

Bulletin on the Board of Management Meeting held on 13th December 2018

The following is an update on the Board of Management of Oberstown Children Detention Campus meeting which took place on Thursday 13th December 2018.

Ref	Subject	Summary
1.	Minister's visit	Minister Katherine Zappone visited the Campus on 13 th December. She met with Board members, young people and unveiled a memorial for Freida Delaney (RIP) of DCYA with a large number of her family and former colleagues in attendance. The event highlighted the significance of Freida's contribution to the Campus and thanks are due to everyone involved in the organisation of the event.
2.	Governance, Finance and Risk Sub-committees.	<p>The Board approved revised Terms of Reference transferring responsibility for risk management from the Finance and Audit sub-committee to the Governance sub-committee.</p> <p>The Governance Handbook was approved by the Board. The document ensures Board compliance with the Children Act 2001 and the associated regulatory framework including the Code of Practice for the Conduct of State Bodies. Feedback and input from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and other clarifications will be incorporated into the next version in January 2019. Additionally, a gap analysis will be undertaken to ensure implementation of the Handbook in practice. The Handbook was presented to Minister Zappone during her visit to the Campus.</p> <p>The Strategic Risk Register was presented to the Board. This will be brought to the Board on a monthly basis to ensure robust risk management is in place at Board level, in addition to the management level process of operational risk management.</p>
3.	Single Separations	<p>The Board noted the continuing downward trend in Single Separations, with figures showing a 50% reduction compared to 2017. This highlights a significant change in recourse to the practice, with improved recording and monitoring.</p> <p>The Director noted that the appointment of an Advocacy Officer from January 2019 will continue to improve young people's understanding of the use of single separation both generally and in individual cases.</p>
4.	Meeting with Neighbours	The Director advised the Board that he had had a very positive meeting with the neighbours. He had a discussion with Country Crest and Fingal County Council regarding bad weather management and confirmed that Oberstown will in future be included in emergency support.
5.	Policy Framework	A new policy framework is being developed to evolve the Campus policy base and ensure the framework is clear and fit for purpose, in line with children's rights standards. Revised and additional policies will fall under 15 Campus Rules to be adopted by the Board under the Children Act 2001. The Board will formally adopt the Rules in January 2019 and the new policies will then be adopted incrementally in Quarter 1 2019.
6.	Strategic Plan Implementation	The Strategic Plan implementation Review was circulated to the Board (approved in November 2018). This provides a comprehensive account of progress made in 2018 in the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2017 -2020. It also sets out the priority actions for 2019. A copy was also presented to the Minister during her visit.
7.	Campus Mental Health Handbook	This was warmly welcomed and the Board noted the plans for a soft launch in early 2019.

Professor Ursula Kilkelly
Chairperson

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