be received for September in-take across a variety of courses.

College of FET, Newcastle West Campus

- ESOL classes commenced in April at Shanagolden to support twenty-five newly arrived Ukrainians with their English language needs. Other classes such as Health and Fitness classes have also been provided for this group. Health and Beauty classes are currently being set up;
- Another SPSV (Small Public Services Vehicle) course started in Newcastle West Campus in April. A SPSV License permits a driver to operate all categories of SPSV - taxi, hackney and limousines. This course helps to prepare learners to sit the SPSV Industry Exam. This course has lots of potential for learners;
- Recruitment of learners from local Nursing Homes with staff very interested in enrolling on Healthcare Support Award.

College of FET, Ennistymon Campus

- Three past learners were included to take part in the end of year show. These learners had missed out as they were learners during covid. A lunch was organised for the oldest learner yet, Vincent, age 90, past learners were invited to celebrate;

- Open day took place on 26th April for interested people to attend and learn about art courses and career pathways in the arts and sectors linked to the arts. Posters for recruitment and the show have been created and are now exhibited in North Clare and beyond through our social networks;
- Learners priced and sold art pieces at the end of year show. Their artwork was displayed at the Courthouse gallery. 14 short films of learner works were created and exhibited online through our social pages and in the Courthouse Gallery as part of the end of year exhibition. Learners were part of the design, making and performing of these pieces, which received praise from the Clare Arts Officer. Learners also learned through design skills how to create their own poster, which was used for the end of year show. A meeting is arranged with Fiona Woods from the Art College in Limerick about continuing education for Ennistymon learners.

College of FET, Ennis Campus

Core Skills Co. Clare

- Limerick and Clare ETB and Tipperary ETB invited by Tusla Education Support Services to co-deliver an input on Family Learning to four groups, totalling 240 new Home School Community Liaison Coordinators over four Thursdays in Dublin, Tullamore, Athlone and Portlaoise in February and March. This is a very useful way to link our ETBs and DEIS schools;
- 26 participants attended Family Learning Tutor Training in Ennis from seven ETBs on 21st and 22nd February. This is the first face to face training in three years with previous two years training delivered online;
- 80 learners are going forward for Cambridge English Exams. Thanks to all the English Language staff who supported learners to reach this high level;
- After a number of Local History and Reading the Landscape courses a group have progressed to a Level 6 Regional Tour Guiding course in Scariff. This is very timely with a government investment of €3.9 million in Holy Island in Lough Derg and will have tourism and wider benefits for the surrounding area.

College of FET, Cappamore & Kilmallock Town Campus

- East County Limerick Part-time Provision is delivering 171 courses across campuses (Kilmallock Town Campus/Cappamore Campus) and partner locations in the county. These range from Core Skills, VESD, Community Education & ESOL.

Youth Education & Training

Local Training Initiatives

- Kilmeedy Healthcare Support: Learner's confidence is building from doing eCollege and ICDL. This is being supported with the use of team's meetings which is building their use of online platforms which will also help them going forward in the recruitment process.

Specialist Training Providers

- National Learning Network: Visits to schools are ongoing to chat with teachers, students who are leaving school early or have already dropped out. Discussions took place with LCA students and parents about options at NLN i.e., St. Caimins, Kilmihill, Catherine McAuley, Mungret College, CBS Nenagh and Spanish Point.

Music Generation Clare

- Music Generation Clare's Irish Concertina Orchestra performed at their annual concert in Glór, Ennis, on Saturday 6th May. This Irish Concertina Orchestra concert was in collaboration with the Irish Chamber Orchestra, Cork's School of Music Big Jazz Band, as well as renowned musical trio Michael McGoldrick, John Doyle and John McCusker;
- Music Generation Clare's Instrumental Hub and Creative Hub students will perform at their end of term concert on Wednesday 24th May in St Columba's Church, Ennis. Students from all Hubs around the county, including Ennis, Ennistymon, Killaloe, Shannon and Kilrush have been invited to attend and perform for family and friends;
- Students from Music Generation Clare's various ensembles will perform in St Columba's Church on Sunday 21st May as part of Caherea NS 60th Anniversary celebrations. Students from the Irish Concertina Orchestra, the Junior Trad Group and the Harp Ensemble will showcase their most recent pieces at this celebratory concert, alongside students from within the school showcasing their musical talent;
- Music Generation Clare are offering drumming workshops on Monday 22nd May. These drumming workshops are part of a fun UN Intercultural and Diversity Celebration Day being held in College of FET, Ennis Campus. The first drumming workshop will run from 14:00 to 14:40 and the second workshop from 14:50 to 15:30.

Support Services

Information, Recruitment & Guidance

- Work with the Ukrainians is continuing with the demand for individual guidance sessions growing;
- Existing accommodation is not permanent. Reorganising classes/work in their new location remains a priority. Migrants continue to arrive in the Mid-West geographical area, IRGSS is working with the new arrivals in Ireland who have re-located;
- All three services within the IRGSS are continuing their ongoing guidance support for the 4.4k Ukrainians located in Limerick and Clare. IRGSS attend weekly Friday meetings with Core Skills/ESOL/AISS to keep updated on any new developments and ensure provision of integrated LCETB FET support;
- Limerick City Guidance in collaboration with Marguerite from County Limerick, is offering a four-part free Careers Webinar Series from April 26th to May 17th (12-1 on Wednesdays);
- Course Information Morning at College of FET, O'Connell Avenue Campus took place Thursday 30th March 2023 as part of Limerick Learning Festival ([Festival - Learning Limerick](#));
- LCETB FET Ennis Campus Graphic and Fashion Design learners visited Mulgrave Street Campus Creative Media Department Taster workshops on 29th March facilitated by IRGSS Limerick and Clare as part of learner progression;

Enterprise Engagement

- **Sales Apprenticeship:** EESS made links with SME and MNC's sales apprenticeship information event which took place on 27th April delivered by Jessica Martin of Mayo Sligo ETB. There were 28 companies in attendance;
- **Equine Programme:** new Level 3 'Pathways to working with horses', will be rolled out for September 2023. Recruitment will begin for Coordinator and Adult Educators in due course;

- **Therapeutic Programme Limerick Pilot:** Phase 2 has been actioned. Recruitment of Coordinator will commence. The pilot programme will commence in September 2023 and will support participants' pre and post addiction treatment;
- EESS organised the availability of the blacksmith tutor to carry out demos as a part of Riverfest in the potato market on Sunday April 30th;
- EESS hosted an event for women in Coding learners and graduates and welcomed them and industry representative's partners, Code Institute, Analog Devices and Jaguar Land Rover to Raheen Campus on 27th April. The third iteration of Coding for Women will commence in late May 2023;
- Second Safe Pass commenced 25th April in NZEB centre of excellence in LEDP Campus with 16 learners in attendance;
- Work is ongoing with Explore Engineering publicity and promotional material with a manufacturing event occurring on the 14th and 15th June;

Active inclusion Support Service

- **Pathways from School to FET Spotlight:** Our approach to developing Pathways from School to FET is based on structured co-operation between actors representing different policy areas, levels of governance and education and training levels. In May 2023 a new information pack will be launched which brings together necessary information for Principals, Deputy Principals, School Completion Co-Ordinators, Home School Community Liaison and Guidance Counsellors about the offerings available for post-primary learners through the College of FET;
- **ESOL and Migrant Learner Framework Spotlight:** Migrant Specific Educational Career Guidance is an important service offered by the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board which is the only ETB in Ireland offering this service. Mainstreamed from a 31-month EU AMIF co-funded 'Realising Potential (completed in August 2022) the service now provides guidance clinics to those living in direct provision in Limerick and the greater migrant community living in Limerick City. Weekly guidance clinics run in the Dock Road and across the city in collaboration with a range of agencies;
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework Spotlight:** A range of events were facilitated under the Learner Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework as our College of FET Campuses now have access to funding to facilitate Campus wide themed initiatives. Abbeyfeale Campus raised €1371 for Pieta House across a range of events.

8. For Adoption:

- a) 2022 Draft Annual Report
Adopted on the proposal of Mr. Donal ÓhAiniféin, seconded by Cllr. Michael Donegan.
- b) 2023 Service Plan
Adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Michael Donegan, seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Keating.
- c) Finance Report Period Ending April, 2023
Adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Joe Killeen, seconded by Cllr. Brigid Teefy.

9. For Appointment: Parents' Representative to

- a) Thomond Community College
Adopted on the proposal of Mr. Donal ÓhAiniféin, seconded by Cllr. Brigid Teefy, Ms. Tanya Dunworth was appointed to the Board of Management of

10. For approval:

- a) Land Transfer from LCETB to Croom National School
Adopted on the proposal of Mr. Donal ÓhAiniféin, seconded by Mr. Michael Cregan.
- b) Prefab Rental at Kilmallock Town Campus
Adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Michael Donegan, seconded by Cllr. Brigid Teefy.
- c) Proposed New Day Service in Abbeyfeale
Adopted on the proposal of Mr. Michael Cregan, seconded by Mr. Michael Guilfoyle.
- d) a) Lease of Ferguson's Old Chemist, O'Connell Street, Limerick, for Central Admissions Office, Further Education and Training.
Adopted on the proposal of Mr. Donal ÓhAiniféin, seconded by Cllr. Michael Donegan.

11. For Noting:

- a) Procurement Policy
- b) Corporate Procurement Plan

12. AOB

A presentation was made to Ms. Shelagh Graham, Director of Organisation Support & Development from the Board on her retirement. In doing so the Board paid fulsome tribute to Ms. Graham for her outstanding leadership and stellar service with LCETB.

The Chairperson referred to the amalgamation of VECs in 2013 when Clare, City and County Limerick successfully merged as Limerick and Clare ETB and Ms. Graham, who was Director of Organisation Support and Development, managed the merging of Staff and functions and stated that she was pivotal to the overall success of the amalgamation.

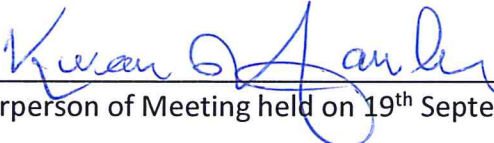
The CE also paid tribute to Ms. Graham and also stated that through her vision and leadership, LCETB has become one of the leading ETB'S in the Country and that Limerick and Clare ETB was very fortunate to have a Director of such a high calibre.

The Board and the CE wished Shelagh every happiness and health on her retirement.

Next Meeting: 19th September, 2023.

George O'Callaghan
Chief Executive.

Signed:


Chairperson of Meeting held on 19th September, 2023.