

## **Bulletin on the Board of Management Meeting held on 13 September 2021**

The following is a summary of the Board of Management of Oberstown Children Detention Campus meeting that took place on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Ref	Subject	Summary
1.	<b>Board Membership</b>	<p><b>Appointments:</b> The Chair welcomed the newly appointed Community Representative, Brian Arnold to his first Board meeting. She also welcomed Staff Members, Laoise Manners and Craig Mulligan, who have been re-appointed for a second term.</p> <p><b>Resignations:</b> Don O’Leary advised the Board of his decision to resign from the Board of Management due to ill health. He expressed gratitude for having served two terms and acknowledged the total commitment of the Board and staff to ensuring that young people’s needs are being met. The Chair paid tribute to his wisdom and positive impact on the Board on behalf of young people in particular.</p>
2.	<b>Board Committees</b>	<p><b>Audit &amp; Risk Committee:</b> The Chair of the Audit &amp; Risk Committee (BC) updated the Board on the ongoing work of the Committee. The Committee continued to liaise with members of the senior management team to progress open issues. The Chair and Secretary are working with internal audit providers, Mazars, to agree the Terms of Reference for an IT Security Audit.</p> <p><b>Governance Committee:</b> The Chair of the Governance Committee (UK) updated the Board on the work of the Committee since the July meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairperson’s Report the Minister: In line with the requirements of the Code of Practice, this has been agreed and will be submitted to the Minister. The C&amp;AG will review as part of their audit.</li> <li>• Code of Practice Compliance Checklist. This has been updated to reflect work undertaken to further Oberstown’s compliance with the Code of Practice. This will be reviewed by the C&amp;AG once final.</li> <li>• Board Evaluation: The Board evaluation process is progressing. A questionnaire will be issued to Board members by Board Excellence, this will be followed with one-to-one interviews.</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategy Committee:</b> The Chair advised the Board that a facilitator has been appointed to progress the development of the Strategic Plan.</p> <p><b>Young People Committee:</b> The minutes of the Young People Committee meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021 were noted by the Board. The Advocacy Officer gave the Board an overview of the nature of complaints received from young people and how they are resolved.</p>
3.	<b>COVID 19</b>	<p>The Board noted the updated Campus COVID-19 Resilience Plan V6. COVID-19 continues to place demands on the Campus. Over the last month, a number of staff tested positive for COVID-19 and together with new admissions of young people, precautionary testing was carried out on staff and young people in line with HSE close</p>

		contacts protocol. All these tests were negative and staff, who were all fully vaccinated, returned to work in line with protocol.
4.	<b>Restrictive Practices</b>	<p>The Board considered data on Restrictive Practices from July – January 2021. The Director advised that challenging behaviour from some young people in the period had led to an increase in both single separation and physical intervention. The Board discussed the complexity of managing challenging behaviour in young people and the concerns of staff around this. How best to support young people with particularly acute needs is under active consideration.</p> <p>The Board also discussed its oversight of restrictive practices and agreed that this should be revised to give context to the data presented and to ensure the most meaningful and robust data is presented to enable Board oversight.</p>
5.	<b>Incidents</b>	<p>The Board noted a report on Notifiable Incidents on Campus from January – July 2021. The report outlined the numbers and grades of incidents on Campus in line with the IYJS policy and details of other critical incidents were also provided. The Director described the After Incident Review (AIR) policy and how learnings were incorporated into a process of continuous improvement.</p>
6.	<b>Industrial Relations</b>	<p>The Chief People Officer described the concerns that have been raised by staff representatives around the safety and well-being of staff. Recent incidents on Campus have heightened staff anxiety. The Board's staff members provided further information and insights into the concerns of staff.</p> <p>The Board acknowledged the challenging environment in which staff are currently working and highlighted the imperative that the working environment is safe for staff and young people. The Board stressed the importance of resolving these matters locally, knowing that the capacity and knowledge exists in Oberstown to do so, and expressed an expectation that both staff representatives and management progress the matters through open and constructive dialogue and co-operation.</p>
7.	<b>Activities</b>	<p>John Smith, Activities Co-Ordinator, gave a presentation to the Board on the Summer programme of activities offered in July and August 2021. Activities were provided for young people from 10.00 am – 6.00 pm daily in July and August, the Programme was very successful despite Covid restrictions. He outlined the projects run as part of the programme.</p> <p>JS outlined his vision to create a social enterprise with young people. The Board welcomed the initiative to develop social enterprise projects as part of the schools learning and development programmes.</p> <p>The Chair thanked JS for his presentation and exceptional work undertaken by him and his team.</p>

**Professor Ursula Kilkelly**  
**Chairperson**