



Miontuairisci agus Chruinnithe den

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna Luimnigh agus An Chláir

Ionad Tacaíochta Oideachais Luimnigh

Teach Marshal, Bóthar Tuar an Daill, Luimneach, V94 HAC4

23 Meitheamh 2026

Ag 4:30pm

I Lathair /Present Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon Chairperson (In person), Ms. Ann Norton Deputy Chairperson (Online), Cllr. Antoinette Baker Bashua (Online), Cllr. Michael Begley (In person), Cllr. Maria Donoghue (Online), Cllr. Peter Doyle (In Person), Mr. Darren Feldon (In person), Ms. Jeannette Ferguson (Online), Cllr. Rachel Hartigan (Online), Cllr. Mary Howard (Online), Cllr. Gabriel Keating (In person), Ms. Claire Knight (Online), Mr. Michael MacCurtain (In person), Mr. Seán Mc Mahon (In person), Mr. Adrian O'Hanlon (Online), Cllr. Noreen Stokes (In person), Cllr. Brigid Teefy (Online).

Executive Ms. Bernadette Cullen, Chief Executive, Mr. Eamon Murphy, Director of Organisation Support & Development, Ms. Breda Flynn, Director of Organisation Support & Development Mr. Donncha O'Treasaigh, Director of Schools & Youth, Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education and Training, Ms. Columba Galvin, APO Finance, Mr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Head of Finance, Mr. Denis O'Brien, Head of Corporate Services & IT and Ms. Caroline Hayes, Corporate Services.

1. Preliminary

1.1 Conflicts of interest

The Board was requested to declare any conflicts of interest in respect of any matters listed on the agenda.

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

1.2 Attendance/apologies

The attendance was noted, and a quorum verified.

The Chairperson Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies Mr. Conal Kelly, Cllr. Catherine Slattery

In absentia Ms. Kate Hehir, Cllr. John Sheahan

1.2 Condolences

- Ms. Sile Condon (Coláiste na Trócaire, Rathkeale) on the death of her mother-in-law, Mrs. Rita Floyd (nee Small).
- Ms. Kathleen Kingston (Coláiste na Trócaire, Rathkeale) on the death of her sister-in-law, Ms. Ann Moloney Fennessy.
- Mr. Tom Byrne (Desmond College Newcastle West) on the death of his aunt Ms. Doreen Folan.
- Mr. Nigel Charles on the death of his wife Ms. Aoife Charles (Flannery), (Further Education and Training Campus O'Connell Avenue).
- Ms. Caroline Mitchell (Further Education and Training Campus O'Connell Avenue) on the death of her father Mr. John S. Mitchell.

1.3 Limerick and Clare Meeting Minutes 19 May, 2026

The minutes of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board meeting held on 31 March, 2026 which were circulated to all prior to the meeting were adopted.

Proposed by: Cllr. Gabriel Keating

Seconded by: Cllr. Noreen Stokes

1.4 Matters arising

None.

2. Information and Communication

Ms. Bernadette Cullen, Chief Executive advised members that it has been another busy period across the organisation and the Executive Report providing a flavour of the activities across schools, youth, music, further education and training and outdoor education.

The Chief Executive advised members that Circular letters from the Department of Education and Youth are included in members packs circulated prior to the meeting for their information.

The Chairperson informed the Board that Cllr. Catherine Slattery has resigned from her position as a Board member due to increasing commitments with the Council, which have limited her ability to attend Board meetings and fully participate in Board activities.

The Chief Executive also advised the Board that this would be Ms. Jeannette Ferguson's final meeting as a Board member, as she is no longer eligible to serve in her capacity as the Parents' Association nominee.

The Board acknowledged the valuable contribution and commitment of both members during their time on the board. The Chairperson proposed that letters of appreciation be issued to Cllr. Slattery and Ms. Ferguson in recognition of their service to the Board. The proposal was approved by the Board.

Mr. Eamon Murphy Director of Organisation Support informed the Board that, as the campus was not ready to host the meeting in Shannon, it had not been possible to hold the current Board meeting there. He advised that the new Aviation Traineeship Campus at Bay 88, Shannon Industrial Estate, is expected to be ready by 3 July. The September Board meeting will therefore be held in Shannon, providing Board members with an opportunity to tour the new campus.

2.1 News Releases by Limerick and Clare ETB

The Chief Executive noted the news releases by the ETB showcasing many of the opportunities available to students and learners.

These correspondences are included in members packs circulated prior to the meeting for their information.

Noted.

2.2 Department of Education and Youth Fortnightly Updates

These correspondences are included in members packs circulated prior to the meeting for their information.

Noted.

2.3 Board Consultation on Strategy Statement

The Director of Organisation Support informed members that consultation with key stakeholders on the development of Limerick and Clare ETB's new Statement of Strategy 2027-2031 has commenced. As the organisation's principal governance and oversight body, the Board will play a key role in shaping and guiding the future strategic direction of the organisation.

Dr Joe O'Connell, an independent facilitator, will lead a strategy review session with the Board following the adjournment of the Board meeting. The Director also noted that a meeting of the Board Steering Group, comprising Board members and members of the Executive, was held last week.

Further information on progress made and achievements delivered under the current 2022 - 2026 Statement of Strategy is included in the meeting pack, which was circulated to members in advance of the consultation session.

3.1 Parliamentary Questions

None

4 Reports from the Executive

The Chief Executive briefed members that Ms Deirdre McDonnell, Chief Executive of SOLAS, will visit Limerick and Clare ETB on 23 and 24 July. Limerick and Clare ETB are delighted to welcome Ms McDonnell to the region. During her visit, she will tour a number of Further

Education and Training campuses and engage in discussions on plans for future development and investment in Further Education and Training across the area.

Mr. Donncha O'Treasaigh updated the board on the Primary School Survey Process now that the individual school results are published. The ETB are patron of 5 of the schools surveyed. All primary schools received their school-specific parental preference reports earlier in June. Individual schools will receive a school specific results report, with detailed guidance on how to interpret the results each school is asked to reflect on their school specific report, engage with their, Boards of Management, school communities and consider if the school wishes to request to be in the first group of schools to action the Primary School Survey Results, and decide whether to progress structural or operational changes starting in late 2027.

The Department has established a clear roadmap for governance and implementation:

- **June – October 2026:** Window for local review, stakeholder consultation, and Board deliberation.
- **31 October 2026:** Date by which a Board must notify both the Department and the school patron if they wish to be included in the first group of schools to action changes.
- **September 2027:** Anticipated implementation of the first phase of changes arising from the survey.

Summary of demand for change among relevant households

Area of provision Relevant households included Households preferring change Demand for change	Area of provision Relevant households included Households preferring change Demand for change	Area of provision Relevant households included Households preferring change Demand for change	Area of provision Relevant households included Households preferring change Demand for change
Co-educational configuration	Households linked to single-sex schools, or indicating an intention to enrol in a single-sex school	19,504 out of 26,274 74.2%	74.2%
Multi-denominational ethos	Households linked to denominational schools, or indicating an intention to enrol in a denominational school	75,199 out of 184,503	40.7%
Education through Irish	Households linked to English medium schools, or indicating an intention to enrol in an English medium school	25,531 out of 182,739	13.9%

Individual results and further information can be found on the Department of Education and Youth website [Primary School Survey](#)

The Director of Schools congratulated all Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate students on the completion of their examinations and wished them every success with their results and future endeavours.

The Director of Organisation Support informed the Board of the National Development Plan (NDP) Sectoral Investment Plan for the 2026 - 2030 period. Under the plan, patrons of primary and post-primary schools have been requested to maximise existing capacity when prioritising the rollout of projects, with particular emphasis on addressing the most urgent needs and supporting the provision of special educational needs (SEN) facilities. Patrons are required to submit their project priorities to the Department for consideration.

Mr Murphy noted that a special meeting of the Board may be required to consider this matter in greater detail and to agree priorities for the organisation going forward.

Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education and Training congratulated Ms. Bernadette Enright on her award for the Highest Standard of Quality Culinary Education offered to constituents and for contributing to the continued growth and dedication of the Global Hospitality and Food Service Industry at the WorldChefs Congress & Expo in Wales 2026.

Mr. Patton also congratulated Ms. Jayne Foley, Art Teacher who won the Impact Leadership Award at the Global Leadership Awards in Cannes for her work over the past twenty years in Fresh Film Ireland.

Mr Patton highlighted the following from his report. A total of 413 learners attended a range of NZEB Courses at the College of FET, Green Innovation Campus during the first 4 months of 2026.

The ETB will work in collaboration with TUS, IGBC, LOETB and WWETB on an EU Horizon funded project entitled: Constructing a Skilled Future: International Network for Sustainable and Innovative Digital Excellence in Construction Vocational Education (INSIDE-CoVE). The INSIDE-CoVE project aims to enhance vocational education and training (VET) in the construction sector by establishing Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs) in Greece, Spain, Germany, and Ireland. The project focuses on aligning VET with industry needs, fostering innovation, and ensuring inclusivity.

Youthreach learners at College of Further Education and Training, Kilrush Campus, are promoting the 'Not Around Us' campaign for World No Tobacco Day 2026 in partnership with Clare County Council. This initiative supports a smoke-free and vape-free campus, helping to create a safer and healthier environment for young people.

In May, Mulgrave Street Campus hosted its annual, week long, College of FET Arts Festival across multiple city centre venues. Learners exhibited film, photography, visual art and fashion pieces in key city venues such as The Peoples Museum, Limerick City Gallery, The Hunt Museum, The Hangings Gardens and the Belltable. Exhibitions were very well received and learners, families and friends were thrilled to see their work in public arenas.

In April/May 2026, twenty-eight learners completed smart phones classes. Twenty learners in Ennis Library in April and eight learners in Ennis Campus finishing in May. These classes enabled the learners to be more competent in the area of digital literacy. Topics covered included how to use a phone for tasks such as booking train tickets, communicating with friends and family, participating in local community online groups, accessing audiobooks, and completing tasks such as motor tax.

Music Generation Clare Irish Concertina Orchestra delivered its annual gala concert at Glór, Ennis, on 23rd May, featuring NOTIFY and guest musicians including Seamus Uí Fhlatharta, Caoimhe Uí Fhlatharta, Ernestine Healy, Sárán Mulligan and Caitlín Ní Ghabhann. The initiative promoted traditional Irish music performance, collaboration and cultural participation across County Clare. Music Generation Clare hosted its first Kids Ceol & Co. Gala concert at Glór, Ennis, on 20th May, with performances from schools across Clare.

4.2 a Finance Report to Board

Ms. Columba Glavin, APO Finance presented the preliminary financial report for the period from 1 January to 31 May, 2026 which was circulated to all prior to the meeting. This report detailed the cash position, receipts and payments. Ms. Glavin also provided a breakdown of expenditure by category to include payroll, capital projects, trainee allowances and creditors/youth grants.

Following due consideration the Finance Report was adopted.

Proposed by: Mr. Darren Feldon

Seconded by: Mr. Seán Mc Mahon

b. Audit Update Report

None.

c. Report from Audit and Risk Committee

None.

d. Report from Finance Committee 7 May, 2026

Ms. Glavin advised the meeting that this report was included for information purposes.

e. Education Shared Business Services (ESBS)/Other Finance Projects including Travel & Subsistence (T&S) payments

This report is included in members packs circulated prior to the meeting for their information.

5.1 Minutes from Audit and Risk Committee

None

5.2 Minutes from Finance Committee

None

6.1 Risk Management - Overview of Key Risks

Deferred to next meeting.

6.2 Circulars as per schedule circulated document

Proposed by: Mr. Seán Mc Mahon

Second By: Cllr. Noreen Stokes

7.1 Annual Report 2025

The Chief Executive presented the 2025 Annual Report to the Board for consideration and adoption. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the organisation's activities, achievements and financial performance during the year, including the draft (subject to audit) financial statements for 2025. It highlights the organisation's ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality learning opportunities for young people and adults, while demonstrating progress in achieving its strategic objectives and maintaining learners at the centre of its work.

In presenting the report, the Chief Executive noted that the Annual Report is an important mechanism for accountability, transparency and stakeholder engagement, providing a clear account of the organisation's impact and contribution throughout the year. The CE expressed her sincere appreciation to all those who contributed to its preparation and acknowledged the dedication, commitment and professionalism of the Board and staff in advancing the organisation's mission and supporting positive outcomes for learners.

The Chairperson commended the work of the ETB and all those involved in the preparation and publication of the report. The Chairperson enquired whether printed copies would be produced and distributed to local authorities, partner organisations and other key stakeholders to showcase the work of the ETB and highlight the positive impact it continues to have on the communities it serves. The Chairperson also suggested that a press release be issued to further promote the report's key messages and achievements. The Chief Executive welcomed the suggestion and confirmed that she would explore this further.

Members noted that the report had been circulated in advance of the meeting to allow sufficient time for review and consideration.

Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved and adopted the 2025 Annual Report.

Proposed by: Cllr. Gabriel Keating

Second By: Cllr. Noreen Stokes

7.2 2026 Service Plan

The Director of Organisation and Support informed the Board that, following its submission to the Department for review, a number of amendments had been incorporated into the Organisation's Service Plan. The revised document was presented to the Board for consideration and reapproval.

Members noted the changes arising from the Department's review and were satisfied that these had been appropriately addressed within the updated Service Plan.

Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the revised Organisation Service Plan and authorised its resubmission to the Department.

7.3 Updated Standing Orders

The Chief Executive presented the updated Standing Orders to the Board for consideration and approval. Members noted that the revised document had been circulated in advance of the meeting to allow adequate time for review.

The Board was advised that the Standing Orders had been comprehensively reviewed and updated by two Board members working in collaboration with members of the Executive.

The review process involved three meetings, during which the document was examined to ensure that it is fit for purpose and reflective of good governance practice.

The Chairperson thanked the Board members and Executive staff involved in the review process for their time, effort and commitment in updating the document.

Following consideration of the revised Standing Orders, the Board unanimously approved their adoption.

Proposed by: Cllr. Michael Begley

Second by: Mr. Seán Mc Mahon

7.4 Update of Leases

None.

8.1 Two Nominees to Board of Management St Patrick's Comprehensive School.

Cllr. Rachel Hartigan & Mr. Adrian O'Hanlon were approved as the Boards nominees to the Board of Management of St Patrick's Comprehensive School, Shannon, Co. Clare.

Proposed by: Mr. Michael MacCurtain

Second: Cllr. Peter Doyle

8.2 Nominees (5) for ETBI Annual Congress 2026 Thursday, 15th October 2026 Tralee, Co. Kerry.

Ms. Caroline Hayes will issue an email to Board members following the meeting inviting expressions of interest from those wishing to attend the conference. As only five Board members may attend, any nominations received will be brought forward for consideration and approval at the September Board meeting.

8.3 Access to Online Board Documentation

For Information

9 AOB with the permission of the Chairperson

None.

10 Date and Time of Next meeting

22 September, 2026

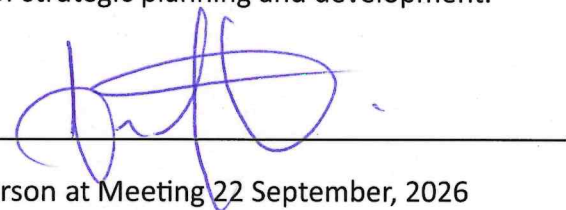
Item 2.3 Board Consultation on Strategy Statement

The meeting was adjourned to facilitate a Strategy Review Session with the Board. Dr Joe O'Connell, Independent Facilitator, joined the meeting to lead the session and guide discussions on the organisation's strategic direction and priorities.

The Executive withdrew from the meeting for the duration of this item to allow the Board to engage in an open and independent discussion. Dr O'Connell facilitated the session and supported the Board in considering key strategic issues, opportunities and challenges facing the organisation.

It was noted that the outcomes of the Strategy Review Session would be collated by Dr O'Connell and provided to the Chief Executive on conclusion of the process to inform the next stages of strategic planning and development.

Signed



Chairperson at Meeting 22 September, 2026