



MINUTES OF LIMERICK AND CLARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

Held in Mungret Community College
on

Monday, 14th October, 2024.

Scheduled to commence at 4.30 p.m.

Present:

Cllr. Kieran O’Hanlon, Chairperson
Cllr. Antoinette Baker Bashua
Cllr. Michael Begley
Cllr. Maria Donoghue
Cllr. Peter Doyle
Mr. Darren Feldon
Ms. Jeannette Ferguson
Ms Kate Hehir
Cllr. Mary Howard
Cllr. Gabriel Keating
Mr. Conal Kelly
Ms. Claire Knight
Mr. Michael MacCurtain
Mr. Sean McMahan
Ms. Ann Norton
Mr. Adrian O’Hanlon
Cllr. John Sheahan
Cllr. Catherine Slattery
Cllr. Noreen Stokes
Cllr. Brigid Teefy

In attendance:

Mr. Donncha O’Treaaigh, Acting Chief Executive
Mr. Eamon Murphy, Director of Organisation Support and Development
Ms. Breda Flynn, Director of Organisation Support and Development
Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education & Training
Ms. Joanne O’Brien, Corporate Services
Ms. Caroline Hayes, Corporate Services

In absentia:

Cllr. Rachel Hartigan

1. Introduction by Chief Executive

Mr. Donncha O’Treaaigh, Acting Chief Executive, in introducing proceedings, extended a very warm welcome to the newly elected members “from Bodies as per Section 30 (11) (b) of the Education and Training Boards Act (2013)”.

2. Appointment of Chairperson

On the proposal of Cllr. Catherine Slattery, seconded by Cllr. Bridget Teefy, Cllr. Kieran O’Hanlon was elected Chairperson. Cllr. O’Hanlon took the Chair and thanked all Members.

3. Condolences

- Ms Claire Ayers (Kildysart) on the death of her sister, Ms Susan Kierce Marsh.
- Mr. Thomas Begley (College of Further Education and Training, Green Innovation Campus, Roxboro) on the death of his brother, Mr. David Begley.
- Ms. Marie Edmonds (College of Further Education and Training, Kilmallock Road Campus) on the death of her mother, Ms. Joan Kelly.
- The Family of the late P.J. Kelly, former Councillor and former Chairperson of Clare VEC.
- The family of the later Dr Luke Murtagh, formerly CEO of Tipperary North Riding VEC.
- Ms. Margaret Hanrahan (College of Further Education and Training, Raheen Campus) on the death of her father, Mr. Seamus (James) Hanrahan.
- Ms. Geraldine Gardiner, (Marshal House) on the death of her uncle.
- Ms. Lorraine Hickey (College of Further Education and Training, Kilmallock Road Campus) on the death of her father, Mr. Andy Kelly.
- Ms. Sabrina Keogh (College of Further Education and Training, Clon Road, Ennis, Co. Clare) on the death of her father, Mr. Michael Keogh.
- Ms. Breda Manning (Head Office) on the death of her brother, Mr. Jack Manning.
- The Family, Bishop Brendan Leahy and the Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Limerick and the Archdiocese of Dublin on the death of Most Rev. Donal Murray, Bishop Emeritus of Limerick.

4. Board Induction

Mr. Donncha O’Treaaigh, Acting Chief Executive presented to Members. He briefed Members on the Strategy Statement and the vision and goals of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board. Members also noted the organisational structure and respective Directors. Mr. O’Treaaigh also stated the importance of adherence to the Code of Practice – Circular Letter 002/2019 and how this sets the standards for Board Members and Staff and also referred to the reserved functions of the Board. He advised Members on upcoming training that is being rolled out to Members on the 11th November, 2024 at the Inn at Dromoland Hotel and further information will be issued. The Chief Executive advised Members to contact the Corporate Services Department in Head Office if Members needed any guidance or assistance.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board

Minutes from meetings held on 28th May, 2024, 1st October, 2024 and second meeting of 1st October, 2024 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Gabriel Keating and seconded by Ms. Kate Hehir.

6. Matters arising from Minutes

None.

**7. Correspondence from:
Department of Education**

CL 0043/2024 27 May 2024	Re: Revision of Teacher Salaries under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 June 2024.
CL 0044/2024 27 May 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 June 2024.
CL 0045/2024 27 May 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries and Allowances of Certain Grades other than Teachers and SNAs employed by ETBs under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 June 2024.
CL 0046/2024 27 May 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries of Clerical Officers and Caretakers employed under the 1978/1979 Scheme under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 June 2024.
CL 0047/2024 27 May 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries of School Secretaries and School Maintenance Staff in Community and Comprehensive Schools under the Public Service Agreement 2024 – 2026 effective from 01 June 2024.
CL 0048/2024 27 May 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries for School Secretaries Previously Grant Funded Effective from 01 June 2024.
CL 0049/2024 29 May 2024	Re: Special Needs Assistant Allocation 2024/25.
CL 0050/2024 18 June 2024	Re: Home Tuition Grant Scheme 2024/2025 Special Education Component.
CL 0052/2024 23 May 2024	Re: Leave for Candidates in General and Local Elections for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.
CL 0053/2024 4 June 2024	Re: Recruitment of Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) - Supplementary Assignment Arrangements for the 2024/2025 school year.
CL 0054/2024 4 June 2024	Re: Maintenance guidance for all schools.
CL 0056/2024 24 June 2024	Re: Revision of capitation grant rates to recognised primary schools 2024.
CL 0057/2024 9 July 2024	Re: Recruitment procedures for all staff other than persons employed as teachers and special needs assistants in Education and Training Boards (ETBs).
CL 0058/2024 16 July 2024	Re: Parent's Leave Scheme for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.

CL 0059/2024 16 July 2024	Re: Parent's Leave Scheme for Special Needs Assistants employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.
CL 0060/2024 15 August 2024	Re: Home Tuition- No School Place (NSP) 2024-25.
CL 0061/2024 15 August 2024	Re: Home Tuition-Maternity Related Absence (MRA) 2024-25.
CL 0062/2024 15 August 2024	Re: Home Tuition- Children in Care (CIC) 2024-25.
CL 0063/2024 7 August 2024	Re: Revised Sick Leave Arrangements for all staff in Education and Training Boards other than Teachers and Special Needs Assistants.
CL 0065/2024 26 August 2024	Re: Arrangements for the election of staff to Education and Training Boards.
CL 0066/2024 21 August 2024	Re: Teacher Supply Post Primary: Teaching Hours Extension Scheme for 2024/2025.
CL 0067/2024 3 September 2024	Re: Voluntary Search and Rescue Leave for Registered Teachers employed in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools.
CL 0069/2024 19 September 2024	Re: Professional Master of Education (PME) Fee Refund Scheme.
CL 0070/2024; 12 September 2024	Re: Prescribed Material for the Leaving Certificate Irish Examination in June 2027.
CL 0071/2024 9 September 2024	Re: Revision to Supervision and Substitution (S&S) Scheme following changes to work practices since the Public Service Stability Agreement 2013 - 2016 (Haddington Road Agreement) – class duration of 40 minutes and/or 1-hour classes.
CL 0072/2024 17 September 2024	Re: Parent's Leave Scheme for all other staff other than those persons employed as teachers and SNAs in Education and Training Boards (ETBs).
CL 0073/2024 30 September 2024	Re: Revision of Teacher Salaries under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 October 2024.
CL 0074/2024 30 September 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 October 2024.
CL 0075/2024 30 September 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries and Allowances of Certain Grades other than Teachers and SNAs employed by ETBs under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 October 2024.
CL 0076/2024 30 September 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries of Clerical Officers and Caretakers employed under the 1978/1979 Scheme under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 October 2024.

CL 0077/2024 30 September 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries for School Secretaries and School Maintenance Staff in Community and Comprehensive Schools under The Public Service Agreement 2024 - 2026 effective from 01 October 2024.
CL 0078/2024 30 September 2024	Re: Revision of Salaries for School Secretaries Previously Grant Funded Effective from 01 October 2024.
CL 0079/2024 30 September 2024	Re: Revision of Capitation Grant Rates for Voluntary Secondary Schools in the Free Education Scheme.

8. For consideration; Chief Executive's Report incorporating

Schools, Youth Work, Local Creative Youth Partnership and REALT

New Community National School opens its doors in Fedamore

Fedamore CNS (Croí na Coille) welcomed its first students and their families on Friday, 30 August 2024. It was an exciting day as the children were introduced to their new school surroundings in the village of Fedamore in East County Limerick, which includes a beautiful mini woodland which both staff and students will get to explore and cherish.

Last May it was announced that the new Croí na Coille school would be established as a Community National School in the former Fedamore National School under the patronage of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board. The school is co-educational and multi-denominational and is underpinned by the ETB's core values of Academic Excellence, Care, Respect, Equality, and Community. We wish the school's newly appointed principal, Jacintha Mullins, the best of luck as she strives to promote a child-centred approach by embracing the principles of developing the whole child.

New Limerick Community Special School Opens in Mungret

Limerick Community Special School opened in Mungret for classes on 5 September 2024. The new school located in Mungret, established under the patronage of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board opened its doors to an initial 30 students. These include children with a moderate general learning disability and complex needs, and children with autism and complex needs from 4 to 18 years of age.

The Department of Education made the announcement regarding the new school last December, following consultation with the National Council for Special Education (NSCE) around the creation of four new special schools throughout Ireland including Limerick. These new schools have been created to address the increasing number of students with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

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.

REALT 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.

The REALTs (Regional Education and Language Team) 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 around 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 (Education and Training Board) (Education and Training Board) (Education and Training Board).

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 (National Educational Psychological Service) regional personnel
- NCSE (National Council for Special Education) regional personnel
- Management body local nominees
- and other key partners as appropriate

In addition, the REALTs 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 OIDE (Professional Development Service for Teachers) and JCT (Junior Cycle for Teachers)
- Education Centre Network
- Local county councils/authorities

Limerick and Clare REALT

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

Aisling Wheeler, REALT ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) organises information sessions - EAL in Schools. The primary aim is to look at ESOL materials, the teaching of English to speakers of Slavic languages and to look at the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

In addition, a mentoring service with a group of ESOL tutors from Limerick Clare Education Training Board are available to mentor post-primary teachers who are new to teaching ESOL. Limerick Clare Education Training Board REALT has compiled and developed ESOL resources which are available on www.lcetb.com. All schools receive a newsletter outlining English language supports available.

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

The REALT Team for 2024/2025 comprises the following.

Name	Role	Nominating Organisation
------	------	-------------------------

Donncha Ó Treasaigh	Chief Executive (A)	Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board
TBC	Director of Schools	
Aobhán Haverty	Adult Education Officer	
Deirdre Honan	REALT Coordinator	
Aisling Wheeler	REALT ESOL Coordinator	TUSLA
Miriam Gleeson	Senior Educational Welfare Officer	
Debbie McDonagh	Regional Manager	
Vacant		CPSMA (Catholic Primary School Management Association)
Alan Cunningham	Post-Primary Principal	ACCS (Association of Community and Comprehensive Schools)
Mona Hynes	Post-Primary Principal	JMB (Joint Management Body)
David Quinn	Primary Principal	Educate Together (Ennis)
Richard Egan	Senior Psychologist	NEPS
Deirdre Folan		
Orla Donnellan	Regional Manager	NCSE
Marie Clifford		
Stephanie Ryan	Regional School Transport	Bus Éireann
Stephanie Griffin	Manager	

Leaving certificate Results

Students across Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools performed extremely well in the Leaving Certificate of 2024. Schools have reported that extremely high numbers of students have been successful in achieving their preferred courses. Congratulations to all students, staff and parents /guardians who supported students through their time at school.

Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh School Campus officially opened by Minister for Education

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board recently marked the official opening of Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh's brand new school campus at Clare Street in Limerick City on 13 September 2024. The multi-million-euro custom-designed building marks a new chapter in the all-Irish co-educational community college's history, providing students with a state-of-the-art learning campus. The opening was undertaken by Minister for Education, Norma Foley TD. The event was also attended Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science of Ireland, Patrick O'Donovan, the school community, and other invited guests, including past pupil and Paris 2024 Paralympics champion, Róisín Ní Riain.

The Minister for Education, Norma Foley TD, also opened the new extension at Thomond Community College and visited Mungret Community College and Limerick Community Special School on the same day.

Newly appointed Principals and Deputy Principals

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board made the following principal and deputy appointments for the 2024/2025 school year;

- Principal, Castletroy College, Co. Limerick: Mr. Brian O' Donoghue
- Principal, Ennis Community College & Gaelcholáiste an Chláir: Mr. James O'Shaughnessy
- Deputy principal, St. Anne's Community College Killaloe: Ms. Beverley Hartigan
- Deputy principal, Coláiste Chiaráin, Croom: Mr. Gareth O'Connell
- Deputy principal, Coláiste Mhuire, Askeaton: Mr. Andrew McNamara

Mentoring

A mentoring programme for all newly appointed principals and deputy principals is provided 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.

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 2024. All schools are required to publish their Admissions Policies and Admissions Notices by 1 October 2024 in accordance with the Education (Admission to Schools) Act, 2018. We are immensely proud to note the increased provision of Special Classes across our Community Colleges.

Onboarding for newly appointed Teachers and Special Needs Assistants

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board hosted a webinar for all newly appointed teachers who commenced in its schools this year at a special on-line meeting with the authority's Chief Executive (A), Director of Organisation Support and Development, Breda Flynn, Director of Schools, Mr. Donncha Ó Treasaigh and the School's Division Support Team on Wednesday evening, 16 September from 7.00 to 8.00 pm. The purpose of this event was to provide newly appointed staff with 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 are being 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 and is available to our schools on a central hub on the Schools Division Support site - www.lcetb.com.

Schools Division Support Team and Associates Report

The Schools' Division facilitated the following professional learning opportunities since the beginning of this academic year. These events were coordinated and facilitated by the Schools Division Support Team.

School Support

As of the week ending 04, October 2024 a total of 760 personnel (teachers, ISAs, parents/guardians) have been directly supported through professional learning events.

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.

A total of 27 occasions of in-school support with schools were completed.

Ethos Development

The plan this year is to have a fully established Ethos Leadership Team in all participating schools. All participating schools will form an Ethos Embassy and Elect Student Ethos Ambassadors. The Ethos Leader in St. Anne's Community College piloted this last year, and we work closely with ETBI and the Ethos coordinators for a national roll-out of this plan. This should be finalised in the coming weeks.

Wellbeing

Critical Incident Support:

The team supports schools with Critical Incidents. This involves onsite support, interagency collaboration, and follow-up support where necessary. The NEPS Guidelines for all schools are a key support document for schools.

The Balent group continues to run in Thomond Community College for teachers.

Student Support Teams

The first of our SST coordinators' meetings took place in mid-September. New members have been inducted. Work on a Critical Incident and SST support materials for schools is ongoing. The Assistant Psychologist program is continuing. Ongoing collaboration with external agencies (HSE, TUSLA, NEPS and other local and national agencies/bodies) forms an integral part of the work.

Community National Schools

Community National Schools needs are responded to, and support is provided to principals and deputy principals (debriefing, advice, updates on useful resources, reviewing policies, administrative issues, affirming good practice, helping principals establish and maintain focus on short- and long-term priorities, helping with principal's inputs to BOM meetings, etc.).

A new school, Fedamore CNS (Croí na Coille) opened this term.

Student Support Teams: All primary schools will complete NEPS e-training Critical Incident course, develop a school plan, and receive NEPS (Responding to Critical Incidents) booklet printed for schools.

Junior Health Science Academy:

The Care Aware Crew project was recently awarded €86,000 to develop 5 new video lessons (plus teaching resources for participating schools), a website hosting resources for use by schools (& other organisations) nationwide, and promotion of the 'Care Aware Crew' programme at Mid-West level.

The Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Patrick O'Donovan TD, and students from across the Mid-West, gathered at Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh to launch the 2024 Junior Health Sciences Academy Early Careers Event, which takes place online in early October.

The Minister raised the curtain on a diverse line-up of speakers and activity, aiming to inspire second-level students through a varied programme with an insightful edge, informed by the experience of clinical staff, academics, and students from the frontline of healthcare in hospital, community and third level education in the region.

Targeted at Transition Year, Fifth Year and Leaving Certificate students interested in careers in healthcare, the annual online event is organised by the Health Sciences Academy based at University Hospital Limerick, along with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and Limerick Education Support Centre.

Supporting Digital Learning:

Digital Leaders continued work with Community of Practice, Digital Schools Award as theme (digital learning planning in schools). Cluster 1 has taken place onsite in Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh.

Ideal Futures Project:

One year has been completed of a three-year project. Year One: gathering data/surveys. 5 partners. LCETB response to surveys is very favourable. School interviews were also successful. Based on interview data, challenge-based scenarios are being created for the teacher academy. The teaching academy will provide microcredits for teachers. Linked to European competency in digital education. A teacher group will go to France to visit schools and experience the teaching academy. The hope is to create a digital academy for Ireland and Europe.

Communities of Practice:

Guidance Counsellors Community of Practice:

HSLC Community of Practice: The first online HSLC Cluster took place on September 19th and this support was welcomed by our HSLCs and Principals. The next meeting is scheduled for November.

TY Coordinators Community of Practice: In September, a face-to-face cluster meeting with presentations made by BD Research, LCETB Capital Procurement and Music Generation was facilitated. Discussions and workshop followed and TY Coordinators worked collaboratively on Student Dimension Document from the new TY Programme Statement.

PE Teachers Community of Practice: Ongoing support is provided to this group by way of shared Newsletters, OIDE Updates, PEAI News etc. The PEAI Conference takes place in Limerick on October 4th/5th with many LCETB PE Teachers attending.

Training for Special Needs Assistants

A professional development event was held for Special Needs Assistants on 19 and 20 June 2024. The topics which were covered over the two-day training event included First Aid Fundamentals, CPR & AED, Child Lifting and Fire Safety Awareness. Twenty-six (26) SNAs attended from six (6) schools. This event was facilitated by Grainne Dennison, John Kelly, and Gina O Connor, the ETB Schools Division Support Team.

Inclusive Education:

Curriculum Leaders:

This year 3 clusters with follow up school visits are planned. Universal Design for Learning is the theme for 24-25. Expression of interest to schools regarding a creativity cluster will be sought through this initiative.

Provision mapping: This initiative is in conjunction with ETBI. Seven schools are involved in year 2 and 1 has joined this year. In total 17 schools have been involved since the pilot in LCETB began in 2017.

New Leaving Certificate Subject

St. Anne's Community College has been selected as a pilot school for the new leaving cert subject, Drama, Film and Theatre Studies. Teacher training begins next month with the subject being offered as part of the college's Leaving Certificate curriculum for September 2025.

ETBI (Education and Training Boards Ireland) Middle Leaders Summer School

The Schools Division of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board played a leading role in the organisation of the third annual 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

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 Patricia Mannix McNamara
- Professor Stephen Kinsella

- Dr Colman Noctor
- The Department of Education Inspectorate

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Research Collaboration with GRETB

The Youth Work Team is delighted to collaborate with Galway and Roscommon ETB on the following piece of research: Social Withdrawal in Young People: Successful Youth Work Interventions to Engage and Retain this Cohort of Young People. The research will engage 6 young people in Galway and 6 young people in Limerick as “Youth as Researchers” to develop the research focus, questions and methods of data collection and co-produce the final report.

Integrated Family Support for children and families

Integrated Family Support for children and families living in IPAS accommodation and designed Ukrainian Centres.

The Youth Work team, TUSLA’s PPFs team and community partners are working in partnership to ensure that children and their parents living in both International Protection and Ukrainian Centres in Limerick City & County will have access child and family supports in a timely manner to maximise the benefit of limited resources for all. To-date we have had two meetings and have a clear plan in place to support the work.

New Youth Clubs opening

Following on from the Local Youth Club Grant Scheme, we are delighted to see 5 new clubs opening across the region, these clubs are an invaluable resource for young people in communities and great to see new volunteers coming on board supporting the clubs.

Summer Site Visits to UBU Projects

Over the summer months, the youth work team visited UBU your Place your space projects across the region, the site visit process is an integral part of the funding scheme and provides assurances to the ETB that projects are working in line with their Service Requirements. We were delighted to observe the extraordinary work of the projects and their keen engagement with young people.

Local Creative Youth Partnership - LCYP

The Local Creative Youth Partnership is now focusing on development of its second Strategic Plan. The aim is to launch this plan with our Call & Response LCYP Festival in April 2025.

New tutors are being processed and trained in the ‘Everyday Spaces’, Child Protection and Transforming hate, racism awareness and empathic listening training.

There will also be a new opportunity for Continuous Professional Development to ensure a high standard of engagement from all tutors.

Additional funding was received from the department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media for the Inspire Baby Dance project which will engage with and perform in various Early Learning Centres in Clare and Limerick.

A new ESIF funded project, FoneFilmz will soon start. This project will focus on making a film using phone technology. Working with 5 Youth Justice groups across Limerick City the project will culminate in screenings event in Limerick City.

The launch of successful collaborative project Paint Punch will take place in ‘The Gaff’ on 8 October 2024. Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board hosts and maintains the national web portal for www.lcyp.ie.

Further Education and Training, Music Generation and Outdoor Training and Education

College of FET, Croom Campus

- Full-time courses commenced on 9th September;
- Links continue with local stud farms and stables, learners complete Equine Breeding Skills in Manister House Farm;
- Learner Needs Analysis are being completed with learners who have registered with AISS. To date thirteen learners have registered as requiring additional learning supports and funding is being applied for learning support under Fund for Learners with Disabilities;
- All learners have been referred to Guidance courses set up by the Guidance Officer who is on Campus two half days a week and offers group and individual guidance to learners throughout their programme of study;
- The Campus Manager and Guidance Officer attended Mid-West IRG Career Fair promoting Croom Campus at LCETB stand and teaching staff participated in TEL PL&D classroom set-up and AI for Teaching, Learning & Assessment sessions on 27th August.

College of FET, Cappamore and Kilmallock Town Campuses

Part-time provision is delivering 121 courses across 4 Campuses and 18 community partner locations, including programmes funded under Learning in Employment (Skills to Advance), Pathways (VESD Groups), Community Education, Adult Literacy for Life and ESOL;

QQI Certification for October: 54 learners are due for certification;

Staff training has taken place in Health & Safety; Integrating Literacy; Digital Skills; Quality Assurance; Manual Handling; Chemical Awareness;

Staff from part-time provision successfully attended the Cappamore Show on Saturday 17th August, to promote course enrolment for September;

Open days took place on Wednesday 21st August (College of FET, Cappamore Campus) & Thursday 29th August (College of FET, Kilmallock Town Campus);

A new purpose-built art room has successfully opened in Cappamore Campus, and a new welding room will be developed in 2025. Facilities upgrades in Cappamore took place over the summer period as part of the building work, including new wheelchair-accessible ramps and storage.

College of FET, Mulgrave Street Campus

- September 2024 saw an increased enrolment of full-time learners from 920 in September 2023 to 1020 in September 2024. New and additional courses in areas such as Personal Training, Childcare, Barbering & Digital Media Production are all being delivered;
- Mulgrave Street Night School has also had a very positive enrolment period with a total enrolment at night of over 1,200 learners. New accredited and unaccredited hobby courses are being delivered this year in many new and interesting areas.
- College of FET, Northside Campus
- Learners achieved outstanding results in their final Leaving Certificate Applied exams;
- Northside Youthreach has relocated from Watch House Cross Campus to Northside Campus (formerly St Lelia's Primary School).

College of FET, Moyross Youth Academy Campus

- During the summer, Instructors at MYA hosted a group of German learners from Bavaria (Erasmus Programme) and gave classes in block-laying, paving and woodwork. The group also visited the Opera

Site, Ardnacrusha and attended many cultural events. A return job shadow trip to Bavaria is presently being organised for LCETB staff;

- MYA learners went on a trip to the Outdoor Education and Training Centre, Kilfinane, where they took part in mountain biking and archery as part of their personal effectiveness programme;
- Learners got an excellent tour of the Hydro-Electric Power Station in Ardnacrusha;
- Nine learners completed the Pathways to Construction. Five of those are working full-time (two with SISK, one with Mid-West Tyres, two on construction sites with contractors). Continuous communication with four learners remains in place to assist them with their progression and their various options;
- MYA Campus staff welcomed a visiting group from Ennis Campus led by their Adult Educator, along with representatives from the Traveller groups;
- Two former learners from the Travelling Community contacted MYA staff for support with references. Staff collaborated with PAUL Partnership to supply details of skills gained during one learner's time in MYA and supplied Manual Handling Certificate;
- MYA staff delivered a presentation on the Pathways to Construction course at Limerick Employers Roadshow. In attendance were employers, Intreo, John Moran, Mayor of Limerick, and Limerick City & County Council representatives;
- MYA Instructors completed QQI Level 7 courses in NZEB, Train the Trainer with TUS, Working at Heights Training, Di-Isocyanatos Awareness Training, Air Tightness and Vapour Control, Heat Pumps and Ventilation.

College of FET, Green Innovation Campus

- Learners commenced the first instance of the Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) Air Ventilation course on Wednesday, October 2, 2024. Applicants must be qualified in a relevant trade, e.g. Plumbing, Sheetmetal or Electrical, or have a minimum of 3 years relevant experience in construction related field, or relevant area of construction or mechanical services. This fully funded course is designed to empower learners with the principles and skills required to effectively design ventilation flow rates, install ventilation systems, and commission ventilation systems, in accordance with Technical Guidance Document Part F 2019. On completing this fully funded programme, learners will be awarded NZEB (City & Guilds Assured) accreditation in Ventilation Systems. Learners who successfully complete the assessment of this course can use this as proof of competency in ventilation systems, installation, balancing and commissioning;
- The SOLAS Executive and Board visited this Campus on Thursday, 19th September 2024 where they were able to view the significant investment in the Campus.

College of FET, Hospitality Campus

- Hospitality hosted the SOLAS Board Strategic Meeting on 19th & 20th September;
- Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Patrick O'Donovan, TD, visited the Hospitality Campus on 20th September;
- Commis Chef, Freddie Cullen, qualified for the Apprentice of the Year and represented the Hospitality Campus on the Hero Stage at World Skills in the RDS on the 25 September, results will be announced in October.

College of FET, Ennistymon Campus

- The lead tutor is training the local Comhaltas group in Straw Boy hat making and has invited learners to take part. In return a member of their group will give learners a history of the straw boys and similar folk traditions across Europe;

- Some drawing sessions took place outside in the square in Ennistymon, drawing positive attention from locals during the brief Indian Summer at the end of September;
- The local Ukrainian community were welcomed this year and members of the Direct Provision Community, as well as Irish, Slovakian and EU citizens.

College of FET, Ennis Campus

Core Skills

- Simply Said Annual Learner Book of writing was launched in Glór on 24th June by Anne Marie Flanagan, author, and disability rights activist. A great evening's entertainment was enjoyed by all with learners reading some stories, while learners and staff provided some live music and dancing during the event.
- Sharing Our Stories Grandparents and Grandchildren's book was launched on 19th September by LCETB's Adult Education Officer in Killaloe with all pupils and staff attending from Killaloe Convent National School and Killaloe Boys National School. Clare Museum staff and Limerick and Clare staff facilitated this fantastic project with great help from teachers. Grandparents attended the launch, and books were presented to those who took part and shared their stories and artwork. A 94-year-old attended and said she would like to have a few more sessions;
- Community Information sessions were held over the summer in North, South, East and West Clare hosted by Clare County Council and Limerick and Clare supported these events.

College of FET, Shannon Campus

- SST: There is a plan to deliver specific skills training to 450 learners in areas such as driving, rigid, artic and forklift. This target is on course with 364 learners on various SST courses. This training will take place in designated unemployment blackspots. Shannon F-Gas Training has recently won a training award by the institute of Refrigeration Ireland;
- Traineeship: Shannon Campus has a plan to deliver traineeship training to over 220 learners in 2024. This is behind target with 90 registered for traineeships. Recruitment for traineeships proves difficult as the demand for shorter, more specific courses grow;
- Apprenticeship: All electrical workshops are now completed in KRC. The recruitment of Electrical and Aircraft Instructors remains a challenge;
- FET Pathways from School: Shannon Campus has a stretch target to deliver TY taster courses to over 400 TY students in 2024. This target is on course as 317 learners are registered to date. Shannon has extended the range of courses offered to TY Students and is also offering taster courses in workshops in KRC;
- Evening Course Provision: Shannon Campus has a stretch target of 2,000 certified learners for Evening Provision in 2024. This target is on course with 1,402 learners registered to date. The evening courses on offer all carry certification.
- Limerick School of Music
- LSOM hosted its second annual Alumni reunion day on 28th September;
- There will be a showcase concert in UCH on 29th March 2025 celebrating the music provision of all four music programmes – LSOM, Music Generation Clare, Co Limerick, and Limerick City;
- There will be a 2nd Gala Alumni & Friends Black-tie Fundraiser for the LSOM scholarship fund on 9th May in Gardens International following last year's extremely successful event;
- LSOM is fully operational for the academic year ahead with the three partnership schools in Our Lady Queen of Peace, CBS, and Presentation Primary Schools. LSOM is delighted to have been successful in the latest Music Capital Scheme application for funding towards instruments.

Music Generation Clare

- Music Generation Clare celebrated Culture Night on 20th September with a performance in Beo The Well, Ennis. The event, which was kindly sponsored by Culture Ireland, involved students performing

alongside well-known professional Trad musicians Pádraig Rynne, Tara Breen and Jim Murray. The students accompanied the professional musicians on fiddle, concertina, accordion, and voice;

- Music Generation Clare ran their second free annual Folk Festival on 14th September 2024. The event was a huge success with over 100 children and young people from 10 - 18 years attending workshops facilitated by esteemed musicians across a wide range of trad instruments. The day concluded with a concert in the Old Ground Hotel, Ennis, where festival participants got to perform alongside the professional musicians;
- Music Generation Clare ran free summer camps in July and August for children aged 7 - 12 years. These music camps ran in five locations: Ennis, Ennistymon, Killaloe, Shannon and Kilrush. Children had the opportunity to deepen their appreciation of music through creative, fun, and interactive activities.
- Outdoor Education & Training
- Full autumn programmes are underway for Transition Years and Geography field studies;
- A High Ropes Course has been completed in the Outdoor Education & Training Centre, Kilfinane;
- Adult Literacy for Life Outdoor Education programme has completed at the Outdoor Education & Training Centre, The Burren.
- Support Services
- Information, Recruitment & Guidance
- A new member was recruited to IRGSS with specific responsibility for Youth Provision;
- IRGSS continued its ongoing support to the Ukrainian response by attending the Community Information clinics in Kilkee and Kilrush on 4th September and Lisdoonvarna on 15 September;
- Ongoing meetings with the FET Operations Manager to further integrate IRGSS and PLSS. Current activities being worked on include standardised Naming Convention for all guidance groups/group offerings, standardised Course Description and Learning Outcomes, QA now added to the process and IRGSS Service Scheduling Protocols;
- The IRGSS hosted an Information Evening on FET Programmes and Supports in June, for members of Down Syndrome Limerick;
- The IRGSS team participated in the following:
 - The Limerick Show
 - O'Connell Avenue Campus Open Day
 - Training for ESOL Tutors
 - Annual Community tutor and coordinator day in the city
 - Community-based Education registration days across the city
 - The IGC Mid-West Careers Fair in UL
 - Retail Upskilling Event in the Crescent Shopping Centre.

Enterprise Engagement

- EESS attended the launch of the Mid-West Regional Skills Forum Digital Mid-West Cluster promoting skills to Advance and Apprenticeships;
- EESS attended EI Electronics Employee Upskilling Event and promoted Skills to Advance & College of FET Programmes;
- EESS and IRGSS (Limerick) attended the Limerick Show at Limerick Racecourse and promoted College of FET;
- EESS in partnership with Atlantic Aviation Group delivered a new bespoke Aircraft Technical leasing programme to Grant Thornton employees.
- Active Inclusion
- Launch of Updated Public Sector Duty Assessment: LCETB's Active Inclusion Support Service successfully launched the updated Public Sector Duty Assessment, ensuring compliance with equality, human rights, and inclusion obligations, and fostering an inclusive learning environment for all stakeholders;

- Launch of Updated Public Sector Duty Assessment: LCETB’s Active Inclusion Support Service successfully launched the updated Public Sector Duty Assessment, ensuring compliance with equality, human rights, and inclusion obligations, and fostering an inclusive learning environment for all stakeholders;
- Development of Disability Awareness for FET Practitioners Booklet: A comprehensive Disability Awareness booklet for FET practitioners has been developed, and is aimed at enhancing understanding and supporting inclusive practices for learners with disabilities across the Further Education and Training sector;
- Publication of ESOL and Migrant Learners Action Plan (2024–2026): The Active Inclusion Support Service also published the ESOL and Migrant Learners Action Plan 2024-2026, outlining strategic actions to improve educational access, integration, and support for migrant learners and ESOL participants within LCETB.
- Professional Learning and Development
- The ESOL Professional Learning and Development Workshop held on the 2nd of September 2024, at Croom Campus was an enormous success, filled with insightful presentations, discussions, collaborative learning, with a shared commitment to advancing ESOL education across the College of FET Campuses. This session provided practitioners with critical insights into the certification and provided a deeper understanding of the awards. There was high energy during the practitioner inputs and the interactive workshops, where participants reviewed assigned modules and collaborated on creating module outlines. This hands-on approach allowed for the exchange of ideas and best practices, culminating in the plenary session.

9. Finance Report

The Financial Report was adopted on the proposal of by Cllr. John Sheahan, seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Keating.

10. For Appointment to Boards of Management.

Deferred.

11. AOB with the permission of the Chairperson

None.

Confirm date of next meeting

Next meeting 19th November, 2024.

Donncha O’Treaigh
Acting Chief Executive.

Chairperson:


19th November, 2024